

# The Sea & Me Manual

## LIFE EXPERIENCES

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County Learning  
Network*

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# LIFE EXPERIENCES

## WHAT IS LEISURE TIME? (by Patty Broughm)

In the last fifty years, there has been a great increase in leisure time for some people, but not for everyone. There is not much leisure time for working mothers, who have to put in a full day on the job and then come home to take care of their families. Other people have to work two jobs to make ends meet, and they hardly have time to call their own.

People who do have leisure time can use it to get ahead or to make their lives more enjoyable. For example, people who are taking their G.E.D. can study at home; they don't have to worry about going to a class everyday. Some people use their spare time to exercise and stay in shape. They will probably improve their health and may even live longer. Others volunteer for community work or help other people who need a hand.

However, leisure time can lead to trouble. Some people get bored with time on their hands. They may use it for too much drinking or get involved with drugs. They may spend time with others who are involved in harmful behaviour.

Leisure time gives us choices. The way we use it can make life sweet or lead to problems.



## "What is Leisure Time?" Comprehension Questions

1. Does Patricia believe everyone has leisure time? Explain.
2. How does Patricia say leisure time can lead to trouble?
3. How does Patricia say some people use leisure time positively?
4. What choices does Patricia say leisure time gives us?

[\[View answers\]](#)

## Reading Between The Lines

1. What do you believe the saying "make life sweet" means?
2. Patricia says that some people use leisure time to exercise, which improves their health. She says some people do volunteer community work. Do you believe volunteer work improves the health of the community? If yes, how?
3. Do you agree with Patricia when she says that there has been an increase in leisure time in the past fifty years?

## "What is Leisure Time?" Spelling

**Circle the two words that are misspelled in each sentence.**

1. There has been an increace in leisure time in the past fivety years.
2. Some people have to work two jobs to make emds meeth.
3. Some people use their time to get ahed or make their lives more enjoyabel.
4. People who take their GED at home don't have to worry about going to clas.
5. Some exersise and stay in shap.
6. Others volunter or help other people who need a han.
7. Some use their time to drenk and do druges.
8. Some spend time with people who are envolved in hamful behaviour.
9. Leisure time kan give us chooices.
10. Leisure time can make life swet or lead to porblems.

[\[View answers\]](#)

## "What is Leisure Time?" Punctuation

**Insert the correct punctuation mark at the end of each sentence: A period (.) or a question mark (?)**

1. Not all people have leisure time\_\_\_\_
2. Do some people work two jobs\_\_\_\_
3. Some hardly have time to call their own\_\_\_\_
4. How will exercising help them\_\_\_\_
5. Do they stay in shape\_\_\_\_
6. Why do some volunteer\_\_\_\_
7. Leisure time can lead to trouble\_\_\_\_
8. When do people do drugs\_\_\_\_
9. Some people drink too much\_\_\_\_
10. Some people are involved in harmful behaviour\_\_\_\_
11. How can leisure time give us choices\_\_\_\_
12. Life is sweet\_\_\_\_

[\[View answers\]](#)

Words to Preview			
excited	favourite	restaurant	vegetables
healthy	pregnant	stupid	ignored
counsellor	volunteered	dumb	insult
education	certificate	immediately	nervous
stumbling	swallowed	clenched	

## MAY I TAKE YOUR ORDER?

Amy Newell was very excited. After years of trying, she finally had a job interview. And the best part was that it was at her favourite restaurant.

Subway® had opened in Barrington Passage two years ago, and Amy had eaten there once a month since then. She loved the fresh bread, and all the vegetables she could get on her sandwich. She also loved watching the servers work. They were so fast! She never told anyone, but her dream was to work alongside them, piling sandwiches high with healthy toppings.

But Amy had always thought it was just a stupid dream. She had asked once, and the cashier said she would need her grade 12 to work there. Amy never told anybody this, either, but she had only got to grade 10 in high school. Then she had got pregnant with her daughter, Sarah. Amy wasted no time getting out of school after that. She had never really done very well, anyway. She was sure most of her teachers thought she was too stupid to teach. That was why they ignored her.

Having Sarah was the best thing that ever happened to Amy. Sarah was a beautiful baby, and was as good as gold. After Sarah was born, Amy thought she could get a job somewhere and support herself and her baby girl. She had to, since her boyfriend had wanted no part of Sarah, and Amy's parents had moved to New Brunswick. But no one wanted to hire Amy. Everyone said the same thing: No grade 12, no job.

Finally, the money her parents had given her had run out, and Amy was forced to go on social assistance. She hated it, but she had no choice. She did it for her baby girl.

Sarah had just turned two when the counsellor at Community Services told Amy about a group she volunteered for. The Learning Network ran an adult learning program for people just like Amy. She could go twice a week and work with a tutor. The tutor would help her study for her G.E.D. She could even bring Sarah, and it wouldn't cost a cent!

At first, Amy had said she didn't think she could do it. After all, her teachers had thought she was too dumb to learn anything. Why would this tutor be any different? Wasn't a tutor just a teacher by a different name?

But then one day, Amy was in Subway® for her monthly treat. She went to the counter, and there was her friend, Joe, making sandwiches. She hadn't seen Joe in about a year. Amy was very surprised to see him there because she knew Joe hadn't finished school, either.

"When did you start working here, Joe?" Amy asked her friend.

"About two weeks ago now," Joe replied with a big grin.

"But how...?" Amy didn't want to insult Joe by asking him how he managed to get a job with his education.

Joe knew what Amy meant, and he explained that he had found out about the Learning Network, too, and had studied with a tutor until he was ready to take his G.E.D. After that, he worked at another restaurant for a while before coming to Subway®.

