Reading
Module 1

Complete the words

Beneath the bustling streets of modern metropolitan areas lies a complex web of essential utili__ __ __ __. This subterranean infrastruc__ __ __ __ includes water networks, electr__ __ __ __ grids, and fiber optic cables. Before initiating new construction projects, city engineers must caref__ __ __ __ map these hid__ __ __ systems to preve__ __ accidental disruptions. Advanced ground-penetrating radar allows technic__ __ __ __ to identify buried pipe__ __ __ __ __ without excavat__ __ __ the surface. By creating preci__ __ digital models of these underground networks, municipalities can safely expand their transit systems and commercial districts while maintaining uninterrupted services for their growing populations.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Read an email

Subject: Welcome to the Oakville Maker Collab!

Dear Ms. Lin,

Welcome to the Oakville Maker Collab! We are thrilled that you have joined our community of local hobbyists, DIY enthusiasts, and creators. Whether you are an experienced woodworker or just starting to learn about 3D printing, our facility is equipped to help you bring your personal projects to life.

As an active member, you now have full entry to our main workshop during regular operating hours (Tuesday through Sunday, 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM). Your membership also includes a weekly email digest featuring upcoming project showcases, safety reminders, and a schedule of our beginner-friendly weekend tutorials. Additionally, you can use our digital reservation system to book specialized equipment, such as the laser cutter or the heavy-duty sewing machines, up to two weeks in advance.

Before your first visit, we require all new members to complete a brief online safety module. Please log in to your member portal using the temporary credentials provided in your receipt, watch the 15-minute safety video, and sign the digital waiver. Once this is done, your electronic key fob will be automatically activated, allowing you to scan into the building.

We look forward to seeing what you create! If you need technical support with your online account, please reply directly to this email.

Warmly,
The Oakville Maker Collab Team

11. What must Ms. Lin do before she can enter the building for the first time?

a) Book specialized equipment using the digital reservation system.
b) Complete an online safety module and sign a waiver.
c) Attend a beginner-friendly weekend tutorial in person.
d) Reply to the welcome email with a summary of her project ideas.

12. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a benefit of the membership?

a) The ability to reserve specialized tools ahead of time
b) Free materials for completing personal projects
c) A weekly email containing safety reminders and schedules
d) Entry to the main workshop six days a week

13. What can be inferred about the Oakville Maker Collab facility?

a) It is closed on Mondays.
b) It is strictly for experienced creators and professionals.
c) It requires members to bring their own sewing machines.
d) It provides in-person technical support for member accounts

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Read the announcement and answer the questions.

Notice: Spring Green Campus Swap Market

Date: Friday, May 10, 2024
Time: 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Location: Student Union Quad (Rain location: University Gymnasium)

Hosted by the Oakridge University Office of Sustainability, the Spring Green Campus Swap Market is a fun, eco-friendly way to refresh your wardrobe, find dorm essentials, and reduce campus waste before the semester ends!

How it works:
• Drop off your gently used clothing, textbooks, small electronics, and room decor at the Sustainability Center by Wednesday, May 8.
• For every item you donate, you will receive one "Swap Token."
• Bring your Swap Tokens to the market on Friday to exchange them for new-to-you items.
• Don't have anything to donate? No problem! Students can also purchase items on the day of the event for $2 each, with all proceeds going toward the campus community garden.

Item Guidelines:
Please ensure all clothing is washed and free of stains or holes. Electronics must be in working condition. We cannot accept large furniture items, undergarments, or opened food products.

Volunteer Opportunities:
We need student volunteers to help sort items, manage the checkout tables, and assist with cleanup. Volunteers who work a minimum two-hour shift will receive early access to the market at 9:00 AM and three bonus Swap Tokens. Sign up at www.oakridge.edu/sustainability/volunteer.

14. How can students participate in the Swap Market if they do not have any items to donate?

a) By trading their textbooks directly with other students
b) By paying two dollars for each item they wish to take
c) By dropping off items at the Sustainability Center on Wednesday
d) By making a monetary donation to the community garden online

15. According to the item guidelines, which of the following items would NOT be accepted for the swap?

a) A gently used textbook
b) A working desk lamp
c) A clean winter jacket
d) A large wooden bookshelf

16. What is one benefit of volunteering for a two-hour shift?

a) Getting to choose items before the general public arrives
b) Earning a guaranteed plot in the campus community garden
c) Receiving free dorm essentials delivered directly to their room
d) Being completely exempt from paying any standard admission fees

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Academic reading

Active Design

1 Daily physical activity is an important part of a healthy lifestyle. For this reason, many architects and designers are working to create buildings that encourage people to make exercise a part of their ordinary routine. The movement to promote healthy activity through architecture is called active design. It began in 1998 as part of a university public health program, and it has since gained popularity in cities around the world. Active design uses a number of techniques to encourage the occupants of a building to be more active.

