New Exploring
READING & WRITING 1
New Exploring Reading & Writing 1

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Pre-Reading
Pre-reading questions encourage students to relate their knowledge of the world to the reading passage in each unit. Competent readers effectively utilize top-down and bottom-up processing while EFL readers tend to rely too much on bottom-up processing. Pre-reading questions will give EFL readers practice in utilizing top-down processing and help them become more efficient readers.

Vocabulary
Learning the key vocabulary helps students to focus on getting the meaning from the text without being interrupted by new words. Too many unknown words can slow down the smooth flow of reading and make readers lose interest. By learning the meaning of new words first, students will face each passage with a feeling of confidence. The teacher should guide students to try and comprehend any other new words they may encounter from the context.

Reading
Asking different levels of questions while dealing with the reading passage helps students to identify not only the literal meanings of the text but also its underlying meaning. It is essential to give students opportunities to take the initiative in understanding the text and to respond to questions from the teacher.

The teacher should avoid a situation where the students are provided a translation for each sentence in the reading passage. Instead, the teacher needs to utilize literal questions and inferential questions to encourage students to go through different levels of mental processing to actively create the meaning of the passage.

Understanding Pronouns
Identifying pronouns helps students to see the relationship between relevant sentences.
Understanding the Main Idea
The questions in this part help students to practice identifying the main idea of reading passages.

Understanding Details
This part helps students to focus on accurately identifying and retaining the details in the reading passage they have read.

Vocabulary Practice
This part gives students practice in using the new words in appropriate contexts.

Idioms
Key idioms are presented in context. Encountering the idioms previously presented in the reading passage in different contexts enriches students' understanding of the use of the idioms.

Making a Summary
This part helps students to make a summary using the context given to them. Students prepare themselves to move towards more independent writing.

Listening Practice
This part gives students practice in comprehending spoken forms of the expressions they have learned.

Homework-Writing Practice
This part gives students the opportunity to bring in all the language items in the unit and use them flexibly to express their own ideas. Through this written homework, students will have the opportunity to recall the language items in the unit and use them spontaneously and creatively to express their ideas and feelings. This will help students to retain the language items at a deep level and to use them flexibly to express themselves.
The Sun and the Earth

Pre-Reading

What can you see from the picture?
Look at the picture and write the answers.

1. Do you know who this man is?  
   a. yes  
   b. no

2. The man is looking at the___.  
   a. ground  
   b. sky

New Words

- natural: not strange but understandable
- Venus: the second planet from the Sun
- conclude: decide that something is true
- crazy: not thinking straight
- liar: a person who tells lies
- truth: something that is true and not made up
For hundreds of years, people thought that the Sun moved around the Earth. This was only natural because when we see the Sun rise in the morning and set in the evening, we can only think that the Sun is moving around us.

But one man did not agree with this idea. He said that if the Sun is moving around the Earth, we cannot explain the movements of Venus. This man finally concluded that the Sun does not move around the Earth, but the Earth moves around the Sun. This man's name is Copernicus.

At first, people thought Copernicus was crazy. They said he was a liar and that he must be killed. And so, Copernicus was burned to death for saying that the Earth moved around the Sun. Later, though, people learned that Copernicus was in fact telling the truth.

**Understanding Pronouns**

1. The word "He" (line 7) refers to ____________________.

2. The word "They" (line 13) refers to ____________.
Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that ____________________________.
   a. people thought the Sun moved around the Earth
   b. Copernicus said the Earth moves around the Sun
   c. Copernicus was burned to death

2. The best title for this passage would be ____________________________.
   a. Copernicus and Venus
   b. Copernicus and Crazy People
   c. Copernicus' New Idea

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. For hundreds of years, people thought ____________________________.
   a. the Sun moved around the Earth
   b. the Earth moved around Venus
   c. the Sun moved around Copernicus

2. If the Sun moves around the Earth, we cannot explain the movements of ________.
   a. Copernicus
   b. Venus
   c. the evening

3. Copernicus was later ____________________________.
   a. given money
   b. telling many lies
   c. burned to death
Vocabulary Practice

Fill in each blank with one of the words in the list below.

1. John’s mother yelled at him for not telling the ________.
2. Many people thought that Copernicus was ________.
3. It was ________ for them to think that the Sun moved around the Earth.
4. Copernicus later ________ that the Earth moves around the Sun.
5. A person who tells lies all the time is called a ________.

natural    concluded    crazy    liar    truth

New Phrases

□ agree with : to think the same way
I don’t think Phillip agrees with my ideas.
Carol told me that she doesn’t agree with what the teacher just said.
I didn’t agree with opinion of the movie.

□ to death : to cause a person to die
The police shot the man to death.
The poor dog was almost beaten to death by its owner.
I am starving to death. Let’s get something to eat.
people thought that his name was Sun moved around
telling the truth one man concluded

Long ago, people thought that the ______ _______ the Earth.
But _____ _______ that the Earth moved around the Sun.
____ ______ ___ Copernicus.
At first, ______ _______ _____ Copernicus was crazy.
But later they learned that he was ______ ___ _______.
Listening Practice  Track 2

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. For ____________ , ________ ________ the Sun moved around the Earth.

2. But Copernicus thought that ________ ________ ________ ________ ________.

3. People thought ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ ________ 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Pre-Reading

What can you see from the picture?
Look at the picture and write the answers.
1. What day is Feb. 14th?  a. Valentine’s Day  b. Thanksgiving
2. What do people usually eat on this day?  a. chocolate  b. turkey

New Words

- romantic: related to love
- prepare: to get ready for something
- treat: something special that others can enjoy
- confess: to tell another person how one feels
- courage: the strength to do something even when one feels afraid
- express: to show or say what one feels or thinks
February 14th is Valentine’s Day. Many people believe that this day is the most romantic day of the year. On this day, men and women, boys and girls of all ages prepare a special treat (usually flowers or chocolate) to give to the person they care about the most. Lots of people choose this day to confess their love to others. When they do, they say things like “Happy Valentine’s Day!” or “Be my Valentine.” It’s always nice to have someone that cares about you deeply. If you have someone that you really care about, but haven’t yet had the courage to tell that person that you like him or her, why not use this Valentine’s Day to express your true feelings?

Understanding Pronouns

1. The words "this day" (line 2) refer to ____________________.

2. The word "they" (line 8) refers to ____________________.
Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that ____________________________.
   a. Valentine’s Day is the day we eat chocolate
   b. people prepare special treats on Valentine’s Day
   c. Valentine’s Day is the day when people confess their love to other people

2. The best title for this passage would be ____________________________.
   a. The Most Romantic Day of the Year
   b. Flowers and Chocolate
   c. Someone to Care About

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. Some people think that Valentine’s Day is ____________________________ of the year.
   a. the warmest day
   b. the sweetest day
   c. the most romantic day

2. On Valentine’s Day, people ____________________________.
   a. make chocolate cookies
   b. confess their love to others
   c. have lots of courage

3. When people express their love, they give ____________________________.
   a. chocolate or flowers
   b. lots of courage
   c. ice cream
Vocabulary Practice

Fill in each blank with one of the words in the list below.

1. Jason _________ his love to Olivia on Valentine’s Day.
2. He also _________ lots of chocolate for her.
3. The candles and wine made the evening so _________.
4. He didn’t have the _________ to tell her how he felt.
5. Words cannot _________ my love for you.

romantic  prepared  courage  express  confessed

New Phrases

care about: to like very much
He is going to send her flowers on Valentine’s Day because he cares about her.
Mother doesn’t want us to fight because she cares about us.
Whenever she meets him, her face turns red because she cares about him a lot.

true feelings: how a person truly feels inside
He tried not to cry because he didn’t want to show his true feelings.
I expressed my true feelings by telling her that I love her.
I can’t hide my true feelings in front of my mom.
Making a Summary

This is a summary of the passage.
Fill in the blanks with the right words.

February 14th is ____________ __________.
People give ____________ __________ to the person they care about on this day.
Many people ____________ __________ their love.
It is nice to have someone that ____________ __________ you.
If you like somebody, you can use Valentine’s Day to express your ____________ __________.

even confess special treats true feelings
cares about Valentine’s Day
**Listening Practice**  
Track 4

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. On _______, people _______ many _____ to give to others.
2. Some people _______ _______ and some _______ _______.
3. Some people even _______ _______ to _______ their love.
4. It is nice to have someone that _______ _______.
5. Valentine’s Day is a _______ _______.

---

**Homework - Writing Practice**

Write a short paragraph about your experience on Valentine’s Day. Use the following questions as a guide.

Have you ever received flowers or chocolate on Valentine’s Day?
Is there someone you would like to give treats to on Valentine’s Day?
Who is that person?
What do you like about that person?

(Yes, I have / No, I have not) ___________________________________

There is someone that I ___________________________________

That person is ___________________________________

I like him/her because ___________________________________

---

- 18 -
Riding on an Airplane

Pre-Reading

What can you see from the picture?
Look at the picture and write the answers.

1. The airplane is______. a. landing b. taking off
2. Have you ever been on an airplane before? a. yes b. no

New Words

- **airline** a company that provides flight service
- **conveniently** in a comfortable way
- **variety** type; kind; sort
- **primitive** simple in style and very old-fashioned
- **emergency** a dangerous situation that happens suddenly and requires quick action, especially an accident
- **mode** method or way
Reading Track 5

Riding airplanes is always fun. Just the thought of flying high in the sky is exciting. The flight attendants are very nice and they try to make your trip as comfortable as possible. If you are on a long distance flight, you even get to watch a movie. Some airlines even have a personal screen for each seat so passengers can conveniently watch a movie or TV program of their choice. The food may not be that delicious, but most flights offer a variety of menus to choose from.

