

**September 2018**

# ***Easy English NEWS***

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## To the Teacher

The supplementary tests for *Easy English NEWS* for September 2018 to June 2019 are included with your subscription to our monthly newspaper. I'm hoping it will save you many hours of work each month and will help expand your students' reading skills, vocabulary, and retention of important information.

These supplementary tests will be posted at my website as they are available, a few days after we complete the current issue of the newspaper. Many of the tests are useful with or without *Easy English NEWS*.

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

### 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. They are taken directly from articles in the paper so students can check their own or others' work by referring back to the article. (Note: Most of the exercises come from the beginning paragraphs of the article, but some are from a later part of an article. If you assign a cloze exercise before reading the article, it serves as an introduction to reading the full article. Use this approach with students with better reading ability.

For advanced students: Cover up the word box at the bottom of the page before duplicating the cloze exercises. This is a greater challenge. Students can work individually, or in pairs or small groups.

As a spelling test: Dictate the sentences including the missing word for the students to write in.

As copy practice: Students can copy the entire selection for writing practice, filling in the missing words.

### WHICH WORD DOES NOT BELONG?

Students read the four words in each row, and decide how three of the words go together while one word does not fit in the category. There may be more than one way to look at categories, so there are not necessarily one and only one correct answer. Don't use it as a written test. It's best to have students circle their choices, and then discuss them in class. 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 pattern: 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

You may give these tests as pretests to learn what students already know about the topic and again as posttests.

After reading the article, students can read the questions aloud and give the answers orally.

You can let the students do the tests as "open book (newspaper) test" after reading the article in class or for homework.

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 another's answers.

You can give the same test a week or more later to evaluate the retention of the information.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## The “Impossible Rescue”

Tham Luang Cave is the \_\_\_\_\_ cave in Thailand. The boys walked two and a half \_\_\_\_\_. They finally found a safe place out of the \_\_\_\_\_. They \_\_\_\_\_ for the water to go down. It didn't. It kept getting \_\_\_\_\_. They had no food. After a few \_\_\_\_\_, their flashlights stopped working. They were in \_\_\_\_\_ darkness.

### Looking for the boys

The next day, June 24, people went into the \_\_\_\_\_ to look for the boys. They \_\_\_\_\_ go very far. There was too \_\_\_\_\_ water.

### WORD BANK

miles	waited	higher	longest	water
days	total	couldn't	cave	much

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## What Will You Do After High School?

A diploma is \_\_\_\_\_. Colleges, the military, and many training programs \_\_\_\_\_ a high school diploma.

Some \_\_\_\_\_ drop out of high school. \_\_\_\_\_,

there is another way to get a high school diploma. Students can take a General Education Development (GED) \_\_\_\_\_. Many colleges accept the GED as \_\_\_\_\_ to a high school diploma.

Career \_\_\_\_\_

On career day, people in different \_\_\_\_\_ come to school to talk about their jobs. This \_\_\_\_\_ students make choices about their own careers in the \_\_\_\_\_.

### WORD BANK

helps	students	important	occupations	however
future	require	test	equal	day

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## September

The month of September is a new \_\_\_\_\_ for many people. It's a very busy month. Many \_\_\_\_\_ have ended.

Teachers and students \_\_\_\_\_ to school in August or September. September is \_\_\_\_\_ time for many farm **crops**.

It's apple-picking \_\_\_\_\_ in many northern \_\_\_\_\_. Families and school groups go to apple \_\_\_\_\_. They can pick their own apples. They take home fresh apples to eat and to make into \_\_\_\_\_, cakes, and apple sauce.

Autumn begins on September 22. Another name for \_\_\_\_\_ is *fall*. In autumn, \_\_\_\_\_ on many kinds of trees start to turn yellow, orange, and red.

### WORD BANK

autumn	leaves	orchards	pies	states
beginning	return	harvest	vacations	time

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Hispanic-Heritage Month

Hispanic-Heritage Month \_\_\_\_\_ September 15 and ends October 15.

During these 30 days, America celebrates Hispanic history and \_\_\_\_\_.

