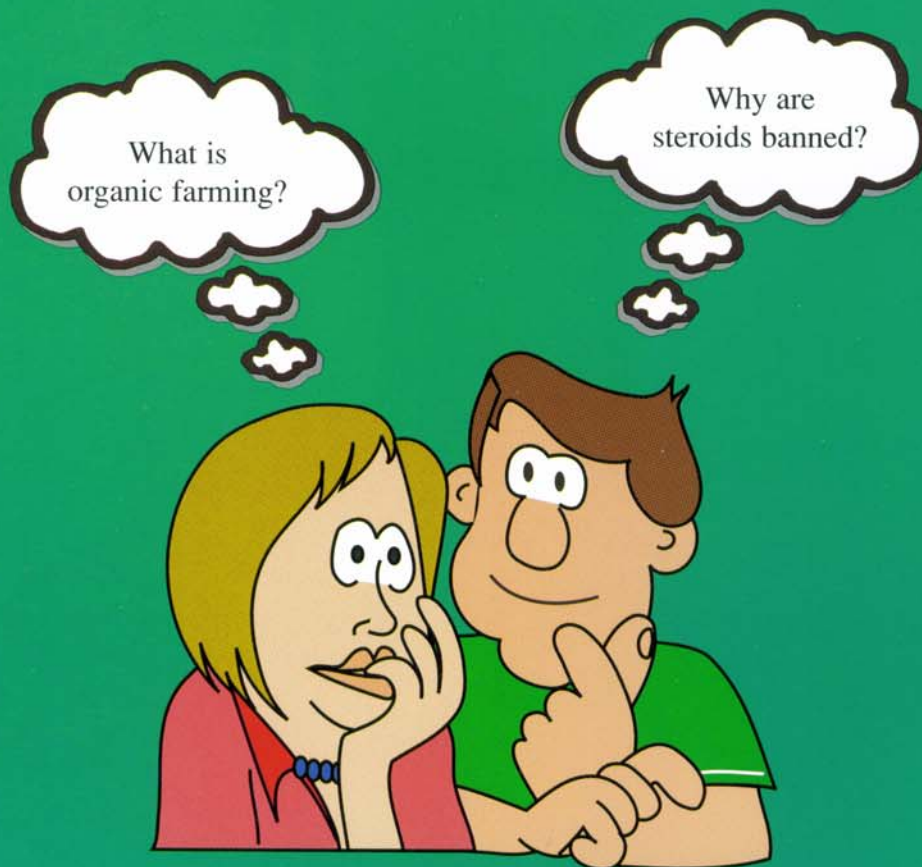


20 Questions...

Answered



Informative stories on topics of interest to the modern student

Book Three

20 Questions...Answered

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INTRODUCTION

20 Questions...Answered is a reproducible ESL/EFL reading-and-discussion text for false beginners, or for true beginners who have already had about eight months of instruction in the language. It offers a number of important design features to make both teaching and learning easier and more enjoyable.

- 1) Contextualized learning: The short self-contained articles in each unit benefit from a very clear focus that facilitates realistic concentration on inter-related items of vocabulary and grammar that are relevant to the topic and the argumentative purpose.
- 2) Content that really matters: Each unit examines a topic that will genuinely interest and inform.
- 3) Lively journalistic style: Although the passages are carefully limited to an elementary level of language difficulty, their style remains vivid and authentic.
- 4) Well-balanced exercises: The plentiful exercises offer a good range of integrated activities for each unit -- getting the main idea, basic comprehension, finding details, inferences, interpretation and extension of important concepts, vocabulary study, a word puzzle, and a cloze exercise.
- 5) Illustrations: There is a clear and evocative illustration in each unit; this can be used as a pre-reading exercise, for vocabulary brainstorming, or as the basis for discussion.
- 6) Answer Key: The text includes a full answer key for every closed-ended question in every unit.
- 7) Reproducible: Purchase of an original copy of the text brings explicit permission to the purchaser to reproduce pages at will.

This package can be used quite simply as it is presented in these pages. In fact, it was carefully planned to be effective in that way. However, resourceful teachers will most likely want to consider one or more of the following suggestions:

- **Pre-Activity:** Instead of immediately beginning to read the passage, have students start with a discussion or game to encourage thought about the theme or content of the unit. The picture or title at the head of the unit can be useful in this connection; so can newspaper or magazine illustrations or headlines, or current television or radio news items.
- **Order of Exercises:** By all means, use all the activities provided for each unit, and allow sufficient time for these to be completed thoroughly (including time for small groups to discuss alternate answers and so on). But build in variety by changing the order in which the exercises are done, and by varying the designation of activities for in-class or at-home assignment.
- **Intensity of Work:** Be sure to take full advantage of the wide range of different kinds of involvement that these materials offer. At one end of the continuum, for instance, the Interpretation questions can be used to inspire free, creative discussion of themes, values and general ideas. By contrast, at the other end of the continuum, the Word Power exercises provide an excellent foundation for practice in all the detailed and demanding but very important strategies for independent vocabulary development: not just careful contextual reading and word-part analysis, but also dictionary and thesaurus use. Resourceful attention to this kind of varied involvement with the materials will make teaching and learning more enjoyable and more effective, too.
- **Post-Activity:** Once the class has finished the set of exercises in the text itself, think about rounding off the cycle with a post-activity that clearly links the book and the schoolroom to the wider world. Learners might pursue the theme or content of a given unit by making a bulletin-board collage of their own art work and/or comments, writing letters to a relevant person or institution, going on a visit, watching a video...you will find many ways to reinforce the vocabulary, grammar and content one more time while you also build the self-image of learners as competent language-users for real-life purposes.
- **Flexibility:** There is no problem with using these units in alphabetical order, just as provided, but in many circumstances their best application will be as a flexible database of content-centred readings that you can access as you see fit, to tap into the energy of learners' natural curiosity about such passing interests as news items, current movies, new music, or extra-curricular activities. Dip into this treasure-trove of self-contained units to find the exact passage to exploit a "hot topic." Each term, you'll have different students with different experiences, and so your use of the text will differ as well. With this flexible resource, you can change to meet your students' needs!



Sports Medicine

1 Injuries can happen at any time, any place. When they do occur everyone likes to get the best treatment to help them heal quickly and properly. For athletes, the need to receive proper medical care is crucial in order for them to continue on with their sports careers. Athletes depend on the knowledge of doctors who are specially trained in sports medicine, which is a field of medicine that has grown rapidly since the 1950s.

2 Sports medicine is more than just the treatment of injuries. It is also concerned with the prevention of injuries, the maintaining of a proper diet, the creation of individual exercise programs for an athlete and the mental preparation of the athlete. In general, sports medicine is relevant to all

aspects of monitoring athletes while they are in training. The field of sports medicine includes: nutrition; surgery; physical therapy; research; and orthopedics, which is the correction or cure of diseases or deformities of bones, joints and muscles.

3 The doctors who specialize in sports medicine are called sports traumatologists. These experts specialize in the care of injuries to the musculoskeletal system. They do physical examinations, diagnose injuries, and refer patients to surgeons if necessary.

4 Although people have been interested in sports medicine for many years, it actually became more specialized after World War II, with

great developments in the 1960s and 1970s. The modern idea of complete care for the athlete emerged from the widespread surge in sports participation over this time period.

- 5 The field of sports medicine is very broad because there are so many types of sports injuries and because each individual athlete's body is different--their make-up, build, immune system, etc. Because of this, virtually every injury is treated in a different way.
- 6 As injuries continue to occur and the sports medicine field grows, recovery methods are becoming more advanced. Two of the more modern methods of treatment are the hyperbaric chamber and magnetic resonance imaging.
- 7 A hyperbaric chamber is a cylindrical steel tube into which a person can enter. Inside the chamber, the athlete is exposed to high levels of oxygen. This promotes oxygenation of the blood and speeds recovery time.

Use of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) in medicine began in the early 1980s. MRI presents a hazard-free way to get images of thin slices of the body and a reliable method of detecting injuries. It is a superior imaging technique because it does not use radiation or need any special dyes. MRI uses magnets to concentrate and focus on small areas of the body, which produces detailed images. Besides being used to diagnose sports injuries, MRI is capable of producing high-contrast pictures of the brain, heart, liver, kidneys and can detect things such as tumors.

It is quite possible that with the increased interest in sports, the field of sports medicine will become even more specialized. Sports medicine continues to grow and take care of the needs of athletes from the professional playing in front of a stadium full of people to the person working out at their local health club.

THE MAIN IDEA

Circle the letter of the sentence or phrase which best describes the main idea of the article about Sports Medicine. Be prepared to support your answer.

- a) Sports medicine is concerned with several aspects of an athlete's training program.
- b) The advancements in sports medicine since the 1950s.
- c) Sports medicine and what it does for athletes.
- d) The excellent overall care provided to athletes by sports traumatologists.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

If you can, answer these questions from memory. If you cannot, look back at the article.

1) Why is sports medicine more than just the treatment of injuries?

2) Why is virtually every injury treated differently?

3) What is a hyperbaric chamber?

4) Why is MRI a superior imaging technique?

REMEMBERING DETAILS

Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

1) Athletes depend on the knowledge of doctors who are specially trained in sports medicine.

2) Orthopedics is concerned with an athlete's diet.

3) An MRI only works after special dyes are injected into the patient.

4) Sports medicine is only for the most talented professional athletes.

INFERENCES

Based on the article, circle the letter of the best sentence completion.

1) If an athlete is not properly treated after an injury, then...

- a) her ability to compete could suffer.
- b) she will not pay the doctors.
- c) an MRI would help.
- d) she will definitely need surgery.

2) MRI can be used for...

- a) diagnosing patients who are not athletes.
- b) promoting oxygenation of the blood.
- c) curing injuries.
- d) getting rid of cancer.

INTERPRETATION

1) When your average athlete gets injured that athlete may have to wait an extended period of time before getting an appointment to see a doctor or getting a needed MRI or other treatment. When a professional athlete gets injured that athlete does not have to wait to see a doctor or get an MRI. Is this fair?

2) Have you ever had a sports-related injury? What was it? Was it painful? Did you see a sports traumatologist? How long did it take to heal?

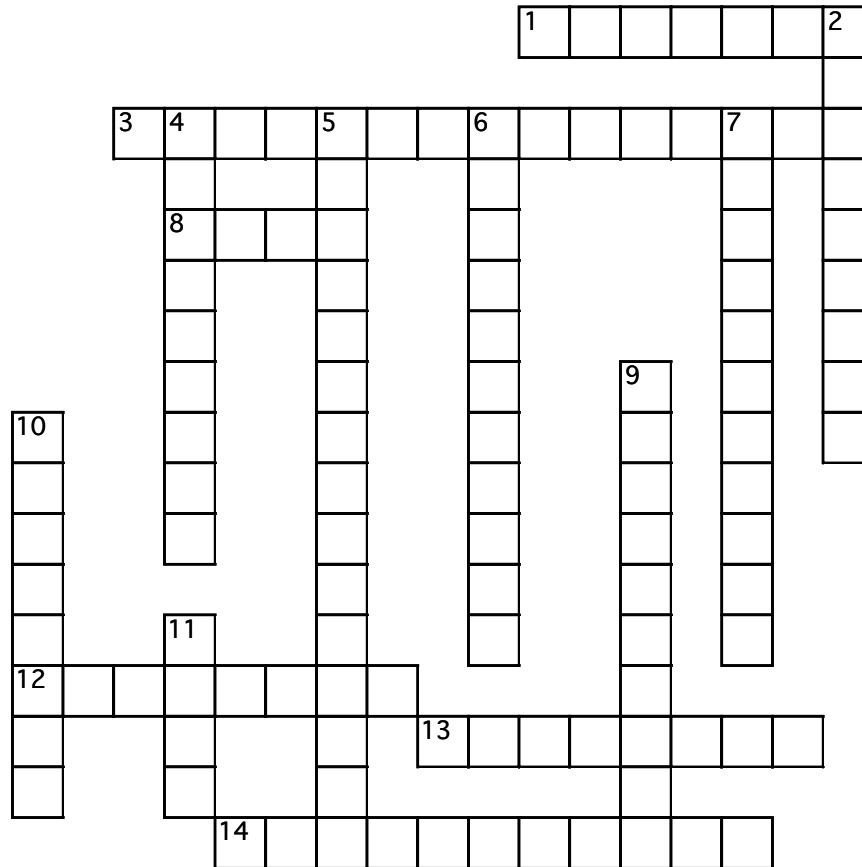
3) What sport do you think is the most dangerous as far as getting injured is concerned? List 10 sports in order, from most to least dangerous. Are the more dangerous sports more popular for spectators? Why? Why not?

WORD POWER

Circle the letter of the word that means the same as the word on the left.

- | | | | |
|----------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1) crucial | a) critical | b) passing | c) prompt |
| 2) prevention | a) establishment | b) abundance | c) avoidance |
| 3) deformities | a) abnormalities | b) changes | c) stresses |
| 4) emerged | a) stepped back | b) leaned | c) came forth |
| 5) broad | a) extensive | b) spread out | c) closed |
| 6) reliable | a) inflatable | b) remarkable | c) dependable |

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS:

- 1) Inside the _____, the athlete is exposed to high levels of oxygen.
- 3) The doctors who specialize in sports medicine are called sports _____.
- 8) MRI does not use radiation or need any special _____.
- 12) Sports medicine is more than just the treatment of _____.
- 13) MRI is a _____ imaging technique.
- 14) A hyperbaric chamber is a _____ steel tube into which a person can enter.

DOWN:

- 2) Use of magnetic _____ imaging in medicine began in the early 1980s.
- 4) MRI does not use _____.
- 5) Experts specialize in the care of injuries to the _____ system.
- 6) A hyperbaric chamber promotes _____ of the blood.
- 7) The field of sports medicine will become even more _____.
- 9) Two modern methods of treatment are the _____ chamber and MRI.
- 10) Athletes depend on the knowledge of doctors trained in sports _____.
- 11) Orthopedics is the correction or _____ of some diseases and deformities.

ANSWER KEY

THE MAIN IDEA

c) Sports medicine and what it does for athletes.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

- 1) Sports medicine is more than just the treatment of injuries because it is also concerned with the prevention of injuries, the maintaining of a proper diet, the creation of individual exercise programs for an athlete and the mental preparation of the athlete. In general, sports medicine is relevant to all aspects of monitoring athletes while they are in training. The field of sports medicine includes: nutrition, surgery, physical therapy, research and orthopedics.
- 2) Virtually every injury is treated in a different way because each individual athlete's body is different--their make-up, build, immune system, etc.
- 3) A hyperbaric chamber is a cylindrical steel tube into which a person can enter. Inside the chamber, the athlete is exposed to high levels of oxygen. This promotes oxygenation of the blood and speeds recovery time.
- 4) MRI is a superior imaging technique because it does not use radiation or need any special dyes.

REMEMBERING DETAILS

- 1) T
- 2) F Orthopedics is the correction or cure of diseases or deformities of bones, joints and muscles.
- 3) F An MRI does not need any special dyes.
- 4) F Sports medicine is for all athletes.

INFERENCES

- 1) a
- 2) a

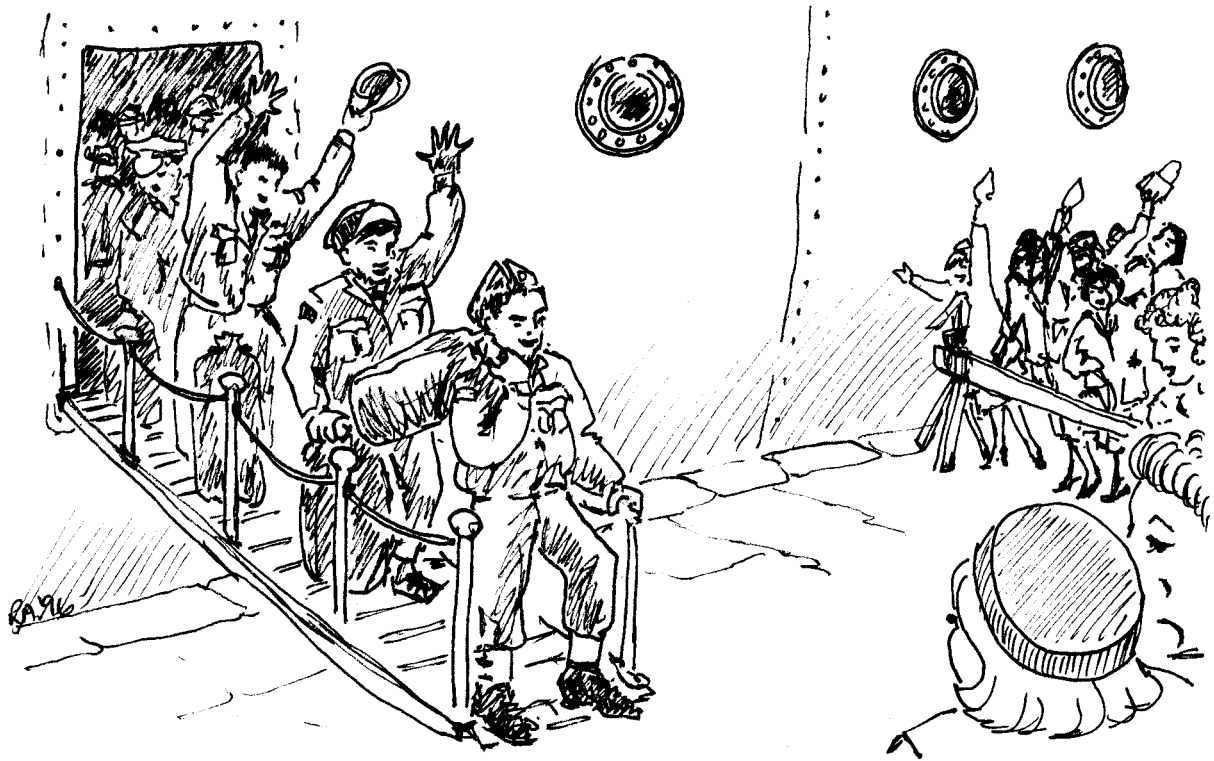
WORD POWER

- 1) a
- 2) c
- 3) a
- 4) c
- 5) a
- 6) c

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS: 1) chamber 3) traumatologists 8) dyes 12) injuries 13) superior 14) cylindrical

DOWN: 2) resonance 4) radiation 5) musculoskeletal 6) oxygenation 7) specialized 9) hyperbaric
10) medicine 11) cure



Baby Boomers

1 The year was 1945. The guns of World War II had finally been silenced. The battlefields of Europe, Africa, the Soviet Union and Japan were empty of soldiers for the first time in years. Cities were littered with the remains of factories destroyed by bombs and buildings damaged by gunfire. For countries that suffered through six years of war, the long task of rebuilding had finally begun.

2 In countries such as Canada and the United States, the physical effects of the war were harder to see. Although each had lost soldiers during World War II, most of the fighting had taken place on foreign soil. As a result, these countries suffered little or none of the damage suffered by those in Europe.

3 When soldiers returned home after the war, they found life in North America had changed very little. The economy was good, jobs were easy to find, and soldiers were free to forget about the war and start planning their families. The Baby Boom was about to begin.

4 Between 1945 and 1960, the population of North America increased by huge numbers. During this population “explosion,” over 70 million babies were born in the United States. In Canada, the number reached almost 8 million. Children born in this era were nicknamed “Baby Boomers.” They were part of the largest generation of people ever born.

have been called the luckiest generation in history. In their lifetime, they have watched their countries take a place amongst the richest nations on earth. They have witnessed the beginning of space travel, as mankind reached for the moon and beyond. They have been part of the “revolution” in communication that resulted in television, video, satellites and computers. They have had access to free education. They have enjoyed the endless freedom of living in countries with stable, democratic governments. And they have never had to live through times of great poverty, hunger or war in their homelands.

- 6 Despite the good fortune their generation has enjoyed, Baby Boomers are not without their problems. Baby Boomers are more likely to get divorced than any other generation before them. Modern science has advanced so quickly, many of the jobs that Baby Boomers used to do have

now disappeared. And with so many Baby Boomers looking for work, jobs have become even harder to find.

The entire generation of Baby Boomers is also growing older. By the year 2010, over 35 per cent of North America’s population will be over 50. Taking care of such an aging population will be very costly, and no one is sure where the money will come from to pay for it.

This is one of the major problems facing the generation that has followed the Baby Boomers. Nicknamed Generation X, the population of young people under 30 have had problems dealing with the lasting impact of the Baby Boom generation. Baby Boomers have left few jobs available and little money to spare for education and training. While life was good for the Baby Boomers, no one is sure what the future holds for the people of Generation X.

THE MAIN IDEA

Circle the letter of the sentence or phrase which best describes the main idea of the article about Baby Boomers. Be prepared to support your answer.

- a) Baby Boomers are a large, lucky generation of people born after World War II.
- b) Baby Boomers have everything any person could want.
- c) The difference between the Baby Boomers and Generation X.
- d) There are many Baby Boomers in North America.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

If you can, answer these questions from memory. If you cannot, look back at the article.

1) Why were the physical effects of World War II harder to see in Canada and the United States?

2) How many babies were born in North America during the Baby Boom years?

3) Why has the Baby Boom generation been called the luckiest generation in history?

4) What has been the impact of the Baby Boom generation on Generation X?

REMEMBERING DETAILS

Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

1) World War II did not affect Canada or the United States.

2) On returning from the war, soldiers found that things had changed a great deal in North America.

3) Baby Boomers have no problems.

4) No one is sure where the money will come from to pay for taking care of the Baby Boomers when they get old.

INFERENCES

Based on the article, circle the letter of the best sentence completion.

1) Baby Boomers...

- a) have had life too easy.
- b) are mostly all divorced.
- c) are disliked by Generation X.
- d) will face their greatest challenge when they get old.

2) The Baby Boomers are lucky because they...

- a) are all wealthy.
- b) can divorce easily.
- c) have lived in peaceful and prosperous times.
- d) will be well taken care of when they are older.

INTERPRETATION

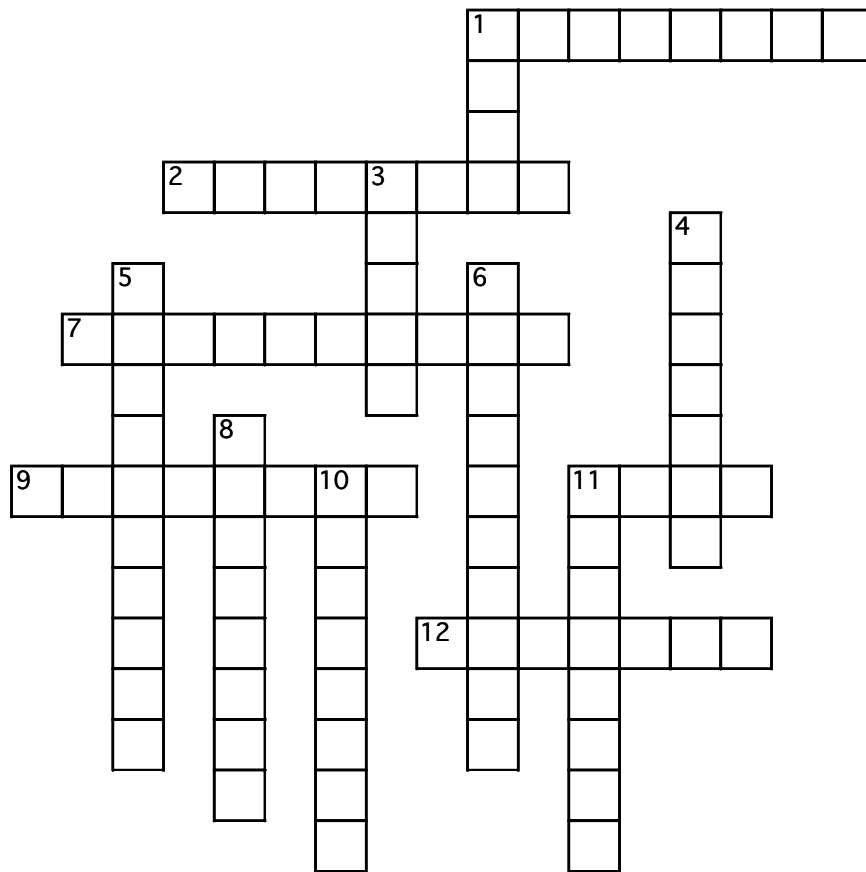
- 1) A generation gap exists when people of different generations have trouble communicating with each other and when the generations feel as if they have nothing in common. Is there a generation gap between the Baby Boomers and Generation X? Explain.
- 2) What are some of the highlights of 1945 to today? Which is the most important event that happened during this time period? List the top 5 events in order of importance.
- 3) What do you think will happen after 2010? Will a solution to the problem of taking care of so many older people be solved? Do you have any suggestions? What will happen if no solution is found?

WORD POWER

Circle the letter of the word that means the same as the word on the left.

- | | | | |
|--------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1) littered | a) broken | b) frightened | c) messed up |
| 2) effects | a) shapes | b) consequences | c) influences |
| 3) era | a) year | b) country | c) time |
| 4) witnessed | a) relished | b) seen | c) modified |
| 5) access | a) admittance | b) computation | c) necessity |
| 6) impact | a) judgement | b) effect | c) hostility |

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS:

- 1) _____ were free to forget about the war and start planning their families.
- 2) These countries _____ little or none of the damage suffered by those in Europe.
- 7) Baby Boomers were part of the largest _____ of people ever born.
- 9) Baby Boomers have been called the _____ generation in history.
- 11) Baby Boomers have had access to _____ education.
- 12) Baby Boomers are not _____ their problems.

DOWN:

- 1) No one is _____ what the future holds for the people of Generation X.
- 3) The battlefields were _____ of soldiers for the first time in years.
- 4) Life in North America had _____ very little.
- 5) They have enjoyed living in countries with stable, _____ governments.
- 6) Taking care of such an aging _____ will be very costly.
- 8) Baby Boomers are more likely to get _____ than any other generation.
- 10) The guns of World War II had finally been _____.
- 11) Most of the _____ had taken place on foreign soil.

ANSWER KEY

THE MAIN IDEA

- a) Baby Boomers are a large, lucky generation of people born after World War II.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

- 1) Although each had lost soldiers during World War II, the physical effects of the war were harder to see in North America because most of the fighting had taken place on foreign soil. As a result, these countries suffered little or none of the damage suffered by those in Europe.
- 2) During the Baby Boom years in North America over 78 million babies were born.
- 3) The Baby Boom generation has been called the luckiest generation in history because in their lifetime they have watched their countries take a place amongst the richest nations on earth. They have witnessed the beginning of space travel, as mankind reached for the moon and beyond. They have been part of the “revolution” in communication that resulted in television, video, satellites and computers. They have had access to free education. They have enjoyed the endless freedom of living in countries with stable, democratic governments. And they have never had to live through times of great poverty, hunger or war in their homelands.
- 4) The lasting impact of the Baby Boomers on Generation X has been that the Baby Boomers have left few jobs available and little money to spare for education and training.