Airplanes were not always as safe as they are today. In fact, the earliest airplanes were quite primitive. They weren't even that fast. Nowadays, however, airplanes have jet engines that allow them to travel as fast as 900 km an hour. They also have lots of life-saving equipment and are well prepared for emergencies. Today, many people consider airplanes the safest mode of travel. Although there were many scary news reports of airplane crashes, fewer people were hurt because of airplane accidents than because of car accidents.

Understanding Pronouns

1. The word "they" (line 4) refers to ____________________.

2. The word "They" (line 15) refers to ____________.
2. The best title for this passage would be _________________.
   a. The Earliest Airplanes
   b. Airplane Accidents
   c. Traveling by Airplane

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. Which of the following is not true?
   a. You can watch movies on long distance flights.
   b. Flight attendants are very nice.
   c. The food served on airplanes is always delicious.

2. Today, many people think that airplanes _________________.
   a. are the safest way to travel
   b. are more primitive than cars
   c. cause emergencies

3. Airlines that have a personal screen for each seat provide ________________ service.
   a. primitive
   b. convenient
   c. exciting
Vocabulary Practice

Fill in each blank with one of the words in the list below.

1. The flight was very ____________ because the flight attendants were so nice.
2. I saw a ________ of a big fire in the mountains.
3. We almost had an ____________ because we were driving too fast.
4. Thinking about our trip is so _________.
5. The airline took care of my _________ bags.

personal  report  convenient  exciting  accident

New Phrases

☐ of one’s choice: that one likes
   Of all the clothes in the store, the blue dress was the one of my choice.
   If you don’t like the book I gave you, you can exchange it for the book of your choice.
   This chocolate cake is the one of my choice, it is pretty good.

☐ a variety of: many kinds of
   There were a variety of drinks at the supermarket.
   My sister has collected a variety of stamps.
   If you go to summer camp, you can enjoy a variety of activities.
Making a Summary

This is a summary of the passage.
Fill in the blanks with the right words.

considered to be 

a variety of 

not very safe 

travel by airplane 

airplane accidents than

It is very fun and convenient to _______ ______ _________.
The flight attendants are nice and the airlines serve 

____ ________ ______ food.
Many years ago, airplanes were ______ ______ _______.
Nowadays, however, they are ______ ______ ______ one of the safest ways to travel.
Fewer people were hurt because of ______ ______ _______ car accidents.
**Listening Practice**

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. Riding airplanes _______ ______.
2. Flight attendants _______ ______ traveling ______ ______.
3. Some airlines _______ ______ personal screen ______ seat.
4. The _______ airplanes ______ ______ and primitive.
5. _______ ______ consider airplanes ______ ______ mode of travel.

**Homework - Writing Practice**

Write a short paragraph describing where you would like to go by plane.

Use the following questions as a guide.

Where would you like to go?
What is so special about that place?
How long would it take to get there?
What is the weather like there?

I would like to go to ____________________________________________
It is _______________________________________________________
I would like to go for _________________________________________
The weather is _______________________________________________
Pre-Reading

What can you see from the picture?
Look at the picture and write the answers.
1. Who is the person in the picture?
2. What do you know about him?

New Words

- orphan: a child whose parents are dead
- closet: a small room for clothes or storage
- invitation: a letter asking someone to come to an event or place
- hatch: to emerge from the eggs of birds, fish, or reptiles
- destiny: predicted future; something which must happen
- eventful: with a lot of exciting or unusual things happening
Harry Potter is an orphan who lives with his aunt and uncle. They don’t treat him very well. He has to sleep in a small closet under the stairs. His life is quite boring and uneventful. Then one day on Harry’s birthday, a letter arrives for Harry, but his uncle destroys it. Yet the letters keep coming. Finally, 100 letters arrive. They are all invitations to study at Hogwart’s Wizard School. Harry’s uncle just does not have enough energy to destroy them. So he finally gives one to Harry.

Harry accepts the invitation. He leaves his aunt and uncle’s house. He comes to a wonderful place. At the school he learns many things. He hatches a dragon, plays the aerial sport Quidditch, and casts spells. He makes many friends. Finally, he meets his destiny. His life is exciting and eventful. To find out more, you’ll have to read Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone by J.K. Rowling.

**Understanding Pronouns**

1. The word "He" (line 3) refer to ___________.

2. The word "They" (line 8) refers to ___________.

3. The word "you" (line 17) refers to ________________.
Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that ____________________________
   a. Harry Potter will save the world
   b. Harry is a brilliant wizard who learns much
   c. Harry experiences two different ways of living

2. The best title for this passage would be ____________________________
   a. The Two Lives of Harry Potter
   b. Harry Potter, the Wizard King
   c. The Coming of a New Day

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. Harry's aunt and uncle probably ____________.
   a. love Harry as much as their own children
   b. pretend he does not live with them
   c. do not take good care of him

2. One day Harry gets 100 letters. This seems to be because ________________
   a. it is his birthday
   b. his parents died
   c. his uncle would destroy the letter

3. Hogwarts' Wizard School is ____________________________.
   a. a place where students learn to be wizards
   b. a place where students become geniuses
   c. a place where students learn to cook
Vocabulary Practice

Fill in each blank with one of the words in the list below.

1. There are thousands of war _________ in this country.
2. I put a lot of things in the _________ in my room.
3. Did you get an _________ to the party?
4. It was her _________ to become famous.
5. It was a really _________ movie.

- closet
- orphans
- boring
- destiny
- invitation

New Phrases

□ find out: to learn information
To find out more, you’ll have to read *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone*.
He hurried off to find out what the problem was.

□ cast a spell: to cause something to happen through magic
He hatches a dragon, plays the aerial sport Quidditch, and casts spells.
She is a witch! She’ll cast a spell on you if she sees you in the woods!
Harry is lonely and mistreated in _____ _____ _____.
One day _____ _____ _____ happens to Harry.
He is invited to ___________ __________ __________.
He has many exciting experiences at the school such as ________
_____ _______ and playing Quidditch.
Harry’s life is no more _____ _____.
Listening Practice [Track 8]

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. Harry Potter _____ _____ who lives _____ ____
   _____ _____.

2. He has to _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____
   _____ _____.

3. One day _____ _____ _____, _____ _____
   for Harry.

4. Harry _____ _____ _____ _____ _____.

5. His life _____ _____ _____ _____.

Homework - Writing Practice

Write a short paragraph about "Harry Potter".
Use the following questions as a guide.

Have you ever read the Harry Potter series or watched the films?
Which one do you like the most?
What do you think is the most interesting thing in the Harry Potter's story?

_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
Pre-Reading

Look at the picture and write the answers.

1. The man is ______ the ball.  a. holding  b. kicking
2. The men are playing ______.  a. soccer  b. baseball

New Words

- perhaps  maybe; probably
- worldwide  around the world
- soccer  a ball game played by two teams with 11 players each
- ceremony  a large and formal event
- schedule  expected to happen
- predict  to say something will happen before it happens
- champion  a person or team that has won first place
The World Cup is now perhaps the largest sports event in the world. It is a worldwide soccer event that is held every 4 years in different countries.

It was first held in Uruguay in 1930, and now it has become a global ceremony. The 18th World Cup was held in Germany in 2006, and the next World Cup is scheduled to be held in South Africa in 2010.

Every 4 years, millions of people from all over the world come together to see which country has the best soccer team. But it is difficult to predict which team will win the World Cup. For instance, France, which was the champion of the 16th World Cup, failed to score even one goal at the 17th World Cup. Everyone thought France would do very well because they were the champions of the last World Cup but they couldn’t even win one game. This is why the World Cup is so much fun to watch. Something new happens every time.

* soccer: also called “football”

### Understanding Pronouns

1. The word "It" (line 5) refers to ____________________ .

2. The word "they" (line 15) refers to ____________ .
The main idea of this passage is that

a. France did not win one game
b. the World Cup is a big sports event
c. the World Cup was first held in Uruguay

The best title for this passage would be

a. World Cup 2010
b. France and the World Cup
c. Facts about the World Cup

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. The first World Cup was held in _____________.
   a. South Africa
   b. Uruguay
   c. Germany

2. The World Cup is held every _____________.
   a. 2010 years
   b. 16 years
   c. 4 years

3. In the 17th World Cup, France _________________.
   a. failed to score even one goal
   b. became the champion team
   c. was the country with the best team
Vocabulary Practice

Fill in each blank with one of the words in the list below.

1. Bill is __________ the smartest student in our school.
2. The weatherman __________ that it will rain tomorrow.
3. The next World Cup is __________ to be held 4 years later.
4. The Olympics is a __________ event.
5. All the players want to become __________.

perhaps worldwide scheduled predicts champions

New Phrases

☐ be held in: an event to be hosted in someplace
The meeting was held in the new building.
Sarah thinks the next Olympics will be held in Africa.
The special event that should not be missed will be held in March.

☐ for instance: to explain using an example; for example
Imagine that you are flying, for instance.
There are many big mountains, for instance, Mt. Everest, Mt. McKinley, etc.
I want to travel to lots of famous cities, for instance, London, Paris and Venice.
Making a Summary

This is a summary of the passage.
Fill in the blanks with the right words.

be held in in different countries difficult to predict
something new happens large sports event

The World Cup has become a ______ ______ ______.
It is held every 4 years ______ ______ ______.
The next World Cup will ______ __ South Africa in 2010.
It is _______ ______ which team will win the World Cup.
The World Cup is so much fun to watch because ____________
____ ______ everyday time.
**Listening Practice**  
**Track 10**

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. The World Cup ____ ____ ____ worldwide ______ _______
2. ____ ____ ____ ____ in Uruguay in 1930.
3. Every 4 years, millions ____ ____ ____ watch to see which country ____ ____ ____ soccer team.
4. It is difficult to predict ____ ____ ____ ____.
5. That is why the World Cup ____ ____ ____ ____

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**Homework - Writing Practice**

Write a short paragraph about the World Cup.
Use the following questions as a guide.

