

Are you READY for some Reading Comprehension ?



Paragraph 1
Since its beginnings in Britain in the 1800s, industrialisation has taken over the rest of the world by storm. Industrialisation was a breakaway from the traditional agrarian societies where people were mainly farmers who earned a living by growing crops and selling them in the markets. Another group of people during that time was the landlords who ruled over these peasants and dictated the way land was to be parcelled. With industrialisation, farmers became workers in the cities and the population in the rural areas began to dwindle. As industrialisation continued, less land was allocated to growing crops and cottage industries sprang up. Farmers that were left made use of technology to plant, grow and harvest their crops. Instead of buffaloes, tractors were used. Machinery replaced the bare hands used in harvesting crops.

Paragraph 3
As industrialisation progressed, the need for these workers decreased. Technology led to greater automation and many assembly line workers were replaced. The lucky ones were promoted to product supervisors but the unlucky ones found themselves out of a job. The simple task of standing at one spot along a long conveyor belt while assembling one part of a product no longer existed. The unemployment rate was high and crime was rampant. Unemployed workers were desperate to get a job and petty theft and robberies were common.

Paragraph 2
With industrialisation, factories became common place in many countries. Thousands of people left the countryside to earn a living by working in the factories. The pay was low and the work was monotonous. The workers stayed in squatters. Their homes were makeshift structures with no water supply or sanitation facilities. Many workers were disillusioned by the conditions in the cities. Industrialisation did not improve their living standards but few were able to return home. Most of them had lost their lands and some had large families depending on them.

Paragraph 4
Workers soon adapted to the changes of industrialisation. Technology allowed people from all over the world to communicate with one another. The world was shrinking and people could travel easily between countries. Job opportunities existed all over the world and multinational corporations could be found in many countries. Unlike traditional companies, these corporations located their different branches all over the world hiring local labour wherever they were located. The global economy was on the rise.

Paragraph 5
A fast-paced society has ensued as a result of centuries of change. Adaptation is crucial in order to catch up with these changes. Continuing education is essential. Adults are returning to schools and they make sure that their young children have a proper education as well. Hopefully, everyone will then be able to meet the increasing demands of industrialisation.

- From Paragraph 1**
- (a) What type of society existed before industrialisation? [1mark]
 - (b) '... population in the rural areas began to dwindle.' What does this phrase tell you about the farmers? [2marks]
 - (c) 'Machinery replaced the bare hands ...' Which other word in this paragraph tells you the reason for this change? [1mark]

- From Paragraph 2**
- (a) This paragraph tells us that factories were 'commonplace' in many countries. What does this tell us about the jobs that farmers took on in the city? [1mark]
 - (b) What type of jobs did the workers do? [1mark]

- From Paragraph 3**
- (a) This paragraph states that the unemployment rate was high. What was the cause of this? [1mark]
 - (b) '... assembly line workers ...' In what way is this job scope more limited compared to a product supervisor's job? [1mark]

- From Paragraph 4**
- Why did the unemployed turn to robbery and theft? [1mark]

- From Paragraph 5**
- (a) Name ONE way in which the world has shrunk and ONE way it has not. [1mark]
 - (b) How did multinational corporations make use of the shrinking world? [1mark]

- Quote the phrase that tells you that :**
- (a) "workers changed as industrialization progressed." [1mark]
 - (b) "industrialization was no longer restricted to one country." [1mark]
- From Paragraph 5
- Society is 'fast-paced'. What do workers have to do in order to succeed in such a society? [1mark]
 - What do 'young charges' refer to? [1mark]

Find the answers in next MONDAY issue

Paragraph 1
The impact of technology can be seen around the world. It has affected the modern office as well as the aboriginal groups in many countries. Many people have the notion that aborigines are steeped in tradition, use primitive tools and are completely cut off from the rest of the society. In reality, the lifestyle of the bulk of the aborigines has undergone massive changes, much like the rest of the society. The new generation of aborigines are now different from what their elders used to be like. Customs and culture are different and practices have changed. For many of them, these changes have put them in a predicament as they are now caught between tradition and modernity. The situation is worsened when governments and the rest of society see them as being different and continue to treat them in a different manner.



