

Easy English Times

"A world of information for English language learners"

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May 2011

Learning Activities

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

1. When did the cherry blossoms start opening in Sendai, Japan? (p. 1)
2. What is OMG a shorthand term for in the digital world? (p. 2)
3. One of the greatest poets in the world was born in Iran over 800 years ago. His name is _____. (p.2)
4. What is the name of the town in Mexico where they make a lot of fireworks? (p. 3)
5. Rob Jenkins says that Jazz is a form of music that is native to _____. (p. 5)
6. In what state were the first shots of the Civil War fired? (p. 6)
7. When is Memorial Day? (p. 6)
8. Name the two San Francisco Giants' ball players for whom English is a second language. (p. 7)
9. Who was the great grandfather of Prince William? (p. 7)
10. Which state reports more tornadoes than any other state? (p. 8)

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

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| ___ 1. Can you carry a tune ? | a. in the act of doing something bad |
| ___ 2. Are you fit as a fiddle ? | b. sing on key. |
| ___ 3. She caught him red handed . | c. take action |
| ___ 4. The people have to deal with their destroyed homes. | d. in very good health |

III. More careful reading--find these answers:

A. From "Blossoms of hope for Japan" pages 1 and 3

1. How many people in Japan are estimated to still be missing?
2. According to a Japanese travel website, the cherry blossoms are seen as a source of _____.
3. Lots of communities across America have held _____ for Japan.

B. From "Teacher loves playing jazz music" page 5

1. According to Rob Jenkins, improvising music is very much like having a _____.
2. What instruments does Jenkins play?
3. What cities in the USA is jazz history often associated with?

C. From "Civil War started 150 years ago but battles are still 'fought'" page 6

1. When was slavery abolished in the United States?
2. What did the eleven Southern slave states call themselves after they seceded from the Union?
3. In a reenactment, people dress up in clothing like what was worn during the days of the _____.

D. From "Reporter meets famous baseball players" page 7

1. Where did Cassandra Walker go to watch the San Francisco Giants do their spring training?
2. Where was Jonathan Sanchez born? Where was Pablo Sandoval born?
3. What positions do these two ball players play?

IV. Writing Suggestions:

For the June issue, please send stories about fathers, grandfathers or important men in your life.

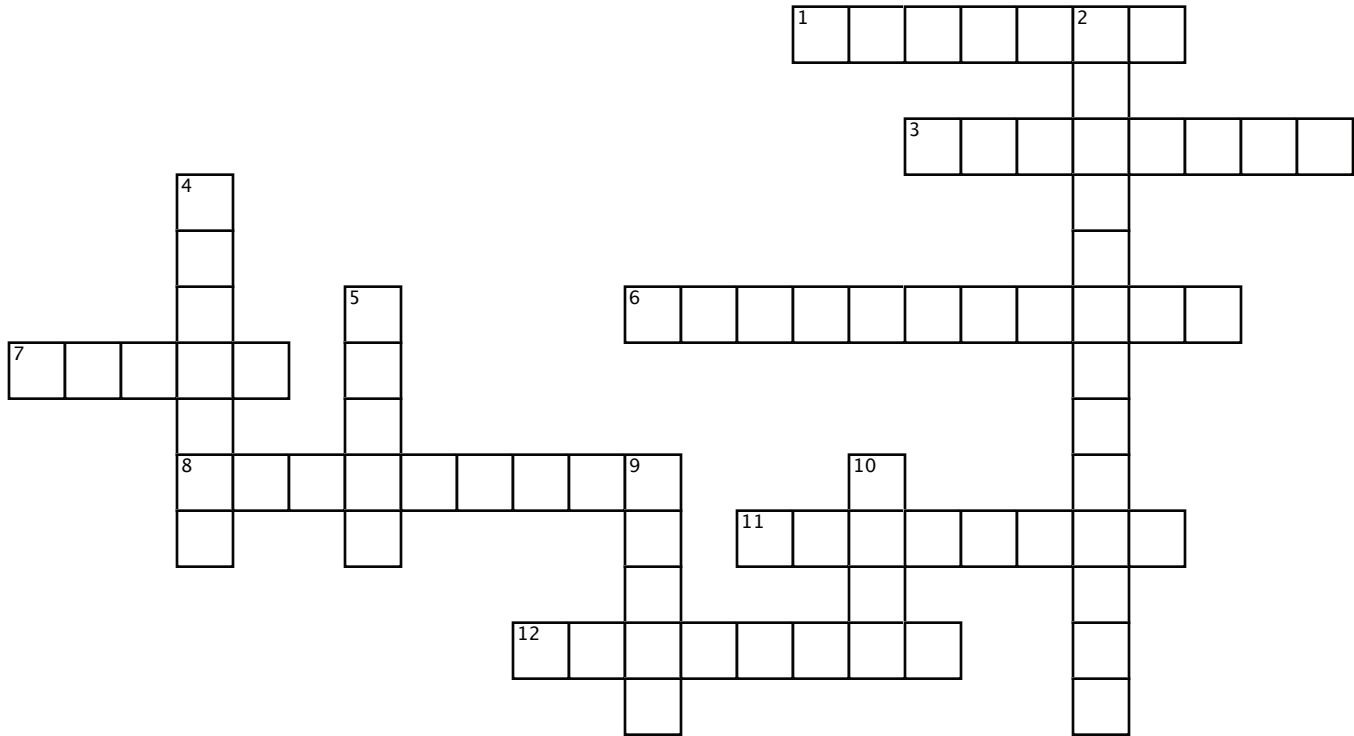
You can also send stories about music, books, movies, sports, your life, your country, your hometown, your job, or the place where you live now. **The deadline for the June issue is May 19.**

Crossword puzzle answers in alphabetical order: alley, bloom, blossoms, choir, eccentric, encouragement, marching, stammer, surrendered, thrones, , tore, wrinkles

Crossword Puzzle

May 2011

All words are from *VOCABULARY HELP*



Across

1. People who stutter or _____, speak with many pauses and repeated words or syllables. They have difficulty getting thoughts into spoken words.
3. I like to see the _____ bands in a parade. I like to see the band members stepping in a formal way.
6. The Civil War ended after General Robert E. Lee _____ on April 9, 1865. He conceded defeat.
7. The Japanese cherry trees _____ every spring. They flower.
8. The speech therapist who helped the king was an _____ man. Some of his methods were somewhat odd or unusual.
11. When flowers open, they are called _____.
12. She said that her mother has deep _____ on her face. But she considers those lines and folds to be love marks.

Down

2. In the culminating moment of the film, we see the king's therapist and friend giving the king _____. Mr. Logue gives the king strength, hope and confidence.
4. Kings and queens sit on _____ during ceremonies. They sit on special decorated chairs.
5. The area of the United States in which tornadoes are most frequent is called "Tornado _____." This path is generally located in the Plains area between the Rocky and Appalachian Mountains.
9. Have you ever sung in a _____? Have you ever sung with a group of people?
10. Linda got into trouble when she _____ her mom's accounting notebooks. She pulled them apart.