

# Easy English Times

"A world of information for English language learners"

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## Learning Activities

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

1. Where was the memorial event for Nelson Mandela held? \_\_\_\_\_ (p. 1)
2. What country is the new Pope from? \_\_\_\_\_ (p. 1)
3. In the temporary agreement with Iran, the plan is to put Iran's suspicious nuclear program \_\_\_\_\_. (p. 1)
4. Gay marriage is now allowed in \_\_\_\_\_ states. (p. 1)
5. Gun control advocates hope to see federal gun laws made \_\_\_\_\_. (p. 1)
6. How many citizenship questions do people over 65 with 20 years of residency have to study? \_\_\_\_\_ (p. 2)
7. Martin Luther King Jr. brought \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to America. (p. 2)
8. According to the Asian Lunar calendar, 2014 is the year of the \_\_\_\_\_. (p. 3)
9. The Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) is now being \_\_\_\_\_. (p. 4)
10. How high was the fence at Friendship Park in 1971? \_\_\_\_\_. (p. 5, see caption)
11. How many miles does the border between the United States and Mexico extend? \_\_\_\_\_ (p. 5)
12. Jackie Robinson was the first African American to play in \_\_\_\_\_ in the U.S. (p. 7)
13. A report found that 85% of skateboarders are under the age of \_\_\_\_\_. (p. 7)
14. Which two states will be hosting the 2014 Super Bowl? (p. 7) \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

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

- |  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| ____ 1. What is the best job you have had <b>so far</b> .      | a. succeeding, improving oneself |
| ____ 2. The secret of <b>getting ahead</b> is getting started. | b. in a different place          |
| ____ 3. You will probably end up <b>somewhere else</b> .       | c. up to now, until now          |

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

#### A. From "Worldwide tribute paid to Nelson Mandela" (pages 1 and 3)

1. Mandela was the first \_\_\_\_\_ of South Africa. He served from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. In 1948 Afrikaner nationalists won a whites-only election and started a policy of \_\_\_\_\_.
3. In 1985 the government offered to release Mandela if he would \_\_\_\_\_.

#### B. From "Top stories of 2013" (pages 1 and 4)

1. The new Pope took the name of \_\_\_\_\_ in recognition of \_\_\_\_\_.
2. How many runners were participating in the Boston Marathon last year? \_\_\_\_\_
3. According to news reports, Americans \_\_\_\_\_ for health care than other industrialized countries.

#### C. From "A visit to the U.S. and Mexico border near San Diego" (page 5)

1. In some places the border is only marked by a sign or a light \_\_\_\_\_ barrier.
2. At the Tijuana border, drug cartels and violence \_\_\_\_\_ with families desperate for a reunion.
3. At Friendship Park there is electronic \_\_\_\_\_. In addition there are \_\_\_\_\_ tables, restrooms and a wonderful \_\_\_\_\_ of the ocean.

### IV. What is your favorite photograph in this issue of Easy English Times? Why?

**V. Writing suggestions: The deadline for the February 2014 issue is January 17.** One of the topics for February is love and friendship. Which winter sports are your favorites? Also send stories about your favorite activities, your lives, your pets, your jobs, your special talents etc.

