

GAP FILL

"Free rice ATMs installed on Vietnam's streets"

A Vietnamese entrepreneur has come up with an (1) ingenious idea to help hungry people in Vietnam. Businessman Hoang Tuan Anh designed an ATM that (2) dispenses rice instead of cash. He arranged for the ATMs to be installed on streets in cities across Vietnam. Mr Anh said he was (3) troubled by the number of people going hungry after losing their jobs in the coronavirus. An estimated five million people lost their (4) livelihoods as a result of the pandemic. The "free-rice ATMs" have become so (5) popular that Anh is arranging for more to be manufactured and (6) installed. He told reporters that other businesses, sponsors and (7) donors have offered to help fund his project, allowing him to (8) extend the reach of the ATMs.

Mr Anh explained what was (9) behind his initiative. He told the BBC: "I wanted to (10) invent a 24/7 automatic dispensing machine providing free rice for people out of work following an (11) ongoing nationwide lockdown to curb the spread of the novel coronavirus." Mr Anh (12) estimated that his machines have dispensed around 3,000 tons of free rice to those in need. People are (13) permitted to "withdraw" 1.5kg of rice twice a day. Many people are (14) appreciative of Mr Anh's efforts. A mother who recently lost her job told the Reuters news agency: "I read about this rice ATM on the Internet. I came to (15) check it out, and couldn't believe it came out of the ATM. I really hope the (16) sponsors keep doing this."

dispenses

installed

livelihoods

extend

ingenious

donors

troubled

popular

ongoing

permitted

behind

sponsors

estimated

check

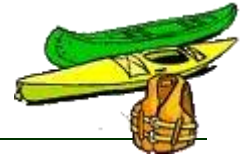
invent

appreciative

“Canopy of Nature”

Reading Comprehension – Short Stories

Directions: Read the story. Then answer the questions below.



Dad decided last Sunday that we should all go on a camping trip.

He read an article in the Sunday paper about camping and how it “brings families together under the canopy of nature.”

“Overrated,” I joked. “What about the canopy of television or the canopy of restaurant food?”

“This will be good for us,” Dad said, sliding the magazine across the coffee table. “Let’s go next weekend.”

I shot a quick look over at my little brother, Paul. He gave me a slow eyebrow raise which meant, “This will probably not go off completely as planned.”

My smile back said, “But it will surely be fun.”

I started to think back. Once Dad decided we should all learn how to canoe. We borrowed two canoes from our friends, hoisted them on the van and drove for three hours to a **secluded** lake in Virginia. Alone in the middle of nowhere, we discovered that we had forgotten the paddles.

Paul and I got in a canoe with Dad and our two younger sisters got in a canoe with Mom. We floated aimlessly around the lake for hours. Then we all jumped in with our life jackets on. We pushed the canoes back to shore. It was a fantastic trip.

Another time, Dad decided we should all learn how to ski. All of us hate the cold so we spent the weekend huddled by the fire, drinking hot cocoa in the ski lodge and playing board games. It was great. We had a blast.

When I stopped daydreaming, Mom was saying, “Sweetheart, we don’t have a tent.”

“We don’t need one!” Dad said happily. “We’ll take all the seats out the van when we get to the campsite and put in an air mattress.”

I don’t know what the punch line will be on this **excursion**, but I am sure with Mom, Dad and the four of us kids scrunched in a van at some national park, we are bound to have a good time.

Questions:

- 1) Which alternate title fits this passage best?
- A. "No Paddles"
 - B. "Never as Planned"
 - C. "Hot Cocoa by the Fire"
 - D. "Van Camping for Beginners"
- 2) As used at the end of the story, which is the best synonym for **excursion**?
- A. evolution
 - B. exodus
 - C. **expedition**
 - D. hiatus
- 3) What literary term best describes the narrator's daydreams?
- A. foreshadowing, meaning the use of hints to suggest what is to come
 - B. irony, meaning a contrast between what is stated and what is really meant
 - C. **flashback, meaning a scene that interrupts the action to show what happened at an earlier time**
 - D. metaphor, meaning the direct comparison of two unlike things
- 4) As used in the middle of the story, which of the following could accurately be described as **secluded**?
- I. a hiking trail known only to a few
 - II. a crowded movie theater
 - III. a popular beach on the California coast
- A. **I only**
 - B. I and II
 - C. II and III
 - D. I, II, and III
- 5) What lesson does the narrator's family seem to live by?
- A. Camping is sure to be an adventure.
 - B. Danger is only in the imagination.
 - C. **Things don't need to go as planned to have fun.**
 - A. Reading the newspaper is a recipe for trouble.

