

Conv. 6

Answers

learn-english-today.com (New words)

- 1. buzzword (word or phrase that is popular)
- 2. catfish (to pretend to be somebody else on the internet)
- 3. cyberbully (to bully people on the internet)
- 4. fashionista (person who is obsessed with clothing + the latest fashions)
- 5. glamping (camping in luxury)
- 6. netiquette (rules + manners for using the internet)
- 7. newbie (beginner)
- 8. affluenza (blend of affluence + influenza) (materialistic)
- 9. flash mob (crowd that gathers in a predetermined place to perform an action)
- 10. me time (period of time just for you) / to relax
- 11. hater (#1) (person who criticizes)
- 12. manspreading (men taking up too much space on public transport by spreading their legs)
- 13. bitcoin (cryptocurrency / electronic payment system)
- 14. brexit (Great Britain's to exit the EU)
- 15. netizen (person who)
- 16. podcast (blend of pod + broadcast)
- 17. bookaholic (person addicted to books + reading)
- 18. tweet (to send messages on twitter)

GETTING THE BIG PICTURE

Circle the letter of your answer.

Why do the people of Campodimele have unusually long and healthy lives?

- They have a healthy diet, a healthy lifestyle, and good genes. The fact that Campodimele is beautiful—"a perfect spot"—probably helps, too.
- Fresh sea breezes keep the air clean. Although the town is only 75 miles from Rome, there is no pollution.
- Doctors from the World Health Organization have been living in Campodimele since 1985, studying the people. Campodimeleans have the best medical care in the world.

BUILDING VOCABULARY

◆ RECALLING NEW WORDS

The words below are from the story. Write the correct word or words on each line.

had a hard time

amazed

retire

vitality

native village

pension

rural

puzzled

wind (verb)

proof

- Gerardo Pecchia was born in a small town in Italy, but he went to the United States when he was 34. Forty years later, he returned to his native village.
- Most people stop working when they are 65, but Gerardo didn't retire until he was 74.
- Gerardo paid taxes when he worked in the United States, so when he retired, he received a little money every month from the U.S. government. His pension was small, but he had enough money to live comfortably.
- It was difficult for the embassy officials to believe that a 99-year-old man was still cashing Social Security checks. They had a hard time believing that Mr. Pecchia was still alive.
- Embassy officials wanted Mr. Pecchia to show them that he was still living: They wanted to see papers or other information. They wanted proof that he was alive.
- Gerardo had a lot of energy: He was taking care of his garden, doing his own shopping, and taking the bus to visit his son. Like many old people in Campodimele, he had great vitality.

7. In Campodimele, people are not surprised when they see 90-year-olds hunting and chopping wood. In other places in the world, however, people would be so surprised, they would find it hard to believe. They would be amazed to see it.
8. Campodimele sits on the top of a mountain, so its streets cannot be straight. They go around the mountain and wind between the houses.
9. Many of the people in Campodimele are farmers, and almost everyone has a garden or small animals. Campodimele is in a rural part of Italy.
10. The old people in Campodimele didn't understand why the researchers wanted to study them. They were puzzled by all the laboratory tests and record-keeping.

◆ USING CONTEXT CLUES

Sometimes you can find the meaning of a word or phrase from the context clues—the surrounding words and sentences. Before looking up a word in a dictionary, check for context clues.

In each sentence, circle the word or words that have the same meaning as the words in *italics*. The first one is done for you.

1. In the center of the town, there is a *piazza*—a town square—where people gather.
2. Campodimele has *moderate temperatures*—not too hot and not too cold.
3. Gerardo was happy and satisfied because his life was good in Campodimele. He was *contented* there.
4. A typical lunch in Campodimele might be homemade bread; spaghetti with carrots, onions, and tomatoes; and perhaps some seafood or local beans, called *cicerchie*.
5. In Italy, there are people who drink a lot of coffee, but the people in Campodimele are not *heavy coffee drinkers*.
6. The researchers wondered if the lifestyle in Campodimele could be having a positive effect on *residents'* health, so they observed the people living there as they went about their daily lives.
7. Elderly people are not separated from younger people; they are well *integrated* with the rest of the population.
8. Researchers wondered if genes have an influence on Campodimeleans' longevity. They discovered that genes do *play a role*.

DEVELOPING READING SKILLS

◆ UNDERSTANDING THE MAIN IDEAS

There are three correct ways to complete each sentence. Draw a line through the one incorrect answer.

1. Campodimele
 - a. is a tiny town on a mountaintop 75 miles from Rome.
 - b. ~~was the birthplace of many famous Italians.~~
 - c. is a beautiful town that has beautiful weather.
 - d. is one of the healthiest places on earth.
2. The people of Campodimele
 - a. rarely die before age 85.
 - b. ~~travel to Canada for medical care.~~
 - c. remain healthy and active well into their 90s.
 - d. have low blood pressure and low cholesterol levels.
3. The medical researchers who went to Campodimele
 - a. were sent by the World Health Organization.
 - b. tried to determine why people in Campodimele lived such long and healthy lives.
 - c. observed people as they went about their daily lives.
 - d. ~~concluded that the lifestyle in Campodimele did not have a positive effect on residents' health.~~
4. The doctor who led the research in Campodimele
 - a. noticed that elderly people are never alone.
 - b. ~~believes that good genes guarantee longevity.~~
 - c. believes people need a well-structured lifestyle.
 - d. concluded that Campodimeleans' health and longevity are based 30 percent on genetics and 70 percent on environment.

◆ UNDERSTANDING SUPPORTING IDEAS

The ability to understand which information supports a main idea is an important reading skill. Sentences with supporting ideas give you more information about the main ideas, often by explaining or giving examples. For example, look at paragraph 2 of "La Dolce Vita" on page 3. The main idea of the paragraph—that Campodimele is beautiful—is followed by many supporting ideas: "The tiny town is . . . surrounded by olive trees . . . narrow stone streets wind between its quaint old houses. In the center of the town there is a picturesque *piazza*—a town square."

Read each sentence below. Then write a sentence that gives more information. Write your answer on the line. The first two are done for you.

- Gerardo Pecchia was alive and well. He was still taking care of his garden, still doing his own shopping, and still taking the bus to visit his son.
- Some Campodimeleans credit the water they drink for their longevity. It contains minerals which may prevent hardening of the arteries.
- Campodimeleans eat a traditional Mediterranean diet. The diet consists mainly of fresh vegs, pasta, wild mushrooms, olive oil, shallots, red wine
- Most people follow a traditional rural timetable. They get up at sunrise and go to bed at 8 pm. They eat at the same time everyday.
- Campodimeleans get plenty of exercise. They walk a lot. They work in gardens and take care of animals.
- The lifestyle seems free of stress. There is no crime and no traffic.

◆ UNDERSTANDING AN IDEA MAP

An idea map presents the main ideas and the supporting ideas of a reading in a visual way. Drawing an idea map after you read helps you recognize how a reading is organized and helps you remember the main ideas.

Look at the idea map below, which represents the organization of the story "La Dolce Vita." Some information is missing from the map. Write the missing information on each line.

