

Short Articles for Reading Comprehension

ANSWER KEY

2

Unit 1 Dangerous Animals

Reading Through >>

Key Points

1. c 2. b 3. b 4. b

The Missing Word

1. inject
2. prey
3. provoked

The Main Idea

- a. 3 b. 2 c. 4 d. 1

The Right Word

1. 1. c 2. e 3. b
 4. d 5. a
2. a. creatures b. provoke c. victim
 d. toxic e. habitat

Listening In >>

Spot Dictation

1. dangerous 2. fatalities
3. toxicity 4. inflict
5. venomous

Questions to Answers

- a. 3 b. 5 c. 1
d. 2 e. 4

True or False

1. F 2. T 3. F
4. T 5. T

Speaking Up >>

Passage Retelling

1. animals 2. jellyfish 3. venom
4. human 5. ability 6. wound

Usage >>

Practice

1. own 2. in fact 3. Basically
4. actually 5. In fact 6. in fact
7. actually

Unit 2 Fireworks

Reading Through >>

Key Points

1. c 2. a 3. c 4. a

The Missing Word

1. holiday
2. Historians
3. ordinary

The Main Idea

- a. 2 b. 3 c. 1

The Right Word

1. 1. d 2. b 3. e
 4. c 5. a
2. a. invented b. medicine
 c. celebrate d. substances
 e. occasion

Listening In >>

Spot Dictation

1. invented 2. ingredient
3. signals 4. evil
5. occasions

Questions to Answers

- a. 4 b. 1 c. 2
d. 3 e. 5

True or False

1. F 2. T 3. F
4. T 5. T

Speaking Up >>

Passage Retelling

1. Chinese
2. main
3. gunpowder
4. war
5. spirits
6. important

Usage >>

Practice

1. over
2. out
3. off
4. for
5. in
6. out
7. off

Speaking Up >>

Passage Retelling

1. between
2. found
3. use
4. Americans
5. weekend
6. participles

Usage >>

Practice

1. fewer
2. a few
3. less
4. greater
5. few
6. a few
7. greater

Unit 3 British and American English

Reading Through >>

Key Points

1. c
2. a
3. c
4. c

The Missing Word

1. American
2. boot
3. idiom

The Main Idea

- a. 4
- b. 3
- c. 2
- d. 1

The Right Word

1. 1. c
 2. d
 3. e
 4. b
 5. a
2. a. vocabulary
 - b. grammatical
 - c. spelling
 - d. pronounce
 - e. idioms

Listening In >>

Spot Dictation

1. differences
2. people
3. vocabulary
4. British
5. grammatical
6. past

Questions to Answers

- a. 1
- b. 5
- c. 4
- d. 2
- e. 3

True or False

1. T
2. F
3. T
4. T
5. F

Unit 4 Flags

Reading Through >>

Key Points

1. a
2. a
3. c
4. b

The Missing Word

1. communicate
2. standard
3. signaler

The Main Idea

- a. 3
- b. 1
- c. 4
- d. 2

The Right Word

1. 1. d
 2. a
 3. e
 4. c
 5. b
2. a. separate
 - b. national
 - c. continued
 - d. planted
 - e. communicate

Listening In >>

Spot Dictation

1. communicate
2. national
3. soldiers
4. special
5. system
6. fixed

Questions to Answers

- a. 4
- b. 5
- c. 1
- d. 2
- e. 3

True or False

1. F
2. T
3. T
4. T
5. F

Speaking Up >>

Passage Retelling

1. information
2. armies
3. Ships
4. semaphore
5. conveying
6. position
7. distances

Usage >>

Practice

1. picked on
2. pick out
3. Pick up
4. Pick over
5. pick me up
6. picked
7. pick out

Unit 5 Australia

Reading Through >>

Key Points

1. b
2. c
3. c
4. c

The Missing Word

1. platypus
2. permanent
3. coastal

The Main Idea

- a. 1
- b. 4
- c. 2
- d. 3

The Right Word

1. 1. d
2. a
4. b
5. c
3. e
2. a. migrated
- b. desert
- c. interior
- d. Aborigines
- e. Marsupial

