



Pre-Reading Activities

A: Discussion

In pairs answer these questions.

1. How do people usually feel when they smile?
2. Do you smile at strangers? Why or why not?
3. If someone you don't know smiles at you, do you smile back at them? Why or why not?



B: Vocabulary

Match the correct words with their meanings.

1. **Strangers**...
2. A **thankless task** is...
3. **Psychology** is...
4. The **setting** is...
5. A **mixed** population is...
6. A **mobile** population is...

- a. ...the place where something happens.
- b. ...a job which is hard work and you don't get any thanks or benefits for doing it.
- c. ...a population in which many of the people move around a lot.
- d. ...when there are many different types of people living in the same area.
- e. ...a subject which studies how the mind works and how people behave.
- f. ...are people you don't know.

Reading Activities

A: Questions

Your class is going to divide into two groups, A and B. Your teacher will give you a worksheet. Work with members of your group and put the words into the correct order to form questions.

B: Information Exchange

Your teacher is going to give you a worksheet with today's article. There are some gaps in it. Using your questions, work with a member from the other group and ask and answer questions to fill in the gaps in your article.

C: True or False

Read the article again and decide if the statements below are true **T** or false **F**.

1. People in Glasgow smile more than people in Edinburgh.
2. People in Nottingham smile less than people in Edinburgh.
3. People in Bristol smile more than people in London.
4. People in Bristol smile less than people in Glasgow.
5. People in London smile more than people in Nottingham.



D: Check Your Understanding

Read the last sentence from today's article again and then answer the question.

"With a population of 7 million, which is very mixed and very mobile, it is difficult to feel a sense of **community** with other Londoners."

community - friendship between different people or groups; a feeling of having something in common with other people

Which of the things below is true for London?

1. It is a very big city.
2. It is a small city.
3. All the same kind of people live there.
4. There are many different kinds of people living there.
5. People move a lot in London.
6. Most people live in the same place.
7. People do not feel that they belong together with other Londoners.
8. It is a friendly place where people feel they belong together.

E: Think About It...

In small groups, discuss the questions below.

1. Do you think people in some cities are friendlier than in other cities?
2. Why do you think some people smile more in some cities and less in other cities?
3. In what ways do people show they are friendly in your country?
4. Do other people think your town, city or country is friendly?
5. Do you think it is important to have a sense of community?

Post-Reading Activities

You may do one or more of these.

A: Language

Here are two paragraphs from today's article. Fill in the gaps with **a** / **an** / **the** or nothing (-). Don't look back at the article until you have finished!

a. LONDON (Reuters Health) - Smiling at **(1)**___ strangers can be **(2)**___ thankless task in some British cities, where **(3)**___ survey shows not many people smile back.

b. **(4)**___ psychology students spent **(5)**___ hour smiling at 100 strangers in **(6)**___ 14 British cities and only 4% of people in **(7)**___ Edinburgh, **(8)**___ 12% in Nottingham and 18% in **(9)**___ London returned **(10)**___ students' smiles.

B: Pair Crossword

Your teacher is going to divide the class into two groups and give you half of a crossword. You are going to explain these words in English to a partner from the other group. Think about how to explain the words on your crossword. Now find a partner from the other group. One of you is **Student A**, the other is **Student B**. Work together and do the crossword. Ask and answer questions with your partner. **Do not show the other person your words!**

C: Research Project

Find out how friendly people in your area are!

Work in pairs - one person is to smile at strangers for ten minutes while the other student is to note down how many people return the smile. Compare your results with the class.



TEACHERS' NOTES AND ANSWER KEY

Pre-Reading Activities

A: Discussion - Notes

You could do this activity as a lead-in class discussion.

B: Vocabulary - Answers

1. f, 2. b, 3. e, 4. a, 5. d, 6. c.

Reading Activities

A: Questions - Notes

Divide the class into groups 'A' and 'B' and hand out the appropriate worksheet. Ask the students to put the words into the correct order to form questions. Then ask them to check their answers with their group. Circulate and go over the answers with each group.

A: Questions - Worksheets To Be Copied And Given To Students

Group A

1. thankless / what / a / task / can / be / ?
3. who / smiling / spent / hour / at / strangers / an / ?
5. Bristol / how / smile / much / back / of / of / the / people / time / the / did / ?
7. who / Pat Spungin / is / ?

