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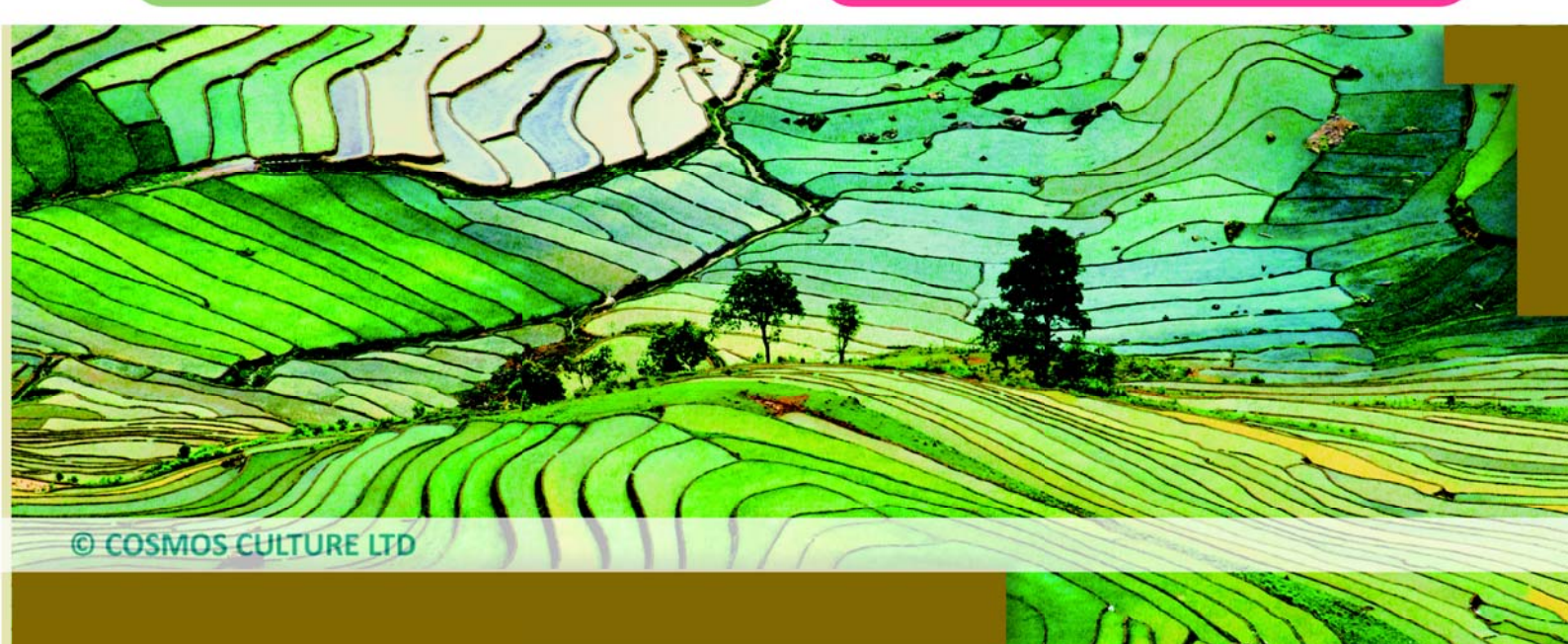
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In our reading plan, the 60 articles are divided into 10 weeks. The readers should read 6 articles each week. By following the plan, the readers will make steady progress in mastering their English reading skills.

**42** **Culture**

### The Slurp Heai Around the Wc

Ramen connects us. A that instantly evokes Japar actually came from China. then revolutionized by a m from Taiwan, and is a staple American college students.

Ramen is the name of bot Type of noodle and a dish. Ramen noodles are thin and squiggly. They made of wheat flour and a particular ki alkaline mineral water. The properties of this wa add to the flavor and the elastic texture of the no Ramen is usually hand pulled, so it has o stretch.

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To these bases chefs add different ingredients to a meal in a bowl. Common ramen ingredients are egg seaweed, seafood, garlic, ginger, and even corn. Regions restaurants, and chefs are very proud of their particula ramen and guard their recipes jealously.

