

## January 2015 Learning Activities

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

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Francis encouraged the talks with letters to President Obama and Cuban President Raul Castro. (p.1)
2. Obama said he was ending what he called an \_\_\_\_\_ policy of isolating Cuba. (p.1)
3. This policy has \_\_\_\_\_ to achieve change there (in Cuba). (p.1)
4. Here in the U.S., we have access to \_\_\_\_\_ and take it for granted. (p.1)
5. Only comprehensive immigration \_\_\_\_\_ can provide those solutions. (p.2)
6. Many people make New Year's resolutions about their \_\_\_\_\_. (p.3)
7. Naty Riveros has always liked to \_\_\_\_\_. (p.3)
8. Sierra College is a \_\_\_\_\_ college in Northern California. (p.5.)
9. New Year's Day is a \_\_\_\_\_ holiday for many Russians. (p.5)
10. Danny Tran's dog is named \_\_\_\_\_. (p.7)

### II. Exercise based on phrases found in VOCABULARY HELP: Find the meaning of these phrases. Optional: write a sentence using each phrase.

- |                        |                         |                 |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| take for granted _____ | on his own _____        | rush hour _____ |
| long-lasting _____     | on the other hand _____ | end up _____    |

### III. More careful reading—find these answers

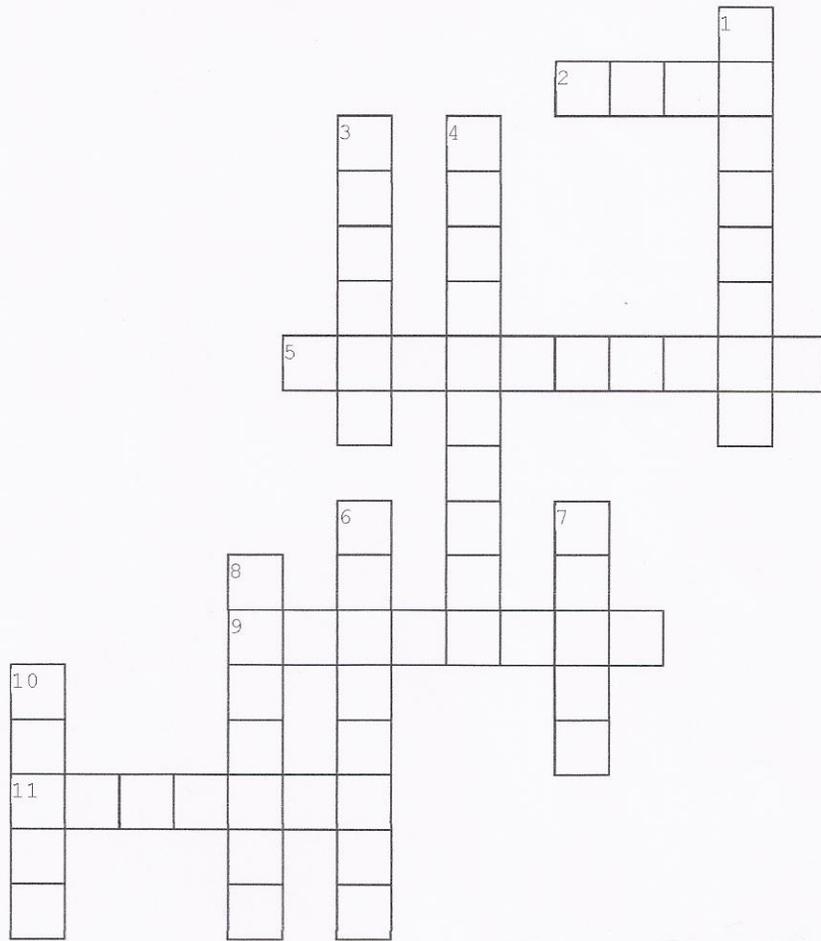
- A. "Our readers write from Simi Valley, Water issues" (p.1)
  1. \_\_\_\_\_ is one country that has a big drinking water crisis.
  2. Here in the U.S. we have \_\_\_\_\_ to water and take it for granted.
- B. From "A Healthy New Year" (p.3)
  1. These people are doing yoga \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_.
  2. They put their yoga mats on the \_\_\_\_\_.
- C. From "My dog" (p.7)
  1. My dog is sad when he walks without his favorite \_\_\_\_\_.

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

**V. Writing suggestions:** The deadline for the February issue is Jan. 20. You could write about love and friendship, your citizenship experience, your goals, your pet or any other topic of general interest. In this issue the Ebola fighters and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. were called heroes. Who is your hero? E-mail writing to [easyenglish@aol.com](mailto:easyenglish@aol.com). It is best to submit shorter stories (300 words or less) so we can publish more, different student writing.

**VI. Crossword puzzle answers in alphabetical order:** behave, bipartisan, clear, commute, discuss, entirely, fair, grumbled, intended, kicks, overcooked

Easy English Times January 2015 Crossword Puzzle



**Across**

- 2. The teacher tried to be \_\_\_\_\_. She gave each student a turn. She gave each student the same amount of time.
- 5. The meat was \_\_\_\_\_. It was cooked too long.
- 9. He \_\_\_\_\_ to keep his New Year's resolution. He planned to do what he said he would do.
- 11. I have to \_\_\_\_\_ for an hour to get to school. It takes an hour to drive to school.

All words from VOCABULARY HELP

**Down**

- 1. The camel \_\_\_\_\_ but he did as the magician ordered. He complained in a quiet, unhappy manner.
- 3. Please \_\_\_\_\_ yourself at the party. Please act nicely.
- 4. Both Democrats and Republicans support the bill. The bill has \_\_\_\_\_ support.
- 6. The president can not do it \_\_\_\_\_ on his own. He can not do it completely on his own. He needs help.
- 7. It is \_\_\_\_\_ to me what the answer is. The answer is obvious to me.
- 8. We have to \_\_\_\_\_ the plan. We have to talk about it.
- 10. Get your \_\_\_\_\_ on Route 66. Have fun on Route 66.