When and where was the first World Cup held?
How often is it held?
Which country do you think will become the next champion?
Why?

The first World Cup was ______________________________________
The World Cup is held ______________________________________
I think ______________________________________________________
This is because ____________________________________________
The Internet and Us

Pre-Reading

Look at the picture and write the answers.

1. The woman is using a _______.  a. television  b. computer
2. Do you have one of these at home?  a. yes  b. no

New Words

- **useful**: being helpful in some way
- **daily**: happening every day
- **common**: found in large numbers or often found
- **information**: details about something
- **library**: a place that keeps lots of books
- **click**: to make a short, sharp sound (to press a computer mouse)
Every one of us uses the Internet almost every day. We all know that it is a very useful tool. But most of us take the Internet for granted and forget just how important it is to our daily lives. Have you ever thought about what life was like before we had the Internet?

Years before the Internet became common to everyone, it took about 1 week to send a letter from one country to another. But now, it takes just a few seconds to send a message through e-mail*

* e-mail: electronic mail; mail sent through the Internet

Information was also very difficult to find. People had to spend a lot of time at libraries just to find the information they were looking for. But thanks to the Internet, we can now find the information we need on the Internet just by clicking a mouse.

Understanding Pronouns

1. The word "it" (line 2) refers to ____________________.

2. The word "they" (line 13) refers to ____________.
Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that ____________________________
   ____________________________.
   a. information was hard to find long ago
   b. people can send messages very fast
   c. the Internet has become very important to us

2. The best title for this passage would be ____________________________
   ____________________________.
   a. The Internet: A Very Useful Tool
   b. Information: Very Important to Our Lives
   c. E-mail: Sending Messages Very Fast

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. The Internet is very ____________.
   a. useful   b. slow   c. unimportant

2. If we use the Internet, we can send messages in ____________
   ____________
   ____________.
   a. a week   b. a few seconds   c. a few days

3. Before the Internet, people had to ____________ to look for information.
   a. click a mouse   b. write a letter   c. go to the library
Vocabulary Practice

Fill in each blank with one of the words in the list below.

1. With the Internet, we can now get __________ very fast.
2. People go to the _________ to borrow books.
3. The Internet has become very important to our _______ lives.
4. We can get lots of ________ information using the Internet.
5. Using computers, people can send ________ in just a few seconds.

useful daily messages information library

New Phrases

take something for granted: to think that something is true or real

We often take our mother’s love for granted.
I took it for granted that you would come to the party.
Don’t take it for granted that I will treat you to lunch.

thanks to: because of

We were able to get to the movie on time thanks to Bill’s car.
Thanks to the weather, the party was a great success.
I got a free ticket for the amusement park thanks to my dad.
Making a Summary

This is a summary of the passage.
Fill in the blanks with the right words.

Internet for granted our daily lives thanks to the hard to find send a message

The Internet is very important to ____ ______ ______.
But we often take the ________ ___ ________ and forget how important it is.
Before the Internet, it took a very long time to ____ __ ________.
Information was also very ____ ____ ________.
_______ ___ ____ Internet, people can find information very easily.
Listening Practice

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. _______ is a very _______ ______ in our ______ ______.
2. Have you _______ ______ of what life was like ______ ______ ______ ______?
3. Long ago, it _______ ______ _______ to send a letter to another country.
4. It was ______ very hard ______ ______ ______.
5. People had to ______ ______ _______ to find the information they were ______ ______.

Homework - Writing Practice

Write a short paragraph about the Internet. Use the following questions and model as a guide.

How often do you use the Internet?
What sites do you often visit?
Do you think the Internet is useful?
Why do you think the Internet is important?

Model

I use the Internet 3 times a week. I usually visit my school web page and check my e-mail. I think the Internet is very useful. This is because we can send messages very quickly and we can get many kinds of information through the Internet.

I ______________________________________
I ______________________________________
I ______________________________________
Let's Go! Pluto!

Pre-Reading

Look at the picture below and answer the questions.

1. The rocket is being _______.  
   a. launched  
   b. cleaned

2. The weather is _______.  
   a. cloudy  
   b. sunny

New Words

- **launch**: to send something into the air or into space
- **spacecraft**: a rocket or machine that can travel through space
- **planet**: a large round object that moves around a star
- **solar**: of the sun
- **analyze**: to study very closely
- **atmosphere**: the air or gases around a planet
- **otherwise**: if not
On January 19, 2006, NASA* launched a new spacecraft called New Horizons into outer space. New Horizons is expected to travel about 3 billion miles for 10 years at around 50,000 kilometers per hour and take pictures of Pluto (the last planet in the solar system*), its moons, and the Kuiper (pronounced KY-purr) Belt. It will also analyze Pluto’s atmosphere and temperature.

Scientists say that now is our last chance to send a spacecraft to Pluto. Otherwise Pluto will become too far from Earth and it will be more difficult to get near the planet. The New Horizons mission is important because no spacecraft has ever been sent that far before. The information collected during this mission will help to explain what the outer edges of the solar system look like and how the solar system was formed 4.5 billion years ago.

* NASA: National Aeronautics and Space Administration
* the Solar System: the Sun, Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, Pluto

Understanding Pronouns

1. The word "its" (line 7) refers to __________.

2. The word "It" (line 8) refers to ________________.
Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that ________________________
   a. the Kuiper Belt is near Pluto
   b. New Horizons will visit and study Pluto
   c. the solar system was formed 4.5 billion years ago

2. The best title for this passage would be ________________________.
   a. The Solar System and Pluto
   b. Pluto and the Kuiper Belt
   c. New Horizons goes to Pluto

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. How far is Pluto from Earth?
   a. 3 billion miles   b. 50,000 kilometers   c. 4.5 billion years

2. Now is the best time to send a spacecraft to Pluto because Pluto will ________.
   a. be near the Kuiper Belt
   b. be analyzed by New Horizons
   c. become too far from Earth

3. The New Horizons mission is important because ________________________.
   a. no spacecraft has ever been sent that far before
   b. Pluto is the last planet in the solar system
   c. New Horizons will travel a long way
Vocabulary Practice

Fill in each blank with one of the words in the list below.

1. Albert Einstein was the greatest _________ of the 20th century.
2. Jupiter is the largest _________ in the solar system.
3. Japan will _________ a rocket into outer space.
4. Mars has a very thin _________.
5. We will _________ the information that New Horizons sends back to us.

planet  analyze  launch  scientist  atmosphere

New Phrases

☐ as well : in addition to
  We ate sandwiches and cookies as well.
  She owns a computer and an MP3 player as well.
  My hobby is playing computer games and watching TV as well.

☐ help to : be useful in doing something
  The new roof will help to stop the rain from coming into the house.
  Drinking milk will help you to become more strong.
  Reading lots of books will help us to broaden our mind.
Making a Summary

This is a summary of the passage.
Fill in the blanks with the right words.

is important because    a new spacecraft    help to explain
study its moons         atmosphere and temperature

NASA launched __________ called New Horizons.
It will travel to Pluto to take pictures and analyze its __________
_________.
It will also __________ and the Kuiper Belt.
New Horizons __________ __________ no spacecraft has ever been sent that far before.
The mission will __________ __________ what the solar system looked like 4.5 billion years ago.
Listener Practice  Track 14

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. NASA ________ New Horizons on ________ , ______.
2. Pluto is ________ ________ in the ________ _______.
3. If ________ ________ a spacecraft ________, Pluto ________ become ________ ________ Earth.
4. No ________ has ________ ________ to Pluto before.
5. The solar system ________ ________ 4.5 billion years ________.

Homework - Writing Practice

Write a short paragraph about space.
Use the following questions as a guide.

What are the nine planets in the solar system?
Which is your favorite planet?
Why do you like that planet?

The nine planets of the solar system are ____________________________

My favorite planet is ____________________________
I like it because ____________________________
Pre-Reading

What can you see from the picture?
Look at the picture and write the answers.

1. What can you see in the picture? a. cakes  b. ice cream
2. It is ______.
   a. hot    b. cold

New Words

- flavor: the taste of a food or drink
- cricket: a small bug that makes loud sounds at night
- bug: an insect such as ants or flies
- raise: to look after something until it grows up
- nutritious: having lots of substances that help your body be healthy
- protein: a substance found in foods like meat, eggs, or milk
"I scream. You scream. Now we can all scream at ice cream."
That is exactly what 15-year-old Sarah Thompson did when she tried the newest flavor of ice cream: chocolate-covered cricket!
Believe it or not, those loud bugs that you hear on summer nights are now turning up in ice cream. The crickets are raised in cages for about 6 weeks until they become ready to be cooked. They are baked for about 5 minutes, and then they are covered in chocolate before they are mixed with ice cream.
You may think that eating crickets might not be very good for your health, but in actuality, they are quite nutritious and they have lots of protein. As a matter of fact, some people say that eating crickets is better than eating too much chocolate.
So the next time you see ice cream with crickets in it, don’t scream and run away. Think of it as a nutritious snack and give it a try!

