

Excel
Basic Skills

English

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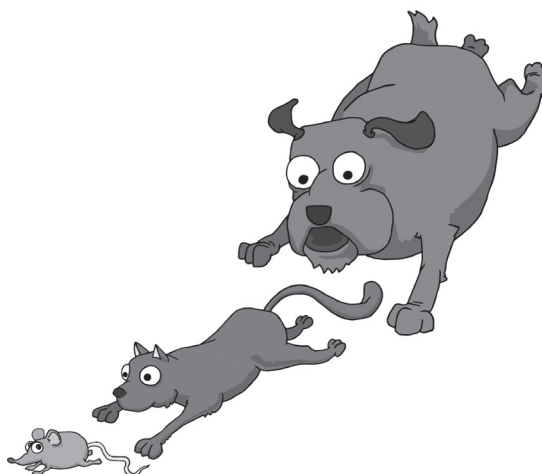
PASCAL
PRESS

Donna Gibbs

Reading and Comprehension

The chase

1 The mouse saw some
2 cheese. The cat saw the
3 mouse. The dog saw
4 the cat. The cat quickly
5 chased the mouse. The
6 dog chased the cat. The
7 mouse escaped to his
8 house. The cat escaped
9 up the tree. The dog went
10 back to his bed.
11



- 1 What does the mouse see?
 - A the cat
 - B some cheese
 - C the dog
- 2 What does the cat chase?
 - A the mouse
 - B some cheese
 - C the dog
- 3 What does the dog chase?
 - A the mouse
 - B some cheese
 - C the cat
- 4 Where does the mouse escape to?
 - A a tree
 - B his house
 - C a dog bed
- 5 Why did the cat go up the tree?
 - A The dog was good at climbing trees.
 - B The mouse was good at climbing trees.
 - C The dog was not good at climbing trees.
- 6 Why did the dog go back to bed?
 - A The cat had escaped from the dog.
 - B The dog was sleepy.
 - C The mouse had run away.

Spelling

- Unscramble the letters to make words.
 A db e
 B hsi
 C reet
- Unscramble the letters to make words.
 A seuom
 B useoh
 C seeche
- Write words that rhyme with **bed**.
 A f B r C w

Vocabulary

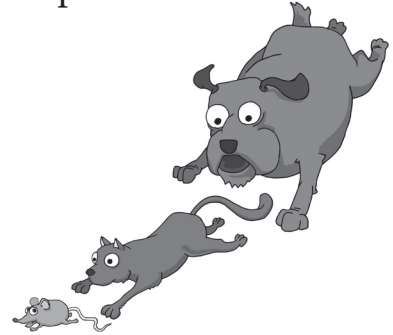
- Which word from the text means **ran after**?

- Circle the word that has a similar meaning to **house**.
 tree home bed
- Cross out the word that does **not** belong.
 quickly slowly fast
- Add a word from the text to the sentence.
 The cat ran up the

Grammar

- Draw lines from the labels to the picture:

cat
dog
mouse



- Choose a word from the box to complete the sentence.

go	walk	ran
----	------	-----

The mouse away from the cat.

- Write words from the text to tell **where**.

The cat climbed

Punctuation

Write each sentence correctly beginning with a capital letter and ending with a full stop.

- The cat chased the mouse

- the dog chased the cat

Reading and Comprehension

Cat facts

Cats:

- sleep a lot
- lick their fur to keep it clean
- see well in the dark
- have four paws with soft pads and claws
- like to hunt small animals, and
- make good pets.



1 How much do cats sleep?

- A a little
- B a lot
- C never

2 How do cats clean their fur?

- A They lick their fur.
- B They roll in puddles.
- C They take a shower.

3 How many paws do cats have?

- A two
- B four
- C six

4 What do cats hunt?

- A middle-sized animals
- B big animals
- C small animals

5 Why do cats make good pets?

- A They can see in the dark.
- B They have claws.
- C They are clean animals.

6 How do cats use their soft paws?

- A to sharpen their claws
- B to move quietly when hunting
- C to clean their fur

Spelling

- Unscramble the letters to make words.

A ees _____

B tacs _____

C urf _____
- Unscramble the letters to make words.

A yad _____

B doog _____

C wlcas _____
- Write words that rhyme with **cats**.