REMEMBERING DETAILS

- 1) F Each had lost soldiers during World War II.
- 2) F When soldiers returned home after the war, they found life in North America had changed very little.
- 3) F Despite the good fortune their generation has enjoyed, Baby Boomers are not without their problems. Baby Boomers are more likely to get divorced than any other generation before them. Modern science has advanced so quickly, many of the jobs that Baby Boomers used to do have now disappeared. And with so many Baby Boomers looking for work, jobs have become even harder to find.
- 4) T

INFERENCES

- 1) d
- 2) c

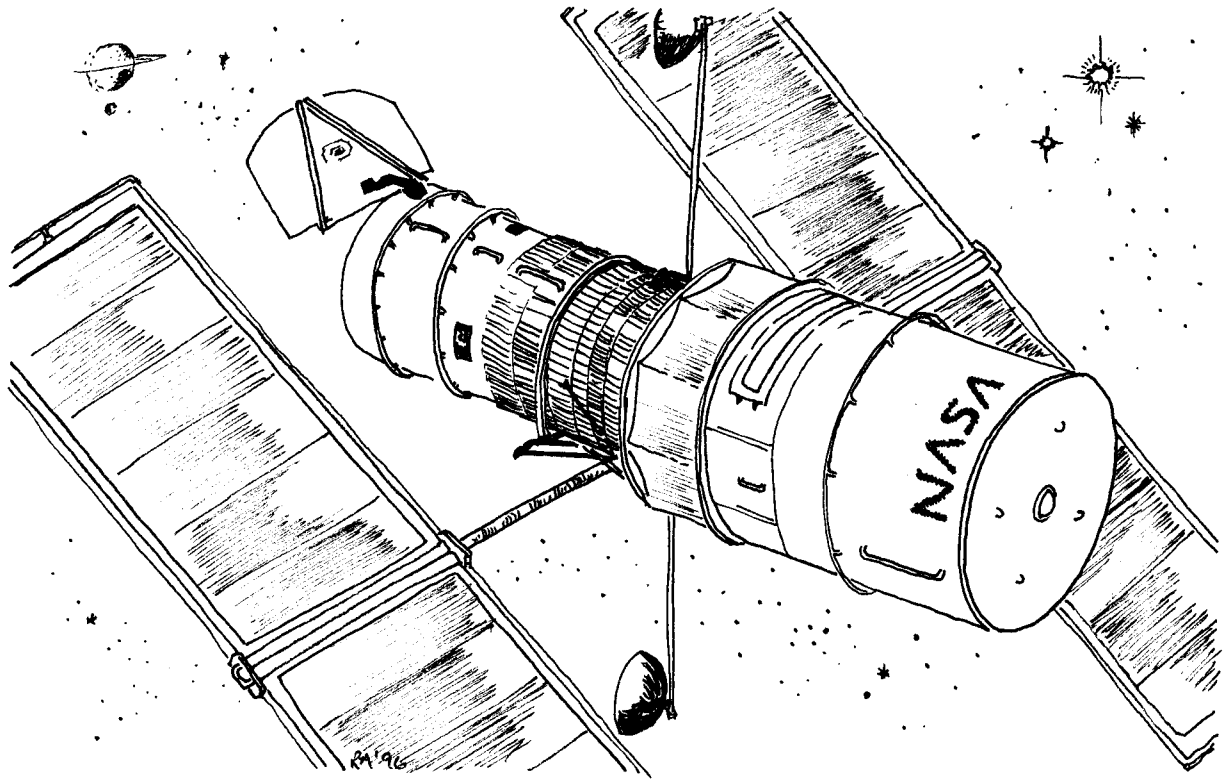
WORD POWER

- 1) c
- 2) b
- 3) c
- 4) b
- 5) a
- 6) b

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS: 1) soldiers 2) suffered 7) generation 9) luckiest 11) free 12) without

DOWN: 1) sure 3) empty 4) changed 5) democratic 6) population 8) divorced 10) silenced
11) fighting



Hubble Space Telescope

1 What strange worlds lie beyond the moon, the sun and the stars? Are there planets in the solar system we have not yet found? Are there life forms living elsewhere deep in the galaxy? Is space an endless sea, or does it come to a sudden stop at some distant place in the heavens?

2 Like stars in the sky, there are millions of unanswered questions about the blackness of space that surrounds earth. Since the beginning of time, humans have tried to uncover the secrets that are hidden amongst the stars.

3 Many thousands of years spent gazing into the sky inspired humans to develop the science of astronomy, a field that involves the study of space.

Many more hundreds of years passed before famed European astronomer Copernicus discovered that the planets revolve around the sun. But it was not until 1608, when a scientist named Galileo invented the very first telescope, that humans began enjoying their first real close up look at space.

Galileo's discovery opened up the skies for the first time, giving scientists a better view of the stars and planets in the solar system. Over the next three and a half centuries, humans explored space from the earth by looking through telescopes. That changed during the 20th century, when the invention of rockets and satellites allowed humans to travel into space for the first time.

4

- 5 By studying space, scientists learned that the ring of gases surrounding earth was stopping them from seeing a clear view of the heavens. This ring--called the earth's "atmosphere"--blocks many kinds of light from shining down to earth. In 1946, scientists put forth the idea of putting a telescope in space, high above the earth's atmosphere.
- 6 The Hubble Space Telescope is the end result of that idea. Launched in 1990 from Cape Canaveral in Florida, the Hubble Space Telescope travelled through the earth's atmosphere aboard the space shuttle. It was placed into orbit 325 miles (520 kilometers) above the earth's surface, giving science its first view of the universe from above the thick gases of the earth's atmosphere.
- 7 The Hubble Telescope took 12 years to develop, and cost over 2 billion dollars (U.S.) to make. It measures nearly 45 feet long (14 meters) and nearly 15 feet wide (5 meters). The telescope weighs over 24,000 pounds (11,000 kilograms), making it the largest civilian satellite ever released in space. It barely fit into the giant cargo bay of the space shuttle.
- 8 Despite being as large as a trailer truck, the Hubble Space Telescope is able to point to any object in the sky with amazing accuracy. It will produce images of planets, stars and galaxies 20 times larger than the strongest telescope on earth.
- 9 The mirrors on the Hubble Telescope are made of special glass that will not bend out of shape in space. This feature helps the telescope survive in conditions where there is no gravity. But despite its special design, even the smallest movement of the mirror's surface or sensors could obstruct its view. If that happens to the Hubble Space Telescope, humans will lose their eye in space!

THE MAIN IDEA

Circle the letter of the sentence or phrase which best describes the main idea of the article about the Hubble Space Telescope. Be prepared to support your answer.

- a) Space has always fascinated humans.
- b) Telescopes help people see distant planets.
- c) The size of the Hubble Space Telescope.
- d) The development of the Hubble Space Telescope.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

If you can, answer these questions from memory. If you cannot, look back at the article.

1) What did Copernicus do?

2) What happened in 1608?

3) When was the idea of putting a telescope into space first considered? When was the Hubble Space Telescope launched?

4) What is special about the mirrors on the Hubble Space Telescope?

REMEMBERING DETAILS

Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

1) There are millions of unanswered questions about the blackness of space that surrounds earth.

2) Copernicus invented the very first telescope.

3) The Hubble Space Telescope fit easily into the space shuttle.

4) The Hubble Space Telescope will produce images of planets, stars and galaxies 100 times larger than the strongest telescope on earth.

INFERENCES

Based on the article, circle the letter of the best sentence completion.

- 1) The Hubble Space Telescope is the best way we have for viewing space because...
 - a) it is 20 times stronger than any telescope on earth.
 - b) it is out in space above the earth's atmosphere.
 - c) of its mirrors.
 - d) it cost 2 billion dollars (U.S.) to develop.
- 2) Scientists were able to put a telescope into space because...
 - a) Galileo invented the telescope.
 - b) the space shuttle is very large.
 - c) they could not see through the earth's atmosphere.
 - d) space travel made it possible.

INTERPRETATION

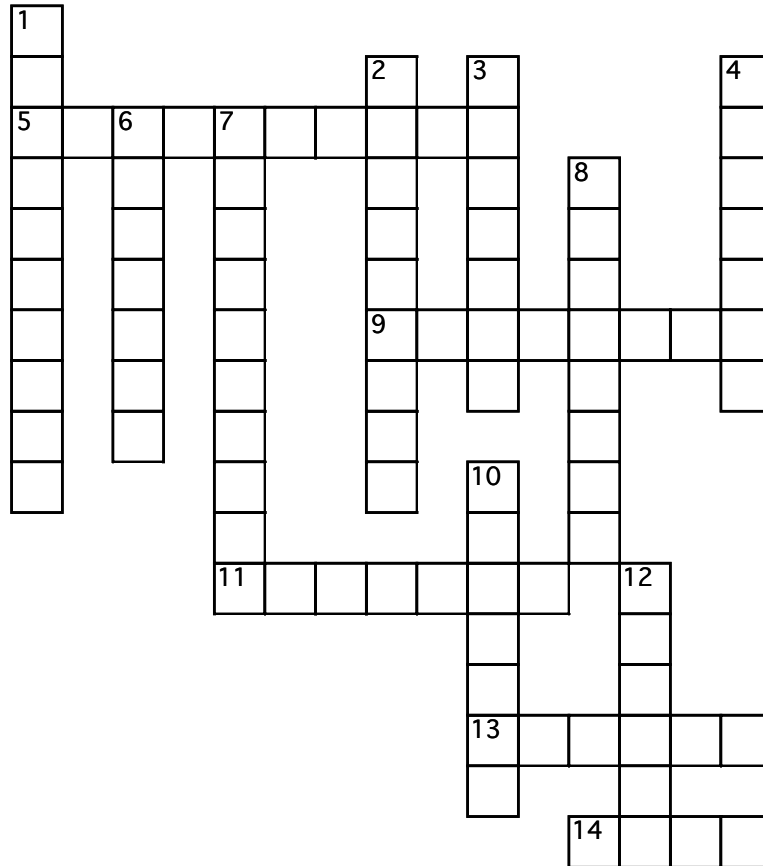
- 1) Is space exploration important? Why? Why not? Discuss.
- 2) Two billion dollars could go a long way towards improving life for many people here on earth. Should this money have been spent on a telescope?
- 3) Before Copernicus discovered that the earth and other planets revolve around the sun, people believed that everything revolved around the earth. Can you think of any other scientific discoveries that have fundamentally changed our knowledge of our planet and our universe?

WORD POWER

Circle the letter of the word that means the same as the word on the left.

- | | | | |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1) endless | a) closed | b) deep | c) infinite |
| 2) gazing | a) frowning | b) peering | c) observing |
| 3) famed | a) well-known | b) large | c) humble |
| 4) barely | a) almost | b) just | c) nearly |
| 5) accuracy | a) frankness | b) levitation | c) precision |
| 6) obstruct | a) block | b) enhance | c) revolve |

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS:

- 5) The _____ blocks many kinds of light from shining down to earth.
- 9) The telescope is the largest _____ satellite ever released in space.
- 11) The smallest movement of the mirror's surface or _____ could obstruct its view.
- 13) Are there life forms living elsewhere deep in the _____?
- 14) The Hubble Space Telescope is the end result of an _____ that started in 1946.

DOWN:

- 1) There are millions of _____ questions about the blackness of space.
- 2) Galileo invented the very first _____.
- 3) Copernicus discovered that the planets _____ around the sun.
- 4) In 1946, scientists put forth the idea of _____ a telescope in space.
- 6) The _____ on the Hubble Telescope are made of special glass.
- 7) The invention of rockets and _____ allowed humans to travel into space.
- 8) Humans _____ space from the earth by looking through telescopes.
- 10) What _____ worlds lie beyond the moon, the sun and the stars?
- 12) It travelled through the earth's atmosphere _____ the space shuttle.

ANSWER KEY

THE MAIN IDEA

d) The development of the Hubble space telescope.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

- 1) Copernicus discovered that the planets revolve around the sun.
- 2) In 1608 a scientist named Galileo invented the very first telescope.
- 3) The idea of putting a telescope into space was first considered in 1946. The Hubble Space Telescope was launched in 1990.
- 4) The mirrors on the Hubble Space Telescope are made of special glass that will not bend out of shape in space. This feature helps the telescope survive in conditions where there is no gravity.

REMEMBERING DETAILS

- 1) T
- 2) F Galileo invented the very first telescope.
- 3) F The Hubble Space Telescope barely fit into the giant cargo bay of the space shuttle.
- 4) F The Hubble Space Telescope will produce images of planets, stars and galaxies 20 times larger than the strongest telescope on earth.

INFERENCES

- 1) b
- 2) d

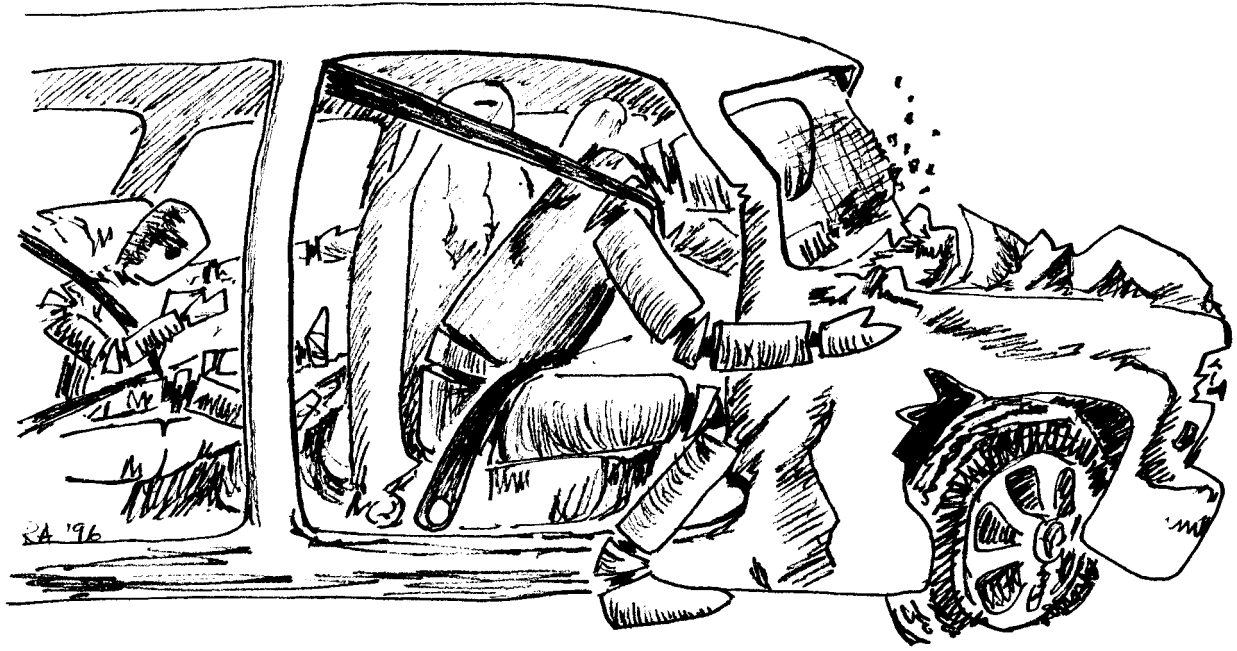
WORD POWER

- 1) c
- 2) b
- 3) a
- 4) b
- 5) c
- 6) a

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS: 5) atmosphere 9) civilian 11) sensors 13) galaxy 14) idea

DOWN: 1) unanswered 2) telescope 3) revolve 4) putting 6) mirrors 7) satellites 8) explored
10) strange 12) aboard



Automotive Safety

1 For many people driving is a calm, relaxing way to get from point A to point B. Unfortunately, it only takes a second for that relaxing drive to turn into a driver's nightmare. As traffic accidents continue to happen on our roads, the emphasis is no longer on getting there but rather on getting there safely.

2 Automobile safety is the basic concern of lowering the number of traffic accidents and reducing the seriousness of injuries sustained during accidents that do occur. The responsibility of automobile safety lies not only with drivers but with car manufacturers and with the government as well.

3 Due to their weight and speed,

automobiles always need to be handled with great care. And as there has been an increase in the number of vehicles on the roads, the number of car accidents has risen. Actually, the number can only be described as staggering. Each year in the United States, roughly 18 million traffic accidents are reported, and in Canada, more than 450,000. What is probably most disturbing about these accidents is the primary cause: human error is responsible about 90 per cent of the time.

Poor driving skills along with irresponsible actions are the two main causes of traffic accidents. Speeding, failing to yield the right-of-way and driving under the influence of alcohol are some of the most frequent

4

regulatory violations committed by drivers. There is much a person can do to become a safer driver and help lower the number of traffic accidents. All potential drivers should attend driver training courses to develop safe driving habits, such as knowing and obeying all road and traffic signs, and remaining alert. Being a mature driver means not taking chances, not driving too aggressively and not drinking alcohol before driving.

- 5 As much as drivers are responsible for keeping roads safe, car manufacturers share that responsibility with them. Over the years, vehicle design by manufacturers has improved. Many devices are put into vehicles to aid in the safety of passengers. One of the first safety devices was the windshield. Later came the seatbelt, then the airbag.
- 6 Although there are laws requiring seatbelt use, less than 50 percent of drivers wear them. All vehicles are equipped with seatbelts and many have

alarms to remind the driver to fasten them before driving the vehicle.

Airbags are inserted in the steering column on the driver's side and in the dashboard on the passenger's side. The nylon airbags eject and inflate when the front of the car hits another object with considerable force. It acts as a protective barrier between the passenger and the steering wheel, the dashboard and windshield. Although airbags are being used, they have caused some injuries, even death. Auto manufacturers continue to refine the technology. In 1997 side-impact airbags were introduced in some cars.

Other safety features many vehicles are equipped with are: padded dashboards and visors, built-in child seats, recessed steering wheels, antilock brakes, daytime running lights and impact-absorbing bumpers. As new vehicles are made each year, manufacturers are steadily developing new systems to ensure safer vehicles.

THE MAIN IDEA

Circle the letter of the sentence or phrase which best describes the main idea of the article about Automotive Safety. Be prepared to support your answer.

- a) Automotive safety is the driver's responsibility.
- b) People buy the car models that have the most safety features.
- c) Automotive safety.
- d) Seatbelts are the safest way to protect yourself from injury in an accident.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

If you can, answer these questions from memory. If you cannot, look back at the article.

1) Look back to the article for a definition of automotive safety.

2) Who is responsible for automotive safety?

3) Roughly how many accidents are reported in Canada each year?

4) What is the cause of most accidents?

REMEMBERING DETAILS

Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

1) Speeding, failing to yield the right-of-way and driving under the influence of drugs are some of the most frequent regulatory violations committed.

2) Being a mature driver means not taking chances, not driving too aggressively and not drinking alcohol before driving.

3) Less than 40 percent of drivers use seatbelts.

4) Auto manufacturers are satisfied with airbag technology.

INFERENCES

Based on the article, circle the letter of the best sentence completion.

- 1) The number of accidents in the U.S.A. and Canada...
 - a) is far too high and should be reduced.
 - b) would fall if drivers were more careful.
 - c) would be higher if not for airbags
 - d) is being reduced because of the safety features that car manufacturers have installed into today's cars.
- 2) Airbag technology...
 - a) should be abandoned.
 - b) needs improvement.
 - c) is expensive to develop.
 - d) is working satisfactorily.

INTERPRETATION

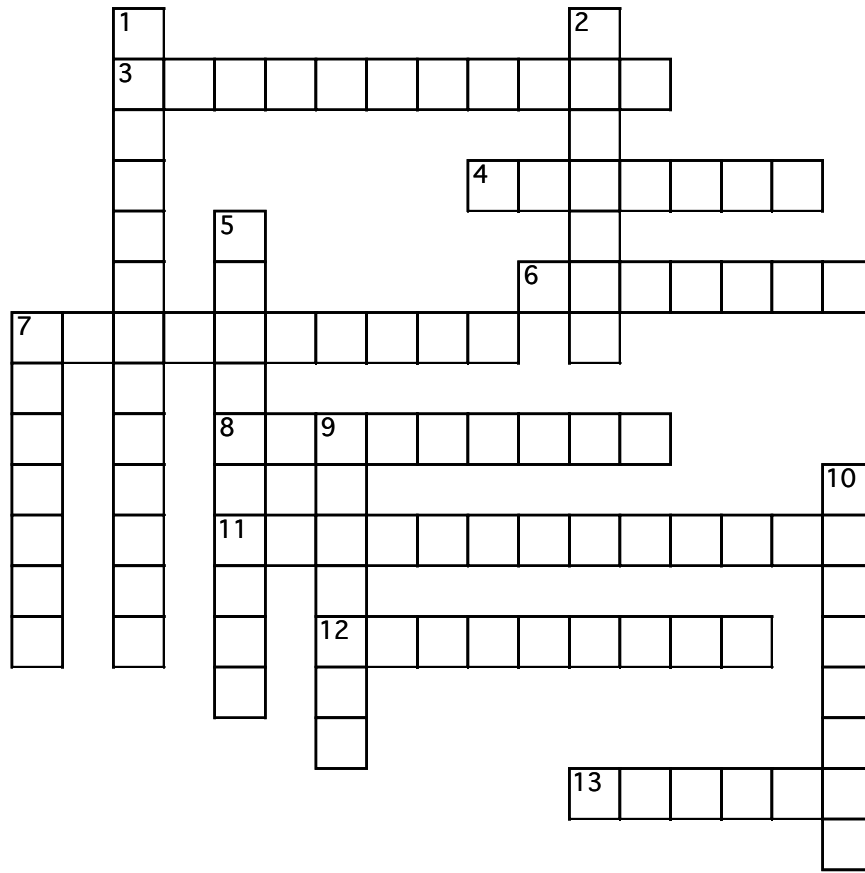
- 1) Why do you think some people continue to drink and drive? What penalties does society impose on someone who is caught driving under the influence of alcohol?
- 2) Do you think new safety features for automobiles is a priority for car manufacturers? Do you think the progress on new safety features for automobiles has been fast or slow?
- 3) Do you drive faster than the speed limit? Do you think there should be a speed limit on major highways? If you had the power, what new rules of the road would you introduce?

WORD POWER

Circle the letter of the word that means the same as the word on the left.

- | | | | |
|---------------|--------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 1) nightmare | a) bad dream | b) bad idea | c) accident |
| 2) sustained | a) painted | b) received | c) found |
| 3) staggering | a) obvious | b) futile | c) astonishing |
| 4) potential | a) strong | b) future ability | c) possible |
| 5) equipped | a) given | b) forced | c) promised |
| 6) impact | a) hit | b) value | c) weight |

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS:

- 3) _____ always need to be handled with great care.
- 4) For many people _____ is a calm, relaxing activity.
- 6) Over the years, _____ design by manufacturers has improved.
- 7) Auto manufacturers continue to refine airbag _____.
- 8) All vehicles are equipped with _____.
- 11) Poor driving skills along with _____ actions cause many accidents.
- 12) A driver can do a lot to help lower the number of traffic _____.
- 13) Many cars have alarms to remind people to _____ their seatbelts.

DOWN:

- 1) Drivers, car _____ and the government are responsible for auto safety.
- 2) Many _____ are put into vehicles to aid in the safety of passengers.
- 5) One of the first safety devices was the _____.
- 7) Each year in the United States, roughly 18 million _____ accidents are reported.
- 9) Although _____ are being used, they have caused some injuries, even death.
- 10) It only takes a second for that _____ drive to turn into a driver's nightmare.

ANSWER KEY

THE MAIN IDEA

c) Automotive safety.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

- 1) Automotive safety is the basic concern of lowering the number of traffic accidents and reducing the seriousness of injuries sustained during the accidents that do occur.
- 2) Responsibility for automotive safety belongs to drivers, car manufacturers and the government.
- 3) Roughly 450,000 accidents are reported in Canada each year.
- 4) Human error is responsible for about 90% of vehicle accidents.

REMEMBERING DETAILS

- 1) F Speeding, failing to yield the right-of-way and driving under the influence of alcohol are some of the most frequent regulatory violations committed.
- 2) T
- 3) F Less than 50% of drivers use seatbelts.
- 4) F Auto manufacturers continue to refine airbag technology.

INFERENCES

- 1) b
- 2) b

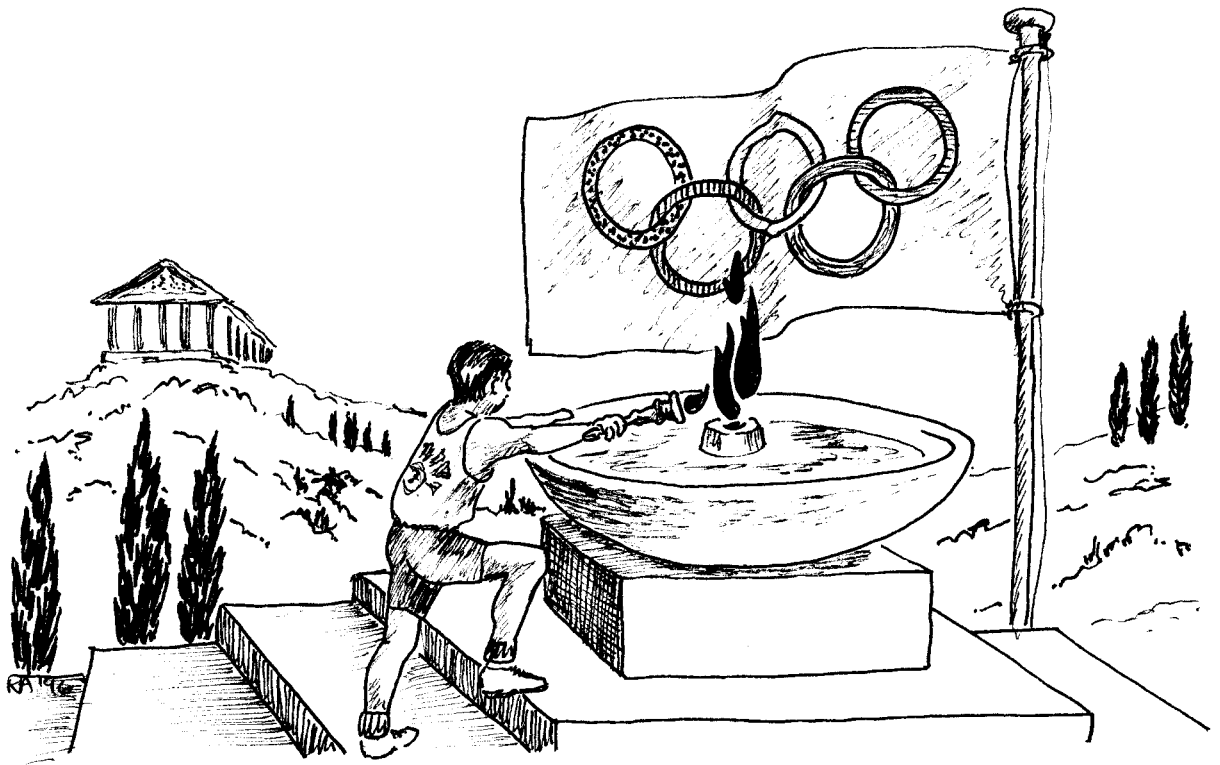
WORD POWER

- 1) a
- 2) b
- 3) c
- 4) c
- 5) a
- 6) a

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS: 3) automobiles 4) driving 6) vehicle 7) technology 8) seatbelts 11) irresponsible
12) accidents 13) fasten

DOWN: 1) manufacturers 2) devices 5) windshield 7) traffic 9) airbags 10) relaxing



Olympic Games

1 To run swifter than anyone has ever run before; to jump higher than anyone has ever thought possible; to become stronger than anyone has ever imagined. These are the three elements of the phrase *Citius, Altius, Fortius*--Latin words that mean swifter, higher, stronger--the internationally known motto for the Olympic Games.

