



# Globetrotter

Volume 1, Issue 6

May 2006

## Greetings

Thank you very much to the students who sent comments about the previous Globetrotter issue. We always enjoy receiving your mail and hearing what you think. We look forward to getting more emails from all of you.

NEWS---The Global Communications website will include a Blog starting in May. There will be a Teacher's Blog and students are also invited to start their own Blog. If any student would like to participate in hosting a Blog, please contact the school by email.

NEWS---If you are preparing for the test, be sure to check out the e-test at [www.e-test.biz](http://www.e-test.biz).

REMINDER---Mother's Day is on May 14, 2006, so don't forget to do something kind for your mother. A wonderful way to make your mother happy is giving her the gift of flowers!



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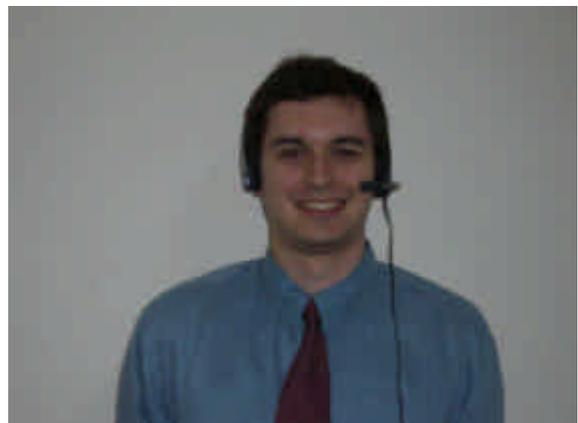
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## Teacher Spotlight Joseph

Hello everyone! I have moved on to do a different type of work in Japan, so April was sadly my last month at Global Communications. However, I greatly enjoyed my time here, and I would like to tell all of the students how honored I have been to be able to teach you all and help you in your English studies.

As the weeks and months have gone by, I have been able to see the improvements made by students of all levels. It has been wonderful to see the progress that everyone has made. Some of the younger students have made tremendous progress, and even students with a high level of fluency have shown a marked improvement. Once again, thank you to all my students. I wish you the best of luck in your studies!



# Movie Review

## The Chronicles of Narnia:

### The Lion, Witch, and Wardrobe

By Alando Garcia

The *Chronicles of Narnia* stars 4 young English actors as Edmund, Peter, Lucy and Susan, and Tilda Swinton as the white witch. During World War II, the children's family sends them away from **war-torn** England to stay at the home of a professor, where they will be safe from the war. While playing a game of **hide-and-seek** inside the professor's home, they find the entrance to a magical world called Narnia, hidden in one of the coat closets. Narnia is full of interesting creatures, such as: talking animals, half-human/half-animals, and the white witch (who calls herself the Queen of Narnia). The white witch has **cast a spell** on the land of Narnia so that it is forever winter. Along with the help of the **noble** Aslan (a talking lion), and other animals and creatures, the children do battle with the white witch and her forces of evil. The movie culminates in a climatic battle between, **you guessed it**, good vs. evil!

I enjoyed this film. I do not usually like fantasy type movies because – well, they don't exist! But this film was so well done, so well directed, and the visuals so good that I found the story very entertaining. Even at more than 2 hours, the film still **moved by quickly**. Tilda Swinton was **absolutely fantastic** as the white witch – very believable and I think very **scary** for younger children!

The plot was so well written that at the end of the movie I felt as though I completely understood everything that happened in the film and though the ending was predictable, it was still a nice story with a happy ending.



### Movie Reviews Grading System

- **A** = Outstanding acting, storyline, visuals and/or special effects.
- **B** = Very good acting **and** storyline, visuals and/or special effects are good.
- **C** = Good acting **or** good storyline **or** good visuals and/or special effects.
- **D** = Poor acting, storyline, visuals and/or special effects.
- **F** = Everything was terrible!

## Vocabulary

### The Chronicles of Narnia

#### The Lion, Witch, and Wardrobe

1. **war-torn** – an area (or country) that is damaged by a war. For example, when bombs have been dropped and have damaged houses, buildings, etc
2. **hide and seek** – this is a children's game where one child counts to 100 and the other children find a place to hide. When the child finishes counting to 100, he then tries to find the other children.
3. **cast a spell** – this phrase is generally used to refer to a witch that is trying to control people or things by using voodoo or curses or asking the devil or God to make something happen.
4. **noble** – this is similar to honorable. A noble or honorable person (or lion, in this example!) is someone that always does the right thing, someone that other people can follow or admire.
5. **you guessed it** – this phrase means that you probably knew what I was going to say (or write) before I actually said it. We use "*you guessed it*" when something is very obvious or predictable.
6. **moved by quickly** – when time seems to pass quickly (fast) or when something is not boring we might say it "*moved by quickly*."
7. **absolutely fantastic** – similar in meaning to excellent or wonderful.
8. **scary** – when something is frightening or we feel afraid, we say it is *scary*.

