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3 Cover to Cover

Reading Comprehension and Fluency

OXFORD

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Introduction

Cover to Cover 3 is the third in a three-level reading series that helps students become skilled, strategic readers who enjoy reading in English. *Cover to Cover* combines **intensive reading** with **extensive reading**, so your students will learn the strategies necessary for academic work *and* become fluent, confident readers.

What is intensive reading?

Intensive reading focuses on building language awareness and comprehension. It often involves relatively challenging texts, and students encountering some unfamiliar language. Parts 1 and 2 of each unit in *Cover to Cover* focus on intensive reading, and provide students with strategies for dealing with these kinds of texts.

What is extensive reading?

Extensive reading focuses on fluency development and reading for pleasure. Two key principles are (1) students should read as much as possible, and (2) texts should be easy and well within students' linguistic competence. Easy texts mean that students are able to read more and faster, and this kind of practice helps students in many ways: improved reading skills, improved writing skills, increased vocabulary knowledge, and increased motivation. The Extensive Reading section at the end of each unit in *Cover to Cover* provides students with an opportunity to experience this approach.

What is in a unit?

Part 1 and **Part 2** of each unit develop reading strategies such as predicting the topic, skimming for the main idea, scanning, and recognizing points of view. Part 1 focuses mainly on comprehension strategies; Part 2 focuses on developing both fluency and comprehension through activities such as timed reading. The reading passages come from a variety of genres including magazine articles, newspaper articles and web sites.

The **Extensive Reading** section enables students to read for enjoyment and pleasure and continue their fluency development. The reading passages are extracts from the Oxford Bookworms Library collection of graded readers. *Cover to Cover 3* features extracts from stage 3 Bookworms, including popular classics such as *The Picture of Dorian Gray* and *The Wind in the Willows*. The Bookworms extracts are longer than the Part 1 and 2 reading texts, and the language is also graded at a lower level. This enables students to read faster and maintain comprehension. We hope that reading the Bookworms extracts will also motivate students to become enthusiastic, independent readers, who read books from cover to cover.

Unit 1

Reading Strategies

- Comprehension: Identifying Supporting Details
- Fluency: Previewing and Predicting

Beauty



Discuss the questions.

1. Which of the people in the photo do you think are good-looking?
Why do you think so?
2. Which physical traits are considered beautiful in your country?

This unit is about current trends in beauty. In Part 1, you will read about beauty trends. In Part 2, you will read about the growing popularity of plastic surgery. The unit is followed by Extensive Reading 1, which is an extract from a book called *The Picture of Dorian Gray*.

Part 1

Beauty

Before Reading

Discuss the questions.

1. What is a typical morning routine for a man before he goes to work?
2. Do you think men are getting more concerned with the way they look?

Comprehension Strategy: Identifying Supporting Details

Supporting details are used to reinforce or support the main idea of a paragraph. Types of supporting details include verifiable facts, statistics, quotes from experts, opinions of individuals, perceived trends, examples, etc.

A. Scan the text for the details (1–3). Match them with the ideas they support (a–c).

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| 1. David Beckham | a. To show the trend includes many different countries. |
| 2. Beauty | b. To show the role of the media. |
| 3. facial masks | c. To show the trend is expensive. |

B. Read the whole text and answer the questions that follow.



CD 1 Track 2

Beauty

Seung Lee, age 26, is a manager in a high-end department store in Seoul, Korea. Like many men, he wakes up in the morning, enjoys a cup of coffee, and starts getting ready for work. Unlike most men, Seung's grooming routine can take up to one hour! Seung not only showers and shaves but also carefully sculpts and styles his hair with three different brand-name hair products. He then gently applies several expensive skin moisturizers, and makes sure not to forget the sunblock. Finally, Seung takes his time selecting a stylish outfit from his large wardrobe of designer suits, shirts, ties, and shoes.

Not only do these preparations cost Seung time, but they also cost him money. Monthly, he spends about 800 dollars on designer clothes, 200 dollars on spa treatments, and 300 dollars for cosmetics, such as hair products, eye creams, and facial masks.

Several years ago, Seung's expensive and time-consuming interest in his appearance may have seemed strange. However, recently, the growing trend in beauty is becoming more mainstream. In fact, people from all different countries are taking a closer look in the mirror.

