

Unit 1 Hurried Talk

People hurry a lot. They don't take time for phone calls. They send texts. Even then, people hurry. They don't spell whole words. They only use a few letters.

LOL means "laughing out loud." BRB means "be right back." And SMH means "shaking my head." People often use these letters in texts.

But this can be a problem. Some people think LOL means "lots of love." They read bad news and answer LOL. Oops!

Unit 2 Talking with the Deaf

Deaf people's ears don't work well. They can't hear sounds like others. Some deaf people can talk with no problems. But, some deaf people can't speak well. They use sign language. They make signs with their hands. The signs stand for words or letters.

Sign language is useful for deaf people. But, many people don't know sign language. This can make communication hard. But computers can help. Deaf people can write messages to anyone who doesn't know sign language.

Unit 3 The Flag of South Korea

Each country's flag is different. The flags have different meanings. Some show the country's history. Others show the country's culture.

The flag of South Korea has three parts. The white part stands for peace. There is a red and blue circle in the middle. This is a taegeuk. It means balance. There are black lines in each corner. These have different meanings. They mean the sky, sun, moon, and earth. These things are all important to Koreans.

Unit 4 Secret Codes

People use codes to send messages secretly. Some are simple. One word means another word. These codes are easy to “break” or understand.

Some codes use math. The Enigma code was one. The Germans created it during World War II. It used complicated math. Alan Turing was great at math. He worked for the UK government. He broke the code!

Americans used Navajo in their code. Navajo is a Native American language. Few people know it. This code was never broken.

Unit 5 Straw No More

People use a lot of plastic. Plastic is cheap and convenient.

You use a plastic straw once. Then you throw it away. This is a big problem. A lot of straws go into the sea. They hurt the plants and animals.

Molly Steer is nine years old. But she teaches people about not using plastic straws. She says that millions of straws are used each day. Because of her, several countries stopped using plastic straws.

Unit 6 Helping with Water

People need fresh water to live. Many people do not have fresh water. They often get sick. Sometimes they die.

Ryan Hreljac wanted to help. He saved money to dig a well. Wells help people get fresh water.

Ryan saved \$70. This was a lot of money for a six-year-old. But it wasn't enough. Ryan didn't give up. He worked harder. He asked other people to help. Soon, he had over \$800,000. Now he could help many people!

Unit 7 BUGS in the City

Many people live in cities now. Cities are full of buildings and streets. Most people live in apartments. They don't have gardens.

The people of Baltimore wanted gardens. They looked for empty areas. They worked with students. Together, they started BUGS. This means Baltimore Urban Gardening with Students. They change empty spaces into gardens.

BUGS is going well. The city is becoming greener. Ugly empty spaces are going away. And students are learning about plants.

Unit 8 The Shoe That Grows

Kids grow fast. Their feet grow fast, too. As their feet grow, they need new shoes, but shoes are expensive. Many people can't afford to buy them.

Not wearing shoes is bad for people's feet. They can get cuts. Dirt gets into the cuts. There are many diseases in dirt.

The Shoe That Grows can help. The shoe is made with special straps. The straps can get longer as children grow. Now kids can have shoes that grow with them.

Unit 9 The First Photo of a Person

In the past, taking a photograph took a long time. In 1838, Louis Daguerre experimented with a new camera. This camera was fast. It took only 10 minutes to take a picture. He took a picture of a street.

The people on the street moved too fast. They disappeared from the photograph. Only one man stood still long enough. He was having his shoes cleaned. He was the first person ever photographed. But no one knows who he was.

Unit 10 A Changing Hobby

Photography was a new hobby in the 1880s. People could take photographs with their own cameras. With a camera, anyone could be an artist.

People needed film. The Kodak Company made it. By the 1980s, Kodak sold most of the film in the world.

Photography changed in the 1990s. People had computers. They took digital pictures. These pictures don't need film.

Kodak lost many customers. It also started losing money. In 2012, it stopped selling film.

Unit 11 DSLR Cameras

Photographers take photos as art. They use special cameras. DSLR cameras are a favorite.

DSLR cameras are digital. They don't use film. They change pictures to a computer file. Photographers can change the lens of a DSLR camera. The lens is very important. It focuses light. This makes the picture clear. Different lenses do different things. Some can take pictures from far away. Others are better close up. Some lenses even stretch the pictures in creative ways.

Unit 12 Inside the Picture

Photographs are images. These images look real. They can feel like looking in a window. You can climb through a window. Can you climb into a photo?

360-degree cameras have many lenses. They take many pictures at once. Each picture is from a different direction. A computer puts the pictures together.

You can view the picture through a headset. Turn left. The picture turns left. Turn right. The picture turns right. It feels like you're inside the picture.

Unit 13 Work Worries

In the past, life was hard. Everyone worked. Men, women, and even children had jobs.

Some children lived in the country. They worked on farms. They fed animals. They picked vegetables. They collected eggs and milk.

Other children lived in cities. They polished shoes. They cleaned houses. They worked in factories with big machines.

Many jobs were dangerous. Children could get hurt. Children could even be killed. Governments made laws to protect children. Today, children cannot do most jobs.

Unit 14 Important Jobs

There are many jobs. Some are easy. Some are hard. Some are creative. And some are very important.

Police protect people in trouble. They catch criminals. And they make sure people follow the law.

Paramedics help people who are very sick or hurt in an accident. These people need help quickly. Paramedics drive an ambulance to help them.

Firefighters put out fires. They drive to the fire in a fire truck. Then they use water to stop the fire.

Unit 15 Acting Children

Children aren't allowed to do most jobs. But they're allowed to act. Children act in movies. They act in television shows. They also act in online videos.

Many children make online videos. Some make stories with their families. Some play games. Others play with toys.

In a toy review, kids say what they like about a toy. They also say what they don't like.

Some child actors are very successful. They're famous. They make a lot of money, too.

Unit 16 Designing Websites

Computers became popular in the 1990s. They changed the world a lot. Many of today's jobs require computers. One such job is a web designer.

Web designers make websites. Websites are important. They're how people talk on the internet.

Most businesses have their own websites. People visit the website. They see what the business does. They check prices. They order things from the website, too. Businesses want to have a nice website. So they need a good web designer.