## Unemployment in France

## By Colleen Messina

Having a job is a basic requirement of life for most people. Jobs give people money. Jobs give people satisfaction, too. It might seem simple to get a job, but sometimes it isn't easy. Unemployment is a problem for people all over the world. It has been an especially big challenge for the young people of Europe.

One pony-tailed young man named Dominique knew how hard it was to be unemployed. He wanted to be a film editor. When he did not
 have a job, he didn't even have enough money to go to a movie. He often went to a job center to find work, but he couldn't find anything. He was unemployed for two years. He said that the experience of being jobless for so long was grueling. He felt that unemployment was destroying France. About twenty percent of people in France under the age of twenty-five are unemployed. Unemployment rates are even higher in Greece, Spain, Italy, and some other countries in Europe.

Unemployment affects people in many ways. You might not mind if you became "unemployed" and did not have to do your chores. In fact, you would probably like it! However, for adults, unemployment causes real problems. Adults who don't have jobs sometimes feel depressed. They can have low self-esteem. They might visit their doctors more and spend more days in bed from illness. They are worried because they can't support their families or pay their bills. Many European families have struggled with these situations because of the high rate of unemployment, especially for those under the age of twenty-five.

In France, unemployment is creating other problems. Some believe that unemployed youth commit crimes because they have "no stake in society." They have too much time and not enough to do. Young people have set cars on fire. Others have desecrated graves in a local cemetery. People who are stressed because of being out of work also have more family problems such as divorce.

Not all young people turn to crime because of unemployment. Others become interns. Young people in France have been nicknamed "Generation S" or "generation stagiaire" by the media. The word stagiaire means, among other things, "intern" in French. Many young French citizens become interns to keep busy. An intern is usually a student who is working under an experienced person. For example, a student in the fashion industry might serve as an intern doing odd jobs in a design house.

Internships do provide valuable work experience. According to the French-American Center, which coordinates internships with French companies, about half the interns have responsibilities but receive "no remuneration." That means that interns do not get paid. In France, some people are still interns when they are in their 30s. Most people of that age need a regular paying job. The people who are still interns want to work so that they can avoid the embarrassment of being unemployed.

During the French presidential elections in 2007, many French voters said that unemployment was their first concern. One man did something about it. Mr. Havet noticed that some families have two generations of unemployed people. Children who saw their parents without jobs are now in the same situations themselves. He started a group - Action against Unemployment! - to combat the problem. Mr. Havet organized street protests to give optimism to unemployed men. He felt that creating new businesses was the best way to solve the problem of unemployment in France.

Throughout the European Union, unemployment among those aged 15 to 24 is soaring. Young people without permanent jobs must delay marriage, having children, and retirement. The problem is not new. In spite of President Hollande's promises to improve unemployment, the lack of progress leaves a bleak outlook for the future of many young people in France.

Name:
Unemployment in France

## Questions

$\qquad$ 1. What was Dominique's chosen profession?
A. film editor
B. taxi driver
C. chef
D. waiter
2. Where did Dominique go to find a job?
A. his relatives' houses
B. his family's business
C. a job center
D. the newspaper
$\qquad$ 3. What is one meaning of the word stagiaire?
A. doctor
B. stagnant
C. intern
D. sterile
4. Unemployment can affect a person's health.
A. false
B. true
5. Which of the following is an antonym for the word "optimism" in paragraph 7 ?
A. opulent
B. hopelessness
C. hope
D. open
6. Which activity was Dominique's favorite?
A. get a new apartment
B. cut his hair
C. go see a movie
D. go out to eat


Maria has \$49. She wants to buy something that costs \$91. How much more does she need?

Explain what is meant by the underlined phrase.
My bulldog puppy is a pig when he eats.

Name:

Gavin did not do his math. He is in the doghouse now. Tonight he did 20 math problems. Ten of them were for today. Ten of them were for yesterday. He started on them at $5: 45$ p.m. He finished at 7:12 p.m. How long did it take Gavin to do the math?