Why is male beauty recently becoming so popular? First, the definition of masculinity may be changing. As gender roles¹ are changing, men are less afraid to care about their looks. So, they are spending more time and money on style and grooming. Furthermore, consumerism is thriving and statistics show strong economies are allowing for more spending money. As a result, many men are choosing to invest their extra cash in their looks and clothes.

The media are also playing a large role in popularizing the male beauty trend while profiting from it too. Recently, there has been a growing selection of health and beauty magazines which are aimed at men. Additionally, television shows which offer makeover advice and style tips are now popular with both men and women. Famous media figures, such as David Beckham, the British soccer player, also have a strong impact. Beckham is not only well-known for his soccer skills but also for his cool hairstyles, sarongs, and nail polish.

This trend can be expensive for men, but the rewards may be worth it. Tatsuo Yamakawa, a 32-year-old businessman from Tokyo, says his careful grooming and concern about style have helped him become successful at work. "If we look good on the outside, then we can feel confident on the inside," says Tatsuo. "The people you work with, including your customers, can sense that confidence and will react positively to you. This is an important key to success."

Seung says that his modern appearance has helped him to have good relationship with others. "people don't want to be with a person who is sloppy," he says. "They like men who are confident, stylish, and know how to take care of themselves."

What do women think about this boom in male beauty? Song Yang, from Beijing, China, likes how her fiancé is concerned about his appearance. "It's nice to have a fiancé who enjoys shopping for clothes or a relaxing day at the spa with me," says Song.

¹ **gender roles** the different ways men and women are expected to act in society

Checking Comprehension

Answer the questions.

1. What is the main idea of this article?
 - a. These days, men have more money.
 - b. These days, more men care about their looks.

2. Why does Seung Lee take a long time to get ready in the morning?
 - a. He often wakes up late.
 - b. He doesn't have enough clothes to choose from.
 - c. He is very careful with his grooming and outfit selection.

3. What is one reason that the male beauty trend is popular?
 - a. Men are more comfortable caring about their looks.
 - b. Consumerism is decreasing.

4. Where is this trend popular?
 - a. In Western countries.
 - b. In Asian countries.
 - c. In different countries all over the world.

5. According to Tatsuo Yamakawa, how can caring about looks help a man?
 - a. He can become famous.
 - b. He can have better social relationship
 - c. He can be successful at work.

6. Which statement about the beauty trend is NOT true?
 - a. The media has helped to popularize this trend.
 - b. Women like this trend.
 - c. It is inexpensive for men.

Looking at Vocabulary in Context

A. Find the words in bold in the text. Circle the word or phrase that has the closest meaning.

- Sculpts** (par. 1) means *shapes / cuts*.
- Mainstream** (par. 3) means accepted by *most people / very few people*.
- Masculinity** (par. 4) means *female / male* characteristics.
- Consumerism** (par. 4) means the idea that *buying and selling things / saving money* is important.
- Profiting** (par. 5) means *losing / gaining* benefits.
- Sloppy** (par. 7) means *messy / neat*.

B. Fill in the blanks with the words in bold from A. Be sure to use the correct forms.

- Mark looked with his hair uncombed, his face unshaven, and his shirt untucked.
- In many cultures, being strong and brave are characteristics often connected to
- For her final art project, Julie a statue of a horse.
- In some countries it has become for women to have careers; however, in others it has not.
- Major companies will from the government cutting big business taxes.
- Christmas is a time of year when is strong.

What's Your Opinion?

A. People do many different things to look good. Are these acceptable for men, women, or both? Check (✓) your answers.

	Men	Women	Both
1. Spend a lot of money on clothing.	☐	☐	☐
2. Take mud baths.	☐	☐	☐
3. Take an hour to get ready in the morning.	☐	☐	☐

B. Discuss your answers with a partner. Give reasons for your answers.

Part 2 Changing Faces

Before Reading

Discuss this question.

If you could change one thing about your looks, what would it be? Why?

..... eyes nose ears other:

Fluency Strategy: Previewing and Predicting

Previewing means looking at the text title and images (photos, graphs, etc.) *before* you start reading. After previewing, you should try to predict what the text will be about. Previewing and predicting before you start reading can help you improve your understanding of the text when you read.

