

The Oldest Newspaper Carriers*

Awake by 3:30 in the morning, LaVerne and Beverley Maves quickly get dressed and leave their house while it is still* dark and everyone else in the city is sleeping. They pick up the pile* of newspapers waiting for them outside their home and get into their car. Every morning, the husband and wife drive down the streets of Edgerton, Wisconsin to deliver* newspapers to homes across the city. Having done this for fifty-five years, they are probably* the oldest newspaper carriers in the world.



Married for more than sixty years, LaVerne and Beverley first started delivering newspapers when they were a young couple with four children. They both had jobs, but they thought that this was a good way to earn a little extra income.* Now, the two are retired,* but they still make the extra \$500 a month that they earn by delivering newspapers. And they love the job itself — even* getting up in the middle of the night.

“We enjoy it,” says LaVerne. “I love the world at 3:30 in the morning,” says Beverley, “before the cars come out.” They know all their customers, some of whom they have been delivering newspapers to for fifty years or more. If a customer phones me and says that she’s going on vacation, I’m nosy,*” Beverley says. “I ask her where she’s going.”

The Maveses admit* that the work is not as easy as it was in the past. Eighty-two-year-old Beverley needs a cane* to walk, and her eighty-seven-year-old husband also finds it hard to walk. In the winter, when the weather is freezing and there is ice on the sidewalk, they are afraid of falling. But they continue to deliver newspapers, day after day, month after month, year after year. Over the last fifty-five years, they have only missed two times — once in 2006 when there was a big blizzard,* and once in 1996 when LaVerne had to have open-heart surgery.*

*newspaper carriers = מחלקי עיתונים

*to deliver = למסור

*retired = בפנסיה

*admit = מודים

*surgery = ניתוח

*still = עדיין

*probably = ככל הנראה

*even = אפילו

*cane = מקל הליכה

*pile = ערימה

*income = הכנסה

*nosy = חטטנית

*blizzard = סופת שלג

Questions About the Text

A. Complete the sentences.

- 1) Everyone else in Edgerton, Wisconsin is still sleeping when _____
_____. (lines 1–7)
- 2) LaVerne and Beverley continue to deliver newspapers although* they _____
_____. (lines 1–7)
- 3) Although most people don't like getting up in the middle of the night, the Maveses
_____. (lines 8–13)
- 4) Delivering newspapers is not so easy for the Maveses because it is hard for them
_____ and because they
_____. (lines 19–25)
- 5) When LaVerne had surgery in 1996, he and his wife didn't _____
_____. (lines 19–25)

*although = על אף -ש

B. Fill in the passage with numbers according to the text on page 40.

LaVerne Maves was 1) _____ years old when he and his wife first started delivering newspapers every morning. The young couple had 2) _____ children to feed,* and they thought that this was a good way to earn some extra money. Today, the Maveses are both over 3) _____ years old, but they still deliver newspapers every day. They get up before 4) _____ o'clock in the morning, and deliver newspapers to all of their customers while it is still dark outside. LaVerne and Beverley enjoy their job, even though* it is not as easy as it was in the past. They also enjoy earning 5) \$ _____ every month.

*to feed = להאכיל

*even though = על אף -ש

C. Write a fact which proves that:

- 1) LaVerne and Beverley Maves have probably delivered newspapers for longer than any other newspaper carrier in the world. _____
- 2) LaVerne and Beverley have a personal* relationship* with their customers. _____
- 3) LaVerne and Beverley are 100% reliable* when it comes to doing their job. _____