Pluto has an estimated diameter of 1420 miles, approximately $\frac{1}{5}$ the diameter of the Earth. Using the estimated diameter of Pluto, what is the circumference of the Earth? Round your answer to the nearest hundredth.

Mary drew two squares side-by-side. Each square has the same perimeter of 32 centimeters. What is the perimeter of the larger rectangle created by the two squares?

Pam is buying candy mixes for goodie bags. Each fun mix packet weighs 8 ounces. She purchased 4 pounds. How many packets did she buy?
(Hint: 1 pound = 16 ounces)

Name: $\qquad$
Find 2 equations hidden in each box. Good luck!

$$
\begin{array}{cccc}
40 & 16 & 6 \times 5 & 8 \times 3 \\
& 6 \times 2 & & 5 \times 5
\end{array} \begin{gathered}
8+3 \\
5 \times 24 \\
54
\end{gathered}
$$

Write 2 equations: $\qquad$

\[

\]

72
$0 \times 9$
21
$6+5$

1
$8+1 \quad 5 \quad 6^{8 \times 8}$
$3+5$
0
$6 \times 9$

9-8
20

Write 2 equations:

Name: $\qquad$
Find 2 equations hidden in each box. Good luck!


Write 2 equations: $\qquad$
$9+8$
$5 \times 9 \quad 15$
9
25
$1 \times 3$

248
18
$0+8$

$$
\begin{array}{cr}
5 \times 5 & 3 \\
2-2 & 3+4
\end{array}
$$

Write 2 equations:
$3 \times 1$
$4+1$ 4

$$
\begin{array}{cccr} 
& 6 & 13 & 5-1 \\
3 & & 72 & 2 \\
4 \times 5 & 42 & 5 \times 5 \\
3 \times 4 & & 5 \times 9
\end{array}
$$

$$
9-8
$$

Write 2 equations:

## The Mystery of the Red Dandelions

## By Colleen Messina

In a moss-covered hollow log deep in the forest, the CEO of the Fairy Flower Brigade held a meeting. Pearl wore a shimmering white gown that resembled an upside-down lily. Her filmy white wings were studded with tiny crystals.
"I am happy to welcome you to your new job," said Pearl. "Soon you will be painting spring flowers."

The young fairies giggled. Would this be hard? After all, they still needed to learn their colors!

"I love flowers! I wonder what color I will get?" whispered a tiny fairy. She had almond-shaped purple eyes. Her name was Violet.

Pearl was about to explain how to dab the flowers with magical fairy paint when Buzz, the messenger bee, buzzed into the log with news.
"Pearl, we have a problem. The dew guns are clogged. We won't be able to shoot dew on the lawns tonight. Then the lawns will not sparkle in the morning," hummed the bee. He was an old bee with faded yellow stripes and a sagging stinger. Poor Buzz! His job was getting harder. Pearl looked thoughtful.
"I'd better check on this," she said. "Camille will hand out your paint cans."
A fairy with strawberry-blonde hair gently floated in front of Violet. Wisps of hair framed a delicate face that was suffused with a rosy blush. Her dress rippled with soft folds like a piece of peach taffy. She smiled. She had never spoken to the new fairies before! Violet looked up at her with sparkling eyes.
"I am Pearl's secrefairy. Where are those paint cans?" said the round fairy. She looked worried but then spotted the cans nestled in a bed of green moss.

Violet received a tiny bucket of smooth red paint. She didn't know that fairies could have butterflies in their stomachs, but that is how she felt. She felt all tingly inside!

Violet followed a group of other new fairies out into the world. They flew quickly through marshmallow clouds. They descended into a tiny town. Violet was assigned to paint only the dandelions on one block because this was her first time on the job. She quickly dropped blobs of red fairy paint onto the tiny dandelion buds. There! That was easy. She flew home feeling quite proud of herself.