A b _____ B h _____ C m _____

Vocabulary

- Which word from the text means **without light**?

- Circle the word that has a similar meaning to **hunt**.
 lick chase pat
- Cross out the word that does **not** belong.
 see watch sleep
- Add a word from the text to complete the sentence.
 Cats lick their _____
 to keep it clean.

Grammar

- Draw lines from the labels to the picture:

paws fur claws



- Choose a word from the box to complete the sentence.

hunts	sleep	chases
-------	-------	--------

Cats _____ a lot of the time.

- Write words from the text to tell **where**.

Cats are good at seeing
 _____.

Punctuation

Write each sentence correctly beginning with a capital letter and ending with a full stop.

- cats have sharp claws

- cats make good pets

Reading and Comprehension

Nearly six

In one week Tom will be six years old. He ticks off the days on his calendar. There are still seven more days to wait.

On 4 March it is his birthday and he is having a party in his garden. He will have a birthday cake with candles. Everyone in his class is coming.



- 1 How long is it until Tom's birthday?
 - A one day
 - B one week
 - C one month
- 2 What date is his birthday?
 - A 4 June
 - B 4 May
 - C 4 March
- 3 What sort of cake will he have?
 - A birthday
 - B apple
 - C fruit
- 4 What will Tom do on his birthday?
 - A go to the beach
 - B have a party
 - C draw on his calendar
- 5 Who has Tom invited to his party?
 - A all of his class
 - B some of his class
 - C none of his class
- 6 Why does Tom mark the days off on his calendar?
 - A He likes making ticks.
 - B He likes seeing his birthday getting closer.
 - C He likes calendars.

Spelling

- Unscramble the letters to make words.

A neo
 B xis
 C ffo
- Unscramble the letters to make words.

A vense
 B sslac
 C rmoe
- Write words that rhyme with **cake**.

A b B l C m

Vocabulary

- Which word from the text means **almost**?

- Circle the word that has a similar meaning to **garden**.
 backyard farm field
- Cross out the word that does **not** belong.
 more less extra
- Add a word from the text to the sentence.

Tom will blow out the
 at his party.

Grammar

- Draw lines from the labels to the picture:

cake candles calendar



- Choose a word from the box to complete the sentence.

waits	ticks	sees
-------	-------	------

Tom off each
 date on his calendar.

- Write words from the text to tell **where**.

Tom is having his party

Punctuation

Write each sentence correctly
 beginning with a capital letter and
 ending with a full stop.

- Tom will soon be six

- the party is on 4 March

Reading and Comprehension

Letter to my uncle

Dear Uncle Jack

I fell over at school today. I cut my knee badly on a hard stone. My friend found the teacher. The teacher was kind to me. She put a bandage on my knee. I nearly cried but I stopped myself. Then she patted my head and said "What a brave girl."

Love

Dasha



- 1 What did Dasha hurt?
 - A her arm
 - B her hand
 - C her knee
- 2 What cut Dasha's knee?
 - A a stone
 - B a knife
 - C glass
- 3 Who found the teacher?
 - A Dasha
 - B Dasha's friend
 - C Uncle Jack
- 4 What did the teacher put on Dasha's knee?
 - A a bandage
 - B glue
 - C water
- 5 "I fell over at school today." Who is "I"?
 - A the teacher
 - B Dasha
 - C Dasha's friend
- 6 Why does Dasha's teacher say Dasha is brave?
 - A She sees her crying.
 - B She sees her knee is cut.
 - C She sees her trying not to cry.

Spelling

- Unscramble the letters to make words.

A tuc
 B rea
 C hdea
- Unscramble the letters to make words.

A rgil
 B rhad
 C nkee
- Write words that rhyme with **cut**.

A B C

Vocabulary

- Which word from the text means **slit**?

- Circle the word that has a similar meaning to **hard**.
 weak soft firm
- Cross out the word that does **not** belong.
 unkind cruel kind
- Add a word from the text to the sentence.
 I fell and hurt my

Grammar

- Draw lines from the labels to the picture:

girl

teacher

knee



- Choose a word from the box to complete the sentence.

watch	feel	cry
-------	------	-----

Did you when you cut your knee?

- Write words from the text to tell **where**.

The teacher put a bandage

Punctuation

Write each sentence correctly beginning with a capital letter and ending with a full stop.

