

READING ACTIVITY.

Read the following text. Then do the activities below.

ERIN BROCKOVICH

Erin Brockovich, an American woman, was born in Kansas. She studied at a business college for a year, then she moved to southern California and married a restaurant manager.

In 1990 when she was 30 years old, she was in a car accident. A law company helped her after the accident, and later she started to work for them.

Her job was to organize papers. One day Erin realized that there were lots of papers about some very sick people in a place called Hinkley. She started to look for more information about the town.

Erin worked very hard for five years. She visited some sick people in Hinkley and listened to their stories. All the people lived near a big *Pacific Gas and Electric* factory and she discovered that there was a chemical called chromium in their drinking water. She planned to help them.

Erin and her boss started a law case against the *Pacific Gas and Electric* company. The company wasn't happy about this. They didn't agree that the people were ill because of the water – but in 1996 the judge ordered *Pacific Gas and Electric* to pay the people of Hinkley \$500.000 each (there were 600 sick people, so that was about \$333 million in total). In 2000 there was a film about Erin Brockovich. Julia Roberts played Erin and the film was very successful. Now Erin is famous and she gives talks all over the world.

READ THE TEXT AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS.

1. What was Erin's job at the law company?
 - A. She was a lawyer
 - B. She was a manager
 - C. She organized papers
2. Why did Erin start to look for more information about Hinkley?
 - A. She had an accident
 - B. She noticed there were a lot of sick people
 - C. She hated *Pacific Gas and Electric* company
3. Where did the sick people in Hinkley live?
 - A. near a big *Pacific Gas and Electric* factory
 - B. In southern California
 - C. In Kansas
4. What was Erin's theory about why the people were sick?
 - A. Drinking water was contaminated
 - B. They ate poisoned food
 - C. They were exposed to radioactivity
5. How much money did *Pacific Gas and Electric* pay to people in Hinkley?
 - A. Six hundred dollars each
 - B. Five hundred thousand dollars each
 - C. Three hundred thirty-three million dollars each
6. What does Erin Brockovich do now?
 - A. She is a movie actress
 - B. She is a lawyer
 - C. She gives lectures

READ THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT AND WRITE TRUE OR FALSE

1. Erin Brockovich studied law at college **True / False**
2. Erin's job at the law company was to help sick people **True / False**
3. Erin found out that a lot of sick people lived near a big Pacific Gas and Electric factory **True / False**
4. People were sick because there was chromium in the drinking water **True / False**
5. Each of the 600 sick people got \$1 million from the company. **True / False**
6. Julia Roberts played Erin in a film about her. **True / False**

ORDER THE EVENTS IN JULIA'S LIFE. NUMBER THEM FROM 1 – 10.

- She discovered people were sick because of the water
- She visited the people in Hinkley
- She studied at a business college. **[1]**
- She realized a lot of people were sick in Hinkley
- She got married
- She won the case
- She had an accident
- She became famous
- She started to work for a law company
- She started a case against the company