

บทที่ 7 เรื่องที่ให้อ่าน

ให้นักศึกษาฝึกอ่านข้อความที่มีความยาว 2-5 ตอน ดังนั้น เรื่องที่อ่านในบทนี้จะมี ความยาวมากกว่าบทก่อน นักศึกษาควรพยายามจับใจความทุกตอนให้ได้ว่าข้อความแต่ละ ตอนกล่าวถึงอะไร ส่วนวิธีอ่านนั้นนักศึกษควรใช้วิธีการอ่านเช่นเดียวกับอ่านบทที่ 6 คือ อ่านเร็ว อ่านเป็นวลีที่ยาวขึ้น อย่าพยายามอ่านเป็นคำ ๆ และเนื่องจากนักศึกษาได้ฝึกอ่าน มาแล้วจากบทที่ 6 ดังนั้น ในบทเรียนนี้นักศึกษาก็ยังอาศัยทฤษฎีการอ่านรวมทั้งการเดา ศัพท์ โครงสร้างรูปแบบต่าง ๆ รู้จักใช้พจนานุกรมหาความหมายของศัพท์มาช่วยในการอ่าน บทนี้จะมีเรื่องให้นักศึกษาฝึกอ่านทั้งหมด 15 เรื่อง นักศึกษาต้องพยายามจับใจความสำคัญ ของแต่ละตอนก่อนว่าแต่ละตอนนั้นกล่าวเกี่ยวกับอะไร แล้วจึงหาใจความสำคัญของทั้ง เรื่อง

Passage 1

Plants supply man with food, clothing, and shelter-his most important needs. Many of our most useful medicines are also made from plants. In addition, plants add beauty and pleasure to our lives. Most people enjoy the smell of flowers, the sight of a field of waving grain, and the quiet of a forest.

But not all plants are useful to man. Some species grow in fields and gardens as weeds that choke off useful plants. Tiny bits of pollen from certain plants cause such diseases as asthma and hay fever. Other plants destroy millions of dollars worth of crops yearly.

Exercise 1 Vocabulary Preparation

Answer the following questions correctly.

1. Which of the following words has a suffix?

- | | |
|-------------|------------|
| 1. supply | 2. shelter |
| 3. pleasure | 4. fever |

2. A tree gives shelter from the sun.

"Shelter" means _____

- | | |
|-----------|---------------|
| 1. shield | 2. protection |
| 3. shade | 4. supplement |

3. What a nice **smell** !

"Smell" in this sentence is used as a / an _____

- | | |
|--------------|-----------|
| 1. verb | 2. adverb |
| 3. adjective | 4. noun |

4. The smoke almost choked me.

"Choke" in this sentence means _____

1. to be unable to breathe for a short time
2. to be unable to speak for a short time
3. to fill a passage with air and water
4. to swallow my feelings and tears

5. Don't destroy that box; it may be useful.

"Destroy" in this sentence means _____

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| 1. kill | 2. pull down |
| 3. get rid of | 4. lift up |

Exercise 2 Comprehension Questions

a. Write (T) for the correct answer or (F) for the incorrect one in the space provided.

_____1. Food, clothing and shelter are basic needs for man.

2. Some plants can be made into medicines.

Plants give beauty to nature and pleasure to our lives.

4. Il plants are harmful to human being.

5. Some species of plants cause colds and fever.

b. Choose **the** best answer based on information from the text.

1. The quiet of the forest makes some people_____

- | | |
|----------|--------------|
| 1. happy | 2. sad |
| 3. angry | 4. surprised |

2. Some weeds can _____

1. make some useful plants grow
2. kill some useful plants by using all the available land
3. move all plants to the forest
4. make people enjoy their sight and beauty

3. Asthma and hay fever can be caused by_____

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. heat | 2. cold weather |
| 3. red flowers | 4. pollen |

4. Crops worth millions of dollars are_____

1. sold yearly by farmers
2. destroyed each year by other plants
3. being planted to replace old crops
4. destroyed because of forest fires

5. Plants _____

1. cause diseases and are unfavorable to man
2. are grown each year to replace old trees
3. have both advantages and disadvantages
4. All are correct

When life was rugged and simple, man's needs were few and he could supply them all. As he advanced from lone hunter to farmer and builder and exchanged a solitary existence for the greater comfort and security of community life, he realized he must come to an agreement with his neighbors on a common system of measurement. How can man build a house, or a storage hut, or a temple, unless all the builders use the same basic measurements?

The very earliest measurements were for length. The basis for the measures were those most natural—a foot, a palm, a span of the hand. When building alone, man could use his own body. But for community projects a common standard was required. The leader's measurements were taken and marked off on a stick or stone. Crude copies were made from the original and passed out for use. Later the foot gradually evolved to become twelve inches long.

Exercise 1 Vocabulary Preparation

Answer the following questions correctly.

