

# Easy English Times

"A world of information for English language learners"

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## January 2012 Learning Activities

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

1. Where and when did the three women receive their Nobel Peace Prize? (p. 1)
2. On Jan. 24, President Obama will deliver his State of the Union speech before \_\_\_\_\_ . (p. 1)
3. Why do Monarch butterflies migrate south? (p. 1)
4. Many people think of Goodwill Industries® as a place where you \_\_\_\_\_ donations. (p. 2)
5. On what day does the Chinese New Year celebration start? (p. 4)
6. Who was Claude Monet and when did he live? (p. 5)
7. According to doctors, young children should spend most of their time \_\_\_\_\_. (p. 6)
8. In the film, 'the help' refers to the people who work \_\_\_\_\_. (p. 7)
9. From the citizenship test, what did Martin Luther King Junior do? (p. 7)
10. Centro Latino for Literacy in Los Angeles provides basic literacy instruction for \_\_\_\_\_. (p. 8)

### II. Vocabulary quiz: Match the definitions to the phrases on the left.

- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| ___ 1. face to face     | a. upset  |
| ___ 2. foot in the door | b. look at directly                                   |
| ___ 3. toss and turn    | c. get a small chance at something                    |
| ___ 4. shake up         | d. keep moving around in bed because you cannot sleep |

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

#### A. From "Three women honored with Nobel Peace Prize" (page 1)

1. Two of the women who won the prize are from \_\_\_\_\_. The third is from \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Who is Ellen Johnson Sirleaf?

#### B. From "The miracle of the migration of Monarch butterflies" (pages 1 and 4)

1. Where do Monarchs who live east of the Rocky Mountains spend their winters?  
And those west of the Rockies?
2. Why is the butterfly migration unique?

#### C. From "Gung Hay Fat Choy! Happy Chinese New Year!" (page 4)

1. What does the color red symbolize?
2. Long ago people in China lit bamboo stalks because they believed the flames would \_\_\_\_\_.

#### D. From "Art and artists" (page 5)

1. Some of Monet's most famous paintings are of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Claude Monet was called \_\_\_\_\_.

