New Exploring
READING & WRITING
3
New Exploring Reading & Writing 3

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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.
Pre-Reading

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

1. Do you like to play with animals?
2. Which animal do you like best?

New Words

toss to throw around
psychologist a person who studies the human mind
beg to ask for very eagerly
flick to make a short, sudden movement
delighted very pleased
drench to make wet
Did you ever get the feeling your dog was laughing at you? New research suggests maybe he was! Dogs make “huffing” noises scientists think is doggie laughter. Dogs make that noise when inviting another animal-or a person-to play. They also make it when tossing a toy around by themselves.

Patricia Simonet, a Spokane, Washington, psychologist, first identified the sound. She recorded various dog sounds on a special machine that also graphs noise. The dog laughs looked different. When she played the sounds back to other dogs, they also reacted positively.

Does laughter mean sense of humor? No one knows for sure yet, but researchers are working to answer the question.

Do great apes have a sense of humor? “Definitely,” says Rob Shumaker, a scientist at the Great Ape Trust in Des Moines, Iowa. At a zoo where he used to work, Shumaker was watering the orangutan cage. It was a hot day. Junior, an adult male, begged for a drink. The ape was sitting on a platform higher than Shumaker’s hose could reach, so he flicked him some drops. Delighted, Junior laughed out loud. A long, playful water fight followed.

Afterwards, Shumaker walked over to say good-bye to Junior, and the laughing ape made one sweep of his arm, drenching Shumaker. “He totally got me!” said Rob.

Understanding Pronouns

1. The word "They" (line 6) refers to ________.

2. The word "He" (line 25) refers to ________.
Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that ____________________________
   a. dogs are nice to play with
   b. Patricia Simonet identified many sounds
   c. animals also make laughing sounds

2. The best title for this passage would be ____________________________
   a. Laughing Animals
   b. A Good Smile
   c. Dogs and Apes

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. Patricia Simonet is ____________________________
   a. a dog trainer
   b. a psychologist
   c. an ape trainer

2. According to the passage, new research suggests that dogs ____________________________
   a. like to play with people
   b. make laughing sounds
   c. record various sounds

3. When Shumaker flicked Junior some water, Junior ____________________________
   a. made an angry noise
   b. hit Shumaker with his arm
   c. laughed out loud
Vocabulary Practice

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

1. My clothes got ________ in the big rain.
2. I’m too tired to get up. Ross, could you ______ me my wallet?
3. It is nice to watch comedy movies because they say that ________ is the best medicine.
4. Frankly, I was very ________ to see my brother at my graduation ceremony.
5. Patricia Simonet likes to record various doggie ________.

\[\text{toss, sounds, psychologist, laughter, platform, fight, flick, delighted, drenched, sweep}\]

New Phrases

- **sense of humor**: the condition of liking to laugh and have fun
  Lighten up. Where’s your sense of humor?
  Scientists have found that dogs have a sense of humor.
  You should laugh a lot if you want to develop a good sense of humor.

- **laugh out loud**: to make loud laughing sounds
  The movie was so funny that I laughed out loud.
  You shouldn’t laugh out loud in front of your teachers.
  Some people say that laughing out loud is good for your health.
New research suggests that dogs _______ _______ _______.
Patricia Simonet _______ _______ _______ and found that dogs laugh.
Rob Shumaker says that great apes definitely have a _______ __ _______.
____ __ _____, Rob flicked Junior some water.
Junior _______ _______ and later drenched Rob with water.
Listening Practice  Track 2

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. Research shows that animals, too, _______ _______ _______.
2. Researchers are trying to find if _______ _______ _______ _______.
3. _______ _______, Rob Shumaker _______ _______ the orangutan cage.
4. A great ape named Junior _______ _______ _______ _______.
5. Rob _______ _______ _______ _______ and Junior began to laugh.

Homework - Writing Practice

Write a short paragraph about your experience playing with a dog. Use the following questions as a guide.

What did you do with the dog?
How did the dog react when you touched it with your hand?
Did it wag its tail? Did it make any sounds?
Based on your experience, do you think dogs make laughing noises?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
Bullfighting

Pre-Reading

What can you see from the picture?
Look at the picture and write the answers.
1. Have you ever seen this game before?
2. Do you know what it is called?

New Words

- festival: a special event
- bull: a male cow
- profound: very deep
- inspiration: the act of getting new and creative ideas
- oppose: to disagree with
- cherish: to keep something in one’s mind for a long time
In Spain, there is a famous national festival called Toros. It is a traditional bullfighting game usually held throughout the spring and summer. Toros is so well known that most people imagine bulls and the color red when they hear the word 'Spain'. But Toros has much more significance than just a traditional game of Spain. Actually, it is not wrong to say that we cannot totally understand the Spanish culture without studying Toros, an emotional and tragic festival. It has a profound meaning related to death, art and passion. In fact, it has provided deep inspiration to many Spanish works of art.

There are, however, some people that are opposed to this tradition such as animal lovers. They say that Toros is no more than a bull-killing game and should be stopped. Yet it is not that the Spanish think little of animal lives. It is that they cherish a tradition through which they can think of the meaning of life itself.

**Understanding Pronouns**

1. The word "It" (line 2) 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. a bull-killing game that should be stopped
   b. a tradition in Spain that the people cherish
   c. not a very good thing for the people of Spain

2. The best title for this passage would be ________________________.
   a. Bulls and the Color Red
   b. Inspiration of Art
   c. Toros and Spain

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. The people that are opposed to Toros include _________________.
   a. tourists
   b. the Spanish government
   c. animal lovers

2. Toros is usually held throughout _____________________________.
   a. the summer and fall
   b. the winter and spring
   c. the spring and summer

3. According to the passage, _____________________________.
   a. Spanish people think little of animal lives
   b. art has provided much inspiration to Toros
   c. Toros allows Spanish people to think of the meaning of life itself
Vocabulary Practice

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

1. My teacher’s speech last night gave much _______ to all of us.
2. I am _______ to the new law. I just don’t agree with it.
3. We should learn to _______ what valuable resources we have.
4. Glen failed to grasp the _______ meaning of Descartes’ work.
5. The masked dance is a proud _______ of the Indian tribe.

festival   bull   profound   death   inspiration
provide   opposed   tradition   cherish   animal

New Phrases

☐ no (nothing) more than: merely; just

The fake medicine was no more than a bag of jelly beans.
Jenna was not the girl I thought she was. In fact, she was nothing more than a big liar.
I have no more than 5 dollars in my pocket.

☐ think little of: to put little meaning to; to not think importantly of

It is not that I think little of your speech. I just don’t agree with the idea.
We should not think little of our natural environment.
You shouldn’t be too sad about your fight with your boyfriend. Think little of it.
Making a Summary

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

There is a ______ ______ ______ called Toros in Spain.
It is a traditional bullfighting game held throughout the ______ ______ ______ .
Toros has a much ______ ______ ______ related to death, art and passion.
Some people, such as animal lovers, ______ ______ ______ Toros.
But the Spanish people ______ ______ ______ because it allows them to think of the meaning of life.

more profound meaning famous national festival
cherish their tradition are opposed to spring and summer
Listening Practice  Track 4

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. Toros ___ __ ______ national festival ___ ______.
2. ___ __ __ __ ___ bulls and the color red _______ _______ Spain.
3. ___ __ __ __ ___ the Spanish culture ______ ______ Toros.
4. Toros ___ __ __ ___ inspiration to many Spanish ______ ___ ______.
5. Spanish people ______ _______ ________.

Homework - Writing Practice

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

What is Toros?
When is it usually held?
Why are some people opposed to Toros?
Why do Spanish people cherish this tradition?

________________________________________

________________________________________

________________________________________

________________________________________

________________________________________
03 Alien

Pre-Reading

What can you see from the picture?
Look at the picture and write the answers.
1. Have you ever seen a UFO?
2. Do you believe there is life on other planets?

New Words

- **claim** to say something is true, but cannot prove it
- **alien** a living creature from outer space
- **argument** a statement where one tries to convince others that he is correct
- **universe** all of space, the stars and planets
- **galaxy** a very large group of stars and planets
- **inefficient** not using time our resources in the best way
- **creature** a living thing
Do you believe that life exists outside our own planet? People have been trying to answer this question for centuries. Some people claim they saw UFOs* in the sky. Some people say they actually met with aliens face to face. It's true that many of these claims are quite hard to believe. But some arguments make it hard for us to believe that there aren't any other life forms outside Earth.

You may think that Earth is located in a central place in the universe, but in fact, it is only a tiny place located close to the edges of our galaxy. Moreover, the number of stars and planets in space is far greater than anyone can imagine. If Earth were the only place that had life, this would be a very inefficient use of space.

Although we have found traces of water in other places, we have yet to find living creatures in the universe. But scientists are continuing the search for alien life forms. Maybe someday we will get the chance to say hello to an E.T*.

