Easy Stories: People

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Welcome

This e-book is part of a series called Best of The Reader. The stories in the e-books are from *The Westcoast Reader*. It is a newspaper for adults who are improving their English reading skills.

**Easy Stories: People**

This e-book is a collection of stories from other e-books in this series. These stories are at the lowest reading level.

**Reading level**

Most of the e-books in this series have three reading levels. This book has only one level:

- Level 1

**To the reader**

- You can use this book in a classroom, with a tutor, or on your own.
- Each story has exercises to go with it. These exercises can help you improve your English and reading skills.
- You can check your answers at the end of the book.

**To the teacher**

There is a Teachers’ Guide on this website. The guide has ideas and suggestions on how to use the e-books with students.

**Acknowledgements**

The author gratefully acknowledges the financial support of Capilano University for this project. A special thank you to the learners and teachers who helped choose the articles for this book. All of the material in this book first appeared in *The Westcoast Reader* (1982 to 2009). Some of the articles have been updated. Most of the exercises and activities for learners are based on material from *The Westcoast Reader Teachers’ Notes* (1982 to 2009).

**Credits**

**Photos**

Front cover: Rochette, Gbedze, Yu, Sedins: The Vancouver Sun; Griffin: The Province
Page 5: Aglukark: The Vancouver Sun; sign: Sebastien Lapointe; Page 8: Iva Makarov; Page 9: Canada Post; Page 10: The Province; Pages 12, 14, 16, 19, 22, 25, 27, 29: The Vancouver Sun

**Illustrations**

Page 5, 7, 9, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 28, 29, 30: Guy Parsons; Page 8, 10, 11, 12, 14 (map), 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25: Nola Johnston; Page 8: (logo) Moose Cree First Nation
Susan Aglukark is a singer. She grew up in Nunavut. Susan sings in English and Inuktitut. She has won many awards for her music.

Did you know?
- Nunavut is a territory of Canada.
- About 80 percent of the people in Nunavut are Inuit.
- Most Inuit speak Inuktitut.

How do you say it?
Aglukark (say: ah-GLEW-kark)
Nunavut (say: NEW-nah-voot)
Inuktitut (say: in-NOOK-ti-toot)
Inuit (say: IN-you-it)
### Is it a or b?

**Circle the correct answers.**

1. Susan Aglukark is a ___.
   - a) singer
   - b) nurse

2. Susan grew up in ___.
   - a) Yukon
   - b) Nunavut

3. Susan sings in English and ___.
   - a) Portuguese
   - b) Inuktitut

4. Susan has ___ many awards.
   - a) won
   - b) sold

5. ___ is a territory of Canada.
   - a) Ontario
   - b) Nunavut

6. Most people in Nunavut are ___
   - a) Haida
   - b) Inuit

### Canada

Here is a list of Canada’s 10 provinces and three territories. Fill in the missing (capital) letters.

#### Provinces

1. **A**lberta

2. ____ritish ____olumbia

3. ____anitoba

4. ____ew ____runswick

5. ____ewfoundland and ____abrador

6. ____ova ____cotia

7. ____ntario

8. ____rince ____ward ____land

9. ____uebec

10. ____askatchewan

#### Territories

1. ____orthwest ____erritories

2. ____unavut

3. ____ukon
Fill in the names of the missing provinces and territories.

1. N___t_w_s___
   ___r_i_r___

2. ___r_i_h
   C___u___a

3. S___k_t___w___

4. ___a_o

5. ___w
   B___n___c___

6. N___a
   ___t_a

7. N_w___n_l_d
   and
   ___b_d___

Prince Edward Island
Yukon
Nunavut
Alberta
Manitoba
Quebec
Jonathan Cheechoo is a hockey player. He has played for two teams in the National Hockey League (NHL).

Jonathan is from Ontario. He is from the Moose Cree First Nation.

Jonathan Cheechoo was born in Moose Factory. It is a small community on James Bay.

The weather in Moose Factory is very cold in the winter. Jonathan learned to skate on a frozen pond.
### Finish the chart

Write the singular or plural for each word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Plural</th>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Plural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. moose</td>
<td>moose</td>
<td>8. fox</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>beavers</td>
<td>9.</td>
<td>deer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. mouse</td>
<td></td>
<td>10. salmon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. bird</td>
<td>sheep</td>
<td>11. monkey</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td></td>
<td>12. wolves</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. tiger</td>
<td></td>
<td>13. cow</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. goose</td>
<td></td>
<td>14. calf</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Moose

- Moose live in most parts of Canada.
- In the summer, moose live near lakes and marshes. They eat water plants.
- An adult male moose is about two metres high.
- Male moose have antlers.
Alix Giffin works at a garden centre.
She likes her job.
She says, “I am always busy.”

What does Alix do?
✓ Alix waters plants.
✓ She moves plants.
✓ She helps customers.

Alix uses these at work
pruning shears
triwel
gardening gloves
watering can

The Westcoast Reader 9/2005 • Adapted from The Province
Unscramble the words

Put the words in the right order to make sentences.