- I tried not to cry

- i fell over

Reading and Comprehension

Lunchtime

To make an egg and lettuce roll you need:

- a bread roll
- some butter
- an egg
- lettuce
- a saucepan of water
- a knife.

Then you:

- break open the roll and butter it
- boil the egg in the water for eight minutes
- peel the egg and chop it up
- wash and chop up the lettuce
- put the egg and the lettuce into the roll.



1 How much butter do you need?

- A lots
- B a huge bit
- C some

2 What do you boil?

- A the egg
- B the lettuce
- C the bread

3 What does the water go in?

- A the saucepan
- B the roll
- C the egg

4 What do you do to the lettuce?

- A boil it
- B wash it and chop it up
- C butter it

5 What do you need that isn't on the list?

- A some jam
- B some cheese
- C a stove

6 At which meal would the writer eat an egg and lettuce roll?

- A breakfast
- B lunch
- C dinner

Spelling

- Unscramble the letters to make words.

A tpu
 B gge
 C leep
- Unscramble the letters to make words.

A pcho
 B libo
 C fknie
- Write words that rhyme with **chop**.

A B C

Vocabulary

- Which word from the text means **take the shell off**?

- Circle the word that has a similar meaning to **chop**.
 stir cut melt
- Cross out the word that does **not** belong.
 break mend cut
- Add a word from the text to the sentence.
 I made an egg and lettuce

Grammar

- Draw lines from the labels to the picture:

egg
 roll
 lettuce



- Choose a word from the box to complete the sentence.

break	touch	shut
-------	-------	------

You have to the roll open.

- Write words from the text to tell **where**.

I put the lettuce and the egg

Punctuation

Write each sentence correctly beginning with a capital letter and ending with a full stop.

- I boiled the egg

- she made an egg roll

Reading and Comprehension

Counting

Want to have fun?

Then let's count from one.

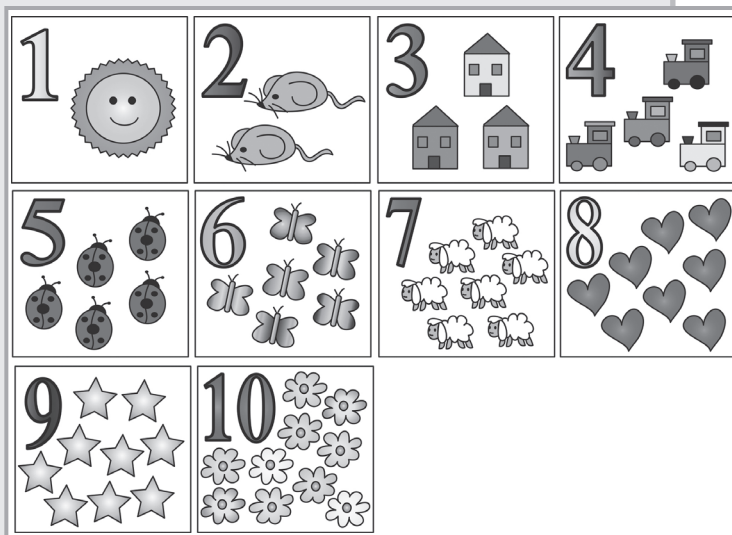
One, two. Buckle my shoe.

Three, four. Knock at the door.

Five, six. Pick up sticks.

Seven, eight. Lay them straight.

Nine, ten. Do it again.



1 What do you buckle?

- A the door
- B the sticks
- C your shoe

2 What do you knock at?

- A the door
- B your shoe
- C the sticks

3 What do you pick up?

- A your shoe
- B the door
- C sticks

4 What do you lay straight?

- A the sticks
- B your shoe
- C the door

5 What do you do again?

- A Lay the sticks straight.
- B Knock at the door.
- C Count from one to ten.

6 Why are there five ladybirds in the picture?

- A The others ran away.
- B Six ladybirds would not fit.
- C It shows how many ladybirds make the number five.