*personal = אישי

*relationship = קשר

*reliable = אמינים

Vocabulary Practice

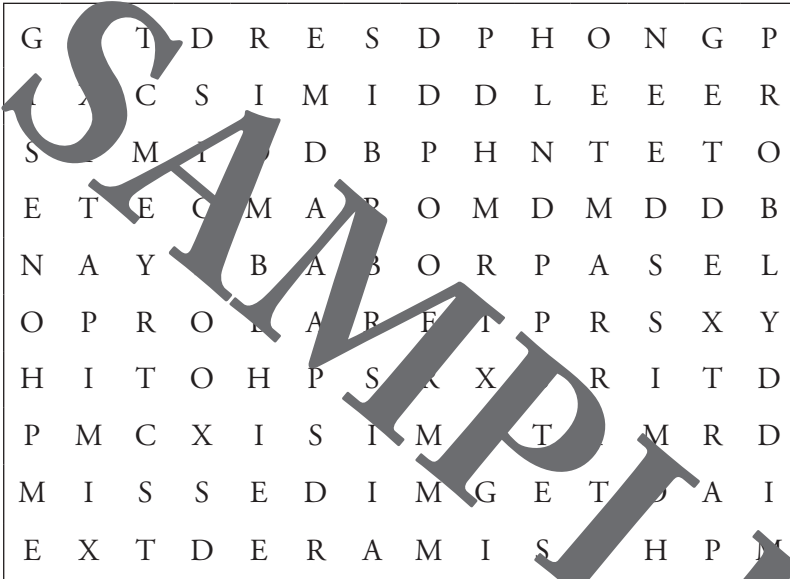
D. Match the opposites.

- | | |
|------------------|-------------|
| ___ 1) light | a) get into |
| ___ 2) street | b) pick up |
| ___ 3) wife | c) wake up |
| ___ 4) put down | d) sidewalk |
| ___ 5) very hot | e) earn |
| ___ 6) go out of | f) husband |
| ___ 7) spend | g) dad |
| ___ 8) asleep | h) freezing |

E. Fill in the sentences with words from the text on page 40. Then, find the words in the word search puzzle.

- 1) Wake up and _____ quickly! Do you want to be late for school? (lines 1–7)
- 2) Oh, no! I forgot to study for the test! I will _____ get a zero on it! (lines 1–7)
- 3) Did you bring any _____ food to school? I forgot my sandwich at home, and I am really hungry. (lines 8–13)
- 4) My grandfather and grandmother have been _____ for more than forty years. (lines 8–13)

- 5) Tami likes sitting in the _____ of the classroom – not too close to the teacher, and not too far. (lines 8–13)
- 6) Smadar is my best friend, so she _____ me almost every day. (lines 14–18)
- 7) The juice is not cold. Do you want some _____ in it? (lines 19–25)
- 8) Roni came late to school after he _____ the bus. (lines 19–25)



Language Tips and Practice

בשורה 19 של הטקסט בעמוד 40, כתוב:

“... the work is not as easy as it was in the past.”

הצורה של **as + תואר + as** משמשת לציין שוויון בין שני אנשים או דברים או בין תכונה משותפת לשני אנשים או דברים. צורה זו שימושית בשפת היום-יום הן בדיבור והן בכתיבה. לדוגמה:

I don't remember a time when it was **as hot as** it was this week.

Today's test wasn't **as hard as** last week's test.

קיימים גם ניבים באנגלית שמורכבים מצורת לשון זו, לדוגמה:

as busy as a bee (עסוק מאוד)

as different as day and night (שונה לגמרי)

as easy as (apple) pie (קל ביותר)

as hungry as a bear (רעב מאוד)

as old as the hills (ישן מאוד)

as pretty as a picture (נאה מאוד)

as quiet as a mouse (שקט מאוד)

as stubborn as a mule (עוֹבֵד בִּינְיָן)

as white as a sheet (לבן מאוד)

שימו לב: שתי צורות נוספות של השוואה הן **תואר + more // er +** וכן **the + תואר // the most // est**. למידע נוסף על צורות השוואה אלו, עיינו בעמוד 25.

F. Complete the sentence with the correct form of the adjective in brackets (as + adjective + as // adjective + er // more + adjective // the + adjective + est // the most + adjective).

- 1) Ori and Shai are twins,* but they are _____ (different) as night and day.
- 2) I have never found another bed _____ (comfortable) my bed.
- 3) It is _____ (easy) to study English than to study Japanese.
- 4) She's _____ (wonderful) teacher I have ever had.
- 5) David finds history _____ (interesting) than mathematics.
- 6) I'm _____ (hungry) a bear! Do you have anything for me to eat?
- 7) I think that Jerusalem is _____ (beautiful) city in the world.
- 8) If you are _____ (never) think you are, you will know the answer to the question.
- 9) Are you okay? Your face is _____ (white) as a sheet.
- 10) Question five was _____ (hard) question on the test. Did you know the answer to that question?
- 11) Please let* me stay here! I will be _____ (quiet) a mouse.
- 12) This shirt is not _____ (nice) the shirt that we saw in the other shop, but it is cheaper.

*twins = תאומים

*let = תן, הרשה