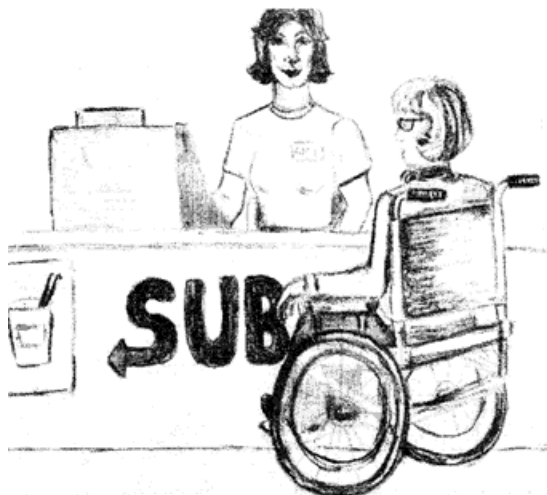
Amy left Subway® that day with a lot on her mind. Finally, she realized that if Joe could do it, so could she. That same day she called her counsellor and asked for the phone number for the adult learning program. Within a week, she was working with her tutor.

All that had been over a year ago, now. Amy had passed her G.E.D. two months ago, and she finally had a certificate saying she had finished high school. It hung right over her bed, and Amy looked at it all the time. It always made her smile.

But the biggest test of all had been the day she walked into Subway® and asked for a job application. Amy was so sure someone would look at her and say, "Why would *you* want a job application?" But the cashier had just smiled and said, "Sure, here you go."

When the manager had called and asked Amy to come in for an interview, Amy had nearly fainted. After saying she'd be there at 9:30 sharp the next morning, Amy immediately called her tutor, Sandra. Sandra even stopped by Amy's apartment after work and helped her pick out an outfit for the interview.

Now the dreaded moment had arrived. Amy sat in the manager's office, waiting for her to come in and start the interview. Amy was so nervous she thought she was going to be sick. Her hands were sweaty, and her ears were ringing. She nearly jumped out of her seat when the manager, Mrs. Wilson, came in and said, "Now then, Amy, let's begin."



But then Sandra's words came to her. "Amy, you'll be doing *them* a favour by working for them, not the other way around." Suddenly Amy realized how much faith Sandra had in her, even though Sandra had seen her stumbling over simple spelling words and math problems for so many months. If Sandra could believe in Amy, when she had seen Amy at her worst, then maybe Amy could get through this interview, after all.

The toughest question of all was when Mrs. Wilson asked, "Why do you think we should hire you, Amy?" Amy swallowed nervously and looked down at her tightly clenched hands for a second. Then she looked up at Mrs. Wilson and said, "Because I think Subway® is the best restaurant in the world."

Three hours later, Amy was back home with Sarah, nervously pacing around her small apartment. When the telephone rang, Amy was almost too afraid to answer it. She closed her eyes as she picked up the receiver.

"H-hello?" Amy's voice came out as a whisper.

"Amy? This is Mrs. Wilson at Subway®. Would you be able to start Monday morning?"

Amy didn't remember what she said to Mrs. Wilson afterwards. The first thing she did was pick up Sarah and hug her tight. Then she called Sandra with the good news. Sandra was so happy. "I knew you could do it, Amy. Why don't we go to Subway® to celebrate? My treat."

## "May I Take Your Order?" Comprehension Questions

1. What was Amy's dream?
2. Why had Amy left school?
3. Why did no one want to hire Amy?
4. What convinced Amy to go to the learning program?
5. How did her tutor, Sandra, prepare her for her interview?
6. What did Amy and Sandra do to celebrate her getting the job

[\[View answers\]](#)

## Reading Between The Lines

1. Do you believe Amy had more self-confidence after she got her G.E.D.? Why or why not?
2. Do you believe Sandra was a good tutor? Why or why not?

## "May I Take Your Order?" Synonyms

(Refer to "[Synonyms](#)" for a review of synonyms.)

**Circle the two words in each line that are synonyms.**  
(Most of these words were seen in "May I Take Your Order?")

1. fast nervous quick treat
2. work school assistance job
3. learn beautiful dumb stupid
4. start ended first finished
5. smile grin said swallow
6. said reply answer ask
7. nearly after almost immediately
8. first happy start begin
9. sick ill nervous sweat
10. best tough hard good
11. greatest favourite best too
12. thought told remember recall
13. happy smile glad hate
14. later around now immediately

[\[View answers\]](#)

"May I Take Your Order?"}  
Fill in the Blanks

**Fill in the blanks with the correct word.**

1. The workers at Subway® were \_\_\_\_\_(fist or fast).
2. Amy wanted to \_\_\_\_\_(word or work) at Subway®.
3. She was \_\_\_\_\_(sure or sore) her teachers thought she was stupid.
4. The best \_\_\_\_\_(part or port) was the fresh (bread or breed).
5. Sarah was the best thing that had \_\_\_\_\_(ever or over) happened to Amy.
6. Amy needed to get a \_\_\_\_\_(jab or job).
7. \_\_\_\_\_(Than or Then) her parents had moved to New Brunswick.
8. Her money \_\_\_\_\_(had or hid) run out.
9. Her tutor helped her \_\_\_\_\_(steady or study) for her G.E.D.
10. Joe had a \_\_\_\_\_ (big or beg) grin on his face.
11. Amy \_\_\_\_\_(did or died) it for Sarah.
12. Mrs. Wilson called her the \_\_\_\_\_(same or some) day.
13. She hated being on social assistance, \_\_\_\_\_(bet or but) had no choice.
14. Her tutor helped her with spelling and \_\_\_\_\_(mat or math) problems.

[\[View answers\]](#)

## "May I Take Your Order?" The -ly Ending

**Add the -ly ending to the following words and write the new word in the space provided.**

Example:	friend	<i>friendly</i>		
	excited	_____	different	_____
	part	_____	near	_____
	month	_____	immediate	_____
	week	_____	sudden	_____
	cost	_____	nervous	_____
	real	_____	tight	_____

**Now, fill in the blanks with the new words you formed.**

1. Amy held Sarah \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Amy felt \_\_\_\_\_ about herself after she got her G.E.D.
3. Amy \_\_\_\_\_ wanted to work at Subway because she loved their food. She also wanted to be a fast server.
4. Amy told Sandra \_\_\_\_\_ that she got the job.
5. Amy's \_\_\_\_\_ treat was eating at Subway.
6. She could see her tutor \_\_\_\_\_.
7. The program was not \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Sandra was \_\_\_\_\_ excited.
9. Amy \_\_\_\_\_ fainted.
10. Amy \_\_\_\_\_ called her tutor.
11. \_\_\_\_\_ Amy realized how much faith Sandra had in her.
12. \_\_\_\_\_ Amy waited for the interview to begin.