2 The Olympic Games have become the biggest, most important competition in the world of sports. Once every four years, the world's best male and female athletes gather together at the site chosen for the Olympic Games to compete for their country in a wide variety of different events. Most competitors consider winning a medal at the Olympic Games as the highest honor an athlete

can receive.

No one knows the exact date when the first Olympic Games were held. However, most historians agree the Olympics began in Greece nearly 3,000 years ago. The first games may have either been part of a huge religious ceremony, a competition between warriors or part of a Greek festival in honor of the Gods. In the beginning, a cross-country foot race was the only event. Olympic competitions were held once every four years for nearly 1,200 years, until Greece was conquered by the Romans and the ancient games were stopped.

Bringing countries together for a modern Olympic-style competition was the idea of a French educator named

Baron Pierre de Coubertin. While working for the French government, de Coubertin began looking for a way to inspire the youth of France while promoting good will among nations.

- 5 When he suggested the Olympic Games be brought back, many people laughed at the idea. But by 1894, thirty-four nations were willing to support de Coubertin's effort. In a meeting that June, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) came together to organize the first modern Olympic Games. The IOC decided that Athens, Greece should be the site of the games.
- 6 At first the Greek government refused to host the event, explaining they were too poor to build an Olympic-size stadium. But with the support of some wealthy Greek businessmen, the Olympics went ahead as scheduled. In the summer of 1896, 285 athletes from 12 nations

travelled to Athens to compete in the first modern Olympiad.

Since 1896, the Olympics have been 7 held every four years (except during the World War years of 1916, 1940 and 1944). As more and more winter events were added to the games, the IOC decided there should be a separate Olympics for winter sports. As a result, the Winter Olympics got their start in 1924 in Chamonix, France.

Today the Olympic Games have 8 grown so popular, nearly every nation on earth sends a team to compete. The 1996 Centennial Games in Atlanta, for example, was the largest Olympic competition ever held.

During three weeks in July, nearly 9 8 million spectators came to Atlanta to watch nearly 11,000 athletes from 197 different nations prove they could run swifter, jump higher and be stronger!

THE MAIN IDEA

Circle the letter of the sentence or phrase which best describes the main idea of the article about the Olympic Games. Be prepared to support your answer.

- a) The revival of the Olympic Games.
- b) The history of the Olympic Games.
- c) Why nations compete in the Olympic Games.
- d) The motto of the Olympic Games: swifter, higher and stronger.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

If you can, answer these questions from memory. If you cannot, look back at the article.

1) What is the motto for the Olympic Games?

2) How do most athletes consider winning a medal at the Olympic Games?

3) Why were the first Olympic Games held?

4) Whose idea was it to revive the Olympic Games? When were the first modern Olympic Games held?

REMEMBERING DETAILS

Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

1) In the world of sports, the Olympic Games are not a very important competition.

2) 11,000 athletes from 197 different nations competed in the first modern Olympic Games.

3) Right from the start Greece was happy to host the first modern Olympic Games.

4) The 1996 Centennial Games in Atlanta was the largest Olympic competition ever held.

INFERENCES

Based on the article, circle the letter of the best sentence completion.

1) The motto of the Olympic Games...

- a) guides international politics.
- b) is a goal for all athletes.
- c) was rewritten when the Olympic Games were revived.
- d) are good words to live by.

2) Winners at the Olympic Games...

- a) owe their success to Pierre de Coubertin.
- b) are awarded medals.
- c) are fast runners.
- d) train harder than those athletes who do not win.

INTERPRETATION

1) Why do you think some people laughed at de Coubertin for dreaming of reviving the Olympic Games? Do you think de Coubertin could have imagined the wonderful results of his idea?

2) When is competition good? When is it bad?

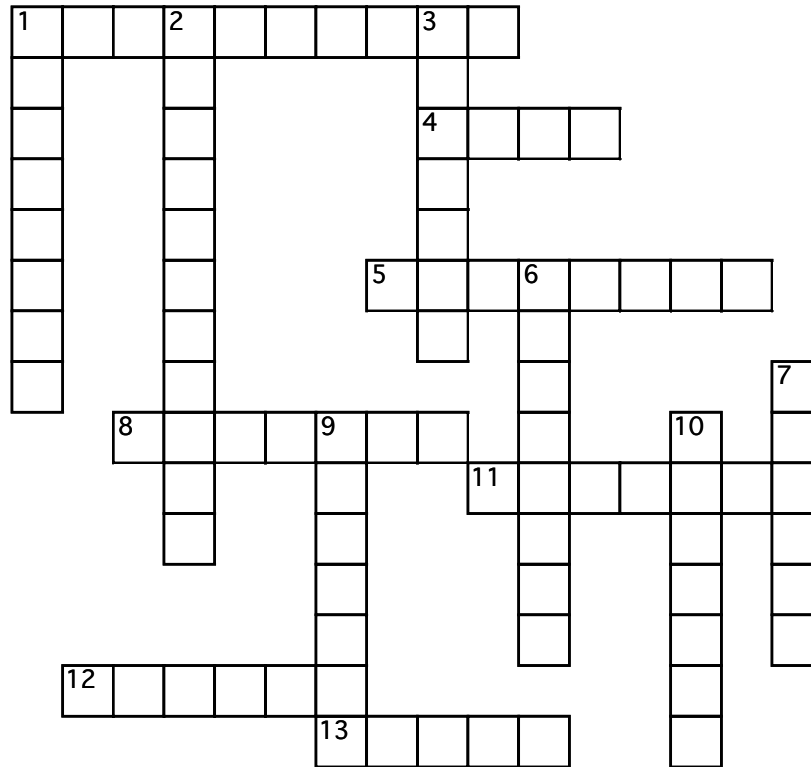
3) In recent Olympic Games professional athletes have been allowed to take part. Is this a good or a bad thing? Why?

WORD POWER

Circle the letter of the word that means the same as the word on the left.

- | | | | |
|--------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------|
| 1) elements | a) winds | b) parts | c) goals |
| 2) motto | a) hero | b) book | c) saying |
| 3) conquered | a) organized | b) overthrown | c) crushed |
| 4) good will | a) friendliness | b) animosity | c) sharing |
| 5) support | a) harass | b) debate | c) back |
| 6) wealthy | a) generous | b) rich | c) argumentative |

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS:

- 1) Nearly 8 million _____ came to Atlanta to watch the Centennial Games.
- 4) Olympic competitions were held once every _____ years for nearly 1,200 years.
- 5) The first games may have been part of a huge religious _____.
- 8) _____ a medal at the Olympic Games is the highest honor an athlete can receive.
- 11) Atlanta was the _____ Olympic competition ever held.
- 12) The world's best athletes _____ together for the Olympic Games.
- 13) No one knows the _____ date when the first Olympic Games were held.

DOWN:

- 1) The IOC decided there should be a _____ Olympics for winter sports.
- 2) The Olympic Games are the most important _____ in the world of sports.
- 3) At first the Greek government _____ to host the event.
- 6) Pierre de Coubertin was a French _____.
- 7) Nearly every _____ on earth sends a team to compete.
- 9) Pierre de Coubertin began looking for a way to _____ the youth of France.
- 10) The IOC _____ that Athens, Greece should be the site of the games.

ANSWER KEY

THE MAIN IDEA

- b) The history of the Olympic Games.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

- 1) The motto for the Olympic Games is *Citius, Altius, Fortius*, which in English means swifter, higher, stronger.
- 2) Most competitors consider winning a medal at the Olympic Games as the highest honor an athlete can receive.
- 3) The first games may have either been part of a huge religious ceremony, a competition between warriors or part of a Greek festival in honor of the Gods.
- 4) It was Baron Pierre de Coubertin's idea to revive the Olympic Games. The first modern Olympic Games were held in 1896.

REMEMBERING DETAILS

- 1) F The Olympic Games have become the biggest, most important competition in the world of sports.
- 2) F 285 athletes from 12 nations travelled to Athens to compete in the first modern Olympiad.
- 3) F At first the Greek government refused to host the event, explaining they were too poor to build an Olympic-size stadium.
- 4) T

INFERENCES

- 1) b
- 2) b

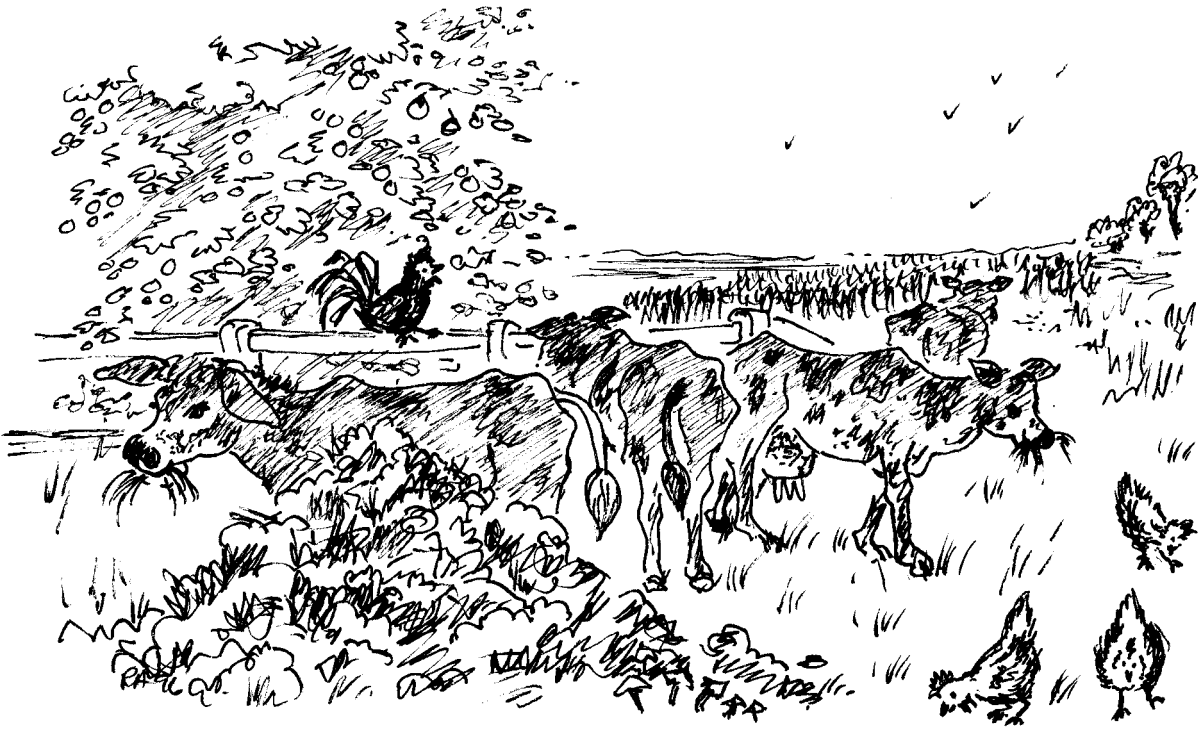
WORD POWER

- 1) b
- 2) c
- 3) b
- 4) a
- 5) c
- 6) b

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS: 1) spectators 4) four 5) ceremony 8) winning 11) largest 12) gather 13) exact

DOWN: 1) separate 2) competition 3) refused 6) educator 7) nation 9) inspire 10) decided



Organic Farming

- 1 In the latter half of the 20th century an increasing number of people are becoming concerned about the foods they eat and how the foods they eat are grown. Enter organic farming.
- 2 Out of organic farming comes the organic foods we are seeing more of in grocery stores and markets. When food is referred to as being “organic” it means the food is grown without any chemical pesticides or fertilizers.
- 3 Organic farmers spend a lot of time working their land. They count on the nutrients in the soil to help the seeds grow. Organic farmers also rely on beneficial insects, such as the ladybug which eats plant aphids (tiny insects which suck the juices from the stem and leaves of plants), to help with the

cultivation of the crops.

Since successful farming depends on the health of the crops, it is important that the best types of natural fertilizers are used in organic farming. Manure, which includes animal excrement and straw, is the major fertilizer used to enrich the soil. Other organic fertilizers are botanical and vegetable composts (a mix of decaying organic substances), guano (the waste of seabirds or bats) and sludge (the soil remains from sewage waste). Organic fertilizers contain fewer nutrients than artificial fertilizers, but they help the soil retain moisture and they slow soil erosion.

Non-organic foods are grown with chemical fertilizers. There are also

chemical additives placed in some agricultural food products to make their shelf-life longer. Some fruits and vegetables are treated with petroleum-based waxes and polishing solvents to make their appearance more appealing.

- 6 As interest in organic produce continues to grow, governments are racing to keep up with the trend. In the United States the organic food industry was self-regulated for more than 30 years. Then in 1990 the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) introduced the Foods Production Act (FPA). The FPA's goal was to try to develop standards to govern organic and processed foods. Laws came into effect to regulate the farming and labeling of produce. Next the USDA formed the National Organic Standards Board. Its job is to research the organic food industry and make

recommendations to the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture.

In recent years the organic food industry has shown phenomenal growth. Organic food was an over 2 billion dollar industry in 1994 and has grown each year since. It is a trend: people want more organically grown foods. It is no surprise that grocery stores are rushing to stock their shelves with organic products. 7

Because organic farming takes more time and effort, the prices are often higher than those for foods grown using chemicals; the price is people's biggest complaint about organic foods. But due to the steady rise in sales, organic food prices may soon become competitive with those of inorganically grown products. 8

THE MAIN IDEA

Circle the letter of the sentence or phrase which best describes the main idea of the article about Organic Farming. Be prepared to support your answer.

- a) Organic farming is the newest way for farmers to raise their crops.
- b) More people want organic food than non-organic food.
- c) Organic farming is a growing industry.
- d) Although prices are higher, people are willing to pay for organic food.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

If you can, answer these questions from memory. If you cannot, look back at the article.

1) Write a definition for organic farming.

2) What do organic farmers use to help their crops grow?

3) What was the goal of the Foods Protection Act?

4) Why are prices higher for organically grown produce?

REMEMBERING DETAILS

Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

1) Ladybugs are very important to organic farmers.

2) Organically grown fruits and vegetables are treated with wax and polish so they look better than inorganically grown fruits and vegetables.

3) Grocery stores have not caught on to the trend that people want more organic foods.

4) People have no complaints about organic foods.

INFERENCES

Based on the article, circle the letter of the best sentence completion.

1) People want more organically grown foods because...

- a) so many diseases are caused by what we eat.
- b) they expect the prices will fall soon.
- c) they want to monitor what goes into their bodies.
- d) because it is fashionable to eat them.

2) Organic farming...

- a) is unpopular because non-organic farming is less expensive to do.
- b) will eventually be the only way produce is farmed.
- c) might become even more successful if its prices are lowered.
- d) is a fad and will go away after a few years.

INTERPRETATION

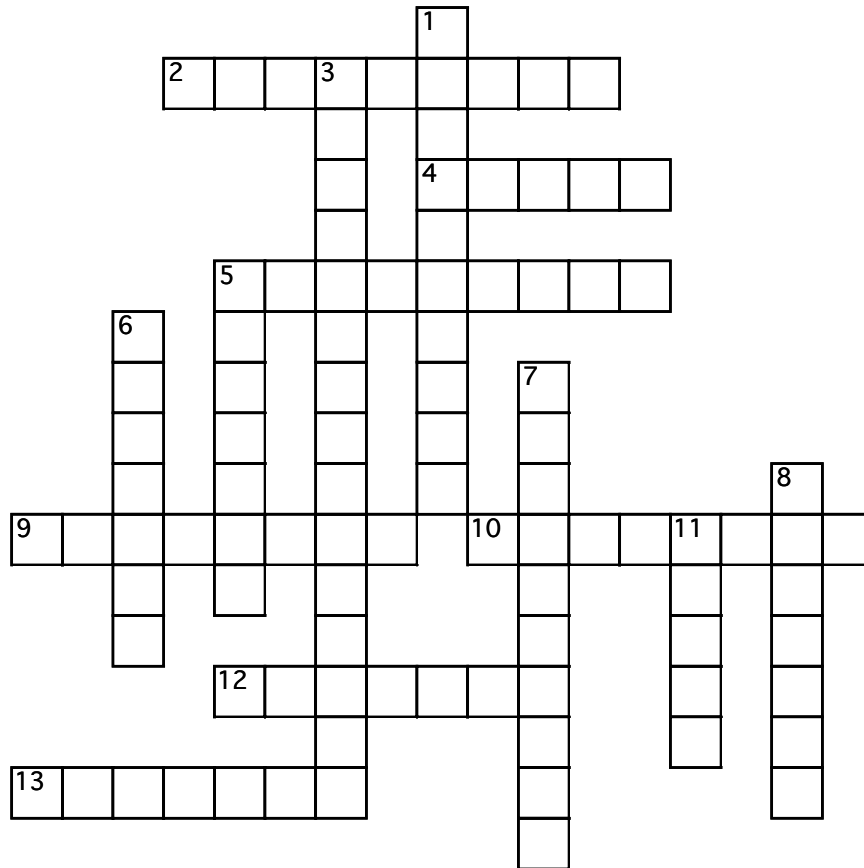
- 1) Are you concerned about the way the food you eat is grown? Discuss.
- 2) Have you ever grown a vegetable garden? Was it enjoyable? Why or why not?
- 3) If you were a farmer trying to compete in the business world, would you grow your vegetables and fruit organically? Why? Why not? Discuss.

WORD POWER

Circle the letter of the word that means the same as the word on the left.

- | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|---------------------|-------------|
| 1) concerned | a) challenged | b) angered | c) worried |
| 2) pesticides | a) fluids | b) bug/weed killers | c) vitamins |
| 3) decaying | a) toxic | b) cultivated | c) rotting |
| 4) retain | a) expel | b) digest | c) hold |
| 5) appearance | a) taste | b) feel | c) look |
| 6) standards | a) levels | b) rules | c) morals |

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS:

- 2) Organic farmers count on the _____ in the soil to help the seeds grow.
- 4) It is a _____: people want more organically grown foods.
- 5) The price is people's biggest _____ about organic foods.
- 9) Non-organic foods are grown with _____ fertilizers.
- 10) Organic food was an over 2 billion dollar _____ in 1994.
- 12) Laws came into effect to regulate the farming and labeling of _____.
- 13) We are seeing more organic foods in grocery stores and _____.

DOWN:

- 1) Manure is the major _____ used to enrich the soil.
- 3) Its job is to make _____ to the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture.
- 5) Organic fertilizers _____ fewer nutrients than artificial fertilizers.
- 6) Organic _____ spend a lot of time working their land.
- 7) In recent years the organic food industry has shown _____ growth.
- 8) The best types of natural fertilizers are used in _____ farming.
- 11) Grocery stores are rushing to _____ their shelves with organic products.

ANSWER KEY

THE MAIN IDEA

c) Organic farming is a growing industry.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

- 1) Organic farming is when farmers grow food without using chemical pesticides or fertilizers.
- 2) Organic farmers use the best types of natural fertilizers to help their crops grow.
- 3) The FPA's goal was to try to develop standards to govern organic and processed foods.
- 4) The prices are often higher for organically grown produce because organic farming takes more time and effort.

REMEMBERING DETAILS

- 1) T
- 2) F Organically grown fruits and vegetables are not treated with wax and polish.
- 3) F Grocery stores are rushing to stock their shelves with organic products.
- 4) F The price is people's biggest complaint about organic foods.

INFERENCES

- 1) c
- 2) c

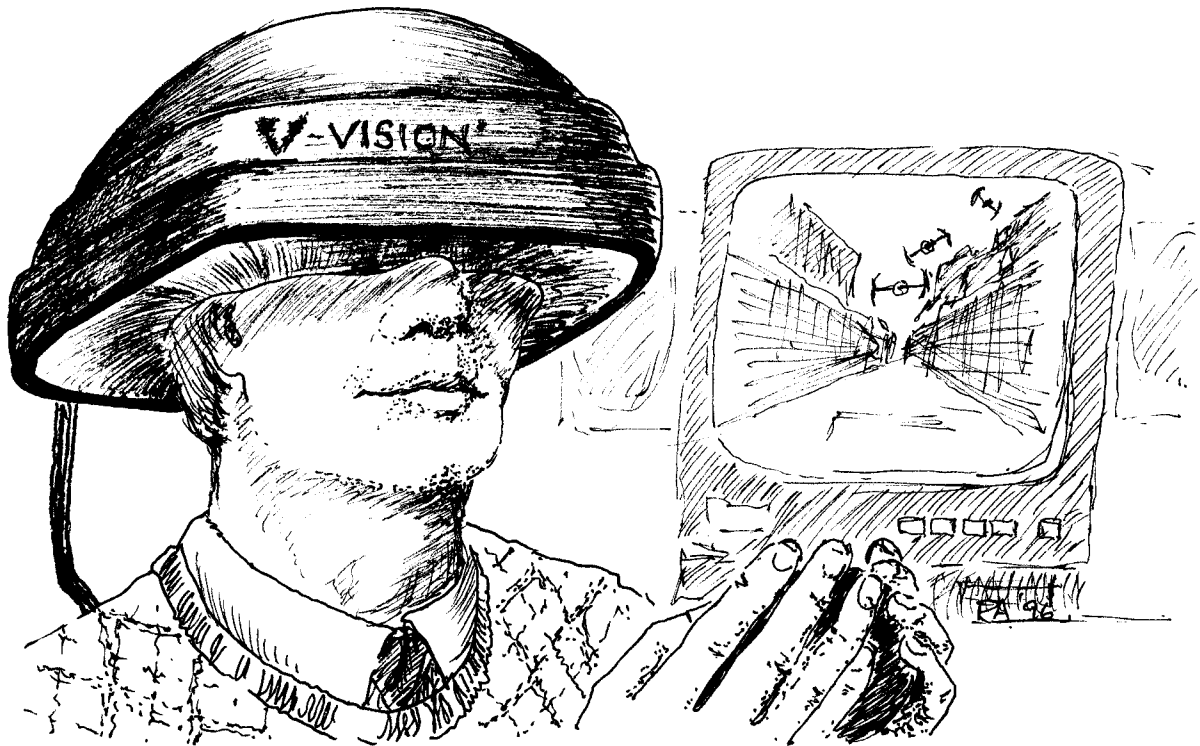
WORD POWER

- 1) c
- 2) b
- 3) c
- 4) c
- 5) c
- 6) b

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS: 2) nutrients 4) trend 5) complaint 9) chemical 10) industry 12) produce 13) markets

DOWN: 1) fertilizer 3) recommendations 5) contain 6) farmers 7) phenomenal 8) organic 11) stock



Virtual Reality

- 1 Virtual reality (VR) is basically a trick played on a person's senses with the help of advanced computer technology. This deception of sight, sound and touch is accomplished with headsets, handsets, and three-dimensional graphics which enable a user to interact with fictional computerized surroundings.
- 2 Since the 1970s, computer scientists have been experimenting with computer generated images that imitate and display the same colors, features and movements as real-life objects and experiences. As computer technology grew by leaps and bounds in the 1980s, new software programs were developed that could create changing light conditions and also imitate the effects of gravity. This allowed

software developers to combine powerful computers with complex programs, and that is what makes virtual reality a possibility.

A flight simulator is a good example 3 of a computer-generated "virtual reality" where the user does not just watch but is able to participate. A user reacts to visual stimuli and other information by pushing buttons and moving a joystick. The program interprets these reactions and changes the visual scene accordingly.

If the user pulls back on the joystick, 4 the computer reacts according to built-in rules based on the performance of a real airplane. The monitor will show exactly what a pilot would see from the cockpit as the airplane begins to

climb. If the user continues to climb without increasing the speed, the “virtual plane” will stall and the user will lose control.

5 Powerful computers, combined with virtual reality programs, give users three basic abilities: immersion, navigation, and control. Immersion means a person is completely surrounded by the alternate reality, and does not just feel like they are watching it on a screen. To accomplish this, some programs require users to wear complex headgear with small screens in front of each eye along with gloves or body suits that have sensors to transmit body movement choices back to the computer.

6 Virtual reality programs also create a fictional world that is consistent. This enables the user to navigate (move around) through the scenery as though it really existed. For example, while

walking down the street in VR the position of doors and windows will remain constant but their perspective will change as you approach and pass by.

But the most popular part of VR programs is their ability to let a user participate--to control and manipulate objects in a pretend world. Firing a gun, increasing a plane’s speed, opening a door or throwing objects; you can do all these things and it feels like you are really doing it, but you are not!

Virtual reality is a result of many years of research, but the average consumer has just begun to benefit from the potential of VR. Besides fun and games, future uses of VR include the industrial robotic field, architectural design, and medical analysis and training.

THE MAIN IDEA

Circle the letter of the sentence or phrase which best describes the main idea of the article about Virtual Reality. Be prepared to support your answer.

- a) Virtual reality is all fun and games.
- b) The capabilities of virtual reality.
- c) Future uses of virtual reality.
- d) Equipment used in virtual reality.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

If you can, answer these questions from memory. If you cannot, look back at the article.

1) Basically, what is virtual reality?

2) What three basic abilities does a user get from powerful computers and virtual reality programs?

3) In what way is the fictional world created by virtual reality consistent?

4) What are some future uses of virtual reality?

REMEMBERING DETAILS

Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

1) There is no special equipment required when using VR.

2) A flight simulator is a good example of a computer-generated “virtual reality.”

3) Virtual reality programs create a real world that is consistent.

4) When you use virtual reality you are really doing what you feel like you are doing.

INFERENCES

Based on the article, circle the letter of the best sentence completion.

1) If there were no powerful computers with complex programs, then...

- a) virtual reality would not be as realistic.
- b) computer scientists would have to work harder.
- c) our senses could not be deceived.
- d) virtual reality would not exist.

2) The best thing about crashing in a VR flight simulator is...

- a) no one gets hurt if you crash.
- b) you can never run out of gas.
- c) computer programs are less expensive than actual planes.
- d) with a flight simulator there is no need for a flight instructor.

INTERPRETATION

1) Have you ever tried VR? Where did you try it? What was it like? Did you enjoy it?

2) Computers are becoming more sophisticated all the time. What do you think are some things that computers will be able to do in the future?

