

Clarifying by Summarizing, I

Student A • Unit 18

Focus: Summarizing (clarifications are provided)

Format: Pairs – Student B, page 4

Topics: Part 1. *Getting Fat and Wrong Stadium*
 Part 2. *Bugs in Manila and Naked in the Laundromat*

Before Part 1 of the discussion

- (1) **Silently** read your two articles in Part 1.
- (2) Write answers to the *Factual Questions* about the articles.

Part 1

- (1) Read these two articles to your partner.
- (2) **After each article**, answer your partner's **summary clarification questions**.
- (3) Then ask your *Factual Questions* and *Reaction Questions*.

Getting Fat

I'm going to tell you about two articles. The first article is about Africa. There is a certain tribe in one country who thinks that fat people are beautiful. The men in this tribe think women are more attracted to fat men than to thin men, so many men try to become fatter. **Did you understand these first sentences?** Women think that if a man has a fat stomach, it means he is rich and can buy a lot of food. **Understand?** In fact, every October, the tribe has a contest to see who is the fattest man. To become fatter and to win the contest, one man lay in bed for 12 weeks and drank 19 liters of milk every day. **Did you get the third part?**

Wrong Stadium

The second article is about two high schools in the U.S. They were scheduled to have a football game against each other. At the start of the game, an airplane was supposed to fly above the football stadium and two men were supposed to jump out of the plane and parachute onto the middle of the football field. **Did you understand this first part?** Unfortunately, the airplane pilot, who was a beginner, got lost. After a while, he saw a football stadium, so the men parachuted out of the plane. However, it was the wrong stadium. **Did you get the second part?** Some people in this wrong stadium, who were watching the football game there, thought the men coming down in parachutes were terrorists. Meanwhile, the people at the other game kept watching the sky and waiting for the airplane with the men in parachutes to arrive.

Understand?

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Factual Questions about the articles

1. In the first article, where did the story about fat men take place?

2. Why do the men try to become fatter?

3. What do women think when they see a fat man?

4. Why did that one man drink 19 liters of milk a day?

5. In the second article, why did the men jump into the wrong stadium?

6. What did the people in the stadium think when they saw the men coming down in the parachutes?

Reaction Questions about your partner's opinions and experiences. Ask these questions and ask follow-up questions.

Two Articles

1. Which do you think is more attractive, someone a little fat or someone a little skinny?
2. If you wanted to gain some weight, what would you do? What if you wanted to lose weight?
3. Tell me about a contest you or a family member has been in.
4. Which would you rather do, jump out of a plane with a parachute, climb a dangerous mountain, or go deep-sea diving with air tanks on your back?
5. When were you recently watching something as a member of an audience?

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Part 2

- (1) Listen to your partner read two articles.
- (2) *After each article*, ask these **summary clarification questions**.
- (3) Then answer your partner's *Factual Questions* and *Reaction Questions*.

Summary Clarification Questions

About the first article

1. I think you said that there is a problem in Manila because people are making fires and cooking roasts, right?
2. So if someone has a lot of cockroaches in their house, they can pay the police to kill the insects and they have to pay the police 10 cents for every dead cockroach?
3. In other words, a person with a roach farm can raise a lot of cockroaches and sell them to the government. Is that right?

About the second article

1. You said the man was alone in the laundromat because it was early in the morning, right?
2. I'm not sure if I understand. Did you say the man didn't want to take off his clothes because it was too cold, so he wore his wet clothes in the dryer?
3. I think you said the woman called the police when she saw the man. Did she call them because he was naked?

Factual Questions about your partner's articles

Answer your partner's questions.

Reaction Questions about your opinions and experiences

Try to answer your partner's questions *with details*.

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Summary Clarification Questions

About the first article

1. You said this story happened in Africa and that the men in a certain tribe there think fat women are beautiful, right?
2. So, if a woman sees a fat man, she thinks he is rich?
3. You mean the man lay in bed for 12 weeks because he drank 19 liters of milk a day and got sick?

About the second article

1. Did you say there was a football game between two teams and an airplane was going to fly into the stadium?
2. In other words, the reason the pilot got lost was probably that he wasn't experienced, right?
3. I'm not sure I understand. You said some people watching the football game thought they saw terrorists. Why did they think they were terrorists?

Factual Questions about the articles

Answer your partner's questions.

Reaction Questions about your opinions and experiences

Try to answer your partner's questions *with details*.

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Part 2

- (1) Read these two articles to your partner.
- (2) **After each article**, answer your partner's **summary clarification questions**.
- (3) Then ask the *Factual Questions* and *Reaction Questions*.

Bugs in Manila

I also have two stories to tell you. The first story is about a problem in the Philippines. In the capital city, Manila, they have a lot of insects, for example flies and cockroaches, and they're having problems getting rid of them. **Did you understand the first part?** In order to stop the insects, the government is paying people to kill them. So if someone brings 10 flies to the police station, they will get 4 cents. If they bring in 10 cockroaches, the government will pay them 6 cents. **Did you get the second part?** Because people can make money killing insects, some people have secretly started to raise cockroaches. In other words, now there are roach farms. **Understand?**

Naked in the Laundromat

The second story happened in Canada. One day at about 4 a.m. a man went to a laundromat to wash the clothes that he was wearing. Because it was so early in the morning, nobody else was in the laundromat. **Understand the first part?** So the man took off all his clothes and put them in the washing machine. After he put all his clothes in the washer, he realized that it was very cold because he was naked. In other words, he had no clothes on. So, in order to get warm, he turned on one of the clothes dryers and got inside of it. **Did you get the second part?** While he was in the dryer, he fell asleep. A little while later, another customer came into the laundromat to do her laundry. Suddenly she noticed the naked man in the drier. She thought he was dead. So she called the police and an ambulance. When they arrived they woke the naked man and everyone was surprised. **Understand?**

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Factual Questions about the articles

1. About the first article, what did the government pay people to do? Why?

2. Which could you get more money for: 10 flies or 10 cockroaches?

3. What are roach farms?

4. About the second story, why was the man the only person in the laundromat?

5. Why was the man naked?

6. What happened after the customer came into the laundromat?

Reaction Questions about your partner's opinions and experiences. Ask these questions and ask follow-up questions.

Two Articles

1. Do people in your country have problems with things like insects, mice, or snakes?
2. Do insects bother you a lot? Are you interested in them?
3. How often do you do laundry? What do you usually do while you wait to wash and dry your laundry?
4. Tell me about a time you stayed up until 4 a.m.
5. Tell me about a time the police talked to you.