* UFO : Unidentified Flying Object
* E.T. : Extra Terrestrial; alien life form

Understanding Pronouns

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

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

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that ____________________________
   a. many people want to meet with aliens
   b. there may be living creatures elsewhere in the universe
   c. Earth is located close to the edges of our galaxy

2. The best title for this passage would be ____________________________
   a. The Search for Life in Our Galaxy
   b. UFOs in the Sky
   c. Inefficient Use of Space

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. Earth is located ____________________________.
   a. in central place in the universe
   b. close to UFOs and ETs
   c. close to the edges of our galaxy

2. According to the passage, ____________________________.
   a. we have failed to find traces of water outside Earth
   b. people can easily see UFOs in the sky
   c. scientists are still searching for alien life forms

3. People think there should be life elsewhere in the universe because ____________________________.
   a. UFOs can be seen very easily nowadays
   b. life only on Earth would be an inefficient use of space
   c. scientists are continuing to look for aliens
Vocabulary Practice

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

1. Spending an entire day to go jogging is an _______ use of time.
2. My parents ______ that I don’t study hard. This is not true.
3. Jack says there must be UFOs. I don’t agree with his _______.
4. Scientists continue to look for living _______ in the universe.
5. Karen’s statement that she has seen aliens is hard to _______.

claim believe alien outside argument
universe galaxy moreover inefficient creatures

New Phrases

- **face to face**: to look at someone or something in person
  I can’t believe I am going to be **face to face** with the President tomorrow!
  Harriet has heard a lot about Terry but she has never met him **face to face**.
  You should always behave nicely when you are **face to face** with your parents.

- **far greater than one can imagine**: much larger or bigger than one thinks
  Brad has abilities **far greater than anyone can imagine**.
  The sun’s temperature is **far greater than you can imagine**.
  The influence Gandhi had on the world is **far greater than we can imagine**.
alien life forms a small planet hard to believe
people claim that aren't any aliens

Some ______ ______ they have actually seen aliens.
This may seem ______ ______.
However, it is also hard to believe that there ______ ______.
This is because Earth is just ______ ______ throughout the entire universe.
This is why scientists continue to search for ______ ______.
**Listening Practice**

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. ______ ______ ______ to find aliens ______ ______.
2. Some people ______ ______ ______ met ______ ______ ______.
3. Earth is located ______ ______ ______ of our galaxy.
4. Scientists ______ ______ ______ for ______ ______ ______.
5. ______ ______ ______ we will ______ ______ ______ say hello to ETs.

**Homework - Writing Practice**

Write a short paragraph about what you think an alien would look like. Use the following questions as a guide.

What color is their skin?
How big are they?
How are they similar to humans?
How do they differ from people?
Alison Lapper

Pre-Reading

What can you see from the picture?
Look at the picture and write the answers.
1. Have you ever seen this person in the news?
2. What do you think this person’s job is?

New Words

- ordinary: not special or different but normal
- physical: of the body
- disability: a physical condition that limits people in the way they live
- inferior: not as good as something else
- impressive: something that makes you admire something
- attitude: the way one feels or thinks about something
- inspire: to give others new ideas and strong feelings
Meet Alison Lapper. She paints pictures for a living. But she's no ordinary painter. For starters, she doesn't use her hands when she paints. She uses her mouth! Alison was born without any arms and she has very short legs. Her physical disabilities caused her to spend the first 17 years of her life in a hospital. But this didn't stop her from achieving her goals in life. She realized that even though she was disabled, there was no reason why she could not express herself as freely as normal people. This was what got her to start drawing paintings.

Although her disabilities limit her from living a normal life, she never stopped thinking that she wasn't in any way inferior to others. Her paintings are quite impressive and they do not look like they were drawn by someone who used her mouth. Alison continues to encourage others by telling them never to give up hope of becoming successful. Her positive attitude has inspired many disabled people throughout the world and will continue to do so in the future.

Understanding Pronouns

1. The word "She" (line 1) refers to ________________.

2. The word "them" (line 17) refers to __________.
**Understanding the Main Idea**

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that
   a. disabled people are very different from others  
   b. Alison Lapper spent many years in the hospital  
   c. Alison Lapper’s positive attitude has inspired many disabled people

2. The best title for this passage would be
   a. Alison Lapper: Painter and Inspirer  
   b. Physical Disabilities  
   c. Painting With Your Mouth

**Understanding Details**

Circle the best answer.

1. When Alison Lapper paints pictures, she uses her _______.
   a. mouth  
   b. hands  
   c. legs

2. Even though she was disabled, Alison Lapper began painting because
   a. she needed more money for living  
   b. other disabled people wanted her to paint pictures  
   c. she wanted to express herself as freely as normal people

3. Alison continues to encourage others by telling them
   a. that they are inferior to normal people  
   b. never to give up hope of becoming successful  
   c. that the most important thing is painting pictures
**Vocabulary Practice**

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

1. Lenny thinks he is _______ to his brother because he is small.
2. Pamela cannot hear very well. She has a hearing _______.
3. There is nothing special about my car. It's just an _______ sedan.
4. You should have lots of _______ strength to become a football player.
5. I liked Derek's presentation very much. It was very _______.

ordinary  physical  disability  inferior  impressive
hospital  encourage  attitude  future  inspire

**New Phrases**

**for a living** : as a job

What do you do for a living?
Manny drives a taxi for a living.
None of my classmates know what they want to do for a living.

**give up** : to abandon or surrender

Even though my studies are very hard, I will never give up.
A great leader should never give up on what he believes in.
I don’t know the answer to this question. I give up.
This is a summary of the passage.
Fill in the blanks with the right words.

Alison Lapper paints pictures ______ _______.
She is different from other painters because she paints ______ ______ ______.
Alison was born ______ ______ and very short legs.
However, she wanted to express herself ______ ______ others and so began to draw paintings.
Alison's positive attitude ______ ______ many disabled people around the world.
Listening Practice | Track B

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. Alison Lapper _______ _______ _______ _______ _______.
2. She spent 17 years in the hospital _______ _______ _______ _______.
3. She never stopped thinking she was _______ _______ _______.
4. Alison continues to encourage others by _______ _______ _______ _______ _______.
5. _______ _______ _______ has inspired many _______ _______.

Homework - Writing Practice

Write a short paragraph about what you think of Alison Lapper. Use the following questions as a guide.

Do you think Alison Lapper is any different from other people?
What do you think makes her an even greater person?
What do you think is Alison Lapper's strongest virtue?

________________________
________________________
________________________
________________________

- 30 -
Baseball

Pre-Reading

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

1. What is the name of this sport?
2. Do you like to play it?

New Words

- pastime: something that people do in their free time because they enjoy it
- hesitate: to wait a few seconds to say something because one is not sure
- merely: being nothing more than
- professional: having advanced education in a job
- rule: things that you are allowed to do and not to do in a game
- championship: a sports competition
- advertise: to let a large number of people know about something
If you ask Americans what America’s favorite pastime is, most of them will not hesitate to answer, “baseball!”

Baseball was first introduced in the 19th century by a soldier named Abner Doubleday. At first, it was merely a small sport enjoyed by only a few people. Now there are 30 Major League professional teams across the US and Canada and there are many more smaller teams.

Baseball is not as widely popular around the world as soccer. Many Europeans don’t even know the rules to the game. However, it is very popular in the Americas* and the Far East*, and it is beginning to gain popularity in many other countries.

In the spring of 2006, a worldwide baseball championship called the World Baseball Classic (WBC) was held in the United States to advertise the fun of baseball all over the world. Sadly, though, not many countries participated in the games. Hopefully, baseball will one day be accepted by many other countries and will grow into a truly global sport.

* the Americas: the continents of North America and South America
* Far East: East Asia, including China, Korea, Japan, and Indochina

Understanding Pronouns

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

2. The word "it" (line 6) refers to ___________.
Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that ____________________________
   a. baseball was first made in the 19th century
   b. many Europeans don’t know the rules to baseball
   c. baseball will hopefully become a truly global sport

2. The best title for this passage would be _________________.
   a. The Fun of Baseball
   b. Abner Doubleday
   c. Baseball Rules

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. There are ___ Major League baseball teams in the US and Canada.
   a. 19   b. 30   c. 6

2. In 2006, the WBC championship was held in _____________.
   a. the Far East
   b. Europe
   c. the United States

3. Baseball is not very popular in _____________.
   a. Europe
   b. the Far East
   c. the Americas
Vocabulary Practice

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

1. Keith is very ________ among his classmates.
2. I don’t know the _______ to this game.
3. You should never _______ to say the truth.
4. Baseball is America’s favorite ________.
5. I want to become a _________ baseball player when I grow up.

pastime hesitate merely professional popular
rules accept championship participate advertise

New Phrases

□ at first: in the beginning
I didn’t know who he was at first.
At first, I thought I wouldn’t get hired, but I later learned that I got the job.
The medicine may not taste good at first, but you will feel good later.

□ global sport: a sport that is enjoyed by many people around the world
Soccer can be said to be a truly global sport.
Baseball is not a global sport yet because not many countries enjoy playing it.
You can see many global sports at the Olympics.
This is a summary of the passage.
Fill in the blanks with the right words.

Baseball is __________ _______ _______.
It _____ _____ _________ in the 19th century.
Baseball is not _____ _____ _______ around the world as soccer.
The World Baseball Classic Championship was first held in 2006 to advertise the _____ _____ _______.
Baseball will hopefully grow into a _____ _____ _______.

fun of baseball     yet as popular     truly global sport
America's favorite pastime   was first introduced
Listening Practice Track 10

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. _______ ______ ______ ________ in the 19th century.
2. It is not yet ______ ______ ______ soccer.
3. But it is _______ ______ ______ _______ ______ countries.
4. The WBC was held ______ ______ ______ in the spring of 2006.
5. Hopefully, baseball will _______ ______ ______ ______.

Homework - Writing Practice

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

When was baseball first introduced and by whom?
In what regions is baseball most enjoyed?
When was the WBC held and why?
Was it successful?
Bermuda Triangle

Pre-Reading

What can you see from the picture?
Look at the picture and write the answers.
1. Have you ever visited this region?
2. Have you ever imagined yourself lost at sea?