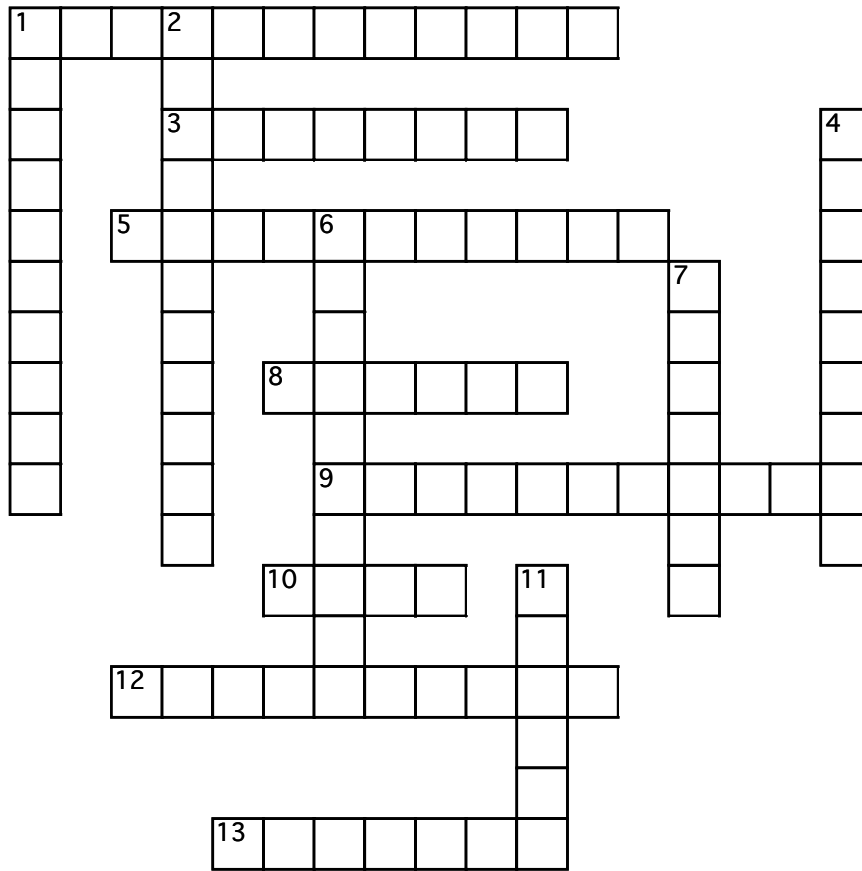
3) Is it a good thing that computers are becoming so powerful? Discuss.

WORD POWER

Circle the letter of the word that means the same as the word on the left.

- | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1) deception | a) illusion | b) prosperity | c) affirmation |
| 2) generated | a) detailed | b) produced | c) placed |
| 3) leaps and bounds | a) a jump | b) a bit | c) a great deal |
| 4) stall | a) take off | b) stop running | c) crash |
| 5) perspective | a) emotion | b) complexion | c) view |
| 6) firing | a) shooting | b) loading | c) dropping |

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS:

- 1) Virtual reality enables a user to interact with fictional _____ surroundings.
- 3) Virtual reality is a result of many years of _____.
- 5) Powerful computers with complex programs make virtual reality a _____.
- 8) Virtual reality is basically a trick played on a person's _____.
- 9) The most popular part of VR programs is their ability to let a user _____.
- 10) Some programs require users to _____ complex headgear.
- 12) Future uses of VR include the _____ robotic field.
- 13) New software programs could imitate the effects of _____.

DOWN:

- 1) Virtual reality programs also create a fictional world that is _____.
- 2) The computer reacts according to the _____ of a real airplane.
- 4) Computers, combined with VR programs, give users three basic _____.
- 6) The program _____ your reactions and changes the visual scene accordingly.
- 7) The monitor will show exactly what a pilot would see from the _____.
- 11) It feels like you are _____ doing it, but you are not!

ANSWER KEY

THE MAIN IDEA

- b) The capabilities of virtual reality.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

- 1) Virtual reality is basically a trick played on a person's senses with the help of advanced computer technology.
- 2) Powerful computers, combined with virtual reality programs, give users three basic abilities: immersion, navigation, and control.
- 3) Virtual reality programs create a fictional world that is consistent by enabling the user to navigate (move around) through the scenery as though it really existed. For example, while walking down the street in VR the position of doors and windows will remain constant but their perspective will change as you approach and pass by.
- 4) Future uses of VR include the industrial robotic field, architectural design, and medical analysis and training.

REMEMBERING DETAILS

- 1) F Besides needing a computer and virtual reality software, a user may use a joystick, headsets, handsets or a body suit.
- 2) T
- 3) F Virtual reality programs create a fictional world that is consistent.
- 4) F It feels like you are really doing it, but you are not!

INFERENCES

- 1) d
- 2) a

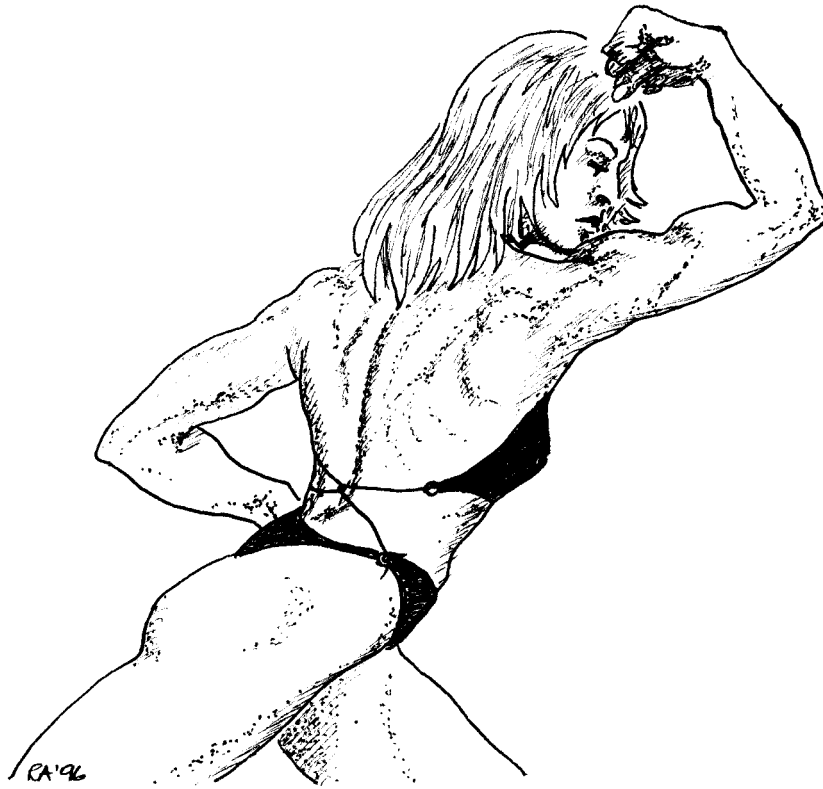
WORD POWER

- 1) a
- 2) b
- 3) c
- 4) b
- 5) c
- 6) a

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS: 1) computerized 3) research 5) possibility 8) senses 9) participate 10) wear 12) industrial
13) gravity

DOWN: 1) consistent 2) performance 4) abilities 6) interprets 7) cockpit 11) really



Steroids

- 1 To what extent will people go in order to be the best? In the world of sports where competition is fierce athletes go to great lengths to be victorious. Most stick to extensive training and strict diets to keep themselves in top shape. There are some athletes, however, who turn to other means to enhance their build, speed, strength and endurance. One of these methods is the use of steroids.
- 2 Steroids are natural compounds in the animal and plant kingdoms. Steroids include all sex hormones, bile acids and some adrenal hormones. Synthetic steroids include oral contraceptives and anti-inflammatory drugs.
- 3 Although steroids are most often

associated with athletes, steroids have other uses as well. Steroids are important in the fields of biology and chemistry. Steroids affect carbohydrate and protein metabolism, salt and water balance and can be used to treat allergic diseases. In medicine steroids are used to treat certain anemias, breast cancers and osteoporosis. However, it is the anabolic (tissue-building) steroids, which you have heard about in the news.

Anabolic steroids are synthetic versions of the male sex hormone called testosterone. These steroids work by speeding up the process of building muscle tissue. Developed in the 1930s, the public did not become aware of anabolic steroids until after

4

World War II, when they were used to help concentration camp survivors regain weight. Anabolic steroids were first introduced in the United States in the 1960s.

5 Athletes turn to steroids to gain an edge over their competitors. They use steroids to increase strength, endurance, speed, quicken injury-recovery time and to better handle the severity of a long, rough season. And the fact that steroids are quite affordable--an effective one-year program costs approximately \$5,000--makes them more difficult to discourage.

6 Although most major professional sports leagues do not test for steroids, amateur athletic organizations banned the use of anabolic steroids in 1976. The International Olympic Committee began testing for illegal anabolic steroid use that same year and today Olympic athletes are subjected to

random, unannounced tests. Perhaps the most well-known athlete accused of steroid use is Canadian sprinter Ben Johnson. At the 1988 Olympic Games, Johnson captured the gold medal after running the 100 metre race in a world record 9.79 seconds. After testing positive for using steroids, Ben Johnson was stripped of his gold medal and his 9.79 seconds was erased from the record books.

The reason steroids are banned is because they do have a down side. Besides giving an athlete an unfair advantage over athletes not doing steroids, they can also cause negative, sometimes serious side-effects. Some of these are: balding, reduced sex drive, acne and irritability. And in women steroids can result in an increase in facial and body hair, a deepening of the voice and in irregular menstrual cycles. There have also been reports that steroid use has been fatal in some cases. 7

THE MAIN IDEA

Circle the letter of the sentence or phrase which best describes the main idea of the article about Steroids. Be prepared to support your answer.

- a) Steroids have only been used since the end of World War II.
- b) Not all sports ban steroid use.
- c) Steroids help athletes build needed muscles for competition.
- d) What steroids are and why they are banned.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

If you can, answer these questions from memory. If you cannot, look back at the article.

1) When did the public become aware of steroids? What were they used for?

2) Why do athletes use steroids?

3) When did the International Olympic Committee begin testing for illegal anabolic steroid use?

4) What are some of the negative side-effects of using anabolic steroids?

REMEMBERING DETAILS

Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

1) Most athletes use steroids to keep themselves in top shape.

2) Anabolic steroids work by speeding up the process of building muscle tissue.

3) Anabolic steroids were first introduced into the United States in World War II.

4) Even though he was caught using steroids, Canadian sprinter Ben Johnson got to keep his gold medal.

INFERENCES

Based on the article, circle the letter of the best sentence completion.

1) Steroids are banned because...

- a) they do not provide any benefit to athletes.
- b) they are more expensive in some parts of the world than they are in other parts.
- c) too many people have died from using them.
- d) they give athletes who use them an unfair advantage and they are dangerous.

2) Olympic athletes who use anabolic steroids...

- a) all come from Canada.
- b) do not know the dangers involved with steroid use.
- c) are cheating.
- d) have all had their medals taken away.

INTERPRETATION

1) Do you agree with the statement: "Winning is everything." Discuss.

2) Why do some people take these drugs even though they know they could be harmed by them? What motivates these people?

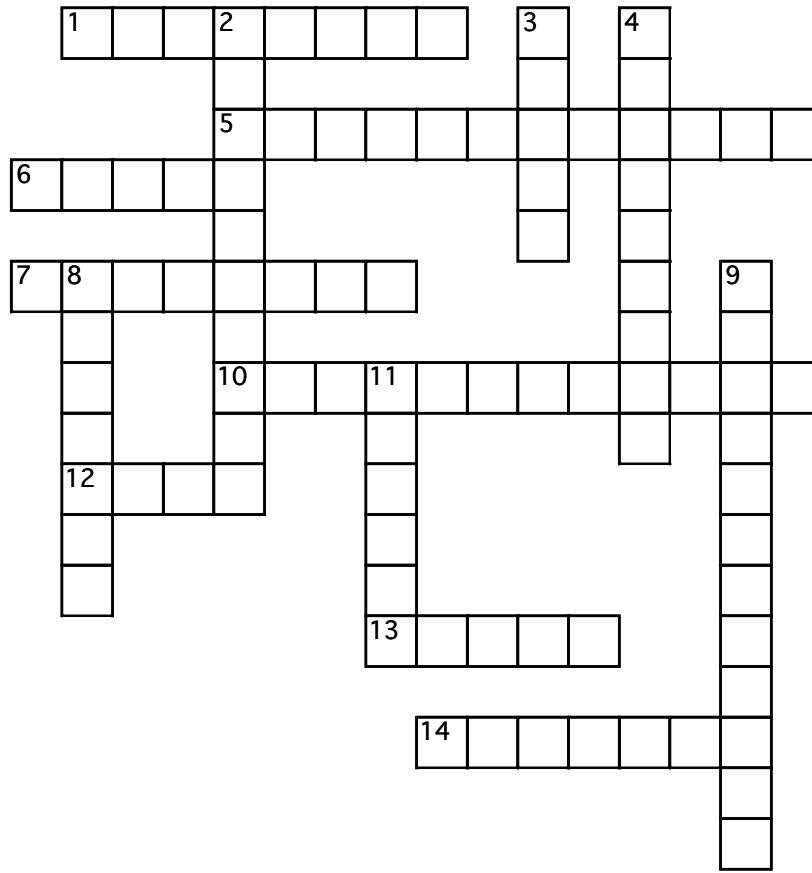
3) If everyone was allowed to use steroids, then no one athlete would have an unfair advantage over other athletes. Should steroids be banned? Why? Why not? Discuss.

WORD POWER

Circle the letter of the word that means the same as the word on the left.

- | | | | |
|---------------|-----------------------|------------|-----------------|
| 1) fierce | a) mild | a) stroked | b) vocal |
| 2) enhance | a) improve | | b) capture |
| 3) synthetic | a) imagined | | b) artificial |
| 4) endurance | a) stamina | | b) popularity |
| 5) discourage | a) attempt to prevent | | b) advise to do |
| 6) stripped | | | b) snubbed |

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS:

- 1) Canadian sprinter Ben Johnson tested _____ for using steroids.
- 5) Anabolic steroids are synthetic versions of the male sex hormone called _____.
- 6) To what extent will people go in _____ to be the best?
- 7) Steroids are natural compounds in the animal and plant _____.
- 10) Steroids affect _____ and protein metabolism.
- 12) Ben Johnson was stripped of his _____ medal.
- 13) Extensive training and strict _____ keep them in top shape.
- 14) Most major professional sports _____ do not test for steroids.

DOWN:

- 2) Anabolic steroids were first _____ in the United States in the 1960s.
- 3) There have also been reports that steroid use has been _____ in some cases.
- 4) Steroids were used to help concentration camp _____ regain weight.
- 8) The Olympic Committee began testing for _____ anabolic steroid use in 1976.
- 9) Steroids are used to treat certain anemias, breast cancers and _____.
- 11) The reason steroids are _____ is because they do have a down side.

ANSWER KEY

THE MAIN IDEA

d) What steroids are and why they are banned.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

- 1) The public did not become aware of anabolic steroids until after World War II, when they were used to help concentration camp survivors regain weight.
- 2) Athletes use steroids to enhance their build, speed, strength, endurance, and to quicken injury-recovery time and to better handle the severity of a long, rough season. And to gain an advantage over their competitors.
- 3) The International Olympic Committee began testing for illegal anabolic steroid use in 1976.
- 4) Some of the side-effects of steroids are: balding, reduced sex drive, acne and irritability. And in women steroids can result in an increase in facial and body hair, a deepening of the voice and in irregular menstrual cycles. There have also been reports that steroid use has been fatal in some cases.

REMEMBERING DETAILS

- 1) F Most athletes stick to extensive training and strict diets to keep themselves in top shape.
- 2) T
- 3) F Anabolic steroids were first introduced in the United States in the 1960s.
- 4) F Canadian sprinter Ben Johnson was stripped of his gold medal.

INFERENCES

- 1) d
- 2) c

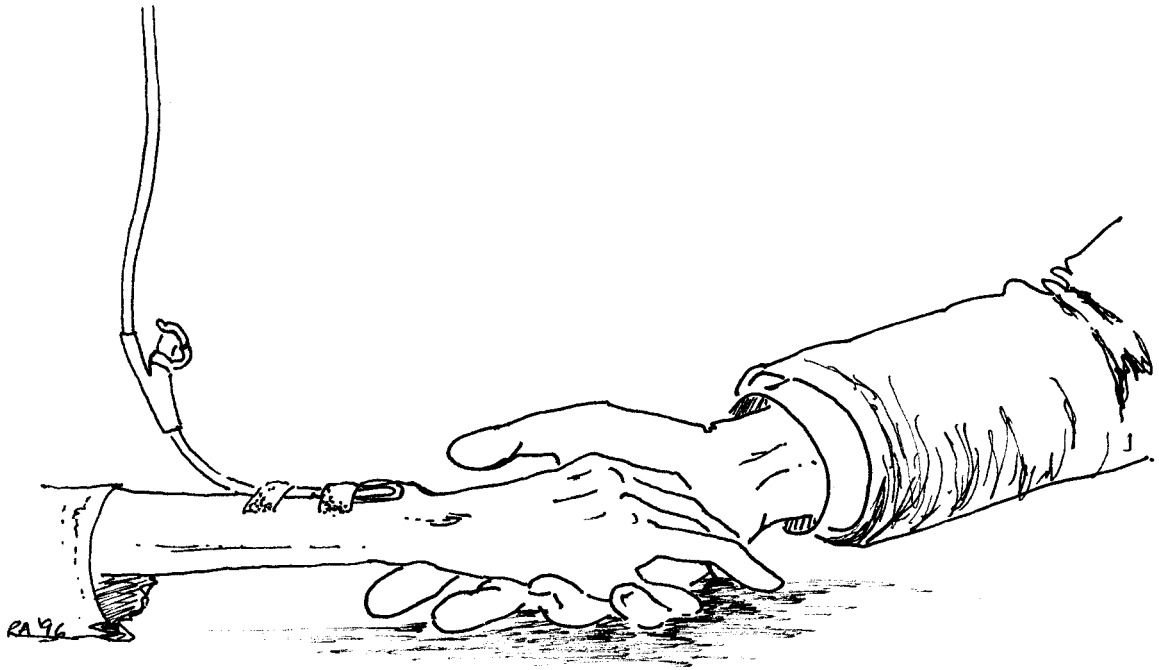
WORD POWER

- 1) c
- 2) a
- 3) b
- 4) a
- 5) a
- 6) c

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS: 1) positive 5) testosterone 6) order 7) kingdoms 10) carbohydrate 12) gold 13) diets
14) leagues

DOWN: 2) introduced 3) fatal 4) survivors 8) illegal 9) osteoporosis 11) banned



Physician-Assisted Suicide

- 1 Upon graduating from medical school, to begin practicing medicine, a physician must take a vow called the “Hippocratic oath.” This oath is the doctor’s promise to always try and work to relieve the pain of a suffering patient. The oath also states that a doctor must never be involved in ending a human life on purpose.
- 2 The question being asked by many people today is, “should a doctor help end a life when the person is asking to die?” That is the problem many doctors are facing as more and more people demand the right to physician-assisted suicide. When a doctor helps someone commit suicide, it is also often called “euthanasia.”
- 3 When a person commits suicide they

put an end to their own life. Suicide has been looked upon in many different ways throughout history. In ancient Greek and Hebrew cultures, suicide was often thought of as a very normal and reasonable choice in some cases. Early Christian believers often committed suicide in order to become a “martyr” and prove their faith in their God. In World War II, Japanese fighter pilots called “suicide bombers” often tried to crash their planes into enemy ships. In this way they hoped to be remembered as heroes back home.

Today the idea of suicide raises many different questions. Some churches argue that life is a gift from God, and that to take your own life means you reject your God. Others say that life in any form is better than

death, and to kill yourself is a cowardly act. Some people consider suicide an act of murder.

5 Physician-assisted suicide is gaining more support around the world for a number of reasons. The loudest argument in favor of euthanasia comes from people who have had to watch someone they love suffer through the pain of a slow death.

6 Many cancer patients say death would be better than going through so much endless pain and suffering. Parents who must watch mentally-challenged children suffer often wish they could put an end to their child's misery. Children who watch an aging parent kept alive on machines often beg doctors to show mercy by ending their parent's life.

7 In 1961, the Euthanasia Society was formed in the United States. Their goal was to try and get the medical profession to change the Hippocratic

oath. They wanted doctors to have the right to unplug life-support systems for patients who would die without them. They also wanted patients to have the right to die in cases where continuing to live would only cause them more and more pain.

In Holland, doctors are allowed to 8
assist those patients who request to die. In many other countries, doctors can help end the life of people who are "brain-dead" or are dying of a terminal illness without fear of being punished. In North America, however, the laws on euthanasia are still strict. In the United States, for example, a retired doctor named Jack Kevorkian has been arrested for murder several times for helping people kill themselves.

Although there are many who agree 9
that a person has the right to die, it is clear the controversy of physician-assisted suicide is not ready to die quite yet.

THE MAIN IDEA

Circle the letter of the sentence or phrase which best describes the main idea of the article about Physician-Assisted Suicide. Be prepared to support your answer.

- a) The movement to change the Hippocratic oath.
- b) Arguments for physician-assisted suicide.
- c) The right to die.
- d) The history and controversy surrounding euthanasia.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

If you can, answer these questions from memory. If you cannot, look back at the article.

1) What is the Hippocratic oath?

2) What are some examples of how suicide has been looked upon throughout history?

3) Who makes the loudest argument in favor of euthanasia?

4) What was the goal of the Euthanasia Society?

REMEMBERING DETAILS

Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

1) Upon graduating from medical school, a new doctor must take a vow called the “Physician’s oath.”

2) More and more people are demanding the right to physician-assisted suicide.

3) The Euthanasia Society was formed in 1960 in Holland.

4) Dr. Jack Kevorkian has not been caught helping people commit suicide.

INFERENCES

Based on the article, circle the letter of the best sentence completion.

- 1) Because laws on euthanasia are still strict in the U.S., we can conclude that...
 - a) the Euthanasia Society has ceased to exist.
 - b) euthanasia is no longer an issue there.
 - c) people are committing suicide in secret.
 - d) the Hippocratic oath has not been changed.
- 2) If Dr. Jack Kevorkian has been arrested for murder “several” times, then...
 - a) he obviously has not been successful in helping his patients commit suicide.
 - b) obviously none of his patients have been alive to testify against him.
 - c) we can conclude that he has not spent an extended period of time in prison.
 - d) he is a real “martyr.”

INTERPRETATION

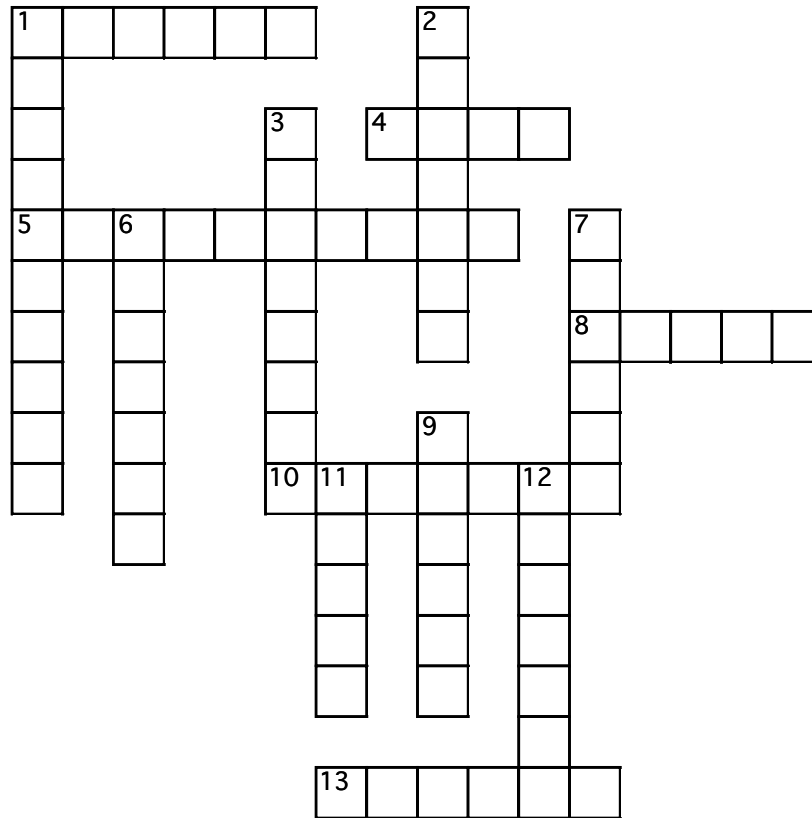
- 1) Do you believe euthanasia should be legal? Why or why not?
- 2) Brainstorm the pros and cons of euthanasia. Split the class into two groups (pro and con) and hold a debate. When arguing try to respond to each other’s points before introducing new ones.
- 3) If you were a doctor and a terminally ill patient whispered a request to help her die, what would you do?

WORD POWER

Circle the letter of the word that means the same as the word on the left.

- | | | | |
|---------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1) vow | a) poem | b) promise | c) course |
| 2) on purpose | a) knowingly | b) for money | c) too soon |
| 3) reasonable | a) awkward | b) hasty | c) sensible |
| 4) cowardly | a) lawless | b) gutless | c) responsible |
| 5) aging | a) crippled | b) growing old | c) miserly |
| 6) terminal | a) painful | b) incurable | c) stressful |

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS:

- 1) Should a doctor help end a life when the _____ is asking to die?
- 4) When a person commits suicide they put an end to their own _____.
- 5) When a doctor helps someone commit suicide, it is also often called “_____.”
- 8) They wanted doctors to have the _____ to unplug life-support systems.
- 10) In Holland, doctors are allowed to assist those patients who _____ to die.
- 13) In 1961, the Euthanasia Society was _____ in the United States.

DOWN:

- 1) Their goal was to try and get the medical _____ to change the Hippocratic oath.
- 2) Physician-assisted suicide is _____ more support around the world.
- 3) Some people _____ suicide an act of murder.
- 6) Many cancer patients say death would be better than going _____ so much pain.
- 7) In North America the laws on euthanasia are still _____.
- 9) Dr. Kevorkian has been arrested for _____ several times.
- 11) Japanese fighter pilots often tried to crash their planes into _____ ships.
- 12) Today the idea of _____ raises many different questions.

ANSWER KEY

THE MAIN IDEA

d) The history and controversy surrounding euthanasia.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

- 1) Doctors take the Hippocratic oath after graduating from medical school. The Hippocratic oath is the doctor's promise to always try and work to relieve the pain of a suffering patient. The oath also states that a doctor must never be involved in ending a human life on purpose.
- 2) Suicide has been looked upon in many different ways throughout history. In ancient Greek and Hebrew cultures, suicide was often thought of as a very normal and reasonable choice in some cases. Early Christian believers often committed suicide in order to become a "martyr" and prove their faith in God. In World War II, Japanese fighter pilots called "suicide bombers" often tried to crash their planes into enemy ships. In this way they hoped to be remembered as heroes back home.
- 3) The loudest argument in favor of euthanasia comes from people who have had to watch someone they love suffer through the pain of a slow death.
- 4) The Euthanasia Society's goal was to try and get the medical profession to change the Hippocratic oath. They wanted doctors to have the right to unplug life-support systems for patients who would die without them. They also wanted patients to have the right to die in cases where continuing to live would only cause them more and more pain.

REMEMBERING DETAILS

- 1) F Upon graduating from medical school, a physician must take a vow called the "Hippocratic oath."
- 2) T
- 3) F The Euthanasia Society was formed in 1961 in the United States.
- 4) F Dr. Jack Kevorkian has been arrested for murder several times for helping patients kill themselves.

