

Easy English Times

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2018 Learning Activities

ANSWER KEY

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

1. Democrats gained more than the 23 seats they needed for a MAJORITY in the 435 seat House. (p. 1)
2. World War I ended by an ARMISTICE agreement at 11 a.m. on Nov. 11, 1918. (p. 1)
3. The killing of 11 people at a synagogue in Pittsburgh was yet another SENSELESS act of VIOLENCE. (p. 2)
4. By this Dec. over 600,000 Americans will be killed or injured by guns since the Sandy Hook TRAGEDY. (p. 2)
5. In Mexico the Los Topos are a group of special people who help in case of DISASTERS. (p. 2)
6. Birdwatchers help each other SPOT wild birds. (p. 3)
7. If you are a 'secret Santa', you draw ONE NAME out of a hat and then get a gift for that person. (p. 3)
8. If you find the Christmas pickle ORNAMENT, you will have good fortune in the coming year. (p. 3)
9. At the beauty salon Parvina was PERPLEXED because she didn't know what was so FUNNY. (p. 4)
10. Kangjin Lee saw dozens of people STANDING IN LINE at the Calif. DMV office. (p. 4)
11. Having been a coach and babysitter, Maxime was able get some experience with CHILDCARE. (p. 4)
12. Jenny Fu was born in 1976, the end of the CULTURAL REVOLUTION in China. (p. 5)
13. Irma's mom describes the dog like a PERSON because he always TAKES CARE OF the house. (p. 5)
14. Felix Hernandez and Nelson Cruz play baseball for the SEATTLE MARINERS (p. 7)
15. "Pope Francis: A Man of His Word" focuses on the LIFE and GOALS of Pope Francis. (p. 8)

II. Idioms and sayings in this issue. Fill in the blanks and then write what it means.

1. As the CROW flies. (p. 3) *A straight-line path, the most direct route*
2. Eat like a BIRD. (p. 3) *To eat lightly or be a picky eater*
3. Night OWL. (p. 3) *One who is more active or productive at night*
4. In a PICKLE. (p. 7) *In a troublesome or difficult situation*
5. Preach to the CHOIR. (p. 8) *Advocate something to people who already share one's convictions about its merits or importance*

III. More careful reading--find these answers:

A. From "Democrats take the House; Republicans keep control of the Senate" (page 1)

1. Nancy Pelosi said "Today is about restoring the CHECKS and BALANCES of the Constitution."
2. There will be more DIVERSITY in the House of Representatives and more YOUNG PEOPLE.

B. From "Baseball players become citizens" (page 7)

1. The Mariners brought Felix into the country from VENEZUELA when he was just 16.
2. Cruz is from the DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. He's a five-time Major League Baseball ALL-STAR.

C. From "Pope Francis: A Man of His Word" (page 8)

1. Pope Francis was the first pope to take his papal name from ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI.
2. Pope Francis has spoken frequently of the importance of being good STEWARDS of the EARTH.

Crossword puzzle answers

Across: 2. fond 3. shake 5. rallies 7. pleasure 9. humble 12. scholarship 15. act

Down: 1. coins 4. expected 6. selfless 8. appreciate 10. blinking 11. jingle 13. rubble 14. snacks