

# Easy English Times

"A world of information for English language learners"

P. O. Box 5614, Napa, CA 94581-0614

Phone: 707 253-9641 (e-mail [easyenglish@aol.com](mailto:easyenglish@aol.com)) Website: [easyenglishtimes.com](http://easyenglishtimes.com)

## October 2014 Learning Activities

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

1. How many seats in the U.S. House of Representatives will be voted on in the election on 11/4? \_\_\_\_\_ (p. 1)
2. The new Miss America is the daughter of \_\_\_\_\_ immigrants. (p. 1)
3. National Disability Awareness Month celebrates the many and varied \_\_\_\_\_ of America's workers with disabilities. (p. 2)
4. Eleanor Roosevelt is honored \_\_\_\_\_ . (p. 2)
5. The four animals who wanted to be the Bremen town musicians are a \_\_\_\_\_, a \_\_\_\_\_, a \_\_\_\_\_ and a \_\_\_\_\_. (p. 3)
6. Where did Hurricane Odil cause massive destruction? \_\_\_\_\_ (p. 5)
7. Where was the 8/24/14 earthquake centered? \_\_\_\_\_ What was its magnitude? \_\_\_\_\_ (p. 5)
8. The Days of the Dead observances pay tribute to \_\_\_\_\_ . (p. 7)
9. When is Major League Baseball's World Series scheduled to start? \_\_\_\_\_ (p. 7)
10. *Mrs. Doubtfire* is considered to be one of America's \_\_\_\_\_ of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. (p. 8)

### II. Exercise based on phrases found in VOCABULARY HELP: Find the meanings of these phrases. Optional; Write two or three original sentences using some of the phrases. Show them to your teacher

- |                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. all in all _____  | 4. pitch black _____     |
| 2. bumped into _____ | 5. pulled together _____ |
| 3. on hand _____     | 6. torn off _____        |

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

#### A. From "Mid-term elections are on Nov. 4" (pages 1 and 7)

1. How many U.S. Senators will be voted on in this election? \_\_\_\_\_
  2. A ballot measure is a piece of proposed \_\_\_\_\_ to be \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ by eligible voters.
- Note: For more election information, got to [vote411.org](http://vote411.org). You can find the registration deadline for your state. (The CA deadline is 10/20.)

#### B. From "What it is like to experience an earthquake" (page 5)

1. This earthquake had \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ jolts with noise that sounded like a \_\_\_\_\_.
  2. At daylight, the area became very \_\_\_\_\_ with sirens and many \_\_\_\_\_ flying overhead.
- Extra: Which photo illustrates this proverb: "When life hands you lemons, make lemonade." \_\_\_\_\_

#### C. From "Looking at Halloween and Days of the Dead" (page 7)

1. Both holidays have \_\_\_\_\_ roots. However, the celebrations are very \_\_\_\_\_.
2. In the Day of the Dead tradition, the spirits are \_\_\_\_\_.

#### D. From "DVD review -- *Mrs. Doubtfire*" (page 8)

1. In this film story, the marriage of Daniel and Miranda is in trouble, it is \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Who helps transform Daniel into *Mrs. Doubtfire*? \_\_\_\_\_ What is his job? \_\_\_\_\_