INFERENCES

- 1) d
- 2) c

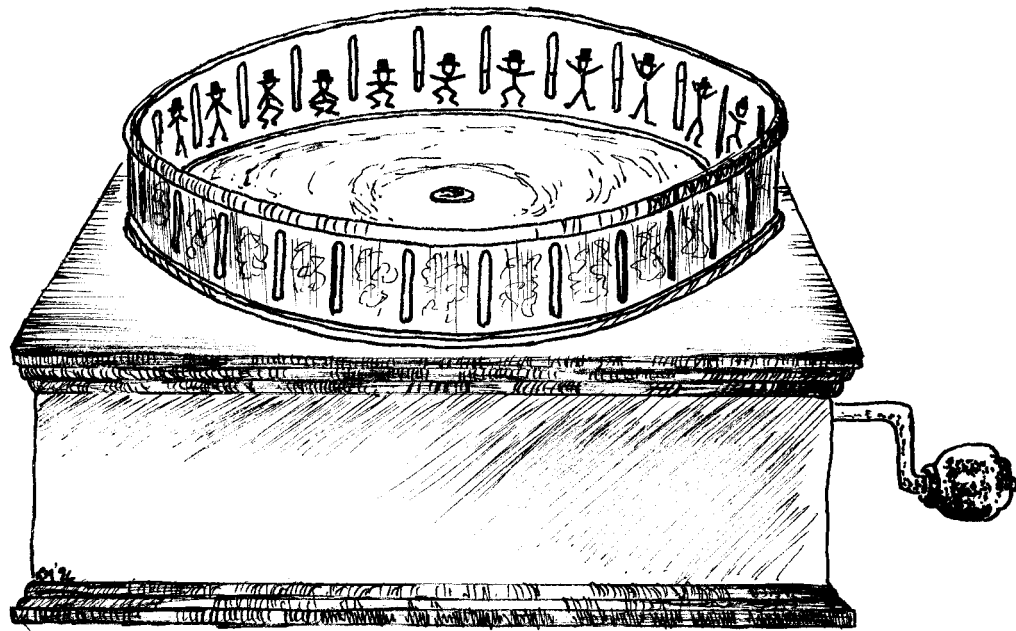
WORD POWER

- 1) b
- 2) a
- 3) c
- 4) b
- 5) b
- 6) b

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS: 1) person 4) life 5) euthanasia 8) right 10) request 13) formed

DOWN: 1) profession 2) gaining 3) consider 6) through 7) strict 9) murder 11) enemy
12) suicide



Animation

1 Since the beginning of civilization, humans have been using drawings as a tool to communicate their stories, thoughts and ideas. Many of the earliest recorded drawings were of simple stick-figures and animals, carved into walls and rocks with little or no detail. Lines, colors, curves, circles and other shapes were used to show movement. Such pictures were often drawn as a way to record history, or left as a warning to others that the area belonged to someone else. These drawings were humankind's earliest form of animation.

2 Animation is a special way of making drawings and pictures look as if they have come to life. In fact, the word "animate" means "to make something come alive or to be given

action." Although the art of animation has been around in very simple forms for thousands of years, it did not really start to develop until the invention of the camera made it possible to take photographs.

In the mid 1800s, photographs were 3 often stacked together and then "flipped." Doing this made the objects in the photos appear to be moving. By 1875, an inventor in England had created a machine called a "projector" that made it possible to show a series of pictures in motion.

The invention of the camera and the 4 projector led to the beginning of the motion picture film industry. Motion pictures are made when drawings or pictures are put on tiny pieces of film

called “frames.” A projector shines these frames on a screen at high speeds, making it appear as if the pictures are moving.

- 5 Animated movies are nothing more than still images that appear to come alive on screen. These images can be drawn by hand using paint, paper and brushes; they can be photographs of puppets or figures made of clay; they can also be drawn by using computers.
- 6 The most popular form of animation is the cartoon. Cartoons are usually short pieces of animation that feature funny and silly characters. Animated figures like Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, Porky Pig, Mickey Mouse and the Pink Panther have become cartoon stars known around the world. But the biggest name in animation is actually a man named Walt Disney.
- 7 Every since the release of their first cartoon “Steamboat Willie,” Walt

Disney Studios have become the world’s best known producers of animated films. Their original 1938 classic “Snow White And The Seven Dwarfs” was the first long-form animated film ever produced. Since then Disney films like “Aladdin,” “Beauty And The Beast,” “The Jungle Book,” “The Lion King” and “Fantasia” have been seen by children and adults around the world.

Making an animated film takes years 8 of hard work. To create a movie like “The Lion King,” 600 people worked for four years to create over a million drawings. Computers are now used to make the job of drawing much easier. In fact, the Disney film “Toy Story” was the world’s first computer-animated feature film.

As “Toy Story” star Buzz Lightyear 9 would say, Disney has now taken animation “to infinity and beyond!”

THE MAIN IDEA

Circle the letter of the sentence or phrase which best describes the main idea of the article about Animation. Be prepared to support your answer.

- a) Animation is one of the humankind’s remarkable achievements.
- b) Animation derived from our ability to draw simple figures.
- c) Simple drawing and creative technology have combined to create animation.
- d) Cartoons are one of the more popular forms of animation.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

If you can, answer these questions from memory. If you cannot, look back at the article.

1) For what reason were many of the earliest recorded drawings drawn?

2) When did the art of animation really start to develop?

3) What is the most popular form of animation?

4) Who is the biggest name in animation?

REMEMBERING DETAILS

Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

1) Animation is a special way of making drawings and pictures look as if they have come to life.

2) The projector was invented by Walt Disney.

3) “Beauty and the Beast” was the first long-form animated film ever produced.

4) Computers have made making animated films much more complicated.

INFERENCES

Based on the article, circle the letter of the best sentence completion.

1) Cartoons are possible because...

- a) many people work hard on them.
- b) the earliest recorded drawings showed the way.
- c) producers are willing to pay for them to be made.
- d) Walt Disney invented them.

2) Animation has influenced our lives by...

- a) showing us how far we have developed our artistic skills.
- b) entertaining adults as well as children all over the world.
- c) helping take humanity into infinity and space.
- d) giving a lot of people jobs to do.

INTERPRETATION

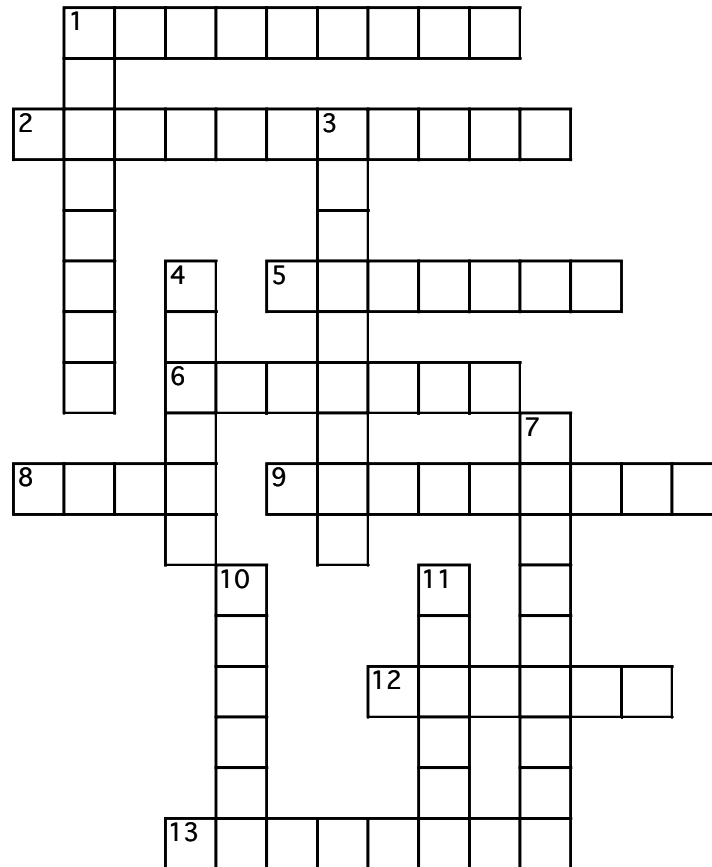
- 1) What is your favorite cartoon? Why? What are the names of characters in the cartoon? Describe your favorite scene in the cartoon.
- 2) What advantages are there in making films with animated characters rather than with live actors?
- 3) Which is your favorite Disney cartoon? How many long-form Disney cartoons have you seen?

WORD POWER

Circle the letter of the word that means the same as the word on the left.

- | | | | |
|-------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| 1) earliest | a) latest | b) oldest | c) newest |
| 2) stacked | a) piled | b) centered | c) left |
| 3) series | a) movie | b) game | c) sequence |
| 4) still | a) not breathing | b) not talking | c) not moving |
| 5) infinity | a) endless space | b) bountiful harvest | c) later on |
| 6) beyond | a) closer | b) nearby | c) further |

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS:

- 1) An inventor in England had created a machine called a “_____.”
- 2) For a long time humans have used drawings as a tool to _____.
- 5) “Toy Story” was the world’s first computer-animated _____ film.
- 6) Bugs Bunny and the Pink Panther have become _____ stars.
- 8) Making an animated _____ takes years of hard work.
- 9) The word “animate” means “to make _____ come alive or to be given action.”
- 12) 600 people worked for four years to _____ over a million drawings.
- 13) Animation is a way of making _____ look as if they have come to life.

DOWN:

- 1) Disney Studios _____ the first long-form animated film ever.
- 3) The _____ of the camera led to the beginning of the motion picture industry.
- 4) Disney Studios have _____ the world’s best known producers of animated films.
- 7) The art of animation has been around in very simple forms for _____ of years.
- 10) Animated movies are still images that _____ to come alive on screen.
- 11) A projector shines frames on a _____ at high speeds.

ANSWER KEY

THE MAIN IDEA

c) Simple drawing and creative technology have combined to create animation.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

- 1) Such pictures were often drawn as a way to record history, or left as a warning to others that the area belonged to someone else.
- 2) The art of animation really started to develop after the invention of the camera made it possible to take photographs.
- 3) The most popular form of animation is the cartoon.
- 4) The biggest name in animation is a man named Walt Disney.

REMEMBERING DETAILS

- 1) T
- 2) F The projector was invented by an inventor in England in 1875.
- 3) F “Snow White And The Seven Dwarfs” was the first long-form animated film ever produced.
- 4) F Computers make the job much easier.

INFERENCES

- 1) a
- 2) b

WORD POWER

- 1) b
- 2) a
- 3) c
- 4) c
- 5) a
- 6) c

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS: 1) projector 2) communicate 5) feature 6) cartoon 8) film 9) something 12) create
13) drawings

DOWN: 1) produced 3) invention 4) become 7) thousands 10) appear 11) screen



UFOs

1 Through the centuries the mysteries of the unknown have continued to intrigue and consume the minds of humans. One question which has been asked repeatedly is: are humans alone in the universe? Although no positive proof exists verifying the existence of unidentified flying objects (UFOs) or extraterrestrial life, this subject continues to be the subject of debate and controversy.

2 UFOs are any objects appearing airborne that cannot be identified by sight or radar. Most reports of UFO sightings which have been investigated usually turn out to be explainable. Things such as satellites, weather balloons, comets, meteors, bright planets, aircraft lights, flocks of birds and other meteorological phenomena

are often mistaken for UFOs. And in some cases UFO sightings have turned out to be vivid hallucinations or hoaxes. There are, however, some reports which have not been explained.

The date of the earliest UFO sighting 3 in history is unknown. But even before any UFO activity had been documented, we know that theorists in the 5th and 4th centuries BC were speculating about the possibility of life elsewhere in the cosmos. The first well-documented report of a UFO sighting occurred in Nuremberg, Germany. That was in 1561.

The UFO era in the United States 4 began around 1896-97 when people began reporting having seen strange mystery airships flying over the U.S.

countryside. In 1948 the first of several American projects to study UFO sightings was formed. The last one, Project Blue Book, ceased operating in 1969. These panels investigated more than 20,000 sightings.

- 5 On June 24, 1947, public awareness of UFOs grew immensely. That was when Kenneth Arnold, while flying a small airplane, saw nine circular objects as they crossed his path in the skies over the state of Washington. Arnold described their movements as incredibly fast and being like “saucers skipping over water.” His description gave rise to the popular term “flying saucers.”
- 6 With so many UFO sightings coming in from the four corners of the globe, one would think that there would be an accurate description of what flying saucers look like. But there is not.

Depending on who is giving the description, these objects have been described as being shaped like squares, balls, cigars, rings and there are even some reports that UFOs change shape.

Besides waiting for extraterrestrials to come visit our planet, since 1960 different scientists in various research programs have been beaming radio, television and radar signals into space hoping for a response. And four spacecrafts built by humans and presently travelling in deep space contain messages announcing our presence to the universe. 7

Until the time comes when an actual UFO from outer space is in a science lab here on earth, our questions about UFOs and extraterrestrials will remain unanswered. For now, scientists and others fascinated with other-worldly phenomena will have to be content watching the skies for signs of life. 8

THE MAIN IDEA

Circle the letter of the sentence or phrase which best describes the main idea of the article about UFOs. Be prepared to support your answer.

- a) Why people keep seeing UFOs.
- b) UFOs: a mystery that has puzzled humans since the beginning of time.
- c) The shape of UFOs.
- d) Programs to investigate UFO sightings.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

If you can, answer these questions from memory. If you cannot, look back at the article.

1) What is a UFO?

2) What are some things that are often mistaken for UFOs?

3) Why is Kenneth Arnold connected with UFOs?

4) How are humans trying to contact extraterrestrials?

REMEMBERING DETAILS

Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

1) Positive proof of the existence of UFOs and extraterrestrials exists.

2) The first well-documented report of a UFO sighting was from around the 5th and 4th centuries BC.

3) Between 1948 and 1969 there were less than 500 UFO sightings in the United States.

4) Humans are trying to contact extraterrestrials.

INFERENCES

Based on the article, circle the letter of the best sentence completion.

- 1) The existence of UFOs...
 - a) was proven in 1947.
 - b) has been proven to be impossible.
 - c) is still unconfirmed despite the many sightings.
 - d) stopped being a concern in 1969.
- 2) Theorists back in the 5th and 4th centuries BC...
 - a) wondered about life on other planets.
 - b) had seen other-worldly things.
 - c) knew there was life on other planets.
 - d) mistook natural phenomena to be UFOs.

INTERPRETATION

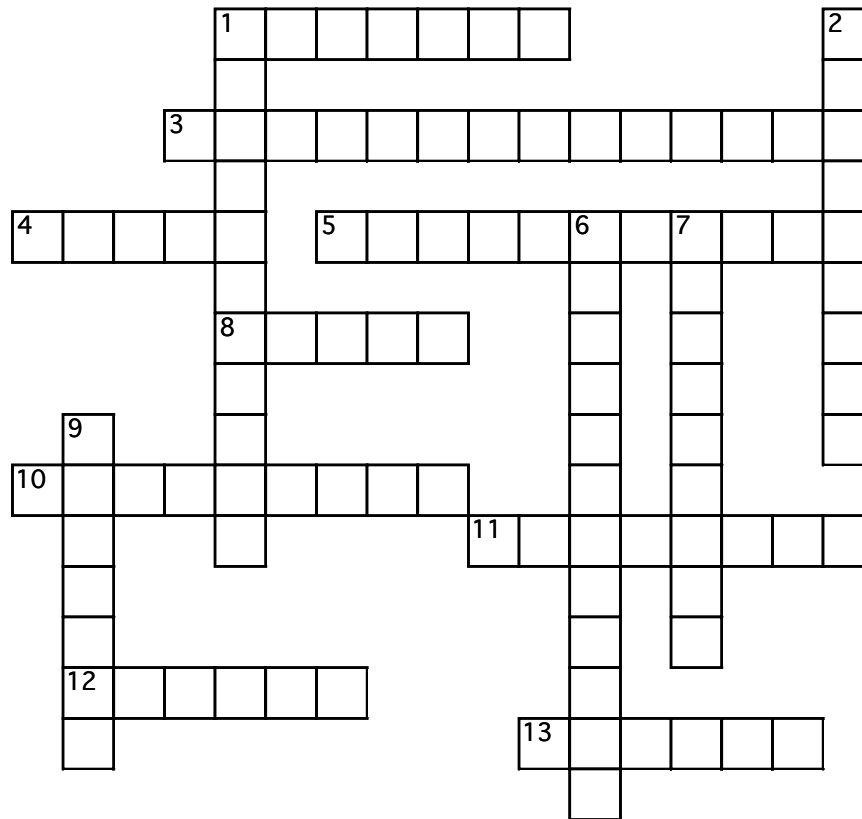
- 1) Do you believe in UFOs and extraterrestrials? Why? Why not? Have you ever seen anything that you thought might be a UFO?
- 2) If extraterrestrials do exist, what would they look like? Where would they be from? Would they be friendly? Do you think we would be able to find a way to communicate with them?
- 3) Movies about UFO invasions of our planet often show countries that have been traditionally unfriendly towards each other suddenly joining together to fight the invading space creatures. Do you think this would happen in real life?

WORD POWER

Circle the letter of the word that means the same as the word on the left.

- | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| 1) intrigue | a) summon | b) bother | c) fascinate |
| 2) consume | a) eat | b) occupy | c) deteriorate |
| 3) meteorological | a) unexplainable | b) other-worldly | c) weather |
| 4) hoaxes | a) visions | b) tricks | c) photographs |
| 5) accurate | a) helpful | b) sketchy | c) precise |
| 6) beaming | a) sending | b) bouncing | c) receiving |

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS:

- 1) Kenneth Arnold's description gave rise to the popular term "flying _____."
- 3) In some cases UFO sightings have turned out to be vivid _____ or hoaxes.
- 4) Are humans _____ in the universe?
- 5) Most UFO sightings which have been investigated usually turn out to be _____.
- 8) UFOs are objects appearing airborne that cannot be identified by sight or _____.
- 10) Most UFO _____ are explainable.
- 11) Four spacecrafts contain messages announcing our presence to the _____.
- 12) A well-documented _____ of a sighting occurred in Nuremberg, Germany.
- 13) Project Blue Book _____ operating in 1969.

DOWN:

- 1) Four _____ in deep space contain messages announcing our presence.
- 2) The _____ of the unknown have continued to consume the minds of humans.
- 6) These panels _____ more than 20,000 sightings.
- 7) On June 24, 1947, public _____ of UFOs grew immensely.
- 9) The date of the earliest UFO sighting in _____ is unknown.

ANSWER KEY

THE MAIN IDEA

b) UFOs: a mystery that has puzzled humans since the beginning of time.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

- 1) UFOs are Unidentified Flying Objects and are any objects appearing airborne that cannot be identified by sight or radar.
- 2) Things such as satellites, weather balloons, comets, meteors, bright planets, aircraft lights, flocks of birds and other meteorological phenomena are often mistaken for UFOs.
- 3) Kenneth Arnold is connected with UFOs because, while flying a small airplane, he saw nine circular objects as they crossed his path in the skies over the state of Washington. Arnold described their movements as incredibly fast and being like “saucers skipping over water.” His description gave rise to the popular term “flying saucers.”
- 4) Humans are trying to contact extraterrestrials by beaming radio, television and radar signals into space hoping for a response. And four spacecrafts built by humans and presently travelling in deep space contain messages announcing our presence to the universe.

REMEMBERING DETAILS

- 1) F No positive proof exists verifying the existence of UFOs or extraterrestrial life.
- 2) F The first well-documented report of a UFO sighting occurred in Nuremberg, Germany. That was in 1561.
- 3) F Between 1948 and 1969 there were more than 20,000 UFO sightings in the United States.
- 4) T

INFERENCES

- 1) c
- 2) a

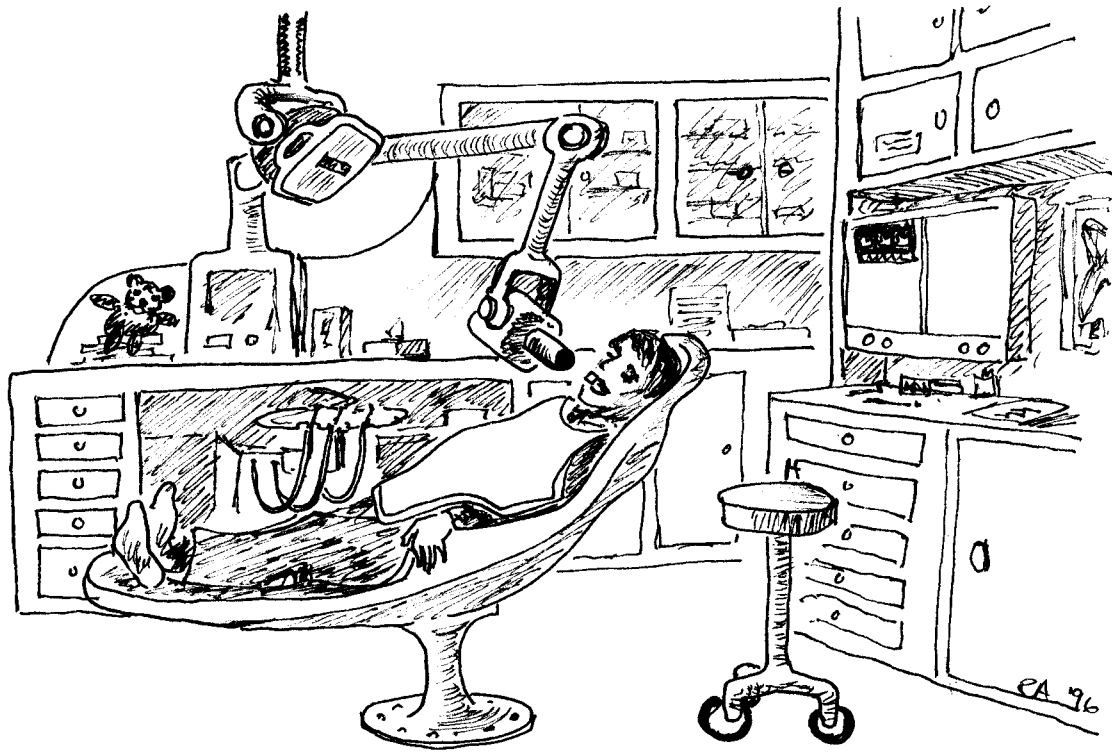
WORD POWER

- 1) c
- 2) b
- 3) c
- 4) b
- 5) c
- 6) a

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS: 1) saucers 3) hallucinations 4) alone 5) explainable 8) radar 10) sightings 11) universe
12) report 13) ceased

DOWN: 1) spacecrafts 2) mysteries 6) investigated 7) awareness 9) history



Dentistry

1 A lot happens to your teeth. They are ground, braced, brushed, flossed, polished, drilled, filled and, if you do not take care of them, pulled. For your teeth proper oral care is as essential as anything else you do for your body and your general health. Fortunately, if there is any damage to your teeth modern dentistry techniques make it easier, faster and less painful to get the problem fixed.

2 By definition dentistry includes the study, diagnosing, treatment and the prevention of diseases of the mouth, teeth, gums and jawbones. Today's dentists use sophisticated equipment and pain-preventing medicines, but these have not always been around.

3 The earliest historical records of

dentistry are from Egypt from around 3600 BC. Aesculapius, a Greek physician who lived around 1250 BC, is credited with the idea of pulling diseased teeth. Hippocrates (around 400 BC) wrote of applying ointments and using branding irons to treat diseases of the mouth. Through the Middle Ages wealthy people were treated by physicians and surgeons, while poor people could look to the local barber to pull painful teeth.

Modern dentistry emerged with the release of Pierre Fauchard's book *The Surgeon Dentist, A Treatise on Teeth*. Fauchard (1678-1761) is considered the father of modern dentistry. Later, the first school devoted to teaching dentistry opened in Baltimore in 1840.

4

5 Greene Vardiman Black (1831-1915) invented a foot engine so dentists would have two free hands while using the dental drill. He also came up with the idea that gum disease was an infection caused by bacteria. This was later confirmed in 1960. An important contribution was made in 1944 when Dr. Horace Wells, a Connecticut dentist, first used nitrous oxide (laughing gas) as an oral anesthetic; today this method of administering anesthetic is employed for most medical surgeries. The introduction of fluoride in toothpaste in the 1960s was a huge breakthrough; teenagers and adults today have a 50% better chance of not developing tooth decay.

6 The 1990s have seen a change in thinking when it comes to fillings for cavities in teeth. Since the early 1800s silver amalgam--a combination of silver, tin and mercury--has been the standard filling compound. But modern fears about mercury poisoning have led many people to have their amalgam fillings replaced with plastic polymer fillings. Besides not having

any mercury, plastic polymers have an advantage over metal fillings because the color can be matched to the surrounding tooth and the material can be chemically bonded to the tooth.

Dentistry methods are sure to advance even more in the future. Things such as laser technology, which is used to eliminate diseased tissue or weld together damaged parts of teeth, will soon become a common practice in dentists' offices. And computer-assisted technology is ushering in new advances in the area of tooth restoration. The primary goal of dentists is to develop early detection methods to prevent dental conditions from turning into dental problems.

Caring for your teeth properly will lessen the number of visits you make to the dentist. Brushing properly, flossing every day, getting a professional cleaning every six months and maintaining a diet low in sugar can aid in keeping your teeth healthy. Make sure your teeth stay in your mouth...not under your pillow.

THE MAIN IDEA

Circle the letter of the sentence or phrase which best describes the main idea of the article about Dentistry. Be prepared to support your answer.

- a) Proper dental hygiene.
- b) Major events in the history of dentistry.
- c) Great people who have been dentists.
- d) Dentistry methods.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

If you can, answer these questions from memory. If you cannot, look back at the article.

1) Who is Aesculapius? What did he do?

2) Who is Pierre Fauchard?

3) What did Dr. Horace Wells do?

4) What are some good ways to aid in keeping your teeth healthy?

REMEMBERING DETAILS

Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

1) Modern dentistry techniques are just as painful as techniques were in years gone by.

2) Pierre Fauchard is considered the father of modern dentistry.

3) Dr. Horace Wells came up with the idea that gum disease was an infection caused by bacteria.

4) The primary goal of dentists is to treat dental problems.

INFERENCES

Based on the article, circle the letter of the best sentence completion.

- 1) Dr. Horace Wells' discovery...
 - a) led to the introduction of fluoride.
 - b) was less important than Greene Vardiman Black's foot engine.
 - c) left many patients laughing.
 - d) had a much wider impact than just on dentistry.
- 2) Teenagers and adults have had a 50% better chance of not developing tooth decay since...
 - a) they started brushing their teeth more.
 - b) after the 1960s.
 - c) amalgam fillings have been replaced by plastic polymer.
 - d) Pierre Fauchard's book was released.

