

## COOL Reading 3\_Audio Script

### [Track 01]

**M:** COOL Reading

**W:** Book 3

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**M:** page 8, Passage 1

**W:** One day, a rich man's son came home for vacation. The father wanted to show off his wealth to his son, but he knew that his son wasn't impressed with money. So the father decided to show his son how the poor people in his town lived. They traveled around the entire town for two days. When they returned home, the father asked,

**M:** "Son, did you enjoy your trip?"

**W:** The son said that he had liked it. Then, the father said,

**M:** "Have you seen how the poor suffer so much?"

**W:** The son smiled. He said,

**B:** "We have two dogs, but they have ten. We have a big pool, but they have a huge bay. We have many lights in our home, but they have all the stars in the sky. We have some land around our house, but they have many big fields. We have walls around our land, but they are surrounded by people. We buy food from them, but they grow their own food. Thank you for showing me how rich they are and how poor we are."

### [Track 02]

**W:** page 10, Passage 2

**M:** Are you interested in working in the hotel industry? And are you good with animals? If you answered yes to both questions, then the manager at the Peabody Hotel would like to speak with you. You might qualify for the job of duck master.

The Peabody Hotel in Orlando, Florida, has five ducks. The duck master is in charge of watching over them and making sure they are fine. He also leads the ducks through the lobby two times a day. At 11 a.m. each day, the duck master takes the ducks down the elevator from their duck palace on the hotel roof. Then, he parades the ducks through the lobby. They go to the marble fountain in the lobby and stay there until 5 p.m. At that time, the ducks walk down a red carpet and go back to the elevator. Do you think you can do this job? If you get hired, you'll be one of the most popular employees at the hotel.

[Track 03]

**M:** page 12, Passage 3

**W:** Sometimes people tell others, "Don't smile so much, or you'll get wrinkles." Did you ever wonder if that is true or not? Since most people dislike wrinkles, they want to prevent them. They might even stop smiling. But do they really need to avoid doing that?

When you smile, the muscles in your face move and form grooves on your skin. These grooves run from each side of your nose to each corner of your mouth. When you are young, those grooves disappear whenever you stop smiling. As you get older, the grooves don't fade away but remain as wrinkles.

It is not your smile that causes these wrinkles to appear though. What happens is that your skin becomes less elastic as you get older. Many factors make this happen, but you can't control them. You can only control how much sunlight you get. Sunlight can cause you to get wrinkles, so be sure to use sunscreen. But don't stop smiling. That won't affect how many wrinkles you have.

[Track 04]

**W:** page 14, Passage 4

**M:** Around 1.8 million children in developing countries die annually because of sicknesses related to hygiene. These deaths account for around one-third of all child deaths in these nations. These children don't need to die. Simply having access to soap to wash their hands with would save numerous lives every year. In fact, soap would save more lives than vaccines and medication would.

Fortunately, Global Soap is doing its best to provide children with soap. It works with another organization that collects used and discarded bars of soap from hotels and then makes new ones. Then, Global Soap distributes soap to people who don't have any. Global Soap also tries to educate people on the importance of using soap. Nowadays, it loans money to people who want to become soap makers. These people will be able to sell cheap soap that is produced locally. Doing that will help improve the local economies.

[Track 05]

**M:** page 18, Passage 5

**G:** Dear Mr. Relationship Expert,

I'm a middle school student, and I have a big problem these days. It's my parents. It seems like they hate me. They won't ever let me do anything, and they don't understand me at all. Why can't I get along with my parents?

Frustrated in Fort Worth

**M:** Dear Frustrated,

I remember when I was a teenager. It was hard because my parents were similar to yours. Fortunately, I learned some ways to get along better with them. In addition, I tried to be as positive as I could even when I felt they were being unfair to me. So you should learn to be nice even if they are punishing you. Next, try complimenting your mom and dad. Tell your dad, "That's a great tie," or say, "Dinner was great, Mom." Last, do your homework and clean your room without being told. If you have to take out the garbage every night, do it before one of your parents has to remind you. Basically, start acting like an adult, and your parents will treat you like one. Then, your relationship with them will improve. Good luck.