Listening In >>

Spot Dictation

1. population
2. uninhabitable
3. colonized
4. famous
5. wildlife

Questions to Answers

- a. 4
- b. 2
- d. 1
- e. 3
- c. 5

True or False

1. F
2. F
3. T
4. F
5. T

Speaking Up >>

Passage Retelling

1. continent
2. desert
3. coast
4. Aborigines
5. British
6. unusual
7. marsupials

Usage >>

Practice

1. spot
2. over
3. As a result
4. Over
5. spotted
6. As a result
7. over

Unit 6 Chess

Reading Through >>

Key Points

1. c
2. c
3. b
4. a

The Missing Word

1. believe
2. Competitive
3. evidence

The Main Idea

c, d, e

The Right Word

1. 1. d
2. a
4. b
5. c
3. e
2. a. international
- b. invention
- c. chess
- d. text
- e. mentioned

Listening In >>

Spot Dictation

1. disagreement
2. reference
3. similar
4. literature
5. evidence

Questions to Answers

- a. 4 b. 3 c. 1
d. 2 e. 5

True or False

1. F 2. F 3. F
4. T 5. T

Speaking Up >>

Passage Retelling

1. historians 2. game
3. India 4. century
5. argued 6. found
7. invented

Usage >>

Practice

1. matter 2. Even though
3. even though 4. matter
5. matter 6. Even though
7. matter

Unit 7 Greenwich Mean Time

Reading Through >>

Key Points

1. a 2. c 3. b 4. b

The Missing Word

1. meridians
2. twenty-four
3. confusing

The Main Idea

- a. 1 b. 3 c. 4 d. 2

The Right Word

1. 1. e 2. c 3. d
4. a 5. b
2. a. travel b. extend c. system
d. zone e. conference

Listening In >>

Spot Dictation

1. based 2. establish
3. confusion 4. longitude
5. zones 6. London

Questions to Answers

- a. 3 b. 1 c. 5
d. 4 e. 2

True or False

1. F 2. T 3. F
4. T 5. F

Speaking Up >>

Passage Retelling

1. met 2. reading
3. meridians 4. passes
5. Greenwich 6. throughout

Usage >>

Practice

1. Whatever 2. whenever
3. Whoever 4. whenever
5. However 6. Whatever
7. Whoever 8. however

Unit 8 Ginseng

Reading Through >>

Key Points

1. b 2. a 3. c 4. a

The Missing Word

1. medicinal
2. China
3. verify

The Main Idea

- a. 2 b. 4 c. 1 d. 3

The Right Word

1. 1. c 2. e 3. a
4. d 5. b
2. a. verify b. benefits
c. circulation d. export e. medicinal

Listening In >>

Spot Dictation

- | | |
|--------------|----------------|
| 1. medicinal | 2. cultivate |
| 3. illegal | 4. circulation |
| 5. calming | |

Questions to Answers

- | | | |
|------|------|------|
| a. 2 | b. 4 | c. 1 |
| d. 5 | e. 3 | |

True or False

- | | | |
|------|------|------|
| 1. F | 2. F | 3. T |
| 4. T | 5. F | |

Speaking Up >>

Passage Retelling

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| 1. purposes | 2. farms |
| 3. wild | 4. American |
| 5. calming | 6. believed |
| 7. energy | |

Usage >>

Practice

- | | | |
|-----------|------------|------------|
| 1. active | 2. passive | 3. active |
| 4. active | 5. passive | 6. passive |
| 7. active | | |

Unit 9 Chewing Gum

Reading Through >>

Key Points

- | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|
| 1. a | 2. b | 3. a | 4. c |
|------|------|------|------|

The Missing Word

- sap
- vending
- prehistoric

The Main Idea

- | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|
| a. 2 | b. 4 | c. 1 | d. 3 |
|------|------|------|------|

The Right Word

- | | | |
|-------------|------------|----------|
| 1. 1. a | 2. e | 3. d |
| 4. b | 5. c | |
| 2. a. basis | b. produce | c. brand |
| d. popular | e. chew | |

