

Reading aloud

(oral reading -- 音読)

When you were in JHS/ HS, you probably did reading aloud.

What is reading aloud for? What is it not good for?
 Work with a partner. Write as many ideas as you can.

good for ☺	not good for ☹
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Task 1. This is from *Unicorn English Course 1 (HS 1)*.
 Read it aloud.



Gigantic statues on Easter Island

The picture above shows the statues on Easter Island. Scholars have not agreed on who built them and why. The following is one possible answer given by Clive Ponting.

1

The mysterious stone faces on Easter Island, staring out at the sea, have puzzled people for nearly three hundred years. Most of these statues are seven meters high, and each one weighs about thirty tons.

When Dutch explorers visited the little island in 1722, they found over 600 statues. Who built them? And

Clive Ponting [kláiv pántiŋ/pón-] **staring** [stéəriŋ] <stare **puzzle(d)** [páz(d)]
weigh(s) [wéi(z)] **ton(s)** [tán(z)] **explorer(s)** [iksplórər(z)]

4-5. **stare at:** The baby boy *stared at* his mother.

- ① When did Dutch explorers visit Easter Island?
- ② What did they find there?

why? The explorers asked the island people. But the islanders were wild and uncivilized. They knew nothing about the statues.

2

Today we know the statues are very old. Some of them were built 1,000 years before the Dutch explorers came. Probably the people who built them were civilized and intelligent. But what happened to those people? Why did they become wild and uncivilized? Perhaps the history of Easter Island can give us the answers.

Easter Island is one of the most isolated islands on earth. It lies in the Pacific Ocean, 3,200 kilometers from South America, and its size is only 120 square kilometers. It has no trees.

The islanders are Polynesians. Their ancestors first came to Easter Island in the 5th century. When they came, in their canoes, they found forests covering the island and no one living there.

The first group of about thirty Polynesians found that

islander(s) [áilándər(z)] **uncivilized** [ʌnsívləlaɪzd] **civilized** [sívləlaɪzd]
intelligent [ɪntélɪdʒənt] **isolated** [áísələtaɪd] **Pacific Ocean** [pəsífik óuʃən]
Polynesian(s) [pòlənɪːʒən(z)/pòlíníziən(z)] **canoe(s)** [kənuː(z)]

12. 120 square kilometers 120平方キロメートル. 16. Can you hear *Mary singing*? (G-A)

- ③ When were the oldest statues built?
- ④ Where is Easter Island?
- ⑤ When did Polynesians first come to Easter Island?
- ⑥ How many people came to the island first?

Task 1.2. Don't look at the text (story). With a partner, what do you remember?
You can use Japanese.

Task 2. Now read it again silently. Again, talk to your partner. What do you remember?

Did you notice: *Reading aloud isn't really reading. It is speaking.*

Task 3. Catch the phrases. Use the other handout, A or B.

Wedon'treadlikethis. And We. Don't. Read. Like. This.

We read // in units of meaning // called "chunks".//

This activity // helps students // notice chunks.//

Task 4. Catch the stress.

Stress is a key to natural English.

Task 5. Rhythm reading. After you've marked the stress (Task 5), read it together with a metronome. Try to match the rhythm.

Task 6. Read and look up.

Use the copy on the other side of this sheet. **A**, use part 1. **B**, use part 2.

Read part of the story to yourself.

Then look at your partner's eye's as you say it aloud. Pause for chunks.

Then change parts.

Task 7. Read and look up with shadowing.

Repeat step 6. This time B shadows A (without looking at the text).

Then change parts.

Variation: Together, try to write the text.

Task 8. Paired oral reading.

Read the story to your partner as fast as you can. How much can you read in 45 seconds? Make a mark (/). Now your partner reads. How much can she read in 45 seconds. She makes a mark. Now try it again. How much more you read in 45 seconds?

Task 9. Catch the mistakes. **A**, use part 1. **B**, use part 2. Change 3-4 words. Read it to your partner. Can she find the mistakes? Option 1, she can see the text. Option 2, she can't.

Task 10. Catch the emotion.

Choose an emotion. Read as if you felt that way. Partner, guess the emotion.

excited bored tired angry scared happy
embarrassed relaxed sad confused nervous

Task 11. Read to each other

You read paragraph one. Your partner reads paragraph two, etc. Continue.

Reading aloud Pairwork **A**

Task 3. Catch the phrases.

Look at the ①. Practice reading it aloud. Pause (stop for a short time) when you see //. You partner will write the pause marks. Then B reads it back to check.

Then listen to B read ②. Mark the pauses (//). Read it back to check.

1

① { The mysterious stone faces // on Easter Island, // staring out at the sea // have puzzled people // for nearly three hundred years. // Most of these statues // are seven meters high, // and each one weighs // about thirty tons.

② { When Dutch explorers visited the little island in 1722, they found over 600 statues. Who built them? And why? The explorers asked the island people. But the islanders were wild and uncivilized. They knew nothing about the statues.

Check by having the partner read it back. Gesture like a karate chop to show the pauses.

Task 4. Catch the stress.

Do this like Task 3, except you are working on the stress. The underlined parts are stressed. Use parts ③ & ④.

2

③ { Today we know the statues are very old. Some of them were built 1,000 years before the Dutch explorers came. Probably the people who built them were civilized and intelligent. But what happened to those people? Why did they become wild and uncivilized? Perhaps the history of Easter Island can give us the answers.

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④ { The islanders are Polynesians. Their ancestors first came to Easter Island in the 5th century. When they came, in their canoes, they found forests covering the island and no one living there.

Check by having the partner read it back. Clap on the stressed syllables.

Reading aloud

Pairwork

B

Task 3. Catch the phrases.

Look at ②. Practice reading it aloud. Pause (stop for a short time) when you see //. Your partner will write the pause marks. Then A reads it back to check.

Listen to A read ①. Mark the pauses (/). Read it back to check.

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