Rent-To-Own Too Good To Be True? (page 3)

More On Estimating (page 4)

So Little Time? So Much To Do? Help Is Here! (page 6)

Tips For Reading A Newspaper Article (page 8)

Toshi Reagon Writes A Song Before Your Very Eyes! (page 11)

It's A Puzzle (the back page)

“Free your mind.”
Toshi Reagon, singer

log on to learning
www.tv411.org
Build Your Vocabulary

THE BUZZWORD FOR THIS ISSUE IS ANALOGY.

An **Analogy** is a way of describing a concept or a process by comparing things that aren’t really similar. The singer-songwriter Toshi Reagon used an analogy when she compared the song she wrote for **TVH11, Move With You**, to how a car runs. She said, “Cars are like the music, and the lyrics are like the fuel.” **Analogies** always involve relationships. In this case, the relationship between the fuel and a car is like the relationship between music and lyrics in a song: Fuel makes the car go and music makes the song go. You might not think cars and songs have much in common, but the analogy shows what they do have in common.

Another analogy is: A hammer is to a nail what a screwdriver is to a screw. Now, hammers and screwdrivers don’t look much alike. But the hammer gets the nail into the wood, and the screwdriver gets the screw into the wood. That relationship is where the similarity is.

TRY THIS

Fill in the blank with the word that makes the statement an analogy. Keep in mind that the pairs of items need to have a relationship in common.

Think what that relationship is:

1. Peanut butter is to bread what _______ *chocolate sauce* _______ is to ice cream.
   (spoon, dish, chocolate sauce)
   Relationship _______ *peanut butter goes on top of bread and* _______
   _______ *chocolate sauce goes on top of ice cream*

2. A pianist is to a piano what a ___________ is to a violin.
   (string, violinist, bench)
   Relationship ___________

3. A paw is to a bear what a ___________ is to a horse.
   (claw, hoof, hat)
   Relationship ___________

4. A street is to a town what a ___________ is to a forest.
   (path, tree, cloud)
   Relationship ___________

5. A word is to a poem what a ___________ is to a piece of music.
   (piano, note, voice)
   Relationship ___________

Answers are on the back cover.
Rent-to-Own

Suppose you see this sign in a store window:

What great timing. Your old TV has been acting a little funny. You are all set to charge into the store, plunk down your cash, and walk out with a new TV. “Not so fast,” you say to yourself. “Is this a good deal for me?”

**LET'S FIGURE IT OUT.**

- The sign says you will own the TV in 20 months. For how many weeks will you be paying? There are 4 weeks in a month, so 4 weeks x 20 months = 80 weeks.
- So what is the total amount you will pay for the TV? Multiply the number of weeks by how much you will pay a week:
  
  80 weeks x $9 a week = $720
  
  - $720! That is a lot of money.

You notice that the price tag on the TV in the window says $300. That is how much the TV would cost if you paid in cash right now. So how much extra would it cost you to rent-to-own the TV?

- $720—the cost to rent-to-own over 20 months
- $300—the cost to buy it in cash today
- $420—the amount extra it would cost to rent-to-own the TV

**WHAT ELSE CAN YOU DO?**

$420 is a lot of money, but you don’t have the $300 right now to buy a TV and you really need a new TV. What can you do?

One thing you could do is save for the TV. If you saved $10 a week—which is a little more than the amount you would give the store—how long would it take you to save enough money?

- Divide $10 into the total amount of the TV, $300, to find the number of weeks it would take.
  
  10 \[ \text{Divide into 300} \rightarrow 3 \]

  - 30 weeks. There are 4 weeks in a month so 30 weeks would be about 7 \(\frac{1}{2}\) months.

Wow! If you save $10 a week for 7 \(\frac{1}{2}\) months, you would have the $300 you would need to buy the TV in cash. The bad news is that you will have to wait 7 \(\frac{1}{2}\) months for a new TV, but the good news is that it will only cost you $300, not $720.