INTERPRETATION

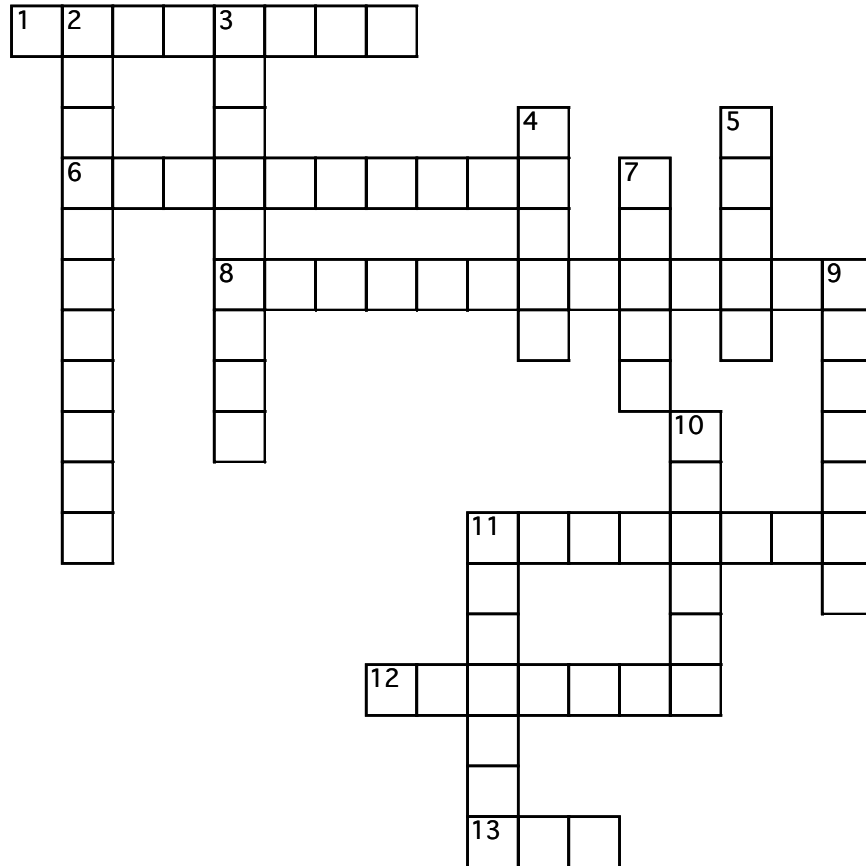
- 1) Could you be a dentist? Why? Why not? What would it be like?
- 2) What are your feelings about going to visit the dentist? Many people are afraid to go. Are you? Why? Why not? What have your experiences been with dentists?
- 3) With a partner, develop a short role play where one of you is the dentist and the other is the patient. Try to incorporate something unusual into your skits.

WORD POWER

Circle the letter of the word that means the same as the word on the left.

- | | | | |
|--------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1) credited | a) invented | b) acknowledged | c) insured |
| 2) chance | a) possibility | b) leeway | c) border |
| 3) cavities | a) holes | b) mounds | c) canker |
| 4) bonded | a) blended | b) booked | c) cemented |
| 5) ushering | a) leading | b) sending | c) plugging |
| 6) detection | a) discovery | b) eyeing | c) extraction |

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS:

- 1) Hippocrates wrote of using _____ irons to treat diseases of the mouth.
- 6) The introduction of fluoride in _____ in the 1960s was a huge breakthrough.
- 8) Today's dentists use _____ equipment and pain-preventing medicines.
- 11) Using _____ improves your chances of not developing tooth decay.
- 12) Many people are having their old fillings replaced with plastic _____ fillings.
- 13) G.V. Black realized that _____ disease was an infection caused by bacteria.

DOWN:

- 2) Computers are ushering in new advances in the area of tooth _____.
- 3) The earliest historical records of _____ are from Egypt from around 3600 BC.
- 4) A lot happens to your _____.
- 5) Make sure your teeth stay in your _____...not under your pillow.
- 7) Teenagers and adults today have a better chance of not developing tooth _____.
- 9) The first school _____ to teaching dentistry opened in Baltimore in 1840.
- 10) Poor people could look to the local _____ to pull painful teeth.
- 11) Since the early 1800s silver amalgam has been the standard _____ compound.

ANSWER KEY

THE MAIN IDEA

b) Major events in the history of dentistry.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

- 1) Aesculapius was a Greek physician who lived around 1250 BC. He is credited with the idea of pulling diseased teeth.
- 2) Pierre Fauchard (1678-1761) is considered the father of modern dentistry. Modern dentistry emerged with the release of his book *The Surgeon Dentist, A Treatise on Teeth*.
- 3) Dr. Horace Wells, a Connecticut dentist, first used nitrous oxide (laughing gas) as an oral anesthetic in 1944. It was an important contribution to dentistry, and today this method of administering anesthetic is employed for most medical surgeries.
- 4) Brushing properly, flossing every day, getting a professional cleaning every six months and maintaining a diet low in sugar can aid in keeping your teeth healthy.

REMEMBERING DETAILS

- 1) F Modern dentistry techniques are less painful than techniques were in years gone by.
- 2) T
- 3) F Greene Vardiman Black came up with the idea that gum disease was an infection caused by bacteria.
- 4) F The primary goal of dentists is to develop early detection methods to prevent dental conditions from turning into dental problems.

INFERENCES

- 1) d
- 2) b

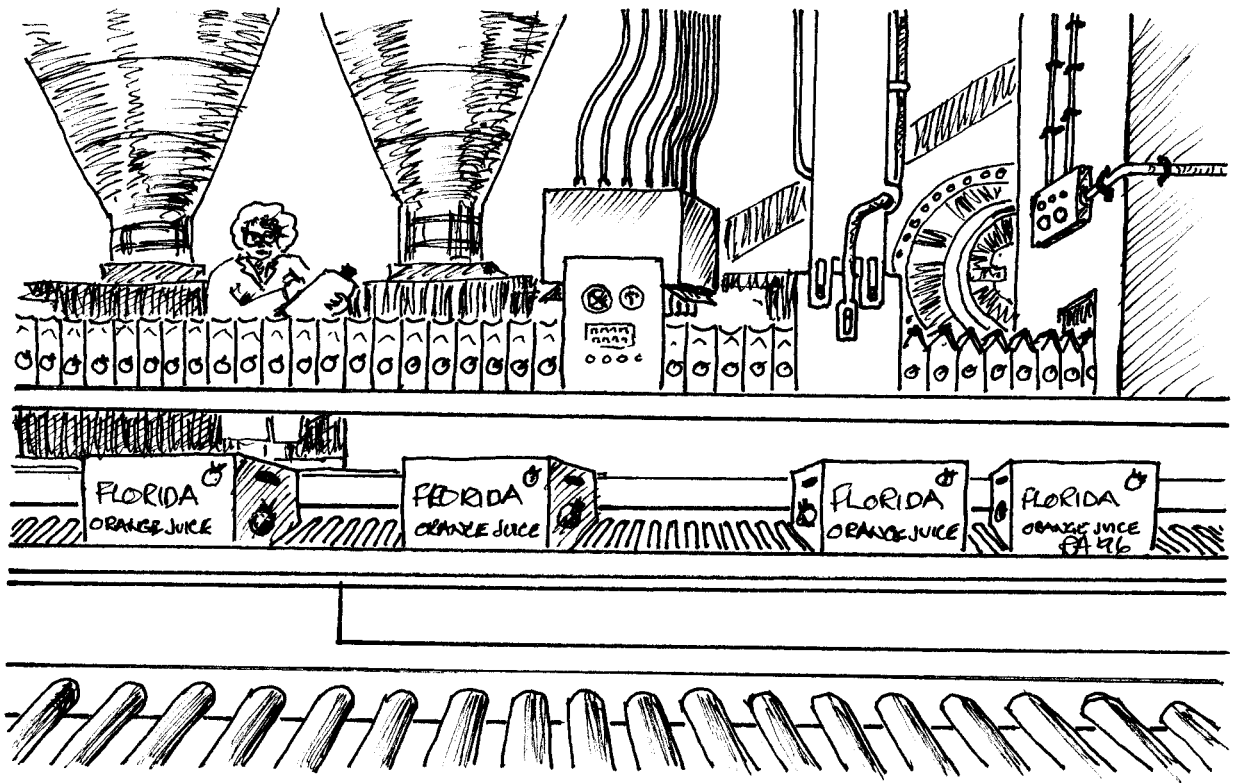
WORD POWER

- 1) b
- 2) a
- 3) a
- 4) c
- 5) a
- 6) a

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS: 1) branding 6) toothpaste 8) sophisticated 11) fluoride 12) polymer 13) gum

DOWN: 2) restoration 3) dentistry 4) teeth 5) mouth 7) decay 9) devoted 10) barber 11) filling



Automation

1 A jet pilot on a long flight over the Atlantic Ocean presses a button, and in just a few seconds a computer takes control of the flight and steers the jet. A man walks into his bank, and by using his plastic credit card he receives money from the bank machine. A woman in a factory watches over a robot as it puts together a new car piece by piece. A child sits down in front of a television, and with a quick press of the remote control, she is viewing her favorite movie.

2 In the modern world of the late 20th century, things like this happen every day. Many of the simple tasks people once had to do themselves are now being done by machines. This has made life much easier for humans by reducing the amount of work they have

to do. At work, at home, in offices and factories, the impact of “automation” can be seen in almost every aspect of life.

“Automation” is a word that describes the way machines are used to perform the jobs that humans once did. When something becomes “automated,” it continues to work even though humans are no longer involved in the process. Automation can be as simple as cooking something in a microwave oven or as complex as guiding a satellite through the unexplored regions of space.

For thousands of years, the only thing humans could rely on was themselves. In order to survive, they had to hunt their own food, make their

3

4

own clothing and build their own shelter. Most of this work was done by hand, and the work was very hard. As civilization grew, humans began to make many different tools to make their lives much easier: shovels for digging, hammers for building, ovens for cooking, and wheels to travel greater distances.

- 5 The invention of machines and engines helped quicken the speed of work around the world. Jobs that once took days for humans to finish were now being done in hours by machines.
- 6 In the 20th century, automation has occurred faster than at any time in history. In this period, humans have gone from using horses for travel to flying to the moon. As we approach the year 2000, computers are proving to be one of the greatest inventions in history.
- 7 Although most people would agree automation has improved the quality of

human life, some people believe it has caused an equal amount of problems. As automation occurs, many jobs humans once did begin to disappear. Machines that save companies time and money often put people out of work.

In huge factories, for example, automated robots are slowly taking over the job of building other products. At a car company every automated robot used on the assembly line has resulted in an average of two people losing their job. Without jobs, people have no money to buy products, and the entire economy suffers as a result.

There is no denying automation has made life easier for humans. Machines can now do many of the dangerous jobs humans once did. Computers are used in hospitals, in food processing plants, in banks and schools. By helping us complete our work, automation gives us the freedom to enjoy the good things in life!

THE MAIN IDEA

Circle the letter of the sentence or phrase which best describes the main idea of the article about Automation. Be prepared to support your answer.

- a) Automation has changed the way humans live.
- b) Automation has just as many good results as bad ones.
- c) The modern world is full of automation.
- d) The world is totally automated.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

If you can, answer these questions from memory. If you cannot, look back at the article.

1) How has automation made life easier for humans?

2) What does it mean when something becomes “automated”?

3) How did humans do things before so many things became automated?

4) Why do some people believe automation has caused problems?

REMEMBERING DETAILS

Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

1) Machines have made life much more difficult for most people.

2) Although machines have taken jobs from humans, machines do not do the work any quicker.

3) In huge factories, automated robots are slowly taking over the job of building other products.

4) Although machines are used for several jobs, the most dangerous work must still be performed by humans.

INFERENCES

Based on the article, circle the letter of the best sentence completion.

1) Before automation...

- a) life was very simple.
- b) everyone had a job.
- c) people had tools to do their work.
- d) people had to work hard to produce everything themselves.

2) When people lose their jobs because of automation...

- a) the economy suffers.
- b) new jobs are created for machine operators.
- c) it slows the production of new products.
- d) life gets easier for everyone.

INTERPRETATION

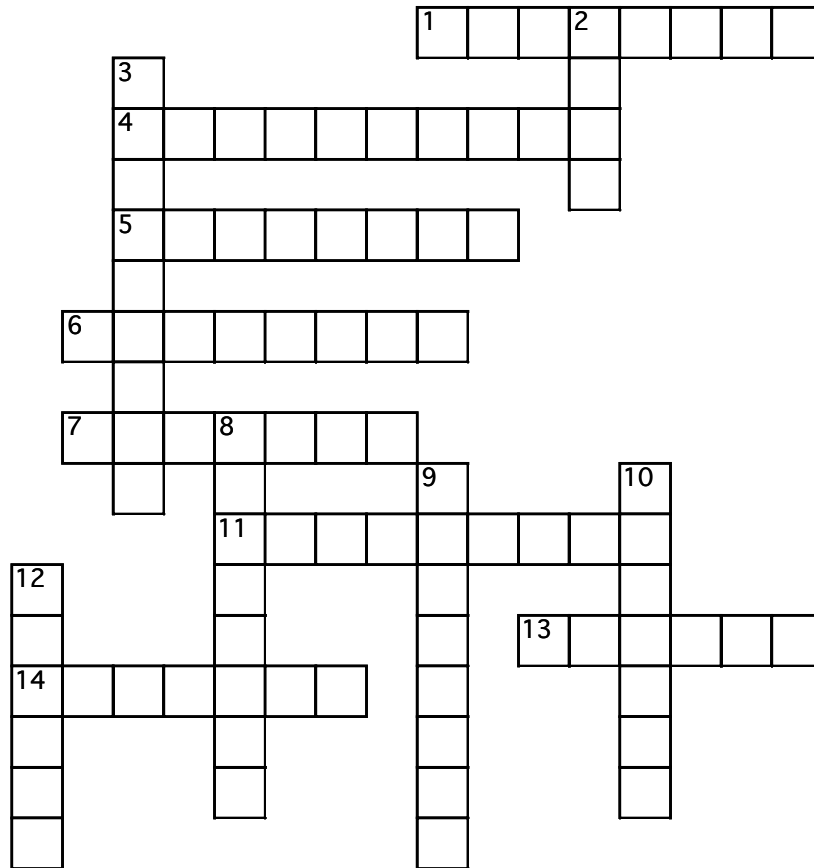
- 1) What automated products do you use in your everyday life? Do they make your life easier?
- 2) What would life be like if machines and automation had never been invented? Would life be better? Or worse?
- 3) What types of automated products do you think will be available in the future? What types of automated products would you like to see being invented? What jobs would they perform?

WORD POWER

Circle the letter of the word that means the same as the word on the left.

- | | | | |
|-------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1) steers | a) directs | b) builds | c) engineers |
| 2) remote | a) distant | b) automatic | c) computer |
| 3) aspect | a) age | b) kind | c) area |
| 4) rely on | a) trust in | b) depend on | c) understand |
| 5) occurred | a) increased | b) developed | c) happened |
| 6) assembly | a) fabricating | b) working | c) jiggling |

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS:

- 1) Tasks people once had to do themselves are now being done by _____.
- 4) “_____” describes the way machines do the jobs that humans once did.
- 5) Computers are proving to be one of the _____ inventions in history.
- 6) Without jobs people have no money to buy _____.
- 7) The invention of machines helped _____ the speed of work around the world.
- 11) Automation can be as simple as cooking something in a _____ oven.
- 13) Humans have gone from using horses for travel to _____ to the moon.
- 14) People had to hunt their own food and build their own _____.

DOWN:

- 2) Most of this work was done by _____, and the work was very hard.
- 3) Machines can now do many of the _____ jobs humans once did.
- 8) A jet pilot presses a button, and a _____ takes control of the jet.
- 9) A woman watches over a robot as it puts _____ a new car piece by piece.
- 10) There is no _____ automation has made life easier for humans.
- 12) Automation has made life much _____ for humans.

ANSWER KEY

THE MAIN IDEA

- a) Automation has changed the way humans live.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

- 1) Automation has made life much easier for humans by reducing the amount of work they have to do.
- 2) When something becomes “automated,” it continues to work even though humans are no longer involved in the process.
- 3) Before so many things became automated the only thing humans could rely on was themselves. In order to survive, they had to hunt their own food, make their own clothing and build their own shelter. Most of this work was done by hand, and the work was very hard.
- 4) Some people believe automation has caused problems because many jobs humans once did disappeared. Machines that save companies time and money often put people out of work.

REMEMBERING DETAILS

- 1) F Machines have made life much easier for most humans by reducing the amount of work they have to do.
- 2) F Jobs that once took days for humans to finish are done in hours by machines.
- 3) T
- 4) F Machines now do many of the dangerous jobs humans once did.

INFERENCES

- 1) d
- 2) a

WORD POWER

- 1) a
- 2) a
- 3) c
- 4) b
- 5) c
- 6) a

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS: 1) machines 4) automation 5) greatest 6) products 7) quicken 11) microwave 13) flying
14) shelter

DOWN: 2) hand 3) dangerous 8) computer 9) together 10) denying 12) easier



Commonwealth of Independent States

- 1 In the latter half of 1991, the Soviet Union separated into its individual republics. The world's largest nation had collapsed both politically and economically. The separation led to new conflicts, new leaders and new opportunities.
- 2 By the 1980s, the Soviet Union had begun to self-destruct. In 1985, Mikhail Gorbachev became president and the people hoped he could perform miracles. Gorbachev had a better education and was more honest than any of the Soviet leaders before him. Two of the first major policy changes Gorbachev made were his appeal for restructuring the economy and his allowing freedom of speech.
- 3 Within the Soviet Union, Gorbachev's policies caused problems. He came under attack both by those who agreed with his reforms and those who did not. The new freedoms allowed intellectuals, artists and writers to openly scrutinize and publicly attack every failure of the system. People in the Soviet Union began to demand that a democratic form of government be established. Meanwhile, hard-line Communists bent on retaining the old regime staged a political coup to oust Gorbachev from power. On August 19, 1991 an eight-man group calling themselves the State Committee for the State of Emergency, made up of influential, established members of the Soviet government, tried to overthrow Gorbachev. The coup was poorly planned and failed in less than seventy-two hours.

4 After the attempted coup, events happened quickly. Gorbachev resigned as head of the Communist party on August 24 and the party was disbanded. The Soviet Union began separating, with most of its individual republics each declaring independence.

5 The Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) was established on December 8, 1991 by Russia, Ukraine and Belarus. On December 13 they were joined by Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan. Armenia, Moldova and Azerbaijan joined on December 21. With the collapse of the Soviet Union, Gorbachev resigned as president on December 25 and Russian President Boris Yeltsin became head of the CIS. Later, in 1993, the former Soviet state of Georgia joined the CIS.

6 The CIS is not a country, but a loose

association of member states. It has no common citizenship or elected governing body. Each republic is responsible for its own economic and social issues, with the duties of the CIS being primarily to prevent military conflicts and to promote trade between CIS members. Today the CIS spreads over 8. million square miles (22 million square kilometers) and consists of many nationalities and many ethnic groups.

In the early days the fate of the CIS was up in the air as each republic struggled to reform its economy. Although Yeltsin was faced with much opposition, he continued to fight for the continued existence of the CIS. It was not until 1994, when 245 political and social organizations signed the “treaty of civil accord” that the Commonwealth of Independent States started to truly form the community of independent nations that it was meant to be.

7

THE MAIN IDEA

Circle the letter of the sentence or phrase which best describes the main idea of the article about the Commonwealth of Independent States. Be prepared to support your answer.

- a) The formation of the Commonwealth of Independent States.
- b) The collapse of the Soviet Union.
- c) The effects of Mikhail Gorbachev’s policies.
- d) The role of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

If you can, answer these questions from memory. If you cannot, look back at the article.

1) How was Mikhail Gorbachev different from previous leaders of the Soviet Union?

2) How did hard-line Communists react to Gorbachev's reforms?

3) Which republics established the Commonwealth of Independent States? When?

4) When did the CIS start to truly form the community of independent nations that it was meant to be.

REMEMBERING DETAILS

Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

1) Intellectuals, artists and writers did not want to see changes in the Soviet system.

2) After the attempted coup, things moved slowly in the Soviet Union.

3) The CIS is a country.

4) The duties of the CIS are primarily to prevent military conflicts and to promote trade between CIS members.

INFERENCES

Based on the article, circle the letter of the best sentence completion.

- 1) The dissolution of the Soviet Union...
 - a) was orchestrated by the CIS.
 - b) seems to have been the will of the majority.
 - c) was what Gorbachev had planned.
 - d) was the result of the failed coup attempt.

- 2) The republics which make up the CIS...
 - a) are much stronger than the Soviet Union was.
 - b) are still trying to solve many serious problems.
 - c) are actually no different from the Soviet Union.
 - d) decided to disband the CIS in 1994.

INTERPRETATION

- 1) Now that the Soviet Union has broken up, many smaller communist countries that used to rely on the Soviet Union's support are suffering. Can you name some of these countries? What are their main problems?

- 2) Some people believe that because of the breakup of the Soviet Union that democracy has won over communism and that communism is a failed form of government. Do you agree? What are the benefits and the shortcomings of communism?

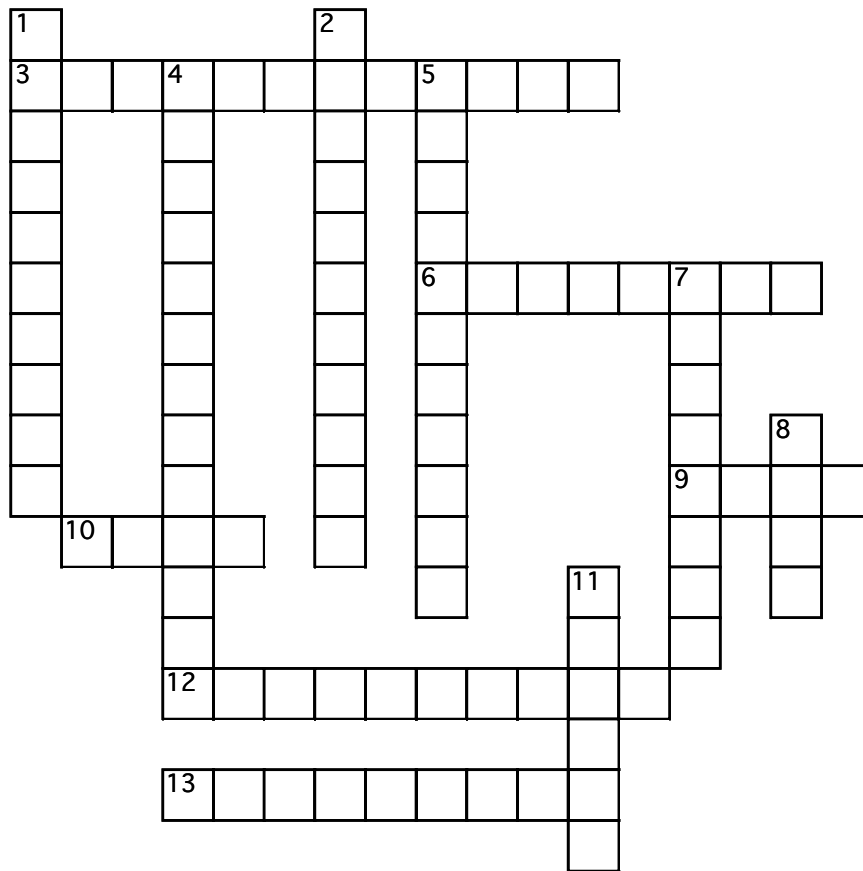
- 3) How do you think life has changed for those people who lived in the former Soviet Union who now live in CIS republics?

WORD POWER

Circle the letter of the word that means the same as the word on the left.

- | | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------|
| 1) self-destruct | a) explode | b) fall apart | c) expand |
| 2) scrutinize | a) examine closely | b) insult | c) maintain |
| 3) retaining | a) improving | b) keeping | c) loosening |
| 4) disbanded | a) dissolved | b) reestablished | c) cloaked |
| 5) resigned | a) stepped down | b) was let go | c) was fired |
| 6) promote | a) detail | b) encourage | c) entertain |

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS:

- 3) The world's largest nation had collapsed both politically and _____.
- 6) With the _____ of the Soviet Union, Gorbachev resigned as president.
- 9) The _____ was poorly planned and failed in less than seventy-two hours.
- 10) The _____ of the CIS was up in the air.
- 12) The Soviet Union began _____ into its individual republics.
- 13) In the latter half of 1991, the Soviet Union separated into its individual _____.

DOWN:

- 1) People began to demand that a _____ form of government be established.
- 2) The CIS has no common _____ or elected governing body.
- 4) The CIS consists of many _____ and many ethnic groups.
- 5) The CIS is not a country, but a loose _____ of member states.
- 7) Within the Soviet Union, Gorbachev's _____ caused problems.
- 8) Yeltsin was faced with _____ opposition.
- 11) Gorbachev was more _____ than any of the Soviet leaders before him.

ANSWER KEY

THE MAIN IDEA

- a) The formation of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

- 1) Gorbachev was different from previous Soviet leaders because he had a better education and was more honest than any of the Soviet leaders before him.
- 2) Hard-line Communists reacted to Gorbachev's reforms by staging a coup to try and oust Gorbachev from power.
- 3) The Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) was established on December 8, 1991 by Russia, Ukraine and Belarus.
- 4) It was not until 1994, when 245 political and social organizations signed the "treaty of civil accord" that the Commonwealth of Independent States started to truly form the community of independent nations that it was meant to be.

REMEMBERING DETAILS

- 1) F Intellectuals, artists and writers were anxious for changes in the Soviet system. After Gorbachev's reforms were introduced they began to openly scrutinize and publicly attack every failure of the system. People in the Soviet Union began to demand that a democratic form of government be established.
- 2) F After the attempted coup, events happened quickly.
- 3) F The CIS is not a country, but a loose association of member states. It has no common citizenship or elected governing body.
- 4) T

INFERENCES

- 1) b
- 2) b

WORD POWER

- 1) b
- 2) a
- 3) b
- 4) a
- 5) a
- 6) b

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS: 3) economically 6) collapse 9) coup 10) fate 12) separating 13) republics

DOWN: 1) democratic 2) citizenship 4) nationalities 5) association 7) policies 8) much
11) honest



Cashless Society

1 Paper money is the most common form of currency (or “cash”) used in the world today. Early in the 20th century, cash was most often used by people to pay their bills and buy goods. During the 1960s, many North Americans started using plastic “credit” cards instead of cash. Credit cards allowed people to buy the things they wanted and pay for them in the future. This growing use of “plastic money” led many money experts to predict the world would one day become a “cashless society.”

2 The term “cashless society” does not mean that money will no longer be needed to buy things. However, it does reflect a change in the way goods and services will be bought and sold in the future.

Many thousands of years ago, there 3 was no cash to worry about. Back in time people did not require money in order to survive. They simply took what they needed from the land. Later on people discovered that they could trade what they had with others to get the things they needed. This method of trading was called the “barter system.” In ancient Egypt and Babylon, bartering was the only way to do business.

As civilization grew, many cultures 4 began using a money system to buy goods. Money is not always made of metal coins and paper. In fact, money can be any object of value that is exchanged for another thing of value. Cows, whale teeth, sea-shells, beads, salt, beer, spices, furs and food have

all served as money at some point in history.

- 5 In ancient Rome and Greece, coins were most often used for money. Coins were usually made of clay, wood or metals such as silver, gold, lead, copper and nickel. Today most countries in the world have accepted a money system that uses coins and bills as cash.
- 6 The growing use of plastic cards is slowly changing the modern money system. The first plastic credit card went into use in California in 1959. Since that time, banks have been the largest suppliers of credit cards. In North America, billions of credit cards are now in use. No cash is needed when using a credit card to buy things. A magnetic strip on the back of a credit card records the cost of goods

and services with each purchase. These things can then be paid for at a later date. Everything from food and clothes to cars and boats can be bought using credit cards.

In the 1990s, more and more companies have begun making plastic cards available to make paying for things much easier. Bank cards give customers direct access to the money in their bank accounts; phone cards let customers call without putting money in the phone; new “smart cards” now make it possible to buy things and pay directly from a bank account.

It has been said that “money makes the world go around.” Starting now and into the future, however, it appears “plastic money” will be the choice of a cashless society.

THE MAIN IDEA

Circle the letter of the sentence or phrase which best describes the main idea of the article about a Cashless Society. Be prepared to support your answer.

