

READING

6

IDENTIFY MAIN IDEAS

When we identify main ideas, we read a text to understand the key points the writer is making. We don't worry about details or things we don't understand.

A Read the text and answer the questions.

Street Entertainers and Their Strange Acts

Street entertainers do unusual things to entertain people. They stand on a box and sing, do a crazy performance with puppets on strings, or paint beautiful art on sidewalks.

Lucy, a street performer in New York, covers herself in gold paint and sits without moving for hours. "People wonder about the paint. They ask if it is dangerous, or hard to put it on." The paint Lucy uses doesn't hurt her skin. She wears clothes that are already painted, and the paint is easy to wash off her face.

Lillian is a dancer, also from New York. She is 73 years old. She has performed as a dancer for 50 years. She decided to do a funny trick as a street entertainer. "Everyone thinks I'm an old woman who can't walk." She meets a man on the street, and after a few seconds, they start dancing. Their routine is an amazing sight. The man spins Lillian around and even lifts her way up high! He holds her as she floats in the air for a few seconds. The audience looks on with great surprise.

Carlos, another native of New York, does a routine with fire spinners. He lights two torches while riding a unicycle. He spins them around and creates an awesome display of fire. "It's difficult to control the torches as they spin, and it takes practice." Carlos performs in a wide, open park, so there is no fire risk. The torches are big, and it takes Carlos a few seconds to blow them out.



1 What is the main idea of the text?
a an amazing street performance
b examples of interesting street performances

2 Who are the three street entertainers?
a a painter, a dancer, and a fire eater
b a woman who sits still, a dancer, and a fire artist

3 What can you say about the three performances?
a They are not something that everyone can do.
b They are all quite easy to do.

B Read the text again and choose *True* or *False*.

1	A big part of Lucy's performance is a change of appearance.	True / False
2	Lucy's performance is safe to do.	True / False
3	Lillian has trouble walking.	True / False
4	Lillian doesn't know the man she meets in the street.	True / False
5	Carlos' performance doesn't require practice.	True / False
6	Carlos performs in a small area.	True / False

VOCABULARY

A Write a word that means something similar to the words in **bold**. You have the first letter and the number of letters to help you.

- 1 "Wow! She looks like she's standing **still** in the air!" (f, 8) _____
- 2 "There's a really cool **act** you can do with those cards." (t, 5) _____
- 3 "It takes a lot of **air** to put out all those candles." (b, 4; o, 3) _____
- 4 "That is **not** safe to do, and you're going to hurt yourself." (d, 9) _____
- 5 "That bright orange **flame** is very, very warm!" (f, 4) _____
- 6 "Did you have a wooden **doll** with strings when you were a kid?" (p, 6) _____

B Complete these sentences with words from the box.

blow control dangerous perform puppet trick

- 1 Maria likes to _____ her dance routine for people on the street.
- 2 The kids are practicing their _____ show, but they are having trouble with the strings.
- 3 Luis knows a magic _____ in which he guesses things about people in a crowd.
- 4 How do you _____ a crowd on the street if it becomes very big?
- 5 Lisa knows how to _____ smoke into small perfect rings.
- 6 Is it _____ to be a street entertainer? What if someone tries to harm you?

GRAMMAR

A Complete the indefinite pronouns.

1 We use this for an unknown person:	_____ one or _____ body
2 We use this for all people:	_____ one or _____ body
3 We use this to refer to non-specific people:	_____ one or _____ body
4 We use this for no people at all:	_____ or _____ body
5 We use this for an unknown thing:	_____ thing
6 We use this to refer to non-specific things:	_____ thing
7 We use this when there isn't a thing at all:	_____ thing
8 We use this for all things:	_____ thing
9 We use this to refer to a non-specific place:	_____ where
10 We use this where there isn't a place at all:	_____ where
11 We use this for an unknown place:	_____ where
12 We use this for all places:	_____ where

B Complete each sentence with an indefinite pronoun.

- 1 They looked _____ for a place to watch the performance, but they couldn't find one.
- 2 They asked where the performance was taking place, but _____ could help them.
- 3 It's too noisy here. Let's go _____ that's quieter so we can talk.
- 4 I bought _____ for the magic trick: the hat, the rabbit, and the magic wand.

C  **3.1** Listen to the speakers and choose the indefinite pronoun that fits what he or she is saying.

- 1 Speaker 1 talks about going somewhere / anywhere.
- 2 Speaker 2 wants to see anyone / someone.
- 3 Speaker 3 is bringing something / everything with him.
- 4 Speaker 4 knows no one / everyone around her.
- 5 Speaker 5 likes something / nothing at the show.
- 6 Speaker 6 says the street entertainer performs somewhere / everywhere.