Questions (continued):

6) "Then we all jumped in with our life jackets on. We pushed the canoes back to shore."

Which of the following is the best way to combine the above sentences while keeping their original meaning as used in the story?

- A. We all jumped in with our life jackets on as we pushed the canoes back to shore.
- B. Then we all jumped in with our life jackets on, while pushing the canoes back to shore.
- C. We pushed the canoes back to shore while we all jumped in with our life jackets on.
- D. After we all jumped in with our life jackets on, we pushed the canoes back to shore.

7) Which best describes the narrator's tone?

- A. condescending
- B. sarcastic
- C. jovial
- D. annoyed

8) The narrator probably says the camping trip will have a punch line because he or she feels it will

- A. be expensive
- B. have difficulties
- C. have a funny ending
- D. involve fighting and turmoil

Do you like to go on excursions? Explain.

A set of ten horizontal lines for writing, crossed out with a large red X.

• Intermediate Critical Reading - Photography

5 In 1760, a man named Tiphaigne de la Roche made a bizarre prediction. In an imaginary story called Giphantie, mirror images of scenes from nature could be captured permanently on a canvas covered with a sticky material. After the material dried in darkness, the image would remain on the canvas forever. At the time, the idea was unheard of. It was not until the following century that the concept of photography was born, starting with some experiments by Nicéphore Niépce.

10 Nicéphore Niépce, who was a French inventor, was interested in lithography, which is a printmaking technique. He was experimenting with lithography when he found a way of copying etchings onto glass and pewter plates using a chemical that changes when it is exposed to light. He learned to burn images onto the plates and then print the images on paper. He shared his findings with Louis Jacques Mandé Daguerre, who improved the process and announced it to the French Academy of Sciences in 1839. The Daguerreotype, the photography method named after Daguerre, met with great success. It was so successful, in fact, that French newspapers said the French public had an illness called *Daguerreotypomania!* Daguerreotypes were inexpensive and were suitable for portraiture. People called the Daguerreotype a “mirror with a memory.” Some portrait artists went out of business when Daguerreotypes came into vogue. Others became Daguerreotypists, now known as photographers.

15 Photography took off and today includes You Tube fans, I-Reporters, and everybody with a cell phone camera. Today photography captures life around the globe. The bizarre prediction of Mr. de le Roche has come true, and then some.

20 But how was the prediction of mirror-image pictures made in the first place? Was de la Roche’s prediction of mirror-image photography just a lucky guess? Or was the Daguerreotype a picture-perfect case of life imitating art?

Questions

1. According to the passage, which of the following statements is/are true?
 - I) Photographic images were shown in de la Roche's book *Giphantie*.
 - II) Nicéphore Niépce experimented with printmaking.
 - III) Louis Jacques Mandé Daguerre invented photography.
 - A) I only
 - B) II only
 - C) III only
 - D) I and II only
 - E) II and III only
2. In line 1, *bizarre* most closely means
 - A) common
 - B) humorous
 - C) ~~unusual~~
 - D) popular
 - E) strange (correct)
3. In the context of the passage, which of the following best articulates the author's opinion?
 - A) It is hard to know how de la Roche predicted a photographic-type process a full century before photography was invented.
 - B) It is hard to draw a comparison between early Daguerreotypists and modern-day photographers.
 - C) It was inaccurate to say that the Daguerreotype was a "mirror with a memory," since the images were not reversed.
 - D) It is difficult to understand why the French public preferred Daguerreotypes to painted portraiture.
 - E) It was difficult for portrait artists to acquire the skills necessary to become Daguerreotypists.