**TRY THIS: USE THE SIGN TO THE LEFT TO ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS.**

1. What is the total price if you buy the washing machine, using the to rent-to-own system?

2. What is the total price if you buy the washing machine in cash?

3. What is the difference?
Guess with Success

Carlos is a house painter. Like a hairdresser, carpenter, or seamstress, he has work to do before he even starts a job. He has to figure out how much to charge. That’s called estimating a job.

**WHAT’S IN A JOB ESTIMATE?**

A job estimate includes:
- the cost of supplies
- the cost of your time

An estimate is a careful guess. It requires thinking the job through. If your estimate is too low, you may lose money. If your estimate is too high, you may lose a customer.

**Supplies**

Paint is a supply Carlos must buy with every job. He also needs brushes, rollers, and plastic covering, as well as a ladder. These he already owns and takes from job to job.

**Time**

Carlos wants to be fair and, at the same time, doesn’t want to cheat himself. Time is money. The cost of labor is the amount of money a worker gets paid for the time it takes to do the job. When Carlos figures out how much time to charge for, he keeps in mind how long it takes to travel to the job. He also thinks about the time it will take him to prepare the paint and clean up afterward.

Suppose you are estimating the cost of a job. Here is a three-step plan.

It will work no matter how big or small the job you’re pricing out.

- **Make a list.** Write down all the supplies you need. Check off what you have to buy.
- **Check out prices.** Go shopping. Find out the price of everything you need. Ask clerks to give you prices and suggest what else you need.
- **Ask questions.** If you don’t know how long it will take to do the work, ask yourself, “Have I done work like this before? How long did that take?” Ask someone who’s done similar work to help you figure it out.
PAM’S JOB
Knowing how to estimate a job can mean the difference between making good money and wasting your time.

Pam’s neighbor offered her $300 to paint his living room. After looking at the room, Pam decided she would need three cans of paint and some supplies.

Here is what she bought at the hardware store:

Add up the cost of her supplies to find out how much she spent.

Now, subtract to find out how much money Pam made:

$300 (payment for the job) - ___ (total expenses) ___ (profit)

Since the job took two days, divide her profit by 2 to find out how much money she made each day.

(profit) ___ + 2 = ___ per day

Do you think the job was worth it? ____________________

EXTRA CHALLENGE
If Pam wanted to know how much she made per hour, she could divide the profit she made in a day by the number of hours she worked that day.

If she worked 8 hours a day, how much did she make per hour?

(one day’s profit) ________ + 8 hours = ___ per hour

Is this a good amount to make in an hour? ________________

Answers are on the back cover.
Time Management

Olympia Scott-Richardson is a mother, wife, professional basketball player, business person, and writer, so she has a lot of activities to keep track of. No wonder she sometimes feels that 24 hours in a day is not nearly enough! You may feel like that, too. Take back control of your life by managing your time. You can use a day-planning book, a wall calendar, or, like Olympia, an electronic planner.

Here’s what one of Olympia’s days looks like:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>THINGS I DO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 am</td>
<td>____________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 am</td>
<td>____________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 am</td>
<td>____________________</td>
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<td>10 am</td>
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<td>11 am</td>
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<td>12 pm</td>
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<td>1 pm</td>
<td>____________________</td>
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<td>5 pm</td>
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<td>12 am</td>
<td>____________________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
No matter how many things you have to do, some are more important than others. That's why it helps to make priorities. Olympia makes a list, then gives each item a letter. The A items have the highest priority. They are most important and must be done. The B items come next. The C items will be done if Olympia can find the time. Here's her list. (Breazia is her daughter. Al is her husband.)

Now make a priority list of your own. Include things you are not doing now but that you hope to do. Write a letter next to each item, showing whether it is A, B, or C in importance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Importance</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DID YOU KNOW?**
How do average Americans spend their free time in a week? On the right are the results of a study that found out. In the spaces at the far right, fill in how much time you spend on each activity.

