

Reading Selection



課文動畫
課文朗讀

Language Highlight

While you are reading the passage, mark the time expressions (e.g. "One day" at the beginning of the second paragraph). These expressions can help you understand the order in which things happened in the passage.

1 **A**da Ríos grew up in a **slum*** near the **Cateura landfill*** in **Paraguay***. Every morning, garbage trucks rolled into the landfill and **unloaded*** **tons of** trash. People in the slum then **looked** through the trash **for** things 5 they could recycle or sell. This was how they **made a living**, and Ada believed her future would be no different.

One day, Ada's grandma saw a poster that said "Free

Unusual Orchestras in the World

The Vegetable Orchestra

Austria Country United States

1998 Founding Year 2004

various vegetables

Instruments

typewriters

The orchestra aims to explore the wide variety of ways in which vegetables can be used to make music.

Reason

The orchestra makes a soup with the remaining vegetables and serves it to the audience after each performance.

Fun Fact

Boston Typewriter Orchestra

The idea of playing typewriters started when an artist jokingly declared himself the conductor of a typewriter orchestra after receiving a toy typewriter as a gift.

The members dress up as office workers for each performance.



music lessons from Mr. Chávez.” Ada’s grandma knew Ada loved music, so she **applied**² for Ada. Ada really **looked** forward to the lessons. She wanted to learn how to play the violin and **be carried away** by the power of music.

Ada and some other children took Mr. Chávez’s lessons, but there were not enough **instruments**³. Buying new ones was impossible, since a violin cost more than a local house! Fortunately, a garbage picker who was good at using tools learned about their trouble and tried to use what was at hand. By putting together metal cans, forks, and other items from the landfill, the garbage picker **somewhat**⁴ managed to make various instruments. They weren’t very traditional and **barely**⁵ cost anything, but to these children they were **invaluable**⁶.

At first, each child played in his or her own way, and only **screeches*** **came out of** the instruments. Some kids quit the music lessons after a few weeks, but with Mr. Chávez’s **encouragement**⁷, Ada and the others kept practicing, sometimes for several hours a day. Slowly, their musical skills improved. They began to hit all the right notes and played together **harmoniously***. Finally, they formed the “Recycled **Orchestra***.” After the orchestra

Reading Strategy

Identifying Text

Structure—Narrative

- What is the climax of the story?
 (A) People in the slum made a living by selling recycled items.
 (B) The children didn’t have enough instruments for the music lessons.
 (C) Only screeches came out of the children’s instruments at first.
 (D) Ada and her friends felt dizzy and didn’t know what to do on stage in front of 35,000 people.

7

Note the Details

- What did Ada’s grandma do after she saw a poster for free music lessons?
- How did the children get enough musical instruments?

3. Name three results of Ada and her friends' overseas tours.

30 performed several local **concerts**⁸, they attracted wider attention and even **received**⁹ invitations to perform abroad. Ada and the other members visited different countries. The world **dazzled**¹⁰ them just as they dazzled the world.

Four years later, a world-famous rock band saw the 35 children's **potential**¹¹ and invited the orchestra to tour with them. At their first concert with the band, Ada and her friends nervously stepped on stage in front of nearly 35,000 people. They saw **glaring*** lights and heard **screams**¹² of excitement. These children felt **dizzy**¹³ and didn't know 40 what to do. However, **as soon as** the orchestra began to play, everyone cheered. When Ada and her friends bowed to the crowd at the end, they knew that the performance was a triumph.

Touring **overseas**¹⁴ changed their lives in other ways, 45 too. With the money they earned, Ada and her friends had larger, safer houses built for their families. More importantly, they showed the locals that children's dreams didn't have to end up in the trash. Through **determination**¹⁵ and hard work, these children were able to create beauty out 50 of garbage and have **faith**¹⁶ in their abilities to **pursue**¹⁷ greater things.

—Written by Elena Yu

“**They showed the locals that children’s dreams didn’t have to end up in the trash.**”



Reading Comprehension

Based on the information in the passage, which TWO would most likely be Ada's social media posts?

(A)



Ugh, Mom's making me learn the violin. 😞
🎻 Not my thing at all. Can't we just stick to music that doesn't have bows and strings?
#NotAMusicPerson #ViolinProtest

(B)



Today's violin class was pure joy! 🎻 From a landfill to the world stage, music totally changed our lives. 🎉
#MusicForChange

7

(C)



Overseas tour = dream come true! 🌎🌟
Playing violin in front of 35,000 people—unreal! Grateful for the music that transformed our lives. 🎻❤️
#MusicMagic

(D)



This “violin” the guy made is a joke. 😞🎻
Practicing with it is a nightmare. Seriously, what's the point?
#NotARealInstrument