



EASY ENGLISH TIMES

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Learning Activities

I. A quick look at the contents--find the answers:

1. Where was Mawi Asgedom born?
2. As we observe "Earth Day," what are some tips for solid waste reduction? (The four Rs...)
3. Name two ways that we can celebrate national poetry month?
4. Describe two of the signs that were used in the march in San Francisco last month.
5. Choose one of the pledges to help the earth by the Texas students and tell why you like it.
6. According to Janet Gonzalez-Mena, what isn't easy?
7. How do people 'play' during the celebration of Thai New Year?
8. Where was most of the movie about soccer filmed?

II. Vocabulary quiz: Match the definitions to the phrases found in the sentences below.

- | | |
|---|---|
| _____ 1. I can't believe she got away with it | a. close the distance with someone |
| _____ 2. It's up to you. | b. giving complete attention to something |
| _____ 3. ...I pick up on. | c. your responsibility |
| _____ 4. ...getting totally wrapped up in... | d. understand, catch on to |
| _____ 5. "I will let the tortoise catch up," said the hare. | e. avoided punishment |

III. More careful reading--find these answers*:

A. From "ESL to Harvard," pages 1 & 2

1. Where did Mawi and his family live for three years before coming to the United States?
2. What did Mawi say was the most important thing for his family?
3. How did Mawi feel when he was a young student in Chicago?

B. From "Pacoima students respond to Cesar Chavez quotes" page 5

1. According to Cesar Chavez, what should be the end of all education?
2. According to Maria Contreras, what can happen if you go to school? And then?
3. According to Gabino Cabral, what is knowledge?

C. From "Boston Marathon is on Patriots' Day" page 7

1. When and where is Patriots' Day observed?
2. What happened in Lexington and Concord?
3. Who did the Colonists confront?

D. From "Spring is race time" page 7

1. Why did Pheidippides run from Marathon to Athens?
2. What is the distance that a marathon race covers today?
3. How many runners are expected to participate in the Boston marathon this year?

(*Note to teachers: You can use these questions for a jigsaw reading activity. Put students in a "home group", then assign them a group of questions to answer in an "expert group." They return to their home group and tell their classmates about the answers to their questions.)

IV. Writing Suggestions

1. For the May issue, send stories about your mothers and grandmothers. (By 4/23)
2. For the June issue, send stories about your fathers and grandfathers. (By 5/23)
2. For any issue, send us stories about your job (how you got it, how you like it, etc.) your hometown and/or childhood memories, a favorite teacher, book, movie or poem.

Crossword Puzzle answers in alphabetical order: **Across:** challenge, enthralled, former, majority, sensitive, tryout, visionary **Down:** driven, grouchy, referee, swift, treat, veto