Hispanics are people with family \_\_\_\_\_ in Spain, Mexico, Central America, \_\_\_\_\_ America, and the Caribbean Islands.

More than 57 \_\_\_\_\_ people in the United States are Hispanic.

That's 17% of the U.S. \_\_\_\_\_. Hispanics are the nation's largest \_\_\_\_\_ minority.

Hispanic people from the U.S. and Latin America call themselves \_\_\_\_\_.

Some use the new term *Latinx*. \_\_\_\_\_ Hispanic-Heritage Month, schools teach about Hispanic \_\_\_\_\_.

### WORD BANK

culture	million	Latinos	population	ethnic
roots	heroes	during	begins	South

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Writing the Constitution of the United States

Thirteen \_\_\_\_\_ in America came together to fight for independence from Great \_\_\_\_\_ (1776-1783). They worked together during the \_\_\_\_\_. But after the war, there were \_\_\_\_\_.

There was no \_\_\_\_\_. There was no way to \_\_\_\_\_ taxes. Each state printed its own \_\_\_\_\_. It was difficult for the people in the states to \_\_\_\_\_ with each other. Each state had taxes on things that other states wanted to sell. States \_\_\_\_\_ about their land and their borders.

*Some states wanted to break up into \_\_\_\_\_ countries.* But if the states didn't stay together, they would not be strong. A foreign country could easily defeat the states one at a time.

### WORD BANK

problems	Britain	president	trade	colonies
separate	war	quarreled	collect	money

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Hurricane Season

The Atlantic hurricane \_\_\_\_\_ begins June 1 and ends November 30.

Millions of people along the East Coast, the Gulf Coast, the Caribbean \_\_\_\_\_,  
and Mexico live in the path of hurricanes.

Hurricanes are not \_\_\_\_\_ in the western states. Storms in the Pacific  
\_\_\_\_\_ usually move west/northwest. They move away from the United  
States. \_\_\_\_\_ hurricanes in the Pacific hit Hawaii. Most of them just go out  
to \_\_\_\_\_.

When a storm has a \_\_\_\_\_ speed between 39 and 73 miles per hour,  
\_\_\_\_\_ call it a tropical storm. They give it a name (see the list). When  
the winds are 74 miles per hour or more, the storm becomes a \_\_\_\_\_ one  
hurricane. Category three, four, and five are \_\_\_\_\_ hurricanes.

### WORD BANK

sea	Islands	category	common	ocean
season	wind	meteorologists	major	sometimes

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## September 2018: 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.

<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>
1. Navy SEAL	rescue diver	equipment	doctor
2. food	water	oxygen	guide rope
3. rescue	team	soccer	coach
4. grant	loan	scholarship	diploma
5. career	trade	college	job
6. Latino	French	Hispanic	Spanish
7. Day of Atonement	Rosh Hashana	Yom Kippur	Labor Day
8. subject	sentence	object	verb
9. dessert	pasta	tiramisu	pie
10. legislative	delegate	judicial	executive
11. James Madison	Benjamin Franklin	Pell Grant	George Washington
12. tornado	flood	meteorologist	hurricane

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## I. The “Impossible Rescue”

1. How many boys were lost in Tham Luang Cave last June 23rd? \_\_\_\_\_
2. How old were the boys? \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_
3. Who was with them? \_\_\_\_\_
4. How far into the cave did they get? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Where did expert cave-diving rescuers come from? \_\_\_\_\_
6. On what day did the rescuers find the boys? \_\_\_\_\_
7. What did the rescuers carry with them? \_\_\_\_\_
8. What were the first words the boys said to the rescue divers? \_\_\_\_\_
9. What helped the rescuers find their way back out of the cave? \_\_\_\_\_
10. How long did it take for the rescuers to get back out of the cave that day? \_\_\_\_\_
11. How many days were the boys in the cave before they were rescued? \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## I. The “Impossible Rescue” (continued)

12. Which of these things made the rescue dangerous (circle the answers)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| a. The weather was extremely hot.            | b. The boys were weak                     |
| c. It kept raining and the water was rising. | d. There was too much oxygen in the cave. |
| e. Most of the cave was wide and dry         | f. The rocks on the walls were sharp.     |
| g. The water was rushing very fast.          | h. The water was ice cold.                |
| i. All the boys knew how to swim.            | j. There were not enough people to help.  |

13. How long did the first rescue take? \_\_\_\_\_

14. How many boys came out the first day of the rescue? \_\_\_\_\_

15. Who were the last people out of the cave? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## II. What Will You Do After High School?

