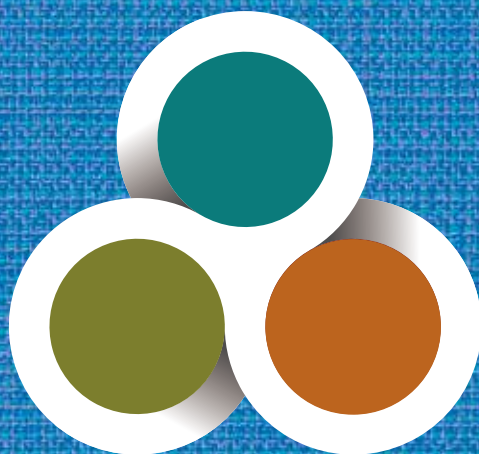


# Reading Links

## 2

Andrew E. Bennett



NAN'UN-DO

## **Reading Links 2**

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**Written and designed by: Andrew E. Bennett**

### **Reading Links 2**

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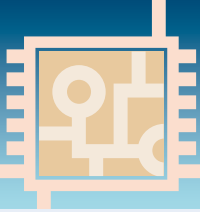
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# Introduction

*Reading Links* is a comprehensive series designed for lower-level students. Each book includes 20 units centered on high-interest topics such as the arts, careers, entertainment, the environment, and many others.

Reading passages and exercises use carefully controlled vocabulary and grammar to facilitate comprehension. Critical thinking and active student engagement are also encouraged. Unit after unit, students' reading, vocabulary, grammar, listening, and speaking skills are strengthened.

Following is an explanation of the unit components:


The general topic is given next to the unit number.


Units are divided into two parts covering different aspects of the topic. Part 1 starts with a story or article. In *Reading Links 2*, these passages are between 75-100 words long. The track number next to the headphones icon corresponds to the downloadable audio recording of the passage.

This vocabulary building exercise contains four target words or phrases selected from the reading passage. They are chosen for their frequency and usefulness. To build fluency further, students can be asked to write their own sentences using the target words.

## 1 Weather

### Part 1: Making Rain

Read the following article.  Track 2



People in cities use a lot of water – for cooking, washing, drinking, and so on. Rain is the main source of new water. Unfortunately, it doesn't always rain enough. That can be big a problem for cities.

Sometimes, we can help make it rain. To do this, a special airplane flies up to the clouds. Then, it releases some chemicals. These chemicals cause clouds to make rain. The process is called "seeding clouds." It brings water to thirsty cities.

#### Vocabulary Check

Write the correct word in each blank.

thirsty      unfortunately      fly      cause

1. Typhoons \_\_\_\_\_ big problems for areas near the ocean.
2. The dog looks \_\_\_\_\_. I'll give it something to drink.
3. \_\_\_\_\_, I can't go with you to the party.
4. Many birds \_\_\_\_\_ south in the winter.

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### Reading Check

Choose the best answer.

- ( ) What does the article say about rain?  
A: We don't understand why it rains.  
B: Rain water is mostly used for drinking.  
C: Unfortunately, it usually rains too much.  
D: It is the main way cities get water.
- ( ) Without enough rain, \_\_\_\_\_.  
A: people do a lot of cooking  
B: businesses use more water  
C: stores must close their doors  
D: cities have problems
- ( ) What is "seeding clouds"?  
A: a kind of cloud  
B: a way to make it rain  
C: a chemical  
D: a special airplane
- ( ) What happens first?  
A: The clouds are seeded by chemicals.  
B: It starts to rain heavily.  
C: Chemicals are loaded onto an airplane.  
D: An airplane flies up high.

### Grammar Check

Complete each sentence with *do*, *doesn't*, or *don't*.

Ex: No, my sister doesn't speak French.

- Let me check. Yes, I \_\_\_\_\_ have enough money.
- She \_\_\_\_\_ want to go ice skating.
- The kids sure \_\_\_\_\_ love ice cream. They always ask for it.
- No, they \_\_\_\_\_ enjoy living next to the highway.

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This reading comprehension exercise includes detail, analysis, and vocabulary questions. Some questions go beneath the surface, encouraging students to consider the material more deeply and employ critical thinking skills.

