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Woman passes 950th driving test

MANY FLASH AND ONLINE ACTIVITIES FOR THIS LESSON, PLUS A LISTENING, AT:

http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0911/091107-driving_test.html

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7th November, 2009

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0911/091107-driving_test.html

A 68-year-old Korean woman finally passed her driving test. She failed her first 949 tests and succeeded at the 950th try. Mrs Cha Sa-soon always knew she would pass one day. She started taking driving lessons in April 2005. She had big problems with the written test. She took it almost every day for three years. One test costs just over \$4.60. She spent almost \$4,500 in total on her tests. She needed 60% to pass but always got less than 50%. The examiner Jung-seok really wanted her to pass. He said: "I feel sorry every time I see Cha fail."

It's great that Mrs Cha never gave up. We can all learn a lesson from her. She spent so long trying to get her driver's license. I bet she knows the rules of the road better than anyone now. Some people give up after failing two or three times. Mrs Cha is a good example of an old English saying: "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again." I wonder if she ever got mad. A lot of us would go crazy, I think. Mrs Cha is a special woman. She also proves another English saying about being patient: "All good things come to those who wait."

PHRASE MATCH

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0911/091107-driving_test.html

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. finally passed | a. 949 tests |
| 2. She failed her first | b. in total |
| 3. She started taking driving | c. test |
| 4. the written | d. her driving test |
| 5. almost \$4,500 | e. 50% |
| 6. less than | f. lessons |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| 1. We can all learn | a. after failing |
| 2. She spent so | b. of the road |
| 3. the rules | c. crazy |
| 4. Some people give up | d. a lesson |
| 5. an old English | e. long trying |
| 6. go | f. saying |

LISTENING GAP FILL

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0911/091107-driving_test.html

A 68-year-old Korean woman _____ driving test. She failed her first 949 tests and succeeded _____. Mrs Cha Sa-soon always knew she would pass one day. She started taking driving lessons in April 2005. She _____ with the written test. She took it almost every day for three years. _____ over \$4.60. She spent almost \$4,500 in total on her tests. She needed 60% to pass _____ than 50%. The examiner Jung-seok really wanted her to pass. He said: " _____ time I see Cha fail.

It's great that Mrs Cha never gave up. _____ lesson from her. She spent _____ to get her driver's license. I bet she knows the _____ better than anyone now. Some people give up after failing two or three times. Mrs Cha is a good example of an _____: "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again." I wonder if she ever got mad. A lot of us _____, I think. Mrs Cha is a special woman. She also proves another English saying about being patient: "All good things come _____."

MULTIPLE CHOICE

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0911/091107-driving_test.html

A 68-year-old Korean woman (1) _____ passed her driving test. She failed her first 949 tests and succeeded at the 950th try. Mrs Cha Sa-soon always (2) _____ she would pass one day. She started taking driving lessons in April 2005. She had big problems with the written test. She took it (3) _____ every day for three years. One test costs just over \$4.60. She spent almost \$4,500 in (4) _____ on her tests. She needed 60% to pass but always got less than 50%. The examiner Jung-seok (5) _____ wanted her to pass. He said: "I feel sorry every time I see Cha fail.

It's great that Mrs Cha never (6) _____ up. We can all learn a lesson from her. She spent so long (7) _____ to get her driver's license. I bet she knows the rules of the road better than anyone now. Some people give up after failing two or three times. Mrs Cha is a good example of an old English (8) _____: "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again." I wonder if she ever got mad. A lot of us would (9) _____ crazy, I think. Mrs Cha is a special woman. She also proves another English saying about being patient: "All good (10) _____ come to those who wait."

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | |
|-----|------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 1. | (a) final | (b) finals | (c) finally |
| 2. | (a) knew | (b) known | (c) knowing |
| 3. | (a) around | (b) almost | (c) near |
| 4. | (a) total | (b) totally | (c) totals |
| 5. | (a) real | (b) really | (c) realize |
| 6. | (a) gave | (b) given | (c) giving |
| 7. | (a) tried | (b) tries | (c) trying |
| 8. | (a) saying | (b) said | (c) says |
| 9. | (a) come | (b) go | (c) have |
| 10. | (a) thing | (b) things | (c) thingamajig |

SPELLING

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0911/091107-driving_test.html

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. finally passed her driving test
2. She failed
3. driving lessons
4. written test
5. She needed 60%
6. feel sorry

Paragraph 2

7. learn a lesson
8. driver's license
9. a good example
10. an old English saying
11. go crazy
12. being patient

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0911/091107-driving_test.html

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () 2005. She had big problems with the written test. She took it almost every day for three years. One test costs
- () another English saying about being patient: "All good things come to those who wait."
- (**1**) A 68-year-old Korean woman finally passed her driving test. She failed her first 949 tests and succeeded at the
- () two or three times. Mrs Cha is a good example of an old English saying: "If at first you don't succeed, try, try
- () It's great that Mrs Cha never gave up. We can all learn a lesson from her. She spent so long trying to get her
- () just over \$4.60. She spent almost \$4,500 in total on her tests. She needed 60% to pass but always got less
- () driver's license. I bet she knows the rules of the road better than anyone now. Some people give up after failing
- () than 50%. The examiner Jung-seok really wanted her to pass. He said: "I feel sorry every time I see Cha fail.
- () 950th try. Mrs Cha Sa-soon always knew she would pass one day. She started taking driving lessons in April
- () again." I wonder if she ever got mad. A lot of us would go crazy, I think. Mrs Cha is a special woman. She also proves

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

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With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. her 949 failed first tests She.

2. started driving She taking lessons.

3. written had the She with problems test big.

4. One just costs \$4.60 test over.

5. her to pass really wanted Jung-seok.

6. Cha It's never great gave that up Mrs.

7. her learn a We lesson can from all.

8. road the of rules the knows She.

9. , succeed don't you first at If again try , try.

10. to All those good who things wait come.

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

WRITING

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0911/091107-driving_test.html

Write about driving tests for 10 minutes. Show your partner your paper. Correct each other's work.

HOMEWORK

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find more information about driving tests. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about driving tests. Include imaginary interviews with Mrs Cha and her driving examiner. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

4. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

5. LETTER: Write a letter to Mrs Cha. Ask her three questions about driving tests. Give her three of your opinions on how to pass tests. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Your partner will answer the questions you asked.