PROGRESS TEST 1

SECTION 1

Simple solutions for big problems

A Can simple ideas change the world? They just might, one new idea at a time. Creative designers and scientists are working to invent products for communities in developing countries. Some of their innovations might solve even the biggest problems, such as improving access to clean water and healthcare.

WATER CONTAINER

B Clean drinking water is one of the world's most valuable resources. Without it, people get sick and die. But getting clean water can be difficult for many people in developing countries. In poor, rural areas, people often have to walk several kilometers to get clean water for cooking, cleaning, and drinking. They usually have to carry heavy containers of water on their heads. Most of them make several trips each day to collect water. This is difficult work, especially for women and children.

C A South African engineer, Piet Hendrikse, came up with a simple and inexpensive solution to the problem of carrying water: the Q Drum. The Q Drum stores up to 50 liters of water in a rolling container. Made of strong plastic material, it can roll over any kind of ground, no matter how rough. Anyone—even young children—can easily pull the drum with an attached rope. With this innovation, people in developing countries can carry more clean water per journey with less effort.

INFANT WARMER

D More than 20 million low-birthweight babies are born every year, many of them in developing countries. These babies weigh less than 2.5 kilograms when they're born. Low-birthweight babies often have difficulty staying warm. Many get too cold and die.

E To solve this problem, American entrepreneur Jane Chen and a team of people invented the Embrace infant warmer. It looks like a small sleeping bag and is specially designed to help keep babies warm. It's filled with wax that easily heats up to 37 degrees Celsius—the normal human body temperature.[1] Another benefit of the Embrace infant warmer is that it can work without electricity. It's an easy-to-use, low-cost solution. To date, this simple invention has helped save more than 450,000 babies worldwide.

▲ Embrace infant warmer

LIVEWORKSHEETS

CLAY FLOOR

F More than one billion people around the world have dirt floors in their homes. Dirt floors are hard to clean, so a portion of anything dropped on the floor stays on it. As a result, there are a lot of germs and parasites[2] in the floors, which can lead to disease for the people living in the homes. The best flooring option is concrete, but concrete is expensive. In Rwanda—where 75 percent of the population has dirt floors—a family would have to pay more than two months' of their income for a concrete floor.

G Gayatri Datar, a graduate from Stanford Business School, wanted to find a cheaper and healthier flooring alternative. She started a nonprofit[3] called EarthEnable. The company sells a floor made of locally sourced clay, pebbles,[4] and sand. It costs about $70 per home—that's 25 percent of the cost of concrete. So far, EarthEnable has installed flooring in over 15,000 homes in Rwanda. The floors are already saving people's lives, dramatically reducing disease and parasitic infections. Soon, EarthEnable hopes to install new floors in Uganda and Kenya, too.

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[1] Your **body temperature** is how hot or cold your body is.
[2] A **parasite** is a small animal or plant that lives inside or on a larger animal or plant, causing it some harm.
[3] A **nonprofit** is a company that has goals other than making money for its owners.
[4] Pebbles are very small stones.

Q 1 – 4. Read the passage and answer the following questions.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1. In developing countries, what is the traditional way of carrying water?

_____

2. At what weight are babies considered low birthweight?

_____

3. What is the EarthEnable floor made of?

_____

4. List two things the Q Drum, infant warmer, and EarthEnable floor have in common.

_____

Q 5 – 9. Match the descriptions (1–5) with the correct innovation (A or B).

A. Q Drum

B. Embrace Infant Warmer

C. Earthenable

5.___ This innovation was designed to help people transport a vital resource more efficiently over long distances.

6.___ It provides a low-cost medical solution for newborns who struggle to regulate their body temperature.

7. ___ This invention can be used on rough ground and is easy for even young children to operate.

8. ___ It saves lives by maintaining a stable temperature without relying on electricity.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

9. ___ This product can carry a large quantity of water in a simple, rolling container.

Reading 2

LIVEWORKSHEETS

College Courses

A Beckford

This city college has many part-time students and is well-known for its courses in European languages and medicine. All courses last four years instead of the normal three. There is no college accommodation but there are good sports facilities, including a recently built swimming pool, on site.

B Hartfield

The college, founded in 1798, is situated in beautiful countryside. It offers a range of full and part-time courses and is well-known for its courses in education, languages and physics. There are no sports facilities but accommodation is available for all new students.

C Alton

This is a new college in the city centre. There are no sports facilities but accommodation is provided on site and is available for all new students. There is a big business school here, offering various management courses, and also a recently built languages department. All courses are full-time.

D Kingston

The college, which dates from the seventeenth century, is three minutes from the city centre. There are no sports facilities on site, but almost 1,000 student flats are provided by the college. The courses in medicine, physics and management studies are popular with students and are available on a full or part-time basis.

E Garton

This traditional old college is in beautiful countryside on the west coast and is popular for its wide range of sports facilities. It is well-known for its courses in management studies and science. Most courses are available on a full or part-time basis. All full-time students live on site.

F Middleton

The college is in the very heart of the city. There is no student accommodation but the college offers an excellent, newly built sports centre. There is a full range of science courses, as well as courses in education and business. All courses are full-time and last three to four years.

G Hampton

This modern college, in the centre of the city, offers both full and part-time courses. Its courses in modern languages and medicine are very popular. There are no sports facilities on site but over 700 student rooms are available and all first-year students qualify for accommodation.

H *Langford*

This college, which was built in the 1990s, is situated in beautiful green fields, five kilometres from Hebden village. It has a large sports centre and offers comfortable student accommodation. It is a popular college, particularly for its teacher training and business courses.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

The people below all want to do a college course.
On the opposite page there are descriptions of eight colleges.
Decide which college would be the most suitable for the following people.
For Questions **9-13** mark the correct letter (**A–H**) on your answer sheet.

9

Maria is 19 years old and wants to qualify as a doctor. She wants to attend an older college and it is important to her that the college also provides accommodation.

10

Henry is a 20-year-old who would like to do management studies at a modern, city centre college. He is looking for a college that will offer him accommodation for his first year.

11

Anna is a 25-year-old who wants to do a degree course in physics. She would like to attend a college with good sports facilities that is situated in a city centre.

12

Philip is an 18-year-old who would like to prepare for a career in education. He is looking for a modern college in the countryside that offers good sports facilities.

13

Monica is a 30-year-old secretary who wants to study German part-time at college. She is looking for a college with sports facilities but doesn't need accommodation.

LIVEWORKSHEETS