Spelling

- Unscramble the letters to make words.
 A eth
 B nuf
 C nnie
- Unscramble the letters to make words.
 A rood
 B ckip
 C ourf
- Write words that rhyme with **pick**.
 A B C

Vocabulary

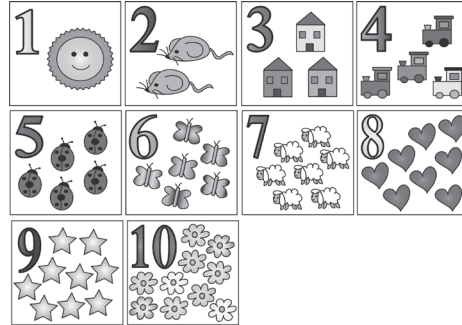
- Which word from the text means **another time**?

- Circle the word that has a similar meaning to **straight**.
 crooked bent neatly
- Cross out the word that does **not** belong.
 knock bang tickle
- Add a word from the text to complete the sentence.
 Would you unbuckle my
 please?

Grammar

- Draw lines from the labels to the picture:

one five ten



- Choose a word from the box to complete the sentence.

jumps	gives	do
-------	-------	----

I have to
 it again.

- Write words from the text to tell **where**.

I will knock

Punctuation

Write each sentence correctly beginning with a capital letter and ending with a full stop.

- we said the poem

- we had fun

Reading and Comprehension

1 For sale

2 Our goat, Sam, is for sale. Soon
3 we are moving to a unit in the city.
4 We can't keep a goat in a unit!
5 Sam has soft, white hair and a
6 beard! She likes to eat grass but
7 she eats almost anything. I will
8 miss Sam. Please buy our goat.
9 Call Tom on 9898333.



- 1 Who is Sam?
 - A Tom
 - B a girl
 - C a goat
- 2 Where is Tom going to live?
 - A in a farm house
 - B in a unit
 - C in the country
- 3 What kind of hair does Sam have?
 - A hard
 - B wiry
 - C soft
- 4 What does Sam like to eat?
 - A grass
 - B units
 - C nothing
- 5 Why does Tom need to sell his goat?
 - A He needs the money.
 - B He dislikes the goat.
 - C Goats aren't allowed to live in units.
- 6 Why will Tom miss Sam?
 - A He doesn't have any friends.
 - B He won't see Sam any more.
 - C Sam likes Tom.

Spelling

- Unscramble the letters to make words.

A uyb

B ssim

C ssgra
- Unscramble the letters to make words.

A ntiu

B ycti

C ftos
- Write words that rhyme with **goat**.

A B C

Vocabulary

- Which word from the text means **hair that grows on the chin**?
.....
- Circle the word that has a similar meaning to **soon**.
more always shortly
- Cross out the word that does **not** belong.
soft stiff hard
- Add a word from the text to the sentence.
Call Tom if you want to buy
his

Grammar

- Draw lines from the labels to the picture:

goat

beard

grass



- Choose a word from the box to complete the sentence.

cry

help

miss

I will Sam
when she is sold.

- Write words from the text to tell **where**.

Our new unit is
.....

Punctuation

Write each sentence correctly beginning with a capital letter and ending with a full stop.

- our goat lives on a farm
.....

- goats eat anything
.....

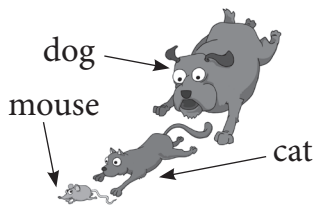
Answers

Unit 1A page 8

1. B. See lines 2–3.
2. A. See lines 5–6.
3. C. See lines 6–7.
4. B. See lines 7–9.
5. C. See lines 9–11. You can work out the cat went up the tree to get away from the dog. It knew it would be safe because the dog couldn't climb the tree.
6. A. See lines 9–11. You can work out the dog went back to bed because it had given up trying to catch the cat who kept escaping from him.

Unit 1B page 9

1. A. bed B. his C. tree
2. A. mouse B. house C. cheese
3. A. fed B. red C. wed
4. chased
5. home
6. slowly
7. tree
- 8.



9. ran
10. up the tree
11. The cat chased the mouse.
12. The dog chased the cat.

Unit 2A page 10

1. B. See line 3.
2. A. See lines 4–5.

3. B. See line 7.
4. C. See lines 9–10.
5. C. See lines 4–5. You can work out a pet that keeps itself clean won't make the house dirty or spread germs to the family.
6. B. See lines 9–10. You can work out soft paws wouldn't make a noise. This means the small animals won't hear the cat coming after them.

