
PRINT & GO ESL

Reading Worksheets



Book
3

Short Stories for Adult Students – Beginning Level

ESL Printable
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Online E-book
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

ESL Stories – Worksheet Subject Categories

Dear Julio – (writing letters, feelings, relationships).....	4
Best Choice Towing – (jobs, business, transportation).....	5
Beautiful Sunrise – (nature, hobbies, education).....	6
Swing Sets – (exercise, relationships, parenting).....	7
Cafeteria Worker – (employment, business, food).....	8
Rainy Days – (weather, families, marriage).....	9
Farmers Work Hard – (employment, food, animals).....	10
Monkey in a Pet Shop – (animals, shopping).....	11
Moving Day – (family, community, employment).....	12
School Field Trip – (education, community).....	13

Introduction and Teaching Tips

Print & Go ESL Reading Worksheets, Book 3 is a collection of reproducible worksheets for ESL teachers and students. The material is designed for adults who are just beginning to learn English. Worksheet subjects include: feelings, employment, business, education, parenting, community, nature, animals, relationships, and more.

Worksheet Features

- Free
- Web site download, no need for paper backups
- Black and white pictures that copy well
- No sign-up or sign-in
- Stories for adults, not kids
- Clear subject/verb/object sentence structures
- Repetitive exercises to guarantee student success
- Four skill areas: reading, true/false, forming opinions, writing

Teaching Tips

- Preview the story by asking questions about the pictures.
- Pair students and have them read the stories aloud to each other.
- Conduct class surveys by tallying yes/no answers to Exercise C.
- Have students stand and share their written responses to Exercise D.
- Assign higher level students the task of writing a second paragraph for each of the stories.
- Assign the worksheets as homework.
- Use the worksheets to supplement distance learning classes.

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DEAR JULIO



A. Reading

Julio and Juanita dated for six months. But now, Juanita wants to break up with him. She doesn't love Julio anymore, and she wants to date other guys. She tried to break up with him in person, but it was difficult. She feels guilty, and she doesn't know what to say. She doesn't want to hurt Julio's feelings.

Juanita thought about her problem. She decided to write Julio a letter and tell him how she feels. Juanita's mother and friends think Juanita should talk to Julio in person or call him on the phone. They think it's wrong to break up with someone in a letter. What do you think? Is it okay to break up with someone in a letter?

B. True or False

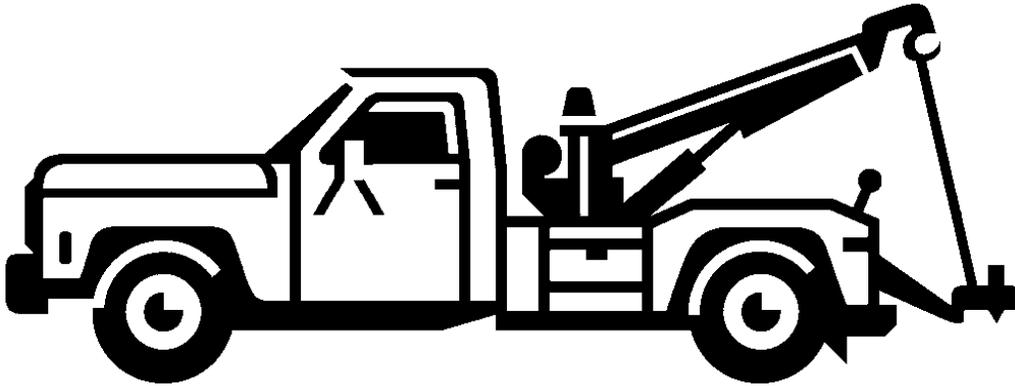
1. _____ Juanita feels guilty.
2. _____ Juanita and Julio are in love.
3. _____ Juanita wants to hurt Julio's feelings.
4. _____ In this story *break up* means that someone broke a bone.
5. _____ Juanita and Julio dated for half a year.

C. Yes or No – Share Your Opinion

1. _____ It's okay to break up with someone in a letter.
2. _____ Juanita should tell Julio that she wants to see him and other guys.