Understanding Pronouns

1. The word "she" (line 4) refers to ____________________.

2. The word "they" (line 9) refers to ____________.
Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that ____________________
   a. ice cream is very delicious
   b. Sarah Thompson ate a cricket
   c. crickets are turning up in ice cream

2. The best title for this passage would be ____________________
   a. Crickets and Chocolate
   b. Crickets in Ice Cream
   c. Crickets in Summer Nights

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. When Sarah first tried chocolate-covered crickets, she ________.
   a. smiled
   b. screamed
   c. ate too much

2. After being raised, crickets are baked for about ________.
   a. 5 minutes
   b. 6 weeks
   c. 15 years

3. Crickets have lots of ________.
   a. chocolate
   b. snacks
   c. protein
Vocabulary Practice

Fill in each blank with one of the words in the list below.

1. I like little _____ such as ants and flies.
2. Eggs, bacon, bread, and milk would be a very ________ meal.
3. Have you tried the new ice cream ________?
4. Meat, milk, and even crickets have lots of ________.
5. Sarah ____________ when she first tried cricket ice cream.

flavor   bugs   nutritious   screamed   protein

New Phrases

- **believe it or not**: though it may be hard to believe
  Believe it or not, some turtles live for over 100 years.
  My bed is made of gold, believe it or not.
  I’m the most beautiful girl in my class, believe it or not.

- **turn up**: to be found
  Cookies are also turning up in ice cream.
  Don’t worry about the newspaper. It will turn up soon.
  That’s too bad. Some cockroaches have turned up under my desk.

- **in actuality**: in fact; as a matter of fact; really
  I’ve heard of cricket flavor ice cream, but I’ve never seen it in actuality.
  In actuality, the actor is much taller than you think.
  In actuality, the price is much higher than I thought.
Making a Summary

This is a summary of the passage.
Fill in the blanks with the right words.

good for your lots of protein are raised in

turning up in think of them

Crickets are _________ ____ ice cream.
They ___ _______ cages, baked, and covered in chocolate.
Crickets are actually very _____ _____ _____ health.
They have ___ ___ _______ and are very nutritious.
The next time you see crickets, ______ ___ ______ as a snack and
give it a try.
Listening Practice  Track 16

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. Crickets ___ ___ ___ ___ ice cream.
2. ___ ___ first ___ ___ cages for 6 weeks.
3. Then ___ ___ ___ ___ 5 minutes and covered in chocolate.
4. Crickets are actually ___ ___ ___ ___ health.
5. ___ ___ ___ ___ eating crickets ___ ___ ___ ___ eating too much chocolate.

Homework - Writing Practice

Write a short paragraph about the ice cream that you like. Use the following questions as a guide.

What is your favorite ice cream?
What flavor is it? / What does it taste like?
How often do you eat this ice cream?
Why do you like it?

My favorite ice cream is ____________________________________________
It tastes like ______________________________________________________
I eat it __________________________________________________________
I like it because __________________________________________________
Mobile Telephones

Pre-Reading

What can you see from the picture?
Look at the picture and write the answers.

1. The woman is using a _______.  a. coin  b. mobile phone
2. The woman is _______.  a. talking  b. sleeping

New Words

- wireless: not having any wires
- crazy: foolish or strange
- mobile: that can be moved easily from place to place
- communication: sending messages from one person to another through the Internet
- online: very easy to use
- convenient: a machine that is made for a certain purpose
Reading Track 17

If someone had said 50 years ago that people would be walking around with small wireless telephones in their hands, we would have called him or her crazy. But now, almost everyone has at least one of them. People everywhere are walking around talking on their mobile phones*. The phones are even being used for more than just communication. People use them to play games, watch television, listen to music, pay money online, and find information. They have become a very important part of our lives.

Mobile phones have not only made our lives more convenient, but they have changed the way we live. Before we had mobile phones, it was hard to reach a friend that was away from home. But thanks to these small devices, people can now get in touch with anyone, at any place, and at any time.

* mobile phone: also called “cell phone”

Understanding Pronouns

1. The words "him or her" (line 4) refer to ____________ .

2. The word "them" (line 5) refers to ____________ .
Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that _____________________________.
   a. friends were hard to reach before we had mobile phones
   b. mobile phones have become very important to our lives
   c. we did not have mobile phones 50 years ago

2. The best title for this passage would be _________________________.
   a. The Importance of Mobile Phones
   b. Playing Games on Mobile Phones
   c. How to Make a Telephone Call

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. What can we not do with a mobile phone?
   a. play games
   b. listen to music
   c. walk faster

2. 50 years ago, _____________________________.
   a. people were crazy
   b. we did not have mobile phones
   c. people used mobile phones

3. Thanks to mobile phones, _____________________________.
   a. it is harder to reach a friend
   b. we cannot find information
   c. our lives are more convenient
Vocabulary Practice

Fill in each blank with one of the words in the list below.

1. People think Jack is _____ because he does very strange things.
2. We tried for 2 hours to _____ Mr. Smith on the telephone.
3. We can make telephone calls in the subway if we use a ______ phone.
4. Finding information is very ___________ using the Internet.
5. People use computers for faster ______________.

mobile  convenient  communication  crazy  reach

New Phrases

- **at least**: at the minimum
  - You must be **at least** 21 years old to drink.
  - Everyone in this classroom is **at least** 150cm tall.
  - I need **at least** 3 hours to finish my homework.

- **get in touch with**: come in contact with; communicate with
  - Did you **get in touch with** your father?
  - I couldn’t **get in touch with** Mr. Jones because he was very busy.
  - I want to **get in touch with** him by email during vacation.
Making a Summary

This is a summary of the passage.
Fill in the blanks with the right words.

made our lives many different things very important part
almost everyone is using mobile phones

50 years ago, no one thought we would be ______ ______ ______.
Now, ______ ______ ______ using a mobile phone.
The phones can be used to do ______ ______ ______.
They have become a ______ ______ ______ of our lives.
They have ______ ______ very convenient.
**Listening Practice  Track 18**

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. _______ _______ has _______ _______ mobile phone.
2. People _______ _______ other people.
3. _______ _______ be used to _______ _______ and _______ _______ online.
4. Mobile phones have _______ _______ _______ _______.
5. Now we can _______ _______, at _______ _______, at _______ _______.

**Homework - Writing Practice**

Write a short paragraph about mobile phones.
Use the following questions and model as a guide.

Do you often use a mobile phone?
What do you do with the phone?
What other things do you like to do with a mobile phone?
Why?

Model

I use my mobile phone all the time. My mother bought it for me on my birthday last year. I usually use the phone to call my friends. I like to use my phone to take pictures, too. This is because I do not like to carry a camera all the time.

I ___________________________
Pre-Reading

What can you see from the picture?
Look at the picture and write the answers.

1. This is a picture of _________.      a. clothes      b. money

2. You can use this to _________.      a. eat food      b. buy things

New Words

- uncle: the brother of one’s father or mother
- bill: paper money (not coins)
- curious: wanting to find out more
- valuable: worth a lot of money
- reply: to answer
- nod: to move one’s head up and down
One day, Daniel and his uncle Bob went to the store together. Uncle Bob gave Daniel a one dollar bill and told him he could buy whatever he wanted with that money. Daniel picked out two chocolate candy bars which cost 50 cents each.

As they were leaving, his uncle said that when he was a child he was able to buy five candy bars with one dollar. This was because back then, they only cost 20 cents each. Daniel became curious.

"You see, Daniel, the price of all things usually rises as time goes by. That's why one dollar earned today is more valuable than one dollar earned one year later. This is called the 'Time Value of Money'. Do you understand?"

"Not really," replied Daniel.

"Look at the candy bars. When I was a kid, I could buy five of them with one dollar. But now, I can only buy two because the price has risen to 50 cents. In other words, the value of one dollar has dropped over the years."

Daniel nodded his head. Now he was a little sure what his uncle meant.

Understanding Pronouns

1. The word "him" (line 3) refers to ___________.

2. The word "they" (line 9) refers to ________________.
Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that ______________________
   _________________________.
   a. chocolate candy bars cost a lot of money  
   b. it is better to have one dollar later  
   c. the value of money drops as time goes by

2. The best title for this passage would be _________________________.
   a. The Time Value of Money  
   b. Money and Chocolate Candy Bars  
   c. Daniel's Uncle

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. When Daniel's uncle was a child, chocolate candy bars cost _________________________.
   a. 50 cents  
   b. 20 cents  
   c. 1 dollar

2. One dollar earned today is more valuable than ________.
   a. chocolate candy bars  
   b. two dollars  
   c. one dollar earned later

3. Daniel can't buy as many candy bars as his uncle when he was a child because _________________________.
   a. chocolate candy bars don't taste good  
   b. the price of candy bars has risen  
   c. he doesn't like candy bars very much
Vocabulary Practice

Fill in each blank with one of the words in the list below.

1. One dollar today is more ________ than one dollar next year.
2. I have to buy a present for my aunt and my ________.
3. I asked my sister what she wanted to eat but she wouldn’t ________.
4. Daniel didn’t say anything. He just ________.
5. George asks a lot of questions. He is a very ________ boy.

uncle curious valuable reply nodded

New Phrases

- **as time goes by**: with the passage of time
  As time goes by, you will come to like this music.
  She will lose weight **as time goes by**.
  As time goes by, I will miss my friend who studies abroad.

