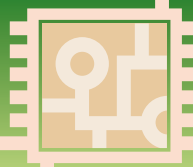


# Reading Links

## 3

Andrew E. Bennett





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## Reading Links 3

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

### Reading Links 3

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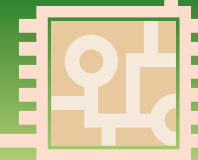
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# Introduction

*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 3*, these passages are between 100-135 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 Nature**

**Part 1: Hot Springs**


Read the following article. Track 2

Hot springs are natural waters that flow up from beneath the ground. They can be 40 degrees Celsius or hotter and often have a strong smell. The heat comes from the water contacting hot rocks deep underground. The smell comes from minerals in the water.



For thousands of years, people have found these waters to have health benefits. They are said to help our skin and blood flow. Spas are often built near hot springs so visitors can enjoy the healthy waters.

There is one important thing to consider about these springs. Not only are they very hot, but the effect of the minerals is strong. Bathers should only stay in the water 10 to 15 minutes. After that, people may start to feel light-headed.



**Vocabulary Check** Write the correct word in each blank.

contact    skin    natural    flows

1. Farmers often have rough \_\_\_\_\_ from working in the sun.
2. The Ganges River \_\_\_\_\_ all the way to the Bay of Bengal.
3. I'll try to \_\_\_\_\_ Linda on her cell phone.
4. I prefer eating \_\_\_\_\_ foods like fruits and nuts.

8

**Reading Check** Choose the best answer.

- ( ) How do hot springs get their heat?  
A: From rocks  
B: From minerals  
C: From spas  
D: From natural waters
- ( ) What have people liked about hot springs for a long time?  
A: Their health benefits  
B: Their lovely smell  
C: Their delicious taste  
D: Their pretty color
- ( ) Why should bathers get out of hot springs after 15 minutes?  
A: The water might become dirty.  
B: The spas usually limit your time.  
C: Other people may be waiting.  
D: There could be a health risk.
- ( ) Which of the following is true about hot springs?  
A: They are always cooler than 40 degrees Celsius.  
B: They are made by hot rain in some countries.  
C: They may smell different from normal drinking water.  
D: They are only helpful if you sit in them for an hour.

**Grammar Check** Write the correct word in each blank.

Ex: The fruit has a strong smell, but it's delicious.  
(strong/strongly)

- To stay \_\_\_\_\_, it helps to exercise regularly.  
(health / healthy)
- I just got back from vacation, and I \_\_\_\_\_ great!  
(feel / feeling)
- The teacher explained the \_\_\_\_\_ of studying hard.  
(important / importance)
- Veronica finds traveling relaxing and \_\_\_\_\_.  
(enjoy / enjoyable)

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: Eco-Tourism**

Read the following information.



Eco-tourism is a fast-growing way to travel. Visitors experience a country's natural wonders. Here are some of the world's most popular eco-tourism spots.



Country	What People Love to See
Costa Rica	There are rain forests, beaches, and local wildlife like monkeys and jaguars.
Ecuador	The Galapagos Islands are famous for lizards, giant tortoises, and other animals found only there.
Tanzania	The Serengeti National Park has beautiful, wide-open spaces and large animals. They include elephants, zebras, buffalos, and more.
Australia	The Great Barrier Reef has fish and corals in all the colors of the rainbow.

**True or False** Circle true (T) or false (F).

- (T/F) Eco-tourists love visiting natural areas.
- (T/F) All four countries are famous for their sea life.
- (T/F) Both the Galapagos Islands and Serengeti National Park have big animals.
- (T/F) You can walk in a rainforest and sit on a beach in Costa Rica.

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

Travis: Your uncle's property is like something from a dream. You can see clear across \_\_\_\_\_.

Regina: I used to come here every summer as a child. We had names for the turtles that lived \_\_\_\_\_.

Travis: That's awesome. Living out here must be great – fresh air, animals everywhere, and no city noises.

Regina: It's nice for a few days, but it's kind of far from everything. The \_\_\_\_\_ is an hour away.

Travis: Wow. How are the neighbors?

Regina: Very friendly. That's a good thing about living in the country. Everyone helps \_\_\_\_\_ out.

