

Woman wins \$1 million

GAP FILL

Picasso in charity raffle

A woman in Italy has suddenly become the (1) _____ of a Pablo Picasso painting. Claudia Borgogno, 58, won the Picasso in a charity raffle. Her son Lorenzo bought his mother the ticket as a Christmas (2) _____. The ticket cost €100 (about \$110). The raffle draw was made on Wednesday and Ms Borgogno was the (3) _____ winner. Lorenzo (4) _____ to reporters how he told his mother. He said: "When I arrived and I told her she has won a Picasso painting, she was like: 'Please don't (5) _____.'" He added: "It was maybe the best (6) _____ I've made in my life." His mother could not believe she had won and (7) _____ up her amazement in one word - incredible. She said: "I have never won (8) _____ before".

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The Picasso painting is called Still Life. It was painted and (9) _____ by the artist in 1921. It shows a newspaper and a wine glass on a wood table. The charity (10) _____ took place in Paris at the international auction house Christies. The auction house (11) _____ the work of art as being (12) _____ \$1.1 million. However, the billionaire art collector who (13) _____ the painting to the charity raffle said it was worth at (14) _____ two or three times more than that. Christies sold 51,140 tickets for the charity raffle. All of the money it collected will go to (15) _____ water for villagers in Madagascar and Cameroon. An NGO will help to build and repair wells, washing (16) _____, and toilets in countryside villages.

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Nonfiction Reading Test

Koko

Directions: Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow. Refer to the text to check your answers when appropriate.

Did you know that humans aren't the only species that use language? Bees communicate by dancing. Whales talk to each other by singing. And some apes talk to humans by using American Sign Language.

Meet Koko: a female gorilla born at the San Francisco Zoo on July 4th, 1971. Koko learned sign language from her trainer, Dr. Penny Patterson. Patterson began teaching sign language to Koko in 1972, when Koko was one year old. Koko must have been a good student, because two years later she moved onto the Stanford University campus with Dr. Patterson. Koko continued to learn on the campus until 1976. That's when she began living full-time with Patterson's group, the Gorilla Foundation. Patterson and Koko's relationship has blossomed ever since.

Dr. Patterson says that Koko has mastered sign language. She says that Koko knows over 1,000 words, and that Koko makes up new words. For example, Koko didn't know the sign for *ring*, so she signed the words *finger* and *bracelet*. Dr. Patterson thinks that this shows meaningful and constructive use of language.

Not everyone agrees with Dr. Patterson. Some argue that apes like Koko do not understand the meaning of what they are doing. Skeptics say that these apes are just performing complex tricks. For example, if Koko points to an apple and signs *red* or *apple*, Dr. Patterson will give her an apple. They argue that Koko does not really know *what* the sign apple means. She only knows that that if she makes the right motion, one which Dr. Patterson has shown her, then she gets an apple. The debate is unresolved, but one thing is for certain: Koko is an extraordinary ape.

Sign language isn't the only unusual thing about Koko. She's also been a pet-owner. In 1983, at the age of 12, researchers said that Koko asked for a cat for Christmas. They gave Koko a stuffed cat. Koko was not happy. She did not play with it, and she continued to sign *sad*. So for her birthday in 1984, they let her pick a cat out of an abandoned litter. Koko picked a gray cat and named him "All Ball." Dr. Patterson said that Koko loved and nurtured All Ball as though he were a baby gorilla. Sadly, All Ball got out of Koko's cage and was hit by a car. Patterson reported that Koko signed "Bad, sad, bad" and "Frown, cry, frown, sad" when she broke the news to her.

It seems like Patterson and Koko have a good relationship, but not everyone agrees with it. Some critics believe that Patterson is *humanizing* the ape. They believe that apes should be left in the most natural state possible. Even Dr. Patterson struggles with these feelings. When asked if her findings could be *duplicated* by another group of scientists, she said, "We don't think that it would be ethical to do again." She went on to argue that animals should not be kept in such unnatural circumstances. Nonetheless, Koko lives in her foundation today.