- **in other words**: say something in a different way
  In other words, you will get an F if you don’t do your homework.
  There are no shoes that fit her feet. In other words, her feet are very large.
  In other words, I’m complaining about your service now.
Making a Summary

This is a summary of the passage.
Fill in the blanks with the right words.

to the store        time goes by        they only cost
prices were lower   this is called

Daniel and his uncle Bob went ______ ______ together.
Uncle Bob told Daniel that ______ ______ when he was a child.
Today, candy bars are 50 cents but ______ ______ 20 cents a long time ago.
______ ______ the time value of money.
The value of one dollar drops as ______ ______ ______.
**Listening Practice**  
Track 20

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. Uncle Bob and Daniel ______ ______ ________ together.
2. Uncle Bob gave Daniel ________ and ________ _______ _______ whatever he wanted.
3. Daniel ________ ______ chocolate ________ ______.
4. ________ candy bars ________ ______ 50 cents.
5. This is called the ________ ______ ________.

**Homework - Writing Practice**

Write a short paragraph about what you would like to buy. Use the following questions as a guide.

What would you really like to buy?
How much does it cost?
Why do you want to buy it?
Do you have enough money to buy it? If you don’t, how will you earn the money?

I would really like to buy ________________________________

It costs ________________________________

I want it because ________________________________

(Yes / No). I will ________________________________
New Year’s Resolution

Pre-Reading

What can you see from the picture?
Look at the picture and write the answers.

1. The people look very _______.  a. sad  b. happy
2. It is _______________.  a. Thanksgiving  b. New Year’s Day

New Words

- gather to come together
- resolution the decision to try very hard to do something
- quit to stop doing something
- several not many, but more than two
- breath the air that comes out of your mouth when you breathe
- lazy not wanting to work hard
Today is New Year’s Day. Cindy’s family has gathered in the living room to talk about each person’s resolutions for the New Year.

Cindy says her New Year’s resolution is to learn how to play tennis. She wishes to try out for her school’s tennis team.

Her younger brother, Timothy, says his resolution is to get up at 6:00 a.m. every morning. To do so, he will also have to sleep early at night.

Dad’s resolution is to quit smoking this year. He has been trying to quit for several months but he failed every time. He knows that if he quits, not only will his breath smell a lot better, but he will feel a lot healthier, too.

Mom has decided that she will make a point of writing a book. She had always wanted to become a writer ever since she was a little girl but couldn’t because she was busy with other work.

The family has agreed that the most important resolution is to make sure that each person tries hard not to become lazy with their resolutions.

Understanding Pronouns

1. The word "She" (line 6) refers to _________.

2. The word "He" (line 11) refers to _______.
Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that ____________________________
   a. Dad wants to quit smoking
   b. the family should not become lazy
   c. Cindy’s family has made New Year’s resolutions

2. The best title for this passage would be ____________________________
   a. Cindy’s Resolution
   b. Cindy and Timothy
   c. New Year’s Resolutions

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. Timothy has decided he will ____________________________
   a. try out for the tennis team
   b. get up at 6 a.m. every day
   c. quit smoking

2. Mom wants to ____________________________
   a. become a teacher
   b. get healthier
   c. write a book

3. The family has agreed that the most important thing is to ____________________________
   a. sleep early at night
   b. be busy with work
   c. try hard not to become lazy
**Vocabulary Practice**

Fill in each blank with one of the words in the list below.

1. Dad wants to _______ smoking this year.
2. The whole family _______ in the living room.
3. You should try hard not to become _______.
4. His _______ smells bad because he smokes all the time.
5. I tried to call Jake _______ times but he wouldn’t answer the phone.

- gathered
- several
- quit
- lazy
- breath

**New Phrases**

- **living room**: a large room where the whole family can sit together
  - My room would be a lot bigger if our living room were a little smaller.
  - My brother likes to watch TV in the living room.
  - I’m going to buy a picture frame to decorate the living room.

- **try out for**: to compete for a position
  - Julie will try out for the part of Juliet in the school play.
  - I tried out for the football team last year.
  - Athletes want to try out for the Olympics, so they practice hard.

- **make a point of**: to do something for sure
  - She always makes a point of cleaning her room.
  - I’ll make a point of fixing this computer.
  - He made a point of joining an in-line skating club.
Making a Summary

This is a summary of the passage.
Fill in the blanks with the right words.

write a book \hspace{1cm} get up early \hspace{1cm} try out for
made resolutions for \hspace{1cm} to quit smoking

Cindy's family has \underline{\hspace{2cm}} the New Year.
Cindy will learn to play tennis and \underline{\hspace{2cm}} the school tennis team.
Timothy will try to \underline{\hspace{2cm}} every day.
Dad will try \underline{\hspace{2cm}} .
Mom wants to \underline{\hspace{2cm}} .
Listening Practice  Track 22

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. Cindy _______ _______ _______ _______ tennis.
2. ______ ______, Timothy, ______ try to ______ ______ every day.
3. Dad wants to ______ _______ _______ _______.
4. Mom ______ decided to ______ _______.
5. The ______ _______ _______ is to try and not ______ _______.

Homework - Writing Practice

Write a short paragraph about your New Year’s resolution. Use the following questions as a guide.

What was your resolution for this year?
Why did you make this your resolution?
What did you do to keep your resolution?
Do you think you did a good job?

My resolution for this year was ____________________________
I made this my resolution because __________________________
I ______________________________________________________
(Yes / No), ______________________________________________
Pre-Reading

What can you see from the picture?
Look at the picture and write the answers.

1. There are ______ stars in the sky.  a. many   b. few
2. The stars are very ______.   a. bright   b. dark

New Words

- parent a mother or father
- interested think of something as important and want to learn more
- favorite the one that a person likes most
- surprised to be amazed because something is unexpected
- country a place that has farms and villages and is away from the city
- promise a statement that someone will do something for sure
Sarah is a 12 year-old girl who lives in the city with her parents. She is very interested in the stars in the sky and likes to find constellations* at night. She says her favorite is the Great Bear because she thinks it is very cute.

One night she was visiting her grandparents' house in the country. She looked up at the sky but was surprised to see that there were so many stars. She had never seen that many in the city before. Sarah asked her father why there were so many stars in the country but so little in the city. Her father said that the number of stars in the country and in the city was the same. But it was hard to see them in the city because the city has so many bright lights.

Sarah now knew why she couldn't find many of the constellations she had seen in her book. She made a promise to herself that she would visit her grandparents' house every summer from now on.

* constellation: the figures of the stars in the sky (Orion, Cassiopeia, etc.)

Understanding Pronouns

1. The word "She" (line 2) refers to ________.

2. The word "them" (line 14) refers to __________.
Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that ______________________.
   a. Sarah likes the country very much
   b. the constellations in the sky are very beautiful
   c. it is hard to see the stars in the city because of the bright lights

2. The best title for this passage would be ______________________.
   a. The Beautiful Country
   b. Why Sarah Couldn’t See So Many Stars
   c. Sarah’s Favorite Constellation: The Great Bear

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. Sarah’s favorite constellation is the Great Bear because she thinks it is _____.
   a. beautiful     b. cute     c. bright

2. Sarah couldn’t see so many stars in the city because the city has many ________.
   a. people     b. constellations     c. bright lights

3. From now on, Sarah will visit her grandparents every _____.
   a. winter     b. night     c. summer
Vocabulary Practice

Fill in each blank with one of the words in the list below.

1. My ___________ told me not to play with matches.
2. Karen is very ___________ in beautiful paintings.
3. My ___________ food is pizza.
4. I was very ___________ to see my friend on television.
5. Jeff made a ___________ that he would not steal money again.

favorite  interested  surprised  promise  parents

New Phrases

☐ be interested in: to care about something or like something
   Why are you so interested in what I did last summer?
   Carl is very interested in birds.
   I’m really interested in watching baseball games.

☐ make a promise: to say that one will do something
   I made a promise to my wife that I would buy her a diamond ring.
   Nancy made a promise never to eat meat again.
   He made a promise that he would make her happy forever.
Making a Summary

This is a summary of the passage.
Fill in the blanks with the right words.

many bright lights made a promise to look at hard to see surprised to see

Sarah likes ___ ____ ___ the stars in the sky.
She was very _______ ___ ___ that there were more stars in the country.
This was because the city has so ____ _______ _______.
That is why it is ____ ___ ____ the stars in the city.
Sarah ____ _______ that she would visit her grandparents' house every summer.
**Listening Practice**  
Track 24

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. There ___ ___ ___ in the ___.
2. Sarah ___ ___ ___ constellations ___ ___.
3. But it is ___ ___ ___ many of them ___ ___.
4. This is ___ ___ ___ the city has so many ___ ___ ___.
5. Sarah will ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ from now on.

---

**Homework - Writing Practice**

Write a short paragraph about your favorite constellation.  
Use the following questions as a guide.

What is your favorite constellation?  
What does it look like?  
Why do you like it?  
Can you find it in the sky?

My favorite constellation is ____________________________

It looks like a ____________________________

I like it because ____________________________

(Yes / No), ____________________________
Computer Games

Pre-Reading

What can you see from the picture?
Look at the picture and write the answers.
1. The child is playing ________.  a. a computer game  b. soccer
2. Do you enjoy playing this? a. yes  b. no

New Words

- addicted  liking something so much and wanting to do it as much as possible
- exercise  moving one’s body to stay healthy
- eyesight  ability to see
- fixed  stuck to and not moving
- problem  something that is not good and is difficult to solve
- opportunity  a chance to do something that one wants to do
Children love to play computer games. Some people say that many of them are addicted to games. If you become addicted, all you can think about is computer games and you cannot spend a day without playing. Of course, playing games on the computer is a great way to spend time and have fun. But there are also bad sides to it as well.

