

English Express

Teaching Notes



Art: Guy Parsons

Please photocopy these notes.

October 2006

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Canadian walks in space

✓ You can get information on the space program at:

✉ www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/shuttle/main/index.html

✉ www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/station/main/index.html

✉ www.space.gc.ca

Norma lost her sight

✓ Point out other ways to say “losing one’s sight” (e.g., going blind, having vision problems, losing one’s vision, being visually impaired). Make sample sentences in different verb tenses.

✓ One of the greatest difficulties that users of guide dogs encounter is public interference. Students should resist the urge to talk to, feed or pet a guide dog that is in harness. If students ever think a dog owner needs help, they should ask the person. The owner can then accept or decline.

✓ Ask if students have ever seen or met a person with a guide dog or a service dog.

✓ Discuss the differences between a working dog and a pet.

Things to do

✓ Discuss potluck dinners. Are they common in other countries? Who has hosted one? Will anyone have a potluck soon?

Answers for exercises

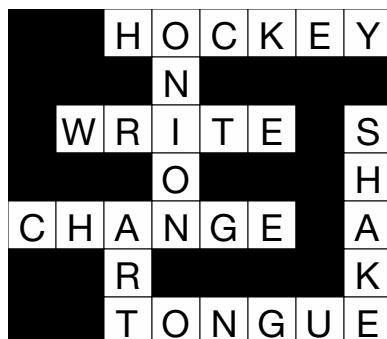
Colours

1. white, blue, black
2. black
3. orange
4. pink
5. brown
6. purple
7. blue, black
8. brown
9. green

Word scramble

1. food
2. goodbye
3. yourselves
4. guests
5. appetizers
6. table
7. potluck
8. delicious
9. welcome

Crossword answers



Family Literacy special issues

The Family Literacy series is available from the *English Express* office on an ongoing basis. The eight issues include:

- #1: What is Family Literacy?
- #2: How do young children develop?
- #3: Helping babies learn
- #4: Helping toddlers learn
- #5: Helping preschoolers learn
- #6: Children between 4½ & 7—helping them learn
- #7: Starting Grade One
- #8: Tell a story, read a story

Have a potluck dinner

Unscramble these words.
They are all on page 4.

1. odof _____
2. yeobdog _____
3. slevusyore _____
4. stuges _____
5. zritepasp _____
6. lebat _____
7. tucklop _____
8. sioduclie _____
9. mowceel _____

What can you do at a potluck?

tell a joke

Greetings – shaking hands

Answer these questions about yourself. Then compare your answers with another student's. If your answer is no, tell what you might do instead (hug, kiss, bow).

1. Do you shake hands when you are introduced to a man?

2. Do you shake hands when you are introduced to a woman?

3. Do you shake hands with your classmates or co-workers every day?

4. Do you shake hands with someone you haven't seen in a long time?

5. Do you shake hands when relatives come to visit?

Look at the photos in *English Express*. Fill in the blanks with the correct colours. Use the words in the box. You can use the words more than one time.

1. The mask is red, _____, _____ and _____.
2. The _____ crow is looking in a car's side-view mirror.
3. Pumpkins are usually _____.
4. Sevdije's sweater is _____.
5. The porcupine is _____.
6. The boy in the cartoon is wearing a _____ T-shirt.
7. Norma's T-shirt is _____. Her slacks are _____.
8. The students in the literacy group are wearing _____ T-shirts.
9. Annie is wearing a _____ sweatshirt.



brown	orange	purple
pink	blue	red
black	white	green

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Fix these sentences

These sentences are wrong. Fix the sentences. Cross out the words that are wrong. Write the correct words above the lines. Then compare answers with your classmates. Sometimes there is more than one way to fix a sentence.

Scottish

1. A ~~Portuguese~~ man collected pieces of Aboriginal art 150 years ago.
2. Wen Yan and Annie shake hands every day at school.
3. The crow is looking in a bathroom mirror.
4. The Chinchilla family loves the Calgary Flames hockey team.
5. Nasro shakes hands when she meets a man.
6. The baseball players are holding their caps over their mouths.

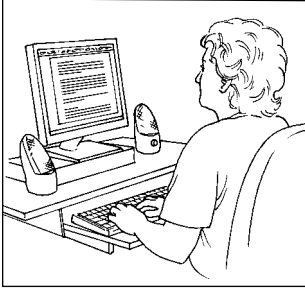
Norma lost her sight

Answer the questions. Use complete sentences.



1. How did Norma feel after she started losing her sight? _____

2. Why did Norma feel that way? _____



3. Why did life start to get better for Norma?

4. What can Norma do with her computer?



5. What does Norma do as a volunteer for the CNIB?

Crossword

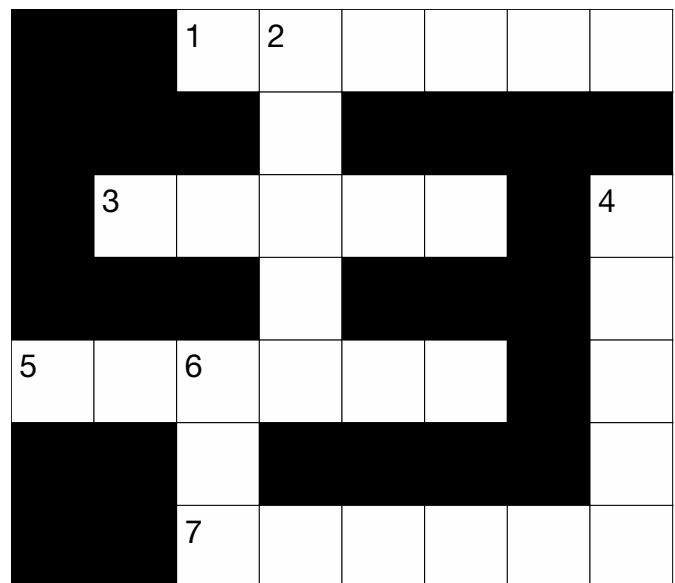
Answers on page TN-1

Across

1. Canada's most popular sport
3. Students learn to read and _____.
5. _____ your clocks on October 29.
7. Part of your mouth

Down

2. "Life is like an _____."
4. People often _____ hands when they meet a person for the first time.
6. You can see Aboriginal ___ at a museum.



Creating Scripts

The Students' Voices for Students group have created scripts (similar to Readers Theatre) about literacy, learning and having a voice. Here's how you can create scripts with your students.

1. Start with a topic that relates to students' experiences and that they are interested in. For instance, they might want to talk about learning, moving to Canada or raising children.
2. Invite students to brainstorm or talk about their experiences with the topic. As they talk, record what each person says. Write on flipchart paper with a marker. Start a new line for what each person says. It may be a phrase or a few sentences.
3. When people finish talking, review what you recorded and ask if people want to make changes or add anything.
4. Number each idea (1, 2, 3, etc.).
5. Cut the flipchart paper into strips so that each idea or group of sentences is on a separate strip. Tape the strips, in order, on a wall.
6. Work with students to organize the ideas into a script: "Which idea should go first? Number 7. Okay. What idea goes next?"
7. As ideas are chosen, tape them on a new piece of flipchart paper. Continue until the ideas are reordered. The group may decide to leave some ideas out.
8. Ask for four or five volunteers to read the "script." Each person reads a line and the group continues until they have read the whole script.
9. Invite feedback and make changes or additions as suggested.
10. Type up the script for people to read at another time.
11. If desired, groups can practice reading a script aloud and then present the script to another group or class.

Contributed by Mary Norton at The Learning Centre in Edmonton