**ACTIVITY CHART**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Time Others Spent</th>
<th>Time I Spend</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Watch TV</td>
<td>15 hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socialize</td>
<td>6.7 hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Read</td>
<td>2.8 hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hobby</td>
<td>2.7 hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>2.2 hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports</td>
<td>2.2 hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church</td>
<td>almost 1 hour</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Understand Newspaper Articles

Have you ever tried to read a newspaper article and been puzzled by what it was about? Then it’s time you met the five W’s. They are questions answered in the first paragraph of most articles. They are Who, What, When, Where, and Why.

Take a look at this newspaper article:

**PRESIDENT MEETS WITH SENATORS**

**Runs into Resistance on Gun Control**

By Hadley Ward
WASHINGTON, Oct. 19 — The president once again came up against strong resistance from some senators this morning when he invited them to the White House for a discussion on gun control. The president sees the passage of a strong gun control bill as an important part of his legacy.

For some senators, a strong bill infringes on Second Amendment rights. Others, agreeing with the gun lobby, believe different measures should be taken. Those senators say that banning guns will not stop violence. The debate has become a priority because of recent outbreaks of shootings in American schools. But the president has long believed that gun control is a vital step for controlling all kinds of deadly violence.

**TRY THIS**

Can you find the five W’s? Write the answers on the blank lines.

1. Who is the article about?

2. What is the article about?

Answers are on the back cover.
3. When did the event mentioned in the article take place?

4. Where did the event take place?

5. Why did this event take place? (There may be several answers to this question.)

---

READ ON!
The words below were in the newspaper article you just read. Some of these words may be unknown to you. Go back to the article and find these words and the sentences that contain them. Reread the sentences and see if you can figure out the meaning of the words from how they are used in the sentence. Next try to match the words with their meanings. If you run into trouble, you can look in the dictionary.

___ 1. resistance  a. what a person wants to leave behind or be remembered for
___ 2. passage  b. a force against
___ 3. legacy  c. sudden increase in the frequency of events
___ 4. infringes  d. something that is so important it should be taken care of first
___ 5. priority  e. forbidding
___ 6. outbreaks  f. the passing or enactment of a law
___ 7. vital  g. steps on or gets in the way of
___ 8. banning  h. very important

Answers are on the back cover.
Paragraphs: Breaking Up Is Easy to Do

WHAT IS A PARAGRAPH?
Paragraphs, which divide sentences into groups, are a way to organize writing. The sentences in a paragraph are usually about the same subject or follow a thought. Paragraphing also gives the reader a chance to take a breath.

These sentences are about wanting to make a change.

And sometimes a new paragraph can mean a new idea is starting. You mark a paragraph by indenting or by skipping a line.

The first paragraph usually acts as an introduction to whatever comes next.

These sentences are about what kind of business Diane could have.

Diane was tired of her job. She was tired of working for someone else. It was time to start her own business.

First, she had to decide on the kind of business. She wanted it to do with food. But what? Would it be a sit-down restaurant? Would it be take-out only? Would it be a catering service?

She had to decide what kind of food she would serve. She thought about home cooking. She thought about fancy food, about healthful food, or rich and fattening food. She could use her favorite recipes, or she could try new ones. She could serve dinner only or three meals a day.

Finally, Diane made a decision. She opened a barbecue restaurant that has both sit-down and take-out service. The restaurant is doing well, and Diane is very pleased with her new business.

These sentences are about what kind of food Diane would serve.

These sentences are about Diane’s decision.

TRY THIS
Read the sentences below. Then write P in the places you’d put a new paragraph.

Enrico and I love to travel. We live in Seattle, Washington, and we have been all around the West Coast of the United States and to Canada. To save money on our trips, we usually drive our car. The best trip we have ever been on was when we went to the Grand Canyon. It was a long drive, but we saw many beautiful sights along the way. Once we got to the Grand Canyon, we hiked in and camped for three nights. It was very peaceful in the canyon. Sometimes we would walk for hours and we wouldn’t see any other people. The worst trip we ever had was when we went to Las Vegas. Our car broke down in the middle of Nevada, and we had to wait in the desert for three hours until a tow truck came. It was very hot and we got a bit cranky. Enrico and I had a big fight. Once we got the car fixed, we decided to just turn around and drive home.