First of all, children do not get enough exercise because you do not have to move your body much when playing games. Second, your eyesight becomes bad because your eyes are fixed on the computer screen for too long. This is why it is not hard to find children wearing glasses around these days. Third, you do not get to spend much time with your family because you are spending all of your time in front of the computer.

Playing computer games is not such a bad thing. But too much playing can cause problems. How many hours do you spend in front of the computer? Why not take this opportunity to cut down on computer games?

Understanding Pronouns

1. The word "them" (line 2) refers to ______________.

2. The word "it" (line 8) refers to ______________.
Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that _____________________________.
   a. playing computer games is a great way to spend time and have fun
   b. children do not get enough exercise
   c. there are bad sides to playing computer games

2. The best title for this passage would be _____________________________.
   a. Bad Eyesight
   b. Children and Exercise
   c. The Problems of Computer Games

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. If you become addicted to computer games, _____________________________.
   a. you become very good at them
   b. you cannot spend a day without playing
   c. you can spend a good time and have lots of fun

2. If children play games too much, they get bad eyesight because _____________________________.
   a. their eyes are fixed on the screen for too long
   b. they do not get enough exercise
   c. they wear glasses all the time

3. Children addicted to games do not spend much time with their families because _____________________________.
   a. they like to exercise
   b. they have bad eyesight
   c. they spend too much time in front of the computer
Vocabulary Practice

Fill in each blank with one of the words in the list below.

1. This chair is _______ to the floor.
2. I had the ___________ to meet the President last week.
3. She wears glasses because she has bad ____________.
4. Smoking can cause many health ____________.
5. If you do not get enough ____________, you will become fat.

exercise   eyesight   fixed   problems   opportunity

New Phrases

☐ cannot spend a day without: must do something every day
   I cannot spend a day without thinking about her.
   Sarah is very healthy. She cannot spend a day without exercising.
   The potted plant on my desk cannot spend a day without water.

☐ these days: nowadays
   There are many cars on the streets these days.
   These days it is very hard to find a public telephone.
   I’m so tired these days because of spring fever.

☐ cut down on: to reduce or lower something
   You should cut down on smoking if you want to stay healthy.
   The doctor told me to cut down on chocolate.
   Please cut down on going out for hamburgers, if you want to lose weight.
Making a Summary

This is a summary of the passage.
Fill in the blanks with the right words.

get enough exercise spend much time are addicted to
many bad sides get bad eyesight

Many children these days ___ _______ ___ computer games.
Playing computer games has ______ ____ ____.
Children do not ___ _______ ________ because they don’t have
to move much.
They ___ ___ ______ because their eyes are fixed on the screen.
They don’t_______ _____ _____ with their family.
Listening Practice   Track 26

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. _____ _______ ______ addicted to computer games _______.
2. They don’t get _______ _______ and their _______ becomes _______.
3. They don’t _______ _______ ______ with their family.
4. _______ _______ ______ may not be such a ______ _______.
5. But playing ______ ______ can cause ______ _______ _______.

Homework - Writing Practice

Write a short paragraph about computer games. Use the following questions and model as a guide.

Do you like to play computer games?
How often do you play games?
Do you think you play too much?
What do you think you should do to cut down on games?

Model
I like to play computer games very much. I play almost every day after school for 3 hours. I don’t think I play too much but my mother always says that I do. I think I should play sports with my friends to cut down on computer games.

I ________________________________

_________________________________

_________________________________
Robin Hood

Pre-Reading

What can you see from the picture?
Look at the picture and write the answers.

1. The man is shooting _______.
   a. a gun
   b. an arrow

2. The man is in _________.
   a. the city
   b. the woods

New Words

☐ reason  a fact that explains why something has happened
☐ thief  someone who steals from other people
☐ famous  known to many people
☐ probably  maybe
☐ hero  a brave and good man that is liked by many people
☐ legend  a person that is admired and liked by many people
We all learned in school that stealing from others is a bad thing. But what if someone steals for a good reason? Should we still call that thief a bad person?

The most famous thief in history would probably be Robin Hood. Robin Hood is believed to have lived during the Middle Ages*. He stole money and food from the rich to give to the poor. Back then, rich people did not care if the poor were in need. Although he was a thief, the people thought of Robin Hood as a hero because he stole in order to help others. They came to love him and his name has now become a legend.

* the Middle Ages: the years between 476 and 1500 in Europe

### Understanding Pronouns

1. The word "He" (line 8) refers to ____________.

2. The word "They" (line 12) refers to ____________.
Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that ________________________
   
   a. stealing is a bad thing
   b. Robin Hood was a rich man
   c. Robin Hood stole from the rich to give to the poor

2. The best title for this passage would be ____________________.
   
   a. Good and Bad
   b. The Bad Robin Hood
   c. Robin Hood: A Good Thief

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. Robin Hood ____________________.
   
   a. stole from the poor
   b. stole from the rich
   c. did not like to steal

2. The people thought of Robin Hood as a ________.
   
   a. rich man       b. bad man       c. hero

3. Rich people did not care if the poor ________________.
   
   a. liked Robin Hood
   b. were in need
   c. stole money
Vocabulary Practice

Fill in each blank with one of the words in the list below.

1. A person who steals is called a ________.
2. Picasso was a very ________ artist.
3. Robin Hood stole money and food for a good ________.
5. It is very cloudy outside, and so it will ________ rain later.

reason famous thief probably legend

New Phrases

- **the rich / the poor**: rich people / poor people
  - The rich have good houses and lots of food to eat.
  - Kenny always gives money to help the poor on Christmas.
  - There is a luxurious building where the rich live.

- **in order to**: for the purpose of
  - I got another job in order to earn more money.
  - She went to Africa in order to study animals.
  - You’d better hurry up in order to get there on time.
This is a summary of the passage.
Fill in the blanks with the right words.

Robin Hood stole money and food ______ _______.
He ______ ______ ______ to give to the poor.
Back then, the rich ______ ______ about poor people.
The people loved him and thought of him ______ _______.
His name has now ______ _______.

stole from them    become a legend    as a hero
                 did not care    from the rich
Listening Practice  Track 28

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. Robin Hood ______ ____ ____ Middle Ages.
2. He _____ _____ and food ______ ____ ____ to give ____ ____ ______.
4. But ____ _____ people ______ ____ very much.
5. He ______ ____ ______ ______.

Homework - Writing Practice

Write a short paragraph about your favorite hero.
Use the following questions as a guide.

Who is your favorite hero?
What do you like about that hero?
What don’t you like about that hero?

My favorite hero is ____________________________
I like ____________________________
However, I don’t like ____________________________
The Genius of Mozart

Pre-Reading

What can you see from the picture?
Look at the picture and write the answers.

1. Do you know who this man is?  a. yes  b. no
2. Have you heard his music?    a. yes  b. no

New Words

- musician: a person whose job is playing music
- genius: a very smart person
- memorize: to remember something exactly
- royal: of the king or queen
- influence: having an effect on someone
- unfortunately: sadly
- compose: to write new music
The year 2006 marks the 250th year after the birth of Mozart. Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was born in Salzburg, Austria in 1756 and later became one of the greatest musicians not only in his time, but in history as well.

People called him a genius because he could memorize an entire song just by hearing it once. As a little boy, he could even play the piano with his eyes covered.

Later, he wrote many songs for the royal family, the church, operas, and so on. He even had great influence on musicians like Beethoven or Rossini. Unfortunately, he did not live very long and died at the age of 35.

Mozart went on to compose a total of 625 songs. Most of his music is still played and loved today.

Understanding Pronouns

1. The word "him" (line 6) refers to ___________.

2. The word "his" (line 14) refers to ___________.
Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that ____________________

   a. Mozart was a great musician
   b. Mozart died at a very young age
   c. Mozart’s music is still played and loved today

2. The best title for this passage would be ____________________.

   a. 250 Years of Music
   b. A Genius Musician
   c. Salzburg, Austria

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. When was Mozart born?
   a. 1756
   b. 250
   c. 2006

2. Which musician did Mozart not influence?
   a. Beethovens
   b. Bach
   c. Rossini

3. Mozart composed _____ songs.
   a. 35
   b. 250
   c. 625
**Vocabulary Practice**

Fill in each blank with one of the words in the list below.

1. Albert Einstein was known to be a _______.  
2. Mozart played music for the _______ family.  
3. A person whose job is to play music is called a _______.  
4. I loved the song so much that I decided to ____________ all the words.  
5. John and Paul used to work together and ________ great songs. 

musician  compose  genius  memorize  royal

**New Phrases**

□ **and so on**: and many other other things, too  
- When I eat breakfast, I like to eat bread, milk, eggs, **and so on**.
- I like artists like Van Gogh, Picasso, Monet, **and so on**.
- People have lots of feelings like happiness, hunger, sadness, **and so on**.

□ **have an influence on**: to affect the way another person acts or thinks  
- My father **had a big influence on** me. 
- Mr. Jones **had a great influence on** all of his students. 
- Computer games **have** too much **influence on** children.
Making a Summary

This is a summary of the passage.
Fill in the blanks with the right words.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was born in 1756 in Austria.
He became one of the greatest musicians in history.
He was so good that people called him a genius.
Mozart played and loved his music and later influenced musicians like Beethoven and Rossini.
His music is still played and loved today.
**Listening Practice**  **Track 30**

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. Mozart ____ ____ ____ history’s greatest musicians.
2. He ____ ____ ____ an entire song just by ____ ____ ____.
3. Mozart could ____ ____ ____ the piano with ____ ____ ____.
4. He did not ____ ____ ____ and ____ ____ at 35.
5. His music ____ ____ ____ today.

---

**Homework - Writing Practice**

Write a short paragraph about your favorite musician. Use the following questions as a guide.