Ramen as we know it was born in the 1900s. Bac then, it was served in Chinese restaurants and was tical china soba (Chinese noodles). These restaurants and ramen—exploded during the 1950s. Ther in 1958.

**38** **Health & Science**

### The Raw Food Movement

Hey! Get that fire away from my food! Don't you know that cooking food i bad for you?

That, at least, is the point of view of raw foodists, members of the raw food movement. As you can guess from its name, the raw food movement encourages people to eat all or almost all of their food whole, uncooked, and unprocessed. Food can be heated a bit, but the cutoff falls between 100 and 1 degrees Fahrenheit. In addition, the food should not be processed or preserve in any way.

While raw foodists say their food is delicious, the point of the movement i good health. Eating raw foods is said to promote higher energy levels, clearer skin, better disease resistance, and weight loss. Proponents say this is because raw foods contain important elements that cooking destroys. They contain important enzymes for good digestion. They contain bacteria and sometimes parasites that can actually be good for our digestive system. They contain nutrients that cooking destroys. Raw foods are also free of the potentially cancer-causing black, burned areas of barbecued food.

Instead of cooking beans, raw foodlists may soak them until they sprout. They may dehydrate food to change its texture. They may use raw foods to simulate other foods, such as using stringy spaghetti squash as "pasta." Foods

Raw foods contain important elements that cooking destroys.

**43** **Technology**

### Sun-Powered Skin

graphene molecular structure

Losing a hand is a terrible thing to happen to anyone, and though prosthetics are available, they are a far cry from the real thing. Even when you de get all the joints moving correctly, a prosthetic hand is still unable to feel, and feeling is incredibly important. Without the ability to feel, prosthetic hands aren't able to know how much pressure to put on an object. Try picking up an egg with a prosthetic hand and all you'll get is messy fingers.

Now, however, there is some hope. Electronic skin is being developed that will allow people with prosthetic hands to actually feel. The skin is made from graphene, a super material made of a one-atom thick sheet of carbon. It is one million times thinner than paper and incredibly strong. Graphene can not only conduct electricity, it is transparent, too. This means that manufacturers are able to place solar cells into the material and power the skin with sunlight.

Currently, however, there is no way to store this energy, so the skin does not work in the dark. But researchers are working hard to build flexible energy storage devices into the design in order to solve the problem. When the bugs are ironed out, the end result will be a prosthetic limb with skin that can touch, feel heat, and sense pressure, all without a heavy battery pack.

And it's not only amputees who will benefit from the invention. Robots, too, will now be able to feel and sense the environment just like humans can. This 'wi vastly increase robots' functions, allowing them to have a much greater understanding of what

The articles cover various kinds of topics: History, Psychology, Business, People, Arts & Literature, and more. The readers will not only learn English but explore their world.

Week 7 **5**  
**Geography**

### The Deepest Place on Earth

Between Japan and Papua New Guinea, deep under the ocean, is a split in the earth. That is the mysterious Mariana Trench, the deepest part of the ocean. It has been measured at 11,033 meters deep at its lowest point. Mount Everest, the highest point on land, could be dropped into it and still have thousands of feet of sea water above it.

Pressure builds as you go deeper under the sea. The weight of water presses harder and harder. In the Mariana Trench, pressure reaches 16,000 pounds per square inch at the bottom. No human could ever survive it. Humans have, however, landed on the bottom of the trench. The *Trieste*, a US Navy bathyscaphe ("deep boat") reached the bottom in 1960 with two men on board. It had been carefully designed to withstand the intense pressure. Still, the two men who went down in it must have been nervous!

Other creatures, however, can tolerate some of the pressure. Strange things live in the Mariana Trench. Light can only penetrate about 1,000 meters into water; after that, life is in the dark. Some fish make their own lights. The anglerfish has a bobbing, bioluminescent light dangling on a stalk over its head. The light shows other fish the way to their doom. The light hangs right over the anglerfish's nasty jaws. Fish that approach it get snapped up quickly.

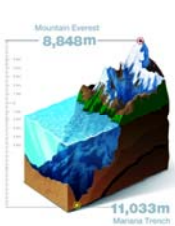
The viperfish also has a light embedded in its body. It turns the light off and on to attract prey or a mate. Like the anglerfish, the viperfish uses light to lure meals to its mouth.




Week 7 **13** **The Deepest Place on Earth**

These fish can't reach the lowest depths, but mud samples from the bottom are full of microorganisms that can withstand the awesome pressure. As the last time humans reached the bottom was in 2012, the microorganisms will probably be able to live in peace for a long while yet.

▶ comparison between Mount Everest and Mariana Trench



**Questions**

- What is the main topic of the article?
  - The unique Mariana Trench. *Main Idea*
  - Preserving the Mariana Trench.
  - Life in the deepest places on Earth.
- What is this article mainly about?
  - Fish. *Subject Matter*
  - A mystery.
  - Pressure.
- Which statement is true?
  - Mount Everest is taller than the Mariana Trench.
  - Some deep-sea creatures create their own light.
  - The Mariana Trench is between Japan and China.
  - Pressure lessens under the ocean. *Supporting Detail*
- What can we infer about the two men in the *Trieste*?
  - They were afraid of water. *Inference*
  - They were airplane pilots.
  - They were close friends.
  - They were very brave.
- The third paragraph says that the anglerfish has a light hanging over its head. What does the word *dangle* mean?
  - To glow.
  - To hang loosely. *Words in Context*
  - To climb.
  - To stick straight up.
- What does the *infer* do in the last paragraph?
  - Make a prediction.
  - Express doubt. *Understanding Inference*
  - Make a comparison.

Each article is followed by six essential questions to help the readers understand its content.

### Delicious Japanese Dishes



- grilled chicken (on skewers)
- sushi
- tempura
- curry rice
- chicken donburi
- tempura
- tempura
- tempura

Week 12 **1** **Animals**

### Black and White and Strange All Over

The tapir is an odd-looking creature. It has a nose like an elephant or anteater, a body like a pig, and hooved toes that might remind you of a rhino.



Week 11 **1** **Nature**

### Mud Volcano

A bubble erupted from a mud volcano in Azerbaijan.



Week 15 **2** **Health & Body**

### A Pinch of Salt

Iodine is vital to our development, but we only need a pinch of it. Humans only need to eat about a teaspoon of iodine over their lifetime. However, getting that bit at the right time can be the difference between normal development and serious disability. Iodine affects the thyroid gland, which controls growth, so getting enough iodine becomes important even before we are born. Fetuses' brains need iodine to develop properly. If a pregnant woman doesn't get enough iodine, her child will have a brain disorder.



Numerous pictures that provide additional information related to the articles will enhance the readers' pleasure in reading.

▶ the album 25 by Adele



Adele

01



## The Voice That Rules the Music World

1 Adele Adkins was born in North London, England, in 1988. Her mother, Penny Adkins, was 18 years old at the time of her birth. There were some hard times for both of them during the early years. Adele's father left when Adele was just four years old. He would keep in contact with her over the years, but it was often a troubled relationship. Adele eventually broke all contact with him when she was a teenager.

2 School was a problem for Adele early on. She often felt bored and uninspired in class. Fortunately, things turned around when she was accepted into the BRIT School for Performing Arts & Technology. This was the same school that Amy Winehouse attended. The school allowed Adele to develop her love of music and skills in playing multiple instruments, including the flute, saxophone, and guitar.

3 Adele's big break came when she was still at the BRIT School. She posted a short demo album on her MySpace page. Some studio executives listened to it, and then decided to sign her to a contract.

4 Adele's rise to fame since then has been incredible. She has recorded three albums: *19*, *21*, and *25*. All of them are named after her age at the time of production. These albums contain memorable songs like "Rolling in the Deep" and "Someone Like You." They have sold over 40 million copies worldwide. Adele has also received countless awards. She swept the top categories of the Grammy Awards in 2012 and 2017—a first in Grammy history.

5 Perhaps more important than Adele's commercial success is the way she did it. Adele is unlike other pop stars, who tend to be managed and controlled by their labels. She is driven, independent, and

◀ Adele attended the 59th Grammy's Award in 2017.



immensely talented. She also feels comfortable in her own skin. Some have even described her as a “**force of nature**.” It’s hard to imagine a better female role model for her millions of fans worldwide.