New Words

- incident: something that has happened, usually something bad to no longer be seen
- disappear: to no longer be seen
- triangle: a flat shape with three sides
- trace: a sign that shows you that something was in place
- coincidence: something that happens without planning it
- reasonable: being fair
- explanation: something that explains why something happened
- supernatural: not usual and not natural
On December 5, 1945, nineteen Navy airplanes took off from Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on a training mission. They were last known to have flown east out into the Atlantic Ocean. These planes, however, were never seen again.

This incident is just one of many disappearances that occurred in “The Bermuda Triangle,” a triangular region in the Atlantic marked by Florida, Puerto Rico, and Bermuda. You cannot find this name on a map because it is not official. However, many people believe that there is something strange about this triangle because so many boats and airplanes have disappeared without a trace in the past century. The number of such mysterious disappearances was such that some people came to call this place “Devil’s Triangle.”

Maybe all of these accidents were just a result of coincidence. Perhaps there really was a reasonable explanation for all these disappearances. But some still argue that there must be some other supernatural reason for all this because the number of ships and planes that got lost in this region is too large to be thought of as mere “accidents.”

Understanding Pronouns

1. The word "They" (line 3) refers to _____________________.

2. The word "it" (line 10) refers to _________________________.

Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that the Bermuda Triangle is

   a. famous for its beaches  
   b. known for many disappearances  
   c. a very nice place to visit

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

   a. Lost in the Bermuda Triangle  
   b. A Visit to the Bermuda Triangle  
   c. Taking a Look at Devil’s Triangle

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. The nineteen planes that took off from Florida on December 5, 1945, ____________________.

   a. successfully completed their mission  
   b. were never seen again  
   c. flew to the west of the Atlantic

2. The reason for the disappearances in the Bermuda Triangle

   ____________________.

   a. is not known for sure  
   b. was because of the devil  
   c. was due to supernatural causes

3. The Bermuda Triangle is ____________________.

   a. listed on official maps  
   b. different from the Devil’s Triangle  
   c. known for many strange disappearances
Vocabulary Practice

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

1. He offered to buy my books at a very __________ price.
2. My meeting Jane at the party was just a __________. I never thought she would be there.
3. I want an __________ for why you weren’t at home last night.
4. I thought I left my watch on my desk, but now it has __________.
5. We were unable to find a ______ of where your dog went.

incident mission disappeared region triangle
trace coincidence reasonable explanation supernatural

New Phrases

□ take off from: to fly into the air from (usually airplanes)
  The airplane took off from JFK International Airport.
  The plane landed again 5 minutes after taking off from the ground.
  Airplanes need permission before they take off from airports.

□ without a trace: to disappear completely
  I left my cookie on the table but later it was gone without a trace.
  Peter stayed at my house for the night. The next day, he had disappeared without a trace.
  It is amazing that someone could disappear like Batman without a trace.
This is a summary of the passage.
Fill in the blanks with the right words.

because of supernatural airplanes have disappeared
region marked by reasonable explanation for
so many disappearances

Many _______ _____ _____________ in the Bermuda Triangle.
The Bermuda Triangle is a _______ _______ ___ Florida, Puerto Rico, and Bermuda.
There were ___ _____ ____________ that some people call this place the Devil’s Triangle.
Maybe there was a ___________ ___________ ___ these disappearances.
But some people think that this was all _______ __ __________ reasons.
Listening Practice  Track 12

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. The Bermuda Triangle _____ many mysterious disappearances.

2. _____ supernatural reasons.

3. Some people _____ Devil’s Triangle.

4. _____ the Bermuda Triangle on the map.

5. This is because _____ name.

Homework - Writing Practice

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

Where is the Bermuda Triangle located?
What is it famous for?
What explanations might there be for the disappearances?
07 British English

Pre-Reading

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

1. Have you ever heard an Englishman and American speaking English?
2. Did you notice any difference in the way they talk?

New Words

- **suburban**: of a city or town that is close to a big city
- **subtle**: not easily noticeable
- **accent**: the pronunciation of words in a different way
- **slight**: very small
- **respectively**: in the same order as mentioned before
- **present**: to give information to other people
Danny O’Brien is a junior high school student living in suburban New York. He recently visited London with his father for a few days. At first, he thought he would have no trouble communicating with the people there. After all, the two countries use the same language. However, he was quite surprised to find that there were some subtle differences between American English and British English other than the accent. The biggest difference was in vocabulary. For instance, when Danny wanted to stand in line to get into the movie theater, he was asked to “queue” next to the wall. Danny also learned that trucks in Britain are called “lorries,” and an apartment is called a “flat.” The subway is called the “underground,” and the hood of a car is called a “bonnet.”

There were also slight differences in spelling, too. For example, the words “center, color, burned, dialog, realize” were spelled “centre, colour, burnt, dialogue, realise,” respectively.

Danny also noticed that the British use certain words that Americans do not use very often such as “mate” or “cheers.” Americans know the meaning of these words but don’t use them as often. For example, when Americans wish to say “I’m going to see a movie with my friends,” the British say “I’m going to see a movie with my mates.” The British also enjoy using the word “Cheers!” when saying good-bye to friends.

Danny found these differences so interesting that he decided to do more research into this subject and present it in front of his friends in class.

Understanding Pronouns

1. The word "He" (line 3) refers to ________________

2. The word "them" (line 20) refers to ____________
Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that ________________________________
   a. there are some differences in British and American English
   b. American English is easier to learn
   c. British people have difficulties communicating with the Americans

2. The best title for this passage would be ________________________________
   a. British Vocabulary
   b. Different English
   c. Cheers!

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. In Britain, a truck is called a ____________.
   a. lorry       b. underground    c. bonnet

2. British people say "Cheers!" when they wish to ____________.
   a. order beer
   b. say good-bye
   c. make presentations

3. In Britain, the word "mate" means ____________.
   a. friend       b. bonnet          c. present
Vocabulary Practice

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

1. It is very strange when you try to speak in a British _______.
2. As a doctor, you should be able to notice _______ changes in people’s health.
3. Sales in 2005 and 2006 were $10,000 and $15,000, _______.
4. I was quite _______ to see my sister at my friend’s birthday party.
5. What is the _______ between a hen and a rooster?

suburban  subtle  accent  spelling  surprised  present  difference  respectively  interesting  research

New Phrases

☐ stand in line: to go to the back of a line when waiting for something

Everyone must stand in line if they wish to eat at this restaurant.
You should think of what you want to buy before standing in line.
Please stand in line behind the counter.

☐ find something interesting: to think that something is interesting

Did you find Mr. Davis’s lecture interesting?
I don’t find him interesting at all.
Jerome finds collecting stamps very interesting.
This is a summary of the passage.
Fill in the blanks with the right words.

Danny O’Brian, an American student, visited London for \_
\_
\_
He was \_
\_
\_
that the British spoke English a little differently.
Besides the accent, the words and spelling \_
\_
\_
\_
\_
\_
, too.
They \_
\_
\_
that Americans don’t usually use.
Danny found these differences \_
\_
\_
he decided to do more research.
Listening Practice  Track 14

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. Danny O'Brien visited London _______ ________ for _______ ________.
2. He thought he would _______ ________ communicating.
3. Other than the accent, the _______ ________ British English and American English _______ ________.
4. The British _______ ________ that Americans do _______ ________.
5. Danny _______ ________ ________ ________.

Homework - Writing Practice

Write a short paragraph about the differences between British English and American English. Use the passage and the following questions as a guide.

What types of differences are there between British and American English?
How do the two differ in terms of vocabulary?
Do you know any examples?
How do the two differ in terms of spelling?
Can you give any examples?
How about in terms of expressions? Give an example.
Career

Pre-Reading

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

1. What kind of job would you like to have when you grow up?
2. Can you think of anyone around you that changed their job?

New Words

- **major**: the main subject that one studies in college
- **dictate**: to influence or cause another thing
- **career**: a job that someone does for a long time in their life
- **preacher**: a person that gives talks about religious issues at church
- **former**: that used to have a certain job but not anymore
- **political**: of politics; of the power of a country
- **passion**: strong beliefs or feelings about something
Have you ever thought about what kind of job you would like to have when you grow up? Many people think that we can have only one job in our lifetime. We all know that this is not true, but not a few people actually think this way. For instance, when people choose a major in college, they think that the decisions they make now will dictate their jobs for the rest of their lives. However, there are many examples where people became successful after changing their careers later in life.

The famous 19th century artist Vincent Van Gogh wasn't a painter from the beginning. He once worked as an art salesman and later became a preacher. It was only 10 years before he died that he decided to become an artist.

Former US President Ronald Reagan was originally an actor when he was a young man. He later decided he wanted to do political work. This kind of passion eventually led him to become President of the United States.

J.K. Rowling, author of the famous novel Harry Potter, was actually a schoolteacher before she began writing books. In fact, she was unemployed before the first Harry Potter book came out.

Careers are always open to change. The important thing is to find what you are really good at or what you really want to do. Once you find that passion, it's all a matter of how hard you try.

Understanding Pronouns

1. The word "they" (line 7) refers to ________.
2. The word "he" (line 15) refers to ____________.
Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

7. The main idea of this passage is that ____________________________.
   a. careers are always open to change
   b. Van Gogh was a great painter
   c. you must have passion when you work

2. The best title for this passage would be ____________________________.
   a. Vincent Van Gogh and Ronald Reagan
   b. J.K. Rowling’s Harry Potter
   c. Changing Careers

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. Vincent Van Gogh became a painter ____________________________.
   a. when he was very young
   b. 10 years before he died
   c. before he became a preacher

2. Before Ronald Reagan did political work he was ____________.
   a. President of the United States
   b. a writer
   c. an actor

3. According to the passage, the most important thing to consider when choosing a career is ____________________________.
   a. how much money you can earn
   b. finding what you really want to do
   c. changing jobs as often as possible
Vocabulary Practice

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

1. I went shopping yesterday and I saw ______ President Clinton!
2. I don’t know which ______ I should choose when I go to college.
3. Have you ever thought about doing ______ work and becoming mayor?
4. You should not let your feelings ______ your actions.
5. Jerry has a great ______ for baseball.

major     dictate    career    salesman    preacher
former    political  passion    unemployed  publish

New Phrases

come out: to be introduced to the world
The new movie will come out in November next year.
You should read his book before the next one comes out.
I will buy the singer’s new album as soon as it comes out next week.

open to change: to have a chance of changing
I’ve thought about which student to take to India this summer but the position is still open to change.
My decision to become a painter is not open to change.
Some things in life are never open to change.
Making a Summary

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

There are many examples where people became successful after
_________ _______ _________.

