



Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

The sticking plaster

Nowadays, one of the most **(0) common** items found in the home is the sticking plaster.

Protecting a cut by covering the affected area with a piece of material that sticks to the skin may seem a rather **(1)**_____ idea, so it is perhaps surprising to learn that the plaster was not **(2)**_____ until about ninety years ago.

The person who thought **(3)**_____ the idea was Earle Dickson, an employee of the Johnson & Johnson company. Concerned that his wife Josephine sometimes **(4)**_____ accidents while cooking and doing other jobs, he used pieces of cotton material placed inside strips of sticky tape to cover her injuries. This prevented dirt getting into the **(5)**_____ and protected it from further harm as she did the **(6)**_____

Dickson's boss was impressed so in 1921 Johnson & Johnson put the new sticking plaster into **(7)**_____ under the brand name Band-Aid Sales at first were slow, but somebody at the company came up with the **(8)**_____ idea of giving free plasters to the Boy Scouts. This created publicity and from then **(9)**_____ it became a commercial success Dickson was **(10)**_____ within the company, eventually becoming a senior executive.

Although the basic design of the sticking plaster has remained similar to the **(11)**_____, there have been many developments in the materials used and it is now **(12)**_____ in a variety of shapes, sizes and colours. Total worldwide sales are believed to have exceeded 100 billion.

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|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. A. clear | B. evident | C. plain | D. obvious |
| 2. A. realised | B. imagined | C. invented | D. dreamt |
| 3. A. up | B. over | C. in | D. forward |
| 4. A. did | B. had | C. made | D. took |
| 5. A. wound | B. damage | C. breakage | D. tear |
| 6. A. homework | B. household | C. housework | D. homecoming |
| 7. A. creation | B. formation | C. production | D. construction |
| 8. A. keen | B. bright | C. eager | D. shining |
| 9. A. after | B. to | C. since | D. on |
| 10. A. raised | B. lifted | C. advanced | D. promoted |
| 11. A. model | B. original | C. sample | D. standard |
| 12. A. available | B. achievable | C. accessible | D. attainable |

