



Topic: Picnic

Level: Beginner

Grammar Focus: Verbs



Discussion:

A. Look at the picture. What do you see? These words will help you.

three people sitting cloth plates drink ground bush green outdoor



B. Read and answer the following questions.

1. What are the people doing?
2. Are these people in a city or in the countryside? Give reasons.
3. What time of day is it?
4. What is the weather like?
5. Do you think the people are having a good time? Why?

C. General chat about outdoor eating.

Do you like picnics? What is the difference between a picnic and a barbeque? Some houses have outdoor eating areas. What is the difference between a balcony and a courtyard?

D. Word Play

1. Verbs are action words. Which parts of the body are involved in these actions?

Example: 'catch' hands

chew walk sit listen smell throw see lift think bump



Story:

A. Read the following story. Take your time. Pause at the end of each sentence when you reach a full stop.

Picnic in the Park

It is a sunny spring day. Mr and Mrs Simpson want to take the family out. They have three children and a dog in their family. The children want to go to the park. Alan is twelve and he wants to take a toy boat. Laura is eight and she wants to take a book. Mark is three and he wants to take a red truck. The dog is named Bart and he wants to take a ball.

They pack a rug in the car and a basket with a picnic lunch. They drive to the park and find a nice spot to spread out the rug. Mrs Simpson opens the basket and lifts out the food. They all sit on the rug and eat sandwiches, chocolate cake and pieces of fruit. There is juice and water to drink. It is fun to have a picnic in the park.

After lunch Alan takes his boat to the pond. Laura sits under a tree and reads her book. Mark plays with his red truck on the grass. Mr and Mrs Simpson throw the ball for Bart to fetch. They are all sad when it is time to go home.



B. Testing your general understanding.

The following statements are either true or false. Read each one and decide whether it is 'true' or 'false'.

1. There are five people in the Simpson family.
2. A picnic is a simple meal eaten outside.
3. They all take books to read.
4. Bart plays in the pond.
5. They do not want to return home.

C. Ultimate challenge. Read each question and the four possible answers. Which one do you think is correct?

Q.1 What does Mark take to the park?

- a. A ball.
- b. A toy boat.
- c. A red truck.
- d. A picnic.



Q.2 What do they sit on for the picnic?

- a. A bench.
- b. A rug.
- c. The grass.
- d. A nice spot.

Q.3 Where does Laura read her book?

- a. Under a tree.
- b. By the pond.
- c. On the rug.
- d. On the grass.

Q.4 Which word in the story means 'to bring back'?

- a. pack
- b. drive
- c. take
- d. fetch

Q.5 Who runs the most in the park?

- a. Alan.
- b. Laura.
- c. Mark.
- d. Bart.



Exploring other ideas:

- The sort of food to take on a picnic.
- 'Concert in the Park' events.
- Eating outdoors versus eating indoors.