Vincent Van Gogh __________ __ _______ after being a salesman
and a preacher.

Ronald Reagan decided to __ _______ ______ after being an actor.

J.K. Rowling was a schoolteacher before she ________ __ _______
books.

Careers are always ________ __ _________.

chose to write  open to change  changing their careers
  do political work  became a painter
Listening Practice Track 16

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. Many people have ______ ________ ______ ________ careers.
2. Van Gogh decided to paint 10 years ______ ________.
3. Ronald Reagan ___ ___ actor ______ ________ President.
4. J.K. Rowling ______ ________ before Harry Potter ______ ________.
5. The most important thing is to ______ ________ ______ ________.

Homework - Writing Practice

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

Are careers open to change?
Give some examples of people in the passage that have changed their careers.
Can you think of any other examples?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
What on Earth is Earth Day?

Pre-Reading

What can you see from the picture?
Look at the picture and write the answers.
1. What is the name of the planet shown below?
2. Can you find where you are living in the picture?

New Words

- appreciate: to understand and like something
- partake: to take part in something
- conserve: to use something carefully so that it lasts for a long time
- environmentalist: a person who is concerned with protecting the environment
- endangered: something that is in danger (especially animals)
- preserve: to make sure that something remains as it is
Today, people all over the world take time out to celebrate and appreciate the Earth that we all share. Some will partake in environmental movements. Others will volunteer in cleaning their towns or conserve water and electricity at home. Maybe you even have some idea of how you can help to make our environment better.

The idea for Earth Day (April 22) came from a former US politician, Gaylord Nelson, who was worried about pollution and the health of plants and animals. In 1969, he decided that there should be a special day to teach people about what we could do to make our environment better.

This idea quickly caught on and in 1970, the first Earth Day was celebrated. Since then, environmentalists have used Earth Day to educate people about their role in protecting our planet.

Earth Day eventually became a global celebration around the world. People gather on this day to talk about such matters as global warming, protecting endangered animals, or preserving our energy resources.

Understanding Pronouns

1. The word "he" (line 11) refers to ____________.

2. The word "their" (line 16) refers to ________.
Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

7. The main idea of this passage is that ________________________
   a. Gaylord Nelson was a great politician
   b. people celebrate Earth Day to protect our planet
   c. people are trying to protect animals

2. The best title for this passage would be ________________________.
   a. Gaylord Nelson, The Politician
   b. Preserving Our Energy Resources
   c. The Meaning of Earth Day

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. Earth Day was first celebrated in ________________________.

2. Environmentalists have used Earth Day to ________________________.
   a. educate people about their role in protecting our planet
   b. play with people around the world
   c. use more of our planet’s energy resources

3. According to the passage, Gaylord Nelson was ________________________.
   a. trying to pollute the water
   b. worried about the environment
   c. not concerned about global warming
Vocabulary Practice

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

1. We should do our best to protect __________ animals.
2. Many people nowadays _______ in environmental movements.
3. I think that all schools should ________ Earth Day from now on.
4. Take a look around and think about what you can do to save the ________.
5. ________ warming is a serious problem.

appreciate partake community conserve pollute
environment global endangered celebrate preserve

New Phrases

- **partake in**: to take part in; to participate in
  
  Everyone should partake in Earth Day celebrations.
  
  I asked my girlfriend to partake in the marathon with me.
  
  Judy still hasn’t decided which event she will partake in at the school festival.

- **catch on**: to gain popularity; to be accepted by other people
  
  I once called Ray a pig, and the nickname quickly caught on.
  
  The people in my community decided to have a pie festival every year and the idea caught on in other communities, too.
  
  If Dean wears this new shirt in school, the fashion will definitely catch on.
quickly caught on to teach people the idea for a global celebration protect our environment

Today, people around the world take time to ____________.

_________ __ Earth Day came from a former US politician, Gaylord Nelson.
He thought that there should be a special day ____________ about how to make the environment better.
The idea ___________ ___ and the first Earth Day was celebrated in 1970.
Earth Day eventually became ____________.
Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. People try to ________ ________ ________ _______.
2. ________ ________ Earth Day came from a former US politician.
3. Environmentalists ________ ________ to educate people ________ ________ in protecting the Earth.
4. Earth Day eventually ________ ________ celebration.
5. People gather ________ ________ ________ ________ environmental matters.

Homework - Writing Practice

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

What is Earth Day? What do people do on this day?
When is Earth Day?
Who came up with the idea for Earth Day?

_________________________

_________________________

_________________________

_________________________

_________________________
10 Eiffel

Pre-Reading
What can you see from the picture?
Look at the picture and write the answers.
1. Do you know the name of this tower?
2. What city is this located in?

New Words
☐ striking very beautiful and noticeable
☐ overlook to have a clear view of a place
☐ platform a flat place where people can stand on
☐ resistance refusal to accept something
☐ monstrosity something very ugly
☐ skyline the outline of the buildings in a city
☐ erect to build a building or tower
The Eiffel Tower is considered to be one of the most striking pieces of structural art in the world. For most people, it is the first thing that comes to mind when they think of France.

Situated next to the Seine River in Paris, the tower stands 300m high and overlooks the entire city. It was named after its designer, engineer Gustave Eiffel.

Completed in 1889, it is said that the tower was extremely hard to build because unlike modern skyscrapers, the Eiffel Tower is an open structure and has no floors except its two platforms. Fortunately, only one worker died during its construction thanks to Mr. Eiffel, who made an effort to take good care of his workers.

At first, the tower was met with great resistance from the public because people thought it was a monstrosity and did not go well with the city’s skyline. If you take into account that the tower was erected over 100 years ago, you can imagine why people disliked this structure. However, Parisians* gradually became fond of it, and today it has become the single most famous symbol of not only Paris but France as well.

* Parisian: a person living in Paris

**Understanding Pronouns**

1. The word "it" (line 3) 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. Gustave Eiffel took good care of his workers
   b. the Eiffel Tower has become the most famous symbol of Paris
   c. the Eiffel Tower was met with great resistance when it was first built

2. The best title for this passage would be _________________________.
   a. The Symbol of Paris
   b. Gustave Eiffel and His Workers
   c. Paris and France

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. When most people think of Paris, they think of _________________.
   a. the Seine River
   b. the Eiffel Tower
   c. Gustave Eiffel

2. The Eiffel Tower was extremely hard to build because _____________________.
   a. it is 300 meters high
   b. it cost a lot of money
   c. it is an open structure

3. The tower was met with great resistance at first because people thought _______________________.
   a. it did not go well with the city’s skyline
   b. it was too tall
   c. it was not a symbol of Paris
**Vocabulary Practice**

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

1. I think Chicago has the most beautiful ________ in the world.
2. The Statue of Liberty ________ the island of Manhattan.
3. The new law was met with much ________ when it was first introduced.
4. My sister thinks the Mona Lisa is the most ________ piece of art she has ever seen.
5. Jake doesn’t like the new sculpture. He thinks it is a ________.

striking 
overlooks 
platform 
construction 
resistance 
monstrosity 
worker 
skyline 
dislike 
erect

**New Phrases**

- **take something into account**: to consider something
  You should *take size and design into account* when shopping for new clothes.
  Unfortunately, we didn’t *take cost into account* when making the gold ring.
  He may seem to earn a lot of money, but he doesn’t earn very much if you *take the number of hours he works into account*.

- **be fond of**: to like something
  I *am quite fond of* my dog.
  Susie doesn’t think her teacher *is fond of* her attitude.
  After spending 5 years at the school, I *became very fond of* the buildings.
For most people, the Eiffel Tower is the first thing that _______ _______ when they think of France.

The tower is situated next to the Seine and overlooks _______ _______.

It _______ _______ _______ to build because it has no floors.

At first, it was met _______ _______ _______ from the public.

But now, it has become the _______ _______ _______.

with great resistance symbol of Paris the entire city comes to mind was extremely hard
Listening Practice

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. ______ ______ ______ of the Eiffel Tower ______ ______ ______ of France.
2. ______ ______ ______ its designer, Gustave Eiffel.
3. The tower ______ ______ ______ because ______ ______ open structure ______ ______ ______ floors.
4. ______ ______, people did not think the tower ______ ______ ______ the city’s skyline.
5. Now, ______ ______ ______ the symbol of France.

Homework - Writing Practice

Write a short paragraph about what the Eiffel Tower. Use the following questions as a guide.

How big is the Eiffel Tower?
When was it built?
Where is it located?
Why did people not like it at first?
What does the Eiffel Tower mean to Parisians today?
Evolution

Pre-Reading

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

1. Do you think these creatures look like humans?
2. Do you believe that humans looked like this thousands of years ago?

New Words

- violate: to break a law or agreement
- evolution: the theory that apes changed into humans after thousands of years
- creationism: the belief that God created man, just as in the Bible
- conservative: not wanting to accept change or new ideas
- trial: a meeting in a court of law, where people decide if a person is guilty
- controversy: a lot of argument and discussion about something
- debate: a discussion about a subject
On May 25, 1925, a school teacher in Dayton, Tennessee named John Thomas Scopes was charged in court for violating Tennessee’s Butler Act. He was being punished because this law did not allow public school teachers to teach the theory of evolution in school. At the time, schools were only allowed to teach creationism, which argued that man was a creation of God.

