Part II
Reading Comprehension
A paragraph is a group of sentences related to one central idea. Each paragraph has three necessary parts: a subject, a main idea, and support. To find these parts, you can ask six basic questions: who, what, where, when, why, and how.

What is the subject?

The subject is a topic of the paragraph. To find the subject, ask who or what the whole paragraph is about.

Reading Passage

Sleeping habits change with age. A newborn baby needs 18 to 20 hours of sleep a day. An older child generally needs 12 to 14 hours a day. The average adult needs only 7 to 9 hours. Older people need the least amount of sleep. A person over 65 generally needs only 5 to 7 hours to feel well rested.


The subject of the paragraph above is ________.

_______a. the problem of aging

_______b. the amount of sleep needed for go health

_______c. chances in sleep patterns with age

_______d. sleep

ANSWER: The subject is C.
Activity 1

Read each paragraph carefully. Then choose the best topic from the list printed below.

PARAGRAPH 1

The earliest times men have traveled on water. They made their settlements near water, and they used it for their animals and plants. Later on, the rivers and then the seas became man’s highways. Wars have been waged and treaties signed, and civilizations.


The best topic is: __________

a. Rivers And Seas as Highways
b. The Importance of Water to Man
c. Early Man’s Care of Animals and Plants
d. Civilizations of the Past

PARAGRAPH 2

The first Americans to reach California came by water to engage in the fur trade along the coast. Later interest turned to whaling and the trade in hides and tallow. While some of these men stayed on in California, their numbers were few. They didn’t cause the Mexican officials much worry.

(มีความจาก Gilbert, Doris Wilcox. The Turning in Reading, Prentice Hall, Inc. New Jersey 1969, p.28)
The best topic is _______________.

a. Early California Officials  
b. The Early Fur Traders of California  
c. Whaling off the California Coast  
d. The First Americans in California

What is the Main Idea?

The main idea of a paragraph is the most important thing the author wants you to know about the subject. It is expressed in a single statement which summarized all the ideas in the paragraph as well as the ideas in the supporting sentences.

*Read this passage again and find the main idea.*

Sleeping habits change with age. A newborn baby needs 18 to 20 hours of sleep a day. An older child generally needs 12 to 14 hours a day. The average adult needs only 7 to 9 hours. Older people need the least amount of sleep. A person over 65 generally needs only 5 to 7 hours to feel well rested.

Which is the main idea of the paragraph above?

_____ a. Babies need more sleep than adults do.  
_____ b. Sleeping habits change with age.  
_____ c. Elderly people need little sleep.  
_____ d. Proper sleep is important for good health.

*ANSWER: The main idea is b.*
What is the support?

The author supports the main idea by giving details that clarify, develop, and justify it. The most common types of support for the main idea are examples, facts, reasons, and testimony. Examples of each type of support follow. Underline the main idea in each paragraph.

Examples: Examples illustrate the main idea. (เป็นการ support main idea โดยใช้ตัวอย่าง)

Superstitious can have a great influence on people. For instance, there are those who will turn back from the trip if a black cat crosses their path.

Facts: Data that support the main idea may be in the form of historical facts, statistics, or scientific laws. (การ support โดยใช้ข้อมูลที่เป็นความจริง)

The largest waterfall in the world is Angel Falls in Venezuela. In fact, Angel Falls is more than fifteen times higher than Niagara.

ประโยคแรกเกี่ยวกับ main idea ข้ามขอความหมายค้างคว้า For instance คือขอความที่แสดงตัวอย่าง โดยที่ตัวอย่างนี้เองจะช่วยธิบายข้อความใน main idea ให้เข้าใจ
Reasons: Reasons are given to justify the main idea. (การ support โดยใช้ข้อสนับสนุนที่เป็นเหตุผล)

Unlike the American Indian, who had rain dances to bring rain, the people on the island of Java try to prevent rain. This is because the annual precipitation on Java is more than the natives want.

ประเยอะ main idea คือ the people on the island of Java try to prevent rain. แล้วมีการ support ประเยอะ main idea ด้วยการทำใช้ “เหตุ” (reason) มาช่วยเสริมข้อความใน main idea ให้มีน้ำหนักและเด่นมากขึ้น

Testimony: Opinions of people other than the author are used to support the main idea.

