

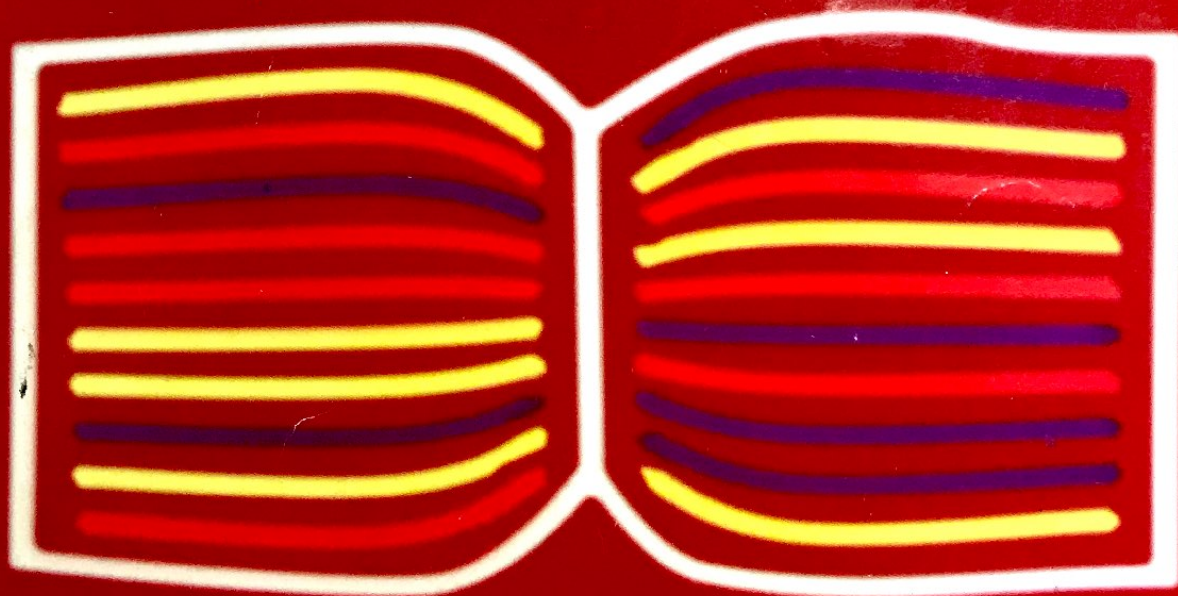
TEACHER'S
COPY

SECOND EDITION

READING POWER

Reading for Pleasure • Comprehension Skills
Thinking Skills • Vocabulary Master

BEATRICE S. MIKULEC • LINDA JEFFRIES

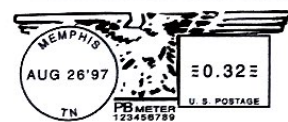


Previewing and Predicting

What do you usually do when you get a letter?

A.

Main Street Bank
12 Main Street
Memphis, TN 38194



Ms. Grace Tanaka
6324 Beacon St.
Tampa, Florida 32800

B.

G. Stein
6 Oak St.
Kingsport, TN 37660



Grace Tanaka
6324 Beacon St.
Tampa, FL 32800

Reading Comprehension Skills

You look at the kind and size of the envelope. You look at the writing and the return address. You look at the date in the postmark. If it is from another country, you look at the stamp.

This is called **previewing**. When you preview, you look for information. Then you can make guesses about what is in the letter. When you make guesses like this, you are **predicting**.

Previewing and predicting help you read faster and understand better. This is because you are already thinking about what you will read. You should *always* preview and predict before you read!

EXAMPLE

➤ **Make some predictions about the letters.**

Letter A

1. Is it a personal letter or a business letter? _____
2. Who is it from? _____
3. Where is it from? _____
4. Do you think it will be an interesting letter? _____
Why or why not? _____

Letter B

1. Is it a personal letter or a business letter? _____
2. Who is it from? _____
3. Where is it from? _____
4. Do you think it will be an interesting letter? _____
Why or why not? _____



Exercise 1

Here is a picture of the place where you are going on vacation.