After Charles Darwin published his book *The Origin of Species* in 1859, evolution began to gain popularity as a scientific explanation to how humans came into being. However, the United States was a very conservative society at the time of Scopes’ trial, and people did not even consider the thought that humans had evolved from apes.

Scopes’ trial became very popular because there was much controversy over what to teach in public school biology classes - evolution or creationism. In 1968, the United States Supreme Court ruled that creationism was an explanation of man’s origin put forth by a particular religion, and said that it should not be taught in classrooms. However, the debate over which theory is correct continues even to this day.

**Understanding Pronouns**

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

2. The word "it" (line 20) refers to ____________.
Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that ____________________________.
   a. Charles Darwin was a very smart man
   b. people are still debating over creationism and evolution
   c. John Scopes did a very bad thing as a teacher

2. The best title for this passage would be ____________________________.
   a. Charles Darwin’s Famous Book
   b. Creationism or Evolution
   c. The Scopes Trial

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. John Scopes was being punished because ____________________________.
   a. he was teaching creationism
   b. he did not follow the law
   c. he wasn’t a very good teacher

2. Charles Darwin said that ____________________________.
   a. man was a creation of God
   b. creationism was the only explanation to man’s origin
   c. humans had evolved from apes

3. In 1968, the United States Supreme Court did not allow creationism to be taught in schools because it was ____________________________.
   a. not as good as evolution
   b. less reasonable an explanation
   c. an explanation by a particular religion
Vocabulary Practice

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

1. There was much _______ over where to build the new school.
2. I hope my teacher doesn’t _______ me for being late.
3. My friend doesn’t believe in God. He has no _______.
4. Jack’s father is very ____________ and won’t let him stay out late at night.
5. The policeman said I ________ the law by driving too fast.

violated  evolution  creationism  punish  conservative
religion  trial  controversy  explanation  biology

New Phrases

☐ be charged : to be blamed in court of doing something wrong
Jonathan was charged for stealing the bananas.
Nathan doesn’t understand why he is being charged in court.
He says he’s done nothing wrong.
Mr. Harvey may be charged for robbery.

☐ put forth by : to be introduced by (especially an idea or theory)
The idea of building a tower deep in the ocean was put forth by Mr. Hayes.
The new theory was actually a big lie put forth by a fake professor.
I liked the plan to have a water festival put forth by the students.
Making a Summary

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

allowed to teach the debate over
ruling that creationism was punished because
very conservative society

John Thomas Scopes _______ _________ _________ he taught evolution in his class.

At the time, teachers were only _______ ___ ______ creationism.

The United States was a _______ _________ _________ at the time and did not allow evolution to be taught in public schools.

Later, the Supreme Court _______ ___ _________ cannot be taught in classrooms.

____ _______ ____ which theory is correct continues to this day.
Listening Practice  Track 22

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. Teachers ______ ______ ______ ______ evolution in class.
2. ______ ______ the United States ______ ______ ___________ society.
3. There ______ ______ controversy ______ ______ ______ to teach in schools.
4. The court later ruled that creationism ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ a religion.
5. The debate ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ 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______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ____________________________________________________________

Homework - Writing Practice

Write a short paragraph about creationism and evolution. Use the following questions as a guide.

What does creationism say about the origin of man?
How does evolution explain how humans came into being?
Which theory can be taught in classrooms today?
Why?
What can you see from the picture?
Look at the picture and write the answers.

1. In which subject would you use these symbols?
2. Do you like this subject?

1. $c^2 - a^2 = b^2$
2. $5^2 - 3^2 = b^2$
3. $25 - 9 = b^2$
4. $16 = b^2$
5. $\sqrt{16} = \sqrt{b^2}$

New Words

- **geography**: the study of the countries of the world and their land, seas, and towns
- **chemistry**: the study of substances and the way they react
- **biology**: the study of living things
- **avoid**: to keep away from something
- **calculator**: a small machine that adds, subtracts, multiplies, and divides numbers
- **compute**: to calculate numbers
- **crunch**: to calculate numbers or handle data
Ask any student which subject he or she hates most. 9 out of 10 students will probably answer "math." No matter which country you visit, no matter which grade you are in, you may not learn art, geography, chemistry, or biology, but you always learn math. Why is this so? How cannot avoid learning it in school?

Jenny Sanders, a high school student in California, asks, "What good do we get from learning math? We can use calculators to compute numbers, and we can use computers to crunch data. I think learning math at school is a waste of time."

However, there is much more to math than just learning to add and subtract numbers. In fact, math is not so much about calculation as it is about learning to think logically and solving problems. Of course, Jenny was right that we can use computers to do calculations, but how would we even know how to use the computer if we can’t think logically? In short, computers are only tools when solving problems.

For example, imagine you are a cook and must serve dinner to 100 guests. How should you divide your resources so that you can get the job done most efficiently? In situations like this, the ability to think logically will get you to a reasonable answer and solve your problem.

Understanding Pronouns

7. The word "it" (line 9) refers to ________.
Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that ________________________________
   a. students do not like to learn math
   b. we learn math to think logically
   c. people use computers to calculate numbers

2. The best title for this passage would be ________________________________
   a. Cooking and Math
   b. Computers and Math
   c. Why Do We Learn Math?

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. According to the passage, Jenny Sanders ________________________________
   a. loves to learn math at school
   b. can use the calculator and computer very well
   c. doesn’t understand why we learn math

2. According to the passage, math is about ________________________________
   a. adding numbers
   b. thinking logically
   c. serving food

3. Math is important because ________________________________
   a. we learn to calculate numbers
   b. everyone should know how to serve dinner
   c. it helps us solve problems
Vocabulary Practice

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

1. You will need math when solving a _______.
2. There are too many numbers to add. Do you have a _______?
3. Why is Jill trying to _______ me? Is she angry at me?
4. Our team used a computer to _______ the data.
5. I wasn’t very good at _______. I don’t even know where Tokyo is.

geography  student  chemistry  subtract  data
avoid  calculator  computer  crunch  problem

New Phrases

☐ a waste of time: not an efficient use of time
  I don’t think it’s a good idea to be waiting for John.
  It’s a waste of time.
  Louise thinks going to the museum is a big waste of time.
  Why do you watch TV when you know it’s a waste of time?

☐ not so much A as B: not A, but rather B
  He is not so much a teacher as a writer.
  She didn’t so much dislike me as hate me.
  His new laptop is so big that it’s not so much a computer as a tank.
Many students _______ ____ _______ math.

Some people think learning math is a _______ ____ _______ .

However, there is much more to math than _______ ______________.

Math teaches us ____ ______ ________ .

It also _______ ____ ___ solve problems.
Listening Practice [Track 24]

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. ______ _______ ______ that ______ ______ ______.
2. Yet _______ _______ ______ learning it.
3. But math is ______ ______ ______ calculating ________.
4. It is ______ ______ ______.
5. We learn math _______ ______ ______ ________.

---

Homework - Writing Practice

Write a short paragraph about what you think of math. Use the following questions as a guide.

Do you think math is fun or boring?
Why do you think this way?
Do you think math has helped you to think more logically?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
Death

Pre-Reading

What can you see from the picture?
Look at the picture and write the answers.
1. What kind of place is this?
2. Have you ever been to such a place?

New Words

- vivid: very clear
- contrary: opposite to; different
- deceased: dead
- grave: a place where a dead body is buried
- graveyard: an area of land where dead bodies are buried
- terrible: very serious or unpleasant
- distinct: different from
Recently, there was an interesting study in Los Angeles about different attitudes of people in various cultures toward death. The researchers studied Japanese, Anglo-Saxons, African-Americans and Mexicans. Among these four, Anglo-Saxons and Mexicans showed vividly contrary attitudes.

Anglo-Saxons keep the dead body clean and neat with many decorations and flowers so that the deceased may seem like he or she is sleeping. They also decorate the grave and keep the people who visit the grave from thinking of death. This is the reason graveyards in America often look like well-cared for parks.

On the other hand, the studies showed that the Mexicans were thinking of death quite often and like to express their feelings about death publicly. They say that it would be terrible if they cannot express their pains in front of the dead bodies of loved ones. They don't even mind touching and kissing dead bodies.

This study shows that people in different cultures have distinct viewpoints of death and this difference is reflected in their way of life as well.

Understanding Pronouns

1. The word "They" (line 11) refers to ____________________.

2. The word "They" (line 16) refers to ___________.

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Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that ____________________________
   a. different cultures have different ways of killing people
   b. people in different cultures view death in different ways
   c. graves in different countries look very similar to one another

2. The best title for this passage would be ____________________________
   a. Anglo-Saxons and Mexicans
   b. Touching Dead Bodies
   c. Death in Different Cultures

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. According to the passage, Anglo-Saxons ____________________________
   a. like to touch dead bodies
   b. like to express their feelings publicly
   c. keep dead bodies clean

2. According to the passage, Mexicans ____________________________
   a. like to decorate graveyards
   b. make the deceased seem like they are sleeping
   c. don’t mind touching and kissing dead bodies

3. According to the passage, different viewpoints of death are ____________________________
   a. very hard to study
   b. reflected in people’s way of life
   c. actually quite similar to one another
Vocabulary Practice

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

1. The new law is very unfair if you look at it from a woman’s ______.
2. We must not speak ill of the ______.
3. I have very ______ memories of my grandfather.
4. I am going to keep my mouth shut and take my secrets to the ______.
5. His performance in the play was absolutely ______.

vivid contrary study deceased grave
terrible neat distinct viewpoint difference

New Phrases

□ **well-cared** : taken care of very well
   My car may look very old, but it is quite well-cared.
   I am proud to say that my house is very well-cared.
   My room is well-cared because I clean it every day.