Later, Pearl checked her monitors because she wanted to see how the new fairies were doing. She had a shock! The dandelions in Violet's section were bright red instead of yellow. Why had this happened? She did not understand why the dandelions were the wrong color. How strange! This was almost a natural disaster. Mother Nature must not see this.

Pearl, who had been sipping a sparkling dewdrop soda, summoned Camille, and she asked her what had happened. Camille turned as red as the unfortunate dandelions.
"I knew I should have explained this little flaw I have. It is the reason I never tried out for the Fairy Flower Brigade. I am so sorry!" said Camille.
"What happened?" said Pearl.
"Well, I never should have handed out paint. You see, I am color-blind. I cannot distinguish different colors, which is why Violet got the wrong can of paint. I gave her red paint instead of yellow. That is why Violet painted the dandelions the wrong color," said Camille sheepishly.
"Now I understand the mystery of the red dandelions. I thought they were pretty, though," said Pearl with a gracious smile.

The Mystery of the Red Dandelions

## Questions

$\qquad$ 1. Which event happened last in the story?
A. Pearl discovered the red dandelions.
B. Violet arrived at the meeting.
C. Violet painted the dandelions.
D. Camille gave Violet some red paint.
2. Camille was Pearl's secrefairy.
A. true
B. false
3. What did Pearl's gown resemble?
A. an upside-down rose
B. an upside-down dandelion
C. an upside-down lily
D. an upside-down tulip
4. What was the name of the group that painted flowers?
5. What kind of flowers were painted red by accident?
A. lilies
B. tulips
C. roses
D. dandelions
6. Where was the meeting held?
A. in a school
B. in a $\log$
C. in a $\log$ cabin
D. in a cave
7. A person who is color-blind can't distinguish which of the following?
A. different smells
B. different colors
C. different tastes
D. none of the above
8. Who did Pearl want to keep from seeing the color error?
A. Father Time
B. Mother Nature
C. Mrs. Butterworth
D. none of the above

Name: $\qquad$
Only use a pencil to write the numbers on the blank lines. You do not need any scrap paper! Solve it in your head. If you forget a number, then start over. Cool, huh?


What is the sum?
$A+B+C+D+E$

## Wow! Great job! That's the answer, but do you know how to SPELL the number?

$\qquad$

8 before 16 $\qquad$
9 before 15 $\qquad$
6 after 15 $\qquad$

2 after 19 $\qquad$

4 after 13 $\qquad$

8 after 14 $\qquad$
9 after 18 $\qquad$

1 before 18 $\qquad$ after

7 after 11 $\qquad$

5 before 19 $\qquad$
$\qquad$
3 after 16 $\qquad$

Name:
There are 3 birthdays in our class for the month of October. Peter, Jack, and Jessica all have birthdays. Jessica is the last to celebrate. Her birthday is on the last day of the month. If you add the day numbers of the other birthdays, it equals the day number that Jessica celebrates her birthday. The first person to celebrate is Peter. His birthday is 25 days before the next birthday. On what day numbers are each of their birthdays?
$8 \times(11-8)$
Which number has exactly
4 ten thousands?

How many hundreds are in the number 2,600 ?

Write the greatest possible 5-digit number using only 4 different numbers.
$12 \div 3=$

What number is ten thousand more than 4,448 ?

Circle the word that best completes the sentence.
I could feel the new girl (stair/stare) at me during recess.

Name:
April and Hannah are bookworms. That means they have a lot of books! Together they have 42 books. Hannah has more books than April. In fact, Hannah has exactly twice the number of books that April has. How many books does April have? How many books does Hannah have?


Which of the following is the greatest possible 2-digit number with all different digits?

Round 927 to the nearest hundred.

How many tens are in the number 20?

Double the number 4 three times.

How many total legs are on 6 owls?
$\square$

## Born to Play Football

## By Jody Williams

Are people born to do certain things? Some people believe that is true. Peyton Manning may be one of those people.