Listening In >>

Spot Dictation

- | | |
|------------|----------------|
| 1. resin | 2. prehistoric |
| 3. chicle | 4. contains |
| 5. chewing | |

Questions to Answers

- | | | |
|------|------|------|
| a. 5 | b. 3 | c. 4 |
| d. 1 | e. 2 | |

True or False

- | | | |
|------|------|------|
| 1. F | 2. T | 3. T |
| 4. F | 5. F | |

Speaking Up >>

Passage Retelling

- | | |
|-------------|------------|
| 1. Since | 2. ancient |
| 3. mastiche | 4. South |
| 5. modern | 6. popular |

Usage >>

Practice

- good for nothing
- do you some good
- good for you
- up to no good
- did me a good turn
- not good
- good for nothing
- good/bad

Unit 10 William Shakespeare

Reading Through >>

Key Points

- | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|
| 1. a | 2. b | 3. c | 4. b |
|------|------|------|------|

The Missing Word

- fortune
- London
- acknowledge

The Main Idea

a, c, e

The Right Word

1. 1. c 2. a 3. e
4. d 5. b
2. a. unique b. playwright
c. comedy d. documentary
e. evidence

Listening In >>

Spot Dictation

1. playwrights 2. London
3. fame 4. education
5. considerable

Questions to Answers

- a. 4 b. 5 c. 1
d. 2 e. 3

True or False

1. T 2. F 3. F
4. F 5. T

Speaking Up >>

Passage Retelling

1. language 2. town
3. Stratford 4. plays
5. life 6. fortune

Usage >>

Practice

1. to give extra force
2. to express anger
3. to agree
4. to strengthen a statement

Fun Time

1. Othello 2. King Lear
3. Macbeth 4. Julius Caesar

The Missing Word

1. breeding
2. armor
3. nuisance

The Main Idea

- a. 4 b. 1 c. 3 d. 2

The Right Word

1. 1. e 2. c 3. a
4. b 5. d
2. a. especially b. culture
c. environment d. rare
e. extinction

Listening In >>

Spot Dictation

1. species 2. nuisance
3. ponds 4. extinction
5. captivity 6. culture

Questions to Answers

- a. 2 b. 4 c. 5
d. 1 e. 3

True or False

1. F 2. F 3. T
4. F 5. T

Speaking Up >>

Passage Retelling

1. wild 2. suffer 3. protected
4. their 5. Chinese 6. trying
7. breeding

Usage >>

Practice

1. c 2. e 3. d 4. h
5. g 6. a 7. b 8. f

Unit 11 The Chinese Alligator

Reading Through >>

Key Points

1. b 2. a 3. c 4. c

Unit 12 Michael Schumacher

Reading Through >>

Key Points

- 1. c 2. b 3. c 4. c

The Missing Word

- 1. Ferrari
2. Championship
3. career

The Main Idea

- a, c, e

The Right Word

- 1. 1. ensure - make certain
2. occupation - career
3. repeat - do again
4. tracks - courses
5. eventually - finally
2. a. Sponsors b. victory c. record
d. vehicles e. member

Listening In >>

Spot Dictation

- 1. father 2. kart 3. racing
4. motor 5. 1994 6. Ferrari

Questions to Answers

- a. 3 b. 5 c. 1
d. 2 e. 4

True or False

- 1. F 2. T 3. F
4. T 5. F

Speaking Up >>

Passage Retelling

- 1. champion 2. career
3. sponsors 4. Eventually
5. team 6. victories

Usage >>

Practice

- 1. won 2. lost
3. Championship 4. victory
5. beat 6. victorious
7. champion

Unit 13 People Who Make Movies

Reading Through >>

Key Points

- 1. c 2. a 3. b 4. c

The Missing Word

- 1. shoot
2. editor
3. responsible

The Main Idea

- a. 1 b. 3 c. 4 d. 2

The Right Word

- 1. 1. b 2. d 3. a
4. e 5. c
2. a. set b. credits c. in charge
d. key e. artistic