2 One of the most important strategies of active design is inspiring people to make walking part of their routine. A particularly successful tool for promoting walking is the skip-stop elevator. These elevators stop only on every second or third floor, leaving riders to take the stairs in order to reach their destination. Another strategy of active design is to make stairs more pleasant and inviting. Instead of creating dim stairwells that are located in isolated parts of buildings, active design uses well lit and centrally placed stairs to encourage more foot traffic. Skip-stop elevators and appealing stair design are both effective tools of active design because they offer incentive and opportunity for exercise. In fact, researchers studying a building that employs both skip-stop elevators and more attractive stair design said that 70 percent of building occupants reported using the stairs every day.

3 Active design encourages physical activity using not only the interior features of a building, but the relationship between a building and its surroundings as well. A building that employs active design may integrate outdoor space in order to make the environment more engaging and promote physical activity. Some elements that architects use to incorporate the exterior with the interior are glass walls, interior gardens or park spaces, and courtyards with open ceilings, all of which de-emphasize the boundaries between inside and outside. These elements make the building more physically and mentally invigorating. Similarly, by increasing the number of entrances and exits to a building, architects can help keep a building's users interested in their surroundings by providing a variety of routes for them to use. If people continue to be stimulated by new sights or experiences, they are less likely to choose the quickest and easiest path to their destination and may instead choose a more physically challenging route.

17. According to paragraph 1, all of the following are true about active design EXCEPT:
    a) It began at the end of the twentieth century.
    b) Promoting physical activity is its goal.
    c) Architects and medical professionals created it.
    d) It is becoming increasingly common in cities.

18. Why does the author discuss dim stairwells in paragraph 2?
    a) To demonstrate the differences between elevator and stairwell design
    b) To make a point about why people don't use the stairs often
    c) To describe one advantage of using skip-stop elevators in buildings
    d) To argue that skip-stop elevators may lead to design failures

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19. According to paragraph 3, which of the following is NOT a way that architects eliminate the boundary between indoor and outdoor spaces?
    a) Creating spaces with open ceilings
    b) Using see-through materials
    c) Creating more routes for entering and exiting
    d) Building gardens inside the building

20. How does paragraph 2 relate to paragraph 3 in the passage?
    a) Paragraph 2 describes an early model of a design discussed in paragraph 3.
    b) Paragraph 3 argues about the effectiveness of the technique from paragraph 2.
    c) Paragraph 2 explains a technique, and paragraph 3 gives examples of how it is used.
    d) Paragraph 3 introduces a different strategy than the one discussed in paragraph 2.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Module 2

Complete the words

The study of paleomagnetism examines the record of Earth's magnetic field preserved in igneous rocks. When magma coo__ __ at mid-ocean rid__ __ __, iron-rich mine__ __ __ __ align thems__ __ __ __ __ with the prevailing magnetic po__ __. Once the ro__ __ solidifies, th__ __ alignment is loc__ __ __ in pla__ __, creating a perma__ __ __ __ historical record. Because the planet's magnetic field undergoes periodic reversals, the seafloor acts like a giant tape recorder. Scientists map these alternating bands of normal and reversed polarity to track tectonic plate movement.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Read in daily life

From: Midtown Neighborhood Association (info@midtownneighbors.org)
To: Midtown Residents List (residents@midtownneighbors.org)
Subject: Join Us for the First Annual Midtown Repair Café!

Dear Residents,

Before you throw away that broken toaster or torn jacket, bring it to the Midtown Repair Café! On Saturday, October 22nd, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, we are hosting a free community event at the Oak Street Community Center.

Our goal is to reduce waste and teach valuable maintenance skills. Volunteer fixers will be stationed at different tables to help you repair small household appliances, bicycles, clothing, and toys. We provide the tools and basic materials, like thread, glue, and wire. However, if your item requires a specific replacement part—such as a specialized bicycle tire tube or a unique vacuum filter—please purchase it beforehand and bring it with you.

Wait times may vary depending on attendance, so we will offer complimentary coffee and pastries in the waiting area. If you are handy with electronics or sewing and would like to volunteer as a fixer, please reply to this email by Wednesday.

We look forward to fixing things together!

Sincerely,
The Midtown Neighborhood Association

11. What are attendees expected to bring if their item needs a specialized replacement component?

a) Basic repair materials like glue and wire
b) The specific part needed for the repair
c) Their own set of hand tools
d) Complimentary food and drinks

12. What can be inferred about the volunteer fixers at the event?

a) They will be repairing large pieces of wooden furniture.
b) They expect to be paid for their repair services.
c) They possess practical skills in areas like sewing or electronics.
d) They are required to bring their own tools to the center.