D. Writing – Write the first two sentences of Juanita's letter.

BEST CHOICE TOWING



A. Reading

Rasmi and his brother Aamir moved to the United States in 1997. Soon after they arrived, Rasmi got a job driving a cab and Aamir got a job driving a catering truck. The brothers worked long hours and saved their money. After five years, they had \$85,000, and they were ready to buy a business. They decided to buy two used tow trucks and start a towing company. They painted the trucks blue and had gold lettering painted on the doors. They called the company Best Choice Towing. For the first several years, they drove the tow trucks themselves. Eventually, they bought more trucks and started leasing them to drivers. Soon the brothers were each earning over \$100,000 a year.

B. True or False

1. _____ Rasmi and Aamir are brothers.
2. _____ They moved to the United States in 1987.
3. _____ Rasmi drove a cab and a tow truck.
4. _____ They painted the tow trucks gold with blue lettering on the doors.
5. _____ Now, Rasmi and Aamir each earn more than \$100,000 a year.

C. Yes or No – Share Your Opinion

1. _____ Small business owners are often immigrants.
2. _____ It is difficult for relatives to work together.

D. Writing – What kind of business would you like to own? Why?

BEAUTIFUL SUNRISE



A. Reading

Christina drove to Lake Tahoe to take pictures of the lake, trees, and mountains for her photography class. She woke up early and left the house at 4:00 while it was still dark outside. She stopped at a small restaurant to eat breakfast and then continued driving. When she arrived at Lake Tahoe, the sky was pink and the sun was rising over the water. She sat on a rock next to the lake and watched the fish swim in the water and listened to the birds chirp. She thought about how lucky she was to be in such a beautiful, peaceful place. Then she hurried to her car to get her camera so she could take pictures for her class project.

B. True or False

1. _____ Christina ate breakfast before she left her house.
2. _____ She took a train to Lake Tahoe.
3. _____ She left her house at 4:00 PM.
4. _____ Christina watched the birds swim and listened to the fish chirp.
5. _____ She left her camera in her car and had to go back to get it.

C. Yes or No – Share Your Opinion

1. _____ It is good to wake up early while it is still dark outside.
2. _____ The sound of chirping birds is relaxing.

D. Writing – Imagine a place that is relaxing. What does it look like?

SWING SETS



A. Reading

It is Saturday morning and Miguel and his friends are playing on the swing set in Miguel's backyard. Tomas is climbing up a rope, Anthony is swinging on a swing, Mario is standing on a swing, and Miguel is hanging upside down from the top bar of the swing set. The boys are talking, laughing, and having fun. Mario is a year older than the other boys, and he is the leader of the group. He likes to make most of the decisions. Miguel is the funniest one. He likes to make the other kids laugh. Tomas is the most athletic. He likes to run, climb, and sweat. Anthony is the quiet one. He seldom speaks.

B. True or False

1. _____ Mario is hanging upside down.
2. _____ Tomas is climbing up a rope.
3. _____ Miguel, Tomas, and Anthony are younger than Mario.
4. _____ Miguel likes to make the other kids laugh.
5. _____ Anthony doesn't talk very often. He is quiet.

C. Yes or No – Share Your Opinion

1. _____ I am athletic. I like to run, climb, and exercise.
2. _____ When I am in a group, I like to be the leader.

D. Writing – Describe your personality. Write three sentences.

CAFETERIA WORKER



A. Reading

Paula works in a school cafeteria. She starts work at 6:30 and finishes at 2:30. She prepares food, serves meals, and cleans up at the end of her shift. She likes her job and she makes good money, but the students are difficult to handle. Some of them try to cut ahead of the other kids when they are standing in line. Some of them spill things on the floor, and Paula has to mop up the mess. Others are slow and hold up the line.

On the weekend, Paula likes to cater parties. Last Sunday, she catered a wedding for thirty-five people. She charged \$18 per person, and had about \$245 left after she paid all the bills. She is happy she made a profit.

B. True or False

1. _____ Paula works at a school.
2. _____ When students spill food on the floor, Paula cleans it up.
3. _____ Her shift at the school is from 6:30 until 2:30.
4. _____ Paula charged \$630 to cater a wedding last Sunday.
5. _____ She had money left after she paid the bills from the party.