□ **on the other hand** : on the contrary; however
   On the one hand, we will die without food. On the other hand, too much food can kill a person.
   Danny may seem like a wild kid. But on the other hand, he is also a very sweet young man.
   I very much want to see my family. But on the other hand, my friends need me, too.
Researchers recently studied four groups of people on their attitudes toward death. Anglo-Saxons and Mexicans showed vividly contrary attitudes. Anglo-Saxons kept dead bodies touching or kissing neatly and clean. Mexicans didn’t mind keeping dead bodies. Different cultures have distinct viewpoints of death.
Listening Practice [Track 26]

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. Researchers _______ on attitudes _______.
2. Anglo-Saxons _______ _______ _______.
3. They also decorated them _______ _______ _______ _______.
   they were sleeping.
4. Mexicans like to _______ _______ _______ about death publicly.
5. Their different viewpoints are reflected _______ _______ _______.

Homework - Writing Practice

Write a short paragraph about different attitudes toward death. Use the following questions as a guide.

What do Anglo-Saxons do with dead bodies?
How do Mexicans express their feelings about the dead?
Are these differences of viewpoints of death reflected in their way of life?
What can you see from the picture?
Look at the picture and write the answers.
1. What are the orangutans doing?
2. Do you think orangutans know how to use tools?

New Words

- **species** plants or animals of the same kind
- **ape** chimpanzees, gorillas and other animals of the same family
- **anthropology** the study of people, society, and culture
- **treat** something nice to eat
- **foresight** the ability to know what will happen in the future
- **ancestor** a family member who lived a very long time ago
- **identify** to discover or notice something
- **capacity** an ability to do something
People aren't the only ones making plans. New research suggests that two species of great apes have the ability to think ahead. Researchers say this ability developed long before electronic planners or even the most basic calendars existed! Scientists at the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Germany worked with five bonobos* and five orangutans* for the study. Earlier research had shown that apes could find or even make tools to solve a problem on the spot. Scientists at the Max Planck Institute conducted their experiments to see whether apes would hold onto tools for future use. First, the apes were taught how to use a tool to get a treat. In this case, they needed the tools to reach grapes and juice bottles. The researchers then let the apes choose from a selection of tools. Not all the tools were right for the task. Once the apes had chosen their tools, they were taken to another room. An hour later, they were allowed back into the room for a try at the treats. Six out of 16 times, the apes chose the right tool, kept it with them, and used it to reach the reward. The apes were just as successful even after more time passed. Researchers say these findings show that human foresight may have evolved some 14 million years ago. Humans and great apes are believed to share a common ancestor.

"By identifying what capacities our closest living relatives share with us, we can study our evolutionary past," scientist Thomas Suddendorf said in response to the study.

* bonobo: a small type of chimpanzee  
* orangutan: an ape with long red hair

Understanding Pronouns

1. The word "they" (line 13) refers to ____________.
2. The word "us" (line 24) refers to ____________.
Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that we can ________________.
   a. understand that apes use tools better than humans
   b. study our past by studying how apes use tools
   c. learn how apes use tools to develop their knowledge

2. The best title for this passage would be ________________.
   a. Apes and Their Tools
   b. Bonobos and Orangutans
   c. The Ancestors of Apes

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. According to the passage, new research suggests that ________________.
   a. some great apes have the ability to think ahead
   b. apes may have evolved from humans
   c. only humans know how to use tools

2. In the scientists' research, the apes ________________ after choosing the right ones.
   a. threw the tools away
   b. liked to use the wrong tools
   c. kept the tools with them

3. Mr. Suddendorf says that by identifying the capacities of apes, we can ________________.
   a. study our evolutionary past
   b. become closer to them
   c. evolve even more
Vocabulary Practice

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

1. Scientists are trying to know if monkeys have the _______ to understand human language.
2. In order to know more about your past, you should know who your _______ are.
3. There are many endangered _______ in the wild.
4. I couldn’t _______ his face because it was too dark.
5. Janet had the _______ to know it was going to rain today.

species  ape  treat  anthropology  foresight
selection  ancestors  capacity  identify  relative

New Phrases

□ make plans: to schedule ahead of time
Tom, have you made plans for the summer?
I shall make my plans for the weekend tomorrow.
Let’s go to the baseball game tonight if you haven’t made any plans.

□ on the spot: immediately; right away
My brother was hungry so I made a sandwich for him on the spot.
I interviewed with Mr. Johnson and got the job on the spot.
Jenna told the singer she was a big fan and he sang her a song on the spot.
This is a summary of the passage.
Fill in the blanks with the right words.

Research shows that great apes _____ _____ _____.
The apes were taught how to use tools _____ _____ _____.
They later remembered which tools to use and _____ _____ _____ future use.
Humans and great apes are believed to share _____ _____ _____.
Scientists hope to study _____ ___________ ____ by studying their capacities.
Listening Practice (Track 28)

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. People aren’t ______ ______ ______ ______ ______.
2. ______ ______ have the ability ______ ______ ________ ______.
3. The great apes used in the study ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ ______.
4. ______ ______ ______ great apes and humans ______ ______ ______ ______ ancestor.
5. Scientists ______ ______ ______ evolutionary past.

Homework - Writing Practice

Write a short paragraph about the foresight of great apes.
Use the following questions as a guide.

Do great apes have the ability to think ahead?
In the study, did they remember to use the right tools?
Did they also remember to keep them for future use?
What can we learn by studying great apes?

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

1. Have you ever heard of the Peace Corps?
2. Do you know what kind of work they do?

**New Words**

- **organization**: a group of people, e.g. a business or club
- **dedicated**: made for a particular purpose
- **disease**: an illness
- **farmer**: a person who works on a farm and grows plants
- **vision**: a person’s future image of something
- **cause**: a goal for doing something
- **people**: the men, women, and children of a particular country
There are many organizations around the world that are dedicated to helping others. One of the most famous of such organizations is the Peace Corps. (pronounced CORE) The Peace Corps is an organization of the US government filled with men and women who live and work in other countries for two years at a time. The people who serve in the Peace Corps are called "Volunteers" who share their skills with people to help solve some of the most important challenges that face communities in the developing world.

Peace Corps Volunteers serve as teachers in schools. They also help communities protect their environment, gain access to clean water, and prevent the spread of diseases. They work with people who want to build small businesses. And they help farmers grow food more efficiently.

The Peace Corps was founded in 1961 by former US President John F. Kennedy. He first presented his vision for "a Peace Corps of young people that would be dedicated to the cause of peace and development across the world."

Peace Corps Volunteers build the bridges of cross-cultural understanding with the people of other countries. They help the people of other countries learn more about who they are, and at the same time, they bring home with them a better understanding of the peoples and cultures.

Understanding Pronouns

1. The word "They" (line 12) refers to ____________________.
2. The word "He" (line 18) refers to ___________.
Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that the Peace Corps is ___
   a. a very old organization that works to help only farmers
   b. an organization of people who help others in the developing world
   c. a group of people that get together every year to learn about one another

2. The best title for this passage would be ________________.
   a. The Efforts of the Peace Corps
   b. A John F. Kennedy Creation
   c. Building the Bridge Between Cultures

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. An example of the efforts of the Peace Corps Volunteers is that they _____________.
   a. do business and earn a lot of money
   b. work to pollute the water of other countries
   c. help prevent the spread of diseases

2. The Peace Corps Volunteers help to ________________ in the developing world.
   a. solve problems of the people
   b. take away the food of farmers
   c. stop the spread of peace

3. According to the passage, the Peace Corps _________________.
   a. was founded before President John F. Kennedy
   b. helps to better understand other peoples and cultures
   c. work only inside the United States
Vocabulary Practice

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

1. The Peace Corps is an ___________ that helps people in the developing world.
2. The Red Cross is ________ to the cause of helping sick people.
3. Rhett loves China. He went there last year to learn more about their ________.
4. Doctors are working to stop the spread of ______ in our village.
5. Alexander the Great had the ________ of uniting the world.

organization vision disease farmer culture

dedicated teacher cause understanding people

New Phrases

- **developing world**: countries that are poor with few industries
  
  Peace Corps Volunteers work hard to help people in the developing world.
  
  Leaders from the developing world got together to discuss economic issues.
  
  Germany lends a lot of money to the developing world.

- **cross-cultural**: involving two or more different countries
  
  Schools should promote cross-cultural education by hiring more foreign teachers.
  
  The new movie is a cross-cultural project between India and China.
  
  The Olympics opening ceremony is a cross-cultural event that brings people from all over the world together.
Making a Summary

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

Protect the environment was founded by who they are
to solve problems dedicated to helping

The Peace Corps is a US government organization _______ __
________ others.
Peace Corps Volunteers help _______ _______ in the
developing world.
They teach in schools, _______ _______ , stop the spread
of diseases, etc.
The Peace Corps _______ ______ former US President John F.
Kennedy.
The Volunteers help people learn more of _______ _______

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Listening Practice [Track 30]

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. The Peace Corps ___ ___ organization ___ ___ ___ ___ developing world.
2. The Volunteers ___ ___ ___ ___ small businesses.
3. They also help farmers ___ ___ more efficiently.
4. The Peace Corps ___ ___ ___ former President Kennedy.
5. The Volunteers ___ ___ ___ themselves.