Peyton Manning was born on March 26, 1976. He was born in New Orleans, Louisiana. Peyton's parents are Archie and Olivia Manning. Archie was a football player. He was a star player in college. He went to the University of Mississippi. Archie was a quarterback. The quarterback is in charge of the team. He calls plays when his team has the ball. Archie went on to play in the NFL. The NFL is the National Football League. Peyton was a large baby when he was born. Many people said he would be a lineman for a football team. Peyton is the second child in his family. He has an older brother. His name is Cooper. He has a younger brother. His name is Eli.

Peyton Manning started playing football when he was three years old. He
 played with his older brother. Sports were important to his family. All of the Manning boys played football. Cooper was going to play football in college. But there was a problem with his back. Cooper Manning was diagnosed with spinal stenosis, a narrowing of the spine. Doctors told him he would not be able to play football again.

School was important to Peyton, too. Peyton went to private school. He was an A student. His teachers said he was a hard worker. He became a part of the football team. Later, Peyton went to the University of Tennessee. He set school records. Peyton had a choice to make. He was asked to leave college. Some wanted him to become a professional player as soon as he could. Peyton chose to stay in college. He graduated. His jersey was retired. That means that no one else can wear his football number.

Peyton Manning was picked to play professional football. The Indianapolis Colts picked him. They needed a quarterback. Peyton worked hard. The first few seasons were hard. He was new. He wanted to learn as much as he could. He worked hard with his team.

Peyton has set many records. He has been to many Pro Bowl games. He started the Peyback Foundation. He helps children. He helps them become leaders. He gives them chances to work hard. In the 2006 season, Peyton took the Colts to the Super Bowl. He also won the MVP award as the most valuable player that year. He has led his team to the Super Bowl two more times. Peyton Manning was born to play football.

Born to Play Football

## Questions

1. Peyton Manning was born on March 26, 1976.
A. true
B. false
2. What did some people think that Peyton Manning would grow up to be?
A. a carpenter
B. a race car driver
C. a doctor
D. a football lineman
3. Who is Peyton Manning's father?
4. What was his father's job?
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
5. What does a quarterback do?
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
6. Cooper, Peyton, and Eli Manning all grew up playing football.
A. false
B. true
7. Peyton Manning was a star football player and $\qquad$ student.
A. a poor
B. an "A"
C. a hard working
D. both B and C
8. What choice did Peyton Manning have to make when he was in college?
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
9. What does it mean when a player's jersey is retired?
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
10. What NFL team chose Peyton Manning to be its quarterback?
A. Minnesota Vikings
B. Indianapolis Colts
C. New Orleans Saints
D. New York Giants
11. What does the Peyback Foundation do?
12. What did Peyton do in the 2006 season?
A. took the Colts to the Super Bowl
B. helped his team win the Super Bowl
C. was named MVP
D. all of the above


Jessica has 48 books. She organized them equally into 4 boxes. How many books in each box?


What number is halfway between 0 and 10 ?

How many total legs are on 4 zebras and 2 chickens?

Is 42 a composite or a prime number?

This number is one ten more than 7,331 .

There are 4 groups of 6 rocks. How many rocks?
$8,10,12, \longrightarrow 16,18$,
20, 22

Name:

The weather had started cooling off, so Ava knew that autumn was on the way. She decided to make a chart showing the temperature at 8:00 a.m. each day for a week. The temperatures she recorded were sixty-six degrees, sixty-four degrees, sixty degrees, sixty-two degrees, sixty-eight degrees, sixty-four degrees, and seventy-three degrees. What was the average temperature for the week? Round your answer to the nearest tenth of a degree.

Adam found a bag of marbles at the thrift shop. There were red, blue, and yellow marbles in the bag. He grabbed a handful of marbles and got 3 red marbles, 1 blue marble, and 4 yellow marbles. If Adam put his marbles in a new bag and you picked one at random, which color would you most likely pick?

Max took 2 quarters, 6 dimes, and 3 pennies to the store. He bought a book about Peter Rabbit. Show the same amount of money using the fewest coins. Draw and label the coins.