Mr. Relationship Expert

[Track 06]

**W:** page 20, Passage 6

**M:** Welcome, ladies and gentlemen, to one of the most beautiful sights not only in Africa but also in the entire world. Right behind me is Victoria Falls. It's located on the Zambezi River along the border between Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Notice how long the waterfall is. It stretches for more than a kilometer, which makes it the world's longest waterfall. It's more than 100 meters high, too. These two factors combine to make it the largest waterfall in the world. The mist, which you can see behind me, rises more than 400 meters in the air and can be seen from 50 kilometers away.

Victoria Falls is called Mosi-o-Tunya, which means "the smoke that thunders," by local tribes. But it got its English name from David Livingstone, an English explorer who was the first European to see the falls. He named it after Queen Victoria. She was the queen of England in 1855, when it was discovered.

Hundreds of thousands of tourists visit the waterfall each year. But they have only recently started doing this. African tribespeople avoided it for years, and foreign tourists couldn't visit since the trip to the falls was difficult and dangerous. Now, let's get a closer look at the falls.

[Track 07]

**M:** page 22, Passage 7

**W:** When you go to bed at night, you likely put your head on a pillow. Your pillow is probably soft and lets you sleep comfortably. Surprisingly, people have been using them for more than 9,000 years. Yet the original purpose of the pillow wasn't comfort. Instead, it was invented for a much different reason.

Thousands of years ago, in the area that is Iraq today, people slept on the ground every night. The land in which they lived had lots of bugs. These bugs were very active at night. They often crawled onto people's heads while they were sleeping. The bugs even crawled into their mouths, ears, and noses. Nobody liked that, so they came up with a new invention: the pillow. This pillow wasn't soft and comfortable, nor was it made of feathers. Instead, it was a simple stone. People rested their heads on these stone pillows, which kept their heads from touching the ground. This prevented bugs from crawling all over their heads at night.

[Track 08]

**W:** page 24, Passage 8

**M:** Are you ticklish like most people are? Along with the underarms, the feet are among the most ticklish spots on people's bodies. When someone tickles your feet, you may laugh a lot. Some people are so ticklish that they even start laughing before anyone touches their feet. The reason is that your feet are extremely sensitive. The more sensitive a body part is, the more ticklish it is.

Feet contain many nerves. Scientists claim that a single foot can have nearly 8,000 nerves. Many of these nerves are close to the skin as well. The nerves are not only sensitive to touch but are also sensitive to pain. That is why some people dislike being tickled. They actually experience a bit of pain while they are getting tickled. Although many people can't stand being tickled, it is good that they are very sensitive. It means that their nerves are working properly. People who don't have ticklish feet may have problems, including nerve diseases.

[Track 09]

**M:** page 28, Passage 9

**W:** Take a look at this animal. It is actually posing for the camera and appears to be smiling. It is the quokka, which some people call the happiest animal in the world.

What is a quokka? Look closely at the picture. It resembles a kangaroo, doesn't it? In fact, like the kangaroo, the quokka is a marsupial, so the two animals are related to each other. Both of these animals also live in Australia. The kangaroo makes its home on the Australian mainland while the quokka lives primarily on Rottnest Island.

Around half a million tourists visit Rottnest Island every year, and the quokkas have adapted to their presence. They frequently walk down the streets and can be seen in places all around the island. The animals are sociable and often accept food from tourists. Lately, many of the tourists have started taking selfies with quokkas in them. The animals even pose for these pictures. However, tourists shouldn't get too close. Otherwise, they'll be fined \$300 just for touching one of these adorable animals.

[Track 10]

**W:** page 30, Passage 10

**M:** In 1925, Victor Lustig sent letters to several businesses that sold scrap metal in Paris. At a meeting, he told the six men who came that he worked for the French government. The government had decided to knock down the Eiffel Tower and to sell it as scrap metal. He said that the negotiations had to be secret. One scrap metal dealer, Andre Poisson, was very interested in buying the Eiffel Tower. But there was a big problem: There were no plans to knock down the Eiffel Tower. Lustig was actually a con man. He spent his entire life coming up with schemes to trick people out of their money. His scheme to sell the Eiffel Tower worked. He managed to get 70,000 dollars from Poisson. When Poisson spoke to city officials about the deal, they had no clue what he was talking about. Embarrassed, Poisson didn't tell anyone how Lustig had tricked him. Six months later, Lustig tried to sell the Eiffel Tower again to some different scrap metal dealers. This time, it didn't work. One of the dealers contacted the police, so Lustig fled Paris and went to the United States.