[\[View answers\]](#)

## THE LIFE OF A SINGLE MOTHER (by Patty Broughm)



Most women have had the choice of having children on their own or with a partner for many years. Some of us, though, have no choice in the matter. We are left on our own to raise our children.

Some of us come from abusive homes. The life that the single mother must endure is not an easy one, especially if we need social assistance. We are subjected to name calling. People call us lazy. They say we are sucking up people's hard-earned tax dollars. We have to explain to our children why they have no father, or why their father lives in a different home.

It is hard to be both mother and father to your child. But it is a true test of character if we can raise our children to be happy,

healthy adults.

Another aspect is the money we have to spend. We don't get very much. We're lucky to be able to afford food, or a roof over our heads. The homes we can afford are not fit to live in. But some people consider us to be unfit to live in a nice home. They figure we should have a husband and a good job before we can really have anything. So we scrimp and save coupons and our last penny, just in case we run out of milk or bread.

So the way I see it, we are very strong women who can do most anything we set our minds to.

## "The Life of a Single Mother" Comprehension Questions

1. List three difficult or negative things that Patricia says single mothers have to cope with.
2. What positive thing does Patricia say about single mothers?

[\[View answers\]](#)

## Reading Between The Lines

1. Do you believe that Patricia is speaking from experience?
2. What do you think Patricia means when she says single mothers are "sucking up people's hard earned tax dollars"?
3. What do you think Patricia means by, "It is hard to be both mother and father to your child"?

## "The Life of a Single Mother" The -er and -est Endings

Here is an example of where we would use the -er and -est endings: Joe is two years old. Sally is one year old. Jacob is six months old. We would say that Joe is young, Sally is younger than Joe, and Jacob is the youngest of all.

### Add the -er and -est ending to the following words.

★ Remember to change to y to i and then add -er or -est when necessary.

Example:

	easy	<i>easier</i>	<i>easiest</i>
1.	lazy	_____	_____
2.	hard	_____	_____
3.	happy	_____	_____
4.	healthy	_____	_____
5.	lucky	_____	_____
6.	nice	_____	_____
7.	strong	_____	_____

1. Use the words *healthy*, *healthier*, and *healthiest* in the blanks below. Joe is sick some of the time. Patti has been sick twice. Jacob has never been sick.  
Joe is \_\_\_\_\_. Patti is \_\_\_\_\_ than Joe.  
Jacob is the \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Use the words *strong*, *stronger*, and *strongest* in the blanks below. Joe can lift 50 lbs. Bob can lift 75 lbs. Ivan can lift 100 lbs.  
Bob is \_\_\_\_\_ than Joe. Joe is \_\_\_\_\_.  
Ivan is the \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Use the words *lucky*, *luckier*, and *luckiest* in the blanks below. Patti wins at Bingo all the time. Sally won at Bingo once. Mary won at Bingo twice last month.  
Mary is \_\_\_\_\_ than Sally. Sally is \_\_\_\_\_.  
Patti is the \_\_\_\_\_.

[\[View answers\]](#)

## "The Life of a Single Mother" Choose the Correct Word

### Choose the correct word to fill in the blank.

1. Most women have a \_\_\_\_\_(choose or choice) as to whether to have children on their own or with a partner.
2. Some women had no choice in the \_\_\_\_\_(matter or manner).
3. Some single mothers came from \_\_\_\_\_(abuse or abusive) homes.
4. The life of a single mother is not easy to \_\_\_\_\_(endure or ensure).
5. Their mothers and fathers live in \_\_\_\_\_(different or differ) homes.
6. They want their children to grow up to be \_\_\_\_\_(healthy or health) adults.
7. Another \_\_\_\_\_(aspect or expect) is the amount of money they have to spend is very little.
8. They are \_\_\_\_\_(luck or lucky) if they can afford food.
9. They have to \_\_\_\_\_(crimp or scrimp) and save their money.
10. They \_\_\_\_\_(explain or complain) to their children where there fathers are.

[\[View answers\]](#)

Words to Preview			
deserved	belonged	disobeyed	realize
disappeared	violent	pregnant	vicious
continually	confidence	witnessed	justify

## HANDS ARE NOT FOR HITTING<sup>®</sup>

John was sixteen the first time he hit a woman. He did not think that he did anything wrong. He thought that Anna, his girlfriend, deserved it. After all, she had shared her homework answers with another boy. That was like cheating on him. They went to a small rural high school and everyone knew what was going on. Nobody did anything about it.

John did not allow Anna to speak to any other boy. He did not even like her being with her girlfriends. She belonged to him and she had to do what he wanted. If she disobeyed, he hit her. It was not until many years later, when John was thirty-five, that he would realize just how wrong he was and how much he would lose because of his ways.

Anna disappeared from John's life just a few months after he began hitting her. She told him that she did not trust him, and his violent ways would get him into trouble some day. John did not believe her, but Anna was right.

John had seen his father hit his mother many times, but she never left and never seemed to mind. His mother would cry, but she would tell John and his sister Kelly that she was alright. John never forgot his mother's words, "Your father has a little bit of a temper and I just made him angry. I should have known not to " The reason she gave was always different. John never understood why his mother did all these things to make his father angry.

After Anna, John dated a few more girls. He hit them all and they all left. When John was twenty, his girlfriend, Samantha, told him that she was pregnant. John's father told him they had to get married, and so they did.

John never hit Samantha while she was pregnant, but after John Jr. was born, things were different. John started hitting Samantha. When fishing was not good, the beatings were vicious. John had become a fisherman like his father, and times were tough. There was not much work to do in the summers and quotas were being cut continually.

Samantha left once and took John Jr. with her. She came back after a month. John thought that meant that she didn't really mind being beaten. The truth was that Samantha thought

she had no other choice. She had little education and no way to support herself and John Jr. John always told her that she was ugly and that nobody else would ever want her. She believed him. When John was thirty-five, he gave Samantha the worse beating ever.

Looking back, John doesn't even remember why he was so angry that day. In the past, Samantha had often blacked out and John had poured water over her face to revive her. This time she was not waking up. This made John even angrier. He shook her, but she still did not wake up. When Samantha finally woke up three days later in the hospital, doctors told John that Samantha would never be the same again. Samantha never learned to speak well or walk, and she still can't even feed herself.