Group B

2. show / what / survey / does / the / ?
4. did / where / spend / they / hour / an / at / smiling / strangers / ?
6. smile / returned / the / many / how / residents / Glasgow / ?
8. he / what / do / did / ?

A: Questions - Answers

Group A

1. What can be a thankless task?
3. Who spent an hour smiling at strangers?
5. How much of the time did the people of Bristol smile back?
7. Who is Pat Spungin?

Group B

2. What does the survey show?
4. Where did they spend an hour smiling at strangers?
6. How many Glasgow residents returned the smile?
8. What did he do?

B: Information Exchange - Notes

Pair the students so that there is a student from Group A and a student from Group B working together. Tell the students they are to use the questions from Pre-Reading Activity A to ask their partner for information so they can fill in the gaps.

B: Information Exchange - Worksheets To Be Copied And Given to Students

Group A

Smile...But Britons May Not Smile with You

LONDON Wed Feb 19 (Reuters Health) - (1)_____ can be a thankless task in some British cities, where a survey shows not many people smile back.

(3)_____ spent an hour smiling at 100 strangers in 14 British cities and only 4% of people in Edinburgh, 12% in Nottingham and 18% in London returned the students' smiles. However, the people of Bristol smiled back (5)_____ of the time, and 68% Glasgow residents returned the smile. Pat Spungin, (7)_____ who led the research, suggested to The Guardian newspaper why Londoners scored so low. "With a population of 7 million, which is very mixed and very mobile, it is difficult to feel a sense of community with other Londoners."

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Group B

Smile...But Britons May Not Smile with You

LONDON Wed Feb 19 (Reuters Health) - Smiling at strangers can be a thankless task in some British cities, where a survey shows (2)_____.

Psychology students spent an hour smiling at 100 strangers (4)_____ and only 4% of people in Edinburgh, 12% in Nottingham and 18% in London returned the students' smiles. However, the people of Bristol smiled back 70% of the time, and (6)_____ of Glasgow residents returned the smile. Pat Spungin, a psychologist who (8)_____, suggested to The Guardian newspaper why Londoners scored so low. "With a population of 7 million, which is very mixed and very mobile, it is difficult to feel a sense of community with other Londoners."

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B: Information Exchange - Answers

Group A: 1. Smiling at strangers. 3. Psychology students. 5. 70% 7. A psychologist. Group B: 2. Not many people smile back. 4. In 14 British cities. 6. 68% 8. Led the research.

C: True or False - Answers

1. T, 2. F, 3.T, 4. F, 5. T.

D: Check Your Understanding - Answers

1, 4, 5, 7.

E: Think About It - Notes

This is an opportunity for students to reflect on the content of today's article and share their ideas and opinions.

Post-Reading Activities

A: Language - Notes

These are **some** of the rules for using articles which are presented in this activity. You may wish to point them out to students before or after they have completed it. For a more extensive list of rules, please look at the Anna Grammar pages on articles in the Instant Lessons Library.

A/An is used;

with a singular count noun when referring to it for the first time.

an is used with words that begin with a vowel sound, e.g. an elephant and silent 'h', e.g. an honest man.

The is used;

when there is only one of something.

when the listener knows which thing or things you are referring to.

No article (Zero Article) is used;

with a plural or noncount noun when talking about things in general. names of places (e.g. cities, towns).