Homework - Writing Practice

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

Who first founded the Peace Corps and when?
What is the Peace Corps dedicated to?
What do the Volunteers do? Give at least 3 examples.
Poker face

Pre-Reading
What can you see from the picture?
Look at the picture and write the answers.
1. Do you know the name of the game?
2. Have you ever played with these cards before?

New Words
- opponent: a person who plays against you in a game
- expression: a look on a person’s face
- maintain: to continue to do something
- negotiate: to talk about a problem to come to a solution
- witness: a person who saw a crime or accident
- embarrassment: the state of feeling shy or guilty
- lawyer: a person who helps others in court
In general, people smile when they are happy. They frown when they are disappointed, and they cry when they are sad. However, there are some situations where showing our true feelings is not always the right thing to do.

For instance, when you are playing poker, it is important not to let your opponents know what kind of cards you are holding. People can tell from your facial expressions if you are holding good cards or bad ones. Therefore, you should always maintain a calm face when playing poker. This is where the expression “poker face” comes from. A poker face is an expression on your face that shows none of your true feelings.

Even when negotiating with others, it is very important not to let others know you are feeling angry, upset or disappointed. This is why most politicians and businessmen have very good poker faces. They must try to act as if nothing is wrong even when things are not going their way.

In court, failing to maintain a poker face may have a bad effect on one’s strategy. If a witness is being questioned and she shows signs of embarrassment, this might allow the other lawyer to gain an edge over her. This is another example where a poker face comes in handy.

Understanding Pronouns

1. The word "they" (line 1) refers to ________.
2. The word "They" (line 17) refers to ____________________.
3. The word "she" (line 20) refers to ________.
Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that __________________________
   a. you must learn to hide your emotions when playing poker
   b. sometimes it is important not to let your emotions show through your expressions
   c. people must become lucky if they want to play poker well

2. The best title for this passage would be __________________________
   a. Learning to Wear Masks
   b. Making A Good Poker Face
   c. Negotiating With Others

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. When playing poker, it is important to __________________________
   a. show others that you are doing your best
   b. not let your opponents know what cards you are holding
   c. let your emotions show through your facial expressions

2. Politicians and businessmen who have good poker faces __________________________ even when things are not going their way.
   a. act as if nothing is wrong
   b. let people know they are upset
   c. try to express their disappointment

3. According to the passage, it is __________________________
   a. always a good thing to let others know how you are feeling
   b. important to remember to use a poker face in any kind of situation
   c. sometimes important not to let your true emotions show
Vocabulary Practice

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

1. We expect to meet a very strong ______ at the next soccer game.
2. You should always listen to what others are saying when you ______ with them.
3. My teacher said it is important to ______ a calm face even when you are angry.
4. I can see from her facial ______ that she is very upset.
5. Sandy tried to hide her ________ when I asked her how old she was.

opponent expression frown maintain politician
negotiate witness effect lawyer embarrassment

New Phrases

- gain (have) an edge over: to become more advantageous than someone
  Don’t let your opponents gain an edge over you.
  Every mistake Bonnie makes will let us gain an edge over her.
  Harry has an edge over us because he knows most of the judges.

- come in handy: to be of good or convenient use
  You should take this water bottle with you. It will come in handy.
  He kept this newspaper because he thought it would someday come in handy.
  I always tell my brother to think twice about what he throws away.
  You never know what might come in handy.
This is a summary of the passage.

Fill in the blanks with the right words.

comes in handy not to let when playing poker

noting with others where the expression

Sometimes it is important _____ _____ your true emotions show.

This is important _____ _____ _____.

This is _____ _____ “poker face” comes from.

A poker face is also important when _____ _____ _____.

It also _____ _____ in court.
Listening Practice  Track 32

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. _______ _______ _______ ______ may not be the right thing to do.

2. A _______ ______ a facial expression _______ ______ none of your ______ ______.

3. _______ _______ ______ when negotiating ______ ______.

4. Most politicians and businessmen have _______ _______ ______ ______.

5. It _______ _______ _______ in court.

Homework - Writing Practice

Write a short paragraph about the term “poker face”. Use the following questions as a guide.

What is a poker face?
Why do people use poker faces?
What are some examples where people use poker faces?

________________________

________________________

________________________

________________________

________________________
The Bard* of Avon

Pre-Reading

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

1. Do you know who this person is?
2. Have you read any of his stories?

New Words

- poet: a person who writes poems
- playwright: a person who writes plays
- inseparable: closely connected
- literature: novels, plays and poetry
- significant: important
- quote: to repeat what one has written or said
- historian: a person who studies history
Probably the greatest poet and playwright ever to have lived, William Shakespeare is now an inseparable part of not only British literature, but of world literature as well.

Shakespeare was born in 1564 in a region called Avon. Not much is known about what his youth was like. At the age of 18, he married Anne Hathaway, who was 8 years older, and the two later had three children together.

Shakespeare is best known for his work in plays and poetry. Some of his most famous pieces include King Lear, The Tempest, Romeo and Juliet, Hamlet, Julius Caesar, and Othello. Of course, there are many other plays that are read and loved today.

Not only did Shakespeare contribute greatly to literature, he also played a significant role in shaping the English language. The words and expressions that he used in his works are still quoted by many people today. Such was his significance to England that one historian once said that he would sooner give up India than give up Shakespeare.

* bard: a person who writes poems; a poet

**Understanding Pronouns**

1. The word "he" (line 7) refers to ____________.

2. The word "he" (line 18) refers to ____________.
Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that Shakespeare was _____________.
   a. married to Anne Hathaway
   b. more important than India to one historian
   c. probably the greatest poet and playwright ever to have lived

2. The best title for this passage would be _________________.
   a. The Great Shakespeare
   b. William and Anne Shakespeare
   c. The Poems of Shakespeare

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. According to the passage, _________________.
   a. Shakespeare was 8 years older than Anne
   b. much is known about Shakespeare’s childhood
   c. Shakespeare had 3 children with Anne

2. Shakespeare is best known for _________________.
   a. his good looking face
   b. his works in plays and poems
   c. his role in English language theory

3. One historian said he would rather give up India before giving up Shakespeare because he thought _________________.
   a. India wasn’t that important to him
   b. Shakespeare was a very important person to England
   c. he didn’t like Shakespeare or India
Vocabulary Practice

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

1. A person who studies history is called a _______.
2. Ron and Don are very close friends. The two are _________.
3. Meg is the star of the play. She plays a ________ role.
4. Kelly wrote the words to my new song. I think she is a very good _______.
5. Everyone thinks John should study ________ because he likes to read books so much.

poet playwright region inseparable literature
significant rather quote historian language

New Phrases

be best known for: be famous thanks to
Rodin is best known for his sculpture The Thinker.
Africa is best known for its beautiful wildlife.
Susie is best known for her wonderful charm.

sooner A than B: rather A than B
I would sooner die than go with you.
Paul said he would sooner walk than take a bus with Joan.
Melinda would sooner stay at home than go to the movies tonight.
This is a summary of the passage. Fill in the blanks with the right words.

Shakespeare is probably the greatest poet and playwright ever to have lived a significant role best known for words and expressions and later married.

He was born in a region called Avon ______ ______ ______ Anne Hathaway. He is ______ ______ ____ his work in plays and poetry. Shakespeare also played ______ ______ ______ in shaping the English language. The ______ ____ _________ he used are still quoted by many people today.
Listening Practice

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. _______ ______ ______ ______ and playwright.
2. ______ ______ ______ ______ what his youth was like.
3. ______ ______ ______ _____ his work in plays and poetry.
4. Many of his plays are ______ ______ ______ ______.
5. ______ ______ ______ ______ ______ shaping the English language.

Homework - Writing Practice

Write a short paragraph about the life of Shakespeare. Use the following questions as a guide.

When and where was Shakespeare born?
Who was his wife and how many children did they have together?
What are some of his famous works?
How important is Shakespeare to England?
Pre-Reading

What can you see from the picture?
Look at the picture and write the answers.
1. Have you ever seen this company before?
2. Can you guess what the company does?

New Words

- **definite** for sure
- **freight** the moving of goods by trucks, trains, ships, or airplanes
- **delivery** bringing letters or goods to someone’s house
- **package** a small box that is being moved somewhere else
to say that one will not do something
- **refuse** using little money to win much more money
- **gamble** a card game
- **blackjack**
Do you think luck plays a big role in becoming successful? If your answer is a definite "No," then maybe you should think again. The following is the story of a freight service company called FedEx.

FedEx was founded in 1971 by an ex-soldier named Fred Smith. Ever since Smith was a college student at Yale, he had a new kind of business idea that would change the ways of freight delivery. After finishing his service in the military, Smith started his own company called FedEx and began to put his ideas into practice.

However, business was very slow at first. On the day he started his company, he only had seven packages to deliver. Since Smith's company had so little customers, it nearly went bankrupt within the first year. Fred Smith, however, refused to throw in the towel. FedEx was the idea of his dreams and he would do whatever it took to keep the company alive.

With almost no money left, Smith took all the cash that he had and flew to Las Vegas to try his luck at the gambling table. Luckily, he won 27,000 dollars playing blackjack, and this helped to keep his company alive.

FedEx is now worth billions of dollars and does business in countries all around the world. If its founder hadn't gotten lucky in Las Vegas, it is most likely that most of us would never have heard of the company at all.

