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Unit 1 Reading Skills

Reading Strategy

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Article Type / Subject	Issue	Core Competency
advertisements / travel	global ocean	semiotics
letter / relationships	family education	expression
diary / animals	morality	moral praxis
instant message / sport	life	physical and mental wellness
letter / inspiration for teens	life	interpersonal relationships
news clip / information	information	media literacy
advertisements / houses & apartments	information	semiotics
obituary / life	life	interpersonal relationships
poem / inspiration for teens	outdoor education	self-advancement
passage / arts & literature	multiculturalism	artistic appreciation
speech / school life	life	expression
magazine article / environment	environment	logical thinking
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conversation / environment	environment / morality	moral praxis
meeting / business	security	teamwork
poster / animals	information	semiotics
instruction / safety	security	problem solving
video transcripts / relationships	international education	expression



Article Type / Subject	Issue	Core Competency
column / relationships	life	interpersonal relationships
instruction / health & body	life	physical and mental wellness
Q & A / business	technology	semiotics
passage / inspiration for teens	reading literacy	self-advancement
passage / food & drinks	multiculturalism	cultural understanding
diary / nature	outdoor education	problem solving
notice / school life	environment	semiotics
book foreword / inspiration for teens	life	self-advancement
bulletin board / school life	reading literacy	expression
passage / animals / science	environment	logical thinking



Article Type / Subject	Issue	Core Competency
map / everyday life	rule of law	semiotics
schedule / sport	life	physical and mental wellness
pie chart / business	technology	innovation and adaptation
bar chart / economy / finance	life	global understanding
line chart / travel	international education	information literacy

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Article Type / Subject	Issue	Core Competency
timeline / politics / laws	international education	global understanding
table of contents / nature	reading literacy / environment	logical thinking
website search results / culture	information	information literacy
thesaurus / language & communication	reading literacy	physical and mental wellness
recipe / food & drinks	information	planning and execution



Article Type / Subject	Issue	Core Competency
passage / holidays & festivals	multiculturalism	cultural understanding
passage / famous or interesting people	human rights	global understanding
passage / geography & places	global ocean	global understanding
double passages / career	career planning	problem solving
passage / psychology	reading literacy	self-advancement
conversation / technology	technology / security	interpersonal relationships
passage / safety	disaster prevention	problem solving
passage / nature	environment	psychical and mental wellness
Venn diagram / sport	multiculturalism	global understanding
index / arts & literature	reading literacy	aesthetic literacy



Introduction

Ready for Reading Success is a four-volume series of exercise books which helps beginners develop reading competence and improve reading skills. As 12-year basic education emphasizes the importance of interdisciplinary and real-life-based learning, this series is designed to meet those objectives.

Each book in the series contains 50 articles covering a variety of topics including culture, science, nature, literature, etc., which are written in formats commonly seen in everyday life, such as emails, invitations, advertisements, notices, dialogues, and so on. With its intriguing topics and diversified formats, the series not only enriches readers' reading experience, but also connects their learning process with their real lives.

Moreover, each article is followed by five multiple-choice comprehension questions that aim to train readers to integrate, analyze, and utilize the given information. Readers will be equipped with the ability to answer comprehension questions more quickly and correctly, and thus be prepared for the upcoming comprehensive assessment program for junior high school students.



Key Features

Ready for Reading Success is an incomparable tool for readers because of the features below.

1. Appropriately graded difficulty

Readers can choose which book to read based on their English level because the language in each book has been graded by its difficulty. The difficulty levels are distinguished by the length of each text, the number of high-level words used, the complexity of the grammar, and the maximum sentence length.

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

A Letter to My Favorite Sister



Dear *Jennifer*,

- 1 I've got something important to say. But before that, I want you to know I feel so blessed to have you as my elder sister. You're my favorite sister in the world! Remember when we went to that strawberry farm together with Mom and Dad? You showed me how to pick strawberries by pinching the stems and pulling the fruit off. It was so much more fun than shopping! Let's go there again for your birthday this year!
- 2 Remember my clumsy fingers? I pinched the strawberries too hard and *squirt*! The juice got on your favorite jacket. I was so worried you'd get mad at me. But when I said sorry, you just forgave me. You knew I didn't do it on purpose.
- 3 Jennifer, you are my superhero. You're not just kind to me, you're also kind to little animals. I know you've been helping out at the animal shelter for months now. Maybe you could bring home a kitten someday!

>> strawberry
farm



My dear, favorite sister, here comes the thing I do want to tell you. Last week when you were helping out at the animal shelter, I borrowed your favorite T-shirt. I accidentally got some ketchup on it. I tried to wash off the stain, but it wouldn't come off. Oops and sorry!

