

Easy English Times

October 2014
Learning Activities

ANSWER KEY

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? 435 (p. 1)
2. The new Miss America is the daughter of RUSSIAN immigrants. (p. 1)
3. National Disability Awareness Month celebrates the many and varied CONTRIBUTIONS of America's workers with disabilities. (p. 2)
4. Eleanor Roosevelt is honored THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. (p. 2)
5. The four animals who wanted to be the Bremen town musicians are a DONKEY, a DOG, a CAT and a ROOSTER.
6. Where did Hurricane Odil cause massive destruction? THE SOUTHERN TIP OF THE BAJA PENINSULA
7. Where was the 8/24/14 earthquake centered? NEAR NAPA, CA What was its magnitude? 6.0 (p. 5)
8. The Days of the Dead observances pay tribute to DEAD FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS. (p. 7)
9. When is Major League Baseball's World Series scheduled to start? OCTOBER 21 (p. 7)
10. *Mrs. Doubtfire* is considered to be one of America's BEST COMEDIES of the 20th 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

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| 1. all in all CONSIDERING EVERYTHING | 4. pitch black DENSELY BLACK |
| 2. bumped into HIT WITH FORCE | 5. pulled together WORKED AS A TEAM |
| 3. on hand TO HAVE AVAILABLE | 6. torn off TAKEN OFF QUICKLY- |

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? 36
 2. A ballot measure is a piece of proposed LEGISLATION to be APPROVED or REJECTED by eligible voters.
- Note: For more election information, got to 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 SHARP, VIOLENT jolts with noise that sounded like a FREIGHT TRAIN.
 2. At daylight, the area became very NOISY with sirens and many HELICOPTERS flying overhead.
- Extra: Which photo illustrates this proverb: "When life hands you lemons, make lemonade." A BOY ON A SKATEBOARD JUMPING OVER A CRACK IN THE STREET

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

1. Both holidays have PAGAN roots. However, the celebrations are very DIFFERENT.
2. In the Day of the Dead tradition, the spirits are FAMILIAR LOVED ONES.

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

1. In this film story, the marriage of Daniel and Miranda is in trouble, it is ON THE ROCKS
2. Who helps transform Daniel into Mrs. Doubtfire? HIS BROTHER What is his job? A MAKEUP ARTIST

Crossword puzzle answers - ACROSS: 3. immature 6. deadline 7. retiring 8. scratched 10. wildfire 14. swept 15. county 16. tips DOWN: 1. gathered 2. forgive 4. mean 5. flashlight 9. terrifying 11. custody 12. scary 13. guys

The Nov/Dec issue of *Easy English Times* will come out in mid-November.