

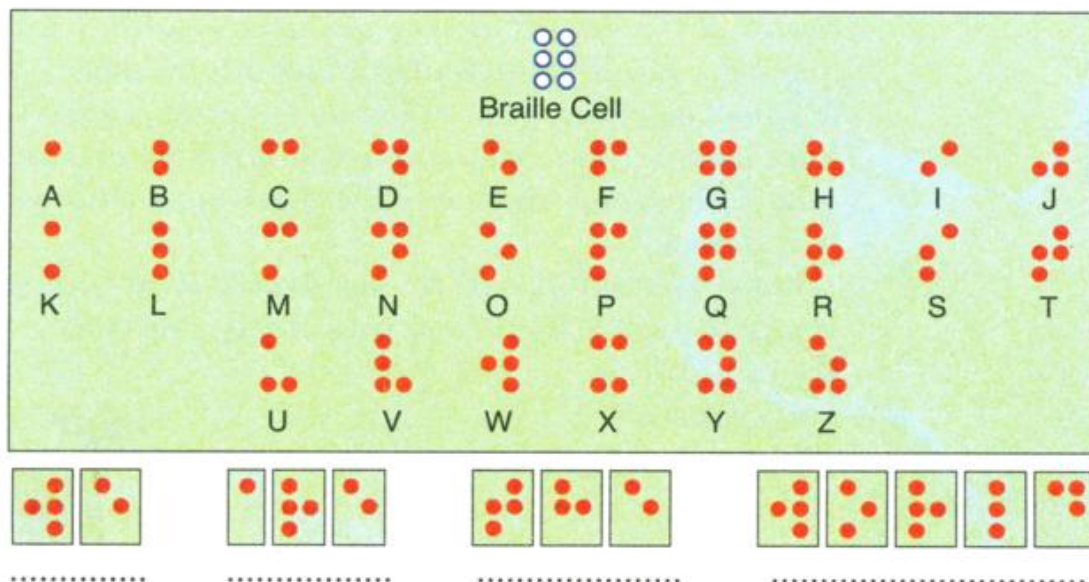


# SPECIAL EDUCATION

## A. READING

### Before you read

- Make a list of the activities you do every day. Then ask your partner which ones he/she thinks would be difficult for blind and deaf people.
- *Work with a partner.* Look at the Braille Alphabet. Then work out the message that follows.



### While you read

Read the passage and then do the tasks that follow.


#### A TEACHER IN A SPECIAL CLASS

Like other teachers, Pham Thu Thuy enjoys her teaching job. However, her class is different from other classes. The twenty-five children, who are learning how to read and write in her class, are disabled. Some are deaf, some dumb and others mentally retarded. Most of the children come from large and poor families, which prevents them from having proper schooling.




At first, there was a lot of opposition from the parents of the disabled children. They used to believe that their children could not learn anything at all. In the first week, only five children attended the class. Gradually more children arrived. Their parents realised that the young teacher was making great efforts to help their poor kids.

Watching Thuy taking a class, one can see how time-consuming the work is. During a maths lesson, she raised both arms and opened up her fingers one by one until all ten stood up. She then closed the fingers one by one. She continued the demonstration until the children realised they had just learned how to add and subtract. The children have every reason to be proud of their efforts. They know a new world is opening up for them.

 **Task 1.** The words in **A** appear in the reading passage. Match them with their definitions in **B**.

A	B
1. disabled	a. taking or needing a lot of time
2. mentally retarded	b. an act of showing or explaining how to do something
3. time-consuming	c. unable to use a part of the body in the normal way
4. demonstration	d. slowly, over a long period of time
5. gradually	e. less mentally developed than normal

 **Task 2.** Read the passage again and complete the following sentences by circling the corresponding letter A, B, C, or D.

- Thuy's class is different from other classes because the children \_\_\_\_\_.
  - are from large families
  - are less mentally developed
  - love Maths very much
  - are disabled



2. At first the parents were \_\_\_\_\_ the idea of sending their children to the special class.
  - A. interested in
  - B. opposed to
  - C. satisfied with
  - D. worried about
3. It can be inferred from the second paragraph of the reading passage that there has been \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. a change in the parents' attitude towards the class
  - B. a lot of protest from the parents against the class
  - C. a feeling of doubt in the teacher's ability
  - D. a belief in the parents' opposition
4. The writer describes how Thuy teaches the children to add and subtract in order to prove that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. the children like Maths
  - B. the teacher is proud of her work
  - C. the teaching work takes time
  - D. adding and subtracting are important
5. The writer's attitude towards Thuy's work in the passage can be described as \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. humorous
  - B. angry
  - C. suspicious
  - D. admiring


### After you read

Fill each of the blanks of the summary below with a suitable word from the reading passage.

