

AT A CROSSROADS

Reading Worksheet – Reading 1

Name: _____

Class: _____

Date: _____



Reading Text

During their hiking trip, Emma and her friends ventured into a dense forest in search of a beautiful mountain lake that they had heard about from other hikers. The journey was more challenging than they had expected, as the narrow trails were surrounded by tall trees, thick bushes, and fallen branches. After walking for nearly two hours, they arrived at a crossroads where two paths diverged in different directions. A weathered wooden signpost stood nearby, but its faded letters made it difficult to identify which path led to the lake. One trail appeared to lead toward a small village in the distance, while the other disappeared deeper into the forest. Unsure which direction to take, Emma took out her map and carefully compared it with the surrounding landmarks. Her friends offered different suggestions, and the group discussed the possible risks of choosing the wrong trail. After examining the map and considering their options, Emma concluded that the path leading deeper into the forest was more likely to take them to their destination. The group agreed with her decision and continued their journey, hoping that their careful choice would lead them to the lake. Looking back on the experience, Emma realized that a crossroads was not simply a place where two paths met, but also a moment when people had to evaluate their options, consider the consequences, and make a decision despite uncertainty.

A. Answer the following questions based on the reading passage !

1. Where were Emma and her friends going, and what were they looking for?
2. How long had the group been walking before they arrive at the crossroads?
3. Why was it difficult for the hikers to identify the correct path?
4. What did Emma do to help the group decide which path to take?
5. Why did the group discuss the possible risks of choosing the wrong trail?

B. Literal & Idiomatic Meaning

1. In the passage, what does the word *crossroads* literally mean? Is it used literally or idiomatically in the sentence below?

After walking for nearly two hours, they arrived at a crossroads where two paths diverged in different directions.

2. What is the idiomatic meaning of *at a crossroads* ?
3. Find the sentence in the passage that explains the figurative meaning of *crossroads*

C. Follow-up Communication

Discuss the following questions with a partner .

1. Have you ever faced a situation in which you had to choose between two important options? What did you decide?
2. What factors do you usually consider before making an important decision?
3. In what ways can a university student find themselves *at a crossroads* ?