

Easy English Times



"A world of information for English language learners"

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November/December 2017

Learning Activities

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

1. ICAN stands for the _____ to _____. (p. 1)
2. Wreath-laying ceremonies are held at Arlington National _____ and other locations on 12/16. (p. 1)
3. The Women Veterans Task Force identified the six _____ faced by women veterans. (p. 2)
4. Human rights day is marked by conferences and cultural events dealing with _____. (p. 2)
5. World AIDS Day is important because it reminds people that HIV has not _____. (p. 3)
6. In Iceland _____ are exchanged as Christmas Eve presents. (p. 3)
7. When the fires started, the winds were so strong that the fires "_____". (p. 4)
8. Signs thanking first responders are _____ all over the fire areas. (p. 5, caption)
9. Tuba Christmas was the _____ of the tuba virtuoso Harvey Phillips. (p. 7)
10. The most recognized flower of the Christmas season is the _____. (p. 7)

II. Vocabulary quiz: Match the definitions to the two and three-word phrases on the left.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| ___ 1. The fires broke out overnight. | a. in a dangerous place |
| ___ 2. They evacuated people who were in harm's way . | b. begin or give serious attention to |
| ___ 3. "Thanksgiving deserves that title, hands-down ." | c. started suddenly |
| ___ 4. Let's get down to business. | d. without question |

III. More careful reading--find these answers:

A. From "2017 Nobel Peace Prize announced" (pages 1 and 3)

1. ICAN brings attention to the catastrophic humanitarian _____ of any use of nuclear weapons.
2. In ancient Greece they _____ laurel wreaths to the winners of all _____ as a sign of honor.

B. From "Programs available for women veterans" and "A salute to women veterans" (page 2)

1. Panel members spoke about how Military Sexual Trauma (MST) is _____ and difficult to _____.
2. In 2016 more than _____ of the 21.3 million veterans in the U.S. were women.

C. From "Wildfires take lives in Northern California" (page 4)

1. First responders on the scene quickly realized that they were no _____ for the _____.
2. There were more than _____ active _____ statewide.

D. From "Air quality" and "Communications - lessons learned" (page 4)

1. By Oct. 13, air quality in the city of Napa reached the "_____ " level.
2. For some residents, power and phone service were _____.

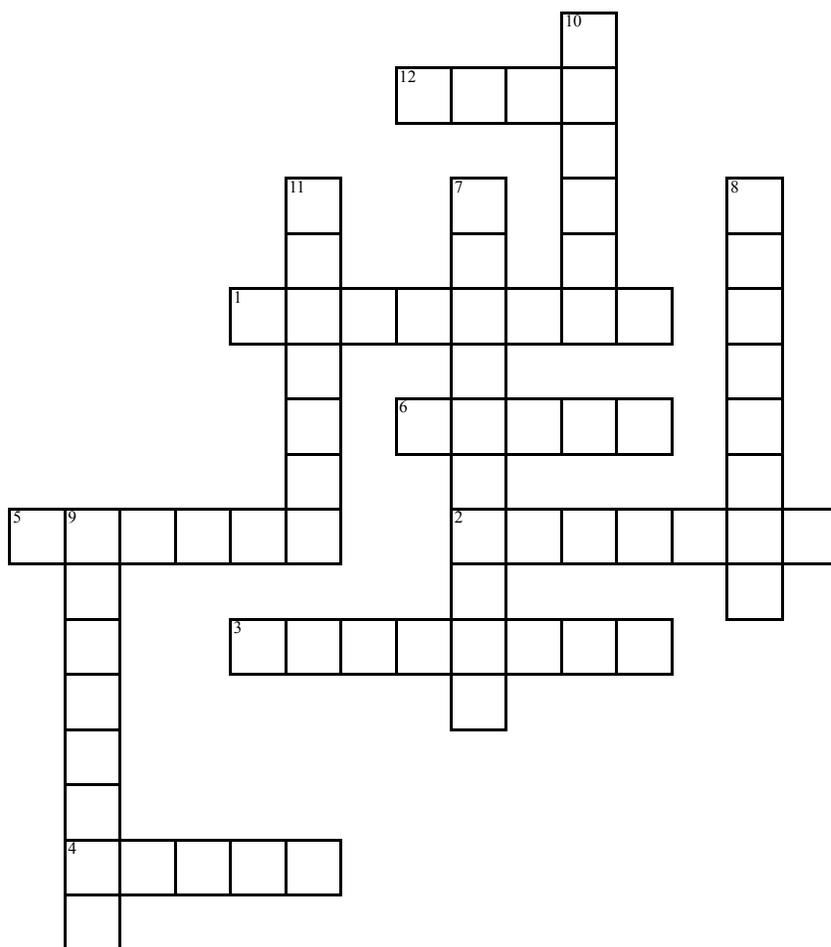
IV. Look at all the photos in this issue. Which ones get your attention? Why?

V. **Writing suggestions: The deadline for the January, 2018 issue is December 15.** Send us stories about art, music, dance, and /or your New Year's resolutions. Also send stories about your job, sports, movies, books, or any other topic of general interest.

Crossword puzzle answers in alphabetical order: (All words are from VOCABULARY HELP.)
advise, blaze, crews, generosity, grateful, mind, proverbs, reminded, sparks, surplus, treaties, wreaths

See our website www.easyenglishtimes.com for the Answer Key and a vocabulary matching exercise.

November/December 2017 Crossword Puzzle



Across

1. She _____ her husband about their coming anniversary. She helped him remember it.
2. They had a _____ of 5,000 wreaths. They had that many left over.
3. Formally concluded and ratified agreements between countries are called _____.
4. A very large or fiercely burning fire is a _____.
5. The small fiery particles thrown off from a fire are called _____.
6. Groups of people who work closely together are called _____.
12. She hopes that her husband won't _____ that she cut her hair. She hopes that he will not be annoyed.

Down

7. The quality of being kind and generous is called _____.
8. Many people felt _____ when their homes did not burn. They were thankful.
9. Popular, wise, or traditional sayings are called _____.
10. She asked her uncle to _____ her. She wanted him to recommend the best course of action.
11. Round arrangements of leaves or flowers used for decorations are called _____.