1. What document do colleges, the military, and many training programs require from applicants? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What document is accepted as equal to a high school diploma? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What are two special exams that high school students may take to get into college?  
\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_
4. What is the name of the form to apply for financial aid? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What is the name of the grant that the U.S. government gives to help low-income students pay for higher education? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Do students have to pay back a grant or scholarship? YES NO
7. Do you have to go to college to get a good job in construction, cooking, welding, auto repair, or computer programming? YES NO
8. In a school, what person has information about colleges and jobs?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### III. Events in September

1. What holiday is the first Monday in September? \_\_\_\_\_
2. On what day does Autumn begin this year? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What two Jewish holidays are in September this year? \_\_\_\_\_ and  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What might Jews say to each other on their new year? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What is another name for the Day of Atonement? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Where do many Jews go on this day? \_\_\_\_\_
7. What group of people do Americans honor on the first Sunday after Labor Day? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. What special day reminds people about the events of September 11, 2001?  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. How many planes did terrorists hijack to attack the United States? \_\_\_\_\_
10. When is National Hispanic-Heritage Month? \_\_\_\_\_
11. How many Hispanic Americans live in the United States? \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### III. Events in September (*continued*)

12. What is another name for Hispanics? \_\_\_\_\_

13. Which of these states were once part of Mexico? (circle)

a. California      b. New York      c. North Carolina

d. Nevada      e. Colorado      f. Arizona

g. Washington      h. New Mexico      i. Delaware

14. Which eastern state was once a Spanish colony? \_\_\_\_\_

15. What island once belonged to Spain but is now a territory / commonwealth with the United States? \_\_\_\_\_

16. What day is Constitution Day? \_\_\_\_\_

17. After how many years can a legal immigrant become a citizen? \_\_\_\_\_

18. An immigrant must pass three tests in order to become a citizen. What are they?  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

19. Can an immigrant who has committed a serious crime become a citizen? YES    NO

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## IV. Active and Passive Sentences

1. What is the subject of this sentence: *The dog ate the bone.* \_\_\_\_\_

2. What is the action word? \_\_\_\_\_

3. What is the object? \_\_\_\_\_

4. What is the subject of this sentence: The Constitution was signed by 39 delegates.

\_\_\_\_\_

5. What are the action words? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Who are the agents who did the action? \_\_\_\_\_

7. In a passive sentence, the person who does the action is the most important part of the sentence. TRUE FALSE

8. Write this sentence in the active voice: *The cookie was eaten by the little boy.*

\_\_\_\_\_

9. Write this sentence in the passive voice: Jack kissed Maria.

\_\_\_\_\_

10. In the sentence *Mistakes were made*, we can tell who made the mistakes. YES NO

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## V. Writing the Constitution of the United States

1. From what country did thirteen colonies get their independence?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. In what year did the United States become independent? \_\_\_\_\_

3. When did the Constitutional Convention meet? From \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

4. How many delegates came to the convention? \_\_\_\_\_

5. In what city was the convention? \_\_\_\_\_,

\_\_\_\_\_

6. What king had been a tyrant? \_\_\_\_\_

7. What name do people call the men who wrote the Constitution? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8. Did the delegates agree to have a monarchy or a republic? \_\_\_\_\_

9. How many branches of government did they create? \_\_\_\_\_

10. What would be the highest court? \_\_\_\_\_

11. How old did they say the president must be? At least \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## V. Writing the Constitution of the United States, (*continued*)

