

For the Student

Every day, you answer questions in class and on tests. Some questions may seem easy, and some questions may seem difficult. What do you do when a question is difficult to answer? Do you skip the question? Or do you think about it in a different way?

In this book, you will learn how to understand and answer reading questions. You will practise answering questions at four levels of comprehension. The four levels are described below.

 **FIND IT** Sometimes you can find the answer to a question **all in one place** in the passage. One sentence or two sentences together have all the information that you need. You find the sentence or sentences, and you answer the question.

 **CONNECT IT** Sometimes you can find **pieces** of information in the passage to answer a question. The pieces may not all be in the same place. You find the pieces, and you put them together to answer the question.

 **ADD TO IT** Sometimes you can use **clues** or other details to figure out information that is not directly stated in the passage. You find the clues, add what you already know and figure out the answer to the question.

 **GO BEYOND IT** Sometimes the answer is not in the passage at all. But it is based on the passage. You think about what you have read. You **apply** what you already know. You put it all together and come up with the answer to the question.

Acknowledgments

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Cover Designer: Susan Hawk

Photo and Illustration Credits:

pgs. 4, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 18, 22, 23, 24, 27, 35, 38, 47, 60, 82, 86, 90, 91, 95, 96, 97, 100, 101, ©Jupiter Images, Inc.; ©Shutterstock.com: pgs. 6, 20, 40, 62, Krissy VanAlstyne; pg. 42, Gordon Swanson; pg. 43, David Asch; pg. 48, Lori Skelton and Karla Caspari; pg. 53, Jason Cheever, Sascha Burkard, Paul Rowland, and Jack Cronkhite; pg. 56, Eric Hart and Vladimir Odorcic; pg. 64, Victor Moni; pg. 69, Mitch Aunger; pg. 74, Jose Manuel Gelpi Diaz; pg. 95, Andy Lim

Read this article about catching frogs. After you read the directions, you will answer a question about the article. You will be able to find the answer to the question all in one place in the article.

Catching Frogs



You might think that it would be rather simple to capture a little creature like a frog. Even if you follow these directions, you'll probably come to realise that it is only an *easy* task for experienced frog hunters. I first learned the art of catching frogs by following these steps.

First, find a pond where there's a lot of croaking going on. Look everywhere along the banks for little green eyes, noses or heads poking above the surface of the water. Then, prepare yourself by rolling up your pant legs and removing your shoes. Don't worry about being barefoot. You definitely don't want to get your clothes wet and smell like a frog pond. Pick out the largest frog and make it your target. Wade into the water slowly and carefully while trying your best not to frighten the frog. Too late! Experience will teach you that the biggest frogs always jump the farthest and the fastest.

Next, choose another frog, perhaps the closest one, even if it is small. Step quickly and raise your feet high, but you will probably trip over that fallen log anyway. Splash! Now that you are thoroughly wet and muddy, just go for it. Dive and grab that slippery little frog and clamber back up the bank with your prize.

Last, it's important to sit and put your shoes back on. Gently place the frog on the ground next to you when you realise that you need two hands to tie your shoelaces. Sproing! Of course, the frog rapidly makes its escape and leaps with a flourish back into the pond. You may find yourself disappointed, but that's just the place for a frog to be.

Read this question about the article. Then read how to understand and answer the question.

What is the last thing to do when catching a frog?

Understand the QUESTION

- What does the question ask **about**? This question asks about *catching a frog*.
- What does the question ask you **to do**? This question asks you to find out what is *the last thing to do when catching a frog*. You will find out the final step in a sequence of steps.

Figure Out the ANSWER

 **FIND IT**

- **Think about** the answer. Look for the answer **all in one place**.

Look for one sentence or two sentences together in the article that tell about *catching a frog*.

The whole article tells about catching a frog. Look at the last paragraph. It begins with the word *last*, which signals that this will be the last thing you do in the sequence of steps. The first sentence in the paragraph has the answer. “Last, it’s important to sit and put your shoes back on.” You have found the answer to the question.

- **Answer** the question. You might see this as a multiple choice question or as a short response question. Try to answer the question. **Choose** the answer to the question in the first box. **Write** the answer to the question in the second box.

<p>What is the last thing to do when catching a frog?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Ⓐ Pick the largest frog for your target.Ⓑ Sit and put your shoes back on.Ⓒ Find a pond.Ⓓ Dive and grab a little frog.	<p>What is the last thing to do when catching a frog?</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
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Read this biography of an Australian doctor who was a pioneer in surgery. Then answer short response questions about the biography. Write the answers for Numbers 1 to 6.

A Pioneer in Surgery

Doctor Victor Chang was a gifted Australian surgeon. He was one of the pioneers of the heart transplant operation. This is when a person is given a new heart from someone else. Before Victor Chang's work, it was a difficult operation. It wasn't done often and it was common that the operations didn't go well.

Victor Chang was born in China in 1936. Victor came to Australia to study medicine in 1953. He decided to become a surgeon at the age of twelve, when his mother died of cancer.

Victor worked as an intern, or apprentice doctor, for two years. This was at St Vincent's Hospital in Sydney. Then he went to work in England and America. In 1972, Doctor Chang returned to St Vincent's from America. He joined many other top Australian heart surgeons. The heart transplant was not a new idea. But it was still a very rare and dangerous operation. Advances were being made to stop a human body rejecting a new heart. Victor Chang talked to the Australian government about starting a new transplant program at St Vincent's. The first transplant under this program was done on a fourteen-year-old girl named Fiona Coote.

From 1984 and 1990, Doctor Chang's unit performed nearly 200 heart transplant operations. They did fourteen heart-lung transplants. They had a 91% success rate. This was one of the highest in the world. A difficult and rare operation was now done often. In 1986, Victor Chang was awarded a Companion of the Order of Australia for his work.

During this time, Doctor Chang started work on his biggest project yet. He was worried about the lack of organ donors. There were always fewer hearts than was needed. Working with scientists and engineers from around the world, Doctor Chang began making real steps towards creating an artificial heart. This would mean that a heart could be built and given to people who needed it. Work went well. Doctor Chang and his team created replacement mechanical heart valves that were used around the world. It seemed like the miracle of an artificial heart might become a reality. It was sooner than anyone could have imagined.

Tragically, Doctor Victor Chang was murdered in 1991. His death was a huge loss to Australia and the world. As well as being one of the world's best surgeons, he was also a father. The artificial heart he was on the brink of creating was never finished. The man who had spent his life saving others was dead. He died just before he could have invented something to save millions more.

Today, Victor Chang's work lives on. In 1994, the Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute was opened. It continues his research into the human heart.

1. How was heart surgery different before the work of Victor Chang?

2. What is an *apprentice*?

3. Where was Chang's last job before he returned to St Vincent's to start his heart program?