Twenty-five (1) \_\_\_\_\_ children have the chance of learning how to (2) \_\_\_\_\_ and (3) \_\_\_\_\_ thanks to the (4) \_\_\_\_\_ of a young teacher, Pham Thu Thuy.

Although her idea, at first, met with (5) \_\_\_\_\_ from the parents of the disabled children, more children attended her class later. The teaching work in the special class is (6) \_\_\_\_\_. For example, in a (7) \_\_\_\_\_ lesson, the teacher has to use her (8) \_\_\_\_\_ and (9) \_\_\_\_\_ to teach the children how to add and subtract. The children are now (10) \_\_\_\_\_ and happy.

## B. SPEAKING

 **Task 1.** The questions in the interview below have been left out. Work with a partner and fill in the blanks with the right questions.

1. What were your subjects then?
2. What was your timetable?
3. What about homework?
4. Which lower-secondary school did you go to?
5. What part of the school life didn't you like then?
6. Can you tell me about the tests and examinations at your school then?
7. What did you like best about your school then?

**Interviewer :** (A) \_\_\_\_\_ ?

**Hanh :** I went to Long Bien Lower-secondary School in Gia Lam, Hanoi.

**Interviewer :** (B) \_\_\_\_\_ ?

**Hanh :** My subjects were Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Literature, Biology, History, Geography, English, Information Technology and Physical Education.

**Interviewer :** (C) \_\_\_\_\_ ?

**Hanh :** Well, I went to school in the morning and I often had five classes.

**Interviewer :** (D) \_\_\_\_\_ ?

**Hanh :** Well, we had different kinds of tests, you know. Oral tests, fifteen-minute tests, forty-five-minute tests and the final examination at the end of the semester.

**Interviewer :** (E) \_\_\_\_\_ ?

**Hanh :** It's different with every teacher. Some liked to give a lot of homework and others didn't.

**Interviewer :** (F) \_\_\_\_\_?

**Hanh :** To be honest, I liked my school a lot but if I could change one thing, it would be the breaks between the classes. They were too short.

**Interviewer :** (G) \_\_\_\_\_?

**Hanh :** I liked everything in my school, you know. Well, of course, not the breaks as I've said. I liked my teachers, my friends and the different activities at school then.

 **Task 2.** Interview your partner, using the questions in Task 1.

 **Task 3.** Tell the whole class what you know about your partner.

**Example:**

*Hanh went to Long Bien Lower-secondary School. She had 10 subjects to learn at school. She went to school in the morning and often had 5 classes each morning...*

## C. LISTENING

### Before you listen

*Work in pairs. Fill each of the blanks with one word from the box.*

photograph  
photogenic

photographer  
photographic

photography

I joined a (1) \_\_\_\_\_ club when I was at secondary school and I have been fascinated by (2) \_\_\_\_\_ ever since. However, I have decided not to become a professional (3) \_\_\_\_\_. I once took a (4) \_\_\_\_\_ of my girl-friend and she did not look as beautiful in the picture as she was. I tried to calm her down by saying, "You are not very (5) \_\_\_\_\_, honey."

● Listen and repeat.

surroundings  
deaf


sorrow  
mute

passion  
exhibition

labourer  
stimulate



## While you listen

 **Task 1.** Listen to some information about a photography club and decide whether the statements are true (T) or false (F).

1. The Vang Trang Khuyet Club's members are all disabled children.
2. The club's members are now teaching photography to other children.
3. The club's members are exhibiting their photographs for the first time in Hanoi.
4. The subject of their photos is the sorrow of being disabled.
5. The passion for taking photographs has helped them escape their sorrow.

**T F**

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 **Task 2.** Listen again and fill each blank with a suitable word.

The six-month-old (1) \_\_\_\_\_ club, which comprises (2) \_\_\_\_\_ deaf, mute or mentally retarded children, is now having its first (3) \_\_\_\_\_ in Hanoi.

More than (4) \_\_\_\_\_ colour photos are on display at the exhibition room featuring the (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of daily life seen through the eyes of these disabled children. The subjects are (6) \_\_\_\_\_ and (7) \_\_\_\_\_: old men reading books on the sides of Hoan Kiem Lake, labourers hard at work, or (8) \_\_\_\_\_ looking for food.

The children's passion for taking pictures has (9) \_\_\_\_\_ them and helped them (10) \_\_\_\_\_ their sorrow.

## After you listen

*Work in groups.* Retell the story about the Vang Trang Khuyet Photography Club.