Listening In >>

Spot Dictation

- 1. movie 2. producers
3. cast 4. crew
5. director 6. enjoy

Questions to Answers

- a. 3 b. 5 c. 1
d. 2 e. 4

True or False

- 1. T 2. F 3. T
4. F 5. F

Speaking Up >>

Passage Retelling

- 1. skilled 2. work 3. various
4. actors 5. make 6. theater

Usage >>

Practice

- 1. shot 2. key
3. in charge of 4. set
5. set 6. in charge of
7. key 8. shoot

Unit 14 The Speed of Sound

Reading Through >>

Key Points

1. a 2. b 3. a 4. b

The Missing Word

1. measure
2. echo
3. vice versa

The Main Idea

b, d, e

The Right Word

1. 1. calculate – figure out
2. experiment – test
3. vice versa – the other way around
4. per – for each
5. affected – changed
2. a. distance b. echo c. clap
d. measure e. thunder

Listening In >>

Spot Dictation

1. substances 2. second
3. speed 4. temperature
5. measure 6. distance

Questions to Answers

- a. 4 b. 5 c. 2
d. 1 e. 3

True or False

1. T 2. F 3. T
4. F 5. F

Speaking Up >>

Passage Retelling

1. travel 2. depends
3. waves 4. per
5. Temperature 6. echo

Usage >>

Practice

1. out 2. at 3. on
4. through 5. up 6. out
7. on

Unit 15 The English Alphabet

Reading Through >>

Key Points

1. a 2. b 3. a 4. a

The Missing Word

1. Carthage
2. symbols
3. navigator

The Main Idea

- a. 3 b. 2 c. 1

The Right Word

1. 1. e 2. b 3. d
4. a 5. c
2. a. trade b. alphabet c. symbol
d. destroyed e. lessons

Listening In >>

Spot Dictation

1. alphabet 2. civilization
3. script 4. Sea
5. destroyed 6. adopted

Questions to Answers

- a. 2 b. 5 c. 4
d. 1 e. 3

True or False

1. F 2. F 3. T
4. T 5. F

Speaking Up >>

Passage Retelling

1. origins 2. letters
3. powerful 4. trading
5. Mediterranean 6. Rome
7. letters

Usage >>

Practice

1. Furthermore 2. origin
3. originated 4. system
5. script 6. Furthermore
7. originated 8. script

Fun Time

Answers will vary.

Usage >>

Practice

Answers will vary.

Unit 16 Animal Communication

Reading Through >>

Key Points

1. b 2. b 3. a 4. c

The Missing Word

- auditory
- chemical
- dominance

The Main Idea

a, c, d

The Right Word

- auditory — by sound
 - visual — by sight
 - chemical — by smell
 - tactile — by touch
- refer b. affection c. quality
 - perform e. attract

Listening In >>

Spot Dictation

- communication 2. visual
- Auditory 4. Tactile
- Chemical

Questions to Answers

- a. 3 b. 2 c. 4
d. 5 e. 1

True or False

1. T 2. F 3. T
4. F 5. T

Speaking Up >>

Passage Retelling

- humans 2. kinds
- types 4. includes
- sounds 6. scents

Unit 17 The Spread of Disease

Reading Through >>

Key Points

1. c 2. b 3. c 4. c

The Missing Word

- epidemic
- contagious
- organism

The Main Idea

- a. 3 b. 4 c. 1 d. 2

The Right Word

- a 2. c 3. b
 - e 5. d
- communicable b. excreta
 - organism d. illness
 - physical

Listening In >>

Spot Dictation

- communicable 2. physical
- insects 4. people
- epidemics 6. disease

Questions to Answers

- a. 4 b. 5 c. 1
d. 3 e. 2

True or False

1. F 2. T 3. F
4. T 5. F

Speaking Up >>

Passage Retelling

- transmitted 2. contaminated
- major 4. devastate
- precautions 6. illness

Usage >>

Practice

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| 1. sick | 2. ill |
| 3. disease | 4. illness |
| 5. contagious | 6. sick |
| 7. infectious | 8. contagious |