It was all a blur, the police, the hearing, the charges. John never meant to really hurt Samantha. He lost a lot that day. He lost his wife and a mother for his son. But John also changed that day. He never hit anyone again. Now John talks to abusers and tells them that hitting anyone is wrong. He realizes that any amount of abuse can ruin lives. John now sees that Samantha's life was ruined before that day. She had no self-confidence and she lived in fear. John Jr. had nightmares, which John realized later were caused by the beatings he witnessed. He does not want John Jr. to grow up to be an abuser like his father and himself.

John also now knows that his own mother did not deserve to be hit. His father had a problem. His mother tried to justify something for which there was no excuse.

John tells abusers to learn to deal with their anger in other ways. He tells them to know when they are getting to the point that they want to hit someone, and to take time to cool off. He says, "Leave the house and only return when you are calm." He teaches them how to cope with stress and how to focus on the good things in their lives.

For once in his life, John really believes that "hands are not for hitting." Sadly, he learned this lesson the hard way.

## "Hands Are Not for Hitting" Comprehension Questions

1. How old was John the first time he hit a woman? Why did John think she deserved to be hit?
2. Why did Samantha return after she had left for a month?
3. When were Samantha's beatings the worst?
4. Why does John say that Samantha's life was ruined before "that day"?
5. What does John tell abusers now?

[\[View answers\]](#)

## Reading Between The Lines

1. The story does not tell us if John was abused himself. Do you believe that he was? Why or why not?
2. Do you believe that John's mother tried to justify her husband's actions? If yes, why do you think she did?
3. Do you think the fact that John's father was an abuser made John more likely to be an abuser as well? Why or why not?
4. About how old was John Jr. when his mother was seriously hurt?

[\[View answers\]](#)

## "Hands Are Not for Hitting" Antonyms

Some words have opposite meanings of each other.  
These words are called antonyms.

Example: warm & cold.

**In each line, circle the antonym of the first word.**

- |     |          |              |           |           |
|-----|----------|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| 1.  | hit      | slapped      | kicked    | caressed  |
| 2.  | small    | large        | little    | tiny      |
| 3.  | wrong    | incorrect    | false     | correct   |
| 4.  | violent  | vicious      | rough     | gentle    |
| 5.  | leave    | depart       | stay      | go        |
| 6.  | ending   | conclusion   | finale    | beginning |
| 7.  | truth    | lie          | reality   | fact      |
| 8.  | ugly     | unattractive | beautiful | grotesque |
| 9.  | angry    | happy        | mad       | furious   |
| 10. | ruin     | destroy      | damage    | fix       |
| 11. | remember | forget       | recall    | recollect |
| 12. | justify  | blame        | defend    | excuse    |
| 13. | cry      | weep         | laugh     | sob       |
| 14. | work     | play         | toil      | labour    |

[\[View answers\]](#)

## "Hands Are Not for Hitting" Rhyming

The endings of some words sound the same. This is called rhyming. Example: bold & cold.  
(Hint: the endings don't always have to look the same in order to sound the same.)

**In each line, circle the word that rhymes  
with the first word.**

- |     |         |        |        |        |
|-----|---------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1.  | hit     | him    | lit    | ham    |
| 2.  | thought | bought | though | rough  |
| 3.  | high    | lie    | hid    | mad    |
| 4.  | year    | yarn   | neat   | steer  |
| 5.  | much    | touch  | mash   | puck   |
| 6.  | wrong   | ton    | song   | want   |
| 7.  | way     | war    | day    | dear   |
| 8.  | girl    | well   | pearl  | gift   |
| 9.  | good    | would  | moon   | roof   |
| 10. | speak   | lock   | week   | speech |
| 11. | feed    | fear   | fed    | weed   |
| 12. | son     | run    | sad    | sob    |
| 13. | face    | race   | fad    | flake  |
| 14. | cool    | pole   | stool  | sold   |

[\[View answers\]](#)

**"Hands Are Not for Hitting"**  
**Past Tense of Verbs**

**Circle the correct past tense of each verb.**

Present Tense	Past Tense
1. hit	hit or hitted
2. do	did or doed
3. is	ised or was
4. speak	spoke or speaked
5. want	wint or wanted
6. tell	told or telled
7. see	seed or saw
8. have	haved or had
9. understand	understood or understanded
10. think	thinked or thought
11. come	corned or came
12. get	got or getted
13. begin	beginned or began
14. disobey	disobed or disobeyed
15. go	goed or went
16. know	knew or knowed
17. ruin	ruined or ruined
18. forget	forgetted or forgot
19. lose	losed or lost
20. shake	shook or shaked

[\[View answers\]](#)

### Words to Preview

symptoms	headaches	dizziness	tumours
Halifax	chemotherapy		

## SAYING GOOD-BYE (by Patty Broughm)

When I first heard the word "cancer," I felt as if my heart was tom in two. I felt numb all over. All I could think was, "No, this can't be happening. They must have made a mistake."

He had no symptoms. But then I realized that was why he had headaches and dizziness. I didn't know he had two brain tumours. But then two days later they discovered he had lung cancer and it was in the fourth stage. Then they found cancer in the liver.



The first question that came to my mind was, "Why? Why was God taking him away from me and our 2 Yr-year-old daughter? It is not fair. My children need a father."

My second question was, "How long does he have?" I was given the run-around for two days before I was given an answer. The doctor in Halifax said he had about two years. Boy, were they wrong.

So I went to his family doctor and asked him, "Could you please tell me how long he has?" He told me about six months.

He had two chemotherapy treatments and he was sick for about two weeks each treatment. So he just gave them up, which was good because the doctor said it would only extend his life by two or three weeks.

But it didn't really hit me until he went into the hospital. The first month he was doing fairly well. But then he started falling and hurting himself several times. The last time he fell he really hurt himself and was unable to walk. He was a very proud man and didn't like having anything done for him. But he finally gave in.

A few weeks later he was moved into the family room. Then it really hit him that he was soon going to die. One night he took my hand and said, "You know I am soon going to die."