Paragraph 4
The introduction of technology through household items like washing machines, rice cookers and refrigerators has encouraged some aborigines to abandon their way of life for a new one in the city. For some groups, this helps to bring prosperity to their village as the money they bring in can help to provide more food, better housing and healthcare for the rest of the people. In addition, some aborigines market their unique cultural products and this not only promotes the growth of their handicraft industries, but also allows the rest of the world to find out more about their way of life. However, having been introduced to new and modern technology, many are unwilling to return to a simple way of life. This might lead to the demise of the group.

Paragraph 2
It is not uncommon to see peculiar-looking aboriginal hunters with a loincloth wrapped around their waists holding a rifle. With their simple lifestyle, lack of education and lack of technological know-how, it is impossible for them to own sophisticated weapons. These rifles were obtained when they came into contact with the foreigners. Goods have been traded in exchange for these products. Both the foreigners and the aborigines are often more than willing to trade with each other so as to obtain a taste of the other group's way of life.

Paragraph 3
On the one hand, these weapons have allowed them to be more effective in their catching of game. For some, it has also helped them to kill their enemies from other tribes. On the other hand, the use of these weapons has marred the simple lifestyle that these people have been leading. Violence, revenge and bloodshed have been introduced into previously peaceful settings. Naivety has also caused unnecessary accidents among the tribal groups. The potency of a rifle was unknown until it was actually used. In fact, over-eagerness to try out this new weapon prevents the aborigines from realising its impact on a human until it is too late. Previously, when a disagreement broke out within the tribe, the tribesmen would have a match using weapons they had made from tree branches. Such matches would never severely injure the tribesmen and many of them were still able to walk home themselves. However, bodies have to be carried away now.

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ANSWER KEY TO THE LAST EIS PAGE ACTIVITIES (DATED JANUARY 26, 2015)

- KEY: A** (1) law and order (2) pros and cons (3) wait and see (4) safe and sound (5) sick and tired (6) sooner or later (7) slowly but surely
KEY: B (1) sooner or later (2) safe and sound (3) sick and tired (4) pros and cons (5) slowly but surely (6) wait and see
KEY: C (1) 'll be back (2) have you been up to (3) was around (4) 'll be away (5) 's never been out of (6) was up with (7) isn't over (8) 's all for
KEY: D a (1) speaking (2) calling (3) This is (4) connect (5) busy (6) hold b (7) pleasure (8) fly (9) keep (10) ring
KEY: E (1) will dominate/will be dominating (2) Shall we invite (3) I'm going to cycle (4) I'll get (5) She's going to cry (6) It's (7) we'll be lying (8) I'll have finished
KEY: F (1) arrive 'll go (2) won't apologize (3) 'll send 's read (4) 've watched 'll give
KEY: G (1) 're going to have (2) 'll call (3) Are you and Jane coming (4) will start/starts/will be starting (5) 's going to be (6) Will you open (7) 'll be interviewing (8) 'll have done
KEY: H (1) detest/can't bear (2) risky (3) rowing/quarreling (4) handy (5) convinced/certain (6) mend/fix (7) dull/tedious
KEY: I (1) tiring (2) disappointing (3) embarrassed (4) annoying (5) depressed (6) relaxing (7) excited (8) boring
KEY: J (1) directed (2) done (3) wearing (4) designing (5) bought (6) demonstrating (7) broken (8) lit
KEY: K (1) (nothing) (2) who (3) that/which (4) which (5) (nothing) (6) why (7) when (8) whose (9) where (10) (nothing)
KEY: L 1. My in-laws, who emigrated three years ago, are arriving from Canada this weekend. 2. We found a fabulous store in London which sells high-tech gadgets. 3. He's going out with a girl whose brother went to the same school as you. 4. My boss, who(m) I'm always complaining about at work, is going to give me promotion. 5. I met a couple last night who said they knew you. 6. Have you seen the vase I got from an auction? 7. His house, which isn't big enough to work from, is for sale. 8. I tried snowboarding, which was absolutely fantastic, when I was in France.
KEY: M 1. vacuum cleaner 2. microwave oven 3. dishwasher 4. electric razor 5. fridge 6. video recorder 7. food processor 8. deep freeze 9. iron