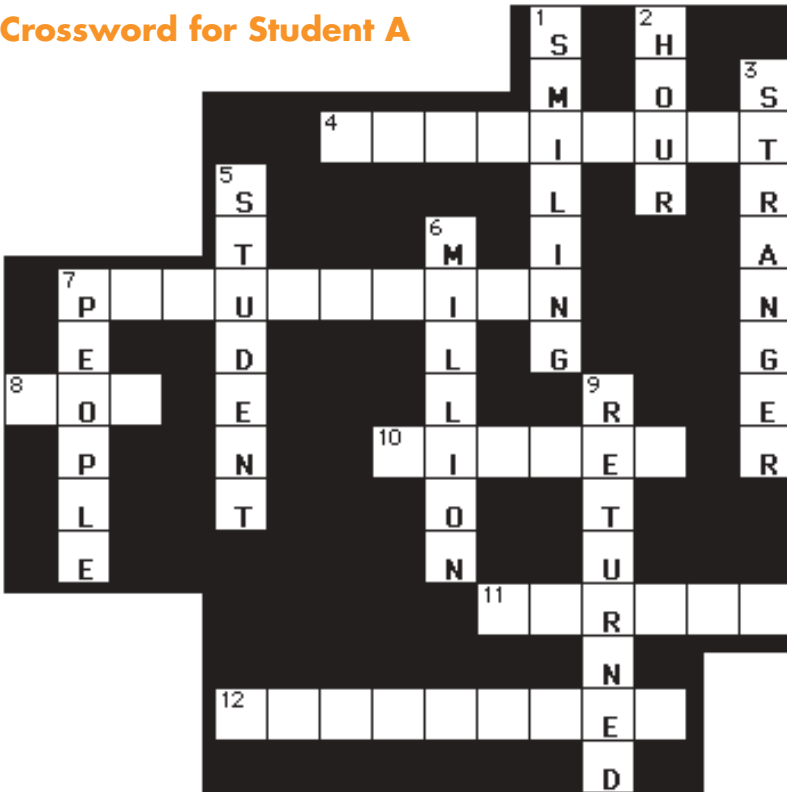
A: Language - Answers

a. 1. -, 2. a, 3. a, b. 4. -, 5. an, 6. -, 7. -, 8. -, 9. -, 10. the.

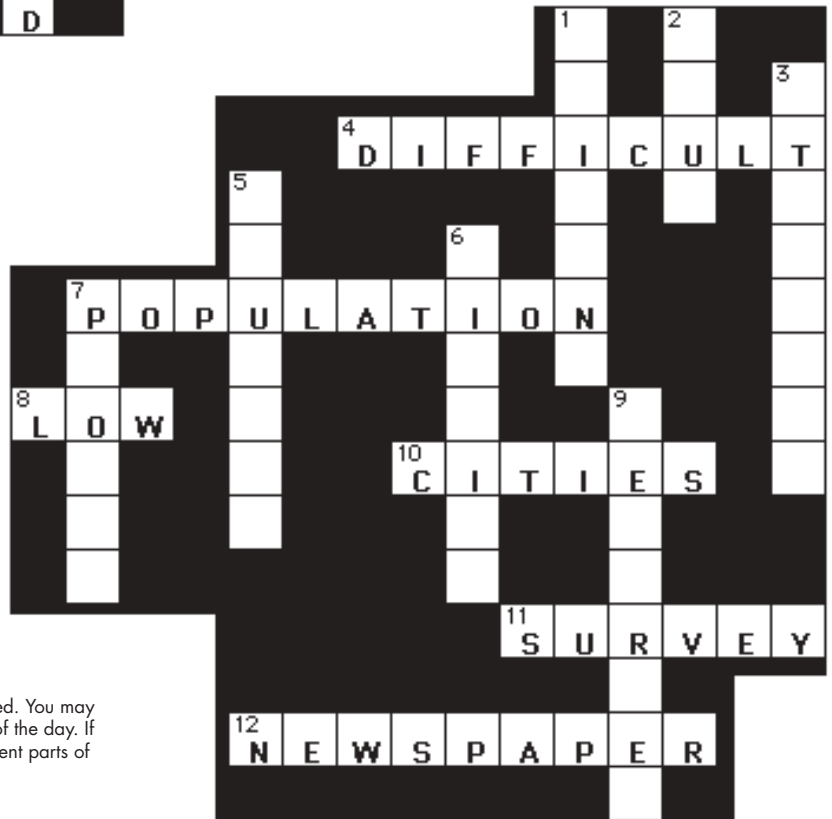
B: Pair Crossword - Notes

This is an information exchange activity. One student has the answers the other student needs. It's up to the student seeking the answers to work out what the missing words are by asking questions and listening to their partner's definitions. Have one student fill in their crossword first and then have the students switch roles. Remind students that the words are from today's article.

Crossword for Student A



Crossword for Student B



C: Research Project - Notes

This project should only be done where the students' safety is guaranteed. You may like to do this activity in different parts of the school - at different times of the day. If your school is located in the middle of a city, students could go to different parts of the city at the same time of day.

