Reading Ex. > Firefighters Helping Others



A community helper always *assists* people in difficult situations. There are different situations where community helpers act and do some good to their communities. **These** can work in different *fields* such as medicine, education, agriculture, among others. Particularly, firefighters are among the most remarkable community helpers around the world.

In my community, for example, firefighters help citizens whose lives are at risk at home, on the street, at work, or inside a vehicle. **They** usually respond to emergency situations such as fires, car accidents, floods, earthquakes, and rail or air crashes. Firefighters also help people and animals who are scared, or sick, or lost. In many cases, they rescue trapped people and animals in difficult locations where **their** trucks cannot *reach*. Helicopters or boats can be used, too.

In an emergency, reaction time can be all. It is a matter of life and death. Therefore, firefighters require **it** when they decide to break a window, jump into a river, or perform other risky actions. Also, wearing fireproof clothes is necessary because these protect **them** from burning. Finally, firefighters need to be in good health to *carry* heavy equipment, work long hours, and keep people safe all time.

Being a community helper is not an easy job. A firefighter is a real example that people can feel *safe* thanks to the work of those who help others in emergency situations.

(Text created by Andrés Barón-Ávila) 230 words

A. Recognize referents. Choose the best answer (a-d).

1. The word **'these'** in the first paragraph refers to _____.
   a. different fields **b.** different situations **c.** community helpers **d.** people
2. The word **'they'** in the second paragraph refers to _____.
   a. lives **b.** citizens **c.** emergency situations **d.** firefighters
3. The word **'their'** in the second paragraph refers to _____.
   a. firefighters **b.** many cases **c.** people and animals **d.** difficult locations
4. The word **'it'** in the third paragraph refers to _____.
   a. emergency **b.** reaction time **c.** life and death **d.** use
5. The word **'them'** in the third paragraph refers to _____.
   a. firefighters **b.** risky actions **c.** these protect **d.** fireproof clothes

B. Understanding vocabulary from context. Choose the best answer (a-d).

6. The word *'assists'* in the first paragraph is closest in meaning to _____.
   a. protects **b.** works with **c.** participates **d.** moves
7. The word *'fields'* in the first paragraph is closest in meaning to _____.
   a. places **b.** occupations **c.** workers **d.** disciplines
8. The word *'reach'* in the second paragraph is closest in meaning to _____.
   a. work **b.** arrive at **c.** contact with **d.** pass
9. The word *'carry'* in the third paragraph is closest in meaning to _____.
   a. use **b.** adjust **c.** transport **d.** pack
10. The word *'safe'* in the fourth paragraph is closest in meaning to _____.
    a. protected **b.** fantastic **c.** careful **d.** happy

Level A2

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