

Easy English Times

"A world of information for English language learners"

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June 2014

Learning Activities

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

1. The Washington Monument was closed on August 23, 2011 because of _____ . (p. 1)
2. At the present time, workers are _____ the Dome of the U.S. Capitol Building. (pp. 1 & 7)
3. President Obama nominated Julián Castro as the next Secretary of _____ and _____. (p. 1)
4. The Continental Congress approved the design of a national flag on June 14, _____. (p. 3)
5. Laura Lemarre wrote about her _____ who lives in _____. (p. 4)
6. Maria Isabel Guerrero's _____ taught her to drive when she was ten years old. (p. 4)
7. When and where will the 2014 FIFA World Cup be held? _____ . (p. 5)
8. Which American soccer player was not included on the U.S. team? _____ . (p. 5)
9. "The Book Thief" is the story of Liesel, a _____ young girl in _____. (p. 7)
10. The "Connect with English" website makes it easy to learn and practice English on _____ . (p. 8)

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

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| ___ 1. The donkey could make it across the river. | a. learn |
| ___ 2. It is a pill that's hard to swallow . | b. succeed in crossing |
| ___ 3. Thanksgiving deserves the title, hands down . | c. a blow to one's pride and respect |
| ___ 4. It's a place to put down roots .. | d. accepted without question |
| ___ 5. You'll have to see the film to find out what happens. | e. establish important connections |

III. More careful reading--find these answers:

A. From "Washington Monument is open again" (page 1)

1. The 555 foot _____ towers over Washington DC.
2. Sally Jewell, Secretary of the _____, and Jonathan B. Jarvis, Director of the _____ participated in the reopening ceremony.

B. From "Changes in President Obama's Cabinet are announced" (pages 1 and 7)

1. Shaun Donovan was nominated to serve as the Director of the _____ Office of Management and Budget.
2. Obama said that Mayor Castro's story exemplifies the _____.

C. From "World Cup Soccer starts in June" (page 5)

1. How many teams compete for the title of World Cup Champion? _____
2. How do they determine who will play in the World Cup? _____

D. From "DVD reviews: "The Book Thief" (page 7)

1. Liesel is going to live with _____ parents because the Nazis forced her mother to _____ her children.
2. Liesel's classmates taunt her because she doesn't know how to _____ and _____.

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

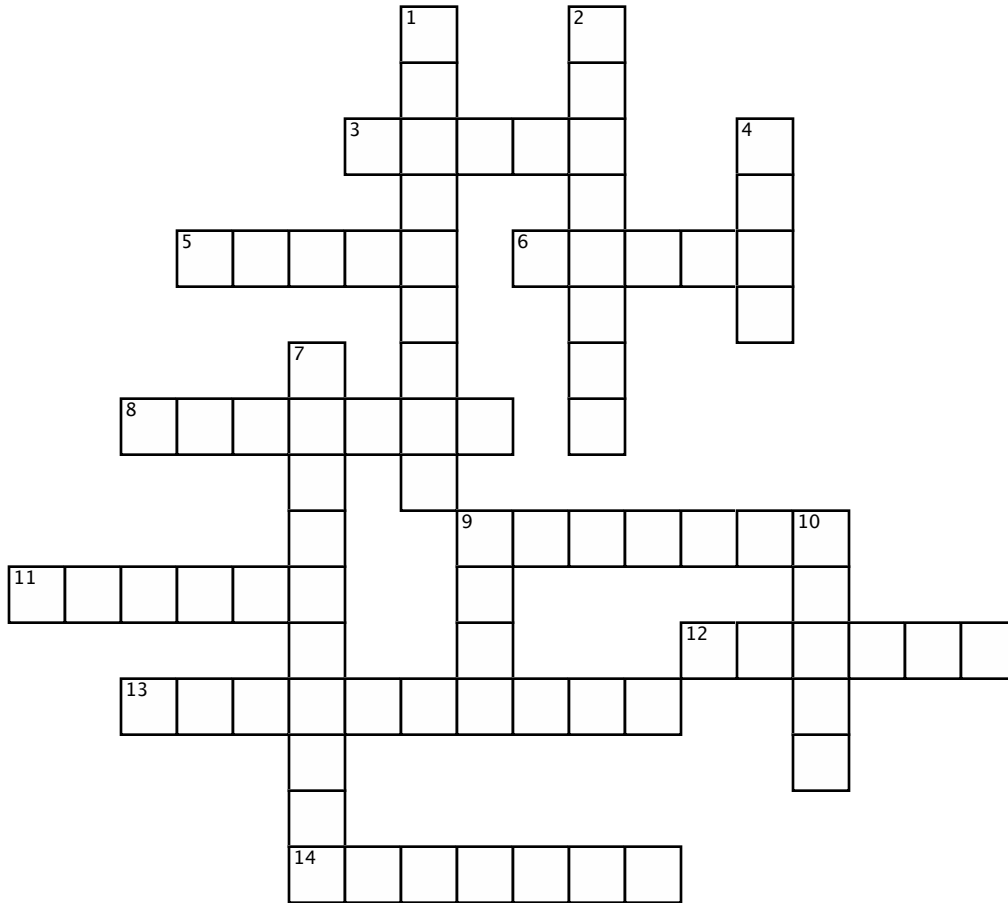
IV. Writing suggestions: The deadline for the July issue is June 20. Send us stories about summer vacation destinations, memorable vacations, or the vacation of your dreams. Other topics include a special day, your life, hobby, pet, job, special talent, home town or country.

Crossword puzzle answers in alphabetical order: bestseller, bond, cracks, deserves, drown, grabs, faults, jewelry, maid, meals, misleading, missing, overheard, recover, tough,

Easy English Times Crossword Puzzle

June 2014

All words are from
VOCABULARY HELP



Across

3. Most people eat three _____ a day.
5. Obama said that every member of his Cabinet had a _____ job in front of them. Their jobs were difficult and demanding.
6. The donkey was afraid he might fall and _____ in the river. He didn't want to die in the water.
8. She enjoyed working in the _____ store. She liked selling rings, necklaces bracelets and earrings.
9. Her son was _____ in the war. They did not know if he was alive or dead.
11. She turns a blind eye to her husband's _____. She doesn't see his failings or character weaknesses.
12. The Capitol Dome needs to be repaired because it has more than 1,000 _____ or lines of separation in the structure.
13. The job description was _____. It sounded like it was for a full-time job, but it was not.
14. Liesel helps Max _____ by reading to him. She helps him get better.

Down

1. When the children were talking to each other in the car, their mother _____ what they were saying.
2. Which holiday _____ the title of America's defining holiday? Which holiday merits that honor?
4. Liesel forms a _____ with her foster parents. They have a relationship of trust, friendship and love.
7. Books that are on the _____ list are very popular. Many copies are sold.
9. A cleaning woman is also called a _____.
10. In the story of "The Book Thief", Liesel _____ a book that has not burned in the bonfire. She takes it quickly.