

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

SMOKING

Questions: *Do you like to smoke? Why? / Why not?*

- Read the article below and then answer the questions.

A Short History of the Cigarette



Smoking first began perhaps thousands of years ago in Mexico and Brazil. Smoking as a daily habit, however, did not begin until Europeans discovered it after they landed in North and South America about 500 years ago. In 1875, an American company, called 'Allen and Ginter', offered to give \$US75,000 to anyone who could make a machine that could make cigarettes.

Five years later, in 1880, an American named James Bonsack did just that – he invented a machine that could make 200 cigarettes each minute – many more than the four cigarettes per minute a person could make. That was equal to 120,000 cigarettes each ten-hour working day. One year later, the cigarette factory had produced ten million cigarettes, and with his business partner, James Duke, he later created the American Tobacco Company.

By 1900, few people smoked, but this changed during World War 1 and World War 2 when cigarette companies gave soldiers free cigarettes. In 1944, those companies were making 300 billion cigarettes every year. As smoking became more and more popular, an American government report in 1964 said that smoking was very bad for people's health. As a result, all American cigarette packages had to have a warning label that says smoking is dangerous.

They⁽¹⁾ still do. Furthermore, since 1998, Americans under the age of 18 (and in some states 19) are not allowed to buy cigarettes. Nowadays, fewer and fewer people in the U.S. smoke. That's good news for most people, but not for the cigarette companies who want to make more money. Therefore, to continue making money, **they**⁽²⁾ are now selling more cigarettes to many other countries where the number of smokers is actually rising. Researchers say that, between the years 2000 and 2100, about one billion people will die because of smoking.



Photo of James Bonsack

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● READING COMPREHENSION

Score out of ten	As percentage
/10	%

1. The article is about the man who invented cigarettes.

- (a) TRUE
- (b) FALSE
- (c) It doesn't say.

2. Where was smoking probably first invented?

- (a) Mexico and Brazil
- (b) Europe
- (c) America

3. Who invented a cigarette-making machine?

- (a) a man called Duke
- (b) two men called Allen and Ginter
- (c) a man called Bonsack

4. How many cigarettes could the cigarette-making machine make?

- (a) four per minute
- (b) 120,000 each working day
- (c) 300 billion every year

5. Why did smoking probably become more popular?

- (a) Cigarette companies gave away free cigarettes.
- (b) James Duke was a very popular person.
- (c) Many people were killed in World War 1 and World War 2.

6. Why did a government report say that smoking is dangerous?

- (a) Many soldiers liked to smoke.
- (b) Cigarette packages had to have warning labels.
- (c) It doesn't say.

7. In Paragraph 2, what does the first use of 'They' refer to?

- (a) government reports
- (b) Americans under the age of 18 or 19
- (c) cigarette packages

8. In Paragraph 2, what does the second use of 'they' refer to?

- (a) people who smoke
- (b) cigarette companies
- (c) people in the U.S.

9. The number of smokers in many countries is rising.

- (a) TRUE
- (b) FALSE
- (c) It doesn't say.

10. The person who wrote this article probably is against smoking.

- (a) TRUE
- (b) FALSE
- (c) It doesn't say.

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Grammar-in-Context

- Complete the article by circling the correct words.

Smoking first began perhaps thousands of years ago in Mexico and Brazil. Smoking as a daily habit, however, **(1)**_____ begin until Europeans **(2)**_____ it after they landed in North and South America about 500 years ago. In 1875, an American company, called 'Allen and Ginter', offered to **(3)**_____ \$US75,000 to anyone who could make a machine that could make cigarettes. Five years later, in 1880, **(4)**_____ named James Bonsack did just that – he invented a machine that could make 200 cigarettes each minute – many more than the four cigarettes per minute a person could make. That **(5)**_____ equal to 120,000 cigarettes each ten-hour working day. One year later, the cigarette factory had produced ten million cigarettes, and with his business partner, James Duke, he later created the American Tobacco Company.

By 1900, few people smoked, **(6)**_____ this changed during World War 1 and World War 2 when cigarette companies gave soldiers free cigarettes. In 1944, **(7)**_____ companies were making 300 billion cigarettes every year. As smoking became more and more popular, an American government report in 1964 said that smoking was very **(8)**_____ for people's health. As a result, all American cigarette packages had to have a warning label that says smoking is **(9)**_____. They still do. Furthermore, **(10)**_____ 1998, Americans under the age of 18 (and in some states 19) are not allowed to buy cigarettes. Nowadays, fewer and fewer people in the U.S. smoke. That's **(11)**_____ news for most people, but not for the cigarette companies who want to make more money. Therefore, to continue making money, they are now selling more cigarettes to other countries where the number of smokers is actually rising. Researchers say that, between the years 2000 and 2100, about one billion people **(12)**_____ because of smoking.

1.

- (A) did not
- (B) was not
- (C) not
- (D) no

2.

- (A) discovers
- (B) discover
- (C) discovery
- (D) discovered

3.

- (A) gives
- (B) give
- (C) giving
- (D) gave

4.

- (A) an American
- (B) American
- (C) America
- (D) the Americans

5.

- (A) were
- (B) is
- (C) was
- (D) have

6.

- (A) and
- (B) so
- (C) but
- (D) because

7.

- (A) those
- (B) them
- (C) this
- (D) that

8.

- (A) worse
- (B) bad
- (C) worst
- (D) the worst

9.

- (A) dangerously
- (B) most dangerous
- (C) danger
- (D) dangerous

10.

- (A) yet
- (B) to
- (C) for
- (D) since

11.

- (A) best
- (B) better than
- (C) good
- (D) well

12.

- (A) dies
- (B) will die
- (C) die
- (D) are dying

LESSON

Reading and Grammar: Smoking (A Short History)

Aim Reading and Grammar Practice

Level Intermediate

NOTES

Begin the lesson by asking your learners if they like to smoke (and why or why not).

Distribute the Reading Comprehension sheet (the ten questions on page 2) before your learners actually read the text on page 1. Give them about a minute to quickly go over the questions and remind them that they want to skim and scan the text to answer the questions quickly – remember: good readers do two things: (1) understand what they read; (2) read quickly. Consider giving your learners an appropriate time limit to read and answer all the questions (about 10 – 15 minutes) – write this on the board so everyone is aware of it. This time may vary somewhat depending on your own specific group of learners, so be flexible.

For the Grammar-in-Context section, make sure that your learners have put away the original reading text before completing the exercise.

My Notes

ANSWER KEY

Reading Comprehension

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. B | 6. C |
| 2. A | 7. C |
| 3. C | 8. B |
| 4. B | 9. A |
| 5. A | 10. A |

Grammar-in-Context

- | | | |
|------|------|-------|
| 1. A | 5. C | 9. D |
| 2. D | 6. C | 10. D |
| 3. B | 7. A | 11. C |
| 4. A | 8. B | 12. B |



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