Unit 2B page 11

1. A. see B. cats C. fur
2. A. day B. good C. claws
3. A. bats B. hats C. mats
4. dark
5. chase
6. sleep
7. fur
- 8.



9. sleep
10. in the dark
11. Cats have sharp claws.
12. Cats make good pets.

Unit 3A page 12

1. B. See line 2.
2. C. See line 6.
3. A. See lines 8–9.
4. B. See lines 6–7.
5. A. See lines 10–11. You can work out Tom has invited all of his class since everyone in his

class is coming to his party.

6. B. See lines 3–5. You can work out Tom likes to see the number of days left as he marks them off. This shows him his birthday is getting closer.

Unit 3B page 13

1. A. one B. six C. off
2. A. seven B. class C. more
3. A. bake B. lake C. make
4. nearly
5. backyard
6. less
7. candles
8. candles



9. ticks
10. in his garden
11. Tom will soon be six.
12. The party is on 4 March.

Unit 4A page 14

1. C. See line 3.
2. A. See lines 3–4.
3. B. See lines 4–5.
4. A. See line 6.
5. B. See line 11. You can work out "I" stands for Dasha as she writes the letter to Uncle Jack.
6. C. See lines 6–7. You can work out the teacher sees that Dasha tries not to cry even

Answers

though she has cut her knee badly. She thinks this is brave of Dasha.

Unit 4B page 15

1. A. cut B. are C. head
2. A. girl B. hard C. knee
3. Answers will vary, e.g. but, gut, hut, jut, nut, rut.
4. cut
5. firm
6. kind
7. knee
8. teacher



9. cry
10. on my knee
11. I tried not to cry.
12. I fell over.

Unit 5A page 16

1. C. See line 4.
2. A. See line 11.
3. A. See line 7.
4. B. See line 13.
5. C. See line 11. You can work out you would need a stove to boil the water in a saucepan to cook the egg.
6. B. See line 1. You can work out from the title 'Lunchtime' that the writer would eat an egg and lettuce roll for lunch.

Unit 5B page 17

1. A. put B. egg C. peel
2. A. chop B. boil C. knife
3. Answers will vary, e.g. cop, hop, lop, mop, pop, top.
4. peel
5. cut
6. mend
7. roll
8. lettuce roll



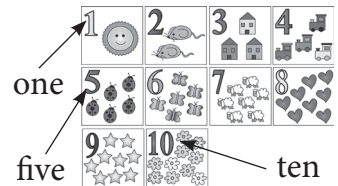
9. break
10. into the roll
11. I boiled the egg.
12. She made an egg roll.

Unit 6A page 18

1. C. See line 5.
2. A. See lines 6–7.
3. C. See line 8.
4. A. See lines 8–10.
5. C. See lines 3–4. You can work out you need to start from the beginning and do everything again. It wouldn't make sense to do only one part over and over.
6. C. You can work out the picture is a chart that shows how many objects are needed for each number. This is the reason the number five has five ladybirds drawn next to it.

Unit 6B page 19

1. A. the B. fun C. nine
2. A. door B. pick C. four
3. Answers will vary, e.g. kick, lick, nick, sick, tick, wick.
4. again
5. neatly
6. tickle
7. shoe
- 8.



9. do
10. at the door
11. We said the poem.
12. We had fun.

Unit 7A page 20

1. C. See line 2.
2. B. See line 3.
3. C. See line 5.
4. A. See line 6.
5. C. See line 4. You can work out there are rules against having goats living inside units. It would not be healthy for Sam or for the family to have her living there with them.
6. B. You can work out that when Tom moves house and his goat is sold he won't see Sam any more.

Unit 7B page 21

1. A. buy B. miss C. grass
2. A. unit B. city C. soft

Answers

3. Answers will vary,
e.g. boat, coat, moat,
note, vote.

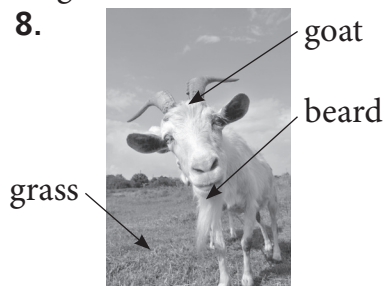
4. beard

5. shortly

6. soft

7. goat

8.



9. miss

10. in the city

11. Our goat lives on a
farm.

12. Goats eat anything.