“Laughter is the best medicine!”
Young girls laugh and play in an open-air bus, in Cebu, Philippines.
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Answer these questions with your best guess. Circle Yes or No.

1. Is sleep more important for your health than food is?  
   Yes  No
2. Does a baby need 12 hours of sleep a day?  
   Yes  No
3. Is your heartbeat higher when you laugh?  
   Yes  No
4. Is every minute of laughter the same as 45 minutes of relaxation?  
   Yes  No
PRE-READING

PREPARING FOR THE READING TOPIC

Discuss the answers to these questions with your classmates.

1. How much sleep do people need?
2. Do many people have problems falling asleep?
3. What do you do when you can't sleep?

KEY VOCABULARY

Do you know these words? Match the words with the meanings.

____ 1. let's say
____ 2. normal
____ 3. an average
____ 4. a teenager
____ 5. an adult
____ 6. to fall asleep
____ 7. awake
____ 8. an inventor

a. begin to sleep
b. a person who is 20 or 21 years old or older
c. a person who is first to get an idea for something
d. what you get when you add three numbers and divide the total by three
e. suppose; imagine; for example
f. a person between 13 and 19 years old
g. usual, ordinary
h. not asleep

Two travelers and their dog rest on their journey in Ellesmere Island, Canada.
Sleep is very important. Did you know that sleep is more important than food? A person who does not sleep dies at a younger age than a person who does not eat.

Let's say you go to sleep 12 hours later than you usually do. It will take your body about three weeks to return to normal. We spend about one-third (1/3) of our lives in sleep. That's about 121 days a year!
How much sleep do we need? We are all different. A baby needs 16 hours of sleep every day. Children 6 to 12 years old need an **average** of 10 to 12 hours of sleep. A **teenager** needs 9 to 10 hours of sleep. An **adult** needs an average of 7 to 8 hours a night. There are some people who need only 3 hours of sleep. Others need 10 hours of sleep. After the age of 50, the average sleep time goes down to 6.5 hours a night. We need less sleep as we get older.

Most people have some nights when they cannot sleep. About one in three Americans has a problem with sleep. Many of these people cannot **fall asleep** or stay asleep. The name of this problem is **insomnia**. The word **insomnia** means “no sleep.” Some people say, “I didn’t sleep all night.” They may sleep lightly and wake up several times. In the morning, they only remember the times they were **awake**, so they think they were awake all night.

This is not a new problem. Many famous people in history had insomnia. Some of these people had special ideas to make them sleep. Benjamin Franklin, the famous **statesman**¹ and **inventor**, had four beds. He moved from one to the other to fall asleep. King Louis XIV of France had 413 beds and hoped to fall asleep in one of them. Mark Twain, the famous American writer, had a different way. He lay on his side across the end of the bed!

---

¹ **statesman**: a government leader
VOCABULARY

VOCABULARY IN CONTEXT

A Complete these sentences with the words in the box.

| adult | awake | inventor | normal | average | fall asleep | let’s say | teenager |

1. After the age of 50, people sleep a(n) ___________ of 6.5 hours a night.
2. ___________ you don’t sleep one day. How would you feel the next day?
3. Some people cannot ___________. They call this problem *insomnia*.
4. A(n) ___________ needs an average of 7 to 8 hours of sleep every day.
5. Benjamin Franklin was a(n) ___________.
6. A(n) ___________ needs 9 to 10 hours of sleep every day.
7. When you don’t sleep one night, it takes weeks for your body to go back to ___________.
8. When you don’t sleep for a few hours at night, you think you were ___________ all night.

B Choose the correct answer. Then use the answer in a complete sentence.

1. Which of the following is a good thing to do to fall asleep?
   a. going shopping  
   b. reading a difficult book  
   c. cooking
   EXAMPLE: Reading a difficult book is a good thing to do to fall asleep.

2. Which of the following is a teenager?
   a. a boy of 16  
   b. a girl of 11  
   c. a person of 21

3. Which of the following was an inventor?
   a. Mahatma Gandhi  
   b. Thomas Edison  
   c. William Shakespeare

4. What is the average of 11, 16, and 18?
   a. 16  
   b. 45  
   c. 15

5. At what age are you an adult?
   a. 14  
   b. 21  
   c. 12
6. What is a normal time for an adult to go to bed?
   a. seven o’clock at night  
   b. two o’clock in the morning  
   c. ten o’clock at night

VOCABULARY BUILDING

A Complete these sentences with the correct form of the new words in the box.