I looked at him and said, "Yes, I know."

He said, "I am not scared to die." That's when I started to cry and he put his arms around me and held me. Little did I know that would be the last time he would hold me and tell me how much he loved me.

He died three days later.

## "Saying Good-bye" Comprehension Questions

1. What did the doctors tell the author's mate he had?
2. What were the only two symptoms that he had before he found out he had cancer?
3. How long did the doctor in Halifax tell him he had to live?  
How long did the family doctor say he had?
4. Why did he give up chemotherapy treatment?
5. What did the author's mate do three days before he died?

[\[View answers\]](#)

## Reading Between The Lines

1. What does the author mean by the following sentences: "I felt as if my heart was tom in two. I felt numb allover."?
2. Do you believe the author was surprised that her mate had cancer? Why or why not?

## "Saying Good-bye" Rhyming

(See a [review of rhyming](#).)

**Underline the two words in each line that rhyme.  
(Remember that not all rhyming words look the same.)**

- Example: felt      meal      belt      me
1.    could      would      about      found
  2.    cancer      year      near      liver
  3.    die      life      fair      my
  4.    walk      tell      finally      well
  5.    when      and      then      done
  6.    they      why      cry      only
  7.    there      three      an      me
  8.    man      an      and      not
  9.    soon      hold      hand      and
  10.    so      son      no      to
  11.    long      found      around      would
  12.    each      just      must      first

[\[View answers\]](#)

## Missing Vowels

**Fill in the correct missing vowel (a, e, i, o, u  
and sometimes y).**

**(There is sometimes more than one answer.)**

1. r\_\_n
2. n\_\_ \_\_d
3. b\_\_fore
4. tw\_\_
5. j\_\_st
6. l\_\_fe
7. s\_\_id
8. t\_\_ld
9. aw\_\_y
10. fo\_\_nd
11. l\_\_ong
12. lat\_\_r
13. \_\_rm
14. d\_\_y
15. l\_\_st
16. di\_\_
17. f\_\_w
18. d\_\_ne
19. l\_\_ttle
20. m\_\_ch

[\[View answers\]](#)

## "Saying Good-bye" Common Bonds

**Circle the word that does not belong.**

1. first          fourth          second          one
2. liver          head          lung          heart
3. six          two          first          three
4. time          week          month          day
5. daughter          man          children          father
6. brain          arm          hand          head
7. sick          headache          well          dizziness
8. doctor          hospital          Halifax          chemotherapy
9. sick          walk          hit          hold
10. went          said          asked          answer

[\[View answers\]](#)

## Making New Words

**Change the first letter to make a new word.  
(There is more than one answer.)**

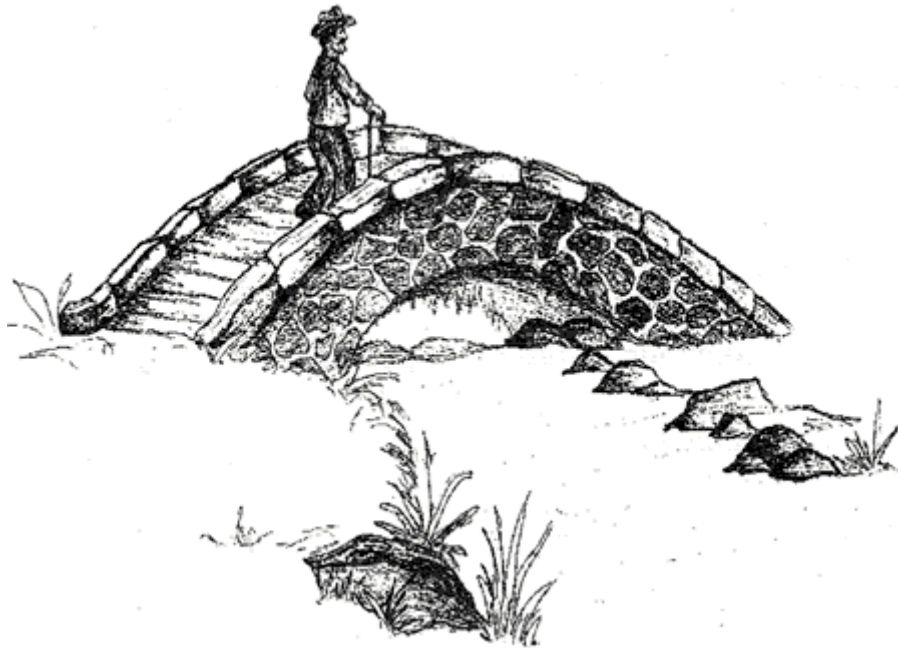
Example: time lime

- |         |       |          |       |          |       |
|---------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|
| 1. felt | _____ | 6. day   | _____ | 11. told | _____ |
| 2. torn | _____ | 7. mind  | _____ | 12. sick | _____ |
| 3. can  | _____ | 8. not   | _____ | 13. good | _____ |
| 4. must | _____ | 9. need  | _____ | 14. hit  | _____ |
| 5. had  | _____ | 10. tell | _____ | 15. last | _____ |

[\[View answers\]](#)

GOOD-BYE WITH LOVE  
(by Patty Broughm)

You left us today and quickly so.  
I guess you knew it was time to go.  
Better than those who would have to stay  
For one more hour or another day.  
It was time to leave, while I was gone,  
So I would not be scared, so I could go on.



## "Good-bye With Love" Reading Between The Lines

1. Who do you think is "you" to the author in the poem?
2. Where do you think the person went?
3. What do you think the author meant by, "Better than those who would have to stay"?

### Rhyming, Compound Words, Homonyms

*Rhyming words* are words that sound the same.  
*Compound words* are two words joined to make one word.  
*Homonyms* are words that sound or are spelled the same but have different meanings.

1. Can you think of a word that rhymes with so and go? \_\_\_\_\_
2. That rhymes with stay and day? \_\_\_\_\_
3. That rhymes with gone and on? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What is the compound word in the poem? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What is a homonym for so? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What is a homonym for not? \_\_\_\_\_
7. What is a homonym for knew? \_\_\_\_\_
8. What is a homonym for would? \_\_\_\_\_

[\[View answers\]](#)

THE FINAL BATTLE  
(by Patty Broughm)

The battle is over. The war is won.

