

Dictations

Unit 1

Would you like to go sightseeing in space? Dennis Tito loved the experience. After training for six months, he took a trip to the international space station. He said it was unbelievable to see the Earth from above. He also loved being weightless and dancing with his Russian companions.

Unit 2

Sabriye believes that all children have special gifts. The children and teenagers in her school have lost their sight, but they can do many things. They read in the dark and go climbing and rafting. Sabriye and her students have made a decision to live life fully!

Unit 3

Many Amish live simply, without electricity or telephones. Some avoid cars and ride only in carriages. The women often bake their own bread and sew their own dresses. The Amish want to keep their old customs, and they consider new ideas carefully.

Unit 4

Lee is a famous moviemaker today, but he had some tough years. He was a shy child who had many responsibilities at home. He didn't get good grades in school. When Lee failed the college entrance test, his family was disappointed. However, Lee's parents are very proud of him now.

Unit 5

Sharon and Jack are delighted to live in a house made of trash. The couple collected most of the building materials themselves. The walls are made of old tires, cans, bottles, mud, and dirt. An earthquake cannot damage the walls since they are extremely strong.

Unit 6

Jens was fortunate to survive a whole night in the ocean. Strong, rough waves pulled him away from the beach. Jens became exhausted and weak, but he held on to his surfboard. The sun began to rise just as he couldn't hold on any longer.

Unit 7

Have you found your dream job? Annie Lever has. She is a professional dog walker. At present, she earns \$25.00 a day for each dog. She enjoys the freedom of being her own boss.

According to Wally Amos, young people should always keep their eyes open for a dream job and not miss any opportunity.

Unit 8

The Okinawans have excellent eating habits. They are regular eaters of fish and tofu, and they eat at least seven fruits and vegetables a day. They also eat light meals. As a result, their hearts, bones, and muscles stay strong and healthy.

Unit 9

Are the Harry Potter novels on your shelf? The boy is one of the most famous characters in the world. His creator, J.K. Rowling, grew up in England, playing in fields full of magic. Harry appeared in her head all at once in 1990 while she was sitting on a train.

Unit 10

Holidays are especially hard for single people. Two German women have developed a new wallpaper for them. It shows life-size photos of people doing routine things. These paper friends always behave well. They won't annoy you by leaving dirty dishes on your coffee table.

Unit 11

Advertising has reached a new level. An agency is hiring students to become human billboards. Students like Stuart Charles think the job is fun. He liked earning cash while sitting with friends at local clubs and cafes. Everyone had an opinion about the ad on his forehead.

Unit 12

When Ji Haye went to Paris, she was eager to make her fortune. She worked under famous designers during the day but drew her own designs at night. Finally, she was invited to a fashion show. She did all the details herself, pushing and pulling a needle and thread until her arms were swollen.

Unit 13

Robbie the cat turned on an upstairs faucet by accident. Water ran all the way down to the basement. When the German couple ran down to save their things, flames jumped from the stove to the rest of the kitchen. Everything in the kitchen was destroyed—the stove, the cabinets, and the refrigerator. The couple will repair the damage.

Unit 14

Blaine was trapped in a block of ice for three days. His fans held up signs encouraging him to go on. After 62 hours, Blaine couldn't take it any longer. He felt like he had lost his mind. Someone broke open the ice and Blaine went to the hospital, where he recovered.

Unit 15

Open up your curtains, and put skylights in your home! New research suggests that the use of sunlight rather than electric light is good for you. Workers are absent less often in sunny offices, and they work harder. Sunlight gives you energy, and Dr. Kime advises us to get plenty of it!

Unit 16

Binky had a cruel life in a laboratory. Now he is in a much better situation and has become an artist. Binky would rather paint with his fingers than with a brush. You can really see his feelings in his strong and sensitive paintings.

Unit 17

People invent wonderful things. There are tiny MP3 players and cell phones. There are also some crazy inventions. There is soap that makes you smell like fresh bread, furniture that floats, and cool shoes for the summer season. A Swiss machine makes snow in case you don't get any natural snow.

Unit 18

A shopper recently got a terrible shock at her neighborhood supermarket. When the woman picked up some cheese, she felt a sharp pain in her hand. She was horrified to see a nasty rat on her finger. The brave woman knocked it unconscious.