As for the future, Dr. Patterson and the Gorilla Foundation would love to get Koko to an ape preserve in Maui, but they are having trouble securing the land. So unless you have a few million dollars to spare, Koko's going to be spending her time in Woodland, California with Dr. Patterson. Koko probably doesn't mind that. If she moved to Hawaii, she'd have to give up her Facebook page and Twitter feed, and she's got like 50 thousand "likes." Some may deny that she knows sign language, but nobody says that she doesn't know social networking.

1. Which best expresses the main idea of this article?
 - a. Bees, whales, and apes like Koko all use language to communicate.
 - b. Koko uses sign language but some think it's just a trick.
 - c. It is natural for gorillas and house cats to live together.
 - d. If you want a lot of "likes" on Facebook, get a talking gorilla.

2. Which best describes how the second paragraph is organized?
 - a. Chronological order
 - b. Cause and effect
 - c. Compare and contrast
 - d. Problem and solution

3. Which best expresses the author's purpose in writing the second paragraph?
 - a. The author is describing the environment in which Koko lives.
 - b. The author is informing readers how Dr. Patterson developed her skills.
 - c. The author is persuading readers that Koko should be freed.
 - d. The author is telling readers about Koko and Dr. Patterson's background.

4. Which happened **last**?
 - a. Koko got a stuffed cat for Christmas.
 - b. Koko lost All Ball.
 - c. Koko began living with the Gorilla Foundation.
 - d. Dr. Patterson began teaching Koko to sign.

5. Which statement would the author most likely **agree** with?
 - a. Koko has mastered sign language without a doubt.
 - b. Everybody likes how Dr. Patterson has raised Koko.
 - c. Koko doesn't really know sign language.
 - d. Some people are troubled by how Koko was raised.

6. Which best defines the word *duplicated* as it is used in the sixth paragraph?
 - a. To dispute a fact or disagree with someone
 - b. To lie to someone or to fool them
 - c. To copy or recreate something
 - d. To be disproven through debate

7. Which event happened **first**?
 - a. Koko moved onto the Stanford University campus.
 - b. Koko picked All Ball out for her birthday.
 - c. Koko began living with the Gorilla Foundation.
 - d. Koko got a stuffed cat for Christmas.

8. Which best describes the main idea of the **sixth** paragraph?
 - a. Dr. Patterson has treated Koko very cruelly.
 - b. Dr. Patterson and Koko have a beautiful, pure, and unconflicted relationship.
 - c. Some people think that Koko should not have been treated like a human.
 - d. Some people are working very hard to prove that Dr. Patterson is wrong.

9. Which statement would the author most likely **disagree** with?
- a. Dr. Patterson has worked hard to teach Koko sign language.
 - b. Some people think that Koko only signs to get food.
 - c. The Gorilla Foundation would like to move Koko to an ape preserve.
 - d. Dr. Patterson has no regrets about working with Koko.
10. If a book were being written about Koko and All Ball, which title would best summarize their story?
- a. *Long Wanted, Short Lived: A Tale of Strong Loves Lost*
 - b. *Happy Ending: The Gorilla Who Got What She Wanted*
 - c. *A Tale of Two Kitties: A Stuffed Cat Versus a Real One*
 - d. *Plushy Love: How A Gorilla Fell in Love with a Stuffed Cat*

Long-Response Questions

1. Does Koko really understand sign language? Support your position with quotes from the text. Explain your quotes clearly. Argue your point thoroughly.



“Europe”

Reading Comprehension – Informational Passages



Directions: Read the passage. Then answer questions about the passage below.

Europe is the second smallest continent, after Australia. Surprisingly, there are 44 countries in Europe. Over 700 million people live in Europe. European ideas are everywhere in the world. You can see examples of European culture, language, and buildings all around the world.

In sports, European soccer is very popular. Soccer teams from Europe have gone to the World Cup finals every year except 1930 and 1950. Many people say that the British, Italian, and Spanish soccer leagues are the world’s best. Cycling is also very popular in Europe – especially in France. The Tour de France is the biggest bicycle race in the world. In 1903, when the race first began, racers had to ride along the *entire* border of France. That’s a long distance!