- to snore = to make noise when you sleep
- to dream = to see pictures in your sleep
- to have a nightmare = to have a bad dream

1. Sometimes I ________________ in color.
2. I usually wake up when I ________________. I am so scared and my heart beats fast.
3. My brother says he can’t sleep because I ________________ when I sleep. I don’t believe him.

B Now make your own sentences with the new words.

READING COMPREHENSION

LOOKING FOR MAIN IDEAS

Answer these questions with complete sentences.

1. How many hours of sleep do people of different ages need?

2. What is the name of the problem for people who cannot sleep?

3. Who are two famous Americans who had a problem with sleep?

LOOKING FOR DETAILS

Decide if the following statements are True (T) or False (F).

1. Some people need only three hours of sleep a night.  
   _____
2. After age 50, the average sleep time is 6.5 hours a night.  
   _____
3. One in four Americans has a problem with sleep.  
   _____
4. We spend about a quarter of our lives in sleep.  
   _____
5. Benjamin Franklin had four beds.  
   _____
6. Mark Twain was a famous inventor.  
   _____
DISCUSSION

A Find out from the students in your class how they sleep. Fill out this chart.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Number of Hours of Sleep Each Night</th>
<th>Do You Get Up in the Night?</th>
<th>Do You Remember Your Dreams?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Klara</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>sometimes</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B Discuss the answers to these questions with your classmates.

1. What do people eat or drink to help them sleep?
2. What may make you sleep badly or lose sleep?
3. What things do you need in a room to be able to sleep?

CRITICAL THINKING

Discuss the answers to these questions with your classmates.

1. What happens when people don’t get enough sleep? How can one person’s insomnia affect other people?
2. Let’s say you need only three hours of sleep. What do you do with all that extra time?
WRITING  ■  1

WRITING SKILLS

Using *when*

- We can use *when* to show that two things happen at the same time.
  
  **EXAMPLES:**
  
  I have the lights on *when* I sleep.
  
  *When* I sleep, I have the lights on.

- We can also use *when* with two time clauses in the future. In this case *when* means “after.”
  
  **EXAMPLES:**
  
  I’ll see you *when* I get to school.
  
  *When* I get home tonight, I’ll eat my dinner.

Notice the use of the comma when a sentence starts with *when*.

**EXERCISE 1**

Join the two sentences with *when*. Begin your sentence with *when*. Use the correct punctuation.

1. I sleep. I have the radio on.

2. I sleep. I snore.

3. I sleep. I move around a lot.

4. I sleep. I like to hold something.

5. I sleep. I lie on my side.

6. I have problems. I cannot sleep.

7. I eat too much. I have a nightmare.

8. I am in a different bed. I cannot sleep.
EXERCISE 2

There are 10 mistakes in grammar below. Find the mistakes and correct them.

Sleep very important is. It is most important than food. When a person do not eat, he or she dies. When a person does not sleep, he or she dies more fast. Baby need the more sleep. Teenager sleep more long than adult. People need less sleep as they get oldest.

WRITING PRACTICE

WRITE SENTENCES

Answer these questions with complete sentences.

1. How much sleep do you need?

2. What time do you usually go to bed, and what time do you get up in the morning?

3. Are the lights in your room on or off when you sleep? Is the window open or closed? Is your room quiet, or noisy?

4. How often do you wake up in the middle of the night? Do you wake up every night or some nights? What do you do when you wake up?

5. How do you usually sleep—on your back, side, or stomach? Do you move around a lot?
REWITE IN PARAGRAPH FORM

Rewrite your sentences in the form of a paragraph. Then use the paragraph checklist to check your work.

**Paragraph Checklist**

- Did you indent the first line?
- Did you give your paragraph a title?
- Did you write the title with a capital letter or letters?
- Did you put the title in the center at the top of the page?
- Did you write on every other line or double-space on a computer?

EDIT YOUR PARAGRAPH

Work with a partner or your teacher to edit your sentences. Check the spelling, punctuation, vocabulary, and grammar. Use the editing checklist to help you.

