

Worksheet B1

A. READING COMPREHENSION

I. Read the following messages. For each message mark the correct letter A, B or C.

To: Alex From: John
What time does your train arrive tomorrow? Can't pick you up if it's earlier than 2 p.m. as I'm attending a very important course at school – sorry.

- A. John will be able to see Alex early tomorrow morning B. Alex needs to arrive in time for the course tomorrow C. John can collect Alex from the station after 2 p.m. tomorrow

To: Maria From: Paul
Congratulations on your new job. Do you think they'd take me as well? Like you, I'm available until December. Could you tell them about me?

- A. Maria will start her new job in December B. Paul wants Maria to help him find employment C. Paul has offered to talk to Maria's boss about her

To: Ramon From: Nikki
Sorry I missed you yesterday. I'm not in at all next week, but the following Monday's ok. Why not see if Jo is free as well?

Nikki is suggesting that:

- A. Jo is unavailable for a meeting next week B. she will join Jo in a meeting next Monday C. Ramon should invite Jo to their next meeting

To: Sam From: Jill
Feeling any better? When you're back to school, remember to sign up for the drama club. Email me if you want any information about it.

Why has Jill emailed Sam?

- A. to give him some details B. to let him know that she's ill C. to remind him to do something

5) **To: Pierre From: Kate**
Jeanette is coming over next weekend so we're hiring a boat. Why not join us? We need you to translate and you could also bring some food.

Kate wants Pierre to:

- A. help people in the boat B. find a boat to hire
 communicate D. do the cooking on the holiday

II. Read the text. Decide if the sentences are true or false and put a T (true) or an F (false) in the boxes below.

Everybody knows that "The Simpsons" is one of the most popular American sitcoms. Few people realize that it is in fact a picture of middle-class American lifestyle in cartoon form. The 30-minute episodes are placed in the imaginary town of Springfield and all the events, conflicts and characters make fun of some aspects of American culture and society.

The show was created in 1989 and it is the longest running sitcom in American TV history. "The Simpsons Movie" was released in 2007 and was a huge success. The Simpsons series was named the best TV series of the century in 2000 and consequently the cartoon characters received their own star on Hollywood's Walk of Fame. Although it is an animated film, many human celebrities have appeared in various episodes: Bill Clinton, Tony Blair and Mel Gibson.



There are five Simpson family members. Homer is the father, who works as a safety inspector at a nuclear power plant, likes beer and often finds himself in embarrassing situations. He is married to Marge, who is the typical American middle-class housewife. They have three children: Bart, who is always getting into trouble, Lisa, who is extremely intelligent and on her way to becoming a vegetarian and a Buddhist and Maggie, known as the baby with a pacifier. The Simpsons are the proud owners of a dog and a cat, Santa's Little Helper and Snowball. Although the TV series spans over so many years, the characters do not show any signs of aging.

The show mocks at various aspects of present-day America. Since Homer works in a nuclear power plant, the environmental issue is brought up. Because Bart and Lisa are schoolchildren, flaws in the educational system are outlined. Family life, politics, religion and the entertainment industry are also subject to criticism.

Millions of people in over a hundred countries watch this show and Homer's famous catch phrase "D'oh!" has become so popular that it is now listed as an accepted word in the English language in most dictionaries.

1. "The Simpsons" is an animated TV series.
2. "The Simpsons" mirrors American realities.
3. All American culture is ridiculed in the series.
4. The full-length film was launched in 1989.
5. There is a Simpsons star on Hollywood's Walk of Fame.
6. At least three famous people were guest stars in the series.
7. Marge Simpson is unemployed.
8. The Simpsons do not have any pets.
9. Since 2007, Homer has been growing old in the show.
10. "The Simpsons" series has had an impact on the English language.

B. ENGLISH IN USE

I. Read the sentences below and decide which answer A, B or C best fits each blank. Circle the correct answer.

II. Finish the second sentence so that it means the same as the first. Use no more than three words.

1. Remember to buy flowers for Mom on your way back.
Don't flowers for Mom on your way back.

2. You won't be allowed out unless you finish your homework.
If finish your homework, you won't be allowed out.

3. Sarah said: "I will never forget that day."
Sarah said she that day.

4. Why don't you take up a sport?
You up a sport.

5. Shakespeare wrote *Romeo and Juliet*.
Romeo and Juliet Shakespeare.

III. Each of the following sentences contains a mistake. Find the mistakes and write the correct sentence.

1. Please help me with the luggages.
 2. My teacher is more nice than yours.
 3. How does she look like?
 4. It is a clock on the wall.
 5. Excuse me, how get I to the station?

IV. Fill in the correct word derived from the words in capital letters.

1. We went to watch a documentary at the German Institute. **CULTURE BEGIN**
2. Her birthday party will be at the of December.

3. It is to swim here because of the sharks.
4. The new car has a more engine.
5. His behaviour was quite He said it wasn't his fault and blamed it on the dog.

**DANGER
POWER
CHILD**

V. Underline the correct response.

1. A: The rock festival was great. I loved it.
B: So did I./ Neither did I.
 2. A: You can use my car while I'm away.
B: I'm afraid not./ That's very kind of you.
 3. A: What does your mother do?
B: She's fine./ She's a doctor.
 4. A: Can I borrow your pen?
B: Here you are./ You are here.
 5. A: These flowers are for you.
B: Oh, you mustn't./ Oh, you shouldn't have!

C. WRITING

Write a 150-word story ending with the following line: *And so, we'll never know what really happened.* Make sure you have a beginning, a body and an ending. Give your story a catchy title.