1. works centre garden at Alix a

   **Alix works at a garden centre.**

2. her Alix job likes

3. busy is always Alix

---

Gardening

Fill in the blanks to finish the words.

1. **t r o w e l**

2. ____ d ____ n
   ____ o ____

3. **w____r____n**

4. **p____i_g**
   **h____s**
Honoré has a radio show

Honoré Gbedze is from Togo. He came to Canada in 2000.

Honoré has a radio show. It has news about Africa. It also has African music.

Honoré says, “We have lots of immigrants from Africa in Canada. They like to hear news from their homeland.”

How do you say it?
Honoré (say: on-oh-reh)
Gbedze (say: beh-jeh)
Togo (say: toh-goh)

Did you know?
✓ Togo is a small country on the west coast of Africa.
✓ The official language of Togo is French. Many people in Togo also speak one or more African languages.
✓ More than 34,000 immigrants from Africa live in BC. Most of these people live in the Vancouver area.
What’s the word?

Unscramble the letters and write the words on the lines.

1. Honoré Gbedze is from _____________.
   goTo

2. He came to _____________. in 2000.
   anCdaa

3. Honoré has a _____________. show.
   doair

4. The radio show has news about _____________.
   rifAca

5. The show also has African _____________.
   ucmsi

Two words in one

Match each word on the left with a word on the right. Then write the new word on the line.

1. home  ball  _____________. homeland

2. news  land  _____________.

3. base  coat  _____________.

4. down  room  _____________.

5. rain  paper  _____________.

6. bed  town  _____________.

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Len and Gerda Kooyman have a farm near Chilliwack. The Kooymans have seven sons. Everyone in the family helps on the farm.

The Kooymans have 2,000 cows. They milk the cows every day.
Unscramble the words

Put the words in the right order to make sentences.

1. family farm Kooymans a has The

   The Kooyman family has a farm.

2. Chilliwack near The is farm

3. have The 2,000 Kooymans cows

   ___________________________________________________________

Baby animals 🐄🔍

Match each adult animal with the correct baby animal.

1. cow __g___  a. kitten
2. dog ___  b. lamb
3. sheep ___  c. fawn
4. cat ___  d. gosling
5. hen ___  e. puppy
6. deer ___  f. chick
7. bear ___  g. calf
8. goose ___  h. cub

Animal sounds 🐄🔍

Match the animals with the sounds they make.

1. cows __f___  a. quack
2. dogs ___  b. oink
3. ducks ___  c. buzz
4. lions ___  d. hiss
5. bees ___  e. bark
6. pigs ___  f. moo
7. frogs ___  g. roar
8. snakes ___  h. croak

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Mei (say: may) Yu is 20 years old. She is a cartoon artist.

Mei is also a teacher. She teaches children how to draw cartoons.

Mei was born in China. She came to Canada in 1989. She learned English quickly. “I drew pictures to remember the English words,” she says.
Mei teaches you how to draw a puppy

1. Start with a big head.

2. Draw the body like a jellybean.

3. Keep the legs short.


5. Draw a small nose and mouth. Make the eyes big.

6. Erase the extra lines. The puppy is finished.
Answer the questions

Write the answers on the lines.

1. Where is Mei Yu from?
   
   She is from China.

2. When did she come to Canada?

3. Who does she teach?

4. What kind of artist is Mei?

Label the puppy

Write the correct words in the boxes.

1. eyebrow

2. 

3. 

4. 

5. 

6. 

7. 

| tail | ear | eyebrow | leg | nose | mouth | eye |
Hannah Newbury is 8 years old. She collects money to help homeless people.
How does Hannah help?

- Hannah collects pennies and other coins at her church.
- She puts the coins in special paper rolls.
- Hannah takes the rolls of coins to the bank. She gets bills for the coins.
- Hannah buys food with the money.
- Hannah and her mother take the food to a church in downtown Vancouver.
- People at the church use the food to make meals for homeless people.

*The Westcoast Reader 12/2008. Update 2015 • Adapted from The Vancouver Sun*
What’s the word?

Unscramble the letters and write the words on the lines.

1. Hannah Newbury collects ________________ to help homeless people.
   yemon

2. Hannah uses the money to buy ________________.
   dofo

3. Hannah and her ________________ take the food to a church.
   rethmo

4. ________________ at the church use the food to make meals.
   eoPpel

5. The meals are for homeless people in downtown ________________.
   canVuevro

What happened first?

Put the pictures in the correct order.

Number ___  Number ___  Number ___

Number ___  Number ___  Number ___

Number ___  Number ___  Number ___
Sarah Lepp is 21 years old.
She is disabled.
Sarah uses a wheelchair
to get around.

Leo is a service dog.
He lives with Sarah.
He helps Sarah in many ways.

Sarah wants to cross the street.
Leo pushes the button for the walk signal.
How does Leo help Sarah?

- Leo opens doors.
- Leo pulls a strap to open the fridge.
- Leo turns lights on and off.
- Leo brings things to Sarah.
Look at each picture and tell Leo what to do.