C. Yes or No – Share Your Opinion

1. _____ School lunches are nutritious.
2. _____ Eighteen dollars per person is a good price for food for a wedding.

D. Writing – What is your favorite meat? Favorite fruit? Favorite vegetable?

RAINY DAYS



A. Reading

Franco is from Brazil, and he loves rain. Madge is from Canada, and she hates rain. Sometimes when it rains, Franco asks Madge to walk around the block with him. Madge tries to be agreeable when Franco wants to go for a walk in the rain, but she really doesn't like it. Franco thinks it's romantic, but Madge thinks it's stupid! She would rather stay inside and read magazines, complete crossword puzzles, and drink hot tea. But she loves Franco, so when it rains she puts on her jacket and walks around the block with him. Franco smiles and carries the umbrella.

B. True or False

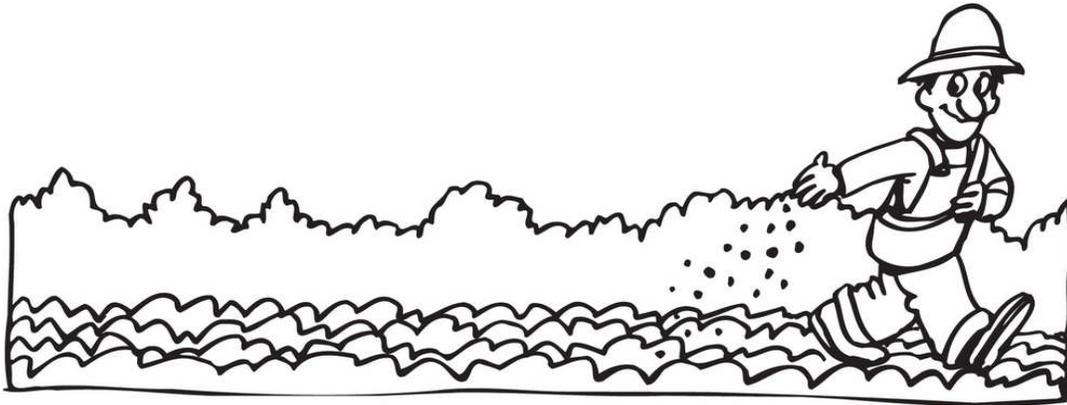
1. _____ Franco and Madge are from the same country.
2. _____ Madge likes rainy weather.
3. _____ Franco thinks it is romantic to walk in the rain.
4. _____ Madge carries the umbrella when they walk in the rain.
5. _____ Madge loves Franco.

C. Yes or No – Share Your Opinion

1. _____ Walking in the rain with someone you love is romantic.
2. _____ Marriage is difficult, and partners have to make compromises.

D. Writing – What do you do to relax?

FARMERS WORK HARD



A. Reading

Barry is a farmer, and he owns twenty acres of land. On the land, he grows lettuce, tomatoes, radishes, and corn. He also raises chickens and rabbits. Barry's wife, Susan, helps with the farm chores. Seven days a week, they wake up early, eat breakfast, and then start to work. First they feed the chickens and rabbits, and then they clean the barn. Next, they gather the eggs the hens have laid. By ten o'clock, they start working in the fields. They continue working until noon when they eat lunch. After lunch, they go to an outdoor market and sell their vegetables and eggs to the vendors. The price they get for their vegetables and eggs changes each day.

B. True or False

1. _____ Barry owns two acres of land.
2. _____ Barry and Susan grow crops on their farm.
3. _____ They don't work on Sundays.
4. _____ After they eat breakfast, they feed the chickens and rabbits.
5. _____ The price they get for their vegetables and eggs varies each day.

C. Yes or No – Share Your Opinion

1. _____ It is difficult to be a farmer because food prices vary.
2. _____ I want to work seven days a week so I can make lots of money!

D. Writing – Would you like to live on a farm? Why or why not?

MONKEY IN A PET SHOP



A. Reading

Blackjack is a lucky little monkey. He lives in a pet shop and has plenty of food to eat and animals to tease. The owner of the pet shop lets Blackjack roam freely in the store. He doesn't have live in a cage like the snakes, birds, and hamsters. He isn't for sale like the other animals either. And no matter what Blackjack does, his owner thinks it's cute and funny. When he pulls things off the shelves, his owner smiles. When he swings from the birdcage, his owner laughs. Some people come into the store just to meet Blackjack. Others watch him from the store's front window. Blackjack loves putting on a show for his audience!