In *industry*, Germany makes the most cars in Europe. In fact, if you visit Germany, you can go on a tour of the BMW factory. You can also go on a tour of the Porsche factory in Stuttgart, Germany. England is famous for china and pottery. Of course, the Champagne region in France is famous for its wine. Only a certain famous, bubbly wine from this area can be called by the name “*champagne*.” Flower farming is an important industry in Holland. Holland is famous for its tulips.

Europe is also famous for its food. The oldest cookbook in Europe was called *De Re Coquinaria*, or, “The Art of Cooking”. It was written in Latin. There is much *controversy* over the identity of the book’s author. Some people think the book was written by a very good cook named Marcus Gavius Apicus. Others don’t think that this book came from him. The book does not tell how to prepare the dishes, but it does tell what to put in each dish.

European historical architecture are among the most well-known in the world. One example of a famous architectural structure is called “Stonehenge,” in England. Stonehenge has many, very large stones set up in circles. No one knows why the stones were set up that way, because it was at a time before history was recorded. Many people think Stonehenge is holy. In addition to Stonehenge, The “Acropolis” in Athens, Greece is also very famous for its architectural structures. The Acropolis is a flat-topped hill, which lies about 150 meters above sea level. Many historical temples and other buildings were built on the Acropolis. The Acropolis is a huge tourist *site*. About 14 million people visit this location each year.

Modern European buildings are also tourist sites. The Eiffel Tower is the fifth tallest building in France. When it was built in 1889, it was the world’s tallest building. More than 200,000,000 people have visited the Eiffel Tower since it was built. It was named after Gustave Eiffel, who designed it. It is now a symbol of France. The year 2009 marks the 150th birthday of another famous tourist site in Europe: Big Ben. Big Ben is located atop the Westminster Palace in London, England. Big Ben is the largest four-faced chiming clock in the world. Chiming clocks are clocks that use bells to make their sound. Big Ben is a universal symbol of the United Kingdom.

Many European cities are famous for their churches and castles. The Sistine Chapel in the Vatican is the place where cardinals, very high Catholic bishops, meet to pick a new pope. The ceiling of the Sistine Chapel was painted by the artist Michelangelo. The Cathedral of Seville, Spain, is also very *magnificent*. This grand cathedral is beautifully decorated with outstanding colors. It is also the place where Christopher Columbus is buried.

England is now getting ready for the 2012 Olympics. About 4,000 companies and 15,000 workers are working to get the city of Stratford ready. The workers are building a new shopping center and many new hotels, with about 2,000 hotel rooms just for Olympics visitors! Since so many people live in Europe, they *expect* many visitors. As the Olympic planners say, London, England is less than a 3-hour flight away for more than 300 million people.



Questions:

1) What is the name of the famous European bicycle race?

- A. The French Open
- B. The Tour de France
- C. The French Excursion
- D. The Tour of the World
- E. The World Cup of France

2) Champagne is...

- A. a street in France.
- B. bubbly wine from Champagne, France.
- C. a famous type of French wine.
- D. Both A and B are correct
- E. Both B and C are correct

3) What was left out of the oldest European cookbook?

- A. What to put in the dishes
- B. Who wrote the cookbook
- C. What the dishes are called
- D. How to prepare the dishes
- E. Both B and D are correct
- F. Both B and C are correct

4) What is the Acropolis?

- A. A tourist site on the ocean
- B. A tourist site on a mountain
- C. A tourist site in a temple
- D. A tourist site in the sky
- E. None of the above are correct

5) What has its 150th birthday in the year 2009?

- A. Big Ben
- B. Stonehenge
- C. The Vatican
- D. The Eiffel Tower
- E. Westminster Palace

6) Why are the people in England so busy?

- A. They are repairing Big Ben.
- B. They are working on Stonehenge.
- C. They are building a new shopping center.
- D. They are getting ready for the 2012 Olympics.
- E. None of the above are correct
- F. Both C and D are correct

Vocabulary:

1) The best synonym for *entire* is...