Usage >>

Practice

- | | |
|--------------|-------------|
| 1. professor | 2. lecturer |
| 3. pupil | 4. student |
| 5. tutor | 6. academic |

Fun Time

bit, hit, bib, it, to

Unit 18 *The Lord of the Rings*

Reading Through >>

Key Points

1. a 2. b 3. c 4. c

The Missing Word

- epic
- publishing
- academic

The Main Idea

a, d, e

The Right Word

- | | | |
|----------------|-------------|----------|
| 1. 1. d | 2. c | 3. b |
| 4. e | 5. a | |
| 2. a. literary | b. legacy | c. based |
| d. series | e. mythical | |

Listening In >>

Spot Dictation

- | | | |
|------------|------------|--------------|
| 1. trilogy | 2. fantasy | 3. professor |
| 4. based | 5. epic | |

Questions to Answers

- | | | |
|------|------|------|
| a. 5 | b. 1 | c. 2 |
| d. 4 | e. 3 | |

True or False

- | | | |
|------|------|------|
| 1. T | 2. F | 3. T |
| 4. F | 5. F | |

Speaking Up >>

Passage Retelling

- | | | |
|-------------|-------------|------------|
| 1. mythical | 2. tales | 3. readers |
| 4. linguist | 5. Released | 6. exposed |

Unit 19 *Easter Island*

Reading Through >>

Key Points

1. c 2. b 3. c 4. a

The Missing Word

- volcanic
- Europeans
- inhabited

The Main Idea

- a. 1 b. 4 c. 3 d. 2

The Right Word

- | | | |
|-------------------|------|-------------|
| 1. 1. c | 2. e | 3. a |
| 4. b | 5. d | |
| 2. a. magnificent | | b. carved |
| c. sparse | | d. identity |
| e. explorer | | |

Listening In >>

Spot Dictation

- | | | |
|-------------|-------------|------------|
| 1. statues | 2. volcanic | 3. figures |
| 4. isolated | 5. carved | 6. mystery |

Questions to Answers

- | | | |
|------|------|------|
| a. 4 | b. 5 | c. 3 |
| d. 2 | e. 1 | |

True or False

- | | | |
|------|------|------|
| 1. F | 2. T | 3. T |
| 4. F | 5. F | |

Speaking Up >>

Passage Retelling

- | | |
|--------------|----------------|
| 1. rock | 2. famous |
| 3. carved | 4. inhabitants |
| 5. primitive | 6. giant |

Usage >>

Practice

- | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|
| 1. N | 2. N | 3. N | 4. Y |
| 5. Y | 6. Y | 7. Y | 8. Y |

Fun Time

land, eat, stand, stir, east, and, sea, sand, rate, rest, ran, desert, seat, eel, neat

Unit 20 Rainforests

Reading Through >>

Key Points

- | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|
| 1. b | 2. c | 3. a | 4. b |
|------|------|------|------|

The Missing Word

- logging
- deforestation
- regeneration

The Main Idea

b, c, d

The Right Word

1. illegal – against the law
2. habitat – place to live
3. devastate – destroy
4. reliant – dependent
5. demand – need

2. a. disappear
c. destroyed
e. prevent

b. ecology
d. profitable

Listening In >>

Spot Dictation

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1. rainforests | 2. logging |
| 3. habitat | 4. decreases |
| 5. oxygen | 6. atmosphere |

Questions to Answers

- | | | |
|------|------|------|
| a. 3 | b. 4 | c. 1 |
| d. 2 | e. 5 | |

True or False

- | | | |
|------|------|------|
| 1. T | 2. F | 3. T |
| 4. F | 5. T | |

Speaking Up >>

Passage Retelling

- | | |
|--------------|-------------------|
| 1. disappear | 2. hardwood |
| 3. increases | 4. global warming |
| 5. destroys | 6. plants |

Usage >>

Practice

- | | | |
|--------|---------|----------|
| 1. for | 2. died | 3. dying |
| 4. of | 5. die | |

Fun Time

- | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|
| 1. s | 2. p | 3. e | 4. c |
| 5. i | 6. e | 7. s | |