► Adele’s *Skyfall* won the Academy Award for Best Original Song in 2013.

## Questions

- \_\_\_ 1. Which sentence is closest to the main point? .....♦Main Idea♦
- a Adele broke records at the Grammy Awards.
  - b Adele is a special kind of talent.
  - c Adele attended the BRIT School for Performing Arts & Technology.
  - d Adele recorded three albums.
- \_\_\_ 2. What does this passage describe? .....♦Subject Matter♦
- a An album.
  - b A song.
  - c A musician.
  - d A voice.
- \_\_\_ 3. Which of the following statements about Adele is NOT true? .....♦Supporting Details♦
- a She didn’t like school as a child.
  - b She recorded the song "Someone Like You."
  - c She was born in Scotland.
  - d She has won several Grammy Awards.
- \_\_\_ 4. What can we infer from the passage about Adele’s childhood? .....♦Inference♦
- a Adele’s mom had some struggles with money.
  - b Adele didn’t like to sing when she was young.
  - c Adele didn’t have many friends in her neighborhood.
  - d Adele was very religious.
- \_\_\_ 5. What does **force of nature** mean in the final paragraph? .....♦Words in Context♦
- a Someone who was born rich.
  - b Someone with a strong personality.
  - c Someone who doesn’t like the countryside.
  - d Someone who likes being outdoors.
- \_\_\_ 6. What does the author do in the final paragraph to capture the reader’s attention? .....♦Clarifying Devices♦
- a Shares a personal experience.
  - b Presents interesting statistics.
  - c Makes a strong argument.
  - d Describes several steps.



12 

## The Great Wall of the Ocean

- 1 Skirting the coast of northeast Australia is the only living thing that can be seen from space. The Great Barrier Reef runs alongside Queensland for 2,600 kilometers, providing food and shelter for a huge variety of plants and animals, many of which are endangered. Only tropical rain forests house as many species as the Reef does.
- 2 The Great Barrier Reef is the longest coral reef in the world, but it isn't all one mass. It's made up of 2,900 or more separate reef systems, which combine to make one long, interconnected whole. Four hundred species of hard and soft coral make up the body of the Reef. Bright, living coral grows on top of the skeletons of the old. The current Reef is estimated to be about 20,000 years old. When the Reef began growing, sea levels were much lower. As sea levels rose, new coral climbed higher, but coral underneath died. Coral needs sunlight to live, and light can only penetrate water to a certain depth.
- 3 Among all this coral are plants, snails, whales, sharks, jellyfish, and other sea creatures. Six endangered species of sea turtle live in the Reef, laying their eggs on nearby sandy shores. Humpback whales migrate there every winter, and since whaling ended in 2008, their numbers are increasing. The dugong, or sea cow, lives there, grazing on fields of sea grass. These mammals are in danger of extinction, and are one of the many protected animals who make the Reef their home.
- 4 Despite its huge size, the Reef isn't **invulnerable**. Rising ocean temperatures are dangerous to coral and some fish. Pollution from farms reduces the water quality and promotes the growth of algae, which blocks the light. Shipping accidents have done major damage. Predators cause trouble.



The crown-of-thorns starfish eats coral. Its recent population boom put the entire Reef at risk.

- 5 Constantly growing, constantly dying, this great wall relies on a complex ecological balance. We should guard it carefully.



▲ The Great Barrier Reef supports a diversity of life.

**Questions**

- \_\_\_ 1. What is the main topic of the article? .....♦Main Idea♦
  - a Endangered species that live in the Great Barrier Reef.
  - b The best time to visit the Great Barrier Reef.
  - c What the Great Barrier Reef is.
  - d How the Great Barrier Reef grew.
  
- \_\_\_ 2. What is this article mainly about? .....♦Subject Matter♦
  - a An ecosystem.
  - b A sea mammal.
  - c A country.
  - d An event.
  