Love,
Chloe



helping at an animal shelter

QUESTIONS

1. Which picture best describes the main purpose of this letter?

(A)



(B)



(C)



(D)



2. Which of the following is TRUE about Jennifer?

- (A) She hasn't adopted a kitten from the animal shelter.
- (B) She is good at taking care of animals.
- (C) She likes to eat fries with ketchup.
- (D) She tries her best in everything she does.

3. What is likely TRUE about Chloe?

- (A) She has never been to an animal shelter before.
- (B) She wants to buy a new jacket.
- (C) She asked Jennifer to teach her how to do laundry.
- (D) She took Jennifer's T-shirt without asking.

4. Where does Chloe say she wants to go on Jennifer's birthday this year?

- (A) A department store.
- (B) A nice restaurant.
- (C) The strawberry farm.
- (D) The animal shelter.

5. Which sentence best describes why Chloe wrote this letter?

- (A) She wants to show how much she looks up to her sister.
- (B) She wants to plan her sister's birthday this year.
- (C) She wants to make her sister less angry after the accident.
- (D) She wants her sister to bring a kitten home from the shelter.

All the Way to the Top



Kate

Hey, Jack. My family and I are going rock climbing this weekend. Do you want to join us?



Jack

Rock climbing? Hmm, I'm not sure.

Come on! It will be fun!

I've never done it before. I'm afraid I will be terrible at it.

Don't worry! There are lots of different difficulty levels. You can start on the beginners' wall and then go from there.

Maybe. I guess I should do some exercise this weekend.

Exactly! Rock climbing is a great activity. It makes your muscles stronger and it isn't stressful on your joints like some sports.

I like the sound of that. I hate feeling sore after gym class.

And it is really good for developing your coordination. It will be great for a clumsy person like you!

Ha, ha, very funny. 😜 Oh, but I have that big math test on Monday. I should probably study.

Rock climbing is good for your brain, too. It helps you develop your problem-solving abilities. So by coming with me, you will kind of be studying for your math test . . .

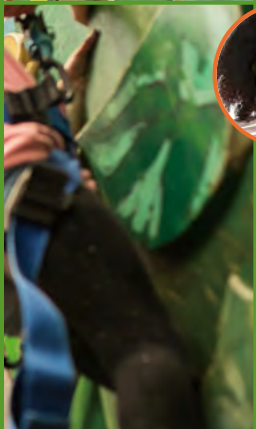
Well, when you put it that way . . . OK! I'll come!

Great! I'll message you the details later.



QUESTIONS

✦ easier levels



1. What is **Kate's** main message to Jack?
 - (A) She and her family are going rock climbing this weekend.
 - (B) He should join her and her family rock climbing this weekend.
 - (C) Going rock climbing will help him prepare for his math test.
 - (D) She will send him the details about rock climbing later.
2. Which of the following does rock climbing **NOT** help develop?
 - (A) Your muscles.
 - (B) Your coordination.
 - (C) Your problem-solving abilities.
 - (D) Your language skills.
3. Which of the following is **TRUE** about **Jack**?
 - (A) He goes rock climbing often.
 - (B) He has never been rock climbing before.
 - (C) He is very good at rock climbing.
 - (D) He hates to exercise.
4. Which of the following happens during their talk?
 - (A) Kate tells Jack where the rock climbing gym is.
 - (B) Jack decides not to go rock climbing with Kate.
 - (C) Kate gets angry at Jack for something he said.
 - (D) Jack agrees to go rock climbing with Kate.
5. Later that evening, **Kate** and **Jack** talk some more.



Kate

Jack, I'm so sorry. My dad has to work this weekend, so he can't drive us to the rock climbing gym.



Jack

I see. Can we take a bus instead?

Not really. The gym isn't near a bus stop.

That's a shame. I was looking forward to going.

Me, too. Maybe we can go some other time soon.

Yes, let me know the next time you plan on going.

What is the main point of their talk this time?

- (A) The planned rock climbing trip is no longer happening.
- (B) Kate's father has to work on Saturday and Sunday.
- (C) Jack was excited for the rock climbing trip.
- (D) The rock climbing gym can only be reached by car.



The Cost of Living

1 Would you like to live abroad some day? Living in another country can be a great experience. It can really increase your understanding of the world and help you grow as a person. One important thing to think about before you decide where you want to live is the cost of living.