[Track 11]

**M:** page 32, Passage 11

**W:** Some researchers conducted experiments with baby monkeys. They stuck out their tongues at the monkeys, and the monkeys did the same thing. They smacked their lips, and so did the monkeys. They opened and closed their mouths, and the monkeys imitated them. The researchers believed that since the monkeys couldn't see themselves, they imitated the actions of the humans. It is a survival instinct. In the wild, monkeys imitate one another in many ways. They use imitation to communicate, to find food, to recognize family members, and to use tools. Monkeys also imitate others to learn skills and to fit in with their social groups.

Researchers have also learned that monkeys like people to imitate them. When people do the same actions monkeys do, the animals pay closer attention to them. They also act in a friendly manner to these people. So the next time you go to the zoo, don't be afraid to imitate the monkeys. You might just make some new friends.

[Track 12]

**W:** page 34, Passage 12

**M:** Do you have a social media account? These days, most people have at least one. People love informing others about their daily activities. But there are some things that you should not do on any of your social media accounts.

- Your social media page is not your personal diary. Try to avoid putting information that is too private on it. Don't write about breaking up with your boyfriend, your family problems, or any immoral behavior. Nobody needs to know about your personal life.
- Don't use bad language. It makes you look childish and immature. Plus, your parents or grandparents may read this, so don't embarrass them by using bad language.
- Don't post inappropriate pictures. If a picture is embarrassing to you or someone else, take it down. If a picture shows you doing something wrong, don't put it online, but keep it private instead.
- Be careful with the comments you make online. The Internet is forever. People will be able to read the comments you make today many years from now, too.

[Track 13]

**M:** page 38, Passage 13

**W:** The food in some countries around the world can be very spicy. Many times, the hotness of the food comes from chili peppers. People frequently wonder how such tiny peppers can be so hot. The reason is capsaicin.

Capsaicin is a chemical in peppers. It is found on the white part on the inside of the pepper as well as the coating on the pepper's seeds. When a person eats a pepper, the capsaicin makes contact with pain receptors in the mouth. The pain receptors signal the brain that the person is eating hot food. The person may start sweating, and his heart rate may increase as well.

There are many different kinds of peppers. They are all rated on a scale according to their hotness. Bell peppers have the lowest rating. They aren't spicy at all. Be careful of bhut jolokia. Called ghost chili, it is the spiciest pepper in the world.

[Track 14]

**W:** page 40, Passage 14

**M:** In the year 2011, a small town was literally painted blue. Sony Pictures was looking for a place to film its new movie, *The Smurfs 3D*. It settled on Juzcar, a town in Andalusia, Spain. The townspeople agreed to let the studio film parts of the movie there, so a team of painters arrived and painted the entire town blue. They even painted the church, town hall, and gravestones that color. Thus the Smurf Village was born.

When the filming and promoting of the movie were finished, the painters returned to Juzcar. They were going to repaint the town back to white. But the townspeople refused their offer and decided to keep the buildings painted blue. The reason had to do with tourism.

Before the movie came out, only around 300 tourists a year visited Juzcar. But during the six months after the movie opened, more than 80,000 tourists came to the town. Today, the townspeople organize events with Smurf themes to attract tourists. Some cafés even sell blue Smurf spaghetti to visiting tourists.

[Track 15]

**M:** page 42, Passage 15

**W:** Many years ago, a childless couple lived in the jungle in Brazil. The god Tupa felt bad, so he gave the couple a son. Their son became the strongest and cleverest boy in the tribe. He was a great hunter and fisherman and knew the jungle well. The only thing he didn't know about was Jurupari, an evil spirit, since the tribe members never mentioned Jurupari. Jurupari heard about the boy and became furious that men, animals, and birds respected him so much. One day, while the boy was picking breadfruit, Jurupari turned into a snake and bit the boy. When the boy didn't return home, everyone went looking for him. Soon, they found his dead body with a snakebite on his arm.

**M1, W:** "Jurupari must have bitten him," they said.

**M2:** "We never told him about Jurupari."

**W:** Everyone, including Tupa, was sad. Tupa told the boy's mother to plant his eyes in the ground. She did that, and a new plant began growing. The tribe called it the guarana plant, which means "fruit like the eyes of the people." Today, the Brazilian people use the powder of the guarana plant as medicine. It is among the most valuable plants in the jungle.