A. Look at the title and photo to predict the text topic. What do you think this article will be about? Circle the best answer.

1. A new trend.
2. A trend in plastic surgery.
3. A trend in health.

B. Read the whole text quickly. Record your reading time below and on the chart on page 193.



CD 1 Track 3



Start: _____

Finish: _____

Reading Time: _____

Changing Faces

- 1 Aiko Maekawa, age 24, once thought of herself as just a shy, plain office worker. Then one day she made a discovery which changed everything. When she used glue to hold up her eyelids, people took notice of her. The rounder, wider appearance of her eyes seemed to make her more attractive to others. she says. "My confidence grew, and I became more outgoing."
- 2 Aiko enjoyed the new attention but worried that people would discover her secret. She had to constantly reapply glue and avoid being outside on hot days, fearing that her secret would melt away.
- 3 But now, after a minor surgery that took less than 15 minutes, Aiko can go on with her active social life stress-free. With rounder eyes and a more defined nose bridge, she has the face she's always wanted.
- 4 To look good these days, sometimes wearing the hottest designer clothes or getting the latest hairstyle is not enough. More people are seeking better looks,

confidence, and even success, through plastic surgery. Changes like Aiko's are happening all over Asia.

5 In Japan, small, quick surgeries are popular, with many clinics making 100 million dollars a year on these procedures. In Taiwan, the number of surgeries has grown rapidly over the past several years with about a million performed last year alone. Thailand advertises plastic surgery tours for foreign visitors in order to profit from the growing trend.

6 In South Korea, not only are adults changing their faces, but kids are too. Teenagers have become experts in plastic surgery, being able to use technical words and request specific surgical methods. Their parents are often supportive, realizing that good looks can help their children to be competitive and successful in society. What is a popular gift for high school graduates? Larger eyes.

7 In China, as the country has grown more prosperous, so has the focus on beauty and acceptance of plastic surgery in the mainstream culture.

8 Today, attaining beauty does cost money, and people are spending a lot of it on surgeries. In fact, enhanced beauty through plastic surgery has become a sign of wealth. When the economy gets stronger, people improve their looks as a way to show off their money.

9 Others hope that plastic surgery will help them gain more success and wealth. Xin Li, an accountant in Beijing, China, says that with so many people in his country,

surgically improving one's appearance has become a way to stand out. "If there are five people with the same abilities going for the same job, it's likely that the better-looking person will succeed," he says.

10 Although surgery may be an indication of wealth, many people are still looking for beauty at a bargain. Apkujong in Seoul, Korea, has over 400 clinics and is a popular destination for foreign visitors wanting surgeries at inexpensive prices. Many travelers come on plastic surgery tours offering cheap packages which include the surgery as well as hotel, travel costs, and sightseeing. The price of such a package can be the same as the cost of the surgery alone in other countries.

11 Shizuka Nishimoto, age 45 from Japan, is on a three-day visit for some shopping, sightseeing, a face-lift¹, and liposuction². "This vacation is for me," she says. "I'm unhappy with my weight, and want to see a younger me when I look in the mirror. While I'm here, I'm glad I can also enjoy being a tourist. I'll return home to my family with some souvenirs, and a new me."

1 **face-lift** surgery to remove wrinkles in the face

2 **liposuction** surgery to remove fat

Checking Fluency and Comprehension

A. Mark these statements true (T) or false (F). Do not look back at the text.

- 1. This article is mainly about the cost of plastic surgery.
- 2. Parents in Korea are against their children having surgery.
- 3. Plastic surgery is popular in China, but not in Thailand.
- 4. Plastic surgery is a way to show you have money.
- 5. Some people get plastic surgery to become more successful.

B. Check your answers with a partner. Record your score on page 193.

Expanding Vocabulary

A. Synonyms are words with a similar meaning. Look in the passage to find synonyms of the words below.

1. continuously (par. 2)
2. operation (par. 3)
3. looking for (par. 4)
4. successful (par. 7)
5. achieving (par. 8)
6. improved (par. 8)

B. Fill in the blanks with the synonyms you wrote in A. Be sure to use the correct forms.

1. He is a good businessman who runs a company.
2. Eyelid is a very common procedure in many countries.
3. I'm currently employment as a waiter.
4. It rained for five straight days before the sun finally came out.
5. The best way to our goal is to work together.
6. This laptop has a/an screen, which is why it costs more.