The fight was hard, but now it's done.

You fought so well and gave your best.

And now, Dear Sonny, it's time to rest.

You are still in our thoughts and alive in our hearts,

But for now we must be apart.



But each time I gaze in  
our

daughter's eyes,

I see the best of you.

She was my gift from you  
to me.

## "The Final Battle" Reading Between The Lines

1. What do you believe was the final battle?
2. What do you think Patty means by "the war is won"?

### A Bit of This and That

1. What would be another word for gaze?
  - A. see
  - B. look
  - C. observe
2. What word rhymes with eye? (See the [definition of rhyming](#).)
  - A. my
  - B. they
  - C. your
3. What is a homonym for so? (See [definition of homonyms](#).)
  - A. she
  - B. see
  - C. sew
4. The word "you" sounds like which vowel?
  - A. o
  - B. u
  - C. y
5. What does "it's" stand for?
  - A. I am
  - B. it is
  - C. it was
6. What would be an antonym of best? (See the [definition of antonyms](#).)
  - A. better
  - B. worst
  - C. bad

[\[View answers\]](#)

The following poem was submitted by a learner from the Digby District Learning Network

## CAN I BELIEVE IT (by Karen C.)

Is it true  
Was it a dream  
could it be make-believe  
In my mind  
the pictures are clear  
a place I need to find  
but I fear

Do I go Do I stay  
my heart says go my  
senses  
say slow  
this wonderful place  
where could it be

It's in my mind  
this place so bliss  
I feel so sad  
but at rest



## "Can I Believe It" Reading Between The Lines

1. What does Karen mean by "a place I need to find but I fear"?
2. Do you believe this "place" is a peaceful place?

## A Bit of This and That

1. What is the contraction for "it is"? (See the [definition of contractions.](#))
  - A. its
  - B. it's
  - C. I'll
2. Which word rhymes with go? (See the [definition of rhyming.](#))
  - A. do
  - B. to
  - C. slow
3. What is a synonym for sad? (See the [definition of synonyms.](#))
  - A. unhappy
  - B. happy
  - C. nervous
4. What is an antonym for slow? (See the [definition of antonyms.](#))
  - A. unhurried
  - B. fast
  - C. moving
5. Which word is a feeling?
  - A. stay
  - B. go
  - C. fear

[\[View answers\]](#)

On June 12, 1998, Simone Meuse's sister, Olivette, passed away. They had a very close relationship and the following is a true story of what happened the day after she died. It is written, with permission, as told to Lisette Jones.

Words to Preview			
Olivette	Cape Pele	coping	happened
occurred	distinct	reddish	random
amazement	reception	continually	possessions
cherished	represent	piercing	New Brunswick

## A HEART FROM HEAVEN

I was walking on the beach that my sister, Olivette, and I had walked on for years during my visits to Cape Pele, New Brunswick. But now I was walking alone. My sister was gone and I had never suffered such a loss.

I wasn't going to tell anyone that I had gone on this walk. It was my way of coping with what had happened, but something occurred on my walk that I could not keep to myself.

As I was walking on the beach, I picked up a stick and wrote Olivette's name in the sand. I drew hearts as I walked along. I drew a heart and another one joined to it to represent me and her. I thought about us growing up together and the good times that we had shared.

After walking for a while, I decided to sit down. I drew a heart in the sand with an arrow piercing it. It was my broken heart. I looked at the single set of footprints in the sand. My sister would never walk beside me again.

Since I lived six hours away, I decided that I should take a stone as a memory of the beach and my sister. New Brunswick's sand has a distinct reddish tone, so I decided to pick a small stone that had that same tone. I reached down and picked one up, at random, without even looking at it first. Then I held it in the palm of my hand and looked at it in amazement. I had picked up the most beautiful heart shaped stone. My beautiful, wonderful sister had sent me a message from heaven!



On my walk home, I covered the beach with hearts. I knew that my sister was watching from her heavenly home as I sent her back my love.

When I returned to my family and told them the story, they too looked at the stone in amazement. My sister's husband and her three sons were also amazed, but comforted by the "message." All weekend, during the wake, the funeral, and the reception, people

continually asked if they could see the stone, since they had also heard the story. The stone, my heart from heaven, acted as a comfort to all. It is now one of my most cherished possessions.

## "A Heart From Heaven" Comprehension Exercise

1. The author's sister's name was \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The author was walking on the beach to  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. She walked on this particular beach because \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. She drew two joining hearts to \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. She picked up a stone to \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. The stone that she picked was \_\_\_\_\_
7. She drew hearts all over the beach on her walk home so \_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. The stone acted as a comfort to all because \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

[\[View answers\]](#)

## Reading Between The Lines

1. Do you believe the heart-shaped stone was a "message" from the author's sister, or a coincidence? Why or why not?

## "A Heart From Heaven" Pronouns

Pronouns take the place of nouns. Example: Vicki went to the beach and she was having fun. The pronoun *she* takes the place of the noun *Vicki*.

In the exercises below, sometimes two pronouns are needed in one blank. If you are not sure which ones are right, try saying the sentence as if just one pronoun was needed in the blank. Whichever ones make sense alone are the right ones.

Example: Which is correct? *She and I* sang or *her and me* sang. Her sang. Me sang. (These sentences don't make sense.) She sang. I sang. (These sentences make sense.) Therefore, *she and I* sang is the correct choice.

### Select the correct pronoun.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ (I or Her) was walking on the beach.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ (Her or She) picked up a stick.
3. The hearts represented \_\_\_\_\_ (I and she or me and her).
4. My \_\_\_\_\_ (sister and I or sister and me) walked on the beach.
5. The stone was a memory of the \_\_\_\_\_ (beach and she or beach and her).
6. It was a message from \_\_\_\_\_ (her or she).
7. \_\_\_\_\_ (Her or She) was watching me.
8. My sister's husband and \_\_\_\_\_ (her or she) three sons looked at the stone.
9. People asked \_\_\_\_\_ (me or I) to see the stone since \_\_\_\_\_ (they or them) had heard the story.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ (Her or She) had sent \_\_\_\_\_ (me or I) a message.