Answers are on the back cover.
Toshi (say TOE she) Reagon is a songwriter and singer who has made CDs and sings in clubs.

The way Toshi composes and comes up with lyrics—the words to her songs—is interesting for any writer. "If I were really super critical of myself, I’d write this and go ‘that’s awful,’ and never get through anything." Instead, she keeps a positive attitude.

Toshi writes down ideas whenever she thinks of them, regardless of their order. She sorts them out later. She puts aside a song that is giving her trouble, then returns to it later and gives it another try. One time, she wrote the lines, “I don’t know much, I don’t know nothing,” because she didn’t know what to write next! The lyrics ended up staying in the song.

The way to write a song, according to Toshi, is to free your mind. She doesn’t worry about rules. She focuses on ideas. “A song can be about what you’re doing today, or what you did yesterday, or what you did as a child,” she says. “So first find a story, an experience, or how you feel. Then write it out. Don’t let anything stop you from creating.”

Toshi keeps creating even when she is in the recording studio. She writes down ideas even as she is recording a song. To prove her point, Toshi wrote a song for TV411, as a segment about her was being filmed. She let the ideas fly and, in one studio day, created a song.

**FINE-TUNE YOUR WRITING**

You can write a song about anything—a person, a place, or an event. Write a song. Make it at least 10 lines. Don’t worry about rules. Just create!

Save it for YOUR PORTFOLIO.
**KEEPING TRACK**

Use this checklist to keep track of the work you did in this issue. Check off everything that you completed.

If you finished Workbook 16, this is what you have done:

- [ ] Learned a new word: analogy
- [ ] Learned about rent-to-own
- [ ] Calculated the best deal
- [ ] Used math to estimate a job
- [ ] Read about managing your time
- [ ] Began to create your own personal day planner
- [ ] Read a newspaper article
- [ ] Used the 5 W's to help you understand the article
- [ ] Expanded your vocabulary with eight new words
- [ ] Learned about paragraphs
- [ ] Edited a piece of writing by putting the paragraphs in the right place
- [ ] Read about singer/songwriter Toshi Reagon
- [ ] Wrote your own song
- [ ] Completed a crossword puzzle

---

**CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

All of the words in this puzzle come from the “How to Understand Newspaper Articles” section of this workbook (pages 8 and 9).

**ACROSS**

6. A force against
7. The passing or enactment of a law
8. What a person wants to leave behind or be remembered for

**DOWN**

1. Sudden increase in the frequency of events
2. Forbidding
3. Very important
4. Something that is so important it should be taken care of first
5. Steps on or gets in the way of

---

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**ANSWERS**

Page 2: 1. violinist, relationship: a pianist plays the piano and a violinist plays the violin; 2. hue, relationship: a pan is a bean's foot and a huff is a horse's foot; 3. path, relationship: a sheet is a route through a town and a path is a route through a forest; 4. nose, relationship: a poem is made up of words and a piece of music is made up of notes.

Page 3: 1. $2112 (96 weeks x $22 a week = $2112); 2. $675; 3. $1437 ($2112 - $675 = $1437)

Page 5: total expenses: $115; profit: $185 ($300 - $115 = $185); profit each day: $92.50 ($185 ÷ 2 = $92.50); extra challenge: $11.56 per hour ($2.50 - 1.0 = $11.56)

Pages 8 & 9: 1. The president and the senators; 2. WHAT: meeting with senators about the issue of gun control; 3. WHEN: Wednesday, October 19th; 4. WHERE: The White House, Washington, D.C.; 5. WHY: possible answer - the president and some senators have different beliefs about gun control; Read On: 1. b, 2. f, 3. a., 4. g, 5. d., 6. c, 7. h, 8. e

Page 16: 1st Paragraph starts: Enrico and I love... 2nd Paragraph starts: The best trip we've ever had...

Page 12: