

# THE WESTCOAST READER

## TEACHERS' NOTES

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JANUARY 2015

### HAPPY NEW YEAR!

#### The Library - Family Literacy

Celebrate Family Literacy on January 27. Visit a library with your students.

The Vancouver Public Library now has a service for newcomers called "Fiction for Newcomers". Your learners can fill in a form here: <http://guides.vpl.ca/fictionfornewcomers>.

Learners can ask a librarian to help them find books that are fun and that will help them improve their English reading skills.

#### New Year's resolutions

You may want to take a few minutes to discuss New Year's resolutions with your students. Explain that resolutions are a tradition in which a person makes a promise to better him or herself and/or to do something nice for people, such as opening the door for them (WCR, p. 3).

#### Top 10 New Year's resolutions in Canada:

1. Lose weight
2. Stop smoking
3. Stick to a budget
4. Save more money
5. Find a better job
6. Become more organized
7. Exercise more
8. Be more patient at work/with others
9. Eat better
10. Become a better person

What are the top resolutions in your class? Collect students' answers. Then write the top ten on the board.

#### News story mistakes (TN p. 3)

After your learners do the exercise, put them in groups. Ask them to create their own exercise purposely making mistakes with another WCR story. Students then read the article aloud, paragraph by paragraph.

Other students listen carefully to see where the errors are. Ask students to correct the information.

### COMIC (WCR p. 2)

Write out the words to the comic. Hand out the comic. Then ask learners to make up their own sentence(s).

### ANSWERS TO EXERCISES

#### Add the missing words (TN p. 2)

LEAVE: (1) He leaves his country. (2) I leave my phone. (3) They leave their books. (4) She leaves her house. (5) You leave your room.

CARRY: (1) They carry their jackets. (2) I carry my baby. (3) He carries his coffee cup. (4) You carry your library books. (5) We carry our lunches.

#### Missing verbs (TN p. 3)

(1) was (2) wrote (3) called (4) got (5) solved

#### News story mistakes (TN p. 3)

(2) a new planet a comet (3) million billion/four hundred four (4) five 10/ manned, unmanned (5) December November/picked up dropped (6) Rosetta lander

#### Hobbies - What are they doing now? (TN p. 4)

(2) They are singing./They're singing. (3) She is shopping./She's shopping. (4) He is dancing./He's dancing.(5) He is riding a horse./He's riding a horse. (6) They are playing tennis./They're playing tennis. (7) They are watching a play./They're watching a play. (8) He is skating./He's skating. (9) She is swimming./She's swimming. (10) He is skiing./He's skiing.

#### Crossword (WCR p. 2) -

This crossword was in *The Westcoast Reader*.



## Add the missing words



Jerry is carrying his backpack.

PHOTO – DORA HUANG

Look at the examples. Then write a complete sentence with the correct form of the verb and pronoun.

Remember to begin with a capital letter and end your sentence with a period.

### LEAVE (verb)

Jerry - backpack

Jerry leaves his backpack.

1. He - country

\_\_\_\_\_

2. I - phone

\_\_\_\_\_

3. They - books

\_\_\_\_\_

4. She - house

\_\_\_\_\_

5. You - room

\_\_\_\_\_

### CARRY (verb)

Jerry - bag

Jerry carries his bag.

1. They - jackets

\_\_\_\_\_

2. I - baby

\_\_\_\_\_

3. He - coffee cup

\_\_\_\_\_

4. You - library books

\_\_\_\_\_

5. We - lunches

\_\_\_\_\_

## Now you try

With a partner, try another verb. Write five subjects and five nouns. Write the answers. Test your classmates.

## Missing verbs

Find the missing past tense verbs.  
Use the word bank below.

1. Jerry \_\_\_\_\_ smart.
2. He \_\_\_\_\_ a notice.
3. He \_\_\_\_\_ TransLink.
4. He \_\_\_\_\_ help.
5. He \_\_\_\_\_ the problem.

This is Jerry's notice.

PHOTO - DORA HUANG

called

solved

got

wrote

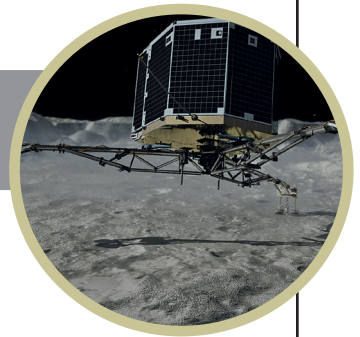
was

## News story mistakes

One or more words in each sentence is not correct.  
Find the words and cross them out.  
Write the correct words above the mistakes.

- The European Space Agency \_\_\_\_\_ 2014
1. ~~NASA~~ made history on November 12, ~~2013~~.
  2. The agency landed a space craft on a new planet.
  3. It is 4.5 million years old and four hundred km wide.
  4. For five years, the manned spacecraft chased the comet.
  5. Then, in December, it picked up the lander.
  6. The Rosetta is the size of a washing machine.

ILLUSTRATION - DLR (CC-BY 3.0)/FLICKR



# Hobbies - What are they doing now?

Change the simple present tense to the present continuous tense.

Then in the second sentence, use contractions.

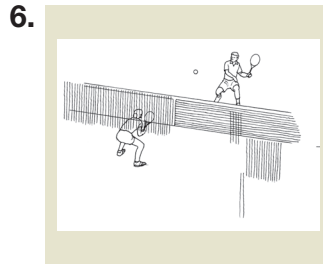
A contraction is a shortened form of two words (e.g. he is → he's).



He likes to cook.

He is cooking now.

He's cooking now.



They like to play tennis.

\_\_\_\_\_

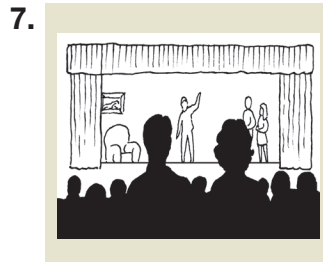
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They like to sing.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



They like to watch plays.

\_\_\_\_\_

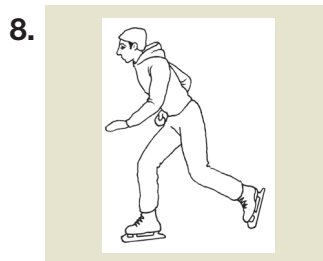
\_\_\_\_\_



She likes to shop.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



He likes to skate.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



He likes to dance.

\_\_\_\_\_

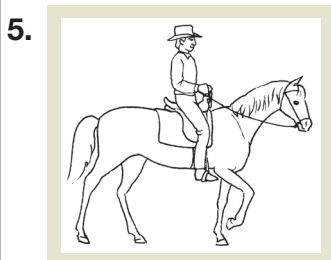
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She likes to swim.

\_\_\_\_\_

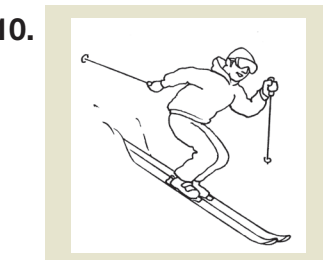
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He likes to ride horses.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



He likes to ski.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

ILLUSTRATIONS BY NOLA JOHNSTON