

# Introduction

You are starting a year-long reading comprehension program called *Daily Reading Practice* (or DRP for short). In this program you will have quick, short, daily reviews of many different skills you need to be a good reader. Doing the activities in this workbook will help you practice these skills so you can use them when you read novels, newspapers, magazines, reference materials, and even information on the Internet. The exercises will also help you prepare for standardized tests.

Each week, you will do a new page of your workbook. Follow the directions for each day. Your whole class might do the work together, or your teacher might tell you to do the work by yourself. Either way, your teacher will check each day to see if you have tried the assignment. It's okay if you get some of the answers wrong, but you should try your best. Your class will then go over the correct answers together. If you have made any errors, you should correct them in your workbook.

You will spend only a few minutes each day on DRP, but you should reread the reading selection (or passage) each day. You will have to answer questions about the selection; sometimes you may have to draw a picture or make a graphic organizer. Refer to your **Help Pages** each day to be sure you're doing your assignments correctly. If you have any questions, be sure to ask your teacher. For the first few weeks, the daily tasks might be difficult, but don't worry. The more DRP you do, the easier it will become!

# Help Pages

## Monday Notes

### SUBJECT OF A SELECTION

- Look at the first sentence.
- Look for any repeated words or names.
- Read the selection a second time.

### TITLES

- The title should hint at what the selection is about.
- The first word should always begin with a capital letter.
- The last word should always begin with a capital letter.
- All important words should begin with capital letters.
- Words like *a*, *an*, and *the* don't need to be capitalized unless they are the first word of the title.

### AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

- entertain – The author tells a personal or fictional story that is based on real or imaginary events.
- persuade – The author lets the readers know how he/she thinks about the subject or tries to talk the reader into thinking like the author thinks.
- inform – The author gives information about a subject.
- explain – The author helps the readers understand a subject.
- teach – The author gives directions on how to do something.
- describe – The author gives a picture with words of a person, place, event, or item.

### READER'S PURPOSE

- There are many reasons you might have for reading the selection.
  - ex: *gain information, learn something, understand a difficult subject, be entertained, etc.*

### GENRE

- Genre is the name used to identify types of literature.
  - ex: *realistic fiction, fantasy, folktale/fairytale, science fiction, poetry, drama, nonfiction, real-world writing, biography, autobiography*

# Tuesday Notes

## WORDS

- **affix** – Either a prefix or suffix added to a base word.
- **analogy** – An analogy shows the relationship between two things.
  - ex: *inside : outside :: up : down*
  - This is how you read this analogy: **inside is to outside as up is to down.**
  - The single colon stands for *is to*. The double colon stands for *as*.
- **antonyms** – Antonyms are words that have opposite or almost opposite meanings.
  - ex: *hot/cold*                      *inside/outside*
- **base word** – A base word is the main part of a word without any prefixes or suffixes.
  - ex: *unhappy = happy*                      *jumping = jump*
- **compound word** – A compound word is one word made up of two words.
  - ex: *downtown*                      *into*                      *playground*
- **contraction** – A contraction is a word that is made from two words. An apostrophe is put in where the letters are left out.
  - ex: *cannot = can't*                      *is not = isn't*
- **homograph** – A homograph is a word that is spelled the same as another word, but is pronounced differently and has a different meaning.
  - ex: *live – live*                      *project - project*
- **homophones** – (sometimes called **homonyms**) Homophones are words that sound alike, but are spelled differently and have different meanings.
  - ex: *two, to, too*                      *weak, week*
- **prefix** – A prefix is the letter or group of letters put at the beginning of a base or root word to change the word's meaning.
  - ex: *un + happy = unhappy*                      *re + new = renew*
- **singular/plural** – These are words in which the suffixes are added or removed to show number.
  - ex: *house + s = houses*    *families – ies + y = family*
- **suffix** – A suffix is the letter or group of letters put at the end of a word or part of a word.
  - ex: *quick + ly = quickly*                      *move + able = moveable*
- **synonyms** – Synonyms are words that have the same or almost the same meaning.
  - ex: *small, tiny*                      *large, big*
- **unknown words** – The author uses a word that you don't know or understand.
  - Sometimes you need to look up the word in a dictionary.

# Week One

## Title

Some of the first “air shows” were seen just after World War I. These exciting aerial events were named “barnstorming” due to the fact that the planes landed in cow pastures or mowed fields. A pilot would arrive in his machine, usually a biplane, and skim the tops of the houses and people at an ear-shattering rate of speed, 80 miles per hour. The wooden plane was covered with brightly colored fabric. Wooden struts held the wings apart, while tightly pulled wires held the plane all together.

The pilot, dressed in his leather jacket and helmet, wearing goggles and a silk scarf, performed loops, rolls, stalls, and spins for the viewing crowds. This is the image of the single engine WWI pilot that the cartoon character Snoopy portrays in the *Peanuts* comic strip. Sometimes several planes with stuntmen would perform dogfights, wing walking, and other dangerous feats.

After landing, the pilot would offer all those interested a ride for about \$5.00. He would treat the brave souls to a birds-eye view of the nearby towns and farms while riding in the open-front cockpit and feeling the force of the wind and the roll of their stomachs.

The Civil Aeronautics Authority, formed in 1938, soon established rules, regulations, and licensing for pilots and airplanes. Although air shows are still performed today, these new rules and regulations brought an end to the experience of barnstorming.

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### **Monday – Read the selection carefully.**

1. The subject of this selection is \_\_\_\_\_.
2. On the line at the top of this page, write a title for this selection.
3. The author’s purpose in writing this selection is to \_\_\_\_\_.
4. My purpose in reading this selection is to \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The genre of this selection is \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Tuesday – Read the selection carefully.**

6. A synonym for the word supports is \_\_\_\_\_.
7. What does the word aerial mean? \_\_\_\_\_
8. A homophone for the word feet is \_\_\_\_\_.
9. The prefix in biplane is \_\_\_\_\_. It means \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Wednesday – Read the selection carefully.**

10. This selection is an example of \_\_\_ writing.       expository       narrative
11. Pilots still do dangerous stunts while performing at present day air shows.  
 True       False
12. I can infer that many pilots and stuntmen were probably \_\_\_\_\_ while performing.  
 paid very well       killed
13. Why was this event called barnstorming? \_\_\_\_\_

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### **Thursday – Read the selection carefully.**

14. The main idea of this selection is \_\_\_\_\_.
15. The main idea is     at the beginning.     at the end.     implied throughout.

### **Friday – Read the selection carefully.**

16. Highlight 5-6 key words in the selection. Write a 3-4 sentence summary of the selection using your key words. It is not necessary to use all of your key words. Be sure to use correct spelling and punctuation.

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