What's Your Opinion?

Discuss the questions.

1. Is plastic surgery popular in your country? If so, what kinds of procedures are popular?
2. In what situations do you think plastic surgery is acceptable?
3. In what situations do you think plastic surgery is unacceptable?
4. What is one physical trait you would never change about yourself?
5. How do you feel about aging? Will it be important for you to look young, even as you get older?

Increasing Fluency

Read the paragraph quickly; don't stop to think about the missing words. Mark the statements below true (T) or false (F).

Looking Young

As we get older, we'll do anything to still look XXXXX. Youth and beauty are XXXXX in our society. As a result, there are many ways people can try to XXXXX their young looks. For example, we have many XXXXX, such as anti-aging creams and lotions that will prevent skin XXXXX by the sun. Also, we have XXXXX to hide wrinkles, add color, and give our skin a healthy, young appearance.

- 1. Looking young is important to some people.
- 2. Skin damage from the sun may make us look older.
- 3. We don't have many products to help us hide our age.
- 4. Plastic surgery is the most common way to look younger.

Extensive Reading 1



The Picture of Dorian Gray

Introduction

This extract from an Oxford *Bookworms* reader gives you the opportunity to read more in English. The more you read, the faster and more fluent you will become. *The Picture of Dorian Gray* is set in England in the late 19th century. It is the story of a young man, Dorian Gray, whose picture was painted by an artist, Basil Hallward. The extract you will read starts as Lord Henry Wotton and Basil Hallward are discussing the painting, which has just been completed.

Before Reading

A. What do you think will happen in the extract? Check (✓) your answers.

- 1. Basil and his good friend, Lord Henry Wotton, talk about Basil's painting.
- 2. Lord Henry thinks the painting of Dorian Gray is terrible.
- 3. Lord Henry meets Dorian Gray, who is a young man.
- 4. Lord Henry tells Dorian Gray that the beauty will not last.

B. Now read the extract to see what happens.



CD 1 Track 4

Through the open windows of the room came the rich scent of summer flowers. Lord Henry Wotton lay back in his chair and smoked his cigarette. Beyond the soft sounds of the garden he could just hear the noise of London.

In the center of the room there was a portrait of a young man, and in front of it stood the artist himself, Basil Hallward.

"It's your best work, Basil, the best portrait that you've ever painted," said Lord Henry lazily. "You must send it to the best art gallery in London."

"No," Basil said slowly. "No, I won't send it anywhere."

Words

50

100

150

Lord Henry was surprised. "But my dear Basil, why not?" he asked. "What strange people you artists are! You want to be famous, but then you're not happy when you *are* famous. It's bad when people talk about you—but it's much worse when they *don't* talk about you."

"I know you'll laugh at me," replied Basil, "but I can't exhibit the picture in an art gallery. I've put too much of myself into it."

200

Lord Henry laughed. "Too much of yourself into it! You don't look like him at all. He has a fair



Cover to Cover 3

Reading Comprehension and Fluency

Cover to Cover develops reading skills, builds vocabulary, and makes reading more enjoyable. The reading passages are taken not only from magazines and newspapers, but also from popular classic stories such as *A Christmas Carol* and *The Secret Garden*. These extracts, specially adapted for learners of English, provide a practical way to introduce extensive reading into the classroom.

- Reading texts explore **up-to-the-minute issues** such as online gaming, why more women are choosing to stay single, and the secret of a long life.
- Extracts from **Oxford Bookworms graded readers** develop reading fluency and encourage reading for pleasure.
- **Reading comprehension** and **fluency strategies** develop key skills such as predicting, scanning, and identifying main ideas.
- **Timed reading activities** and **reading rate charts** motivate students to read faster.
- **Vocabulary activities** focus on looking at meaning in context and expanding vocabulary.

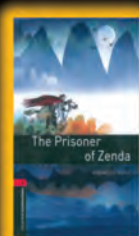
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