

That's Interesting!



A worksheet for adults to practise reading, writing, spelling and numbers.

40 years since the Chernobyl disaster



In April 1986, the world's worst nuclear accident happened at a nuclear power station in a place called Chernobyl in Ukraine. There was a huge explosion. Dangerous radioactive gas escaped into the air and spread across the land for thousands of miles.

The effects were felt all over Europe. Many countries reported high levels of radiation in the air.

Many people who lived near Chernobyl were killed at the time of the explosion. Many more became very sick. People suffered from illnesses such as cancer and heart problems. It is impossible to know exactly how many people were affected and continue to be affected today, but it is believed the number could be many thousands.

A large area around the nuclear power station is still unsafe. About 2,600 kilometres around Chernobyl cannot be lived in.

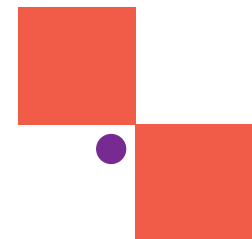
People cannot work the land or grow food there. Experts believe it could take another 20,000 years before the area is safe again.

At the time, an Irish woman named Adi Roche was working as a volunteer in an organisation who were against nuclear power. She received a message from doctors in Ukraine and Russia. The doctors were asking for help for the children living near Chernobyl.



Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant

Image source:
IAEA Imagebank, CC BY-SA 2.0
via Wikimedia Commons



The message was very simple. They begged someone to take the children away from the dangerous, radioactive area so their bodies could recover. By then, five years had passed since the disaster. Many people around the world had started to forget about the millions of adults and children still living there.

Some people believed the danger was over. However, the harmful effects of radiation were still very strong. There was not enough medical care for the many sick people in the area. Many families lost their homes and farms and became homeless. Life became very difficult for people in Belarus, western Russia and Ukraine.

In 1991, Adi Roche set up **Chernobyl Children International**. Since then, the organisation has brought children from affected areas of Ukraine, Belarus and western Russia to Ireland. The children come for lifesaving medical treatment and for holidays. More than 25,000 children have stayed with Irish families. Even a short time away from radiation can greatly improve a child's health.



Adi Roche

Image source:
Slamforeman, CC BY
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Over €100 million has been raised in Ireland. This money has been used to buy lifesaving medical equipment for hospitals and to build homes for children and young adults who are homeless.

The organisation has also bought 30 homes for children who grew up in orphanages. These homes give them a safe, loving place to live.

Adi Roche and her organisation continue their work today. Their work is even more difficult now, as this part of Ukraine is affected by the war with Russia.

Source: chernobyl-international.com/about-us/

Homophones



Homophones are words that sound the same but have a different spelling and meaning

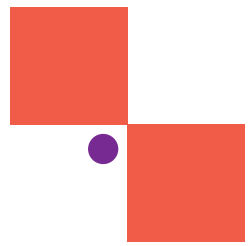
| | | | | |
|---------------------|---------------|-------------|------------------|---------------|
| by / buy / bye | write / right | one / won | hole / whole | know / no |
| cent / scent / sent | meet / meat | here / hear | hair / hare | knew / new |
| break / brake | pair / pear | week / weak | thought / taught | steel / steal |

All the missing words in the sentences below are from this list.