● Same Sound 3

Directions: Find the word that has the same sound as the underlined letter or letters in the first word.

Board sounds like **tore**.



Example:

<u>BOARD</u> :	A. boat <input checked="" type="radio"/> B. tore C. scared D. card
-----------------------	---

1)

<u>WHO</u> :	A. pot B. both C. put D. lose
---------------------	---

6)

<u>OWN</u> :	A. home B. mouth C. phone D. road
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2)

<u>WOMAN</u> :	A. push B. move C. grow D. fool
-----------------------	---

7)

<u>MOW</u> :	A. cow B. power C. bone D. join
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3)

<u>GLUE</u> :	A. new B. run C. toe D. look
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8)

<u>TELL</u> :	A. neck B. peal C. ball D. blink
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4)

<u>BOAT</u> :	A. cake B. pot C. soap D. note
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9)

<u>WORK</u> :	A. pork B. jerk C. bark D. argue
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5)

<u>SIT</u> :	A. eye B. hit C. sink D. think
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10)

<u>TELEVISION</u> :	A. no B. real (correct) C. peek D. me
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● Same Sound 4

Directions: Find the word that has the same sound as the underlined letter or letters in the first word.

Board sounds like **tore**.



Example:

<u>BOARD</u> :	A. boat <input checked="" type="radio"/> B. tore C. scared D. card
-----------------------	---

1)

<u>TROUBLE</u> :	A. put B. out <input checked="" type="radio"/> C. mud D. cold
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6)

<u>DAUGHTER</u> :	<input checked="" type="radio"/> A. coffee B. pound C. prove D. laugh
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2)

<u>NOSE</u> :	A. stop B. pass C. maps <input checked="" type="radio"/> D. cheese
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7)

<u>TALKED</u> :	A. played B. needed <input checked="" type="radio"/> C. finished D. listened
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3)

<u>LITTLE</u> :	A. written <input checked="" type="radio"/> B. middle C. eaten D. cripple
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8)

<u>ROUND</u> :	<input checked="" type="radio"/> A. now B. ball C. show D. although
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4)

<u>DOES</u> :	A. fuss <input checked="" type="radio"/> B. buzz C. rust D. crush
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9)

<u>DIRT</u> :	<input checked="" type="radio"/> A. work B. clear C. steer D. part
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5)

<u>PEOPLE</u> :	<input checked="" type="radio"/> A. eat B. cat C. pot D. pen
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10)