[\[View answers\]](#)



## "A Heart From Heaven" Crossword Puzzle Clues

Across	Down
1. A spouse	1. Sixty minutes
4. Something you remember	2. Sandy place
6. Opposite of down	3. A rock
7. Policeman's clue?	5. _____ means no special order, chance
8. Deal with	9. Select
11. Part of the hand you slap with	10. Not married
13. Days off	12. With no one else
17. "Sign your _____ on the dotted line."	13. A stroll
18. _____ a question	14. "I love you with all my _____."
19. Next to	15. Forty two less thirty six
20. Past tense of send	16. Twelve months
22. Endure pain	18. Bow and _____
23. Past tense of write	19. Opposite of ugly
24. A thin piece of wood	20. Opposite of stand
25. Female sibling	21. An emotion
26. Save	24. Alike
27. Little	28. Opposite of bad
31. Too	29. Sounds like "me"
33. A tale	30. Immediately
34. Not here anymore	32. Male offspring
35. Castle made of this?	

[View answers](#)

"A Heart From Heaven"  
Crossword Puzzle Answers

<b>Across</b>	<b>Down</b>
1. husband	1. hour
4. memory	2. beach
6. up	3. stone
7. footprint	5. random
8. cope	9. pick
11. palm	10. single
13. weekend	12. alone
17. name	13. walk
18. ask	14. heart
19. beside	15. six
20. sent	16. year
22. suffer	18. arrow
23. wrote	19. beautiful
24. stick	20. sit
25. sister	21. love
26. keep	24. same
27. small	28. good
31. also	29. see
33. story	30. now
34. gone	32. son
35. sand	

# LIFE EXPERIENCES ANSWER KEY

## "What is Leisure Time?" Comprehension Questions

1. No, some working mothers work a full day and then come home to take care of their families. Other people have to work two jobs to make ends meet and have no spare time.
2. Some people have too much time on their hands and get bored. They use their spare time to drink and do drugs. Others may spend time with people involved in harmful behaviour.
3. Some people use leisure time to get ahead and make their lives more enjoyable. Some study, exercise, do volunteer work, or help others in need.
4. We can use leisure time to make life sweet or lead to problems.

## "What is Leisure Time?" Spelling

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 1. increace, fifty<br>(increase, fifty) | 2. emds, meeth<br>(ends, meet)              | 3. ahead, enjoyabel<br>(ahead, enjoyable) |
| 4. abowt, clas<br>(about, class)        | 5. exercise, shap<br>(exercise, shape)      | 6. volunter, han<br>(volunteer, hand)     |
| 7. drenk, druges<br>(drink, drugs)      | 8. envolved, harnful<br>(involved, harmful) | 9. kan, chooices<br>(can, choices)        |
| 10. swet, porblems<br>(sweet, problems) |   |   |

## "What is Leisure Time?" Punctuation

- |                  |                   |                  |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 1. period        | 2. question mark  | 3. period        |
| 4. question mark | 5. question mark  | 6. question mark |
| 7. period        | 8. question mark  | 9. period        |
| 10. period       | 11. question mark | 12. period       |

## "May I Take Your Order?" Comprehension Questions

1. Amy's dream was to work at Subway®.
2. Amy left school because she had gotten pregnant.
3. No one wanted to hire Amy because she did not have her grade 12.
4. She had seen an old friend, Joe, who said he had taken a learning program, got his G.E.D., and was now working at Subway®. She knew if he could do it, she could, too.
5. Sandra helped Amy pick out an outfit to wear to the interview and told her she would be doing Subway® a favour by working for them.
6. Sandra treated Amy at Subway® to celebrate her getting her job.

## "May I Take Your Order?" Synonyms

- |                    |                      |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. fast, quick     | 2. work, job         | 3. dumb, stupid      |
| 4. ended, finished | 5. smile, grin       | 6. reply, answer     |
| 7. nearly, almost  | 8. start, begin      | 9. sick, ill         |
| 10. tough, hard    | 11. greatest, best   | 12. remember, recall |
| 13. happy, glad    | 14. now, immediately |                      |

## "May I Take Your Order?" Fill in the Blanks

- |          |          |         |                |
|----------|----------|---------|----------------|
| 1. fast  | 2. work  | 3. sure | 4. part, bread |
| 5. ever  | 6. job   | 7. Then | 8. had         |
| 9. study | 10. big  | 11. did | 12. same       |
| 13. but  | 14. math |         |                |

## "May I Take Your Order?" The -ly Ending

excitedly	differently
partly	nearly
monthly	immediately
weekly	suddenly
costly	nervously
really	tightly

- 
- |                          |                    |                  |
|--------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| 1. tightly               | 2. differently     | 3. partly/really |
| 4. excitedly/immediately | 5. monthly         | 6. weekly        |
| 7. costly                | 8. really/suddenly | 9. nearly        |
| 10. immediately          | 11. Suddenly       | 12. Nervously    |

## "The Life of a Single Mother" Comprehension Questions

- Here are all the difficult or negative things Patricia says single mothers have to cope with:
  - Name calling
  - being called lazy; being accused of sucking up people's hard-earned tax dollars
  - financial difficulties
  - having to explain to their children why their fathers are living in a different home, or that they have no father at all
  - having to be both father and mother to their children
  - homes they can afford are not fit to live in
  - people consider them unfit to live in a nice home
- Single mothers are very strong women who can do most anything they set their minds to.