Who is your favorite musician?
What are some of that person’s songs?
Which song do you like best?
Why do you like that song?

My favorite musician is ______________________ (e.g. The Beatles, Britney Spears)

Some of (his/her/their) best songs are ______________________

Of these songs, my favorite is ______________________

I like this song because ______________________
Visiting the Louvre

Pre-Reading

What can you see from the picture?
Look at the picture and write the answers.

1. This is a picture of a ______.  a. museum  b. school
2. Have you ever seen a museum?  a. yes  b. no

New Words

- **museum**: a building where valuable things are shown to other people
- **attract**: to cause other people to come to
- **sculpture**: a piece of art made by carving wood, stone or clay
- **Greek**: of Greece; a person of Greece
- **exhibit**: something that is shown in a museum
- **archaeology**: the study of past peoples and societies
- **architecture**: the study of planning and making buildings
The Louvre Museum is one of the largest and most famous museums in the world. Located in the middle of Paris, France, the Louvre attracts millions of visitors each year. It has some of the most famous paintings and sculptures on earth. Leonardo da Vinci’s Mona Lisa, and the Greek sculpture “the Winged Victory of Samothrace” (sculpture of Nike) can be found in the museum.

In addition to art, the Louvre has many other types of exhibits, including archaeology, history, and architecture. The museum is so large that it would take about 4 months to visit each piece. Some people visit the museum several times because they cannot see everything in one visit. They say that even though they are visiting the same museum, every visit is a new experience.

Understanding Pronouns

1. The word "It" (line 5) refers to ____________.

2. The word "They" (line 14) refers to ____________.
Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that ____________________________
   a. Leonardo da Vinci’s Mona Lisa is very beautiful
   b. Paris has many visitors every year
   c. the Louvre is a large museum with lots of exhibits

2. The best title for this passage would be ____________________________
   a. Louvre, the Museum
   b. Visiting Paris, France
   c. Greek Sculptures

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. The Louvre is a __________.
   a. sculpture  b. painting  c. museum

2. The Louvre is located in ________.
   a. Greece  b. Paris  c. Italy

3. Some people visit the Louvre several times because ____________________________
   a. they cannot see everything in one visit
   b. they like Paris, France
   c. Greek sculptures are in the museum
Vocabulary Practice

Fill in each blank with one of the words in the list below.

1. We are going to _________ Jane in the hospital.
2. The tower is _________ in the middle of the city.
3. I tried to call her _________ times.
4. I liked the _________ in the museum.
5. My mother _________ my shirt under my bed.

located  found  exhibits  several  visit

New Phrases

- **on earth**: in the world (used for emphasis)
  
  Mt. Everest is the highest mountain **on earth**.
  
  Kelly thinks she is the prettiest girl **on earth**.
  
  I think cockroaches are the most disgusting insect **on earth**.

- **even though**: although

  **Even though** there weren't many people, the show was very fun.
  
  I talked with my sister all night **even though** I was tired.
  
  I want to go on a picnic **even though** the weather is not good.
Making a Summary

This is a summary of the passage.
Fill in the blanks with the right words.

millions of visitors so large that famous and largest paintings and sculptures museum several times

The Louvre is one of the most _______ _______ museums in the world.
The museum attracts _______ _______ each year.
It has many famous _______ _______.
The Louvre is _______ _______ it takes about 4 months to see all the exhibits.
Some people come to the _______ _______ _______.
Listening Practice  Track 32

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. The Louvre is _____ ____ Paris and ___ ___ sculptures and paintings.

2. The museum _______ _______ ___ ____ each year.

3. It ___ ___ ___ other than art.

4. The _______ ___ ____ that it takes 4 months ___ ___ ___.

5. ___ ___ ___ visit the museum _______ they cannot see everything in one visit.

Homework - Writing Practice

Write a short paragraph about your visit to the museum. Use the following questions as a guide.

Which museums did you visit?
Where is it located?
What did you like most?
What other museums would you like to visit?

I visited _______________________________________

It is located in ___________________________________

I liked _________________________________________

I would like to visit _______________________________
Pre-Reading

What can you see from the picture?
Look at the picture and write the answers.

1. Do you know who this man is?  
   a. yes  
   b. no

2. The man in the picture is ______.  
   a. listening  
   b. speaking

New Words

- racial: things related to the color of a person’s skin
- right: the things that the law allows you to do
- vote: to choose a leader at an election
- peaceful: not fighting
- demand: to strongly ask for
- equal: being the same as something else
- effort: hard work that is done to accomplish(do) something
"I have a dream." These were the words of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in his famous "I have a dream" speech.

Today, it is hard to find racial segregation* in the US but no more than 40 years ago, this was not true. Black people were not allowed to sit in the front of public buses, and they couldn't send their children to the same school as white kids. They didn't have the right to vote and they couldn't get good jobs just because they were black.

The man who set out to change all this was Dr. King. He led peaceful marches in many cities and demanded that black people receive equal rights as white people. Dr. King later received the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts in the civil rights movement*. He continued to work for equal rights until he was killed in 1968 in Memphis.

Although Dr. King is not with us today, his dream continues to touch the lives of many all around the world.

* segregation: the act of keeping people apart from one another
* civil rights movement: the act of people getting together to ask for equal rights

Understanding Pronouns

1. The word "they" (line 7) refers to ________________.

2. The word "He" (line 11) refers to ____________.
Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that ________________
   a. Dr. King won the Nobel Peace Prize
   b. Dr. King was killed in Memphis
   c. Dr. King worked for equal rights for black people

2. The best title for this passage would be ________________
   a. Dr. King’s Nobel Peace Prize
   b. The Death of Martin Luther King, Jr.
   c. The Dream of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. 40 years ago, black people could not ___________.
   a. vote    b. work    c. go to school

2. Dr. King demanded that black people receive ___________.
   a. the Nobel Peace Prize
   b. equal rights
   c. peaceful marches

3. Dr. King was killed _____________.
   a. in Memphis
   b. in 1986
   c. today
Vocabulary Practice

Fill in each blank with one of the words in the list below.

1. Dr. King led _________ marches in Washington D.C.
2. People did not have _______ rights a long time ago.
3. The robbers _________ money from us.
4. Did you _______ for our president?
5. We should thank Dr. King for his _______.

efforts vote demanded equal peaceful

New Phrases

set out: to begin to work for something

Linda set out to change her house.
The man who set out to change the law was Mr. Smith.
They set out to find the problem with the machine.

touch the lives of: to affect other peoples lives or thoughts

Mozart’s music touched the lives of many people.
The new movie touched the lives of the sick people.
His speech touched the lives of the participants.
Making a Summary

This is a summary of the passage.
Fill in the blanks with the right words.

for his efforts the same rights set out to
led peaceful marches continues to touch

Years ago, black people did not have ____ ____ ____ as white people.
The man who ____ ____ ____ change all this was Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
He ____ ____ ____ in many cities and demanded equal rights.
He later won the Nobel Peace Prize ____ ____ _____.
Dr. King was killed in Memphis, but his dream ____ ____ ____ the lives of many people.
Listening Practice  Track 34

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. _______ _______ _______ _______ _______ equal rights long ago.
2. Dr. King _______ _______ _______ all this.
3. He ______ _______ _______ _______ _______ _______ _______ _______ _______ _______.
4. _______ _______ _______ _______ _______ _______ _______ _______ _______ _______ _______.
5. Dr. King _______ _______ _______ _______ _______ _______ _______ _______ _______ _______ _______.

Homework - Writing Practice

Write a short paragraph about your favorite historic hero.
Use the following questions as a guide.

Who is your favorite historic hero?
What did that person do?
Why do you like this person?
Do you want to become like this person when you grow up?

My favorite historic hero is ____________________________

______________________

______________________

______________________

______________________
Pre-Reading

What can you see from the picture?
Look at the picture and write the answers.

1. Do you like to watch movies?  
   a. yes    b. no

2. Would you like to watch this movie?  
   a. yes    b. no

New Words

- **produce**  
  to make

- **industry**  
  activities involved in making a certain product

- **estimate**  
  to approximately judge the size or value of

- **average**  
  a number calculated by adding all the values and dividing by the number of values

- **population**  
  the people living in a certain region

- **demand**  
  the number of people that want something
Which country do you think produces the most movies in a year? If your answer was the United States, you had better think again. It is true that the US makes the most money from the movie industry, but it does not make the largest number of movies. The answer to the question is India. Surprised? It is estimated that around 700-900 films are made in India each year. That means that an average of 2 movies are produced in one day. The industry is so large that people now call it “Bollywood.*” Even the United States makes just around 300 films a year. So why are so many movies produced in the subcontinent*?

The biggest reason is that India has a total population of about 1 billion people and many of them enjoy watching movies. In other words, there is a strong demand for them. Although Indian movies are not as popular as American films, the Indian people take pride in the fact that their country is the largest producer of films in the world.

* Bollywood: a word made by combining Mumbai (an Indian city) and Hollywood
* subcontinent: a large piece of land (usually used to refer to India)

Understanding Pronouns

1. The word "it" (line 5) refers to ______________________.

2. The word "them" (line 16) refers to ___________.
Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that _____________________.
   a. American movies are very fun to watch
   b. India has a large population
   c. India makes the most movies in the world

2. The best title for this passage would be _____________________.
   a. India: A Large Country
   b. The Movie Industry of the United States
   c. Bollywood: India’s Movie Industry

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. The country that makes the most movies is _________________.
   a. The United States       b. Canada       c. India

2. India’s movie industry is so large that people now call it _____________________.

3. India makes many movies because _____________________.
   a. the people don’t like American movies
   b. its large population likes to watch movies
   c. the United States makes the most money
Vocabulary Practice

Fill in each blank with one of the words in the list below.