<u>WATCH</u> :	A. crash B. attack C. wash <input checked="" type="radio"/> D. patch
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1. It was ___ music I have ever heard.
A) more beautiful B) less beautiful
C) **the most beautiful** D) beautiful
E) most beautiful
2. It's ___ powder I have ever used.
A) good B) - C) **the best**
D) best E) better
3. John is ___ of all to act.
A) quickest B) quick C) -
D) quicker E) **the quickest**
4. He is ___ strong ___ his brother.
A) as / like B) similar / as C) **as / as**
D) strong / than E) so / as
5. English grammar is ___ than Russian one.
A) easy B) **easier** C) the easiest
D) as easy as E) not so easy
6. I have ___ time than he does.
A) bigger B) larger C) most
D) **less** E) least
7. This girl is ___ intelligent than the rest of the class.
A) most B) the most C) **more**
D) the more E) much
8. Two heads are ___ than one.
A) good B) bad C) worse
D) worst E) **better**
9. Alice came late, Philip came later, and Tony ____
A) latest B) last C) **the latest**
D) later E) the last
10. Mark Twain, one of ___ and ___ American writers, lived in a small town in his childhood.
A) greater / most popular
B) great / more popular
C) **the greatest / most popular**
D) more great / the most popular
E) most great / the popular
11. -Why didn't you discuss this question yesterday?
-It was ___ important than the others.
A) little B) least C) the least
D) - E) **less**
12. Your English is much ___ now. You've made ___ mistakes this time.
A) best / least B) **better / less** C) the best / less
D) good / less E) best / the least
13. The Thames is ___ river in Great Britain.
A) **the longest** B) long C) longest
D) - E) longer
14. Do you have ___ or ___ rain this autumn than the last one.
A) many / little B) **more / less** C) more / fewer
D) much / less E) more / few
15. Please, tell me something ___ than this old joke.
A) interesting B) less interesting C) **more interesting** D) the most interesting
E) the least interesting
16. This question is ___ than the first one, let's discuss it tomorrow.
A) important B) **less important** C) the most important
D) the least important
E) -
17. Do you have ___ or ___ sunny days this summer?
A) more / few B) many / less C) much / little
D) **more / less** E) many / few
18. We have ___ money than they have.
A) little B) much C) **less**
D) few E) many
19. -Please, give me this bouquet of flowers. I think it is ___ than the rest ones.
-But it's ____ .
-Never mind. I'll buy it.
A) beautiful / expensive
B) **more beautiful / more expensive**
C) the most beautiful / most expensive
D) beautiful / most expensive
E) most beautiful / most expensive
20. Of the four girls Marcia is ____ .
A) prettiest B) prettier C) -
D) **the prettiest** E) prettier
21. It's ___ to go by car than by train.
A) cheap B) **cheaper** C) -
D) cheapest E) the cheapest
22. It is much ___ to speak English than to understand
A) - B) the most difficult C) **more difficult**
D) difficult E) most difficult
23. He's ___ intelligent than my brother.
A) most B) good C) better
D) **more** E) last
24. He is ___ among his classmates.
A) old B) taller C) **the youngest**
D) short E) higher
25. This is ___ place I've ever seen.
A) dirty B) **the dirtiest** C) more dirty
D) dirtier E) -
26. What is ___ crime than loss of time.
A) **greater** B) greatest C) great
D) - E) most great
27. He came home in the ___ mood.
A) sun B) **sunniest** C) more sunny
D) much sunny E) sunnier
28. False friend is ___ than open enemies.
A) worst B) **worse** C) the worst
D) - E) bad
29. "Why do you always buy five loaves, no ___ and ___?"
A) many / little B) less / fewer C) more / much
D) **more / less** E) most / less
30. It's ___ in here than it is in the street.
A) hot B) the hottest C) -
D) **hotter** E) hottest
31. Are the streets of London ___ or ___ than the streets of Belfast?
A) the narrowest / wider B) narrow / wide
C) **narrower / wider** D) more narrow / wide
E) most narrow / most wide
32. I make ___ mistakes now than last year.
A) few B) **fewer** C) -
D) the fewest E) fewest
33. The weather is much ___ pleasant than it usually is at this time.
A) most B) **more** C) the most
D) little E) -
34. To spend summer at the seaside is ___ pleasant than in the town.
A) - B) less C) the most
D) **more** E) the least
35. It is ___ and ___ to live here than there.
A) warm / most pleasant B) warmer / pleasant
C) warmest / pleasanter D) **warmer / more pleasant**
E) warm / more pleasant

Vocabulary Formation Worksheet 5

For each question, fill the space or spaces in the sentence using the base word given in bold at the end. The required word may be a noun, adverb, adjective or verb and it may be either positive (e.g. helpful) or negative (e.g. unhelpful).

1. I was just trying to be friendly towards him and he accused me of wanting his money!

friend

2. The south-west of England, for example Devon and Cornwall, is known as the sunny/sunniest part of the United Kingdom.

sun

3. What you may think is hostility is really just over-enthusiasm. He would never harm anyone.

hostile

4. Anyone being rude and abusive to our staff will be asked to leave the premises immediately.

abuse

5. Men have more of a tendency to put weight on around the waist and stomach areas and this is something they should be aware of.

tend

6. Three weeks after winning the lottery, Daniel Perkins had the misfortune to lose a court case in which he was being sued for nearly \$2million.

fortune

7. The pharmaceutical company's researchers have discovered a better way of combining medicines to create a flu remedy.

search

8. The babies were put up for adoption when their mother was jailed for her part in the murder.

adopt