การนำความคิดเห็นของผู้อื่นมา support ประเยอะ main idea

A Harvard University study in 1976 reported what is believed to be enslavement among ants. According to biologist Bert Holldobler, after territorial battles the victors drag the captives back to their nest.

ประโยครอรู้ main idea อนุญาตให้ใช้ support ด้วยการนำความคิดของผู้อื่นมากล่าวไว้เพื่อใช้เป็นข้อสนับสนุนความคิดของผู้เขียน ขอให้นักศึกษาและนักเรียนร้อง Sleep ถึงความหนัก แล้วพิจารณาว่าอนุญาตหรือไม่ใช่วิธีการ support เรื่องแบบใดใน 4 ข้อต่อไปนี้คือ

a. examples  b. facts  c. Reasons  d. testimony

ANSWER: The type of support is b. (facts)
Activity 2

Finding the Main Idea

In school, children want the right to do their own thinking and to express themselves freely. They do not like to be governed by rules and regulations whose purpose they do not understand. But fundamentally neither do they like a school where there is so much freedom that there is disorder. They find fault with a teacher in whose room the children are disorderly. They also find fault with teachers who are unimaginative and a school where behavior is governed largely by understanding and good will afford the freedom that is most satisfying to both pupils and teachers.

(Edward Raygor, Alton L. Reading for the main idea, McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1969, p.28)

The main idea is ____________

____ a. Children want freedom.

____ b. A firm but understand teacher can stimulate children to behave properly even in their own homes.

____ c. Children would appreciate most a classroom in which a firm but liberal atmosphere exists.

____ d. Children do not like a classroom in which their teacher is extremely lenient.
Activity 3

Main idea and Support

Choose the main idea in each of the following paragraphs and write in the blank the type of support used.

PARAGRAPH 1

Many geographers now believe that 200 million years ago the east coast of South America fitted snugly into the west coast of Africa. The coasts of Norway, Scotland, and Ireland touched Greenland, and Greenland touched northern Canada. This means that the Earth once had a super continent. Geologists call it Pangea.

(The sample text is from Lenier, Minnette. Keys to College Success: Reading and Study Improvement, Prentice Hall, Englewoods Cliffs, N. J. 1978, P. 81)

The main idea is _______________

_____ a. Continents can move around.

_____ b. Geography can tell us many interesting facts.

_____ c. Greenland was not always an island.

_____ d. The Earth once had a supercontinent now called Pangea.

The type of support is __________________________
PARAGRAPH 2

Music is universal. It exists in some forms in every part of the world inhabited by man. Its existence for thousands of years is proven by references in mankind’s earliest writings, pictures, and artifacts. During all this time, and in all these places, music has developed in a multitude of different ways, each expressing local culture and historical era of its creators. The seemingly endless diversity of human music is illustrated by a brief list of musical forms: symphony, aboriginal folk song, military march, rock and roll, liturgical mass, electronic music, and music of the Orient, to name only a few.


The main idea is _______________________

_______ a. Some music is more sophisticated than other music.

_______ b. All cultures have music

_______ c. Music has always existed.

_______ d. Music is not always written down.

The type of support is ______________________.
Teaching is supposed to be a professional activity requiring long and complicated training as well as official certification. The act of teaching is looked upon as a flow of knowledge from a higher source to an empty container. The student’s role is one of receiving information; the teacher’s role is one of sending it. There is a clear distinction assumed between one who is supposed to know (and therefore not capable of being wrong) and another, usually younger person who is supposed not to know. However, teaching need not be the province of a special group or people nor need it be looked upon as technical skill. Teaching can be more like guiding and assisting than forcing information into a supposedly empty head. If you have a certain skill, you should be able to share it with someone. You do not have to get certified to convey what you know to someone else or to help them in their attempt to teach themselves. All of us, from the very youngest children to the oldest members of our cultures should come to realize our own potential as teachers. We can share what we know, however little it might be, with someone who has need of that knowledge or skill.