1. He worked so well that he soon advanced to a higher position.

“Advance” in this sentence means _____

- | | |
|---------|-------------|
| 1. help | 2. move |
| 3. come | 4. pay back |

2. Thongchai lived a solitary life; he had no friends at all.

“Solitary” means _____

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. unmarried | 2. seldom visited |
| 3. without companions | 4. together |

3. All of us came to an **'agreement'** that we should leave early.

When we come to an agreement, we are _____

1. having the same ideas about something
2. having a conclusion about something
3. Thinking about our plan
4. Understanding the problem clearly

4. A foot is a unit in a system of _____

- | | |
|--------------|----------------|
| 1. measuring | 2. measurement |
| 3. measures | 4. measured |

5. The words hunter, farmer, and builder have -er as a suffix which changes a / an ' _____, to a / an _____

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. noun, verb | 2. verb, noun |
| 3. adjective, verb | 4. verb, adjective |

Exercise 2 Comprehension Questions

a. Write **(T)** for the correct answer or **(F)** for the **incorrect** one in the space provided.

___ 1. When man's life was simple, he needs everything.

__ 2. What man needs could be supplied.

_____ 3. Man can not build a house or a temple without using a common basic measurement.

_____ 4. The earliest unit for measurement that man used was a metre.

__ 5. Man used his own body for the bases of early measurements.

b. Choose the best answer based on information from the text.

1. The advance of man from solitary to communal life created _____

1. a decrease in his needs
2. the dominance of tribal leaders

3. a greater demand for storage huts
4. a need for standards of measurement
2. The earliest measurements for length were _____
 1. determined by a stick
 2. used to build temples
 3. the same as those used today
 4. derived from parts of the body
3. Some standardization of measurement occurred _____
 1. as a result of a dispute over the proper size for a hut
 2. when leaders' measurements replaced individuals'
 3. because everyone's foot used to be almost the same length
 4. due to the accidental discovery that a foot equalled twelve inches
4. The author develops his point by means of _____
 1. persuasion
 2. factual explanation
 3. arguments and proof
 4. comparison and contrast
5. The title of this article could be _____
 1. Building a Hut
 2. Man's Early Problems
 3. The Growth of Communities
 4. The Development of Standardized Measurement

Passage 3

Throughout history, many people have worn clothing more for decoration than for covering the body. Even in cold climates, some people

seem more interested in decorating their bodies than protecting them. In the 1830's, for example., the famous British biologist Charles R. Darwin travelled to the islands of Tierra del Fuego, off the southern tip of South America. There he 5
There he saw people who wore only a small cloak of animal skin and a little paint in spite of the cold rain and sleet. Darwin gave the people scarlet cloth, which they wrapped around their necks. Even in the cold weather, they wore clothes more for decoration than for protection.

No one knows exactly why or when men first wore clothes. But they 10 probably began to wear clothing more than 10,000 years ago, and probably for many of the same reasons we wear clothes today. Early men may have wanted to protect themselves, to improve their appearance, and to tell other people something about themselves. A cave man may have worn the skin of a bear or a rein-deer for warmth. He also could have worn the skin to show his neigh- 15 bors that he was a great hunter.

Exercise 1 Vocabulary Preparation

Answer the following questions correctly.

1. The rumour quickly spread throughout the village.

This means that the rumour spread _____

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. back and forth | 2. to every part |
| 3. somewhere | 4. here and there |

2. Thai people _____ the streets with flags and flowers on their King's birthday. They are very happy with their _____

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. decorating, decorate | 2. decorate, decorative |
| 3. decorate, decorations | 4. decoration, decorate |

3. In cold weather, you'd better wrap up well before you go out.

"Wrap" in this sentence means _____

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| 1. roll up | 2. pack in |
| 3. conceal in | 4. cover up |

4. Jimmy's late-he's probably stuck in a traffic jam.

"Probably" means _____

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| 1. most likely | 2. may be |
| 3. by chance | 4. sometimes |

5. We mustn't judge people by appearances.

This sentence means that we shouldn't judge people _____

1. from the act of appearing
2. by their outward looks
3. from the very beginning of their life
4. by nationalities

Exercise 2 Comprehension Questions

a. Write (T) for the correct answer or (F) for the incorrect one in the space provided.

___ 1. We know from history that people have always worn clothes because they want to protect their bodies.

___ 2. Charles R. Darwin was a famous scientist.

_____ 3. Tierra del Fuego is situated on the upper part of South America.

__ 4. People in ancient times usually wore less clothes than people in the present.

_____ 5. The people wrapped the cloth which Darwin gave them around their bodies.

b. Choose the best answer.