12. Could an immigrant to the United States become president? YES NO

13. How long is a president's term? \_\_\_\_\_

14. How long is a representative's term? \_\_\_\_\_

15. How long is a senator's term? \_\_\_\_\_

16. What are the two parts of Congress? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

17. How would slaves be counted for representation? \_\_\_\_\_

18. By what year did Americans have to stop bringing in slaves from Africa? \_\_\_\_\_

19. How many delegates signed the Constitution? \_\_\_\_\_

20. How many states had to ratify the Constitution to make it be the law of the land? \_\_\_\_\_

21. Which state was the first to ratify it? \_\_\_\_\_

22. Which two states did not ratify the Constitution at first? \_\_\_\_\_

and \_\_\_\_\_

23. Those states signed the Constitution after it had ten amendments called the \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.

## VI. Creative-thinking and Critical-thinking Questions

1. When you go on a hike, what are some things you should take with you? What things could have helped the boys in the cave? If you are lost in a cave, how can you signal people who may be looking for you?
2. The boys who were lost in the cave did one thing wrong. What was it? What two things did they do right?
3. Imagine you are on a rescue team. You know that the lost boys will die if they cannot get out. But you are afraid that you might die, too. How would you make the decision to help or not help?
4. Why do you think people came from many parts of the world to help find the boys?
5. What careers will not be needed twenty years from now? How can a person be sure that they choose a career they like that will give them a long-term job at good pay?
6. Americans have a second chance to get a high school diploma. Some people do this when they are 30, 40, 50, or 60 years old. Why would a 40-year-old person want to get a GED? What would make it difficult?
7. Work with four or five other students. Imagine you have moved to an island. You are the only people there, but more people will be coming soon. What laws do you think the island would need? Plan a constitution and laws for the island. Would it be important for the new people to sign the constitution and agree to the laws? Why or why not? How would you enforce the laws?
8. Patriot Day, September 11, reminds Americans of the attack in 2001 by Islamic terrorists. The U.S. doesn't have a holiday to remind us of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor that got us into World War II. Today we are allies with Japan. Do you think we will ever be allies with Afghanistan, Iraq, and Syria? Why or why not?
9. Imagine that you are the teacher of an ESL class. You want your new students to take an oath in order to be in the class. What kind of oath would it be?

**September 2018**  
**Answers to *Easy English NEWS***  
**Short-Answer Tests**

**I. Search and Rescue**

1. 12
2. 11 to 16
3. their coach
4. 2 1/2 miles
5. the United Kingdom (UK)
6. July 2
7. Oxygen tanks
8. thank you (or thirteen) and Eat! Eat!
9. guide rope
10. five hours
11. 10 days
12. b, c, f, g, h
13. 9 hours
14. four
15. the doctor and four Thai Navy SEALs

**II. What Comes After High School?**

1. a high school diploma
2. GED
3. SAT and ACT
4. FAFSA
5. Pell Grant
6. NO
7. NO
8. the guidance counselor

**III. Events in September**

1. Labor Day
2. September 22
3. Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur
4. G'd Yontif
5. Yom Kippur
6. the synagogue
7. Grandparents
8. Patriot Day
9. four
10. September 15 to October 15
11. 57,500,000
12. Latinos
13. a, d, e, f, h
14. Florida
15. Puerto Rico
16. September 17
17. five
18. English, American history, U.S. government
19. NO

**IV. Active and Passive Sentences**

1. The dog
2. ate
3. the bone
4. The Constitution
5. was signed
6. 39 delegates
7. FALSE
8. The little boy ate the cookie.
9. Maria was kissed by Jack.
10. NO

**V. Writing the Constitution**

1. Great Britain
2. 1783
3. May, 1787 to September, 1787
4. 55
5. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
6. King George III of Great Britain
7. Founding Fathers
8. a republic
9. three
10. the Supreme Court
11. 35 years old
12. NO
13. four years
14. two years
15. six years
16. House of Representatives and the Senate
17. 3/5 of all the slaves would be counted
18. 1808
19. 39
20. nine
21. Delaware
22. Rhode Island and North Carolina
23. Bill of Rights