[Track 16]

**W:** page 44, Passage 16

**M:** Thanks to the sun, life exists on the Earth. The sun provides light and heat, and its gravity makes the Earth move around it. But what would happen if the sun suddenly disappeared?

Many things would change. First, it would become dark. We couldn't even see the moon anymore. Next, the Earth and all of the other planets would stop moving around the sun. Instead, they would continue moving in straight lines, so they would all fly off in different directions.

What about life on the Earth? Within a week, the surface temperature would be around  $-17$  degrees Celsius. In less than a year, it would drop to around  $-70$  degrees Celsius. The oceans would freeze almost completely. Most plants and animals on the entire planet would die. The atmosphere would freeze too, so there would be no more oxygen. Some animals and humans might survive deep underwater and underground for a while, but after a few years, life on the planet would no longer exist.



[Track 17]

**M:** page 48, Passage 17

**W:** Pepsi, a popular soft drink maker, once used the slogan "Come alive with the Pepsi Generation." The slogan was popular in the United States, so Pepsi used it in other countries. To market Pepsi in Taiwan, they translated the slogan into Chinese, but it became "Pepsi brings your ancestors back from the grave."

Many companies try breaking into the global market, yet doing marketing in foreign countries isn't always easy. Carmaker General Motors once produced the Chevrolet Nova. It failed miserably in Central and South America. The reason was simple: Most people there speak Spanish, and the car's name translated as "It doesn't go." Similarly, the company Schweppes once tried selling its tonic water in Italy. But the name of its product translated as "toilet water." Finally, Gerber, a baby food maker, began selling food in Africa. It placed a picture of a baby on the labels of its products, which was the same packaging it used in other countries. Gerber didn't realize that many Africans couldn't read English. A lot of them thought Gerber was selling babies.

[Track 18]

**W:** page 50, Passage 18

**M:** People move their eyes all the time when they are looking at something. But people don't just move their eyes to observe things. They also move their eyes when they are thinking. Try this experiment: Ask someone a question that requires the person to think. Look at the person's eyes as soon as you ask the question. He may shift his eyes to the left or right depending upon what kind of memory he is accessing. Scientists have observed that when people are accessing verbal memories, they shift their eyes to the right. On the other hand, when they are accessing visual memories, their eyes move to the left. This is the way that right-handed people's eyes move. For left-handed people, the eyes shift in the opposite direction. Scientists have also noticed that people's eyes move in this manner when they are speaking face to face with others as well as when they are alone. Their eyes even move when they are in a dark room all by themselves. Finally, when people look straight ahead, they are accessing sensory information from their memories.

[Track 19]

**M:** page 52, Passage 19

**W:** One day, a pencil maker finished making a pencil, and he gave it some advice before putting it into a box.

**M:** "You must know five important things. If you never forget them, you can become the best pencil you can be. First, you can be great but only if you let someone hold you. Second, it will hurt when someone sharpens you, but that must happen to become better. Third, you can correct any mistakes you make. Fourth, what's inside you is the best part of you. Fifth, leave a mark on every surface you're used on. Always write no matter what your condition is."

**W:** The pencil promised to remember, so the pencil maker put it in the box.

Now, imagine you are the pencil. Remember the advice, and you can become the best person you can be. First, you can do many great things. But you have to do good for others and let others use the gifts you have as well. Second, you will experience painful problems, but they must happen to become better. Third, you can correct any mistakes you make. Fourth, what's inside you is the best part of you. Fifth, leave a mark everywhere you go. No matter what happens, do your duties.

[Track 20]

**W:** page 54, Passage 20

**M:** Have you ever seen a pirate movie? Pirate movies often have fights. People on ships fire cannons at others. Sometimes the cannonballs miss their targets, land in the water, and then make huge splashes. Would you like to turn yourself into a human cannonball? It's easy.

The next time you go to the swimming pool, take a running start and jump into the water. Jump as high as you can. While you are in the air, pull your knees up close to your chest and wrap your arms around them. Tuck your chin into your knees so that your body is shaped like an actual cannonball. When you hit the water, you should make a big splash. The rounder your body, the bigger the splash.

You could also try doing the can opener. It is another way to make a big splash in a swimming pool. Jump high in the air. Hold one leg up to your body but extend the other one. Hit the water with your back, and you'll make a huge splash.

