



EASY ENGLISH TIMES

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November/December 2007

Learning Activities

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

1. What is the purpose of Veterans' Day?
2. Gloria Vasquez and her husband are runners for _____
3. How long was Sandra Rios Bem's flight from Brazil to the United States?
4. What is the name of the national anthem of the USA?
5. Who does Clement C. Moore describe in his poem *The Night Before Christmas*?
6. Where would Jolin Chang like to teach Chinese?
7. What did Xiomara Farias like to do when she was 10 years old?
8. What did Maria Ester Rodarte and Lorena Lio like to do?
9. World AIDS Day is important in reminding people that _____
10. In the Mexican village of San Juan Grijalva, where did the cattle run?

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

- | | |
|---|--|
| _____ 1. The Americans were still in charge of Fort McHenry. | a. most sincerely |
| _____ 2. ...and I love it from the bottom of my heart . | b. having a strong wish |
| _____ 3. ...this city had caught my eye at first sight. | c. almost was in danger, almost got hurt |
| _____ 4. ...because of my burning desire | d. in control of, in command of |
| _____ 5. I have already made up my mind. | e. got my attention |
| _____ 6. I had a close call today. | f. decided |

III. More careful reading--find these answers:

A. From "Son of immigrants elected Governor of Louisiana" page 1

1. What job does Piyush "Bobby" Jindal have now?
2. What will he be when he takes his oath of office on January 12, 2008?
3. Where did his parents come from?

B. From "The Star Spangled Banner" page 2

1. Who wrote our national anthem?
2. Who was the War of 1812 between?
3. According to the anthem, what gave proof through the night that our flag was still there?

C. From "Favorite winter holidays" page 3

1. According to Iris Rodriguez, what are the three important holidays celebrated in Mexico?
2. What do the people in Togo, West Africa cook for Christmas dinner, according to Koevi Ayelevi?
3. Who do the people go to visit on December 12 in Claudia Romero's town?

D. From "DVD Review - Night at the Museum" page 8

1. Where does Larry Dalley become a night security guard?
2. What does Larry discover on his first night in the museum?
3. Which U.S. President does Larry talk to?

IV. Writing Suggestions

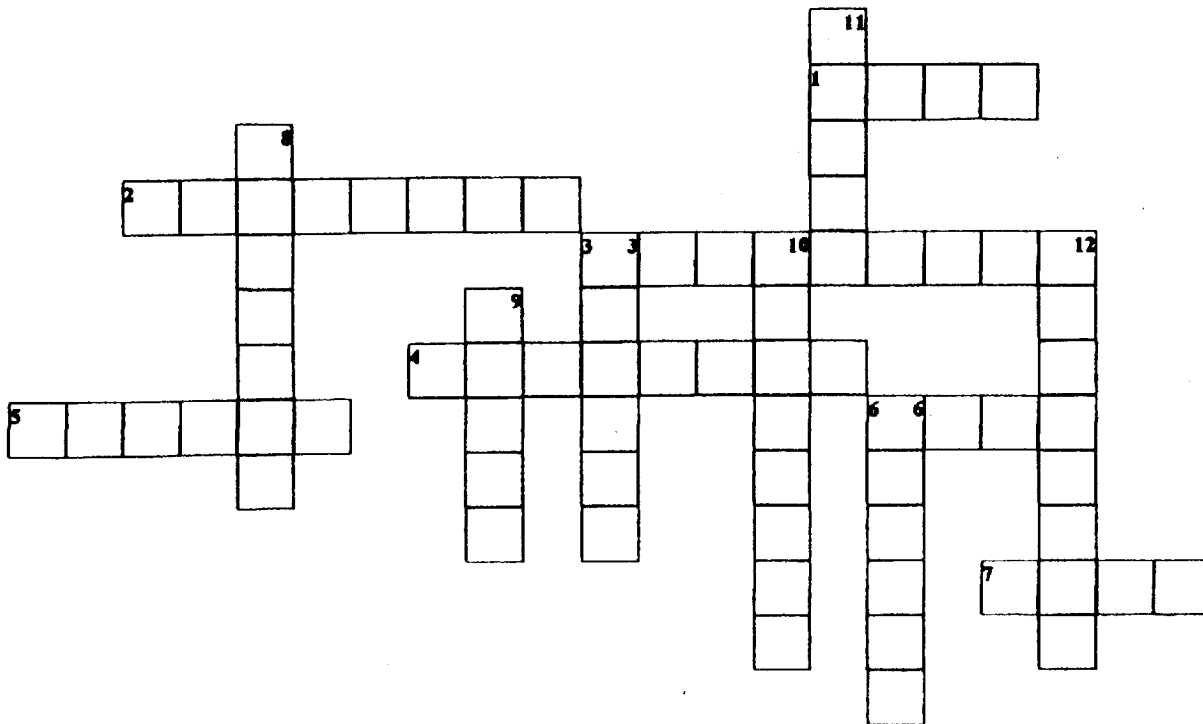
1. Topics for January '08: What I am thankful for, New Year's resolutions (due December 20)
2. Topic for February '08: Love and friendship (due January 18)
3. Topics for any issue: My job, My hometown, My family, When I was young, a favorite book or DVD

Crossword Puzzle answers in alphabetical order: buried, face, fierce, homesick, jolly, merrier, overcome, recovery, shortcuts, splendid, steady, tips, twist, wink

Crossword Puzzle

(Words are from VOCABULARY HELP)

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Across

1. When you _____ at someone, you close and open one eye very quickly. It is usually a signal that something is a joke or a secret. It is also used to flirt with someone--a playful way to show that you are attracted to that person.
2. Francis Scott Key was _____ with joy when he saw that the American flag was still flying. He felt his joy very strongly.
3. Their friends showed them a lot of _____ in order to get rid of red tape and inconvenient situations. They showed them faster ways to do things.
4. Do you feel more _____ near holiday time? Do you miss your home and feel sad?
5. A mountain of mud and a wall of water _____ a small Mexican village. The rain-soaked hill collapsed and covered their homes with mud.
6. The Pilgrims had to _____ adversities when they arrived in America. They had to meet difficult situations with courage.
7. What are your best _____ to make holidays a positive experience? What advice or helpful information can you give?

Down

3. In "Night at the Museum" Larry keeps on working at the museum because he needs a _____ job. He needs to work continuously without interruption. He can't keep changing jobs.
6. Aslan Yandarov writes, "The new war was more _____, severe and ruthless." It was cruelly violent.
8. "The more the _____." Do you agree with this saying? It means where there are more people together, the gathering will be happier and livelier.
9. Santa is a _____ man. He is happy and cheerful.
10. The governor elect of Louisiana has asked President Bush to discuss Katrina _____ efforts. He wants to talk to the President about how to regain what was lost due to the hurricane.
11. If you _____ something, you turn it so that it move in a circular direction.
12. Florence Nightingale, the founder of the Red Cross, said, "Life is a _____ gift." Life is excellent. Life is wonderful. It is very good.