Nathan and Kevin
bought a pizza on
Friendship day. It was
cut into 8 pieces.
Nathan ate 3 pieces.
Kevin ate 4 pieces.
How much of the pizza was left? Write your answer as a fraction in simplest form.

David saw 5 Play-Doh frogs and 2 Play-Doh birds. Each frog has 4 legs, and each bird has 2 legs. How many total legs do these 7
Play-Doh frogs and birds have?

Name: $\qquad$


It was a tough day for Emily the pirate. She was driving the pirate ship, and it was very rough at sea. The pirates didn't care. But they didn't like that she was driving so slowly.
"Faster," yelled Pirate Barker. "Real pirates don't drive 3 knots!"
Emily was worried, but she went 5 knots faster.
"I said faster!" yelled Pirate Barker even louder.
This time Emily doubled her speed!
How fast was the boat going after Emily doubled her speed?

Show your work.

## A Model of Earth

## By Mary Perrin

Draw a circle. Divide the circle into four sections. You can do this by drawing two lines. Draw the first line from the top of the circle to the bottom of the circle. Then draw the second line from the left side of the circle to the right side of the circle. Next, color three sections blue. Blue represents water on the Earth. Color the last section brown. This section represents land on the Earth. This "model" of Earth shows about how much of the Earth's surface is water and about how much of the surface is land.

Only about 30 percent of the Earth's surface is land. That's a little bigger than one of your pieces, but not much. You colored this section of your circle brown. The land is made up of seven continents. Land looks different throughout different parts of the world. There are mountains, valleys, glaciers, and other types of landforms. With only 30 percent of the world's total surface area to work with, it is important to take care of what little land we have!


Look at a picture of Earth from space. The blue will stand out the most. The color blue is the water on the Earth's surface. About 70 percent of the Earth's surface is water. Water on the Earth's surface is made up of saltwater and freshwater. Saltwater is found in oceans and seas. Freshwater is found in glaciers, lakes, and streams. Water is important to people, plants, and animals. All living things depend on water to survive.

A Model of Earth

## Questions

1. The two types of water found on Earth are $\qquad$ water and $\qquad$ water.
2. What is the purpose of making a model of the Earth?
A. so you can label the seven continents
B. to show visually the differences between the amount of land and water on Earth
C. to help you compare Earth to other planets
D. to help you understand how land is used by people
3. There is more land on Earth than water.
A. false
B. true
$\qquad$ 4. $\qquad$ is found in the Earth's oceans.
A. Saltwater
B. Sugarwater
C. Freshwater
D. Bathwater

Name:
Each row, column, and box must have the numbers 1 through 6. The first box is done.

| 6 | 1 | 2 | 5 |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 |  | 6 |
|  | 3 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 6 |  |  | 4 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 4 |  | 5 | 3 |

Each row, column, and box must have 4 different pictures.

$\qquad$ Date

Start on the $\mathbf{B}$ circle. Do not pick up your pencil. Draw a line going left, right, up, or down. Every line must end on a circle. No stopping on an empty box. Try to collect all the circles and finish your last line on the $\mathbf{E}$ circle. You can go through a circle more than once.
B

Didn't get them all? That's ok. This was hard.
$\qquad$ circle(s).

## Thanksgiving Day Parade

## By Cindy Grigg

What do you do on Thanksgiving morning? You might watch Macy's Parade. It is in New York City. This parade has floating, helium filled balloons. Snoopy will be there. You might see Dora. Kermit will be there. You might see Buzz or Shrek. There are giant floats. There are funny clowns. There are marching bands, too. The parade route is two miles long. Every year, about three million people are there. They watch it live. More than forty million Americans see it on TV. This parade began in 1924. There were no balloons or floats that year. It had live animals from the zoo. In 1969, the first floats were made. They are built in New Jersey. Some of them may be forty feet tall! They must be folded when they come into the city. The balloons are inflated the night before. Workers toil all night! They must be ready for the parade's nine o'clock start. More than four thousand volunteers help along the parade route. Macy's Parade is a tradition for many people.