**Editing Checklist**

- Subject in every sentence?
- Verb in every sentence?
- Words in correct order?
- Sentences begin with a capital letter?
- Sentences end with a period, a question mark, or an exclamation point directly at the end of a sentence?
- Sentences have a space between them?
- Commas in the correct place?
- Wrong words?
- Spelling?
- Missing words (use insertion mark: ^)?

WRITE YOUR FINAL COPY

After you edit your paragraph, you can write your final copy.
PRE-READING

PREPARING FOR THE READING TOPIC

Discuss the answers to these questions with your classmates.

1. Who are some well-known funny people in your country?
2. Describe the photo on page 58. Does it make you laugh?
3. How do you feel when you laugh?

KEY VOCABULARY

Do you know these words? Match the words with the meanings.

1. muscles
2. an organ
3. blood pressure
4. circulation
5. a heartbeat
6. a brain
7. a painkiller
8. relaxation

a. measurement of the force of blood moving around the body
b. something that is not work; something that you enjoy
c. the action of the heart
d. movement of the blood around the body
e. a medicine that stops pain
f. what is on your bones that helps you move
g. a part of the body that has a special job (for example, the heart)
h. the organ in the head used for thinking
Some people say that laughter is the best medicine. Scientists are beginning to agree with this. They are studying laughter seriously and are finding that it is really good for us.

So what happens when we laugh? We use 15 different muscles in our face, and laughing is good for every organ in our body. When we laugh, we breathe quickly and exercise the face, shoulders, and chest. Our blood pressure goes down, and
our circulation gets better. Our heartbeat is lower, and our brain makes a natural painkiller called a beta-endorphin.

Every minute we laugh is the same as 45 minutes of relaxation. Many doctors around the world believe that laughter helps us get better when we are sick.

Today, there are laughter clubs around the world. They try to improve people's health with laughter. The laughter clubs started in India. Now they are in many different countries. There are more than 450 laughter clubs just in India. All kinds of people join a laughter club. They go once a day for 20 minutes and start to laugh. There are no jokes. People laugh as a kind of exercise, and everyone feels better afterwards. Some people pay a lot of money to join a laughter club and just laugh.

Of course, there are many kinds of laughter. We may laugh in different ways when we are in different situations. But we all have a laugh that is special to us.

How and when do you usually laugh? Does the following make you laugh?

Patient: Doctor! Doctor! Every time I drink coffee, I get a sharp pain in my eye.

Doctor: Well, take out the spoon.

VOCABULARY

VOCABULARY IN CONTEXT

A Complete these sentences with the words in the box.

blood pressure circulation muscles painkiller
brain heartbeat organ relaxation

1. When we laugh, we use 15 different ____________ in our face.
2. Laughter is good for every ____________ in our body.
3. When we laugh, our ____________ goes down.
4. Laughter makes our ____________ better.
5. A beta-endorphin is a natural ____________.
6. Laughter makes our ____________ lower.
7. Laughter makes a natural painkiller in our ____________.
8. Forty-five minutes of ____________ is the same as one minute of laughter.
Choose the correct answer. Then use the answer in a complete sentence.

1. Which of the following is relaxation for most people?
   a. watching television  
   b. studying  
   c. driving in traffic

2. Which of the following is an organ in the body?
   a. a leg  
   b. a hand  
   c. the brain

3. Muscles can be found in which of the following?
   a. our nails  
   b. our legs  
   c. our hair

4. Which of these activities gives you a faster heartbeat?
   a. sleeping  
   b. running  
   c. eating

5. What do you need a painkiller for?
   a. a joke  
   b. a bath  
   c. a headache

VOCABULARY BUILDING

A Complete these sentences with the correct form of the new words or phrases in the box.

- a joke = something that you say or do that makes people laugh
- to be embarrassed = to feel uncomfortable because of something you did or did not do
- to burst into laughter = to suddenly begin to laugh

1. Some people are good at telling __________________. I’m not.
2. She __________________ when I told her the funny story.
3. I forgot it was her birthday. I was so __________________.

B Now make your own sentences with the new words or phrases.

READING COMPREHENSION

LOOKING FOR MAIN IDEAS

Circle the letter of the best answer.