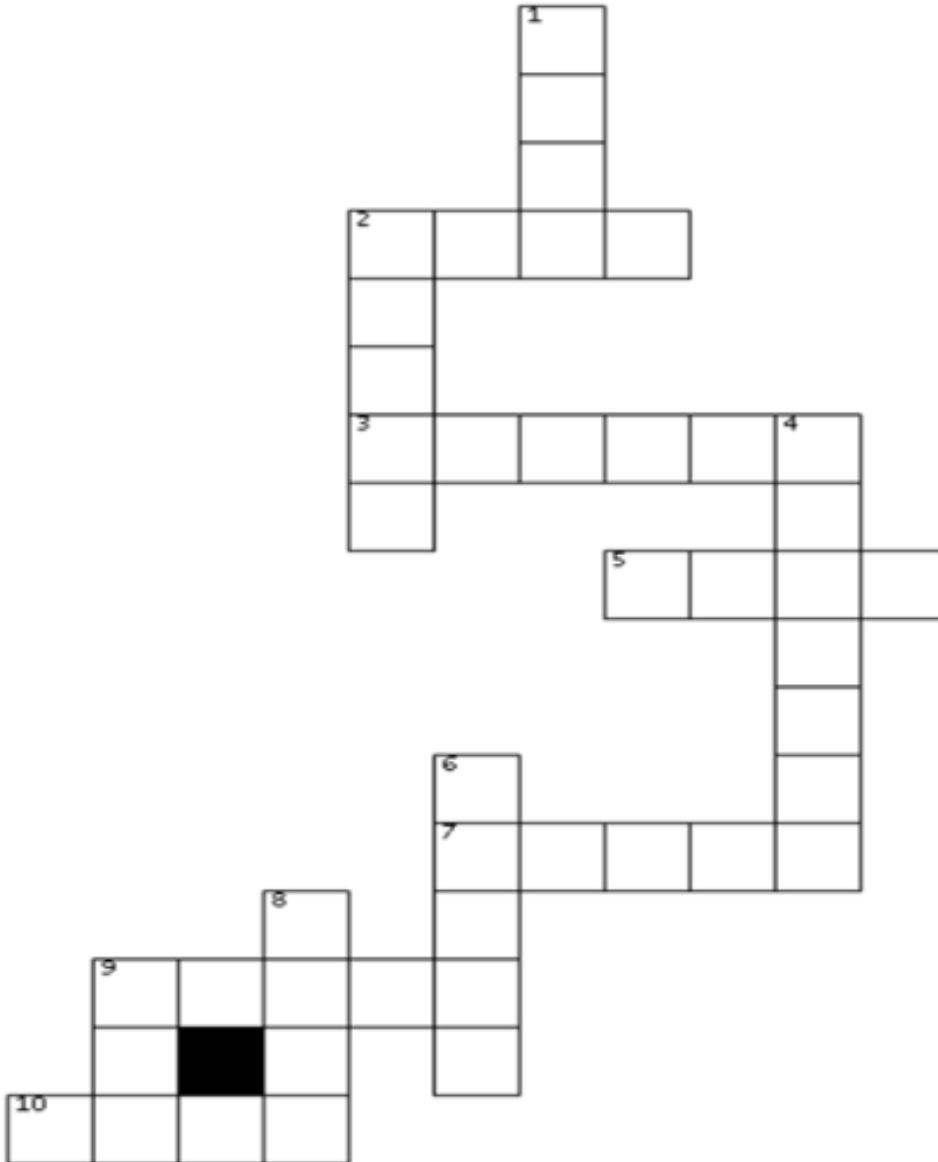
Read the words first, try filling in the blanks without looking at the list and then check the spelling when you are finished.

1. I walked down _____ the river yesterday.
2. I love the _____ of the roses in summer.
3. Will you _____ me for a coffee later today?
4. Have you enough money to _____ that new coat?
5. Come over _____, I want to talk to you.
6. He ate the _____ pizza and left nothing for us.
7. I _____ I heard someone outside.
8. Mary has cut her _____ short.
9. My mother _____ me how to drive.
10. 1c (coin) written in words is _____ .
11. Good _____ and farewell.
12. My legs feel _____ after running.
13. I _____ her years ago when we were in school.

Crossword



The answers to the clues are all words from the list on page 3.



Across

- 2. There are 7 days in a _____.
- 3. She _____ me how to drive.
- 5. Do you _____ who I am?
- 7. The opposite to left is _____.
- 9. Take a _____, you are working too hard.
- 10. What time will we _____ for lunch?

Down

- 1. I need to dig a _____ to plant the tree.
- 2. Please _____ down your name on the form.
- 4. An idea in your head is a _____.
- 6. I pressed the _____ but I could not stop the car.
- 8. He _____ me a birthday card in the post
- 9. Good _____, see you later.



1.

Fill in the missing number in each of these.

a. $12 + 7 + \square = 28$

b. $25 \div 5 = \square$

c. $6 \times \square = 24$

d. $47 - 27 = \square$

e. $21 \div \square = 3$

f. $10 + 8 + 2 = \square$

g. $9 \times 5 = \square$

h. $33 \div 3 = \square$

2.

Money and Change questions.

Work out how much change you get back in each. (The first one is done for you.)

| I spend | I hand in | I get back |
|------------|-----------|---------------|
| a. €23.95 | €50.00 | <u>€26.05</u> |
| b. €12.55 | €20.00 | _____ |
| c. €45.72 | 3 x €20 | _____ |
| d. €6.57 | 2 x €5 | _____ |
| e. €63.45 | 2 x €50 | _____ |
| f. €357.48 | 4 x €100 | _____ |

3.

- Tom works from 9am until 2pm, Monday to Friday.
- He works 10am to 2pm on Saturday.
- Sunday is his day off.
- He is paid €18 per hour and gets an extra €5 per hour on Saturday.

Questions

- How many hours does Tom work in a week? _____
- What is his hourly pay on Saturday? _____
- How much does he earn every week? _____
- If he pays € 44 in tax, €24 in PRSI (Pay Related Social Insurance) and €11 in USC (Universal Social Charge). What is his take home pay? _____
- If Tom saves €20 per week, how much will he have saved after 1 year? _____

Answers

Q1 a. 9, b. 5, c. 4, d. 20, e. 7, f. 20, g. 45, h. 11, O2 a. €26.05, b. €7.45, c. €14.28, d. €3.43, e. €36.55, f. €42.52, O3 a. 29, b. €23, c. €542, d. €463, e. €1040.

