

Teaching and Researching Active Learning in Reading

Reference list


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Texts to be used as examples in this webinar

- PEP Primary English for Grade 4 students



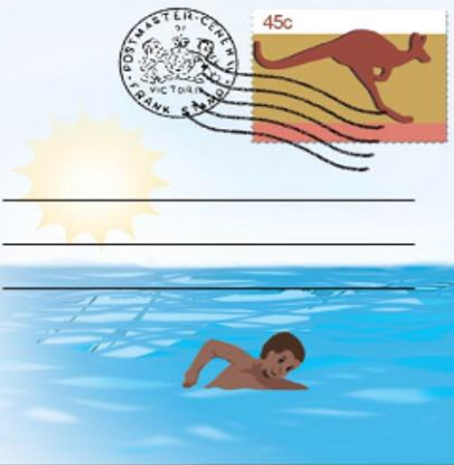
Read and write

Read and answer. 

Hi, John!

How are you? I'm in Sydney now. It's great! It's hot and sunny here. The water is warm. I can swim outside. Is it cool and windy in Beijing? Can you fly your kite?

Love,
Dad



- PEP Senior English Book 5 Unit 1 Reading and Thinking

Reading and Thinking *人民教育出版社*

Understand the questioning mind

- 1 Discuss the following stages of scientific research in groups. What order would you put them in?

___ analyse the results ___ ask a question ___ draw a conclusion ___ collect data
 ___ find a problem ___ find supporting evidence ___ think of a method

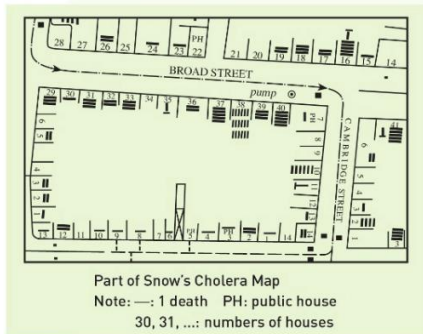
- 2 Skim the passage to see if the order you decided in Activity 1 was correct.

JOHN SNOW DEFEATS “KING CHOLERA”

Cholera used to be one of the most feared diseases in the world, until a British doctor, John Snow, showed how it could be overcome. This illness causes **severe** diarrhoea, dehydration, and even death. In the early 19th century, when an outbreak of cholera hit Europe, millions of people died from the disease. As a young doctor, John Snow became frustrated because no one knew how to prevent or treat cholera. In time, he rose to become a famous doctor, and even attended to Queen Victoria when she gave birth. However, he never lost his desire to destroy cholera once and for all.



In general, doctors in those days had two **contradictory** theories to explain how cholera spread. One theory was that bad air caused the disease. The other was that cholera was caused by an **infection** from germs in food or water. Snow **subscribed** to the second theory. It was correct, but he still needed **proof**. Consequently, when an outbreak of cholera hit London in 1854, Snow began to investigate. He discovered that in two particular streets the cholera outbreak was so severe that more than 500 people died in ten days. He was determined to find out why.



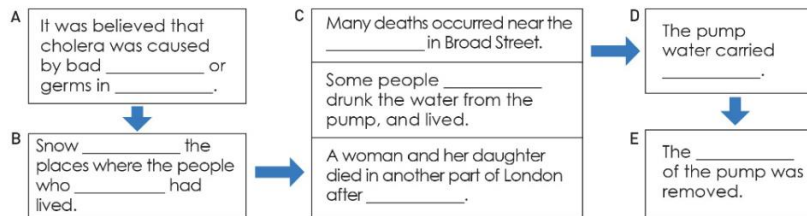
Snow began by marking on a map the exact places where all those who died had lived. There were **multiple** deaths near the water pump in Broad Street (especially house numbers 16, 37, 38, and 40). However, some **households** (such as 20 and 21 Broad Street, and 8 and 9 Cambridge Street) had had no deaths. These people worked in the pub at 7 Cambridge Street. They had been given free beer, and so had not drunk the water from the pump. Snow **suspected** that the water pump was to **blame**. What is more, in another part of London, a woman and her daughter had died of cholera after moving

away from Broad Street. It seemed that the woman liked the water from the pump so much that she had it delivered to her house every day. As a result of this evidence, John Snow was able to announce that the pump water carried cholera germs. Accordingly, he had the **handle** of the pump removed so that it could not be used. Through this **intervention**, the disease was stopped in its tracks.

The truth was that the water from the Broad Street pump had been infected by waste. Moreover, Snow was later able to show a **link** between other cases of cholera and the different water companies in London. Some companies sold water from the River Thames that was polluted by **raw** waste. The people who drank this water were much more likely to get cholera than those who drank **pure** or boiled water.

Through Snow's tireless efforts, water companies began to sell clean water, and the threat of cholera around the world saw a **substantial decrease**. However, cholera is still a problem. Each year, millions of people around the world get cholera and many die from it. Fortunately, we now know how to prevent cholera, thanks to the work of John Snow. Moreover, in his use of maps and **statistics**, Snow **transformed** the way scientists study diseases. For this reason, Snow is considered the father of modern epidemiology.

3 Read the passage again and complete the chart below.



4 Match the following headers with the letters from the chart above. Write A–E in the blanks.

1 conclusion ____ 2 evidence ____ 3 process ____ 4 solution ____ 5 theories ____

5 Write out the questions according to the answers.

- 1 Q: What _____?
A: Snow thought that cholera was caused by germs in food or water.
- 2 Q: Why _____?
A: Snow had the handle of the pump removed so that it could not be used.
- 3 Q: How _____?
A: The cholera threat was defeated thanks to the work of John Snow.

Ask questions

One way to approach a reading passage is to ask questions about it. Asking questions can help you understand the content. It can also help you think more deeply about the topic.

6 In groups, discuss the following questions.

- 1 What was the most important tool Snow used to defeat cholera? What common medical tools, e.g., a **microscope**, didn't he use? Why?
- 2 How has John Snow's work affected our daily lives?

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