➤ **Make predictions about your vacation.**

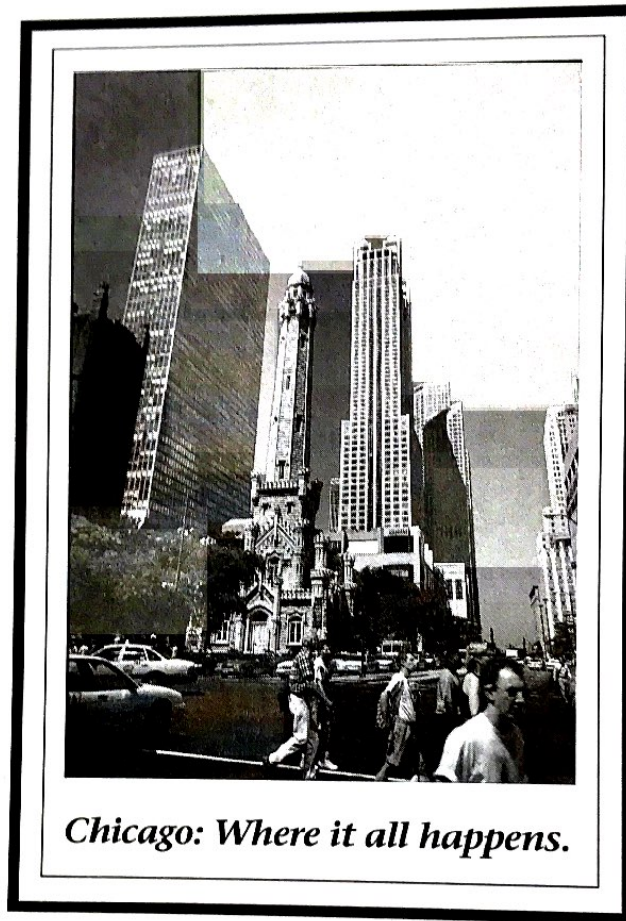
1. What will you do during the day? _____

2. What will you do in the evening? _____
3. What will you eat? _____
4. What will you wear? _____
5. What will you buy? _____
6. How will you feel when you come home? _____



Exercise 2

Here is a picture of the place where your friend is going on vacation.



➤ **Make predictions about your friend's vacation.**

1. What will she do during the day? _____

2. What will she do in the evening? _____
3. What will she wear? _____
4. What will she eat? _____
5. What will she buy? _____
6. How will she feel when she comes home? _____



Exercise 3

➤ *The pictures below illustrate stories. Match the pictures with the titles of the stories.*

Picture

Title of story

1. _____



a. Women in Science

2. _____



b. How Americans Shop for Food

3. _____



c. How Beavers Build Their Homes

4. _____



d. When Your Child Goes to the Dentist

5. _____



e. The Violin in the Symphony Orchestra



Exercise 4

A magazine article has this title:

BOSTON: A GOOD PLACE TO LIVE

➤ Which of the following ideas could you find in the article? Check YES or NO.

	YES	NO
1. Boston has many wonderful museums.	—	—
2. The sports teams in Boston are exciting to watch.	—	—
3. There are many poor people in Boston.	—	—
4. The Boston Symphony Orchestra is one of the best.	—	—
5. People are not very friendly in Boston.	—	—
6. There are many famous old buildings in Boston.	—	—
7. Apartments are expensive and hard to find.	—	—
8. Jobs are hard to find in the Boston area.	—	—
9. People like to walk and jog in the city parks.	—	—
10. Winters in Boston are cold and snowy.	—	—

Exercise 5

Another magazine article has this title:

Modern Dentists
How They Can Help You

➤ Which of the following ideas could you find in the article? Check YES or NO.

