

Easy English NEWS



November 2021

Cloze Exercises, Short-answer Tests, and Critical-thinking Questions

To the Teacher

Cloze Exercises

**What is a Booster Shot?
Buying Meat and Dairy
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Which Word Does Not Belong?

Short-answer Tests

**What is a Booster Shot? (2 pages)
Buying Meat and Dairy
Events in November (2 pages)
St. Augustine, Florida
Jamestown, Virginia**

Critical-thinking and Creative-thinking Questions

Answers

To the Teacher

Thank you for downloading the free supplementary tests for *Easy English NEWS*. I hope these will save you many hours of work each month and will help expand your students' reading skills, vocabulary, and retention of important information.

The *Cloze Exercises and Short-Answer Tests* will be posted at the website by the first of the month, if not earlier. Many of the tests are useful with or without *Easy English NEWS*.

There are dozens of ways to use the tests. Experiment to see the methods that work best for your classes. Some techniques will be better for students with less command of English and others appropriate for those with greater fluency. You can alternate the ways you use them to provide more variety in lessons.

CLOZE EXERCISES

The purpose of the cloze exercises is to present a small amount of important material in another format to enhance comprehension and retention, and reinforce vocabulary.

- The cloze exercises may be used before or after reading the article. The exercises are taken directly from articles in the paper so students can check their own or others' work by referring back to the text.
- If you assign a cloze exercise before reading the article, it serves as an introduction to reading the full article. Use this with students with better reading ability.
- To increase the challenge, cut off the word bank at the bottom of the page before duplicating the cloze exercises. Students can work individually, in pairs, or in small groups. They can use their newspapers, or not.
- As a spelling test (and listening exercise): Dictate the sentences including the missing word for the students to write in.
- As copy practice: Students can copy the entire selection, filling in the missing words.

WHICH WORD DOES NOT BELONG?

Vocabulary, logic, and discussion practice. Students read the four words in each row, and decide how three of the words go together and one does not. There is not necessarily one firm answer to this activity.

- Have students circle their choices, and then discuss them. Students should be able to give their reasons for choosing a word that doesn't belong. *Any good reason makes their answer correct.*
- Students can work in small groups to discuss the reasons for their answers. They can write out their reasons for the decision.
- Teach the patterns:
A, B, and D are all _____s.
C is not a _____.
Or: B, C, and D are all kinds of _____. A is not.
Or: You can find A, B, and C in a _____. And so forth.

SHORT-ANSWER TESTS

These tests focus on fact-gathering.

- You may give these tests as pre-tests to learn what students already know about the topic and again as post-tests to see what they have learned.
- After reading the article, students can read the questions aloud in class and give the answers orally.
- You can let the students do the tests as "open book (newspaper) tests."
- Students can work in pairs or groups to come up with the answers after having read the article.
- Students can use the Answer Page to correct their own or others' answers.
- You can give the same test a week or more later to evaluate students' retention of the information.

Name _____ Date _____

What is a Booster Shot?

People have used vaccines to help stop diseases for _____ 1,000 years.

_____ scientists discover new diseases, they create vaccines to stop them. When the COVID-19 pandemic _____, there were not any vaccines or medicines to treat it. _____ worked very hard to create new vaccines.

By the end of 2020 and the _____ of 2021, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved three vaccines for emergency use. Since then, the news about these vaccines has been changing very _____.

(See October 2021 Easy English NEWS for more information about these three vaccines.)

One question now for people who have received the vaccination is, “Do I need a COVID-19 _____ shot?” The answer to that question is different for _____ person.

What is a booster shot?

Doctors _____ vaccinations to stop diseases. These vaccines teach a person’s immune system to fight _____ the diseases.

WORD BANK

quickly	each	beginning	started	give
booster	over	scientists	when	off

Name _____ Date _____

Buying Meat and Dairy

Supermarkets sell _____ kinds of meat: pork from pigs, beef from cows, veal from calves, and lamb from young sheep. Americans _____ eat a lot of poultry, such as chicken and turkey.

Only a few supermarkets _____ meat from deer (venison), rabbits, goats, or sheep (mutton). No _____ sells horse meat, cat meat, or dog meat. That meat is _____. These animals are pets. Most state laws prohibit the killing of horses, cats, or dogs for food for _____.

Beef: Meat from cattle

Beef may be cut into steaks: round steak, sirloin steak, London broil, and _____ steak. A _____ piece of beef may be used as a roast.

Ground beef is _____ called hamburger. (But _____ is no ham in it.)

WORD BANK

humans	large	supermarket	there	sell
often	taboo	T-bone	many	also

Name _____ Date _____

Native American Heritage Month

More than two _____ Native Americans, also known as American Indians, live in the United States. During November, American Indians and Alaskan Natives _____ their history and culture. The U.S. honors these descendants of the original _____ of America. Indians hold festivals, powwows, and cultural _____.

The U.S. has had many different and _____ relationships with Indian Nations. For _____ hundred years, Americans _____ with Indians, learned from them, made treaties with them, and had wars with them.

In the 1800s, the U.S. government forced Indians to move to reservations. The government forced Indian children to go to boarding schools. Classes were in _____. Indian families were not able to _____ their children the old ways of living. The children _____ much of their native language and culture.

WORD BANK

traded	three	changing	English	lost
million	teach	celebrate	events	people

Name _____ Date _____

St. Augustine, Florida

St. Augustine is the oldest _____ in the United States. It is one of the most beautiful cities in Florida. It is warm and sunny for _____ of the year. Six million people _____ St. Augustine each year.

Pedro Menéndez de Avilés and 1,500 Spanish _____ founded St. Augustine in 1565. Spain _____ Florida and St. Augustine for 200 years. In its long history, St. Augustine belonged to Spain, _____, and the United States.

The British colonies _____ of Florida had slaves. St. _____ did not allow slavery. Slaves from British colonies ran away to St. Augustine. They were free there. In 1821, Spain sold Florida to the U.S.

In the 1880s, a _____ man named Henry Flagler built beautiful hotels in St. Augustine. He built a _____ from New York to St. Augustine.

WORD BANK

colonists

city

railroad

north

most

wealthy

visit

Augustine

Britain

ruled

Name _____ Date _____

Jamestown, Virginia

The first permanent English settlement

On May 13, 1607, a group of 104 men came to Virginia from _____. They named their settlement “Jamestown” after _____ James. These men hoped to find gold and _____ rich.

The Algonquin Indians

The Algonquin Indians _____ in this area. The Algonquins had had troubles with white _____ before. They wanted the Englishmen to _____. The Algonquins attacked the village _____.

The new settlers built a _____ wall around their village.

Captain John Smith

Life in Jamestown was difficult. Most of the Englishmen were “gentlemen.” They did not know anything about building _____ or farming. They had come to _____ for gold. When winter came, the colonists had not found gold.

WORD BANK

England	people	often	look	become
lived	high	king	leave	homes

Name _____ Date _____

A New COVID-19 Treatment

On Monday, _____ 11, Merck submitted an application to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for a new treatment for COVID-19. It is _____ Molnupiravir. They asked the FDA to give them _____ use approval for this new pill.

Merck's research _____ that people with COVID-19 who took this medicine did not get as sick. They were 50% less _____ to need the hospital or die.

The FDA will _____ to look at this research. They will decide if the medicine is _____ for people to use. If they think it is safe, they will give Merck _____ to start selling the medicine.

_____ companies have made treatments for COVID-19. They are given _____ an IV needle. Patients have to go to the hospital to get these treatments.

A doctor or nurse needs to give the medicine to the patient.

WORD BANK

likely	shows	permission	meet	called
through	other	emergency	safe	October

Name _____ Date _____

Which Word Does Not Belong?

Three words in each row go together. One word does not belong with them. Draw a circle around the word that does not belong. Be able to explain your reasons.

	A	B	C	D
1.	Johnson & Johnson	Pfizer	Merck	Moderna
2.	Molnupiravir	COVID-19 vaccine	Tdap	Flu shot
3.	<i>Dia de los Muertos</i>	All Saints' Day	Veterans Day	All Souls' Day
4.	cemetery	altar	grave	coffin
5.	cranberry sauce	stuffing	fish	turkey
6.	Mayflower	Pilgrim	Powhatan	Plimoth
7.	election	relax	vote	choose
8.	rice	rose	road	lime
9.	crime	climb	flight	lean
10.	meditation	concentration	distracted	focus
11.	Spain	Britain	France	U.S.
12.	John Smith	Henry Flagler	John Rolfe	Pocahontas

Name _____ Date _____

I. What is a Booster Shot?

1. How long have people been using vaccines? _____

2. What do vaccinations stop? _____

3. Who gets vaccinations? _____, _____,

and _____

4. What is an extra dose of a vaccine that helps keep people protected called?

5. Adults should get a booster shot for this disease every 10 years.

6. What does a Tdap shot given to a pregnant woman protect the baby from?

7. Is the yearly flu shot a booster shot?

YES

NO

8. When did Pfizer ask the FDA to approve a third dose of their vaccine?

Name _____ Date _____

I. What is a Booster Shot? (continued)

9. Protection from COVID-19 vaccines goes down over time. YES NO
10. Did the FDA recommend a Pfizer COVID-19 booster shot for everyone? YES NO
11. Of the people who got the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccination, who did the FDA recommend COVID-19 booster shots for? Mark your answers.
- a. everyone over 18 b. people 65 and older c. children over 12
- d. people 18 and older with other health problems
- e. people over 18 years old living in nursing homes, jails and other group buildings
- f. People over 18 working in nursing homes, schools, hospitals, and other group buildings
12. Is a person who had COVID-19 and then got vaccinated very protected from the virus?
- YES NO
13. Do they need a COVID-19 booster shot now? YES NO
14. Who should a person talk to if they have questions about any vaccines or booster shots?
-

Name _____ Date _____

II. Buying Meat and Dairy

1. Tell the animal that the following meats come from.

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| a. ham _____ | b. T-bone steak _____ |
| c. hamburger _____ | d. veal _____ |
| e. drumsticks _____ | f. bacon _____ |
| g. mutton _____ | h. pork chops _____ |

2. A vegetarian is a person who doesn't eat _____.

3. A _____ is a person who doesn't eat any animal products.

4. Whole milk contains _____% fat. Skim milk contains _____ % fat.

5. Fat from milk is called _____.

6. What is a popular fermented milk food? _____

7. What are the heart, liver, and kidneys of animals called? _____ meats.

8. What meats are taboo to eat in the United States?

Meat from _____, _____, and _____.

Name _____ Date _____

III. Events in November

1. What ethnic groups celebrate their heritage and history during the month of November?

_____ and _____

2. How many people of these groups live in the U.S. today? _____

3. What holiday comes after All Saints' Day for many Christians?

4. On what day and at what time does Daylight Saving Time end?

5. At that time, people turn their clocks BACK AHEAD

6. What day is Election Day in the United States this year? _____

7. Which two states will choose their governors on this day?

_____ and _____

8. When was the agreement signed that ended World War I? _____

9. The name Armistice Day was changed to _____.

III. Events in November (continued)

10. Where is the Tomb of the Unknowns?

11. What is the Mexican holiday on November 1 and 2? _____

12. November 18 is a day to help people stop _____.

13. What holiday is the fourth Thursday of November? _____

14. The day after Thanksgiving is a day for stores to have big sales. What is this day called?

15. What group of people crossed the Atlantic Ocean on the Mayflower?

16. What are traditional Thanksgiving foods? Mark all your answers.

a. turkey

b. bananas

c. steaks

d. stuffing

e. sweet potatoes

f. green beans

g. rabbit

h. corn

i. pumpkin pie

j. shrimp

k. cranberry sauce

l. cheese

Name _____ Date _____

IV. St. Augustine, Florida

1. St. Augustine is the _____ city in the United States.
2. How many people visit St. Augustine each year? _____
3. When did Pedro Menéndez de Avilés found St. Augustine? _____
4. What country was he from? _____
5. How long did that country rule Florida? _____
6. Tell three countries St. Augustine belonged to. _____,
_____, and _____.
7. Who built hotels and a railroad in St. Augustine? _____
8. What two cities did the railroad connect?
_____ and _____.
9. What is the name of the Spanish fort in St. Augustine?

10. What bridge connects St. Augustine with Anastasia Island?

Name _____ Date _____

V. Jamestown, Virginia

1. When did the first colonists come to Jamestown? _____
2. What country did they come from? _____
3. What did they want to find? _____
4. What group of people already lived there? _____
5. Who was their chief? _____
6. What was the chief's daughter's name? _____
7. Who said "If you won't work, you won't eat"? _____
8. What plant made the colony rich? _____
9. Who had to work seven years for a master to pay for passage to America?

10. What country did the first slaves come from? _____
11. What continent is this country on? _____
12. What city became Virginia's capital after Jamestown? _____

Critical-Thinking and Creative-Thinking Questions

Choose questions to discuss or research and share with the class.

1. There are many diseases that do not have treatments or cures. If you could create a treatment or vaccine for any disease, what disease would you choose? What treatment would you create for the disease? Would there be any side effects? What would the treatment cost? Who would be eligible for the treatment?
2. What are some reasons that a person might become a vegetarian or a vegan? Talk to a few people who don't eat meat. Ask them what they do eat, how they feel, and why they chose to not eat meat.
3. People have a strong emotional need to grieve and connect with loved ones who have died. How do All Souls' Day and Day of the Dead customs help that? Are there such customs in your religion or culture?
4. What makes some people willing to go into battle and even give their lives to protect their country? How should a society honor them? Is Veterans Day enough? Is Memorial Day enough? Why or why not?
5. Compare your life with the life of the Pilgrims. Squanto showed the Pilgrims how to plant, fish, hunt, and survive. Has anyone shown you how to survive in the U.S.? Who? What things did you need to know? What do you do to show gratitude?
6. Interview three or more people who have dogs or cats as pets. Ask what purpose the pet serves in the family. Ask what the pet needs. Ask what difficulties having a pet gives them.
7. Why does a new colony like Jamestown need a strong leader? If you were a leader of a colony on Mars, what do you think your job would be like?
8. In the 1600's, selling tobacco made the colony of Virginia rich. No one connected smoking tobacco with illness for hundreds of years. What similarities can you see today where selling some products can make a person rich, but the customers may become ill after many years?

November 2021
Answers to *Easy English NEWS*
Short-Answer Tests

I. What is a Booster Shot?

1. 1,000 years
2. diseases
3. babies, children, and adults
4. booster shot
5. tetanus
6. whooping cough
7. NO
8. August
9. YES
10. NO
11. b, d, e, f
12. YES
13. NO
14. their doctor

III. Buying Meat and Dairy

1. a. pig; b. cow; c. cow;
d. calf; e. chicken or turkey;
f. pig; g. sheep; h. pig
2. meat
3. vegan
4. 4%; 0%
5. cream
6. yogurt
7. organ
8. horses, cats, and dogs

III. Events in November

1. American Indians and Alaskan Natives
2. more than two million
3. All Souls' Day
4. November 2, two a.m.
5. BACK
6. November 2
7. Virginia and New Jersey
8. November 11, 1918
9. Veterans Day
10. Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia
11. Dia de los Muertos

12. smoking
13. Thanksgiving
14. Black Friday
15. the Pilgrims
16. a, d, e, f, h, i, k

IV. St. Augustine, Florida

1. oldest
2. six million
3. 1565
4. Spain
5. 200 years
6. Spain, Britain, United States
7. Henry Flagler
8. New York and St. Augustine
9. Castillo of (de) San Marcos
10. The Bridge of Lions

V. Jamestown, Virginia

1. May 13, 1607
2. England
3. gold
4. Algonquin Indians
5. Powhatan
6. Pocahontas
7. Captain John Smith
8. tobacco
9. indentured servants
10. Angola
11. Africa
12. Williamsburg

