

Appendix B: Dictations

1. Please Get Rid of that Smell! (page 4)

When Barbara **turns on** her heater, there's a terrible smell. It is **getting worse and worse**. She **can't stand** it! She goes to the repair shop. "**What's the matter** with my car?" she asks. "Please **get rid of** that smell!" When the mechanic **takes a look at** the heating system, he pulls out a big, dead python. Barbara **loses it**!

2. Red in the Face (page 8)

A woman is **taking a ferry**. She **sits down** on the deck. Next to her in a chair are her newspaper and candy bar. A man in the next chair **picks up** the candy bar and eats it. Then he takes the paper and **walks off**. Later, the woman goes to the cafeteria and sees the man eating a sandwich. She grabs it and takes a bite. Then she **goes back to** her car. On the seat are her newspaper and candy bar. She never **took them out of** the car! She is **red in the face**.

3. Leopard Makes Himself at Home (page 12)

A boy is **at home** watching TV. He goes to the kitchen and tells his mother, "There's a tiger in the bedroom." She laughs. Later, she looks into his bedroom. She is **horrified by** what she sees. There's a leopard watching TV on the bed! She **runs away** with her son. The leopard **turns over** and **falls asleep**. When forest department officials arrive, the leopard is still **taking a nap**. They take him to a zoo.

4. Heart Patient Walks Home Fast Asleep (page 16)

Michael Turner is in the hospital **getting over** a heart attack. One night while he is **fast asleep**, he unhooks the machines next to his bed. He **turns off** the alarms. Then he **gets out of** bed and **gets on** the elevator. He walks five miles to his house. Turner doesn't remember anything about his walk. He is **back** in the hospital and **getting better**.

5. Businessman Freaks Out (page 20)

A Ukrainian businessman **goes shopping** for gifts for his 50 employees. He decides to get 50 pagers. He **pays for** them, puts them in his car, and **heads for** the office. **On the way**, there's a very loud noise. All 50 pagers start ringing at the same time! The businessman **freaks out** and crashes his car. When he **calms down**, he sees the message on the pagers. It says, "**Congratulations on** a successful purchase!"

6. Toy Saves Man's Life (page 28)

One evening Kerry Kelliby **drops by** a local bar. He wins a game of darts and gets a toy stethoscope as a joke prize. **After a while**, Kerry uses the toy to **listen to** his heart. He is **frightened by** what he hears—**lots of** beats and then silence. He goes to the doctor **right away**. The doctor finds that Kerry has a hole in his heart. Surgeons operate **just in time**!

7. Hat Lady Wants to Cheer You Up (page 32)

Norma Vise **is into** hats. She **puts on** a different unusual hat each day. One hat **looks like** a carrot. Another **looks like** a pig. Vise wears crazy hats because "it's fun. I want to **cheer** people **up**." Adults **as well as** children **laugh at** her hats. What is her most popular one? "People **are crazy about** my hamburger hat," says Vise.

8. Bear Goes on Vacation (page 36)

An elderly couple **is taking a vacation** in Yellowstone Park. They stop their car to **take a picture of** some bears. A young bear **gets in**. He's **looking for** food. The man and woman **do their best** to get rid of the bear, but he refuses to move. So they drive 17 miles to a ranger station with the bear in the back seat. When the man gets out to report the problem, the bear **gets in** the front seat. The rangers can **not believe their eyes**. They find a woman in the passenger seat and a bear behind the wheel.

9. Man Hangs on for Dear Life (page 40)

One day Charles Gardner, 35, sees two boys **breaking into** his car. They **take off**, and Gardner jumps on the car. The driver **speeds up**. He hits a light pole. Then he drives through two fences. Gardner **hangs on for dear life**. The car gets on the highway. By this time, more than two dozen police cars are following it. After 20 minutes, the driver **slows down** and police surround the car. The teens **are in big trouble**. **As for** Gardner, he is okay.

10. Neighbors Fed Up with Loud Music (page 44)

James Meadows doesn't **get along with** his neighbors. His neighbors **are fed up with** his loud music. They report the problem to the police **again and again**. The police tell Meadows to **turn down** the volume, but Meadows ignores the warnings. Finally, the police **take away** his stereo. They smash it with a hammer on a public street. Meadows **is steaming**. "The police should **go after** criminals, not music lovers," he says.

11. Prison Escape is Easy as Pie (page 52)

It was Sunday at the Merdeka prison. Families were **spending time with** the prisoners. When visiting hours **were over**, security guards opened the front gate and **let out** the visitors. **Later on** that day, more than 100 prisoners escaped. How? It was **as easy as pie**. They walked out the front gate! The guards had **made a mistake** and forgotten to lock it. Prison officials are red in the face. Police are looking for the escaped prisoners, but they've caught only three **so far**.

12. Smart Pig Saves the Day (page 56)

One day Jo Ann Altman, 57, had a heart attack. She **had trouble** breathing and was **at death's door**. But her pet pig Lulu **saved the day**. Lulu went into the middle of the road and **lay down**. Finally, a motorist stopped. Lulu **got up** and led the man into the house, where he called an ambulance. When it **showed up**, Lulu tried to get in too. "She's very, very smart," the lucky owner said later.

13. Lazy Mailman Hides Letters (page 60)

Some residents in Oslo, Norway, were not getting any mail. "**What is going on?**" they asked each other. The Norwegian Postal Service **smelled a rat** and **looked into** the problem. They **dropped in** at the home of the mailman for that neighborhood. They couldn't believe their eyes. They **came across** piles of mail in the man's house — **at least** 900 pounds! They fired him **at once**.

14. **Girl Wants More Body Art** (page 64)

“Body art **is in**,” says Isabella Ortega. She has nine piercings on her face. First she got a nose ring. Then she got her tongue pierced. Next she got her cheeks, ears, chin, and the bridge of her nose pierced. Isabella’s mother doesn’t **see eye to eye** with her about body art. She **gets mad at** Isabella when she gets another piercing. **At times**, Isabella **has second thoughts about** her body art. She hates when people **stare at** her. But she’s **thinking about** getting rings in her lips.

15. **One in a Million** (page 68)

As a child, Albert Lexie **was dirt poor** and **dropped out of** school. Today, Lexie, 56, **makes a living** by shining shoes at a hospital for children. He shines doctors’ shoes, and he makes about \$9,000 per year. **In addition**, he gets tips. Lexie **gives away** all his tips to the hospital. Since 1985, he has given more than \$40,000 to help sick kids. Lexie is **not well-off**, but he’s a true humanitarian. He’s **one in a million**.