	YES	NO
1. Dentists hurt your teeth.	—	—
2. Dentists use many up-to-date machines.	—	—
3. Some dentists play the radio for their patients.	—	—
4. Some dentists will pull out all your teeth.	—	—
5. You can get your teeth cleaned at the dentist's office.	—	—
6. The dentist may x-ray your teeth.	—	—
7. A visit to the dentist is very expensive.	—	—
8. The dentist tells you how to take care of your teeth.	—	—
9. Some dentists become very rich.	—	—
10. Modern dentists must study for many years.	—	—

**Exercise 6**

- **Predict what will come next in each story. Circle the letter of the sentence that could be next.**

EXAMPLE

Yesterday, there was a big snowstorm in Detroit. Many schools were closed, and people had to stay home from work.

- a. It was a warm, sunny day and the beaches were crowded.
- b. It was very cold, but the snow on the trees looked beautiful.
- c. Only one inch of snow fell in the downtown area.

The correct answer is choice b.

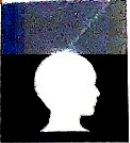
Choice a is not correct. People don't go to beaches when there is snow!

Choice c is not correct. In a big snowstorm, many inches of snow fall.

1. There were many good shows on TV last night. The Smith family stayed home.
 - a. They turned off the TV and went to bed early.
 - b. The only interesting show was about traveling by bicycle.
 - c. They saw a play, a music show, and the news.
2. John and Alice Babson are not happy with the school in their town.
 - a. Their children love to go to school.
 - b. The classrooms are too crowded.
 - c. It is a beautiful building.
3. Many young people move to New York after college.
 - a. New York is a dangerous city.
 - b. It's difficult to find jobs in New York.
 - c. There are lots of interesting things to do in New York.
4. Fly Happy Time Airlines! Take an exciting trip to Holiday Island!
 - a. This trip is very expensive.
 - b. Holiday Island has warm, sunny weather.
 - c. Happy Times Airlines is never on time.
5. Alex had trouble falling asleep last night. He was awake until 3:00 A.M.
 - a. This morning, he feels tired.
 - b. This morning, he feels rested and ready to work.
 - c. This morning, he is hungry.
6. The roads were covered with ice and were dangerous today.
 - a. Sam drove home quickly.
 - b. Sam took a long time to drive home.
 - c. Sam enjoyed driving home.

Exercise 7

- **Predict what will come next in each story. Circle the letter of the sentence that could come next.**
1. Tomiko got a cat last week. It's a pretty little cat, and it follows her everywhere.
 - a. Tomiko can never find the cat.
 - b. It even goes out for walks with her in the park.
 - c. Tomiko's father doesn't like cats.
 2. Sergio likes to listen to classical music in the evenings.
 - a. Sometimes he falls asleep while he is listening.
 - b. He works hard all morning and afternoon.
 - c. His favorite kinds of music are pop and country.
 3. Miriam and her brother, Peter, both go to dance classes.
 - a. Peter likes to be different from his sister.
 - b. Peter doesn't like dancing.
 - c. Peter likes to do the same things as his sister.
 4. My clock doesn't work very well. It's always a little slow.
 - a. I'm often late for work.
 - b. It's black with white numbers.
 - c. It helps me get to work on time.
 5. Rudy went to China last month. He didn't know how to speak Chinese.
 - a. He didn't know any Japanese or Korean.
 - b. Some Chinese people visited Jorge in Dallas, Texas.
 - c. But a lot of Chinese people spoke English.
 6. The weatherman on TV predicted cold weather on Saturday.
 - a. I like to watch the weather report on TV.
 - b. You don't have to bring any warm clothes this weekend.
 - c. You should bring some warm clothes this weekend.
 7. On Sundays, Gina's grandmother often cooks a big meal.
 - a. Gina doesn't like cooking very much.
 - b. She invites Gina and all her cousins for dinner.
 - c. Gina doesn't see her grandmother very often.
 8. Daren wants to go to Europe next summer.
 - a. He says he is not interested in European history.
 - b. In college, he is studying African history.
 - c. He is saving money to pay for the plane ticket.



Big Dreams for Blanca

Blanca Garcia lives and works in Oakland, California, but she was born in Ecuador. Her family came to the United States from Ecuador ten years ago. Blanca is now 19 years old. She has two sisters, Clara, 16, and Alba, 14, and a brother, Miguel, 10. Her father works in a restaurant and her mother works in a hospital.