Each grammar check covers an important language structure such as pronouns, word forms, verb tenses, prepositions, and so on. There are also several word order exercises in which students rearrange words to make a complete sentence.

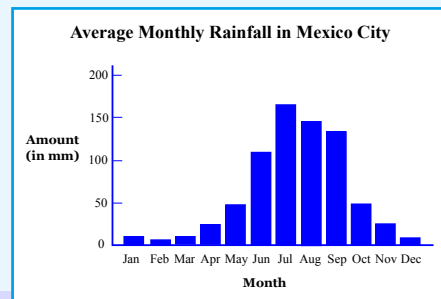
Part 2 opens with a unique element of *Reading Links*: a visual reading component. It is included because in today's world, literacy extends beyond the ability to read passages of text. It means being able to read maps, graphs, tables, charts, schedules, dialogues, and so on.

In *Reading Links*, these components are presented in simplified, yet authentic English to provide students an opportunity to practice and improve these critical 21st century skills.

This basic true and false exercise checks students' understanding of the material. Teachers are encouraged to go further and base classroom activities on the visual reading components through role plays, student-generated materials and presentations, etc.

### Part 2: Rainfall and Travel Plans

Read the following information.



Jill and Simon are planning a trip to Mexico City. They prefer dry weather. Also, they don't like traveling in the winter. Simon cannot travel in October. He has important work to do back home.

### True or False

Circle true (T) or false (F).

- (T/F) February is the month with the most rainfall.
- (T/F) In May, Mexico City receives about 50 mm of rainfall.
- (T/F) The rainfall is below 150 mm every month.
- (T/F) July is the best month for Jill and Simon's trip.

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**Dictation** A. Listen and fill in the blanks. Track 3

Tim: Look at those .( ). Do you still want to go for a walk?  
 Fiona: Sure, I don't mind .( ). Besides, we have umbrellas.  
 Tim: I'm just worried about getting these new shoes wet.  
 Fiona: Maybe we can ,( ) the route.  
 Tim: What do you have in mind?  
 Fiona: Instead of going to the park, we can ,( ). If it starts to rain, we'll find a coffee shop.  
 Tim: Good plan.

B. Choose the best answer.

1. ( ) **Tim doesn't want to** \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A: damage his shoes  
 B: drink coffee  
 C: exercise too much  
 D: go downtown

2. ( ) **What will they do if it rains?**  
 A: Buy an umbrella      B: Walk to the park  
 C: Go into a shop      D: Run home quickly

**Discussion** Discuss these questions together.

1. What's your favorite kind of weather?
2. What do you usually do on rainy days?
3. Do you mind going out in the rain? How about in the snow?

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This dialogue is related to the unit's general topic. The track number next to the headphones icon corresponds to the downloadable audio recording of the dialogue. Students should listen to the audio recording and fill in the blanks. As a fluency building exercise, students can then pair up and take turns reading each character's lines.

The dialogue is followed by a comprehension exercise.

Finally, there is a series of discussion questions related to Part 1 and Part 2 of the unit. Students may ask each other questions in pairs, or the class can answer the questions together. Students are encouraged to go beyond "yes/no" answers and provide examples and details from their own lives, as well as reasons for their points of view.

Additional materials for *Reading Links 2* are available. They include downloadable MP3 files of the audio recordings, which make it easy for students to listen to the recordings on their computer, phone, or other device.

The book's teacher's manual includes the full listening transcript, answer key, and other resources.

Materials to assist with online classes are also available from Nan'un-do.

I hope *Reading Links 2* helps build students' English skills while boosting everyone's interest and confidence in an enjoyable way.

Thank you very much, and best wishes for an outstanding class!

Andrew E. Bennett





# 1 Weather

## Part 1: Making Rain

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thirsty

unfortunately

fly

cause

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2. The dog looks \_\_\_\_\_. I'll give it something to drink.
3. \_\_\_\_\_, I can't go with you to the party.
4. Many birds \_\_\_\_\_ south in the winter.



## Reading Check

Choose the best answer.