13. Why does the author mention 'complimentary coffee and pastries'?

a) To explain how the neighborhood association raised money for the event
b) To encourage attendees to arrive before 10:00 AM
c) To highlight a convenience provided for people who might have to wait
d) To list the items that volunteers are required to donate

LIVEWORKSHEETS

From: Mark Davis (mark.davis@email.com)
To: Chloe Sutton (chloe.sutton@email.com)
Subject: Northside Tool Library Membership & Upcoming Demo

Hi Chloe,

I remember you mentioning last week that you wanted to fix up your patio furniture but didn't want to buy an expensive power sander. Have you heard of the Northside Tool Library? It just opened up right next to the community center.

For an annual suggested donation of $25, members can check out anything from electric drills to heavy-duty gardening equipment for up to seven days at a time. It saves so much money and storage space!

They are hosting an open house this Sunday at 2:00 PM to demonstrate how the borrowing system works and to show off their new woodworking inventory. If you attend in person, they waive the usual application processing time, meaning you can walk out with a tool the very same day.

Let me know if you want to walk over there together!

Best,
Mark

14. What can be inferred about Chloe from the email?

a) She is hoping to purchase brand-new patio furniture soon.
b) She currently lacks the equipment needed for a home improvement task.
c) She has a large amount of extra storage space in her apartment.
d) She previously asked Mark if she could borrow his power sander.

15. According to the email, what is one benefit of attending the open house on Sunday?

a) Attendees receive a free power sander to keep.
b) Attendees do not have to pay the standard annual donation.
c) Attendees can borrow a tool immediately without the standard processing wait.
d) Attendees are allowed to keep borrowed items for longer than seven days.

16. Why does Mark mention 'storage space' in the second paragraph?

a) To emphasize an additional advantage of using the tool library instead of buying tools
b) To warn Chloe that the library only accepts donations of small, easy-to-store items
c) To explain why the community center had to relocate the tool library
d) To suggest that Chloe needs to clean out her patio before fixing her furniture

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Academic reading

The Climate of the Atlantic Archipelago

1 The Atlantic Archipelago is a group of islands located northwest of continental Europe. The largest island in the archipelago, Great Britain, covers nearly 90 thousand square miles and is one of the most heavily populated islands in the world, with nearly 60 million inhabitants. Ireland, located west of Great Britain, is the second largest island in the group, with a land area of about 32 thousand square miles and a population of 6.4 million. In addition to the two large islands, the Atlantic Archipelago consists of more than six thousand smaller islands. The entire archipelago covers more than 120 square miles, and its location plays a large role in the climate of the region.

2 The latitude of the Atlantic Archipelago undoubtedly influences its climate. Latitude refers to how far north or south a place is in relation to the equator, the imaginary line that divides the north half of the world from the south half Typically, the farther away from the equator a location is, the weaker the intensity of sunlight in that area. The Atlantic Archipelago is about 54 degrees north of the equator, similar to Russia and Canada. Yet, despite their northern location, the islands have a temperate marine climate that ranges from 32 degrees Fahrenheit in the winter to 90 degrees Fahrenheit in the summer.

3 The islands enjoy mild temperatures largely because of their proximity to the ocean. Ocean water heats up and cools down more slowly than land, so areas by the coast usually experience less extreme temperature swings in summers and winters. Furthermore, the Atlantic Archipelago benefits from being near the Gulf Stream. The Gulf Stream is an ocean current that begins in the Gulf of Mexico, flows up the east coast of North America, then crosses the Atlantic Ocean and reaches the Atlantic Archipelago. The water transported by the Gulf Stream ranges in temperature from 45-72 degrees, which is about twice as warm as the water surrounding the Gulf Stream. The islands in the Atlantic Archipelago constantly receive this warm ocean water from the Gulf Stream, which makes the climate about 10 degrees warmer than it would be otherwise.

17. Based on the information in paragraph 2, which of the following can be inferred about sunlight?
    a) Its intensity is not affected by latitude.
    b) Areas north of the equator receive less sunlight.
    c) It is most intense near the equator.
    d) Places near the ocean receive more sunlight.

18. The word ternperate in the passage is closest in meaning to
    a) Moderate.
    b) Extreme.
    c) Varying.
    d) Humid.

19. The ward proximity in the passage is closest in meaning to

LIVEWORKSHEETS

a) Dependence.
b) Introduction.
c) Significance.
d) Closeness.

20. Which of the following can be inferred about the Gulf Stream?
    a) It leads to warm water temperatures in the Gulf of Mexico.
    b) It keeps its warmth as it crosses the Atlantic Ocean.
    c) It carries cooler waters during the summer.
    d) It ends when it reaches the Atlantic Archipelago.

LIVEWORKSHEETS