## D. WRITING

### A letter of complaint


# ENGLISH FOR TODAY CENTRE

731 VAN XUAN STREET - HANOI

Telephone: (04) 9.988666

Fax : (04) 9.988667

- Native teachers **ONLY**
- **NO** more than 20 students per class
- **FREE** books and cassette tapes
- **ALL** air-conditioned rooms
- **5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

 **Task 1.** After studying for two weeks at English for Today Centre, you notice that everything is worse than what the advertisement says. A friend of yours wants to know about the centre and you tell him/her the facts.

*Work in pairs.* Complete the dialogue below.

A: Are you happy with your study at English for Today Centre?

B: No, (1) \_\_\_\_\_.

A: Are all the teachers native speakers?

B: No, (2) \_\_\_\_\_.

A: The advertisement says there are no more than 20 students in a class. Is that true?

B: No, (3) \_\_\_\_\_.

A: Do you get free books and cassette tapes?

B: No, (4) \_\_\_\_\_.

A: What about the classrooms? Are they air-conditioned?


B: No, (5) \_\_\_\_\_.

A: What don't you like most about the centre?

B: It's the time. They say the class time is from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. but (6)\_\_\_\_\_.

A: Well, everything is different from what the advertisement says. What are you going to do?

B: I am going to write a letter of complaint to the director of the centre.

 **Task 2.** Using the information from the dialogue in Task 1, complete the letter of complaint below.

53 Ho Xuan Huong Street  
Hanoi - Vietnam

The Director  
English for Today Centre  
731 Van Xuan Street  
Hanoi - Vietnam

22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2006

Dear Sir,

I am writing to complain about the poor quality of the service at your centre. Everything seems to be worse than what you say in the advertisement.

To resolve the problem, I require you to give me a refund. Enclosed is a copy of the receipt.

I look forward to hearing from you and to getting a quick resolution of this problem. Please contact me at the above address or by phone at (04) 7.222999.

Yours faithfully,  
Do An Duc





## E. LANGUAGE FOCUS

● **Pronunciation:** /ɒ / - /ɔ: /

● **Grammar and vocabulary:**

1. *The* + adjective
2. *Used to* + infinitive
3. *Which* as a connector

### Pronunciation

- Listen and repeat.

/ɒ /

top      wrong  
boss      job  
doctor    box

/ɔ: /

call      walking  
sport      more  
four      talk

- Practise these sentences.
  1. Put the socks on top of the box.
  2. He lost his job as a doctor in the hospital.
  3. What's wrong with you, boss?
  4. Is walking called a sport?
  5. He can't talk to her any more.
  6. Four of us have walked for fourteen miles.

### Grammar and vocabulary

**Exercise 1.** Complete these sentences using *the* + one of the adjectives:

*injured   poor   rich   sick   unemployed   young*

1. *The young* have the future in their hands.
2. Ambulances arrived at the scene of the accident and took \_\_\_\_\_ to hospital.
3. Life is all right if you have a job, but things are not so easy for \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Julia has been a nurse all her life. She has spent her life caring for \_\_\_\_\_.
5. In England there is an old story about a man called Robin Hood. It is said that he robbed \_\_\_\_\_ and gave the money to \_\_\_\_\_.

**Exercise 2.** Complete the sentences with *used to* + a suitable verb.

1. Dennis gave up smoking two years ago. He *used to smoke* 40 cigarettes a day.
2. Liz \_\_\_\_\_ a motorbike, but last year she sold it and bought a car.
3. We came to live in Manchester a few years ago. We \_\_\_\_\_ in Nottingham.
4. I rarely eat ice cream now, but I \_\_\_\_\_ it when I was a child.
5. Jim \_\_\_\_\_ my best friend, but we aren't friends any longer.
6. It only takes me about 40 minutes to get to work since the new road was opened. It \_\_\_\_\_ more than an hour.
7. There \_\_\_\_\_ a hotel opposite the station, but it closed a long time ago.
8. When you lived in London, \_\_\_\_\_ to the theatre?

**Exercise 3.** Join a sentence from A with one from B to make a new sentence. Use **which**.

A	B
1. <i>Sheila couldn't come to the party.</i>	a. This was very nice of her.
2. Jill isn't on the phone.	b. This means we can't go away tomorrow.
3. Neil has passed his examinations.	c. This makes it difficult to contact her.
4. Our flight was delayed.	d. This makes it difficult to sleep.
5. Ann offered to put me up for the night.	e. <i>This was a pity.</i>
6. The street I live in is very noisy at night.	f. This is good news.
7. Our car has broken down.	g. This meant we had to wait for hours at the airport.

**Example:**

1. *Sheila couldn't come to the party, which was a pity.*

2. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. \_\_\_\_\_.
4. \_\_\_\_\_.
5. \_\_\_\_\_.
6. \_\_\_\_\_.
7. \_\_\_\_\_.