# What do you think?

By Jennifer Yun

## Salary Systems

MERIT-BASED V. SENIORITY

Most companies around the world have a longstanding tradition of adhering to the seniority-based pay system. This system seems very logical due to the idea that a person who has worked at a company for a longer period of time deserves a higher salary because of more experience and higher productivity. However, typically the seniority-based pay system follows hand-in-hand with the custom of remaining at the same company for the majority of your career. As we all are keenly aware, this system has started to become extinct.

Now that "job-hopping" has become an acceptable trend, it is illogical to expect an employee to remain at the same company. Since the competitive side of business has increased, workers realize that sometimes the best way to increase their salary or to improve work environments is to simply change jobs. Additionally, it is also very common for people to change to a new career late in life. There are many factors that have caused the downfall of the "lifetime-employment" system.

Now that companies have to consider that employees will come and go and that there will be occasions that a worker who is older than the typical "new-hire" age will join the company, the payment system has been re-evaluated.

For a young person, the merit-based payment system seems more rewarding. The merit-based system rewards competency and productivity, regardless of age or rank. Also, the system enables young workers who demonstrate stellar ability and the capacity to show consistent improvement to move up faster in the company. Of course, logically, a person of senior rank should earn a higher salary, but this salary should be higher because the senior employee should be able to produce better and faster results than a younger employee, not just because they are older

**What do you think?**

## Send Us Your Comments

What do you think about the following article? Voice your opinion by sending your comments to:

[office@globalcom-online-english-school.co.jp](mailto:office@globalcom-online-english-school.co.jp)

We anxiously look forward to knowing how the readers feel about the topic.

## Bloodlines Comments

I understand very well that the adoption is commonplace in U.S.A. I suppose that it may become also commonplace in Japan in the near future. Now Japan is facing a big problem about the reduction of population as you said before. Japanese women do not bear their baby because of some reasons in Japanese society. There are so many reasons in background such as education, life style, employee problems and incomes etc. Now we have to search for the solution and practice it as soon as possible. I think it is necessary to receive immigration from other countries as USA did. We should consider immigration and also adoption. ---Takuma ---

I supported the system. I can't answer about it directly. I'm agreeable to this trend rather than the Japanese system. ---Teruhiko ---

# Vocabulary Builder

## Job Vocabulary

1. raise = NOUN = an increase in salary
  - The company performed very well last fiscal quarter, so everyone got big **raises**.
2. promotion = NOUN = an increase in position of rank
  - The manager decided that Jack's **promotion** was well deserved.
3. fiscal = ADJECTIVE = financial or related to money matters
  - The company issues a comprehensive report every **fiscal** quarter.
4. evaluation = NOUN = assessment of workers ability
  - My company performs worker **evaluations** twice a year.
5. to be sacked = IDIOM = to be fired
  - Jane **was sacked** after only 3 months.

# Test Your Skills

## Reading Comprehension

Choose the correct word to complete the reading sample and answer the following comprehension questions.

### C.S. Lewis

C. S. Lewis, or Jack Lewis, as he (1) to be called, is the author of the *Chronicles of Narnia* stories. He was born in Belfast, Ireland (now Northern Ireland) on November 29, 1898. Lewis attended University College, the oldest college (founded 1249) at Oxford University. Soon after he entered the University, however, Lewis chose to volunteer for active duty in World War I, to serve in the British Army. Following the end of the war in 1918, Lewis (2) to Oxford, where he took up his studies again with great enthusiasm. In 1925, after graduating with first-class honors in Greek and Latin Literature, Philosophy and Ancient History, and English Literature, Lewis was elected to an important teaching post in English at Magdalen College, Oxford. He remained at Oxford for 29 years before becoming a professor of medieval and renaissance literature at Magdalene College, Cambridge, in 1955.