B. Choose the best answer.

- ( ) What good point about the area is not mentioned by Travis?  
A: The tall trees  
B: The clean air  
C: The general quiet  
D: The local animals
- ( ) What does Regina say about her uncle's property?  
A: She still goes there every year.  
B: The lake is usually cold.  
C: Going to the store takes an hour.  
D: Nobody lives nearby.

**Discussion** Discuss these questions together.

- Have you ever bathed in a hot spring? If so, how did you like it?
- What types of natural places do you like visiting? (Ex: mountains, beaches, forests)
- What beautiful areas in your country would you like to see? Would you like to travel to any natural places in other countries?

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 3* 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 3* 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

## Part 1: Hot Springs

Read the following article.



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There is one important thing to consider about these springs. Not only are they very hot, but the effect of the minerals is strong. Bathers should only stay in the water 10 to 15 minutes. After that, people may start to feel light-headed.



## Reading Check

Choose the best answer.

- ( ) How do hot springs get their heat?
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  - From minerals
  - From spas
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  - They are always cooler than 40 degrees Celsius.
  - They are made by hot rain in some countries.
  - They may smell different from normal drinking water.
  - They are only helpful if you sit in them for an hour.

## Grammar Check

Write the correct word in each blank.

Ex: The fruit has a strong smell, but it's delicious.  
(strong/strongly)

- To stay \_\_\_\_\_, it helps to exercise regularly.  
(health / healthy)
- I just got back from vacation, and I \_\_\_\_\_ great!  
(feel / feeling)
- The teacher explained the \_\_\_\_\_ of studying hard.  
(important / importance)
- Veronica finds traveling relaxing and \_\_\_\_\_.  
(enjoy / enjoyable)

## Vocabulary Check

Write the correct word in each blank.

contact      skin      natural      flows

- Farmers often have rough \_\_\_\_\_ from working in the sun.
- The Ganges River \_\_\_\_\_ all the way to the Bay of Bengal.
- I'll try to \_\_\_\_\_ Linda on her cell phone.
- I prefer eating \_\_\_\_\_ foods like fruits and nuts.

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Australia	The Great Barrier Reef has fish and corals in all the colors of the rainbow.

### True or False

Circle true (T) or false (F).

- (T/F) Eco-tourists love visiting natural areas.
- (T/F) All four countries are famous for their sea life.
- (T/F) Both the Galapagos Islands and Serengeti National Park have big animals.
- (T/F) You can walk in a rainforest and sit on a beach in Costa Rica.

### Dictation

A. Listen and fill in the blanks. Track 3

- Travis: Your uncle's property is like something from a dream. You can see clear across <sub>1</sub>( ).
- Regina: I used to come here every summer as a child. We had names for the turtles that lived <sub>2</sub>( ).
- Travis: That's awesome. Living out here must be great – fresh air, animals everywhere, and no city noises.
- Regina: It's nice for a few days, but it's kind of far from everything. The <sub>3</sub>( ) is an hour away.
- Travis: Wow. How are the neighbors?
- Regina: Very friendly. That's a good thing about living in the country. Everyone helps <sub>4</sub>( ) out.

B. Choose the best answer.

- ( ) What good point about the area is not mentioned by Travis?
  - A: The tall trees
  - B: The clean air
  - C: The general quiet
  - D: The local animals
- ( ) What does Regina say about her uncle's property?
  - A: She still goes there every year.
  - B: The lake is usually cold.
  - C: Going to the store takes an hour.
  - D: Nobody lives nearby.

### Discussion

Discuss these questions together.

- Have you ever bathed in a hot spring? If so, how did you like it?
- What types of natural places do you like visiting? (Ex: mountains, beaches, forests)
- What beautiful areas in your country would you like to see? Would you like to travel to any natural places in other countries?

## Part 1: Bagpipes in Scotland

Read the following article.



Although bagpipes are played in many places, Scotland is especially well-known for them. The instrument has been important to the culture for more than 500 years.

A bagpipe has a large bag that holds air. The player starts by blowing air into the bag. Some of the air exits through pipes on top of the instrument. These “drones” make long, low notes. Air also exits through a pipe on the bottom called a “chanter.” That makes higher notes and the melody of the music.