1. Scientists say that laughter is _____.
   a. good for us  
   b. serious  
   c. not really good

2. Laughter is good for _____.
   a. our whole body  
   b. only the face  
   c. only the chest and shoulders
3. Laughter clubs _____.  
   a. are only in India  
   b. are places to learn jokes  
   c. help people feel better

LOOKING FOR DETAILS

One piece of information in each sentence is not correct. Rewrite the sentence with the correct information.

1. We use 50 different muscles in our face when we laugh.

2. Laughing is good for every organ in our brain.

3. Every minute we laugh is the same as 45 hours of relaxation.

4. We may change the way we laugh in different ages.

5. When we laugh, we breathe seriously.

6. Our face makes a natural painkiller.

DISCUSSION

Discuss the answers to these questions with your classmates.

1. Do you often laugh or do you never laugh?
2. When you laugh, do you laugh with your mouth open?
3. When you laugh, do you laugh loudly?
4. When you laugh, do you have a shy and quiet laugh?
5. What makes you laugh?

CRITICAL THINKING

Discuss the answers to these questions with your classmates.

1. Do you think laughter clubs are silly or important? Explain.
2. Most laughter is a good thing. When is laughter a bad thing? Explain.
3. Have you ever laugheded at the wrong time? Give an example. Why do people sometimes laugh at the wrong time?
WRITING SKILLS

Adverbs

An adverb tells you something about a verb. It answers the question How? It usually comes after the verb.

EXAMPLE: When we laugh, we breath quickly.

We usually form an adverb by adding -ly to an adjective.

EXAMPLES: loud → loudly, quiet → quietly

EXERCISE 1

Change the adjectives in parentheses into adverbs, and rewrite the sentences.

1. She laughs (free).
2. He laughs (loud).
3. She laughs (shy).
4. He laughs (nervous).
5. They are studying (serious).
6. He speaks (quiet).

EXERCISE 2

Write five sentences about yourself, using the adverbs in the box.

loudly quickly quietly seriously slowly

1. ____________________________________________
2. ____________________________________________
EXERCISE 3

There are 10 mistakes in grammar and capitalization below. Find the mistakes and correct them.

Scientist is studying laughter serious. They are finding that laughter is goodly for us. When people are sick, laughter helps them to get more better. Laughter club started in india. People join a laughter club and go very day. They may laugh loud for minutes and feel best afterwards.

WRITING PRACTICE

WRITE SENTENCES

Answer these questions with complete sentences.

1. Choose one of the following sentences and copy it below.
   I like to laugh a lot.
   I don’t like to laugh.
   I sometimes laugh.

2. What things make you laugh (jokes, funny situations, being embarrassed)?

3. When did you laugh last?

4. What happened when you last laughed? Who was with you? Where were you?
5. Did you laugh quietly or loudly?

6. Do you feel like laughing when you think of this situation?

**REWRITE IN PARAGRAPH FORM**

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**Paragraph Checklist**

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- Sentences begin with a capital letter?
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- Sentences have a space between them?
- Commas in the correct place?
- Wrong words?
- Spelling?
- Missing words (use insertion mark: ^)?

**WRITE YOUR FINAL COPY**

After you edit your paragraph, you can write your final copy.
TIMED WRITING

Write a paragraph about yawning. First, answer the following questions with complete sentences. Then rewrite them into paragraph form. You have 50 minutes.

1. How often do you yawn? (every day / sometimes / often / rarely)
2. What makes you yawn? (sleepy / tired / cold / bored)
3. How long does your yawn last?
4. Do you make a noise when you yawn?
5. Do you yawn when somebody else yawns?
6. Are you yawning now?

SEARCH THE INTERNET

A Search the Internet for information about insomnia. Find answers to these questions:

1. What are the different types of insomnia?
2. What are some things that cause insomnia?
3. How many people in your country have insomnia?
4. What happens to people when they don’t get enough sleep?
5. What are some ways that can help people sleep better?

B Search the Internet for interesting jokes and humor. Share the information with your classmates.

WHAT DO YOU THINK NOW?

Refer to page 47 at the beginning of this unit. Do you know the answers now? Complete the sentence, or circle the best answer.

1. Sleep (is / is not) more important than food.
2. A baby needs ________________ hours of sleep a day.
3. Your heartbeat is (higher / lower) when you laugh.
4. Every minute of laughter is the same as ________________ minutes of relaxation.