The WCR Westcoast Reader

Teachers' Notes

October 2026 **www.thewestcoastreader.com**

The exercises in these Teachers' Notes provide learning activities for a wide range of learners. They focus on helping learners develop reading strategies; increase their vocabulary; and improve their grammar, spelling, and pronunciation. Resources are included for extension activities and a discussion is included to help improve speaking and listening.

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Answers

Choose some words (TN2)
Read "Charge into Fire Safety". Has the learner used each word correctly? Are there areas you might focus on to help your learner improve?

Phonics (TN1)
Look through the WCR.
E – election, exploring, effect, easy
O – otter, online, October, onion
V – voter, visited, video, volunteer

Fill in the vowels (TN2)
Stuffed; adventure; summer; engine; home; again; million; exploring; belongs; photos

Good questions (TN3)
Vancouver Stuntwoman doubles for Hollywood Star
Who – Devyn Dalton and Matt Damon
What – Devyn is the stuntwoman in "The Odyssey"
When – Summer 2026
Where – Vancouver and New Zealand.

K W L: B.C. Votes 2026 (TN3)
Before you read the story, note
"K" = what do I know about elections;
"W" = what do I want to know about elections.
After reading the story, note "L" = what did I learn about elections.

Theatre Worker's Poster Goes Viral (TN2)
1. Invite the learner to draw their own "Spooderman". Look online for ideas if needed.

Resources & Discussion

October Special Days

International Day of the Girl Child
International Day of the Girl Child is Sunday, October 11. It celebrates girls and their rights. The day also helps people learn about the challenges girls face around the world.

Thanksgiving Day
Thanksgiving is Monday, October 12. It is a day to give thanks for the good things in our lives. Many people share a meal with family or friends. Turkey and pumpkin pie are common Thanksgiving foods.

Election Day – October 17

Persons Day
Persons Day is October 18. It marks an important court decision made in 1929. The decision allowed some women to be appointed to Canada's Senate. Five women, known as the Famous Five, fought for this change.

Halloween
Halloween is Saturday, October 31. Children and adults dress in costumes. Children may go door to door for candy. Many people carve pumpkins and decorate their homes.

Both the "International Day of the Girl Child" and "Persons Day" have human rights at their core. Your learners may be interested in talking about democracy or voting rights near Election Day. If you engage in discussions with your learners on any of these topics, please keep in mind the sensitivities that may be attached to them.

Choose your own words

Read ‘Charge into Fire Safety’ in *The Westcoast Reader*. Choose three (3) words from the article. Please pick any words that interest you. Write a sentence using each word.

1)
2)
3)

Phonics

Look through *The Westcoast Reader*. Find words that start with the following letters.

E e	O o	V v

You can look for more words using the same letters. You can pick another beginning letter and create another list.

Fill in the vowels

Read ‘Lost Toy Donkey is a B.C. Ferries Star’ in *The Westcoast Reader*.

There are vowels in every word in the English language. The vowels are ‘a’, ‘e’, ‘i’, ‘o’, ‘u’ and sometimes ‘y’. Fill in the blank with the correct vowel.

s t _ f f _ d
_ d v _ n t _ r _
s _ m m _ r
_ n g _ n _
h _ m _
_ g _ _ n
m _ l l _ _ n s
_ x p l _ r _ n g
b _ l _ n g s
p h _ t _ s

Good questions

Read ‘Vancouver Stuntwoman doubles for Hollywood Star’ from *The Westcoast Reader*.

Every good news story must answer “who, what, when, and where”. Write your answers in the correct lines below.

Who? _____

What? _____

When? _____

Where? _____

K W L

Before you read 'B.C. Votes 2026' in *The Westcoast Reader*, answer the first two questions.

What do you know about elections?

What do you want to know about elections?

Read 'B.C. Votes 2026' in *The Westcoast Reader* and answer the following question.

What did you learn about elections?

What do you think?

Read "Theatre Worker's Poster Goes Viral" in *The Westcoast Reader*. We know from the story that "Spooderman" is a silly badly drawn Spiderman.

What do you think "Spooderman" might look like? Draw your own "Spooderman" on the next page.