

# THE WESTCOAST READER

## TEACHERS' NOTES

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### NEW MODEL BRAIN (p. 1)

Show your learners a short video of Spaun: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XxlzmkWygjY>

Explain that Spaun is a digital model and not a physical model. It is really a computer. It takes Spaun two hours to process the information scientists give it. Compare the number of neurons that Spaun has to our own number. What does this mean about Spaun's abilities? Find out if your students know how to do long division. They might be surprised to find out that Spaun is not able to do this.

### LINCOLN ALEXANDER (p. 1)

February is Black History Month. Lincoln Alexander was born in Toronto, Ontario, in 1922. Review the meaning of prejudice - when one person has already decided what a person of another race or gender is like, even though they may have never met each other before. Lincoln Alexander did not let prejudice stop him. For several years, he was the only black student in his Canadian high school classrooms. Ask your students how Lincoln might have felt about this. Have your learners make a list of all of the things that Lincoln accomplished in his 90 years. See our website for more details.

### HAPPILY EVER AFTER (p. 1)

Ask your learners what they think makes a good marriage. What is an ideal age to get married? Ask learners to compare what men and women look for in a partner. What adjectives describe an ideal partner? Does love change over the years? If so, how does it become different?

TEACHERS' NOTES BY SHARON CAIRNEY AND NILA GOPAUL  
ILLUSTRATION—ISTOCKPHOTO

### LUNAR NEW YEAR (p. 2)

Your learners may be interested in learning about the Chinese zodiac signs represented by 12 animals. See our website for more details.

### JOSH DUECK (p. 4)

Explain how a paraplegic is paralyzed below the waist. People who are injured physically can still be athletes in the Paralympics. Show learners a picture of a downhill slalom course so that they can see that a men's slalom course might have between 55 and 75 gates.

If skiers miss any of these gates, they can be disqualified from the race. Ask learners why they think Josh was chosen to be a nominee in the *National Geographic* Adventurer of the Year contest.

### ANSWERS TO EXERCISES

#### What do they do? (TN p. 2)

(1) doctor (2) singer (3) president (4) talk show host (5) filmmaker (6) Member of Parliament

#### Valentine's Day (TN p. 3)

This exercise may be challenging for your learners.

(1) count (2) felt (3) deeply (4) hiding (5) protects

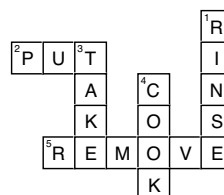
#### Happily ever after (TN p. 3)

In this order: eating, laughing, growing old

#### You can cook quinoa (TN p. 4)

The steps are in this order: 2, 4, 1, 3, 5

#### Crossword (TN p. 4)



## What do they do?



PHOTO—THE VANCOUVER SUN

Write the job that matches what each person does.

president   filmmaker   Member of Parliament (MP)  
singer   doctor   talk show host

1. This person helped Eva Markvoort get two new lungs.  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Celine Dion is famous in Canada. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Barack Obama has an important job in the United States.  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Oprah Winfrey worked on television for 25 years.  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Nimisha Mukerji has made two movies. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Lincoln Alexander worked in Canada's government.  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Write sentences.



PHOTO—ISTOCKPHOTO

Write a sentence about a job someone in your family has.

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What would you like to do for a job? Describe the job.  
Do not name the job. Let your classmates guess what your job is.

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## Valentine's Day



PHOTO – THE PROVINCE

**Read what writers have said about love over the years.**

**Try to find the missing word in each writer's saying.**

1. Elizabeth Barrett Browning: How do I love thee?  
Let me \_\_\_\_\_ the ways.
2. Helen Keller: The best and most beautiful things  
in the world cannot be seen or even touched.  
They must be \_\_\_\_\_  
with the heart.
3. Lao Tzu: Being deeply loved by someone  
gives you strength, while loving someone  
\_\_\_\_\_ gives you courage.
4. Zora Neale Hurston: Love makes your soul crawl  
out from its \_\_\_\_\_ place.
5. Anais Nin: Age does not protect you from love.  
But love, to some extent, \_\_\_\_\_  
you from age.

deeply  
felt  
hiding  
protects  
count

## Happily ever after – “ing endings”

**Karam and Katari Chand have been married for 87 years.  
They like to do a lot of things together.**

1. Karam and Katari enjoy sharing together (share).
2. Karam and Katari enjoy \_\_\_\_\_ together (eat).
3. Karam and Katari enjoy \_\_\_\_\_ together (laugh).
4. Karam and Katari enjoy \_\_\_\_\_ together  
(grow old).

## You can cook quinoa (KEEN-wah)



Gloria Tsang gives steps for cooking quinoa.

They are all mixed up. Put the correct number (1-5) next to each sentence, so the quinoa will taste delicious.

### Steps:

\_\_\_\_\_ Next, **put** the quinoa in a pot, and **cook** it for 15 minutes on the stove.

\_\_\_\_\_ After it's off the stove, fluff the quinoa with a fork.

\_\_\_\_\_ First, **rinse** the quinoa under water, so it doesn't taste bitter.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Remove** the pot from the stove.

\_\_\_\_\_ Put the quinoa into a bowl, and **take** it to your dinner table.

Fill in the crossword with the verbs in the recipe above.  
(The verb "fluff" is not in the puzzle.)



Quinoa  
is a grain.