Bagpipe players are known for their impressive outfits. They often wear colorful kilts around their waist, as well as special jackets and hats. There are bagpipe concerts during weddings, parades, and other special events. The music is enjoyed by the people of Scotland, its visitors, and music lovers worldwide.



### Reading Check

Choose the best answer.

- ( ) Bagpipes are \_\_\_\_\_ in the culture of Scotland.  
A: new  
B: famous  
C: minor  
D: unknown
- ( ) For a bagpipe, what is a “drone”?  
A: A long, high note  
B: A bag with air in it  
C: A bagpipe player  
D: A kind of pipe
- ( ) What happens first?  
A: Air exits through the chanter, creating the melody.  
B: The large bag fills up with air.  
C: A player blows into the bagpipe.  
D: Low notes are made at the top of the instrument.
- ( ) Which of these is true?  
A: Musicians play bagpipes during weddings.  
B: Scotland is the only country with bagpipes.  
C: A bagpipe can only make low notes.  
D: Bagpipe players usually wear plain outfits.

### Vocabulary Check

Write the correct word in each blank.

enjoy      impressive      concert      wear

- Nadia’s outfit was very \_\_\_\_\_. I loved her scarf and gloves.
- Do you want to go to a jazz \_\_\_\_\_ on Sunday?
- The people behind me were talking. It was hard to \_\_\_\_\_ the movie.
- It’s a little cold. I’m going to \_\_\_\_\_ a jacket.

### Grammar Check

Complete each sentence with **from**, **through**, or **by**.

Ex: I used to live by a lake. Geese woke me up every morning.

- Please go \_\_\_\_\_ that door. Ms. Reeds is waiting inside.
- Her house is \_\_\_\_\_ a river, and there are pretty trees all around.
- This music is lovely. What country is it \_\_\_\_\_?
- Just walk \_\_\_\_\_ the park. The school is on the other side.

## Part 2: Music Festivals

Read the following schedule of events.

This summer's festival brings you a mix of old and new music from several parts of the world. Music lovers of all ages are welcome.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	2	3	4	5	6	
	6:30 PM Traditional music from Chile			7:30 PM Rock music from the 1960s	2:00 PM Children's music from around the world	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		7:00 PM Dance party in the park. Food, drinks, and fun!			3:00 PM Free guitar lessons	2:00 PM A taste of Italian opera
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	6:00 PM African drums and dancing		8:00 PM Flute and piano concert		1:30 PM Karaoke party	

### True or False

Circle true (T) or false (F).

- (T/F) The music festival lasts one week.
- (T/F) There are no concerts or other events in the morning.
- (T/F) One can hear music from Europe on July 13.
- (T/F) Both of the parties start at 7:00 PM.

### Dictation

A. Listen and fill in the blanks. Track 5

Orion: I finally made it to the Open Air Music Festival! What should we <sub>1</sub>( )?

Iris: It's my first time, too, so I'm not sure.

Orion: No problem. We'll figure it out. The schedule says the top bands will be on the <sub>2</sub>( ) starting at 3:00 PM.

Iris: That leaves us four hours until then. I see there are a couple of good <sub>3</sub>( ) playing this morning. They're over on the small stage.

Orion: We could give them a try, get lunch, and then head to the big stage.

Iris: Sounds good. First, I want to look for a locker. This <sub>4</sub>( ) is heavy.

B. Choose the best answer.

- ( ) Which of these is true?
  - A: Neither of them has attended the event before.
  - B: Backpacks are not allowed at the festival.
  - C: All of the local bands will play on the big stage.
  - D: It is currently sometime in the afternoon.
- ( ) What will they do last?
  - A: Get lunch
  - B: Listen to the top bands
  - C: Walk to the small stage
  - D: Find a locker

### Discussion

Discuss these questions together.

- Do you like any traditional instruments such as bagpipes?
- Some restaurants hire singers and bands to play for customers. What kind of live music is nice to listen to during a meal?
- Have you ever attended a music festival? If so, what was it like?



## Part 1: Cosplay

Read the following article.