When Lewis started writing children's books, his publisher and some of his friends tried to dissuade him; they thought it would hurt his (3) as writer of serious works. J.R.R. Tolkien in particular criticized Lewis's first Narnia book, *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. He thought that there were too many elements that clashed—a Father Christmas *and* an evil witch, talking animals *and* children. Thankfully, Lewis didn't listen to any of them. In 1950, Lewis quickly wrote 6 more Narnia books. The books gained in (4) through word of mouth. The Narnia books have since sold more than 100 million copies.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. _____<br>a. preferred<br>b. recommended<br>c. interested | 3. _____<br>a. imagination<br>b. reputation<br>c. theory |
| 2. _____<br>a. came<br>b. rerun<br>c. returned              | 4. _____<br>a. famous<br>b. notoriety<br>c. popularity   |

Which war did Lewis fight in?

- A) WWI
- B) WWII
- C) War of 1918
- D) War of the Worlds

Which class did Lewis not study in university?

- A) Philosophy
- B) English Literature
- C) Psychology
- D) Ancient History

Which was not an element in Lewis's first book?

- A) children
- B) animals
- C) witch
- D) devil

Which statement occurred first?

- A) Lewis's books sold more than 100m copies
- B) Lewis joined the British Army.
- C) Lewis worked as a professor at Magdalene College.



# Kids Corner

## RECOGNIZING NOUNS

A noun is word that represents a PERSON, PLACE, Or IDEA. Circle the noun(s) in each sentence.

1. The new student is from Mexico.



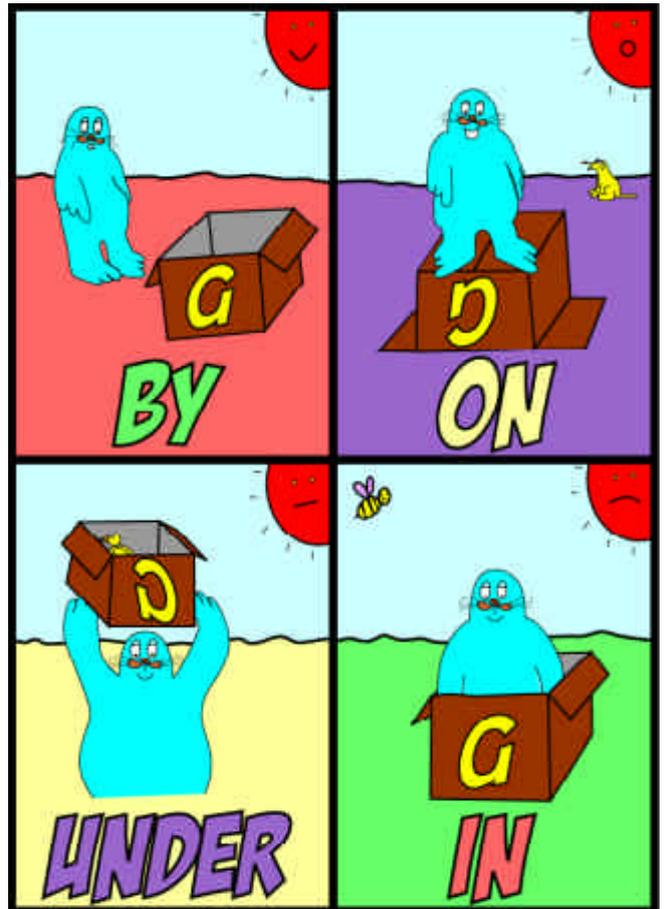
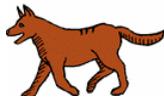
2. Kelly and her mother talk a lot.



3. The book from the library is overdue.



4. The brown dog likes to play.



## PREPOSITION PRACTICE

Complete the sentence by choosing the correct Preposition (by, on, under, in).

- The book is written \_\_\_\_\_ my favorite author.
- I usually keep my socks \_\_\_\_\_ the top drawer.
- Julia hides her diary \_\_\_\_\_ her bed.
- The party will be \_\_\_\_\_ Wednesday.
- I drive \_\_\_\_\_ the post office \_\_\_\_\_ my way to work.

## April Answers

### Test Your Skills (pg. 4)

#### Fill in the Blank

- c (recent)
- a (not only)
- b (turns)
- a (symbol)

#### Multiple Choice Questions

- b (an egg)
- a (European candy makers)
- b (soft-boiled)
- b (In America, colored eggs are hidden for children to search for.)

### Kids Corner (pg. 5)

#### Colors Practice

- a (The circle is blue.)
- b (The heart is red.)
- a (The triangle is green.)
- b (The square is orange.)