

news {..BYTES..}

for eEditions

grades 9-12

1 Bo

One of the world's oldest languages became extinct earlier this month when the last person to speak it died. At age 85, Boa Sr was the oldest member of a tribe in India called the Great Andamanese, and the last person who spoke "Bo." Read articles in the eEdition and think about the type of language eEditions use, compared to the language used in novels and textbooks. Pick an article and use the thesaurus and your own vocabulary to rewrite it using more obscure and sophisticated words. Trade the article with a classmate and ask the classmate to rewrite it once again, but this time turning it back into clearer, simpler language. Compare that version to the original.

Learning Standards: Planning, drafting, revising and editing texts and analyzing and critiquing the texts of others in such areas as purpose, effectiveness, cohesion and creativity; demonstrating ways in which communication can be influenced through word usage.

2 Cuba

Fidel Castro became the prime minister of Cuba on February 16, 1959. Cuba is an island country in the Caribbean Sea, less than 100 miles from Florida. As prime minister, Castro turned Cuba into a Communist country. Find four countries mentioned today in the eEdition. Make a chart comparing the four countries to the United States. Compare what type of government each country has and how each type works. Write a paragraph explaining which type you think is best, and why.

Learning Standards: Explaining the advantages and disadvantages of a federal system of government; evaluating the relative merits of the American presidential system and parliamentary systems; acquiring information from multiple sources and then organizing and presenting it.

3 Haiti

A massive earthquake hit the island country Haiti last month, flooding the news with stories of governments sending in rescue teams to help and celebrities urging people to donate money. Follow up on the story by reading about the current situation in Haiti, using the eEdition and online news sources. Write your own news article explaining what's going on in the country now.

Learning Standards: Locating information pertaining to a specific social science topic in-depth using a variety of sources and electronic technologies; writing fluently for multiple purposes to produce compositions, such as stories, personal narratives, editorials and essays.

4 The Simpsons

Matt Groening was born February 15, 1954. You may not know his name, but it's almost certain you know his work. Groening is the creator and executive producer of the TV show "The Simpsons." He also writes a weekly comic strip and created another show, "Futurama." Find an article in the eEdition that interests you. Draw a comic strip or cartoon that presents the most interesting or important things contained in the article.

Learning Standards: Reading and writing fluently, speaking confidently; listening and interacting appropriately, viewing critically and representing creatively; using the craft of the illustrator to express ideas artistically.

5 eEdition Suffixes

Electronic editions allow you to search their content for stories or topics that interest you. This ability to search also can help you build vocabulary and word skills. You can search, for example, to see how many times a word appears in the paper. Or you can search to see how many times a suffix appears. As a class, review how suffixes are added

to the end of words to change their meaning. Some common ones are "able," "ity," "ment," "tion," "ive" or "less." As a class, discuss which you think are used most often. Then search today's eEdition to see how often different suffixes appear. Show your findings as a bar graph or chart.

Learning Standards: Using technology tools to enhance learning; understanding the operations and functions of technology systems and becoming proficient in the use of technology.

A Teaching Tool
For Tomorrow