### IV. Writing Suggestions:

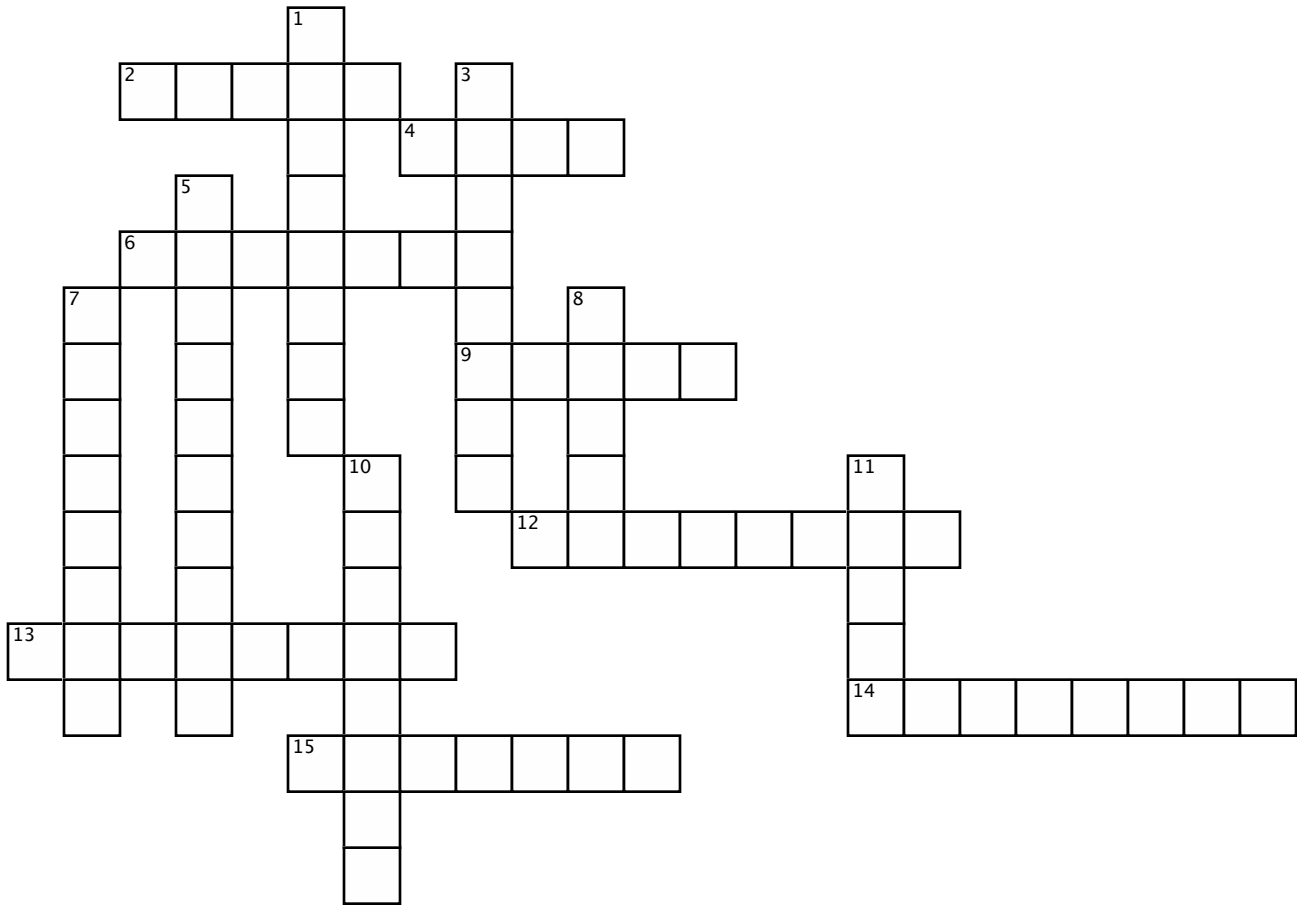
One of the topics for the February issue is love and friendship. We would also like to hear about your favorite artists and museums. Do you have any stories about becoming a U.S. citizen? You can always send stories about special gifts, your culture and traditions, books, movies, sports, your life and family, your country, your hometown, your job, or the place where you live now. Teachers, do you have any success stories about a program at your school or in your community? **The deadline for the February issue is January 20.**

**Crossword puzzle answers in alphabetical order: boldest, charming, clusters, draft, faithful, fired, easel, journalist, miracle, path, remedies, struggle, stubborn, toddlers, treat**

# Crossword Puzzle

## January 2012

*All words are from Vocabulary Help*



### Across

2. The artist set up his \_\_\_\_\_ outdoors. He used a stand with three long legs and a narrow shelf to hold his canvas for painting.
4. She walked along the \_\_\_\_\_ in the gardens of Giverny. She walked along a narrow way or trail.
6. People born in the Year of the Dragon are considered to be the flashiest and \_\_\_\_\_ members of the Chinese astrological family. They are not afraid to do things that involve risk or danger.
9. In the film "The Help", Minny is \_\_\_\_\_ from her job as a maid in Hilly's house. Minny is dismissed.
12. Please don't be \_\_\_\_\_. Be willing to change your mind.
13. The butterflies hang in \_\_\_\_\_ in the trees. They hang in tight groupings.
14. Are there any \_\_\_\_\_ in your family? Are there any young children around the ages of one or two?
15. The migration of Monarch butterflies is a \_\_\_\_\_ of nature. It is an event that cannot be explained by the laws of nature.

### Down

1. What are some possible \_\_\_\_\_ for back pain? What are some things that you can do to ease the pain?
3. People born in the Year of the Dog are patient, diligent, generous, \_\_\_\_\_ and kind. They remain firm in their support of friends, organizations and ideas.
5. Twakkul Karman is a \_\_\_\_\_ in Yemen. She gathers and reports the news.
7. Winning the Nobel Peace prize was a recognition of the \_\_\_\_\_ for women's rights. In many places women have had a difficult time obtaining their rights.
8. After the editor read the first \_\_\_\_\_ of Skeeter's book, she told her to send more stories. She liked the first version of the book.
10. People born in the Year of the Rat are quick-witted, smart, \_\_\_\_\_ and persuasive. They are very pleasant and attractive.
11. How do you \_\_\_\_\_ a minor cut? How do you give it medical attention?