1. Newspapers _________ that there will be about 10,000 people at the concert.
2. I got an _________ score of 90 on my test.
3. People in India like to _________ many movies.
4. China and India have a large _________.
5. The movie _________ has become very large in India.

produce  industry  estimate  average  population

New Phrases

☐ had better : should
Your room had better be cleaned by the time your mother gets home.
If you are going to watch a movie, you had better watch it with an adult.
You had better bring your umbrella, because I think it’s going to rain tonight.

☐ take pride in : be proud of
The Smiths take great pride in their eldest son.
The Chinese people take pride in the fact that they have the largest population in the world.
We should take pride in our historic sites.
Making a Summary

This is a summary of the passage.
Fill in the blanks with the right words.

so large that a large population take pride in the most money produces the most

The country that ______ __ _____ movies is India.
The United States makes ____ ____ ______, but India makes the largest number of films.
The reason is that India has __ ______ ______ and the people like to watch movies.
The industry is ___ ______ ___ people now call it Bollywood.
Indian people _____ ______ ___ the fact that they make the most films.
**Listening Practice**  
Track 36

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. _____ _____ _____ that the US makes _____ _____ in a year.
2. In fact, however, _____ _____ _____ producer of films.
3. The _____ _____ in India is _____ _____ _____ people now call it Bollywood.
4. India has _____ _____ _____ and the people _____ _____ movies.
5. Indian people are proud of _____ _____ _____ films.

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**Homework - Writing Practice**

Write a short paragraph about a movie that you like. Use the following questions as a guide.

Which movie did you like best?
What was the movie about?
Why did you like that movie?
What other movies would you like to see? Why?

My favorite movie is __________________________
It was about __________________________
I liked it because __________________________
I would also like to see __________________________
Making Priorities

Pre-Reading
What can you see from the picture?
Look at the picture and write the answers.

1. The girl is trying to _____________________.
   a. eat her food               b. choose which one to buy

2. The one on the left is _________________.
   a. a hamburger               b. salad

New Words

- situation  what is happening in a certain place
- concert    a music performance
- decision   choosing what should be done
- priority   the most important thing one must do before everything else
- attention  interest or care
- satisfaction pleasure that one feels after doing something
Justin is thinking about how to spend his money during winter vacation. He has saved up about 300 dollars. He wants to buy a computer with his money but he also wants to go skiing with his friends. He knows he can’t do both because he doesn’t have enough money. What should Justin do?

We come across these kinds of situations every now and then. You want to go see a concert on a weekend, but it is also your father’s birthday and you do not want to let him down. In this case, you don’t have enough time to go to both places. This is where you must make a decision. This is also where you must think of priority. You must ask yourself these questions:

“Which is more important?”
“Which decision needs my attention more?”
“Which choice would give me more satisfaction?”

After you have answered these questions, it may be easier for you to decide what to do. So the next time you must make a decision, remember to prioritize.

Understanding Pronouns

1. The word "He" (line 2) refers to __________.

2. The word "him" (line 11) refers to __________.
Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that ____________________
   a. you should not miss your father’s birthday party
   b. Justin should buy a new computer
   c. you must prioritize when making decisions

2. The best title for this passage would be ____________________
   a. Going to a Concert
   b. Making Priorities
   c. Dad’s Birthday

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. Justin is thinking about ____________________
   a. learning to ski
   b. making new friends
   c. how to spend his money

2. When you cannot decide what to do, you should think of ____________________
   a. prioritizing
   b. concerts
   c. birthdays

3. If you prioritize, it will be ____________________
   a. fun at your father’s birthday party
   b. easier to make decisions
   c. harder to answer questions
Vocabulary Practice

Fill in the blank with one of the words in the list below.

1. Sam doesn’t know what to do, but he must make a ______ now.
2. It will be ______ to eat your food if you use a fork.
3. I want to go see the rap ______ on Saturday.
4. Robert cannot seem to get any ____________ from his new clothes.
5. You should focus your ____________ on the matter.

concert  satisfaction  decision  attention  easier

New Phrases

- **every now and then**: sometimes
  - My uncle comes by our house *every now and then* to say hello.
  - *Every now and then*, you can see an airplane passing by.
  - *Every now and then*, I stay up late reading books.

- **let someone down**: disappoint someone
  - I really want you to be at the party. Don’t *let me down*.
  - I promise I will not *let you down* this time.
  - Don’t *let* it get *you down*, you’ll have lots of chances.
Making a Summary

This is a summary of the passage.
Fill in the blanks with the right words.

what to do we must ask now and then cannot do everything we prioritize it

Every _____ _____ _____ we have to make hard decisions.
We sometimes cannot decide _____ _____ .
We ______ __ __________ at one time.
_____ _____ ourselves what is more important.
If _____ __________, __ will be easier to make decisions.
Listening Practice  Track 38

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. ___ ___ hard ___ _____ decisions.
2. ___ _____ choose ___ ___ ___ going to do.
3. We want to ___ ________, but ___ ____.
4. This is why we ___ ____________.
5. Then ___ ___ ___ easier ___ ______ decisions.

Homework - Writing Practice

Write a short paragraph about the hardest decision you made.
Use the following questions and model as a guide.

When did you have to make this decision?
What choices did you have?
Which did you choose?
How did you make this decision and why?

Model

It was 3 years ago. I had a test at school the next day but I also wanted to go to a concert. I chose to go to the concert. This was because I thought I could do better on the test next time, but it was the last chance for me to see the concert.
After Katrina

Pre-Reading

What can you see from the picture?
Look at the picture and write the answers.

1. The weather in the picture is very ______.  a. good  b. bad
2. Have you ever seen one of these before? a. yes  b. no

New Words

- hurricane: a very strong wind or storm
- suffer: to receive harm or be in danger
- damage: harm that is caused to something
- destroy: to break something
- flood: to be covered by a large amount of water
- ruin: to harm, damage, or spoil something very much
- rebuild: to build again
New Orleans is an old city in the southern part of the US. It is famous for its old-fashioned streets and buildings, jazz music, and Mardi Gras*. It used to attract millions of tourists every year. But all of this changed in August of 2005.

A nasty hurricane named Katrina hit the southern part of the US. New Orleans suffered the most damage from the storm. New Orleans is a city built below sea level, and so it has levees* to keep sea water from coming in. However, Katrina destroyed these levees and the city eventually became flooded by sea water.

More than 100 people were dead and the city was completely destroyed. Houses were gone, buildings were ruined, and cars were damaged. Experts say that it will cost more than 26 billion dollars to rebuild the city.

But hope is still left for the people of New Orleans. People in the US and all over the world have sent money and supplies to help them with the rebuilding. Will New Orleans be rebuilt as the beautiful city it once was? We will just have to wait and see.

* Mardi Gras: the day before Lent, or the music, dancing, parties etc that celebrate this day in some countries
* levee: a wall built to keep sea water from flowing into land

Understanding Pronouns

1. The word "It" (line 2) refers to ______________________.

2. The word "them" (line 19) refers to ______________________.
Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that ____________________________
   a. New Orleans is a very beautiful city
   b. hurricanes are very scary and people should try to avoid them
   c. a hurricane destroyed New Orleans and people are trying to rebuild the city

2. The best title for this passage would be ____________________________
   a. Jazz Music and Mardi Gras in New Orleans
   b. The Effects of Hurricanes
   c. New Orleans After Katrina

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. Katrina is the name of a ____________.
   a. woman
   b. city
   c. hurricane

2. New Orleans was built ________________
   a. under the sea
   b. below sea level
   c. on sea water

3. Because of Katrina, the city of New Orleans was ____________.
   a. rebuilt
   b. destroyed
   c. restored
Vocabulary Practice

Fill in each blank with one of the words in the list below.

1. The big fire completely _________ our town.
2. There was a _________ after the big rain.
3. The beautiful buildings in Europe _________ many tourists each year.
4. The hurricane did much _________ to our city.
5. The city _________ very much after the big rain.

attract suffered destroyed flood damage

New Phrases

□ used to: was a long time ago but not anymore
She used to be very fat but now she has lost a lot of weight.
I used to like baseball very much, but now I like basketball.
I used to have a bad headache, but now I’m really healthy.

□ be famous for: be known to many people because of
Paris is famous for the Eiffel Tower.
Einstein is famous for his work in science.
The restaurant is famous for its own recipe for cakes.
Making a Summary

This is a summary of the passage.
Fill in the blanks with the right words.

New Orleans used to be a city that _______ ______ _________.
However, hurricane Katrina _______ ______ _________.
Buildings, cars and homes _______ ______ _________.
People say it will cost a lot of money to _______ ______ _________.
But there is _______ ______ ______ the people of New Orleans.
Listening Practice [Track 40]

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. New Orleans _______ ______ in the southern part ______ ______.
2. A nasty _______ ______ Katrina ______ ______ ______.
3. Houses ______ and buildings ______ ______ ______.
4. Experts say ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ to rebuild New Orleans.
5. People ______ ______ ______ and supplies ______ ______ ______ the rebuilding.

Homework - Writing Practice

Write a short paragraph on how you feel about what happened to New Orleans.
Use the following questions as a guide.

How do you feel about New Orleans after Katrina?
What can you do to help the people who lost their homes?
What would you do if this happened in your city?

I feel that __________________________

To help the people of New Orleans, I can __________________________

If this happened in my city, I would __________________________

______________________________
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