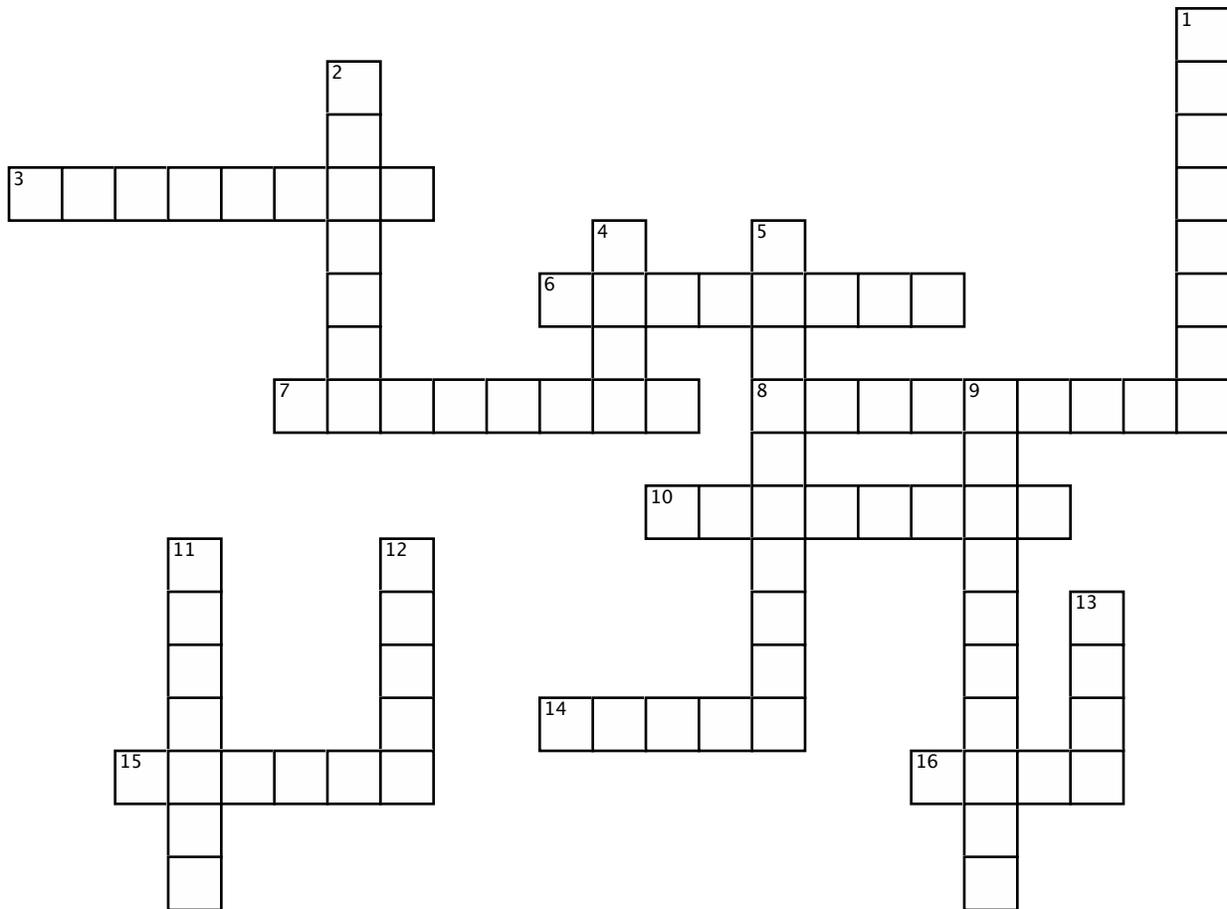
### IV. What is your favorite photograph in this issue of Easy English Times? Why?

**V. Writing suggestions: The deadline for the Nov./Dec. issue is October 31.** One suggestion for this issue is to write about your favorite holiday foods. Other topics include your hometown or country, your best friend, your vacations, your hidden talent, your citizenship experience, or any other subject of general interest. **NOTE:** The next issue will come out in mid-Nov.

**Crossword puzzle answers in alphabetical order:** county, custody, deadline, flashlight, forgive, gathered, guys, immature, mean, retiring, scary, scratched, swept, terrifying, tips, wildfire

## Easy English Times Crossword Puzzle October 2014

All words are from  
VOCABULARY HELP



### Across

3. Miranda thinks that her husband is \_\_\_\_\_. She thinks that he is childish.
6. Some people work best when they have a \_\_\_\_\_. They need to have a time by which something is done or completed.
7. This year 40 Representatives are \_\_\_\_\_ from the House. They will not seek re-election.
8. The cat \_\_\_\_\_ the robber's face. The cat made marks on his face with its claws.
10. Some 12,000 homes were threatened by a \_\_\_\_\_. It was a fierce fire that spread rapidly.
14. There was a lot of broken glass. Volunteers \_\_\_\_\_ it up. They cleaned surfaces using brooms.
15. A Board of Supervisor governs the people who live in a \_\_\_\_\_, a political and geographical area in a state.
16. What \_\_\_\_\_ can you offer friends who want to improve their English? What advice or helpful information can you give them?

### Down

1. After the earthquake hit, neighbors \_\_\_\_\_ to share news in the dark. They met together outside.
2. When the children find out that Mrs. Doubtfire is really their father, they \_\_\_\_\_ him. They pardon him.
4. The Halloween spirits of the Celts were sometimes \_\_\_\_\_. They could hurt people.
5. It's good to keep a \_\_\_\_\_ nearby. You never know when you will need a hand-held light operated by batteries.
9. The earthquake was \_\_\_\_\_. It was very frightening.
11. When parents divorce, sometimes a judge will decide who has \_\_\_\_\_ of the children. The judge decides who will have the legal right to raise them.
12. People carved \_\_\_\_\_ faces into pumpkins. They put lighted candles in them to scare away evil spirits.
13. An informal word for men is \_\_\_\_\_.