Thanksgiving Day Parade

## Questions

1. Macy's Parade does NOT have $\qquad$ .
A. helium balloons
B. floats
C. marching bands
D. food
2. More than $\qquad$ million people watch the parade on TV every year.
3. The first year, the parade had which of these?
A. helium filled balloons
B. floats
C. zoo animals
D. circus performers
4. The author most likely wrote this story to $\qquad$ .
A. persuade the reader to go see the parade live in New York City
B. entertain the reader by describing a humorous situation
C. teach readers how to build a parade float
D. inform the reader about the Macy's parade

Name:

It was such pandemonium! On Friday, 251 students brought their pets to school. Two-thirds of the pets were dogs. How many were not dogs?

Three black cats sat on a fence. Six black and white cats joined them. Then 3 orange cats got on the fence. Four cats with black and gray strips climbed up on the fence, too. Two-fifths of the cats went home. How many cats were left on the fence?

On No Housework Day Mrs. Allen invited three of her friends to play tennis. Each friend won two matches. Mrs. Allen won three matches to become the winner of the day! Write an expression to show how many matches were played.

There are 9 cats, 8 dogs, and 10 other kinds of pets in the Dress Up Your Pet Day parade. What is the chance that one of the dogs will win the first place ribbon?


Name:

How many of the following numbers are odd?
$92,88,46,99,13,60,49$, and 23
A) 4
B) 1
C) 5

In which of the following numbers does 8 have the greatest value?
A) 87
B) 82531
C) 8429
D) 95438
$(8 \times 1,000)+(8 \times 100)+(6 \times 1)=$
A) 8680
B) 8806
C) 8086
D) 8608
B) $x$
C) $\div$ to make the following sentence true?
$14+42=7$ $\qquad$ 8
A) -

Estimate. $45+24=$
A) 10
B) 70
C) 30

How many hundreds are in 764?
A) 7
B) 76
C) 4

# Pretending - Oh, the Places We Go 

By Mary Perrin

You are a superhero. You wear a bright red cape and tall boots with fire on them. You fly around the house. You try to save your little sister from evil. While you try to save her, she is playing school with a few of her dolls. You are both playing pretend. You pretend you are a real superhero. You really do not have superhero powers that make you fly. You know this, and you play happily anyway. Your sister pretends she is a real teacher who is teaching real students. Her students are not real. They are just her dolls. Still, it is fun to pretend. You use your brain when you pretend. You make your brain work hard to come up with new and exciting things. Your brain will make connections to things you have already learned. It will also allow you to learn new things. You "think outside the box" when you pretend. This means that you think of new ways to do things. Your sister may use a spoon as a hairbrush for her doll. You may pretend your cape is also an invisible cloak. You use your imagination when you pretend. Using your imagination can make you more playful. It can make you laugh. It can also make you even smarter. Pretending is good for everyone, even adults!


Pretending - Oh, the Places We Go

## Questions

1. Your brain gets smarter when you play pretend. You allow your brain to make important $\qquad$ to new information. You build upon things you already know, too.
2. You use your $\qquad$ when you pretend.
A. Imagination
B. Brain
C. Creativity
D. All of the above
$\qquad$ 3. You do not show a lot of creativity when you are not able to "think outside the box."
A. True
B. False
3. Which of the following would be an example of playing pretend?
A. Playing basketball with a bat
B. Eating your cereal with a spoon
C. Stirring an imaginary drink
D. Fishing with a fishing pole

Name: $\qquad$


Look at the balance. What does it tell you? Write a sentence to explain.


Did you find that two are true? If not, look again! You should only mark TRUE if you are absolutely sure it is correct!


Fill in the missing fractions.
$\frac{5}{9}$ $\qquad$ , $\frac{7}{9}$

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