1. Ancient people wore clothing in order to _____ themselves rather than to

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. protect, decorate | 2. decorate, protect |
|----------------------|----------------------|

3. conceal, show
4. cover, disguise
2. People of Tierra del Fuego wore a small cloak of animal skin with little paint d u r i n g
1. summer
2. autumn
3. winter
4. All are correct
3. The reason why people first wore clothes _____
1. is not known
2. obvious
3. can not be told
4. is understood
4. People started wearing clothes _____
1. recently
2. ten centuries ago
3. a very very long time ago
4. from the beginning of time
5. Early men wore clothes in order to _____
1. protect themselves
2. make themselves look better
3. reveal themselves
4. All are correct
6. Because the cave man wanted to show his neighbors that he was a great hunter, he had to _____
1. hunt wild animals
2. wear the skin of a bear or a tiger
3. tell all his neighbors
4. ride on a reindeer

Passage 4

Dictionaries contain a lot of information, so they are a very useful reference book. Some of the information is very important for foreign students. Some of the information is less important, but is still interesting.

The most useful information in the dictionary for foreign students is the spelling, meaning, synonyms, and antonyms of words. The dictionary knows 5 how to spell the words including irregular verbs and plurals. Because most words have more than one meaning, it is important to pick out the correct meaning for the word you want. To help you learn the correct meaning, the dictionary shows the parts of speech, such as noun, verb, and adjective for each definition. In addition, the dictionary shows if the word is formal or slang 10 (usually used only for speaking but not writing). Finally, the dictionary gives synonyms, words with similar meaning. All of this information is very helpful for foreign students.

The dictionary contains additional information. It tells how to pronounce the word, and where the word came from (Latin, German, etc.). The dictionary 15 also contains general information about people and places. It often gives the population and location of cities and countries and tells when famous people, like Cleopatra, lived.

Exercise 1 Vocabulary Preparation

Answer the following questions correctly.

1. Can you inform me of your intended departure?

Yes, if I have any _____ I will tell you.

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1. informed | 2. informative |
| 3. information | 4. informal |

2. Most libraries have a reference collection.

A reference collection contains _____.

1. comments about someone
2. connections with other parts of the library
3. written information about a person's character

3. bad _____ 4. useless
2. Most foreign students use a dictionary to find out the _____
1. meaning 2. pronunciation
3. derivative 4. word origin
3. Most words in a dictionary have _____ meanings.
1. only one 2. two
3. several 4. exact
4. In order to choose the correct meaning, one should know _____
1. different words 2. the word already
3. all the meanings 4. the parts of speech
5. Slang is usually used while _____
1. reading 2. speaking
3. writing 4. listening
6. Not only does the dictionary give us information about words, but it also gives us about _____
1. the environment 2. people and places
3. how to save forests 4. new discoveries

Passage 5

After being verbally attacked by a man, the Lord Buddha responded, "son, if someone decline to accept a present, to whom would it belong?" The man answered, "To him who offered it."

"And so," said the Lord Buddha, "I decline to accept your abuse."

"The world is full of people who establish their worth by degrading 5 others. They have pockets and purses full of put-downs and they hand them out to anyone.

Refuse to accept their insults, even when hurled under the guise of love. By ignoring them, you'll reduce tension, strengthen your relationships and increase your joy.

10

Exercise Choose the best answer for each question.

1. The best title for this passage is _____.
 1. Degrading Oneself Is Fun
 2. When Words Hurt
 3. The Guise of Love
 4. How to Abuse People
2. The writer intends to _____.
 1. advise readers how to handle abuse
 2. tell the story of the Lord Buddha
 3. hand insults out to anyone
 4. reduce tension and increase joy
3. Which device does the writer use to make his point clear?
 1. comparison
 2. metaphor
 3. example
 4. contrast
4. The conversation is between who and who?
 1. A man and the writer.
 2. The Lord Buddha and the writer.
 3. The writer and his readers.
 4. A man and the Lord Buddha.
5. The word "decline" (line 4) means _____.
 1. become weaker
 2. politely refuse
 3. is worse
 4. state officially
6. According to the writer, _____.
 1. the world is full of greedy people
 2. one should accept other people's abuse

3. insults under the guise of love are necessary sometimes
4. one should ignore abuse
7. When words hurt, one should ____ .
- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. hurl insults back | 2. disguise oneself |
| 3. ignore them | 4. offer a present to someone |
8. When one declines to accept someone's abuse, he _____ .
- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. is happier | 2. reduces his competence |
| 3. weakens his relationships | 4. becomes tense |
9. According to the Lord Buddha, if one insults another, he ____.
- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. will get the consequences | 2. degrades himself |
| 3. hurts the person with words | 4. All of above |
10. A ____ is something that you say or do which criticizes someone or makes them appear foolish.
- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| 1. fool play | 2. puzzle |
| 3. put-up job | 4. put-down |

Passage 6

It has happened in the West and was bound to happen in this part of the world sooner or later. And in Thailand it looks like it is happening already.