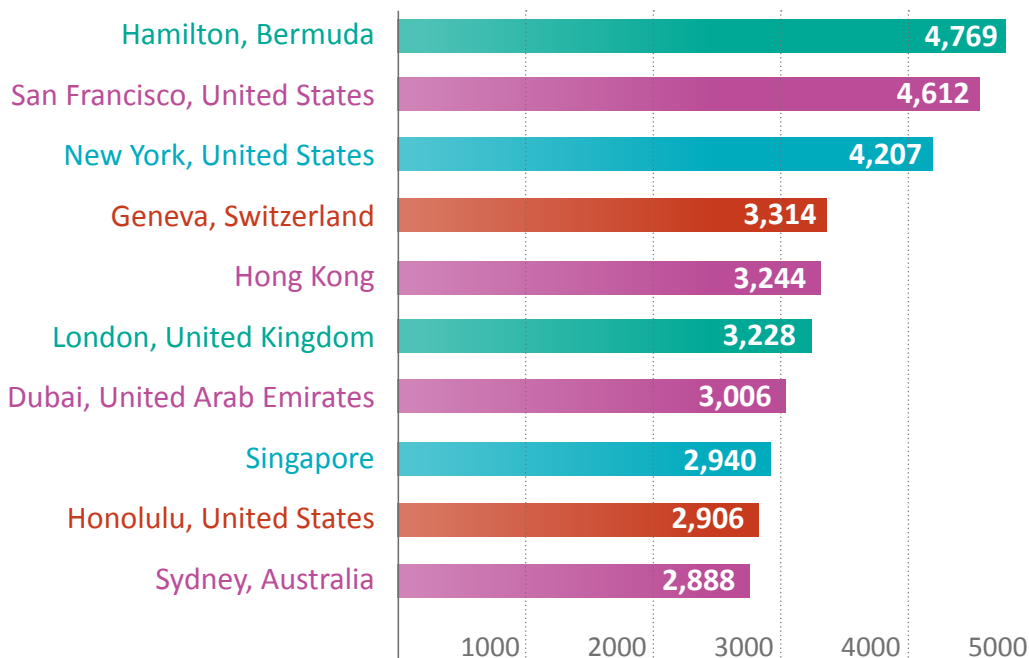
2 The cost of living is the amount of money you need to pay for important everyday things. These include your rent, your food, and utilities such as water, gas, and electricity. In fact, these three things make up most of the cost of living in big cities. But there are also things like clothing, public transport, and fun activities to think about, too.

3 Look at the bar graph on the next page. It shows the cities in the world with the highest cost of living. A bar graph shows numbers as bars of different lengths. The higher the number, the longer the bar. This makes it easy to compare different numbers.

⤴ utilities

⤴ San Francisco

Estimated Monthly Cost of Living in the World's Most Expensive Cities*



(Sources: CrazyTourist, Elite Readers)

*Amounts are given in US Dollars (\$).

QUESTIONS

1. How much money each month would you need to live in Geneva, Switzerland?
 (A) Around \$2,888. (B) Around \$3,314.
 (C) Around \$4,769. (D) Around \$4,207.
2. Which of the following cities is the most expensive to live in?
 (A) London. (B) Singapore. (C) Sydney. (D) Hong Kong.
3. In which city would you need \$4,207 each month to live?
 (A) Honolulu. (B) New York. (C) Dubai. (D) Hamilton.
4. Which country has more cities in the top ten world's most expensive cities list than any other?
 (A) United States. (B) United Kingdom.
 (C) Australia. (D) Switzerland.
5. Which of the following is TRUE?
 (A) San Francisco has the highest cost of living in the world.
 (B) The cost of living in Hong Kong is double that in London.
 (C) It is cheaper to live in Singapore than in Dubai.
 (D) Sydney has the lowest cost of living in the world.

Is Online Dating Really That Dangerous?

Ava: Do you remember that dating app I told you about? I've created a profile on it!

June: Seriously, Ava? After our last conversation I really thought you had decided not to try it!

Ava: Don't worry, June. I haven't started dating—yet.

June: Well, if you are going to do **it**, you must promise me a few things.

Ava: Sure, Mom.

June: You're lucky I'm *not* your mother!

Ava: I know exactly what you are going to say. Don't use my **real** name, and don't give anyone my address. Oh, and don't share any photos that I wouldn't want my parents to see.

June: Yes, but there's so much more. People aren't always who they say they are.

Ava: You need to **relax**, June.

June: Relax? What if you end up on a date with someone dangerous?

Do you want to be killed while looking for love? Or have all your money stolen? These things happen all the time, Ava. How can I possibly relax?