## "The Life of a Single Mother" The -er and -est Endings

lazy, lazier, laziest	hard, harder, hardest	happy, happier, happiest
healthy, healthier, healthiest	lucky, luckier, luckiest	nice, nicer, nicest
strong, stronger, strongest		

- |                                       |                                     |                                  |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Joe is <u>healthy</u> .            | Patti is <u>healthier</u> than Joe. | Jacob is the <u>healthiest</u> . |
| 2. Bob is <u>stronger</u> than Joe.   | Joe is <u>strong</u> .              | Ivan is the <u>strongest</u> .   |
| 3. Mary is <u>luckier</u> than Sally. | Sally is <u>lucky</u> .             | Patti is the <u>luckiest</u> .   |

## "The Life of a Single Mother"

### Choose the Correct Word

1. choice
2. matter
3. abusive
4. endure
5. different
6. healthy
7. aspect
8. lucky
9. scrimp
10. explain

## "Hands Are Not for Hitting"

### Comprehension Questions

1. John was sixteen when he first hit his girlfriend because she had shared her homework answers with another boy.
2. Samantha came back because she felt she had no other choice. She had no way of supporting herself and John Jr. She had little education and believed John when he told her that she was ugly and no one else would ever want her.
3. The beatings were worst when fishing was not good.
4. Samantha's life was ruined before the final day, John believes, because she had no self-confidence and she lived in fear.
5. John tells abusers to cope with their anger in other ways. He says they should know when they are getting to the point that they want to hit someone, and they should take time to cool 'off by leaving the house, only returning when they are calm.. He also teaches them how to cope with stress and to focus on the good things in their lives.

---

### Reading Between the Lines

All are opinion questions except Question 4.

4. John was twenty when Samantha got pregnant, and thirty-five when the beating took place; therefore, John Jr. was around fifteen years old.

## "Hands Are Not for Hitting"

### Antonyms

- |              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1. caressed  | 8. beautiful |
| 2. large     | 9. happy     |
| 3. correct   | 10. fix      |
| 4. gentle    | 11. forget   |
| 5. stay      | 12. blame    |
| 6. beginning | 13. laugh    |
| 7. lie       | 14. play     |

## "Hands Are Not for Hitting"

### Rhyming

- |           |           |
|-----------|-----------|
| 1. lit    | 8. pearl  |
| 2. bought | 9. would  |
| 3. lie    | 10. week  |
| 4. steer  | 11. weed  |
| 5. touch  | 12. run   |
| 6. song   | 13. race  |
| 7. day    | 14. stool |

## "Hands Are Not for Hitting"

### Past Tense of Verbs

- |           |               |               |            |
|-----------|---------------|---------------|------------|
| 1. hit    | 6. told       | 11. came      | 16. knew   |
| 2. did    | 7. saw        | 12. got       | 17. ruined |
| 3. was    | 8. had        | 13. began     | 18. forgot |
| 4. spoke  | 9. understood | 14. disobeyed | 19. lost   |
| 5. wanted | 10. thought   | 15. went      | 20. shook  |

## "Saying Good-bye"

### Comprehension Questions

1. Doctors told the author's mate that he had two brain tumours, and lung and liver cancer.
2. The only two symptoms he had were headaches and dizziness.
3. The doctor in Halifax said he had two years and the family doctor said he had six months.

4. He gave up chemotherapy because he was sick for about two weeks with each treatment and the doctor said it would only extend his life by two or three weeks.
5. Three days before he died he told the author he was soon going to die and he was not scared. He held her and told her he loved her.

### "Saying Good-bye" Rhyming

- |                 |               |                   |                |
|-----------------|---------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 1. could, would | 2. year, near | 3. die, my        | 4. tell, well  |
| 5. when, then   | 6. why, cry   | 7. three, me      | 8. man, an     |
| 9. hand, and    | 10. so, no    | 11. found, around | 12. just, must |

### "Saying Good-bye" Missing Vowels

- |                                   |                    |   |                                 |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| 1. r <u>u</u> n/r <u>a</u> n      | 6. l <u>i</u> fe   | 11. l <u>o</u> ng/l <u>u</u> ng                             | 16. d <u>i</u> e                |
| 2. n <u>ee</u> d                  | 7. s <u>a</u> id   | 12. l <u>a</u> ter  | 17. f <u>ew</u>                 |
| 3. b <u>e</u> fore                | 8. t <u>o</u> ld   | 13. <u>a</u> rm   | 18. d <u>o</u> ne/d <u>i</u> ne |
| 4. t <u>w</u> o                   | 9. a <u>wa</u> y   | 14. d <u>a</u> y  | 19. l <u>i</u> ttle             |
| 5. j <u>u</u> st or j <u>e</u> st | 10. f <u>o</u> und | 15. l <u>a</u> st/l <u>i</u> st/l <u>u</u> st/l <u>o</u> st | 20. m <u>u</u> ch               |

### "Saying Good-bye" Common Bonds

- |         |          |          |            |
|---------|----------|----------|------------|
| 1. one  | 2. head  | 3. first | 4. time    |
| 5. man  | 6. brain | 7. well  | 8. Halifax |
| 9. sick | 10. went |          |            |

### "Saying Good-bye" Making New Words

- |                    |                     |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. belt, melt, etc | 6. way, say, etc    | 11. sold, cold, etc |
| 2. worn, born, etc | 7. find, wind, etc  | 12. pick, kick, etc |
| 3. pan, man, etc   | 8. cot, pot, etc    | 13. mood, hood, etc |
| 4. bust, dust, etc | 9. feed, weed, etc  | 14. fit, pit, etc   |
| 5. bad, mad, etc   | 10. well, sell, etc | 15. past, mast, etc |

**"Good-bye With Love"**  
**Rhyming, Compound Words, Homonyms**

- |                      |                        |                   |
|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. no, toe, bow, etc | 2. pay, lay, way, etc. | 3. con, dawn, etc |
| 4. today/another     | 5. sew                 | 6. knot           |
| 7. new               | 8. wood                |                   |

**"The Final Battle"**  
**A Bit of This and That**

1. B      2. A      3. C      4. B      5. B      6. B

**"Can I Believe It"**  
**A Bit of This and That**

1. B      2. C      3. A      4. B      5. C

**"A Heart From Heaven"**  
**Comprehension Exercise**

1. ...Olivette.
2. ...try to cope with her sister's death.
3. ...it was the beach that she and her sister used to walk on.
4. ...represent her and her sister.
5. ...bring back home as a memory of the beach and her sister.
6. ...shaped like a heart.
7. ...that her sister would see that she was sending her love.
8. ...everyone believed it was a "message" from Olivette.

**"A Heart From Heaven"**  
**Pronouns**

- |               |                  |             |             |
|---------------|------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. I          | 4. sister and I  | 7. She      | 10. She, me |
| 2. She        | 5. beach and her | 8. her      |             |
| 3. me and her | 6. her           | 9. me, they |             |