Blanca finished high school last year, and now she works in a factory. The factory makes children's clothes. Blanca starts work early in the morning. Often she has to work extra hours in the afternoon. She doesn't really like the work, but she wants to save some money.

When she has enough money, she wants to go to college. She would like to be a nurse someday. She likes helping people, especially children. She hopes that she can work in a hospital for children.

Blanca also wants to have her own children. She has a boyfriend, but she doesn't want to get married now. She wants to go to college first. Then she would like to have a family. She wants just two children. She says having both a large family and a job would be too much work!

Guidelines for Previewing Short Passages

1. Read the title.
2. Look at the pictures (if there are any).
3. Read the first few sentences in the first paragraph.
4. Read the first line of the other paragraphs.
5. Read the last sentence of the last paragraph.
6. Watch for names, dates, and numbers.

**Exercise 9****Previewing:**

➤ **In this passage, read only the underlined parts. You have 30 seconds. Then make predictions about the parts you did not read.**

Do Pigeons Take the Train?

Pigeons are smart birds. They are good at finding places. They can find their way home from many miles away. Scientists are not sure how pigeons know their way, but they do. They almost never get lost.

Can pigeons find their way under the ground? Some passengers say that they see pigeons on the Underground trains. Rachel Robson says she saw a pigeon at Paddington Station. It got on the train and then got off again at the next stop.

Some train lines are especially popular with pigeons. They are often seen on the Northern and Picadilly lines. Lorna Read also sees pigeons at the Paddington Station. Once, a passenger tried to get a pigeon off the train. The pigeon flew back in just before the doors closed. It seemed all upset—like a person who doesn't want to miss the train.

Why do pigeons get on the trains? Some people say that the pigeons are not looking for food. They say the pigeons want to save time. London is a big city. The pigeons get tired of flying and they do what people do. They take the train. What do the scientists think of this? They say they must have some more information—but anything is possible with pigeons!

Predictions:

Talk about the passage with another student. Without looking back, can you say what it is about? When you agree, go back and read the passage again. How good were your predictions?



Exercise 10

Previewing:

➤ **In this passage, you must decide what parts to preview. Read only those parts. Do not read the whole passage! You have 30 seconds. Then make predictions about the parts you did not read.**

Thomas and the Gorillas

It was a hot summer day in Chicago. The Kemper family decided it was a good day to go to the Brookfield Zoo. Janet and Kevin Kemper had two children: Thomas, 3, and Sally, 6 months. Thomas loved going to the zoo. He liked watching all the animals, but he especially loved the gorillas.

The Kempers went straight to the gorilla exhibit. There were six adult gorillas and a three-month-old baby gorilla. In the Brookfield Zoo, the animals are not in cages. They are in large areas dug out of the ground. These areas have fences around them so the animals cannot get out and people cannot fall in.

But three-year-old boys are good climbers. While the Kempers were watching the gorillas, little Sally started to cry. Kevin took her from Janet, and Janet looked in her bag for a bottle of juice. In those few seconds, Thomas climbed up the fence.

A woman saw him and shouted, "Stop him!" A tall man reached up to get him, but it was too late. Thomas fell down the other side of the fence. He fell 18 feet onto the hard concrete floor. He lay very still, with blood on his head. Janet and Kevin shouted for help. People crowded around the fence, and someone ran to get a zoo worker.

But before the zoo worker arrived, a gorilla went over to Thomas. It was Binti Jua, an eight-year-old mother gorilla. She had her baby gorilla on her back. With one "arm" she picked up the little boy. She carried him carefully over to a door, walking on three legs. There she put Thomas down so a zoo worker could get him.

Janet and Kevin ran to the door, too. Thomas was badly hurt and had to go to the hospital, but after a few days he was better. The story was on the evening news in Chicago. Some people cheered and others cried when they heard it. But many of them thought about that mother gorilla and asked themselves, "What is she doing in a zoo? What is the difference between a gorilla and me?"

Predictions:

Talk about the passage with another student. Can you say what it is about? When you agree, go back and read the passage again. How good were your predictions?