

**Select Readings, Second Edition**  
**Pre-Intermediate, Chapter 10 Test**

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

**The Dangers of Text Messaging**

We are all aware of the dangerous effects that text messaging can have while driving. Over the past few years, the tragic results of such actions have filled our newspapers and our television screens. Now, however, hospitals and lawmakers are concerned about a different problem common with busy pedestrians—texting while walking.

Over the past few years, text messaging has quickly become a favorite form of communication, especially among young people. In fact, billions of text messages are sent each month in the United States alone. Today, half of teenagers send 50 or more texts per day, while one in three teens sends more than 100 text messages a day!

Watching a teenager text, you might be amazed at just how fast their fingers can move. When asked, many teenagers have said that they could even text while blindfolded<sup>1</sup>. This overconfidence in their ability to multi-task might just be at the root of this growing problem.

More and more hospital emergency rooms are being visited by people who have suffered injuries as a result of text messaging while walking. Pedestrians distracted by text messaging can walk into trees, other people, or even worse, traffic or oncoming trains—often with tragic consequences.

Most of the injuries are minor, resulting in nothing more than a few scrapes or bruises. However, as several recent news stories have reported, there is a very real possibility of more tragic outcomes.

One of the first such events occurred in 2008, when a 14-year-old boy stepped out in front of an oncoming car while texting. Sadly, his death was only the beginning of a growing number of injuries and deaths caused by text messaging while walking.

In order to prevent more tragedies such as these, please remember to stop walking before replying to a text message. It may save your life.

1. The reading passage is primarily about \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. why text messaging can be dangerous while walking
  - B. how many text messages teens send each day
  - C. why teens are good at text messaging
  - D. how many injuries are caused by text messaging each year
2. From the passage, we can infer that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. schools teach about the dangers of texting while driving
  - B. many stories have appeared in the news about texting while walking
  - C. many stories have appeared in the news about texting while driving
  - D. many people send text messages while reading the newspaper
3. Who does the author say is getting worried about people texting while walking?
  - A. Pedestrians

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<sup>1</sup> **blindfolded** with a cloth covering the eyes, so the person cannot see anything  
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- B. Hospitals and lawmakers
  - C. Newspaper and TV reporters
  - D. Teens
4. Which of the following statements is true?
    - A. Half of American teens send more than 50 texts per day.
    - B. One third of American teens send less than 100 texts per day.
    - C. Half of American teens send over a billion texts per month.
    - D. Less than one third of American teens send over a billion texts per month.
  5. Which of the following statements is a fact?
    - A. Teens' texting speed is amazing.
    - B. Most teens can probably text while blindfolded.
    - C. Overconfidence is the main cause of texting accidents.
    - D. Billions of texts are sent each month in the U.S. alone.
  6. In paragraph 3, what does "multi-task" mean?
    - A. Become able to text while walking
    - B. Feel confident that you can text while walking
    - C. Send many text messages in a short period of time
    - D. Do more than one thing at the same time
  7. According to the passage, what kinds of things do people often walk into while texting?
    - A. Teens and pedestrians
    - B. Other people, traffic, or trees
    - C. Parked cars
    - D. Hospital emergency rooms
  8. The author says that luckily, most of the injuries are \_\_\_\_\_.
    - A. consequences
    - B. dangerous
    - C. tragic
    - D. small
  9. What happened to the boy mentioned in paragraph 6?
    - A. He was killed by a driver who was texting.
    - B. He had an accident in a car while he was texting.
    - C. He was killed by a moving car while he was texting and walking.
    - D. He was driving a car and hit someone who was texting.
  10. The author's purpose for writing this passage is \_\_\_\_\_.
    - A. to get people to stop texting while walking, because it's dangerous
    - B. to teach people how to text while walking so they don't get hurt
    - C. to tell people that the number of people texting is increasing
    - D. to report the sad news of texting accidents