[Track 21]

**W:** page 58, Passage 21

**B:** Dear Sukyung,

I'm here in England for the entire summer. You won't believe what happened to me last week. I was visiting Gloucester in the southwest part of England when I heard about an event being held in the village of Brockworth.

It's a big race called the Cooper's Hill Cheese-Rolling and Wake. People go to the top of a hill. There, someone takes out some Double Gloucester cheese. It's a 4.5 kilogram log of hard cheese in the shape of a wheel. Then, the person rolls it down the hill. Everyone chases the cheese and tries to catch it. Isn't that great? I took part in one of the races. I thought it would be easy, but the cheese rolled really fast. Somebody else got to the bottom of the hill first, so he won first place. Guess what he won. That's right. He won the cheese as his prize. I can't believe how much fun I had. Apparently, the people of Brockworth have been holding these races for centuries. We should come here together next year. We'll have a great time.

Your friend, Jaeho

[Track 22]

**M:** page 60, Passage 22

**W:** Lake Natron is located in Tanzania in Africa. Its waters are highly alkaline because they contain large amounts of sodium carbonate and other minerals. Ol Doiyo, a volcano, is near the lake and contributes many of these minerals. In addition, the water in the lake doesn't flow to a river or the sea, so the minerals remain in the lake's waters. That has helped make the waters of the lake very alkaline.

Numerous animals, including huge flocks of flamingos, live in Lake Natron. When photographer Nick Brandt visited the lake to take pictures, he found some dead bodies of flamingos and other animals. He noticed that their bodies were covered with deposits of sodium carbonate. It made them appear as though they had turned to stone. Brandt took the bodies of the creatures and put them in poses, so the animals looked like they were alive. Then, he took pictures of them. Unfortunately, he did his work too well. When many people saw his pictures, they believed the lake itself had turned the animals into stone.

[Track 23]

**W:** page 62, Passage 23

**M:** Most people need around eight hours of sleep each night. If they don't get enough sleep, they suffer various problems. For instance, they might gain weight, get sick more easily, and even become depressed. They can't think clearly either. Even losing just a couple of hours of sleep each night can cause these problems to occur.

There are some people that don't require a full night's sleep though. They only need around four hours of sleep each night. These people are short-sleepers. They may go to bed at midnight and wake up at 4 a.m. They aren't tired but are instead fully refreshed. Scientists have discovered that short-sleepers have a genetic mutation. The gene allows them to get by with less sleep than others. Most short-sleepers don't mind their mutation. After all, it helps them stay awake longer, so they can do more things than others can.

[Track 24]

**M:** page 64, Passage 24

**W:** Can you imagine what it would be like to live for thousands and thousands of years? For humans, that is impossible. But it is not impossible for one creature that lives in the ocean. The immortal jellyfish is a species of jellyfish that lives in the Mediterranean Sea, in the waters around Japan, and in some other areas. It is a tiny animal that is only about the size of a fingernail. Despite its small size, it is virtually immortal.

The immortal jellyfish doesn't simply get older and older. Instead, at some time in its life, the immortal jellyfish can go back to a state of infancy and become a polyp again. This usually happens when it gets injured. The cells in its body change from mature ones to immature ones. This allows it to become young again, and then it starts to get older. The immortal jellyfish can repeat this process over and over, so it never dies of old age.

[Track 25]

**W:** page 68, Passage 25

**M:** People who live in nursing homes are usually at the end of their lives. These people frequently spend a lot of time thinking about the past. They have both positive and negative memories. They also have regrets from the past. They wish they had done certain things in their lives differently.

Bronnie Ware, who used to be a nurse, shares what regrets people living in nursing homes told her. Here are the top five regrets she heard:

1. I wish I hadn't worked so hard.
2. I wish I had kept in touch with my friends.
3. I wish I had been happier.
4. I wish I had shown people the true me.
5. I wish I had followed my dreams instead of doing what others wanted me to do.

What can we learn from this list? Be yourself and do what you want to do. Don't become so focused on work that you quit contacting your friends. And most of all, live a happy life. After all, you only have one life. Make the most of it.

#### [Track 26]

**M:** page 70, Passage 26

**W:** In 1956, George Adamson, a game warden in Kenya, was attacked by a lioness. He shot it but then noticed it had three cubs. He took the cubs home and looked after them with his wife Joy. George and Joy found zoos to take two cubs, but the third cub stayed with them. They named her Elsa. For three years, they raised Elsa like a pet. Elsa was an affectionate lion, but she was still a wild animal. George and Joy realized that Elsa needed to be free. They took Elsa to a place in Meru National Park in Kenya, where George taught Elsa to hunt and to protect herself. Then, they turned her free.