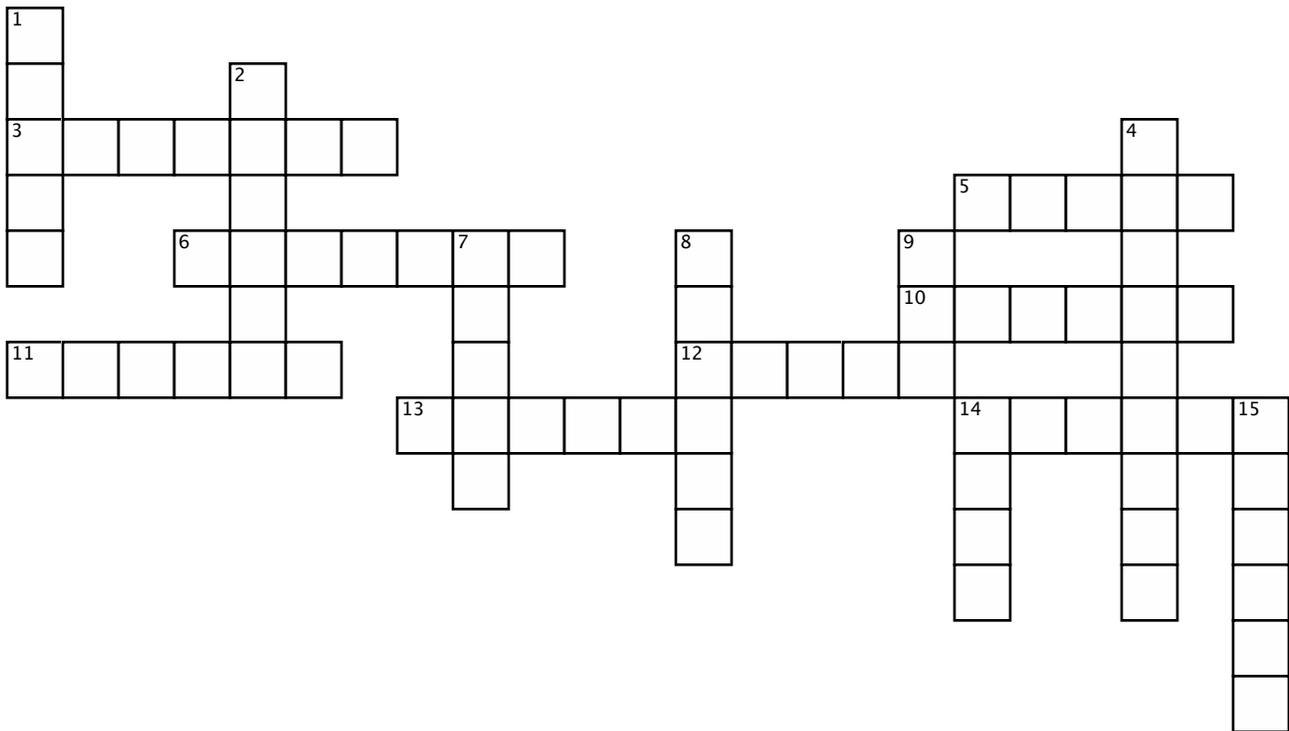
**Crossword puzzle answers in alphabetical order:** death, denied, dusty, fit, issues, lack, lately, longed, praise, smart, refuse, strengths, success, suspect, temper, tight

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# Easy English Times Crossword Puzzle

## January 2014

All words are from Vocabulary Help



### Across

3. A person who is suspected of guilt is called a \_\_\_\_\_.
5. "Kick the bucket" is a casual way to refer to \_\_\_\_\_, the end of life.
6. Usually we have to work hard in order to have \_\_\_\_\_. We need to work to accomplish tasks and reach goals.
10. They didn't want to let others make decisions on important \_\_\_\_\_, on topics or matters of concern.
11. The child has a bad \_\_\_\_\_. He often yells and screams when he doesn't get what he wants.
12. At the border between Tijuana and California there is very \_\_\_\_\_ security. The security is firm, rigid and strict.
13. To express admiration and respect is to \_\_\_\_\_.
14. They wanted to become citizens very much. In fact, they \_\_\_\_\_ to become citizens.

### Down

1. The drive to Friendship Park is long and \_\_\_\_\_. There is a lot of dirt on the road.
2. Please don't say 'no'. Please don't \_\_\_\_\_.
4. What are some of your \_\_\_\_\_? What are the activities at which you are skilled or talented?
7. Her children are very \_\_\_\_\_. They are intelligent and able to think well.
8. What have you been doing \_\_\_\_\_? What have you been doing recently?
9. The openings in the mesh fence are so small that your little finger cannot \_\_\_\_\_ through. Your finger cannot go through the hole in the fence.
14. Millions of people \_\_\_\_\_ health insurance. They are without it.
15. In the 1940s black South Africans were \_\_\_\_\_ basic rights. The white government refused to give them their rights.