- \_\_\_ 3. Which of the following statements is NOT true? .....♦Supporting Details♦
  - a Humpback whales spend time at the Great Barrier Reef.
  - b The Great Barrier Reef lies off the coast of Australia.
  - c Four hundred kinds of coral live at the Great Barrier Reef.
  - d The Great Barrier Reef is 2,800 kilometers long.
  
- \_\_\_ 4. What can we infer about Queensland from the article? .....♦Inference♦
  - a It's in the Great Barrier Reef.
  - b It's an endangered species.
  - c It's part of Australia.
  - d It's part of a rain forest.
  
- \_\_\_ 5. In the fourth paragraph, the author says the Reef isn't invulnerable. What does **invulnerable** mean? .....♦Words in Context♦
  - a Impossible to harm or damage.
  - b Dangerous or threatening.
  - c Vast or infinite.
  - d Intricate and complicated.
  
- \_\_\_ 6. How does the author end the article? .....♦Clarifying Devices♦
  - a With a joke.
  - b With a warning.
  - c With an interesting statistic.
  - d With words of praise.

## The Slurp Heard Around the World



▲ miso



▲ salty



▲ soy sauce



▲ pork bone

1 Ramen connects us. A food that instantly evokes Japan actually came from China. It was then revolutionized by a man from Taiwan, and is a staple of American college students.

2 Ramen is the name of both a type of noodle and a dish. Ramen noodles are thin and squiggly. They're made of wheat flour and a particular kind of alkaline mineral water. The properties of this water add to the flavor and the elastic texture of the noodles. Ramen is usually hand pulled, so it has to stretch.

3 These noodles go into a dish that has local variations all over Japan. Almost all ramen variations start with a chicken or pork **broth**. The four basic types of ramen are defined by their broth. Salty (shio) ramen has a clear, yellowish broth that may include seaweed and fish. Pork bone (tonkotsu) ramen has a white broth with a lot of fat, making it creamy. Soy sauce (shōyu) ramen broth is based on soy sauce. Miso ramen uses miso and oily chicken or fish broth, giving it a rich flavor.

4 To these bases chefs add different ingredients to make a meal in a bowl. Common ramen ingredients are eggs, seaweed, seafood, garlic, ginger, and even corn. Regions, restaurants, and chefs are very proud of their particular ramen and guard their recipes jealously.

5 Ramen as we know it was born in the 1900s. Back then, it was served in Chinese restaurants and was still called shina soba (Chinese noodles). These restaurants—and ramen—exploded during the 1950s. Then in 1958, the

Taiwanese-Japanese inventor Momofuko Ando invented instant ramen. Packaged in brightly colored plastic packets, cheap but tasty ramen became part of the diets of college students and anyone on the run.

- 6 Ramen is such an important part of Japanese culture that there's now a ramen museum in Yokohama. Embracing a new idea and making it your own— isn't this the essence of our world?

▶ instant ramen



Week 7 Day 6 The Slurp Heard Around the World

### Questions

1. What is the main topic of the article? ..... ♦Main Idea♦

<input type="checkbox"/> a How to cook ramen.	<input type="checkbox"/> b The most authentic ramen.
<input type="checkbox"/> c How instant ramen is packaged.	<input type="checkbox"/> d Ramen's influence around the world.
  
2. What is this article mainly about? ..... ♦Subject Matter♦

<input type="checkbox"/> a A region.	<input type="checkbox"/> b An individual.
<input type="checkbox"/> c A series of steps.	<input type="checkbox"/> d A food.
  
3. Which statement is NOT true? ..... ♦Supporting Details♦

<input type="checkbox"/> a Ramen comes from Chinese culture.	<input type="checkbox"/> b Instant ramen was invented in 1900.
<input type="checkbox"/> c There are four basic types of ramen.	<input type="checkbox"/> d Different regions have different ramen specialities.
  
4. Where, can it be inferred, is Yokohama? ..... ♦Inference♦

<input type="checkbox"/> a China.	<input type="checkbox"/> b Japan.	<input type="checkbox"/> c The United States.	<input type="checkbox"/> d Taiwan.
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5. What does the word **broth** in the third paragraph mean? ..... ♦Words in Context♦

<input type="checkbox"/> a The water or liquid in a soup.	<input type="checkbox"/> b A type of meat.
<input type="checkbox"/> c A way of cooking in water.	<input type="checkbox"/> d A thick sauce.
  