Let's Brush up your Possessive Pronouns



Possessive Pronouns
A possessive pronoun names a person or thing that has something. A possessive pronoun does not contain an apostrophe. Some possessive pronouns appear before a noun and replace the name of the person or thing that has something.
Julian's group is finished. His group is finished.
Other possessive pronouns stand alone in a sentence. Mine is the red one. The one on the table is yours.
Don't confuse the possessive pronoun *its* with the contraction *it's* (it is).
Its colors had faded. (possessive pronoun)
It's beginning to fade. (contraction)

Underline the possessive pronouns in the sentences below, and write them in the space provided :

- Michael dropped his ice cream on the ground.
- Several people claimed the prize was theirs.
- Susan and Hussain closed their eyes when Kelly brought out the cake.
- We couldn't decide which of the cars was ours.
- Our track team took first place.
- Do you have my tapes?
- She was looking for her books.
- Does Kelly's watch show the same time as yours?
- I got mine before you did.
- The dog lost its collar.

Write the correct word from the parentheses in each sentence:

- Please see if (you're, your) painting is dry.
- (It's, Its) too early to go to the show.
- (They're, Their) latest record is selling well.
- I wonder if (you're, your) brother will go with me.
- Did the dog lose (it's, its) collar?

Let's Brush up your Indefinite Pronouns



Indefinite Pronouns
An indefinite pronoun does not refer to a particular person, place, or thing. Anything is possible. Some indefinite pronouns are always singular. Some indefinite pronouns are always plural. Other indefinite pronouns can be singular or plural, depending on the phrase that follows. If you use an indefinite pronoun as the subject of a sentence, the verb must agree with it in number.
Both are available. (plural)
Neither is available. (singular)
Some of the movie is boring. (singular)
Some of the movies are boring. (plural)

A. Identifying Indefinite Pronouns
Write the indefinite pronoun in parentheses that correctly completes the sentence:

- (Everybody, Few) knows how to dance.
- Every evening (nobody, both) go home.
- (Many, Everyone) remember their lessons.
- (Each, Both) of the children puts on mittens.

B. Using Indefinite Pronouns Correctly

- Write the word in parentheses that correctly completes the sentence:
- Each of the chairs in this room (are, is) made of wood.
 - Most of the children (leave, leaves) books on the table.
 - Some of the animals wash (their, its) food before eating.
 - Each has (their, its) own special place to sleep.

C. Writing with Indefinite Pronouns

- Write four sentences of your own that use indefinite pronouns as subjects. The verbs you use must agree in number with the subjects.
- _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____

Let's Brush up your Adjectives & Proper Adjectives



Adjectives & Proper Adjectives

An adjective is a word that describes a noun or a pronoun.
Harry listens to classical music. [What kind?]
I bought three apples. [How many?]
Ira sent me that picture. [Which one?]
Predicate adjectives follow linking verbs and modify the subject of a sentence.
Moir's house is beautiful.
Proper adjectives are formed from proper nouns and start with a capital letter. Some proper adjectives are formed by adding an ending to the noun form.
Navajo blanket [simple noun form] African art [ending added]

A. Identifying Adjectives

- Underline each adjective once and the noun it modifies twice:
- Emily avoided the large dog.
 - Its bark sounded ferocious.
 - Later, Emily met the young owner of the dog.
 - The dog was harmless.
 - Emily and the dog became good friends.
 - Sometimes, dogs are nervous, and they bark.

B. Identifying Proper Adjectives

- Write each proper adjective, using correct capitalisation. Then write any other adjective in the sentence:
- The vacations were at different american camp grounds.
 - Henrietta stayed on a navajo reservation with close friends.
 - Marcus spent two months on the virginia coast.
 - Good friends visited the peruvian mountains.
 - They brought back several pieces of incan art.
 - We studied african wildlife in a science class.