- a) In the future no one will need money.
- b) Plastic money has taken over as the preferred method of payment.
- c) Money has changed over the centuries.
- d) How money makes the world go around.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

If you can, answer these questions from memory. If you cannot, look back at the article.

1) When did many North Americans first start using credit cards?

2) Back in time, why did people not have to worry about cash?

3) How does a credit card work?

4) What has been a trend in the 1990s?

REMEMBERING DETAILS

Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

1) Many money experts predict that the “plastic money” trend will end soon.

2) Money can be any object of value that is exchanged for another thing of value.

3) Today only a few countries in the world have an accepted money system.

4) With smart cards you pay for your purchases at a later date.

INFERENCES

Based on the article, circle the letter of the best sentence completion.

1) A definition of money is...

- a) dollars and cents.
- b) anything of value that is exchanged for another thing of value.
- c) the same as the “barter system.”
- d) whatever you find in a bank.

2) A cashless society means...

- a) nobody will need money.
- b) we will use plastic more often than bills and coins.
- c) everyone will need their credit card when they go to the bank.
- d) everyone will be in debt because of the interest charges on credit cards.

INTERPRETATION

1) Have you ever made an exchange using the barter system? What was the deal? Were you satisfied with the deal? Where in the world is the “barter system” still used? What would the world be like if the barter system were still used today and there was no money of any kind?

2) What are the advantages and disadvantages of having and using credit cards?

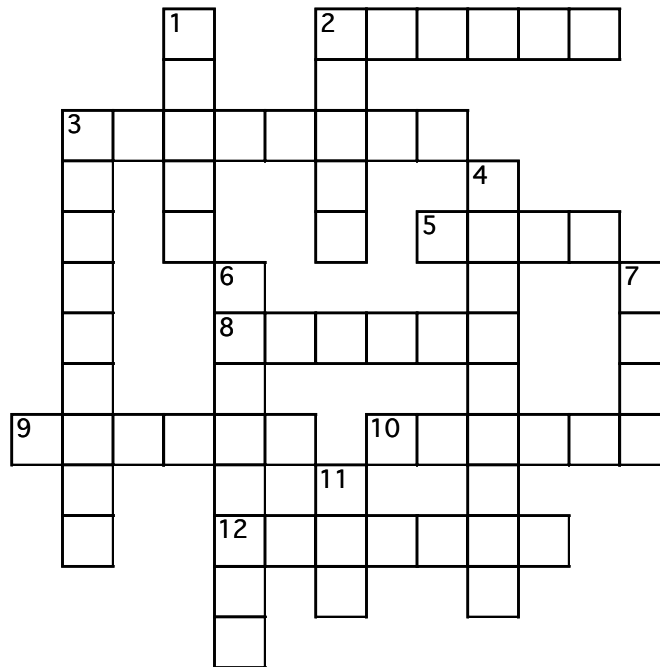
3) In the article the author mentions several things that at some point in time were considered currency. When, where and why do you think each of these was used as money?

WORD POWER

Circle the letter of the word that means the same as the word on the left.

- | | | | |
|--------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------|
| 1) reflect | a) demonstrate | b) advocate | c) dictate |
| 2) survive | a) exist | b) debate | c) purchase |
| 3) goods | a) elements | b) pieces | c) products |
| 4) exchanged | a) traded | b) desired | c) craved |
| 5) suppliers | a) counterfeiters | b) providers | c) builders |
| 6) directly | a) later | b) undeniably | c) straight |

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS:

- 2) More companies have begun _____ plastic cards available.
- 3) Paper money is the most common form of _____ used in the world today.
- 5) Many thousands of years ago, there was no _____ to worry about.
- 8) The first plastic _____ card went into use in California in 1959.
- 9) No cash is _____ when using a credit card to buy things.
- 10) Beads, salt, beer and food have all _____ as money at some point in history.
- 12) This method of _____ was called the “barter system.”

DOWN:

- 1) Money makes the _____ go around.
- 2) The term “cashless society” does not mean that _____ will no longer be needed.
- 3) Bank cards give _____ direct access to the money in their bank accounts.
- 4) In ancient Egypt and Babylon, _____ was the only way to do business.
- 6) Most countries have _____ a money system that uses coins and bills as cash.
- 7) Products can be _____ for at a later date.
- 11) Credit cards allow people to _____ for their purchases in the future.

ANSWER KEY

THE MAIN IDEA

b) Plastic money has taken over as the preferred method of payment.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

- 1) During the 1960s, many North Americans started using plastic “credit” cards instead of cash.
- 2) Back in time people did not have to worry about cash because there was no cash in existence.
People did not require money in order to survive: they simply took what they needed from the land.
If that was not enough, they traded what they had with others to get the things they needed.
- 3) A credit card works by having a magnetic strip on the back of a credit card record the cost of goods and services purchased. These things can then be paid for at a later date.
- 4) In the 1990s, more and more companies have begun making plastic cards available to make paying for things much easier.

REMEMBERING DETAILS

- 1) F The growing use of “plastic money” has led many money experts to predict the world would one day become a “cashless society.”
- 2) T
- 3) F Today most countries in the world have an accepted money system.
- 4) F With credit cards you pay for purchases at a later date. With smart cards the money is taken directly from a bank account.

INFERENCES

- 1) b
- 2) b

WORD POWER

- 1) a
- 2) a
- 3) c
- 4) a
- 5) b
- 6) c

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS: 2) making 3) currency 5) cash 8) credit 9) needed 10) served 12) trading

DOWN: 1) world 2) money 3) customers 4) bartering 6) accepted 7) paid 11) pay



Woodstock Festivals

- 1 Some musicians are remembered for making music. Others are remembered for making history.
- 2 That is what happened in the summer of 1969, when some of the most well-known musical groups and solo artists of the 1960s were asked to perform at the Woodstock Music and Arts Festival. Before the festival began, organizers were hoping to attract 50,000 music fans to the location of the event--a private farm in upstate New York. Before it was finished, over half a million people had crowded into Woodstock, at the time making it the biggest concert event in music history.
- 3 No one expected such a huge crowd to make the trip to owner Max

Yasgur's farm. The 600 acres of rolling hills and grassy fields located just outside the town of Bethel seemed like a rather odd place to hold a music festival. But this was the 1960s, a time when the youth of America were experiencing a great deal of personal freedom. When the Woodstock Festival was announced, young people from across the country decided to attend.

Although The Beatles and The Rolling Stones were two of the biggest musical acts in the world, neither agreed to perform at Woodstock. However, organizers still managed to attract some of the biggest stars of the 60s: British rockers The Who were there, along with such other bands as Crosby Still Nash and Young, Joe

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Cocker, Santana, Jefferson Airplane, Country Joe and The Fish, Sly and The Family Stone, Janis Joplin and guitarist Jimi Hendrix.

5 The three days of “peace, love and music” began on August 15, 1969. By the end of the first day, however, organizers realized they were in serious trouble. All roads leading to Woodstock were jammed with traffic, with some backed up over 20 miles (35 kilometers). Thousands of people eager to get into the festival began leaving their cars parked on the roads, further adding to the problem.

6 So many people began arriving without tickets the people who staged the festival were forced to make Woodstock a free concert. A full day of rain on Saturday turned the concert grounds into a muddy swamp, and hundreds of people removed their clothes to enjoy the freedom of going naked!

7 By the time Jimi Hendrix ended the concert with his version of the

American national anthem “The Star Spangled Banner,” three people had died, two children were born and six women had suffered miscarriages. Many more were sick from the effects of drinking too much alcohol and taking too many drugs.

8 Twenty-five years after the first Woodstock, a group of promoters and sponsors decided to host a similar event. A site in Saugerties, New York just up the road from the original festival was chosen for the stage. On August 12, 1994, a concert billed as “Three More Days of Peace, Love and Music” got under way.

9 Once again, no one knew how many people would be attending the event, but this time organizers were ready. Over 300,000 music fans showed up and were treated to three more days of mud thanks to heavy rain. Despite the weather, such acts as The Cranberries, Green Day, Red Hot Chili Peppers and Nine Inch Nails helped make the second Woodstock a great success.

THE MAIN IDEA

Circle the letter of the sentence or phrase which best describes the main idea of the article about the Woodstock Festivals. Be prepared to support your answer.

- a) The two Woodstocks were very similar.
- b) Both Woodstocks offered music, fun and mud to many people.
- c) Both Woodstocks were not well organized.
- d) The weather at the two Woodstocks.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

If you can, answer these questions from memory. If you cannot, look back at the article.

1) When did the two Woodstocks take place?

2) Name some musical acts that appeared at the first Woodstock.

3) By the time the first Woodstock had ended, what had happened to some of the people in attendance?

4) Name some musical acts that appeared at the second Woodstock.

REMEMBERING DETAILS

Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

1) The Beatles and the The Rolling Stones performed at the first Woodstock.

2) The first Woodstock was held at Saugerties, New York.

3) There were no traffic problems at the first Woodstock.

4) The second Woodstock took place twenty-five years after the first.

INFERENCES

Based on the article, circle the letter of the best sentence completion.

1) Although the first Woodstock was an event celebrating “peace, love and music”...

- a) organizers swore they would never attempt it again.
- b) the bands that played sang about war, hate and violence.
- c) people got angry when they got stuck in traffic.
- d) for some people the event was rather tragic.

2) Since the first Woodstock...

- a) people continue to remember and celebrate the event.
- b) the same bands still play music.
- c) organizers still have not learned how to deal with huge crowds.
- d) new laws prevent such concerts from being held.

INTERPRETATION

1) Have you ever been to a big outdoor concert? Or indoor? Where? When?
Which musical acts were playing? Did you have fun? Of the two Woodstocks,
which would you prefer to have attended? Why?

2) If you were going to either Woodstock, what would you pack to bring with
you? Why?

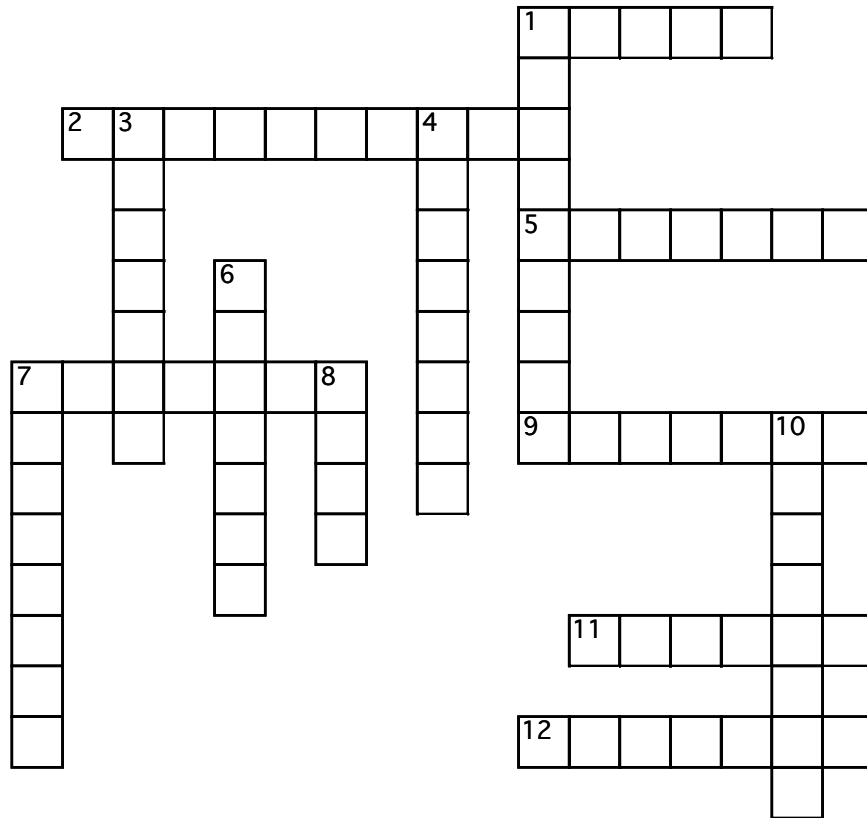
3) The first Woodstock concert is considered a defining moment for the flower
children of the 1960s. Can you name any other events in history that united a
generation?

WORD POWER

Circle the letter of the word that means the same as the word on the left.

- | | | | |
|-------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1) location | a) resting place | b) formation | c) site |
| 2) odd | a) unusual | b) serene | c) rural |
| 3) jammed | a) slick | b) stacked | c) packed |
| 4) eager | a) perturbed | b) anxious | c) pushing |
| 5) billed | a) promoted | b) hosted | c) torn down |
| 6) treated | a) blown away | b) computed | c) given |

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS:

- 1) A full day of rain on Saturday turned the concert grounds into a _____ swamp.
- 2) The _____ were ready.
- 5) Young people from across the _____ decided to attend.
- 7) Organizers realized they were in _____ trouble.
- 9) Despite the weather the second Woodstock was a great _____.
- 11) Thousands of people left their cars _____ on the roads.
- 12) People removed their _____ to enjoy the freedom of going naked!

DOWN:

- 1) Some _____ are remembered for making music.
- 3) British _____ The Who were there.
- 4) No one _____ such a huge crowd to make the trip to owner Max Yasgur's farm.
- 6) Over half a million people had _____ into Woodstock.
- 7) A group of promoters and _____ decided to host a similar event.
- 8) Well-known musical groups and _____ artists were asked to perform.
- 10) Two children were born and six women had _____ miscarriages.

ANSWER KEY

THE MAIN IDEA

b) Both Woodstocks offered music, fun and mud to many people.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

- 1) The first Woodstock took place in 1969, while the second one took place in 1994.
- 2) British rockers The Who were there, along with such other bands as Crosby Still Nash and Young, Joe Cocker, Santana, Jefferson Airplane, Country Joe and The Fish, Sly and The Family Stone, Janis Joplin and guitarist Jimi Hendrix.
- 3) By the time Jimi Hendrix ended the concert with his version of the American national anthem “The Star Spangled Banner,” three people had died, two children were born and six women had suffered miscarriages. Many more were sick from the effects of drinking too much alcohol and taking too many drugs.
- 4) Such acts as The Cranberries, Green Day, Red Hot Chili Peppers and Nine Inch Nails took part in the second Woodstock.

REMEMBERING DETAILS

- 1) F Neither The Beatles or the The Rolling Stones performed at the first Woodstock.
- 2) F The first Woodstock was held just outside the town of Bethel, New York. The second Woodstock was held at Saugerties, New York.
- 3) F There were serious traffic problems. All roads leading to Woodstock were jammed with traffic, with some backed up over 20 miles (35 kilometers). Thousands of people eager to get into the festival began leaving their cars parked on the roads, further adding to the problem.
- 4) T

INFERENCES

- 1) d
- 2) a

WORD POWER

- 1) c
- 2) a
- 3) c
- 4) b
- 5) a
- 6) c

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS: 1) muddy 2) organizers 5) country 7) serious 9) success 11) parked 12) clothes

DOWN: 1) musicians 3) rockers 4) expected 6) crowded 7) sponsors 8) solo 10) suffered



Homelessness

1 It is an all too familiar scene. Walking or driving along city streets, passing a person carrying their belongings in a shopping cart or a person with a sign propped against their body that reads, "Homeless. Will do odd jobs for food." Looking at these people, the question often comes to mind: how did someone end up in such dire straits?

2 Being homeless is when a person is literally without shelter. Statistics for the number of homeless people are difficult to determine conclusively because the number of people who are homeless changes daily. It is also next to impossible to go out and physically count every homeless person in a city. In the United States in the early 1990s, the number of people who were

homeless for one or more nights in a year was estimated to have been between one and three million. And the number of people living without shelter continues to increase. Not since the 1930s, during the Great Depression, have so many Americans been homeless. In the mid-1980s, the United Nations estimated that the world's underdeveloped countries contained more than 100 million homeless people.

Who are the homeless? The homeless population in North American cities is made up of many categories of people. They are men, women and children. Many are forced to live on the streets because government assistance runs out, low-rent housing is eliminated or there are

3

unaffordable rent increases. There are others who choose to be homeless because they want to leave difficult situations at home, such as battered wives or abused children. Some homeless people are alcoholics or drug addicts. Many discharged mental patients are homeless.

- 4 When a home is no longer an option, the homeless turn to the cities for places to eat and sleep. Cities run soup kitchens to feed those who cannot afford a meal. In alleys and doorways, on benches and store steps, in public facilities and public shelters, the homeless take refuge. Cities have responded by changing city-owned buildings into shelters. But some homeless people consider shelters to be dangerous and fear the people they might meet there; these people may refuse to use shelters. During wintertime in colder climates, volunteers drive the streets handing out

sleeping bags, warm clothing and hot soup.

As cities are striving to provide options for the homeless, the United States government is also making efforts to solve the problem. In 1988 Congress began a \$2 billion program to aid the homeless. Money was available for providing food, shelter, health-care and alcohol-and-drug-abuse programs for the homeless. The program has not been overly successful.

The battle to eliminate homelessness belongs to everyone: the government, the individual cities, all of humankind. The United Nations declared 1987 to be the *International Year of Shelter for the Homeless* in an effort to improve programs for the poor and to heighten public awareness of the plight of the homeless. Despite all the efforts, homelessness continues to be at crisis

THE MAIN IDEA

Circle the letter of the sentence or phrase which best describes the main idea of the article about Homelessness. Be prepared to support your answer.

- a) Poverty among the homeless.
- b) Nobody is doing much about homelessness.
- c) Homelessness and efforts to combat it.
- d) Solving homelessness is a complex problem.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

If you can, answer these questions from memory. If you cannot, look back at the article.

1) Write a definition for homelessness.

2) Why is it difficult to accurately determine the number of homeless people in a city?

3) In the United States in the early 1990s, how many people were estimated to be homeless for one or more nights?

4) Where has the United Nations estimated that there are more than 100 million homeless people?

REMEMBERING DETAILS

Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

1) The number of people who are homeless changes daily.

2) Only men are homeless in North America.

3) The \$2 billion program put into effect by the United States Congress has been a great success.

4) The homelessness crisis is over.

INFERENCES

Based on the article, circle the letter of the best sentence completion.

1) The number of homeless people...

- a) is being researched by the United States government.
- b) is growing faster in the United States than anywhere else in the world.
- c) has not been as high as it is in the U.S. since the Great Depression.
- d) has shown signs that it might begin to decrease.

2) A person may be homeless...

- a) because the economy is as bad as it was during the Great Depression.
- b) because the shelters are all full.
- c) for longer than just one day.
- d) for any number of reasons.

INTERPRETATION

1) Did you ever run away from home?

2) Is society responsible for the welfare of the homeless? Should governments be doing more? Less? Do you have a solution for homelessness?

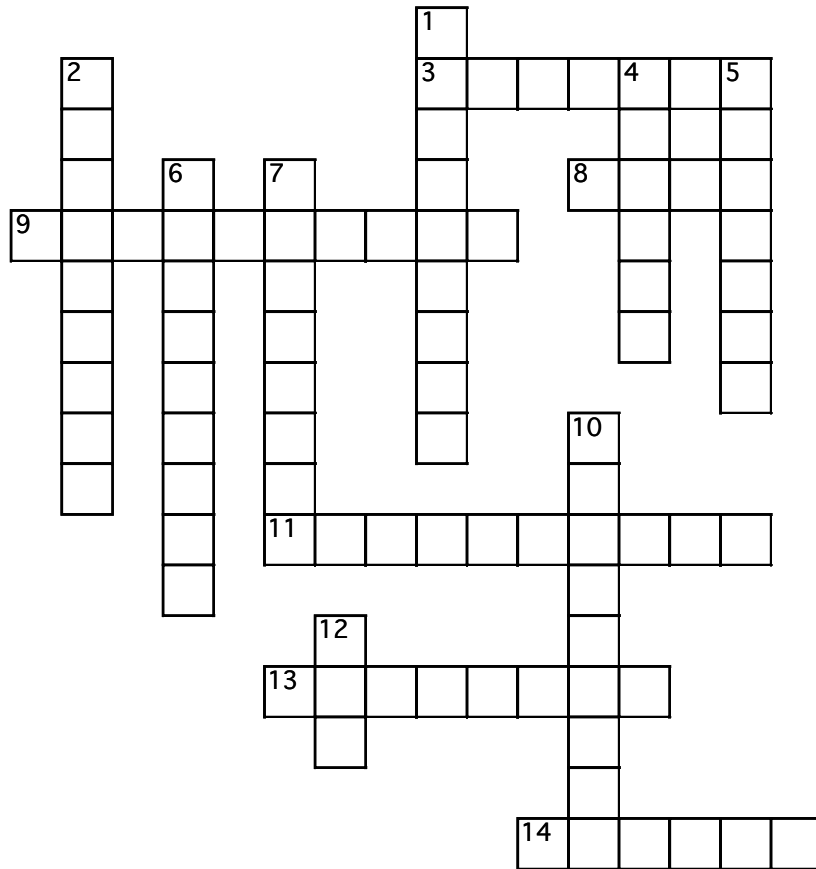
3) With a partner, discuss what a day in the life of a homeless person in a large urban center might be like.

WORD POWER

Circle the letter of the word that means the same as the word on the left.

- | | | | |
|---------------|------------------|-------------|---------------|
| 1) familiar | a) common | b) awkward | c) melancholy |
| 2) propped | a) settling | b) leaning | c) taped |
| 3) literally | a) actually | b) sadly | c) performing |
| 4) assistance | a) welfare | b) medicare | c) legal aid |
| 5) option | a) impossibility | b) choice | c) treat |
| 6) overly | a) extremely | b) directly | c) reportedly |

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS:

- 3) Some homeless people are alcoholics or drug _____.
- 8) How did someone end up in such _____ straits?
- 9) The homeless population is made up of many _____ of people.
- 11) Some people choose to be homeless because they want to leave difficult _____.
- 13) Cities run soup _____ to feed those who cannot afford a meal.
- 14) Many discharged _____ patients are homeless.

DOWN:

- 1) Some homeless people consider shelters to be _____.
- 2) The battle to eliminate homelessness belongs to all of _____.
- 4) Despite all the efforts, homelessness continues to be at _____ levels.
- 5) The number of people living without _____ continues to increase.
- 6) Cities have _____ by changing city-owned buildings into shelters.
- 7) Being _____ is when a person is literally without shelter.
- 10) The battle to _____ homelessness belongs to everyone.
- 12) In 1988 Congress began a \$2 billion program to _____ the homeless.

ANSWER KEY

THE MAIN IDEA

c) Homelessness and efforts to combat it.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

- 1) Homelessness is when a person is literally without shelter.
- 2) It is difficult to determine conclusively the number of homeless people in a city because the number of people who are homeless changes daily, and because it is next to impossible to go out and physically count every homeless person in a city.
- 3) In the United States in the early 1990s, the number of people who were homeless for one or more nights in a year was estimated to have been between one and three million.
- 4) The United Nations estimated that the world's underdeveloped countries contain more than 100 million homeless people.

REMEMBERING DETAILS

- 1) T
- 2) F Homeless people are men, women and children.
- 3) F The \$2 billion program put into effect by the United States Congress has not been overly successful.
- 4) F Despite all the efforts, homelessness continues to be at crisis levels.

INFERENCES

- 1) c
- 2) d

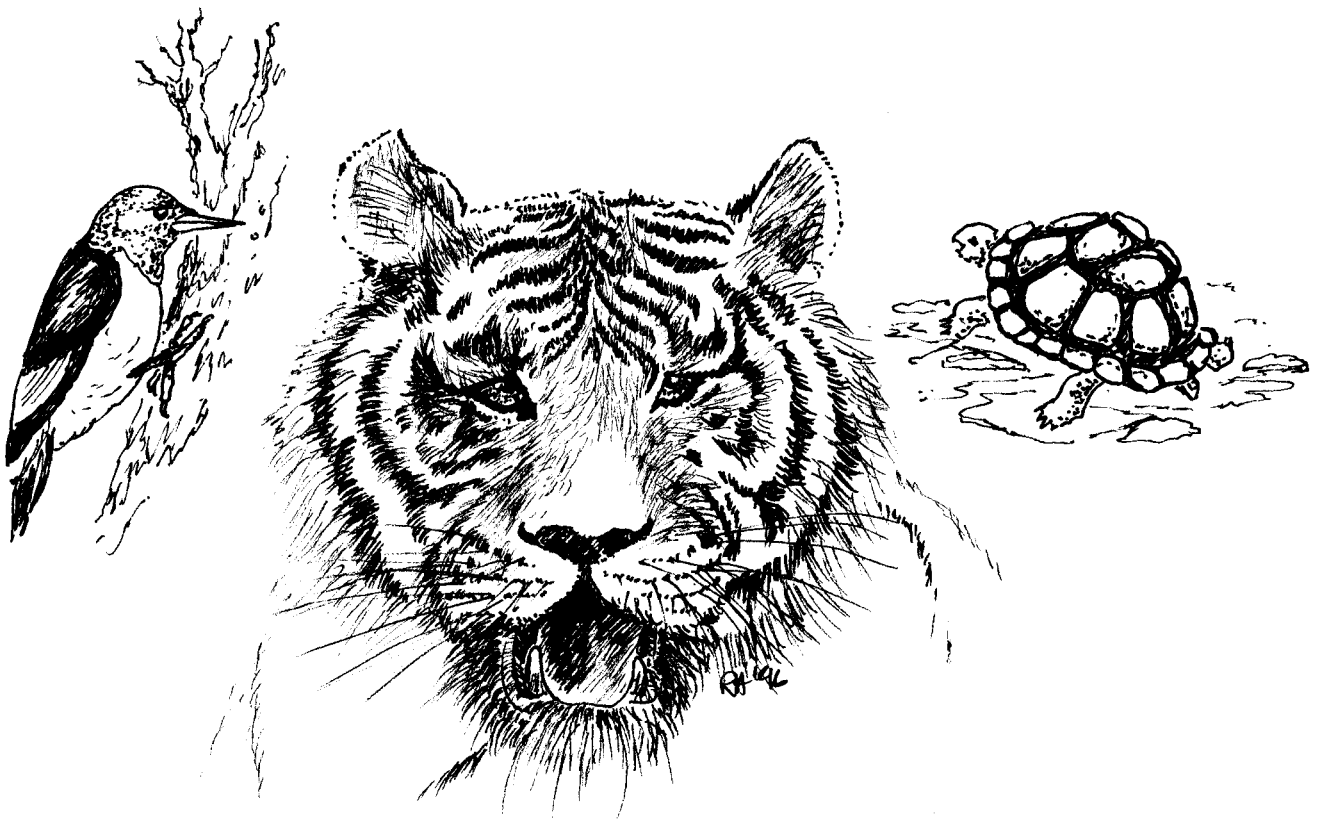
WORD POWER

- 1) a
- 2) b
- 3) a
- 4) a
- 5) b
- 6) a

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS: 3) addicts 8) dire 9) categories 11) situations 13) kitchens 14) mental

DOWN: 1) dangerous 2) humankind 4) crisis 5) shelter 6) responded 7) homeless 10) eliminate 12) aid



Endangered Species

1 Imagine a single goldfish swimming in a pond of fresh water. If its food and water supply remained the same, this fish could live a long happy life. But what if conditions in the pond were to change?

2 What if gasoline was poured into the water, poisoning the fish? What if the pond was drained away, leaving the fish without water? What if hundreds of other goldfish were crowded into the pond, or a hungry trout looking to have fresh fish for dinner was put into the pond? In each case, the goldfish would probably disappear from the pond forever.