(ดัดแปลงจาก Clarke, Mark A. Reader’s Choice, The University of Michigan Press, 1994 P. 17)
Word Study

be supposed to = be planned or expected (ถูกกำหนดไว้หรือคาดการณ์)

professional (adj.) = relating to a person’s special training (เกี่ยวกับการฝึก)

complicated training = training with many parts which are difficult to understand (การฝึกอบรมที่มีชิ้นส่วนที่ยากต่อการเข้าใจ)

distinction (n) = differentiation between or among things (ความแตกต่าง)

province (n) = special interest, special responsibility (หน้าที่พิเศษ)

supposedly (adv.) = imaginarily, not definitely known to be true (สมมุติ, ไม่ได้รับการยืนยัน)

potential (adj.) = capable of developing into a particular kind of thing mention (มีศักยภาพ)

Comprehension Questions

Choose the appropriate answer of the following questions.

1. The main idea of the paragraph is __________________

   a. The author believes that it is not difficult to be a good teacher.

   b. The author believes that every person has the potential to be a teacher.

   c. The author believes that teaching is a professional activity requiring special training.

   d. The author believes that teaching is the flow of knowledge from a higher source to an empty container.
2. Before one becomes a teacher, he _____________.
   a. has been trained for a long time
   b. must like children first
   c. ought to have a technical skill
   d. should realize his own ability to teach

3. "A higher source" (Line 3) refers to _____________.
   a. good knowledge
   b. a place for high study
   c. one acting as a teacher
   d. a flow of knowledge

4. "an empty container" (line 3) refers to _____________.
   a. one who studies
   b. students without knowledge
   c. the student’s brain
   d. anything nothing in it

5. According to the passage, official certification is _______ for a teacher.
   a. not needed
   b. needed
   c. a member card
   d. useless

6. Anyone who is acting as a teacher is expected _____________.
   a. to have high capacity
   b. to force information to a student
   c. to be in a special group
   d. not to be wrong
7. It can be inferred that all people from the youngest to the oldest ________.
   a. can be both the receivers
   b. should care about culture
   c. help one another to improve the empty-headed
   d. should not to spend more time

8. Rather than forcing information to the receivers, a teacher should ________.
   a. guide and assist a learner
   b. convey his knowledge to a learner
   c. tell a learner to teach himself instead
   d. select what should be taught and not be taught

9. According to the author, it can be inferred that anyone who has a special skill
   ____________.
   a. could teach it to someone
   b. must study more to be an expert
   c. must not do wrong any more
   d. is expected to be a leader in a group

10. According to the passage, it can be concluded that ____________.
    a. the teacher’s role is one of sending it
    b. teaching is sharing what you know to someone
    c. although we have a little knowledge, it’s better than nothing
    d. giving information to someone who needs it is much better
Grammar Points

1. Passive Voice

ประโยค passive voice (ชื่อสัมพันธ์กับ active voice) หมายถึงประโยคที่มีโครงสร้างเป็น be + V-3 และแสดงความหมายว่า ประธานเป็นผู้ถูกกระทบ ประโยคชนิดนี้ใช้เมื่อต้องการเน้นถึงที่ถูกกระทบ หรือเมื่อไม่ต้องการแสดงว่าผู้กระทบคือใคร ประโยค passive ที่พบใน passage ข้างต้นนี้คือ

Teaching is supposed to be a professional activity.

The act of teaching is looked upon as a flow of knowledge from a higher source to an empty container.

ประโยค passive voice ที่เป็นประโยค active voice นั้นว่าถ้าเห็นชิ้นๆที่ถูกกระทบ และกัน โดยสามารถเขียนแสดงความหมายอย่างเดียวกัน กล่าวคือ เมื่อต้องการระบุผู้กระทบก็ย้า ที่ใช้ประโยค active voice เท่าที่ต้องการระบุผู้ถูกกระทบก็ย้าที่ให้ใช้ประโยค passive voice หลักจากนี้ในการเปลี่ยนจาก active voice มาเป็น passive voice มีตัวอย่าง

