

Step Into **TARGET READING**

Smart Ways to
Build Comprehension

2



MP3



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Introduction

Step Into Target Reading is a four-book series specially designed for beginner to intermediate level readers. Each book contains 50 lessons. The language used in each book has been appropriately graded for difficulty. The difficulty levels are distinguished by the length of each passage, the number of high-level words used, the complexity of the grammar, and the maximum sentence length.

Number of Words per Passage	1,200 Word List for Junior High School	1,201–2,000 Word List for Junior High School	7,000 Word List for Senior High School (Levels 3, 4, 5)	Grammar Complexity	Maximum Sentence Length
Book 1: 120–150	93%	7 Words	3 Words	(Junior High) First Year	15 Words
Book 2: 150–180	86%	15	6	Second Year	18
Book 3: 180–210	82%	30	7	Third Year	25
Book 4: 210–250	75%	50	12	Advanced	28

Lesson Structure

Reading Passage

The *Step Into Target Reading* series employs a variety of topics and writing styles. Texts come in many different forms, including passages, lyrics, dialogues, emails, book foreword, postcards, diaries, cards, and interviews. This emphasis on diversity aims to provide learners with an array of different reading experiences while simultaneously exposing them to a wide range of useful everyday language.

The topics featured in the series are fun, diverse, and related to the readers' everyday lives. They include **Teens, Families, Education, Entertainment, Health & Body, Holidays & Festivals, Animals, Arts & Literature, Science, Culture, and Travel**, to name but a few. These varied topics not only attract the readers' attention but also lead to the acquisition of different kinds of knowledge.



Reading Practice

Each text is followed by five reading comprehension questions to help students understand the reading. The reading skills involved in these questions are:

Main idea /
Subject matter

Supporting
details

Words in
context

Making
inferences

Visual
comprehension

Main idea While reading, students should ask themselves, “What point is the writer trying to make?” This way, students will better be able to understand the article as a whole.

Subject matter This question helps readers focus more on the text they are reading. After reading the first few lines, readers should ask themselves, “What is this article about?” They will start concentrating instantly.



Supporting details Each text is made up of details that support the main idea. Supporting details come in various forms, such as examples, explanations, descriptions, definitions, comparisons, contrasts, and metaphors.

Words in context Understanding words within a particular context is an important skill. Mistaking the meanings of key words or phrases can lead to a gross misunderstanding of the author's message.

Making inferences Inference questions ask the readers to identify what wider assumptions can be made based on the information given in the text. The main goal of this question is to develop readers' critical thinking and logic.

Visual comprehension This type of question asks readers to identify information presented in graphical representations, which may take the form of visual material (tables, graphs, charts, etc.) or reference sources (indexes, dictionaries, atlases, etc.). Learning to use the graphical parts of a text can improve your overall comprehension of what you are reading.



01

1 The Unluckiest Guy in the World

» lucky



I must be **the unluckiest guy in the world**. I sat next to Julie for a whole month at the start of the semester. Every day I had a chance to say something. I would ask if she could help me with a question, or maybe to borrow a pen. She didn't say much back to me, but I would get to see that stunning smile of hers.

Of course, that all changed in **the blink of an eye**. Jimmy couldn't keep quiet during class, so the teacher made us switch seats. Just like that, he was up front and I was trapped in the back row.