Even though Elsa was living in the wild, she never forgot George and Joy. She sometimes visited them, and one time, she brought her three cubs with her. Sadly, Elsa died in 1961. But then Joy wrote *Born Free*, which told the story of Elsa's life. The book became an instant bestseller, and a movie based on it was made. *Born Free* helped change people's opinions about lions. They realized that lions should be treated properly. Instead of being kept in cages, lions should live free in the wild.

#### [Track 27]

**W:** page 72, Passage 27

**M:** In 1715, a fleet of treasure ships sailing to Spain from Cuba got caught in a hurricane and sank off the coast of Florida. Around 1,000 men died, and millions of dollars in gold coins were also lost. They sank to the bottom of the ocean. The coins sank, but they weren't lost forever.

Recently, treasure hunter William Bartlett was searching for treasure from that fleet of ships. While diving, he put his hand into the sandy bottom and came up with gold coins. For two days, he and some other treasure hunters found 350 gold coins. Together, they are worth around \$4.5 million.

Will there be more discoveries in that area? It's likely. More than \$400 million in gold coins from those ships is still missing. Sometimes people even find gold coins on the shore near those shipwrecks. Who knows? Maybe you'll find treasure the next time you visit the beach.

#### [Track 28]

**M:** page 74, Passage 28

**W:** Almonds are a popular health food these days. People often eat handfuls of them either raw or roasted. They are also used in cooking, especially for desserts, and they are a very popular ingredient in cookies. And almond milk is becoming a healthy drink lots of people enjoy. Although people enjoy eating almonds, they frequently know little about them. For instance, almonds are called nuts, but they are actually fruits. They grow on almond trees and are related to peach, cherry, and apricot trees. Almond trees bear fruits that have a fleshy outer part covering a hard shell. Inside the shell is a seed, which is the almond itself.

There are two types of almonds: sweet and bitter. Bitter almonds contain cyanide. Eating just a handful of bitter almonds will kill most people. Fortunately, people can remove the cyanide to make bitter almonds safe to eat. Once they've been treated, almonds are great snacks.

#### [Track 29]

**W:** page 78, Passage 29

**B:** Dear Chris,

Last weekend, I went to California. I was on a team that took part in the DARPA Robotics Challenge. The goal of the contest was to create a robot that could help people in natural or manmade disasters. Remember the problem at the Fukushima nuclear reactor in 2011? That's one reason the contest was held. Humans couldn't get into the reactor to solve the problems, so that's why we need robots.

Anyway, each robot had to do eight different tasks. These included driving a vehicle, opening a door, walking up steps, and cutting a hole in a wall. The last task was a surprise, so the designers couldn't prepare for it. On the first day, the robot from Carnegie Mellon University took the lead by completing all eight tasks in 55 minutes. But on the second day, a team from KAIST, a Korean school, took the lead. Its robot finished everything in 45 minutes. That team won the contest and \$2 million in prize money. Our team is going back next year. Hopefully, we'll win this time.

Your friend, Jordan

### [Track 30]

**M:** page 80, Passage 30

**W:** When most people think of vending machines, they imagine buying colas, chips, or candy bars. But in some places around the world, people can buy all kinds of unique items.

Would you like to have a fresh pizza but don't feel like visiting a pizzeria? If you are in Los Angeles, then you're in luck. Some vending machines there can bake a small pizza in ninety seconds. Others sell hot burritos, fresh salads, and cupcakes. In China, some vending machines sell live crabs while others in France have fresh baguettes for sale.

Vending machines don't just sell food though. In China, you can actually use a vending machine to rent a car. Las Vegas has vending machines which sell comfortable shoes. In addition, if you are at the Las Vegas airport and are feeling bored, you can get an electronic book reader from a machine. Finally, if you have a few thousand dollars in your pocket, visit Abu Dhabi. You can buy solid gold from some vending machines there.

### [Track 31]

**W:** page 82, Passage 31

**M:** There is a popular saying: Lightning never strikes the same place twice. Casey Wagner knows for a fact that the statement is false.