6. Which of the following was an effect of instant ramen? ..... ♦Cause and Effect♦

<input type="checkbox"/> a Ramen became more elastic.	<input type="checkbox"/> b Ramen declined in popularity.
<input type="checkbox"/> c People began seeing ramen as an unhealthy food.	<input type="checkbox"/> d Ramen became popular internationally.

# Delicious Japanese Dishes



◀ grilled chicken on skewers



▼ sashimi

▼ sukiyaki



▼ curry rice



▼ rolled omelet



▼ pork cutlet



▼ taiyaki



▼ chicken donburi



▶ wagashi



55 

## The House of Heroes



- 1 What do Spider-Man, the X-Men, the Hulk, and Iron Man have in common? They're all creations of Marvel Comics! Whether you know them from comic books, movie screens, or both, Marvel's superheroes are among the world's most popular characters. But where did they come from?
- 2 *Marvel Comics* was the title of a comic book published by Timely Publications in 1939. The first issue featured the Human Torch and other superheroes. It is now one of the world's most valuable comics, with a copy having sold for US\$350,000 in 2003! It was also a hit in its own day, as was the company's next offering, *Captain America*, in 1941. The end of World War II, however, also brought an end to comics' **golden age**. Timely, now called Atlas, struggled along for the next 15 years without great success.
- 3 In 1961, the company again changed its name, this time to Marvel Comics, and quickly turned its fortunes around. Over the next three years, Marvel introduced the Fantastic Four, the Hulk, Spider-Man, Thor, Iron Man, Dr. Strange, the X-Men, and Daredevil. Even Captain America came back after more than a decade to meet a whole new generation of fans!
- 4 Marvel's success owed much to the humanity of its heroes. Spider-Man was really Peter Parker, a teenage nerd who acquired super powers from a spider bite. The X-Men were mutants, born with abilities that could save the world but made them outcasts. And Daredevil was a superhero with a difference—he was blind! Thanks to these and other successful titles, Marvel soon became one of the world's best-selling comic book companies. It still competes for that title with the industry's other giant, DC Comics, the home of Superman, Batman, and Wonder Woman.



▲ Marvel is one of the world's best-selling comic book companies.

# H O R

- 5 In recent years, Marvel has found a new world to conquer. Its characters are now as successful on the screen as they ever were on paper. If the *Spider-Man*, *X-Men*, and *Iron Man* film series are any indication, the house of heroes will be around for a long time.



▲ Marvel characters are even more successful on the screen.

## Questions

1. What is the writer trying to tell us in this passage? ..... ♦Main Idea♦
- a Reading comic books is better than watching movies.
  - b Watching movies is better than reading comic books.
  - c Marvel Comics has given the world many famous characters.
  - d Your old comic books might be worth a lot of money.
2. What does this passage mainly deal with? ..... ♦Subject Matter♦
- a A successful company and its products.
  - b Famous superheroes and their abilities.
  - c The history of comic books.
  - d Popular superhero movies you can watch.
3. Which of the following is NOT a Marvel Comics character? ..... ♦Supporting Details♦
- a The Hulk.
  - b Daredevil.
  - c Dr. Strange.
  - d Superman.
4. What can we infer about the Marvel Comics company from this passage? ..... ♦Inference♦
- a It went out of business after World War II.
  - b Many of its famous characters were created in the early 1960s.
  - c It no longer publishes comic books but only makes movies.
  - d Its most successful character is Captain America.
5. What is a **golden age**? ..... ♦Words in Context♦
- a A period of time during which people wear a lot of gold.
  - b A period of great creative and commercial success.
  - c The years before and during World War II.
  - d The years between the end of World War II and 1961.
6. How does the writer of this passage probably feel about comic books? ♦Author's Tone♦
- a He thinks they're stupid.
  - b He thinks they're too expensive.
  - c He thinks they're interesting.
  - d He thinks they're old-fashioned.