B. True or False

1. _____ Monkeys, snakes, birds, and hamsters are animals.
2. _____ Blackjack teases the other animals.
3. _____ None of the animals in the pet shop are for sale.
4. _____ All the animals except Blackjack are kept in cages.
5. _____ Blackjack's owner gets angry when he misbehaves.

C. Yes or No – Share Your Opinion

1. _____ Blackjack should stay in a cage because he is scaring the customers.
2. _____ Owning a pet is expensive!

D. Writing – Do you have pets? How many? What kind?

MOVING DAY



A. Reading

Robby and Crystal Von Kern are crying because they are moving. They don't want to move because they like their school and their friends. Their parents don't want to move either, but the company Mr. Von Kern works for is relocating to Colorado. Mr. Von Kern tried to find a new job, and he went on several interviews. No one hired him, so he decided to keep his old job and move the family to Colorado.

Mr. Von Kern paid a moving company to move the furniture and other household items. A few items wouldn't fit in the truck, so the Van Kerns are putting them in their minivan. Mrs. Von Kern is worried about the children. They are still crying.

B. True or False

1. _____ The Van Kern family is moving to Colorado.
2. _____ The company Mrs. Van Kern works for is relocating.
3. _____ Robby and Crystal are excited because they will meet new friends.
4. _____ Mrs. Van Kern is worried about Robby and Crystal.
5. _____ Mr. Von Kern went on several job interviews.

C. Yes or No – Share Your Opinion

1. _____ Robby and Crystal will find new friends and forget about their old ones.
2. _____ It is easy to find new friends.

D. Writing – Write three questions you can ask a new friend?

SCHOOL FIELD TRIP



A. Reading

The fifth grade students from James Anderson Elementary School are going on a field trip. They are going to the Albany Movie Museum in downtown Chicago. The museum is located beside Lake Michigan. It has an exhibit on old movies. The students are going to watch a silent black and white movie. It doesn't have sound. An organ player will play music to go along with the action in the movie. Their teacher, Mrs. Daniel, gave them a list of rules for the trip: (1) turn off your cell phone (2) don't chew gum (3) stay with the group (4) no hats (5) wear your name tag (6) speak softly.

B. True or False

1. _____ Mrs. Daniel teaches fifth grade.
2. _____ The Albany Movie Museum is located in Chicago.
3. _____ The students are allowed to use their cell phone if they speak softly.
4. _____ Students need to wear a name tag on their hats.
5. _____ Students should stay with the group.

C. Yes or No – Share Your Opinion

1. _____ Men shouldn't wear hats inside a building.
2. _____ It's okay for women to wear hats inside a building.

D. Writing – Write three more rules that Mrs. Daniel should add to her list.

Answer Key – True/False

1. Dear Julio - p. 4
1. *true* 2. *false* 3. *false* 4. *false* 5. *true*
2. Best Choice Towing - p. 5
1. *true* 2. *false* 3. *true* 4. *false* 5. *true*
3. Beautiful Sunrise - p.6
1. *false* 2. *false* 3. *false* 4. *false* 5. *true*
4. Swing Sets - p. 7
1. *false* 2. *true* 3. *true* 4. *true* 5. *true*
5. Cafeteria Worker - p. 8
1. *true* 2. *true* 3. *true* 4. *true* 5. *true*
6. Rainy Days - p. 9
1. *false* 2. *true* 3. *true* 4. *false* 5. *true*
7. Farmers Work Hard - p. 10
1. *false* 2. *true* 3. *false* 4. *true* 5. *true*
8. Monkey in a Pet Shop - p. 11
1. *true* 2. *true* 3. *false* 4. *true* 5. *false*
9. Moving Day - p. 12
1. *true* 2. *false* 3. *false* 4. *true* 5. *true*
10. School Field Trip - p. 13
1. *true* 2. *true* 3. *true* 4. *false* 5. *true*

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