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## Grammar Check

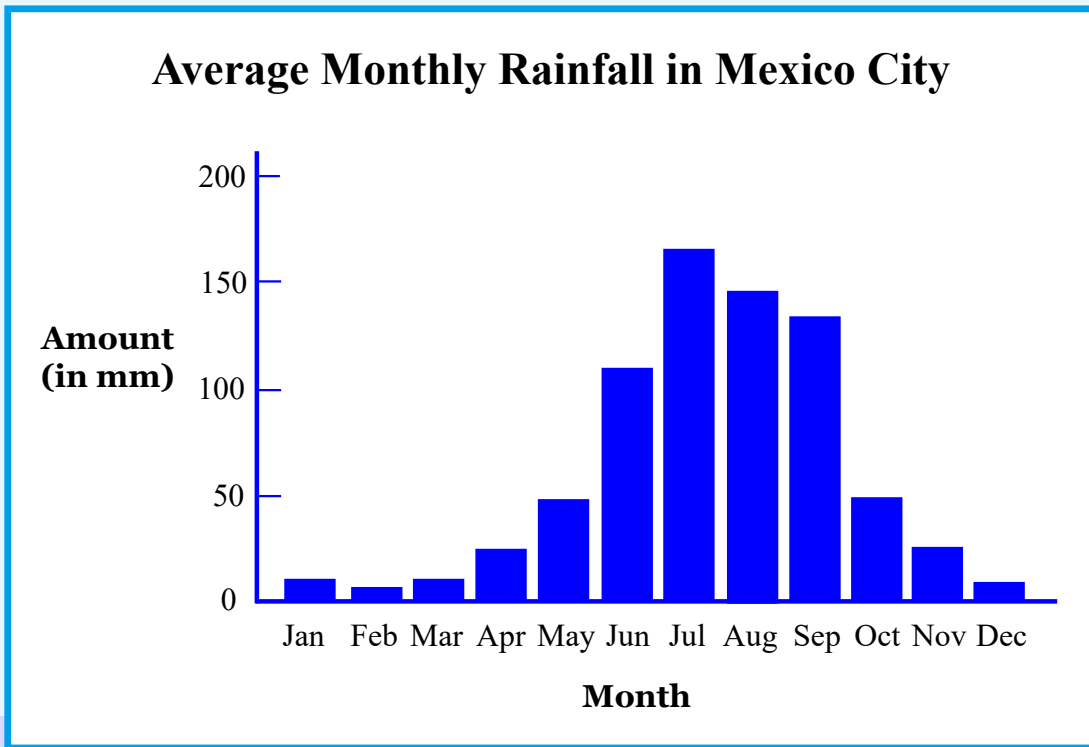
Complete each sentence with *do*, *doesn't*, or *don't*.

**Ex: No, my sister doesn't speak French.**

- Let me check. Yes, I \_\_\_\_\_ have enough money.
- She \_\_\_\_\_ want to go ice skating.
- The kids sure \_\_\_\_\_ love ice cream. They always ask for it.
- No, they \_\_\_\_\_ enjoy living next to the highway.

## Part 2: Rainfall and Travel Plans

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### True or False

Circle true (T) or false (F).

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2. (T/F) In May, Mexico City receives about 50 mm of rainfall.
3. (T/F) The rainfall is below 150 mm every month.
4. (T/F) July is the best month for Jill and Simon's trip.

## Dictation

A. Listen and fill in the blanks.  Track 3

Tim: Look at those <sub>1</sub>( ). Do you still want to go for a walk?

Fiona: Sure, I don't mind <sub>2</sub>( ). Besides, we have umbrellas.

Tim: I'm just worried about getting these new shoes wet.

Fiona: Maybe we can <sub>3</sub>( ) the route.

Tim: What do you have in mind?

Fiona: Instead of going to the park, we can <sub>4</sub>( ).  
If it starts to rain, we'll find a coffee shop.

Tim: Good plan.

B. Choose the best answer.

1. ( ) Tim doesn't want to \_\_\_\_\_.

A: damage his shoes

B: drink coffee

C: exercise too much

D: go downtown

2. ( ) What will they do if it rains?

A: Buy an umbrella

B: Walk to the park

C: Go into a shop

D: Run home quickly

## Discussion

Discuss these questions together.

