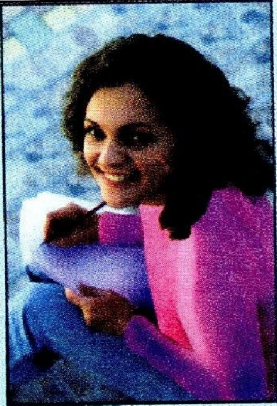


## Review Reading 3: Real Mail vs. Email

### Fluency Practice

Time yourself as you read through the passage. Record your time in the Reading Rate Chart on page 176. Then answer the questions on the next page.

## Real Mail vs. Email

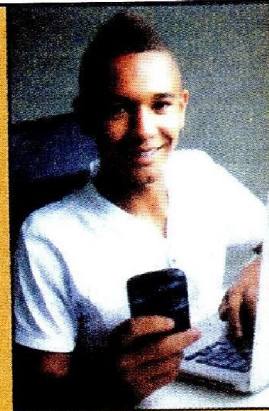


**Meredith: "I keep it real."**

Sure, sending an email is fast and convenient, and there are times when it's necessary, but I think it's too impersonal. I think email makes communication less meaningful because people usually only glance<sup>1</sup> at their emails. They give more attention to real letters.

I think sending a real letter shows that you care about the person. It takes time to prepare, which shows that the writer is being more thoughtful than when he or she quickly types an email. Getting a handwritten note makes the person feel special. I love finding handwritten letters in my mailbox.

I also write letters because I like to make art. I make my own envelopes and write notes on colorful magazine pages. It makes my letters more interesting, and it lets me reuse, and save, paper. When I send a real letter that I made myself, I imagine the other person really enjoying it. My friends understand that I made it just for them, and I'm sending them more than just words on a page.



**Thomas: "I'll send you an email."**

My life changed after I bought my first smartphone. I hardly ever pick up a pen these days because I use my phone for everything—planning my schedule, reading the news, or writing emails.

I also use email a lot. My friends all moved away to different places after high school, and I don't have time to sit down and write and post letters to them every week. Sending them emails is so much more convenient. With email, I can write to them whenever I want. Then, they can read my emails right away and send a reply just as fast.

With emails, I can reach many people at the same time. When I want to say "hi!" to old friends, I just put in their email addresses, type up a note, and send it out—no paper, no stamps, no waiting for the letters to travel over land and sea. Email helps people keep in touch, and, in the end, that's what's important, right?

<sup>1</sup> When you **glance** at something, you look at it quickly before looking away.

364 words

Time taken \_\_\_\_\_



## Reading Comprehension

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Choose the correct answers for the following questions.

- 1 The purpose of this passage is to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a tell people why they shouldn't use cell phones or the Internet
  - b discuss the benefits of email and real mail
  - c explain how people use cell phones and the Internet
  - d show how technology has improved our lives
  
- 2 Meredith dislikes using email because \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a they take too long to write
  - b sending them wastes electricity
  - c people do not read them carefully
  - d she doesn't think it's polite to send email
  
- 3 What's one way in which Meredith expresses herself with her letters?
  - a She makes her own envelopes.
  - b She sends her friends interesting magazine articles.
  - c She sends a photo of herself in her letters.
  - d She uses her favorite black pen to write.
  
- 4 Why did Thomas start to send so much email?
  - a He didn't have time to write letters.
  - b He thought he was wasting too much paper.
  - c He has to send a lot of mail for work.
  - d He didn't have time to buy stamps.
  
- 5 Thomas likes using email because \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a it shows that the writer is being thoughtful
  - b he doesn't trust the regular mail
  - c it is the original way to keep in touch
  - d it's easy and fast
  
- 6 Which is a benefit of both email and real mail?
  - a You can keep in touch with friends.
  - b You can save paper and energy.
  - c You can write them both using your phone.
  - d They make communication more interesting.