In this country, tradition dictates that family elders be respected and revered, but economic growth and social progress during recent years have eroded the ties that bind a family.

5

The traditional family pattern where three generations live under the same roof is fast disappearing. Many of those in the work force either leave their elders in the ancestral home and build their own house or commit the old folks to homes for the aged.

What confirms this unfortunate fate that has befallen today's elderly is 10 the fact that homes for the elderly are overcrowded and boast long waiting lists. And most recently, a private company trying to take advantage of the situation was offering the first village for the elderly where health care and recreation will be available for those who can afford it.

Exercise Choose the best answer for each question.

1. The best title for this passage is _____.
 1. Life After Death
 2. Where Have All the Flowers Gone?
 3. Homes of Last Resort
 4. Senior Citizens
2. According to the text, what is happening in Thailand already?
 1. Thailand is becoming a NIC.
 2. Family ties are being tightened.
 3. Family elders are not respects so much as before.
 4. Economic growth and social progress are causing many changes.
3. "Eroded" (line 5) means _____.
 1. worn away slowly
 2. popped off
 3. given up suddenly
 4. turned down
4. Which statement is not true according to the passage?
 1. The traditional family pattern is fast disappearing.
 2. The elderly are not revered as they were before.
 3. Tradition in the East never declines.
 4. More elders live in the home for the aged than ever before.
5. Why don't three generations of Thais live under the same roof as before?
 1. They cannot afford it.
 2. The younger generations leave home to find work.
 3. Family ties are weakening.

4. All of the above.
6. Who commit the old folks to homes for the aged?
1. The younger generation who can work.
 2. The Welfare Department.
 3. Their westernized relatives and young entrepreneurs.
 4. The traditional family.
7. “.that has befallen today’s elderly” (line 10) means-.”
1. has valued
 2. has shared
 3. has happened to
 4. has given in
8. According to the writer, what is happening to the elderly in Thai society is _____.
1. a good sign
 2. unfortunate
 3. encouraging
 4. a transition
9. What confirms that the Thai elders’ fate is going to be more and more like those in the West?
1. Homes for the elderly are overcrowded.
 2. There are long waiting lists for places in homes for the aged.
 3. A private company is offering the first village for the elderly.
 4. All of the above.
10. The elders need _____.
1. health care and recreation
 2. the respect of the young
 3. their relatives’ love and care
 4. All of the above

Passage 7

The average person uses 250 litres of water a day, only two litres of them for drinking. We cook with it, and clean ourselves, homes, and clothes

with it. It is as vital to our daily lives as the air we breathe and so common that we take it for granted, assuming it will last forever...But it won't. The way we are wasting water, we may soon run out of it. When we run out, there is no place to get more. 5

Picture life as it is lived in many cities of the world. Water is rationed. Bath days are restricted. There are prohibitions against watering gardens or washing cars. People must walk long distances to obtain water for daily use. Imagine a Thailand where it is no longer possible to throw water during the Songkran Festival. A whole way of life would disappear. 10

It cannot happen in Thailand? Yes it can and will in a shorter time than you would think, in as little as ten years, by some predictions. But you can ensure adequate water quantity and quality long into the future. How? Calculate the amount of water you need to do the job and then turn off the tap, saving the rest for the future. 15

The future may be uncertain but one thing is clear: its course lies in your hands. Think before you turn on the tap. Each time you use water, you set a new course for your future.

Exercise Choose the best answer for each question.

1. What is the passage about?

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. The Songkran Festival | 2. A New Course |
| 3. The Think Earth Project | 4. Water Conservation |

2. The average person drinks _____ of water a day.

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| 1. 250 litres | 2. 4 glasses |
| 3. 2 litres | 4. 5 bottles |

3. "it" (line 3) refers to _____.

- | | |
|------------|----------|
| 1. the air | 2. water |
|------------|----------|

3. cleaning
4. vitamin
4. "We take it for granted" (line 4) means ____.
1. we pay it no special attention
 2. we are allowed by nature to do so
 3. We are given permission
 4. None is correct
5. According to the writer, people in Thailand now use water-.
1. with caution
 2. carefully
 3. wastefully
 4. in small quantities
6. What happens in many cities where people run out of water?
1. People must walk long distance to obtain water.
 2. Water is rationed.
 3. Bath days are restricted.
 4. All are correct.
7. "Vital" (line 3) means ____.
1. survival
 2. important
 3. vivid
 4. visible
8. One can guess that this passage is a part of a / an-.
1. propaganda
 2. advertisement
 3. claim
 4. campaign
9. The writer asks the reader to do the following except ____.
1. calculate the amount of water he needs to do a job
 2. save water for the future
 3. conserve water
 4. turn off the tap now and forever
10. "A whole way of life would disappear" (line 11) means ____.
1. you will die soon due to the lack of water