1. What's your favorite kind of weather?

2. What do you usually do on rainy days?

3. Do you mind going out in the rain? How about in the snow?

### Part 1: Online Gaming

Read the following article.



Before the Internet, people usually played computer games at home, either alone or with friends. Going online is now fast and affordable, and computer gaming is changing. With a computer, cell phone, or other device, people everywhere can play together.

There are many kinds of online games. Some are for playing sports, chess, and other traditional games. Others are “role-playing” games. In these games, each player becomes a character in an online world. Online gaming is a fast-growing business with an exciting future. Plus, it’s a lot of fun!

#### Vocabulary Check

Write the correct word in each blank.

alone

changes

traditional

world

1. Everything in today’s cities \_\_\_\_\_ so quickly.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ is big. But it’s easy to fly from place to place.
3. I don’t like being \_\_\_\_\_. I prefer spending time with friends.
4. This \_\_\_\_\_ holiday song is heard everywhere in December.

## Reading Check

Choose the best answer.

- ( ) To play online games, people need \_\_\_\_\_.  
A: an expensive computer  
B: a fast-growing and successful business  
C: a lot of friends at home  
D: a computer or device like a cell phone
- ( ) According to the article, the Internet is \_\_\_\_\_.  
A: not affordable  
B: only fast on some cell phones  
C: cheap, but slow  
D: changing how we play games
- ( ) What kind of computer game is not discussed?  
A: Role-playing games  
B: Strategy games  
C: Traditional games  
D: Sports games
- ( ) Which of the following is true?  
A: Every computer is connected to the Internet.  
B: The earliest computers could play games online.  
C: In some online games, players become characters.  
D: The online gaming business is growing slowly.

## Grammar Check

Write the past tense form of each verb.

**Ex: Derek showed (show) me his new gaming system.**

- Yesterday, we \_\_\_\_\_ (play) soccer all day.
- I \_\_\_\_\_ (send) a message to Sheila this morning.
- Tina \_\_\_\_\_ (buy) a dress in Harajuku.
- Going to the aquarium \_\_\_\_\_ (be) so much fun!

## Part 2: News Website

Look at the following website.

**www.fastnews.com**



### Main sections

Nation

World

Business

Sports

Entertainment

### Other sections

Free e-mail

Live video

Reader polls

## Top Stories



“Red” is a hero.

Nation

[Pet dog saves man's life](#)

World

[Germany's new leader](#)

Business

[Sony's profits rise 20%](#)

Sports

[Two weeks until the World Cup starts](#)

Entertainment

[The new James Bond movie](#)

### Website search



### Internet search



### Advertisement



**JAKE'S PIZZA**  
Order online or  
on our app!

### True or False

Circle true (T) or false (F).

1. (T/F) The website has a special section about cats.
2. (T/F) Website visitors can watch a live video feed.
3. (T/F) Fastnews.com does not have games on the website.
4. (T/F) The advertisement is at the top of the page.

## Dictation

A. Listen and fill in the blanks.  Track 5

Tracy: Fantasy Rush is <sub>1</sub>( )!

Leo: I just started playing yesterday. I can't believe it's free.  
How does the website make money?

Tracy: They sell you things <sub>2</sub>( ). You can buy a horse and magic rings – stuff like that.

Leo: Oh, I see. I'm still on the first level. I just like <sub>3</sub>( ) and looking at things.

Tracy: You'll be fine for a while. On the higher levels, it helps to have a flying horse.

Leo: Thanks, that's <sub>4</sub>( ).

B. Choose the best answer.

- ( ) Tracy has probably \_\_\_\_\_.  
A: played the game less than Leo  
B: tried some of the game's higher levels  
C: never bought something in the game  
D: sold some magic rings to Leo
- ( ) What does Leo enjoy doing in Fantasy Rush?  
A: Looking at the game world      B: Riding a flying horse  
C: Buying and selling things      D: Meeting other players

## Discussion

Discuss these questions together.

1. Do you play any online games? If so, which ones?
2. Do you have any favorite websites?
3. How about mobile apps? Do you have any favorites?