In 2013, Wagner was near Saint Jo, Texas, when the weather turned bad. The sky became dark, and thunder and lightning were everywhere. Wagner wanted to get out of the rain, so he stood under a tree. Suddenly, the tree was hit by lightning, and it hit Wagner, too. Wagner started falling down. But before he even hit the ground, a second bolt of lightning struck him in the shoe. He felt the electricity go up his leg, move through the side of his body, and then go into his arm. Despite being hit by lightning twice, Wagner

didn't die. He spent one night in the hospital, but he only had trouble breathing and sore muscles. Wagner was truly fortunate. Most people who are hit by lightning suffer severe injuries or die. He is one of the few people to survive a lightning strike twice.

### [Track 32]

**M:** page 84, Passage 32

**W:** In January 1992, the *Ever Laurel*, a ship, was caught in a storm in the Pacific Ocean. Some of the containers it was carrying were washed overboard. One container opened, and its contents spilled into the water. That container held 28,800 Friendly Floatee toys, including yellow rubber ducks that children play with in bathtubs. Some rubber ducks floated to Hawaii, which was near the area they went into the water. Others went south and washed up on the shores of Australia and Indonesia. A few rubber ducks floated south and then headed east. They wound up in South America.

But other Friendly Floatees headed north and began a journey covering more than 27,000 kilometers. They floated up into the Arctic Ocean, froze, and moved eastward. Then, in 2003, some toys went south and made it to New England. In 2007, a few of them crossed the place where the *Titanic* sank and went to Great Britain. Thanks to their travels, they have taught scientists a great deal about how currents flow.

### [Track 33]

**W:** page 88, Passage 33

**M:** Identical twins are brothers or sisters who are exactly like each other. Not only do they look the same, but they often act the same, too. Some twins are so similar that they seem to know what the other is thinking. For example, one twin can sometimes even complete the other's sentences. There are also people who look alike but who are not related. Do you wonder if, like twins, they act the same way?

Recently, a researcher conducted a test on these unrelated lookalikes, or ULAs, as the person refers to them. She knew that some ULAs acted alike. For example, they might both prefer the same pizza toppings or wear similar clothes. She wanted to find out just how similar they were. During her studies, she learned that ULAs may be similar in appearance but they have little in common. In that regard, they are much different from twins. Since twins share the same genes, they frequently have similar characteristics.



[Track 34]

**M:** page 90, Passage 34

**W:** In 1960, Jane Goodall was 26 years old and living in England when she left the country and traveled to Tanzania in Africa. She began what was to be her lifelong occupation: the observation and study of chimpanzees.

When Goodall started working, little was known about chimpanzees. Thanks in part to her, much more is known about these primates than ever before. To study the chimps, Goodall watched them in their natural habitat. She typically carried only a notebook and a pair of binoculars, and she recorded everything she saw the chimpanzees doing.

Goodall had a habit of naming the chimps she observed. This was unusual as most zoologists gave them numbers instead. While her method was controversial, it was effective. She became the first person to observe chimpanzees both using tools and making them. Before her discovery, people thought that only humans were capable of making tools.

Today, Goodall doesn't just do research on chimpanzees. She fights to protect them and to keep their homes safe.

[Track 35]

**W:** page 92, Passage 35

**M:** One of the best-known inventions in the food industry was invented by an eleven-year-old boy. What is interesting is that he didn't even mean to make it. One night, Frank Epperson left a cup of powdered soda, water, and a stick outside, so it froze in the cold weather. The next day, he discovered he had accidentally invented the Popsicle, which millions of people around the world enjoy eating today.

Other inventions by kids were done on purpose. Louis Braille was blind but wanted a way to read books. So he invented a method of reading for blind people when he was a teen. It wasn't easy though as it took him three years to develop his alphabet, which uses dots. But his system has helped millions of blind people read and was named Braille after him. Ryan Patterson was only seventeen when he made his creative invention. He saw a deaf woman having trouble trying to order food at a fast-food restaurant. That gave him an idea, so he invented a glove that can translate hand motions from sign language into print on an electronic display. Thanks to him, deaf people can communicate with people who don't know sign language.

[Track 36]

**M:** page 94, Passage 36

**W:** Take a can of Diet Coke and a can of regular Coke. Throw both of them in a container full of water. The can of regular Coke sinks straight to the bottom of the container, yet the can of Diet Coke floats. Both cans are the same size and contain the same amount of liquid. So why do they behave so differently?