1. Turn on the lights. OR Turn off the lights.

2. 

3. 

4. 

Can you think of two other ways Leo can help Sarah? Write your answers on the lines.

1. 

2. 
Swedish twins are hockey players

Daniel (left) and Henrik in 2000

Daniel and Henrik Sedin are hockey players. They play for the Vancouver Canucks. The Sedins are twins. They are from Sweden. They came to Vancouver in 2000.

Sweden is in northern Europe.

Played in the Olympics

The Sedin twins also play for Sweden. They won a gold medal at the 2006 Olympic Games.

Henrik (left) and Daniel in 2014

Won an award

Henrik was voted the most valuable player in the National Hockey League (NHL) in 2009-2010.
Label the hockey player

Fill in the blanks with words from the box.

1. [ ]

2. [ ]

3. [ ]

4. [ ]

Finish the sentences

Use the words in the boxes to finish the sentences.

1. Daniel and Henrik Sedin are ________ hockey ________ players.

2. They play for the ________________ Canucks.

3. The Sedins are ________________.

4. They are from ________________.

5. The Sedins were 19 ________________ old in 2000.
Joannie Rochette is 23 years old. She is from Quebec. Joannie is a figure skater. She says, “My dream is to win a gold medal at the 2010 Olympics.”

Joannie won a medal
Many people will remember Joannie. Her mother died during the Olympics. Joannie was brave. She skated and won a bronze medal.

Did you know?
- The 2010 Winter Olympics were in Vancouver and Whistler, British Columbia.
- The 2014 Winter Olympics were in Sochi, Russia.

How do you say it?
Joannie (say: zho-ann-ee)
Rochette (say: roh-shet)
What’s the Olympic sport?

Match the name of the Olympic sport with the picture.

1. bobsleigh (bobsled)  ______

2. speed skating ______

3. ski jumping _____

4. hockey _____

5. figure skating _____
Josh Dueck is 28 years old. He is from British Columbia.


The 2010 Paralympic Games were in Vancouver and Whistler, British Columbia.

More than 500 athletes with disabilities competed in five sports. For example:

- alpine skiing
- wheelchair curling

**Update**

- Josh won a silver medal at the 2010 Paralympic Winter Games in Vancouver.
- He won a gold medal and a silver medal at the 2014 Paralympic Games in Sochi, Russia.

**How do you say it?**

Dueck (say: dew-ik)
What’s the Paralympic sport?

Match the name of the Paralympic sport with the picture.

1. biathlon  b____

2. alpine skiing  ____

3. wheelchair curling  _____

4. ice sledge hockey  ______

5. cross-country skiing  ______
Find it

Look through this e-book to find these pictures. Each one is part of a larger picture. Write the title of the story that goes with each one.

1. 

2. 

3. 

4. 

5. 

6. 

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### Answers for exercises

#### Is it a or b? (p 6)
1a  2b  3b  4a  5b  6b

#### Canada (p 6)


#### Map of Canada (p 7)

#### Finish the chart (p 9)

#### Unscramble the words (p 11)
1. Alix works at a garden centre.
2. Alix likes her job.
3. Alix is always busy.

#### Gardening (p 11)
1. trowel 2. gardening gloves 3. watering can 4. pruning shears

#### What’s the word? (p 13)

#### Two words in one (p 13) (possible answers)
1. homeland 2. newspaper 3. baseball 4. downtown 5. raincoat 6. bedroom

#### Unscramble the words (p 15)
1. The Kooyman family has a farm.  
2. The farm is near Chilliwack.  
3. The Kooymans have 2,000 cows.

#### Baby animals (p 15)
1g 2e 3b 4a 5f 6c 7h 8d

#### Animal sounds (p 15)
1f 2e 3a 4g 5c 6b 7h 8d

#### Answer the questions (p 18)
1. She is from China.
2. She came to Canada in 1989.
3. She teaches children.
4. She is a cartoon artist.

#### Label the puppy (p 18)
1. eyebrow 2. nose 3. leg 4. ear 5. eye 6. mouth 7. tail

#### What’s the word? (p 21)
1. money 2. food 3. mother 4. People 5. Vancouver

#### What happened first? (p 21)
Top row: 2 6 4  
Bottom row: 1 5 3

#### Tell Leo what to do (p 24)
1. Turn on the lights. OR Turn off the lights.  
2. Bring me the newspaper.  
3. Open the fridge.  
4. Open the door.

#### Label the hockey player (p 26)
1. helmet 2. hockey stick 3. puck 4. skate

#### Finish the sentences (p 26)
1. hockey 2. Vancouver 3. twins 4. Sweden 5. years

#### What’s the Olympic sport? (p 34)
1e 2f 3c 4d 5a 6b

#### What’s the Paralympic sport? (p 36)
1b 2d 3e 4a 5e

#### Find it (p 34)
1. Alix works at a garden centre  
2. Mei Yu is a cartoon artist  
3. Leo helps Sarah  
4. Susan Aglukark  
5. A family farm  
6. Jonathan Cheechoo