Cosplay is a fun and creative hobby. Fans make costumes of their favorite characters from anime, manga, movies, and so on. The most serious cosplayers make every piece of the outfit by hand, from the clothes to the accessories like weapons and jewelry. That can take several hundred hours for just one costume. In addition, cosplayers wear makeup to look as much as possible like their characters.

Conventions for the hobby are held worldwide. Cosplayers, dressed in their full costumes and makeup, walk around while fans take photos. Some cosplayers become famous, and they can even earn a living from the hobby.

Sometimes, cosplayers belong to groups. Each member dresses like a character from the same manga or show. Then they go to conventions and pose for photos as a team.

## Vocabulary Check

Write the correct word in each blank.

belong	hobby	creative	costume
--------	-------	----------	---------

- Do you \_\_\_\_\_ to any clubs at school?
- It takes a very \_\_\_\_\_ person to paint a picture like that.
- Most of my \_\_\_\_\_ is made of silk.
- When I was young, my \_\_\_\_\_ was coin collecting.

## Reading Check

Choose the best answer.

- ( ) Why do cosplayers wear makeup?
  - To hide their real faces
  - To look beautiful or handsome
  - To look like their characters
  - To find a boyfriend or girlfriend
- ( ) What happens at conventions?
  - New accessories are made by cosplayers.
  - Makeup companies hire famous cosplayers.
  - Cosplayers trade costumes with each other.
  - Fans take pictures of their favorite cosplayers.
- ( ) What does "in addition" mean?
 

A: but	B: then
C: for example	D: also
- ( ) Which of the following is true?
  - Most cosplayers buy their costumes.
  - It can take a very long time to make a costume.
  - Every cosplayer belongs to a group.
  - It's impossible to earn money from cosplaying.

## Grammar Check

Put the words in the correct order.

- (are seven / hiking group / There / in our / people)  
\_\_\_\_\_.
- (go to / convention / want to / anime / Do you / the)  
\_\_\_\_\_?
- (my costume / I want / possible / as good as / to look)  
\_\_\_\_\_.

## Part 2: Attending a Convention

Read the following conversation.



Jacob: It's my first time attending Hero Con. Where should we begin?

Elena: I like to start by buying exclusive toys. That way I can get them before they sell out.

Jacob: Good thinking. There's a model kit I want. The seller is in Hall D.

Elena: I want to get a couple of toys in Hall A. Why don't we each get our shopping done. Then we can meet in Hall B.

Jacob: Perfect. That's where the autograph signings are. Two of my favorite actors are here, but I'm not sure what to get signed.

Elena: Don't worry about that. They usually have photos at the signing booths.



## Dictation

A. Listen and fill in the blanks. Track 7

Trevor: I love <sub>1</sub>( )! You look like you stepped right out of an anime.

Reika: Thanks. It's my favorite character. She's a princess, with a <sub>2</sub>( ) as a spaceship fighter pilot.

Trevor: That's quite a combination. Did you make everything yourself?

Reika: Some of it. I made the belt, hat, and necklace. The jacket and skirt were clothes <sub>3</sub>( ). I sewed a few things on.

Trevor: That must have taken a while. I love the sword, too.

Reika: Isn't it cool? It's the one thing I had to <sub>4</sub>( ).

B. Choose the best answer.

- ( ) What does Trevor suggest?  
A: Reika's outfit looks like something from a store.  
B: He likes watching space-based anime.  
C: It probably took a long time to make the costume.  
D: Hats are the hardest things to make.
- ( ) Which of these is true about the outfit?  
A: Reika made the sword herself.  
B: Reika needed help with the sewing.  
C: Reika used some of her old clothes.  
D: Reika had to order a necklace.

## True or False

Circle true (T) or false (F).

- (T/F) Elena has probably attended Hero Con before.
- (T/F) Both of them want to buy exclusive items.
- (T/F) Actors will sign autographs in Hall C.
- (T/F) Jacob brought something to get signed.

## Discussion

Discuss these questions together.

- What are your hobbies?
- Are you a creative person? If so, in what way?
- Let's say there's a cosplay event coming up. Your good friend has invited you to go. Which character will you dress up as?