Understanding Pronouns

1. The word "he" (line 12) refers to __________.

2. The word "it" (line 14) refers to ________________.
Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that _______________________.
   a. FedEx is a very large and global company
   b. Fred Smith had very new and smart ideas when starting his company
   c. luck can play a big role in becoming successful

2. The best title for this passage would be _______________________.
   a. Lucky FedEx
   b. Fred Smith at Gambling
   c. The Las Vegas Story

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. At first, FedEx _______________________.
   a. was a very successful company
   b. had very little customers
   c. earned lots of money

2. When FedEx had almost no money left, Fred Smith _______________________.
   a. flew to Las Vegas and gambled for money
   b. delivered more packages
   c. started a new company

3. According to the passage, _______________________.
   a. you must have a lot of money to succeed
   b. luck also plays a role in becoming successful
   c. you should know how to gamble
Vocabulary Practice

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

1. The new pizza store in town offers the best ________ service.
2. When the company couldn’t pay its bills, it almost went ________.
3. When Lou asked Jen to marry him, she answered with a ________ yes.
4. I will make him an offer he can’t ________.
5. Walt Disney was the ________ of the company Walt Disney.

- definite  - freight  - delivery  - package  - company
- refuse  - bankrupt  - gamble  - business  - founder

New Phrases

☐ throw in the towel : to give up
I know it’s very hard but don’t throw in the towel. You can do it.
Don’t you think it’s a little too soon to throw in the towel?
I’m never going to throw in the towel because I hate to give up.

☐ try one’s luck at : to try to succeed at something even though there is little chance of succeeding
All the boys in my class failed in becoming Sophie’s boyfriend.
Why don’t you try your luck at her?
When Dan’s uncle goes to Las Vegas next week, he is going to try his luck at the gambling table.
No one can hit his fastball. Would you like to try your luck at it?
When Fred Smith was a college student, he had a big role in a new kind of business idea. He started his own company called FedEx. However, his company soon had little money and almost went bankrupt. Fred went to Las Vegas and won money at the gambling table, keeping his company alive.
Listening Practice  Track 36

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. Fred Smith _______ _______ _______ FedEx.
2. At first, _______ _______ _______ customers.
3. The _______ _______ _______ bankrupt.
4. Fred Smith went to Las Vegas and _______ _______ _______ gambling table.
5. Luck also _______ _______ _______ becoming successful.

Homework - Writing Practice

Write a short paragraph about FedEx’s luck story.
Use the following questions as a guide.

Who founded FedEx?
Why was FedEx in trouble at first?
What did Fred Smith do to keep his company alive?
How big is FedEx today?

________________________  
________________________
________________________
________________________
________________________
________________________
The Olympics

Pre-Reading

What can you see from the picture?
Look at the picture and write the answers.
1. What is the name of this event?
2. Have you ever watched these games on TV?

New Words

- **amateur**: someone who does something as a hobby, not as a job
- **athlete**: a person who does a sport
- **originate**: to first come from
- **revive**: to become active or alive again
- **continent**: a large body of land
- **goodwill**: a friendly attitude towards others
- **reminder**: something that makes one think about something again
The Olympics are considered the most influential amateur sports games in the world. Held every four years in different cities, the Olympics bring together athletes from all over the globe in a peaceful sporting ceremony.

The Olympic Games first originated in ancient Greece about two thousand years ago. The games were not held for quite a while until they were revived again in 1896. The first modern games were held in Athens, Greece, and were later held in other countries.

The Olympics are actually more than just sports games. They are a means through which countries unite in a peaceful event. Each of the famous five rings that symbolize the Olympics stand for the five continents of the world, namely Asia, Europe, Africa, the Americas, and Oceania. The goodwill that can be seen among the athletes at the games is a reminder that peace among nations is a goal that we must work together to achieve.

Understanding Pronouns

7. The word "they" (line 9) refers to _______________________.

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Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that the Olympics ________.
   a. are peaceful amateur sports games
   b. originated 2,000 years ago
   c. are fun to watch

2. The best title for this passage would be _____________.
   a. The Five Continents of the World
   b. The Greek Olympic Games
   c. The Olympics: Peace and Sports

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. The Olympics are held every _________.
   a. four years
   b. five years
   c. two thousand years

2. The five rings of the Olympics stand for _________.
   a. five Olympic games
   b. the five continents
   c. five Olympic cities

3. The first modern Olympic Games were held in _________.
   a. Asia
   b. Oceania
   c. Athens
Vocabulary Practice

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

1. My grandfather’s house is located in a very quiet and _______ place.
   - peaceful

2. I’ve visited every country in Asia. I want to go to another _______ next year.
   - continent

3. The statue is a _______ that we must always keep freedom alive.
   - reminder

4. The festival was _______ last year after 100 years.
   - originated

5. Peter’s dream is to become a tennis _______.
   - athlete

New Phrases

☐ be held in: to be organized and celebrated in
   - The next meeting will be held in Switzerland.
   - The 1998 World Cup was held in France.
   - This year’s Christmas party will be held at my place.

☐ stand for: to symbolize
   - The color red stands for love and passion.
   - UN stands for the United Nations.
   - The white dove stands for peace.
Making a Summary

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

It originated in ______ means through which ______ the five continents
peaceful sports event ______ the most influential

The Olympics are ______ ______ ______ amateur sports games
in the world.
It is a ______ ______ ______ that is held every four years.
____ ______ ______ Greece two thousand years ago.
The Olympics are a ______ ______ ______ countries unite in
a peaceful event.
The five rings stand for ______ ______ ______ of the world.
Listening Practice

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. The Olympics _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ in different cities.
2. _____ _____ _____ _____ were held in Athens, Greece.
3. The Olympics are _____ _____ _____ _____ ______.
4. _____ _____ _____ the five continents _____ _____ ______.
5. The Olympics _____ _____ _____ _____ countries unite in a peaceful event.

Homework - Writing Practice

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

When and where were the first modern Olympics held?
How often are the games held?
What do the Olympics represent?
What do the five rings stand for?
Young Age

Pre-Reading

What can you see from the picture?
Look at the picture and write the answers.
1. How old do you think this boy is?
2. Do you think you are too young to receive such an award?

New Words

- **accomplish**: to succeed in doing something
- **achievement**: something that someone has succeeded in doing
- **laboratory**: a room where scientific research is done
- **puberty**: the stage where children physically become adults
- **legend**: a very famous person
- **renowned**: very well known
How old are you? Do you think you are too young to do great things? Believe it or not, you may not be as young as you think. Many great people accomplished great achievements when they were quite young. Let us take a look at some examples. Singer Michael Jackson began singing professionally when he was only 4 years old. Inventor Thomas Edison made his first science laboratory before he even reached puberty. Edison later became one of the greatest inventors of all time.

Boxing legend Muhammed Ali won the gold medal at the Rome Olympics at the age of 18. He later went on to become the greatest boxing champion in history.

Businessman Steve Jobs established the renowned Apple Computer firm when he was just 21. Apple Computer has now become one of the most respected companies in the world.

You do not have to reach a certain age to be able to do great things. In fact, the earlier you try, the more likely you are to succeed. What’s important is how much effort you put into your work.

**Understanding Pronouns**

1. The word "he" (line 10) refers to _______________.

2. The word "he" (line 16) refers to _______________.
Understanding the Main Idea

Circle the best answer.

1. The main idea of this passage is that ________________________
   ________________________
   a. you should be over a certain age to become successful
   b. you are not too young to do great things
   c. Michael Jackson and Steve Jobs are great people

2. The best title for this passage would be ________________________
   ________________________
   a. Michael Jackson and Thomas Edison
   b. Young Age, Young Success
   c. The Importance of Age

Understanding Details

Circle the best answer.

1. According to the passage, Muhammed Ali won the gold medal at the Olympics when he was ___.
   a. 18    b. 21    c. 4

2. Steve Jobs is a ________________________.
   a. singer
   b. inventor
   c. businessman

3. According to the passage, the most important thing in becoming successful is ________.
   a. money    b. age    c. effort
**Vocabulary Practice**

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

1. Babe Ruth has become a ________ in the world of American baseball.
2. I want to go to a school that is ________ for its science department.
3. Do you think you can ________ this hard task?
4. We were all surprised at Lenny’s big ________.
5. I need more supplies in my science ________.

- accomplish
- medal
- effort
- laboratory
- firm
- puberty
- achievement
- legend
- reach
- renowned

**New Phrases**

- **too A to B**: too A that B cannot be true
  This party is too good to be true.
  Frank is too tall to be a member of our group.
  Wendy is too pretty to be Dave’s girlfriend.

- **of all time**: the best there has ever been
  Michael Jordan was the greatest basketball player of all time.
  I think Ronald is the worst runner of all time.
  Sean says his father is the best actor of all time.
Making a Summary

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

his first laboratory began singing when do great things
made his company achieved great accomplishments

Many great people ___________ _______ _____________ when they were young.
Michael Jackson _______ _______ ______ he was 4.
Edison made ____ ____ ___ _______ before puberty.
Muhammed Ali won the gold medal at 18 and Steve Jobs ____
____ _________ at 21.
You don’t have to be a certain age to ____ _____ _____.

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Listening Practice

Listen to each sentence and fill in the blanks.

1. ______ _______ _______ _______ when they were ______ _______.
2. Michael Jackson began ______ _______ _______ _______ 4 years old.
3. Thomas Edison ______ _______ _______ _______ _______ _______ science laboratory ______ puberty.
4. Muhammed Ali was only 18 ______ _______ _______ _______.
5. What’s important ______ _______ _______ _______ _______ _______ _______ your work.

Homework - Writing Practice

Write a short paragraph about another successful person who became great at a young age. Use the following questions as a guide.

What is the name of this person?
When did this person become successful?
What kind of achievement did this person accomplish?
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