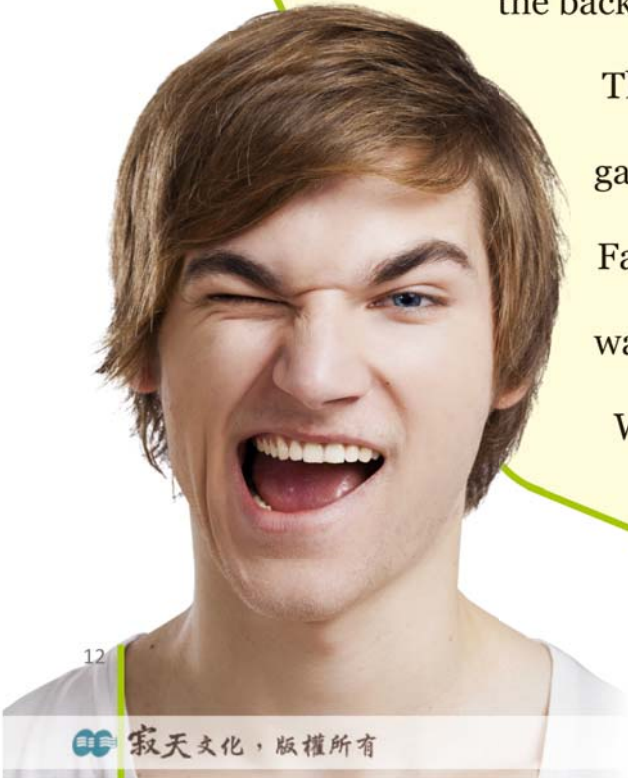
That's okay, I thought. I'll just play the waiting game. I planned to ask Julie to add me on Facebook before the summer break. But then she was absent for the entire final week of class.

Where did she go? I'm still not sure. All I know is it's going to be a long summer.

5

10

15





borrow



Questions

1. What is this reading about?
 - a. A girl.
 - b. A seat.
 - c. A day.
 - d. A class.
2. Which of the following is a reason why the writer is “**the unluckiest guy in the world**”?
 - a. He’s at home for summer.
 - b. He switched seats in class.
 - c. He uses Facebook.
 - d. He’s friends with Jimmy.
3. What does “**the blink of an eye**” mean?
 - a. A serious eye problem.
 - b. A season.
 - c. A short amount of time.
 - d. An important exam.
4. Where does Julie sit in class?
 - a. The back row.
 - b. The front row.
 - c. The middle.
 - d. Beside the teacher.
5. Why was Jimmy likely moved?
 - a. He couldn’t hear the teacher.
 - b. He liked to talk a lot.
 - c. The class was too difficult for him.
 - d. He was the class president.

2 Postcards From Taiwan

Dear Becky,

Taiwan is even cooler than I imagined. The people are friendly, the landscapes are beautiful, and the desserts are **to die for**.

Do you remember how I was so nervous about riding a bicycle? Well, that was silly. Lots of people ride their bikes around Taiwan. They call it a “huandao” here. The word means “around the island.” There are great facilities on the road, too. It’s easy to find a place to fix your bike or buy a cup of coffee. You can even spend the night in a temple **if that’s your thing**.

My favorite thing about Taiwan so far is the convenience stores. This has got to be the most convenient country on Earth. There is a store on almost every corner, and they all sell these little rice triangles. They’re such great snacks after a long day of riding.

I know you should be here with me and can’t control what happened. But don’t worry: I’ll just come back with you and do it again next year!

Yours,

Linda



^ convenience store



^ rice triangles

✦ Chinese temple in Taiwan



2

Postcards From Taiwan

✦ Lots of people ride their bikes around Taiwan.

Questions

1. What is the main idea of this article?
 - a. Taiwan has temples.
 - b. Taiwan is convenient.
 - c. Taiwan is great for biking.
 - d. Taiwan has beautiful landscapes.
2. Which of the following is not something the writer says about Taiwan?
 - a. There are convenience stores.
 - b. There are places to fix your bike.
 - c. The food there is cheap.
 - d. Lots of people bike there.
3. What does it mean when Linda writes that Taiwan's desserts are "to die for"?
 - a. They are dangerous.
 - b. They are delicious.
 - c. They are expensive.
 - d. They are hard to find.
4. Which is most likely the reason Becky did not come on the trip?
 - a. She thought Taiwan was too far away.
 - b. She had an unexpected accident.
 - c. She decided to go to Japan.
 - d. She doesn't like biking.
5. What does Linda mean by saying "if that's your thing"?
 - a. If you're scared of it.
 - b. If you like doing it.
 - c. If you own it.
 - d. If you don't care about it.