- A. hole
- B. partial
- C. limited
- D. whole
- E. basic

2) *Industry* involves...

- A. power.
- B. monopoly.
- C. compensation.
- D. discipline.
- E. manufacturing.

3) The best synonym for *controversy* is...

- A. disdain.
- B. destruction.
- C. despair.
- D. disagreement.
- E. disrespect.

4) What is a *site*?

- A. A mile
- B. A location
- C. A tourist
- D. A symbol
- A. A designer

5) *Magnificent* means...

- A. grand.
- B. outstanding.
- C. beautiful.
- D. Both A and B are correct.
- E. Both A and C are correct.
- F. All of the above.

6) If you *expect* something to happen, you...

- A. understand it.
- B. anticipate it.
- C. contemplate it.
- D. decide upon it.
- E. disapprove of it.
- F. denounce it.

51. Two men ____ on the bridge were injured yesterday afternoon.
A) working B) work C) worked D) were working
52. She bought many beautiful objects in Japan, ____ is this painting.
A) an example of which B) example of which
C) examples of which D) of which
53. According to black leaders, ____ the most malignant cancer in the body of America.
A) it is racism B) racism which is
C) racism is D) nothing but racism
54. The interest on savings accounts at HSBC Bank are ____ Bank of Rome.
A) higher than B) higher than that of
C) higher of D) as high as
55. Fresh fruit costs twice ____ canned fruit.
A) more expensive than B) higher than
C) much as D) as much as
56. She was ____ I met at the party.
A) the one B) whom C) who D) that
57. ____ she needs is a good rest.
A) That B) What
C) The thing what D) Which
58. Is this ____ looking for?
A) you were B) that you were
C) what you were D) which you were
59. The UN has destroyed an Iraqi factory which ____ to produce biological weapons.
A) it is claimed B) claimed C) claiming D) is claimed
60. My father, ____ knows two languages, works for a publisher.
A) whom B) that C) who D) whose
61. The man ____ were all actors.
A) to those I talked B) I talked to
C) whom I talked D) talked
62. He didn't thank me for the present. That is ____ annoyed me.
A) ___ B) the thing C) what D) the thing what
63. The reason ____ I'm writing is to tell you about a party next week.
A) because B) why C) for D) as
64. ____ in my first visit to Turkey that I went to Bodrum.
A) It is B) It was C) It has been D) Its
65. ____ to see that you are feeling better.
A) It is nice B) Therefore C) That's fine D) I went
66. It is less expensive for me to take the bus to work, but ____ to take my car.
A) I will B) for I will C) it is less than D) it is faster
67. ____ requires years of practice to play the guitar as well as Carlos.
A) Music of high quality B) That music of high quality
C) It D) Playing music
68. ____ to spend that much money for a shirt.
A) Consequently, foolish B) Not only
C) Foolish of him D) It is foolish
69. ____ to hear from Lillian after so many years.
A) Consequently, nice B) It was nice
C) That was nice D) She was nice
70. ____ to watch the dancers perform.
A) Interesting nevertheless B) That was interesting
C) Not only was it interesting D) It was interesting
71. ____ an enjoyable way to spend an evening.
A) Therefore B) It was
C) Was it D) Going to a movie
72. Prime Minister ____ by members of his own party of using undemocratic methods.
A) who was accused B) whom they have accused
C) has been accused D) had accused
73. ____ the bus yesterday morning, Mr. Gomez saw a terrible automobile accident.
A) On his way to work B) Because it was crowded
C) Waiting for D) Missed
74. ____ down the street, Lionel lost his watch.
A) Running B) Fall C) Ran fast D) Run
75. ____ the problem, Susan was able to correct it.
A) Having recognized B) Recognize
C) Having been recognized D) Recognized
76. Not having ____ instructions, George could not do the job properly.
A) been given B) given C) giving D) given the
77. ____ in the city for several years, he was able to help the tourists.
A) They have lived B) Have lived
C) Having lived D) Having live
78. ____ by the noise, the bird flew away.
A) Fearing B) Afraid C) Frightened D) Building
79. ____ in 1795, the house has many interesting features.
A) Later B) Built
C) When it was built D) Building
80. ____ her problem, Tom wrote Susan a letter.
A) Because B) Hearing about
C) Write about D) What about
81. This ____ the fourth time you've asked me the same difficult question.
A) had to be B) must be C) to be D) have been
82. He told the police that he ____ there since March.
A) not be B) hasn't been C) wasn't D) hadn't been
83. I'm not going to miss the chance of seeing this performance ____ it is.
A) however expensive B) although expensive
C) nevertheless expensive D) how expensive
84. She demanded that she ____ given the exact figures.
A) be B) are C) were D) have
85. No sooner ____ the match than flames shot across the floor.
A) did he drop B) he dropped
C) he had dropped D) plans
86. Not until now ____ popularly recognized that man is destroying his environment.
A) it has become B) it becomes
C) does it become D) has it become
87. Not for one moment ____ my friend's innocence.
A) I doubted B) I did doubt C) did I doubt D) I doubt
88. Hardly ____ the harbor when a storm broke out.
A) had we left B) we had left C) we left D) we did leave
89. You will pass the exam ____ you get over 50% in each section.
A) provided B) unless C) so D) otherwise
90. There will be even greater unemployment ____ the government radically alters its policies.
A) provided B) unless C) as if D) in case
91. I have taken out a life insurance to protect my wife and children ____ something should happen to me.
A) unless B) otherwise C) in case D) provided
92. We'll have a good crop of beans this summer ____ an unexpected frost damages the plants.
A) unless B) if C) provided D) so
93. The east of Argentina is agricultural, ____ the west is industrialized.
A) whereas B) because C) so D) since
94. They would rather cut down on a few luxuries now ____ not be able to go away on holiday in the summer.
A) than B) on C) to D) for
95. The government aims ____ inflation by at least 20% this year.
A) reducing B) to reduce C) reduce D) reduced
96. "Don't go out alone after dark in that city, Tom," said Martha. Martha ____ Tom not to go out after dark in that city.
A) said B) promised C) threatened D) warned
97. They prohibited him ____ going in.
A) from B) to C) for D) in
98. I have dissuaded Mary ____ involving the police.
A) from B) to C) in D) for
99. The guard prevented the prisoner ____ escaping.
A) for B) to C) from D) than
100. Life is full of secrets, many ____ will never be explained.
A) of where B) of whose C) of whom D) of that

