

Rapid Reading

Lesson 2 Rapid Reading

各 Part の英文を見開き1ページで見ることができます。
Lesson 全体の英文を使用して、速読の練習をすることができます。

Part 1

You may have heard the saying, "Necessity is the mother of invention." This means that inventions tend to come about because of urgent problems or needs. Even in modern times, the world faces many issues that will need to be solved through the creativity of inventors. One such inventor is Gitanjali Rao. 5

One night in 2014, Rao, who was only nine years old at the time, learned about a crisis in Flint, Michigan, while watching the news. Lead had entered the city's water supply. Its residents were complaining about the taste, smell, and appearance of the water. This contamination resulted in serious health issues for many of the people living there. Rao decided that she wanted to do something to help them and began searching for solutions. 10

Part 2

One year later, during her research, Rao came across an article on the Internet. It introduced a technology that detected harmful substances in the air. She came up with the idea of applying it to detecting lead in water.

However, this was far from easy, so she asked her parents, teachers, and experts for guidance. Although she was only 11, she also convinced the local high school and university to provide her with a place to conduct experiments. 15

Through much trial and error, she finally invented a cheap and easy-to-use tool named *Tethys*: a small device with carbon nanotube sensors inside. These sensors can detect lead in water. Eventually, she developed a smartphone application which allows people to see the test results instantly. After successfully developing *Tethys*, Rao moved on to other projects. 20

Part 3

One of Rao's projects is an application called *Kindly*. It displays a warning when users are about to send a message that might be considered bullying. It then encourages them to reconsider what they have written and change it. *Kindly* can help prevent cyberbullying.

Moreover, she shares her knowledge and experiences with students all over the world. Among her educational activities, she provides opportunities for students to conduct experiments and to participate in contests. In her workshops, she teaches five steps for problem solving: observe, brainstorm, research, build, and communicate. Within a few years of starting the workshops, there were more than 85,000 participants in 47 countries.

Her achievements have been recognized in magazines and news articles worldwide. For example, in 2020, *TIME Magazine* chose her to be the first-ever *TIME Kid of the Year*. She was interviewed not only about her inventions, but also about her activities and workshops. She even appeared on the cover of the magazine.

Part 4

Rao's goal is not just to make her own inventions to solve problems. Through her activities and workshops, she also hopes to encourage the young to find their own solutions to the problems that they see every day. Rao believes in the potential of young scientists and hopes that by participating in her programs, they will be able to achieve their dreams.

Here is Rao's message to high school students in Japan:

"Be creative and curious. Don't be afraid to innovate and solve big or small problems. Your simple ideas can make a big difference. You can use any talent you have to make a positive impact. It doesn't have to be technology. Music, art, writing, and speaking out can all make a difference. The only person that is stopping you is yourself."

Total Words 552

_____ min. _____ sec.

True or False

本文全体の内容理解を確認します。True or False の正答数と本文を読むのにかった時間をもとに、巻末の WPM 表でスコアを算出することができます。

True or False

1. () 2. () 3. ()

1. Rao was able to create *Tethys* easily with the support of many people.
2. Rao participated in an interview and talked about her inventions, activities, and workshops.
3. Rao believes that technology is the best way to make a positive impact.