1. ถ้าحرفที่เป็นประโยค active voice มาเป็นประธานในประโยค passive voice
2. เลือก verb to be ให้สัมพันธ์กับประธาน และให้ตั้ง tense เลือกของประโยค active
3. เปลี่ยนกริยาใน active เป็นกริยาช่วง 3
4. ถ้าประธานใน active เป็นเครื่องใน passive โดยบางแห่งคุณพบที่ by

หมายเหตุ ประโยค active ที่จะเปลี่ยนเป็น passive voice ได้ จะต้องมีกริยาชนิด Vt เท่านั้น

ตัวอย่าง

1. Active voice: Someone has broken two of my dinner-plates.
   Passive voice: Two of my dinner-plates have been broken.

2. Active voice: They recommended me another doctor.
   Passive (1): I was recommended another doctor.
   Passive (2): Another doctor was recommended to me.
Activity 4

Turn the following sentences into the passive voice.

1. Somebody has invited you to lunch tomorrow.

2. People will forget it in a few years’ time.

3. No one has ever beaten him at tennis.

4. People must take these books away.

5. The police refused him a passport.

6. The others told the new students where to sit.

7. They asked us to be there at eight o’clock.

8. Someone taught him French and has him a dictionary.
2. How to use “Need”

2.1 The Regular Verb

a. With a noun or pronoun as its object:

e.g. Small Children need more sleep than grown-up people.

She needs a new hat, but she doesn’t need new shoes.

Do you need any help?

b. With a to-infinitive as its object

e.g. Small children need to sleep longer than grown-up people.

I will not need to worry when you are away on holidays.

NB. Need ใช้เป็นกริยาที่ตัวเดียว Gerund ได้ แต่จะเรียกว่า ประธานเป็นผู้กล่าวกระทำเสมอ หรือสามารถเขียนในรูป need + to-infinitive ได้ ดังนี้

\[
\text{Need + \text{V-ing } = \text{Need + to be } + \text{V-3}}
\]

e.g. My shoes need polishing. = My shoes need to be polished.

His car needs washing. = His car needs to be washed.
2.2 The Irregular Verb

Need นอกจากจะเป็นกริยาผันแปร (ดูข้อ 2.1 a, b) ถ้าใช้เป็นกริยาตัวอย่างได้โดยจะใช้ข้างในประโยคคำถาม และประโยคปฏิสัมพันธ์นั้น เมื่อ need อยู่ในส่วนกระยั้งจะไม่มีการติ่ง ได้ทุกทัศน์ เช่น

She need not take your advice. (Your advice need not be taken.)

You needn’t go yet, need you?

Need he go so soon?

2.3. Need used as a Noun

Need นำมาใช้เป็นคำนามได้โดยมีคำนำพหะ of ตามหลักเสมอ ประโยคนี้เห็นใน passage คือประโยคสูงท้ายดังนี้ We can share what we know, however little it might be, with someone who has need of that knowledge or skill.

Need of หรือ in need of เป็นวลีที่มีความหมายว่า อยู่ในสภาพที่ขาดแคลนมาก และจ้าเป็นคัดลงได้สำหรับขาดแคลนน้อยยิ่งมาก เช่น

My brother was badly in need of a new place to live.

(น้องชายของฉันจำเป็นต้องหาที่อยู่ใหม่)

She is all right now; there is no need to call a doctor.

(ตอนนี้เธอสบายดีแล้ว จึงไม่จำเป็นต้องติดต่อกับหมอเลยแล้ว)
Activity 5

Complete the following sentences by using “Need + Gerund” structure. Then convert it into “Need + infinitive” structure as in the example.

Example:  
His garden__________ (need tidy).

a. His garden needs tidying.

b. His garden needs to be tidied.

1. This car _______ (need clean).
   a. ___________________________________________________________________
   b. ___________________________________________________________________

2. Your old house ___________ (need repaint).
   a. ___________________________________________________________________
   b. ___________________________________________________________________

3. His hair ________ (need cut).
   a. ___________________________________________________________________
   b. ___________________________________________________________________

4. The puncture in the front tire of my bicycle _______________ (need repair).
   a. ___________________________________________________________________
   b. ___________________________________________________________________

5. Your final report ____________ (need type).
   a. ___________________________________________________________________
   b. ___________________________________________________________________