them

That's Not A Noun! Worksheet 2

Look at the list of verbs in the box below. They are also all, incredibly, nouns. Try to select the correct ones to fill the spaces

cut
wake
leave

dig
find
build

draw
catch
hide

say
steal
throw

1. If you don't know what to do with that piece of cloth, why don't you just make a _____ for the sofa?
2. That really is too good a price to believe for a car of that quality! What's the _____? If there isn't one, then it's an absolute _____!!
3. Before studying Archaeology at university, I went to Peru to assist as a volunteer at a _____ near the capital Lima.
4. One particular _____ that fascinated everyone was a hunting spear that was apparently used by the tribes in that area of Peru more than five thousand years ago.
5. My brother is in the army but will be out on _____ next month and we are going to Disneyland together. It'll be great!!
6. One of the best ways to watch birds in their natural environment is to set up a simple _____ in your garden, wait patiently and you will be rewarded before too long.
7. Don't I get any sort of _____ in where we are going on vacation? I don't like the way you get to decide everything without hearing my input.
8. If you sell the business for so much money, are you going to give a _____ to your father? He did give you that job to start with all those years ago!
9. When you are swimming be careful of the _____ of that big boat there. It could knock you off the boat in an instant.
10. If they manage to book that band for this year's summer festival, it will be a real _____ and we should get record attendances!
11. Your brother has a bit of fat around his waist, he actually has quite a small _____ and he can probably lose that weight quite easily.