During the time of ancient Greece, the mathematician Archimedes figured out the answer. He was trying to determine if the king's gold crown was solid gold or a mixture of gold and silver. He solved the problem when he discovered what makes objects float. He learned that an object floats if it displaces an amount of liquid weighing more than itself. How are Coke and Diet Coke connected to this? A 354-milliliter can of Coke has 39 grams of sugar while Diet Coke contains 125 milligrams of sweetener. Due to this difference, the two drinks don't have the same density. Coke is too dense to float on water, so it sinks while Diet Coke isn't, so it stays on the surface and floats.

[Track 37]

**W:** page 98, Passage 37

**M:** Big Ben is one of the world's most famous landmarks. Completed in 1859, it is a huge clock located at the top of Britain's Parliament. For over 150 years, Big Ben has been keeping time for the people of Britain. During that entire time, it has chimed every 15 minutes. Unfortunately, Big Ben is starting to show its age. The clock has been slow by up to six seconds in recent times. The clocksmiths at Parliament debated how to fix Big Ben, and they came up with a unique solution: pennies. They put some pennies on Big Ben's pendulum, which swings back and forth and lets the clock tell the time. By adding or subtracting pennies, the clocksmiths can speed up or slow down the pendulum. That allows them to make Big Ben more accurate.

Did their solution work? Yes, it did. Nowadays, Big Ben is within two seconds of accurate time. That, the clocksmiths believe, is "normal."

[Track 38]

**M:** page 100, Passage 38

**W:** Many deserts are hot, dry lands. Despite their lack of water, they are often filled with life. Some deserts in North and South America have a large number of cacti living in them. The cactus is a plant that grows well in the desert. There are 2,000 species of cacti, so they come in all kinds of shapes, sizes, and colors.

Even though they live in the desert, cacti still need water. Over the years, they have developed many ways to collect water. All cacti have sharp spines that look like needles. These are actually their leaves. The shapes of the spines stop animals from eating the plants and preserve water by cutting down on the amount of air that flows by the plants. In addition, the roots of cacti can spread very far under the ground. These roots let them collect any water in the ground. Their stems can also hold huge amounts of water. For instance, a large saguaro cactus can store around 200 gallons of water in its stem. It can then use that water to survive for a long time.

[Track 39]

**W:** page 102, Passage 39

**M:** Look at the sky at night sometime, and you might see a bright streak of light. That is a meteor burning up as it enters the Earth's atmosphere. Many meteors do not burn up but hit the ground instead. Then, these rocks are called meteorites. While meteorites can cause some damage, they have a large number of benefits.

Meteorites are parts of asteroids or other celestial bodies, many of which have been floating in space for billions of years. A lot of them contain valuable minerals. For instance, all the iron used on the Earth comes from meteorites that hit the planet in the past. Some meteorites contain precious metals such as gold and platinum, too. In addition, scientists consider meteorites messengers from outer space. Some meteorites are from Mars. Astronomers have studied them to learn about conditions on Mars in the past. A few scientists believe meteorites carry evidence of life on other planets. They even say that some meteorites may have carried some forms of life. When the meteorites hit the Earth, the life on them got on the planet and then spread everywhere.

[Track 40]

**M:** page 104, Passage 40

**W:** George was overweight, so he started going to the gym. He worked out three times a week, and he ate healthier food, too. Two months later, George stepped on a scale. He had lost ten kilograms. Then, he suddenly thought of something and asked his trainer,

**M1:** "Mark, where did the weight I lost go?"

**W:** Mark thought for a moment and then said,

**M2:** "Well, it probably transformed into energy or heat."

**W:** Do you think Mark is right? Some people would agree with him. But they would all be wrong. Fat doesn't turn into energy or heat. Instead, most of the fat changes into carbon dioxide and is then exhaled from the body. The fat basically turns into air.

A group of scientists did some research on what happens to fat. They discovered that when a person loses 10 kilograms of fat, he needs to inhale 29 kilograms of oxygen. From that, the body produces 28 kilograms of carbon dioxide and 11 kilograms of water. What happens to the 10 kilograms of fat? 8.4 kilograms are exhaled as carbon dioxide. The remaining 1.6 kilograms become water. The body removes them as urine, sweat, tears, and even breath.

**W:** This is the end of COOL Reading Book 3. Study more with another interesting and exciting course in the Happy House Reading Series.

**M/W:** Goodbye!