3 When something changes the natural conditions in which groups of plants or animals are used to living, it can lower

the chances these groups--or "species"--will survive. This destruction of wild lands and natural habitats is a major reason why some plants and animals become "endangered species."

An endangered species is a living thing--plant, animal or even insect--that is close to becoming "extinct." This means their entire species is close to disappearing from the planet forever. Dinosaurs are the most common example of an extinct species. These giant beasts suddenly disappeared from earth over 65 million years ago and can no longer be found living anywhere on the planet.

A more recent example would be the carrier pigeon. Once found by the millions in North America, the number

4

5

of carrier pigeons began dropping in the 19th century. The major cause was over-hunting by humans and the destruction of the forests where they once lived. Although efforts were made to save the bird, the last carrier pigeon died in 1914.

There are many things that can put a species in danger. There are natural causes, such as earthquakes, floods, droughts, volcanos, fire and hunting by other animals. However, humans are by far the greatest cause of destruction in the plant and animal kingdom.

6 By the year 2000, scientists predict there will be 1 million fewer species on earth than there were at the beginning of the century. In the 1980s, the world was losing one species a day. In the 1990s, the number has increased to one species every hour! Over 1,000 of the 9,000 known species of birds are now on the endangered species list. So are 25,000 of the 250,000 known types of plants. Humpback whales, African elephants, Siberian tigers, lions, zebras, cougars, eagles, falcons, giraffes, crocodiles, chinook salmon and wild orchids are just a few of the plants, animals, birds and fish that are currently facing extinction.

While humans have always relied on hunting and gathering for food, over-hunting and killing animals for sport has brought many species close to extinction. Clearing forests for farmland, for firewood and lumber has destroyed millions of acres of natural habitat. This is especially true in the tropical rain forests, where nearly half the species on earth are found. Even in the oceans, over-fishing has decreased the number of fish swimming in the lakes and oceans of the earth. If this destruction continues, there are many people who predict humans themselves will be the next endangered species! 8

THE MAIN IDEA

Circle the letter of the sentence or phrase which best describes the main idea of the article about Endangered Species. Be prepared to support your answer.

- a) Humans are quickly becoming endangered.
- b) The problem of species becoming extinct.
- c) Many things cause a species to become endangered.
- d) Species have been disappearing for millions of years.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

If you can, answer these questions from memory. If you cannot, look back at the article.

1) Name something which can lower the chances that a species survives.

2) What is an endangered species?

3) Why are scientist concerned about disappearing species when this has been happening for millions of years?

4) What are some natural causes that can put a species in danger of extinction?

REMEMBERING DETAILS

Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

1) Carrier pigeons became extinct 65 million years ago.

2) By the year 2000, scientists predict there will be one thousand fewer species on earth than there were at the beginning of the century.

3) Natural causes are the greatest cause of destruction in the plant and animal kingdoms.

4) There are many people who predict mankind itself will be the next endangered species.

INFERENCES

Based on the article, circle the letter of the best sentence completion.

1) The speed at which species are becoming extinct is a concern because...

- a) most species of birds are now on the endangered list.
- b) it will not go away unless we do something about it.
- c) rain forests are being cleared so quickly.
- d) species are disappearing at a faster rate than ever before.

2) The problem of endangered species...

- a) will be solved by plants and animals.
- b) is the fault of the dinosaurs.
- c) is mostly a human-made problem.
- d) has slowed in recent years.

INTERPRETATION

1) Do you think humans are truly in danger of becoming extinct?

2) How does recycling aid in the preservation of plant and animal life?

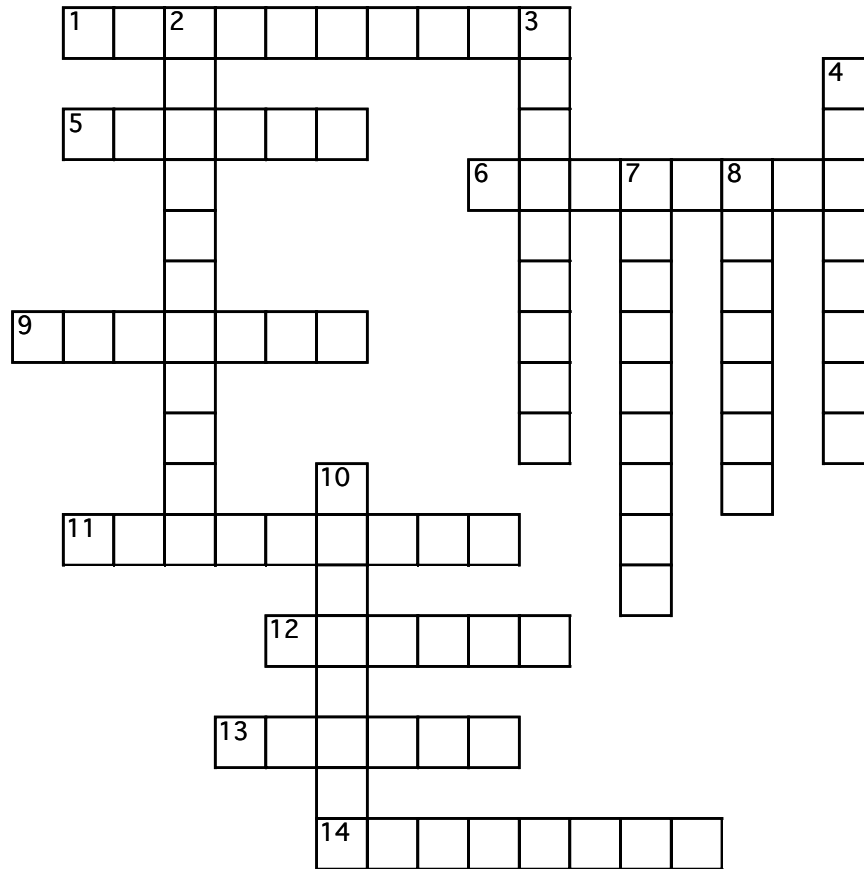
3) What can an individual person do to help the cause of preventing species from becoming extinct?

WORD POWER

Circle the letter of the word that means the same as the word on the left.

- | | | | |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1) dropping | a) falling | b) skyrocketing | c) jumping |
| 2) predict | a) worry | b) anticipate | c) know |
| 3) facing | a) encountering | b) preventing | c) hurrying |
| 4) droughts | a) wet seasons | b) dry spells | c) cold seasons |
| 5) relied on | a) counted on | b) estimated | c) pretended |
| 6) clearing | a) mowing | b) cutting down | c) addressing |

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS:

- 1) Many people predict humans themselves will be the next _____ species!
- 5) In the 1980s, the world was _____ one species a day.
- 6) Nearly half the species on earth are found in _____ rain forests.
- 9) There are many things that can put a _____ in danger.
- 11) _____ disappeared from earth over 65 million years ago.
- 12) An endangered species is a _____ thing that is close to becoming extinct.
- 13) 25,000 of the 250,000 known types of _____ are on the endangered species list.
- 14) Imagine a single goldfish _____ in a pond of fresh water.

DOWN:

- 2) Humans are by far the greatest cause of _____ in nature.
- 3) Even in the oceans, over-fishing has _____ the number of fish.
- 4) Carrier pigeons were once found by the _____ in North America.
- 7) What if gasoline was poured into the water, _____ the fish?
- 8) What if hundreds of other goldfish were _____ into the pond?
- 10) The destruction of wild lands and natural _____ is a major problem.

ANSWER KEY

THE MAIN IDEA

- b) The problem of species becoming extinct.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

- 1) When something changes the natural conditions in which groups of plants or animals are used to living, it can lower the chances these species will survive.
- 2) An endangered species is a living thing--plant, animal or even insect--that is close to becoming "extinct." This means their entire species is close to disappearing from the planet forever.
- 3) Scientists are concerned about extinctions because even though this has been happening for millions of years, in the recent past the rate of species going extinct has speeded up considerably.
- 4) Some natural causes that can put a species in danger of extinction include earthquakes, floods, droughts, volcanos, fire and hunting by other animals.

REMEMBERING DETAILS

- 1) F Carrier pigeons became extinct in 1914. Dinosaurs became extinct 65 million years ago.
- 2) F By the year 2000, scientists predict there will be 1 million fewer species on earth than there were at the beginning of the century.
- 3) F Humans are by far the greatest cause of destruction in the plant and animal kingdom.
- 4) T

INFERENCES

- 1) d
- 2) c

WORD POWER

- 1) a
- 2) b
- 3) a
- 4) b
- 5) a
- 6) b

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS: 1) endangered 5) losing 6) tropical 9) species 11) dinosaurs 12) living 13) plants
14) swimming

DOWN: 2) destruction 3) decreased 4) millions 7) poisoning 8) crowded 10) habitats



Alternative Medicine

1 Long before there were medicinal drugs like penicillin and aspirin people relied on themselves and products of the earth to heal their injuries and illnesses. With the introduction of modern medicine the idea of natural healing seemed to diminish. However, the late 20th century has brought a reemergence in interest in alternative ways of healing the body and mind.

2 Alternative medicines are ways of healing a person's ailments different from those used by nearly all of today's physicians. Sometimes alternative medicine is used in conjunction with prescription medications and therapies recommended by modern physicians. Many treatments are derived from healing methods of centuries ago.

There are many different forms of alternative medicine. Some are: herbal remedies, acupuncture, massage, meditation, ancient energy balance, homeopathy, chiropractic, and holistic medicine.

Holistic medicine was first introduced by South African prime minister and philosopher Jan Christian Smuts in 1925. Holistic medicine concentrates on the person as a whole rather than the ailment itself. Smuts theory was that the whole person and its systems are greater than the sum of their parts. The three basic ideas behind holistic medicine are: each individual is responsible for their own well-being; each person is seen as an individual, not as a symptom-bearing organism; and lastly, making use of

3

any available treatments and methods in both alternative and standard medical practices.

- 4 Holistic medicine is mainly an attitude a person has about health and healing. Holistic medicine addresses the whole person as well as their environment. Practitioners of holistic medicine believe that individuals possess the mental, emotional, spiritual, physical and social capacity to heal themselves. Although in many cases those treating people holistically use technical equipment and statistical analysis, the success of their treatments still rests in a person's own strength and the patient's attempts to mobilize their own capacity to heal themselves.
- 5 Homeopathy was started by German physician Samuel Hahnemann in the 1790s. It is based on the premise that the symptoms of a disease are evidence that the body is trying to cure itself of the disease. Homeopathic physicians try to speed the development of these

symptoms in order to accelerate the body's self-cure. Hahnemann taught the treatment to other doctors and soon homeopathy became popular. In the United States in 1844 the American Institute of Homeopathy was founded. Today homeopathy is not greatly accepted by medical professionals, mostly because it focuses on the symptoms rather than the cause of a disease.

It seems alternative medicine is not only for humans. More and more animals are being treated with alternative methods. Often families with sick pets who have not found solutions in conventional approaches turn to alternative therapies for their four-legged friends.

Whether it is homeopathy, herbal and plant mixtures, touch-therapy or any other alternative medicine, more and more people seem to be turning toward alternative ways to heal their ailments.

THE MAIN IDEA

Circle the letter of the sentence or phrase which best describes the main idea of the article about Alternative Medicine. Be prepared to support your answer.

- a) The fading interest in alternative medicines.
- b) Modern medical professionals versus practitioners of alternative medicines.
- c) Homeopathy and holistic medicine.
- d) Different forms of alternative medicine.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

If you can, answer these questions from memory. If you cannot, look back at the article.

1) What are some forms of alternative medicine?

2) What are the three basic ideas behind holistic medicine?

3) What is the premise behind homeopathy?

4) Why is homeopathy not greatly accepted by today's medical professionals?

REMEMBERING DETAILS

Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

1) Alternative medicine began in the late 20th century.

2) Holistic medicine makes use of only alternative medical practices.

3) Homeopathic physicians try to speed the development of symptoms of a disease in order to accelerate the body's self-cure.

4) Only people can be treated by alternative medicine.

INFERENCES

Based on the article, circle the letter of the best sentence completion.

1) Alternative medicine...

- a) is less effective than conventional medicine.
- b) is against all forms of conventional treatment.
- c) was introduced by Jan Christian Smuts.
- d) can include several types of treatment.

2) Modern physicians...

- a) are not convinced alternative medicine works.
- b) believe a balance of alternative and conventional medicine is best.
- c) prescribe drugs for all ailments.
- d) are upset that alternative medicine is being used to treat animals.

INTERPRETATION

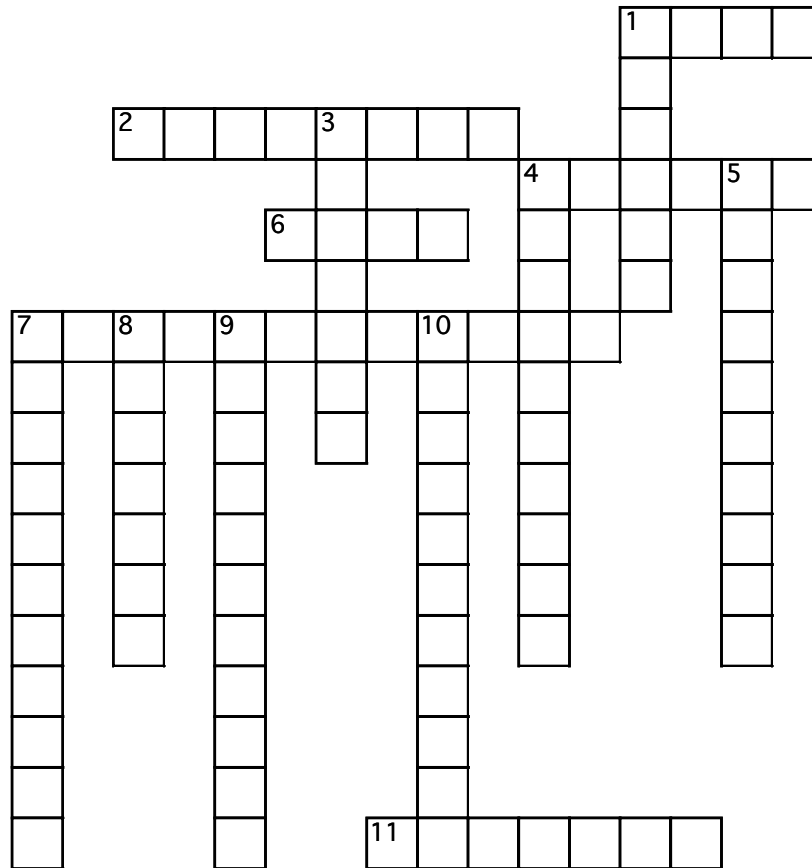
- 1) Have you ever been treated by an alternative medicine? Did it help?
- 2) Brainstorm the pros and cons of both alternative and conventional medicine.
- 3) Many foods that we eat every day are used in alternative medicine. For example, garlic, honey and mustard are used to help colds. Herbal teas, such as camomile tea, help with indigestion. Can you name any other foods that are thought to have medicinal properties?

WORD POWER

Circle the letter of the word that means the same as the word on the left.

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 1) diminish | a) increase | b) modify | c) lessen |
| 2) ailment | a) sickness | b) fear | c) tantrum |
| 3) derived | a) anointed | b) described | c) descended |
| 4) attitude | a) outlook | b) passion | c) mental block |
| 5) mobilize | a) drive | b) activate | c) synthesize |
| 6) conventional | a) modern | b) accepted | c) unorthodox |

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS:

- 1) Practitioners of holistic medicine believe that individuals can _____ themselves.
- 2) There are three basic ideas behind _____ medicine.
- 4) Holistic medicine is mainly an attitude a person has about _____ and healing.
- 6) The _____ 20th century has brought a reemergence in alternative medicines.
- 7) Holistic medicine _____ on the person as a whole rather than the ailment itself.
- 11) Many treatments are derived from _____ methods of centuries ago.

DOWN:

- 1) It seems alternative medicine is not only for _____.
- 3) Homeopathy was _____ by German physician Samuel Hahnemann in the 1790s.
- 4) _____ is not greatly accepted by medical professionals.
- 5) The success of their _____ still rests in a person's own strength.
- 7) Sometimes alternative medicine is used in _____ with prescription medications.
- 8) The idea of _____ healing seemed to diminish.
- 9) Holistic medicine addresses the whole person as well as their _____.
- 10) More people seem to be turning toward _____ ways to heal their ailments.

ANSWER KEY

THE MAIN IDEA

d) Different forms of alternative medicine.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

- 1) Some alternative medicines are: herbal remedies, acupuncture, massage, meditation, ancient energy balance, homeopathy, chiropractic, and holistic medicine.
- 2) The three basic ideas behind holistic medicine are: each individual is responsible for their own well-being; each person is seen as an individual, not as a symptom-bearing organism; and lastly, making use of any available treatments and methods in both alternative and standard medical practices.
- 3) Homeopathy is based on the premise that the symptoms of a disease are evidence that the body is trying to cure itself of the disease.
- 4) Homeopathy is not greatly accepted by today's medical professionals mostly because it focuses on the symptoms rather than the cause of a disease.

REMEMBERING DETAILS

- 1) F Alternative medicine was developed over many centuries. It is becoming popular again in the late 20th century.
- 2) F Holistic medicine also makes use of conventional medicine.
- 3) T
- 4) F Animals can also be treated with alternative medicine.

INFERENCES

- 1) d
- 2) a

WORD POWER

- 1) c
- 2) a
- 3) c
- 4) a
- 5) b
- 6) b

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS: 1) heal 2) holistic 4) health 6) late 7) concentrates 11) healing

DOWN: 1) humans 3) started 4) homeopathy 5) treatments 7) conjunction 8) natural 9) environment
10) alternative



Figure Skating

1 No one knows who invented the ice skate, but humans have been skating for many thousands of years. A pair of primitive skates found at the bottom of a Swiss lake were over 3,000 years old. They were made of the long leg bone of an animal. In fact, the English word “skate” is taken from the German word “schake,” which means “shank” or “leg bone.” Those old skates were probably used to move people quickly across the ice and snow. Similar bone-skates have been found in Germany, Sweden, England, Canada and other northern countries.

2 Although the iron skate was invented in Holland, it was the British that first began holding figure skating competitions. Ice skating on round frozen ponds was a popular hobby in

Britain in the 1800s. However, when skating in circles got boring, many Brits turned to drawing “figures” on the ice with their skates. This is the way “figure skating” got its start.

The sport grew quickly in Europe and North America. The first North American skating hero was Chicago skater Jackson Haines. He was also the first skater to perform using music and costumes. The first great female skater was young English skater Madge Syers. In 1902, she became the first woman to enter the all-male World Figure Skating Championships. She finished second to men’s Olympic champion Ulrich Salchow.

By far the most popular skater in the world on and off the ice was Norway’s

3

Sonja Henie. She became champion of Norway by age 10, world champion by age 14, and Olympic champion by age 15. Henie skated to 10 straight world championship titles and 3 Olympic titles before she reached age 24! She also became a major movie star in Hollywood, making 10 movies and over \$47 million during her career!

- 5 Today's top skaters save their best performances for the ice, where they continue to take figure skating into the future by inventing new moves. For example, at the 1988 World Championships in Budapest, four-time world champion Kurt Browning of Canada became the first figure skater ever to land a quadruple jump (four spins) in competition. His body flew 12 feet in the air in under one second,

and his speed equalled 300 spins a minute. Browning is part of a long line of successful Canadian skaters that includes Donald Jackson, who landed the first "triple lutz" in 1962, and Vern Taylor, who landed the first "triple axle."

Although figure skating began as an amateur sport, more and more Olympic and world champions have turned to professional figure skating after their days of competition are over. Such former Olympic skaters as Brian Boitano, Nancy Kerrigan and Kristi Yamaguchi of the United States, Ukrainian champion Oksana Baiul, East Germany's Katarina Witt and Great Britain's team of Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean continue to thrill audiences in ice shows around the world.

THE MAIN IDEA

Circle the letter of the sentence or phrase which best describes the main idea of the article about Figure Skating. Be prepared to support your answer.

- a) A brief history of figure skating.
- b) Olympic and world champion figure skaters.
- c) The origin of the word "skate."
- d) Figure skating is a popular profession.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

If you can, answer these questions from memory. If you cannot, look back at the article.

1) From what material were the 3,000 year old skates made?

2) Who is the most popular figure skater of all time?

3) What did Kurt Browning do? When and where did he do it?

4) What do a lot of figure skaters do after their days of competition are done?

REMEMBERING DETAILS

Write TRUE or FALSE under each statement. If the statement is false, write the statement correctly.

1) The iron skate was invented in Britain.

2) The Brits were content to skate around in circles.

3) Sonja Henie was also very successful as an actress.

4) Donald Jackson landed the first “triple axle” in 1962.

INFERENCES

Based on the article, circle the letter of the best sentence completion.

- 1) It seems figure skating...
 - a) is restricted to countries with cold climates.
 - b) is a good way to break into the movies.
 - c) is over 3,000 years old.
 - d) is always having new moves invented.
- 2) Being a professional figure skater means...
 - a) fans must pay to see the skaters skate.
 - b) there are no judges watching the skaters.
 - c) the skaters are paid to skate.
 - d) the skaters are on television a lot more.

INTERPRETATION

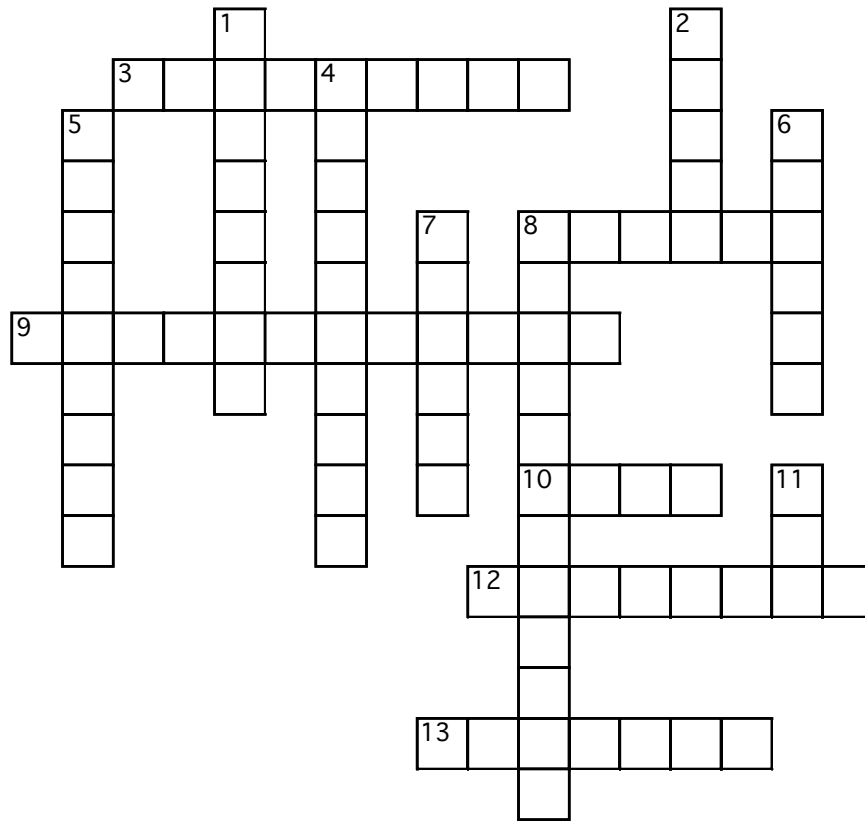
- 1) Do you like figure skating? Why? Why not? Why do you think figure skating has become so popular in the last few years? Have you ever gone to see a skating competition or an ice show? Did you enjoy it?
- 2) Can you skate? What other winter sports have you tried?
- 3) Nowadays professional athletes are being allowed to compete in the Olympic Games, which have traditionally been reserved for amateur athletes. Do you think it is right that professional athletes take part in the Olympic Games? Why? Why not?

WORD POWER

Circle the letter of the word that means the same as the word on the left.

- | | | | |
|--------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------|
| 1) primitive | a) antique | b) carved | c) molded |
| 2) similar | a) comparable | b) extravagant | c) polished |
| 3) hobby | a) vocation | b) pastime | c) thrill |
| 4) all-male | a) men only | b) strong men only | c) male/female |
| 5) moves | a) tumbles | b) maneuvers | c) feints |
| 6) landed | a) completed | b) attempted | c) detained |

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS:

- 3) Humans have been skating for many _____ of years.
- 8) Sonja Henie made 10 movies and over \$47 million during her _____!
- 9) More Olympic and world champions have turned to _____ figure skating.
- 10) The _____ skate was invented in Holland.
- 12) No one knows who _____ the ice skate.
- 13) The sport grew _____ in Europe and North America.

DOWN

- 1) Jackson Haines was the first skater to perform using music and _____.
- 2) Sonja Henie became a major _____ star in Hollywood.
- 4) Kurt Browning is part of a long line of _____ Canadian skaters.
- 5) Kurt Browning became the first skater to land a _____ jump in competition.
- 6) Skating in circles got _____.
- 7) Ice skating on round _____ ponds was a popular hobby in Britain in the 1800s.
- 8) Sonja Henie skated to 10 straight world _____ titles.
- 11) Former Olympic skaters thrill audiences in _____ shows around the world.

ANSWER KEY

THE MAIN IDEA

- a) A brief history of figure skating.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

- 1) The 3,000 year old skates were made of the long leg bone of an animal.
- 2) By far the most popular skater in the world was Norway's Sonja Henie.
- 3) At the 1988 World Championships in Budapest, four-time world champion Kurt Browning of Canada became the first figure skater ever to land a quadruple jump (four spins) in competition.
- 4) After their days of competition are done a lot of figure skaters turn professional, and they continue to thrill audiences in ice shows around the world.

REMEMBERING DETAILS

- 1) F The iron skate was invented in Holland.
- 2) F For the Brits skating in circles got boring. That is when many Brits turned to drawing "figures" on the ice with their skates. This is the way "figure skating" got its start.
- 3) T
- 4) F Donald Jackson landed the first "triple lutz" in 1962.

INFERENCES

- 1) d
- 2) c

WORD POWER

- 1) a
- 2) a
- 3) b
- 4) a
- 5) b
- 6) a

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS: 3) thousands 8) career 9) professional 10) iron 12) invented 13) quickly

DOWN: 1) costumes 2) movie 4) successful 5) quadruple 6) boring 7) frozen 8) championship 11) ice

If only someone would come out with a low level ESL/EFL/Literacy reading and discussion text on topics that we find interesting! It would be great if that book covered subjects like Animation, Physician-Assisted Suicide, UFOs and the Olympic Games. It would be truly amazing if that book was **REPRODUCIBLE** and contained plenty of exercises, offering a good range of integrated activities for each unit. We could call the book **20 Questions...Answered.**

Book Three topics include:

1. Sports Medicine
2. Baby Boomers
3. Hubble Space Telescope
4. Automobile Safety
5. Olympic Games
6. Organic Farming
7. Virtual Reality
8. Steroids
9. Physician-Assisted Suicide
10. Animation
11. UFOs
12. Dentistry
13. Automation
14. CIS
15. Cashless Society
16. Two Woodstocks
17. Homelessness
18. Endangered Species
19. Alternative Medicine
20. Figure Skating



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