

Reading

First Name

Last Name

School Name

Room Number / Class

Choose a circle to show how much each sentence is like you

Very Unlike Me 1	Unlike Me 2	Like Me 3	Very Like Me 4
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01. I like reading at school.

<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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02. I am good at reading.

<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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03. My teacher thinks I am good at reading.

<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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04. My family/whānau think I am good at reading.

<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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05. I enjoy reading in my own time (not at school).

<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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06. I like going to the library to get something to read.

<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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Read the information and answer practice questions P01 to P08

BIRDS NESTS

Some birds build their nests on the ground; others build them in trees or bushes. Nests keep birds safe and provide them with shelter, a place to lay their eggs and a place to raise their young. Some nests are made from twigs and feathers, which are woven together with strands from a spider's web. Some are made from mud, grass or leaves.



P01. Why do birds build nests?

- To keep themselves safe.
- Because they like mud.
- To help them find food.
- Because they like to eat spiders.

P02. Correctly spell the underlined words in the space provided.

Baby birds are calld chicks. _____

Bird's nests are high in the trea. _____

P03. What materials would you **MOST LIKELY** find from the following sources?

	Source Location	Materials
<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Ground	a. Feathers
<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Birds	b. Grass
<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Trees	c. Mud
		d. Leaves

P04. Choose the circle (radio button) beside the option you believe to be correct.

- | | TRUE | FALSE |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Birds only build their nests in trees | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Birds use feathers to build nests | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

P05. What do birds use to build their nests?

- Mud
- Eggs
- Twigs
- Spiders

P06. Write the numbers 1, 2 and 3 in the boxes to show the correct order for building a nest.

- Weave the grass and twigs together
- Find a good place to build nest
- Collect grass and twigs

P07. Places where birds build their nests

- (i) On the Ground
- (ii) _____
- (iii) _____

P08. Shade the bubbles to show which words should have capital letters.

different types of birds build their nest in different ways.

Use the following information to answer questions 01 to 04

Why Doughnuts Have Holes

Many people think a sea captain made the first doughnut. One night Captain Hanson Gregory was steering his ship and eating a fried cake. Then the weather got very windy and rainy. The captain needed both hands to steer the ship. He couldn't steer and hold the cake, so he stuck it on one of the sharp points of the steering wheel. Captain Gregory made a hole in the cake!

The captain liked the shape of the new cake. He told the ship's cook to make fried cakes with holes in them.



01. Where does this passage take place?

- In a doughnut shop
- In a kitchen
- In a bakery
- On a ship

02. Captain Gregory stuck the cake on the

- oven.
- doughnut table.
- steering wheel.
- cook.

03. This passage is **MAINLY** about how

- a sea captain learned to sail.
- to steer a ship.
- the first doughnut was made.
- to cook fried cakes.

04. Which of these happened first?

- The captain told the cook to make cakes with holes in them.
- It got very windy and rainy.
- Captain Gregory couldn't hold the cake.
- The captain liked the shape of the new cake.

End of Section

Use the following information to answer questions 05 to 08

An Unusual Job

Robert Crisman has a big job. He works to keep the faces of four Presidents looking good. He repairs cracks on Abraham Lincoln's nose. He smooths the lines on George Washington's forehead. Of course, Crisman does not work on real Presidents. He works on Mount Rushmore.

What is Mount Rushmore?

Mount Rushmore is a mountain in South Dakota. It is made of a very hard rock called granite. The faces of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, and Theodore Roosevelt are carved into the side of this mountain. The carvings begin at the top of the mountain. They are about 60 feet tall. They were made as a monument to honour these great Presidents. The carvings make people think about what these leaders stood for - courage, leadership, freedom and a love of country.

Why do the carvings need repair?

Over time tiny cracks occur in the hard granite. When they first appear, these small cracks are not a problem. But the weather causes some to get bigger. In the winter, rain and melted snow get inside the cracks. When the water freezes, it makes the cracks longer and deeper. When a small crack becomes a large crack, it needs to be repaired. If it is not fixed, pieces of the carvings may break off.

How does Robert Crisman do the repairs?

Every September Crisman goes down the side of the mountain to see if anything needs to be repaired. To do this, he first puts on special gear. He uses safety belts like the ones used by people who climb mountains. Then Crisman straps himself into a seat. The seat is fastened to strong ropes. Two people on top of the mountain lower Crisman down.

Each year Crisman works on the side of the mountain for four days. Each day he works on a different carving. As Crisman climbs around the huge faces, he carefully checks each one. He inspects the carvings for breaks and chips. If he finds a large crack, he fixes it. Before 1991 Crisman filled in the cracks with a paste that took three years to dry. Then a company made something new for him to use called silicone. The silicone fills up the cracks and dries in just one day. When Crisman first started his job, he did not like to look at the ground so far below him. Now he is used to working up high. He likes his job and knows he is doing something important. About two million people visit Mount Rushmore each year. Robert Crisman's work helps keep the Presidents' faces looking good for everyone to see.



05. When water freezes inside cracks on Mount Rushmore's faces, it

- makes the cracks bigger.
- changes the colour of the rock.
- makes the faces look larger.
- melts very quickly.

06. Silicone is better than the paste that Crisman once used because it

- is easier to mix.
- costs less money.
- is easier to carry.
- dries faster.

07. In this story, the word **monument** means something that is

- made for people to live in.
- left out in the open.
- made as a reminder.
- lost by accident.

08. Before 1991 how long did the paste that Crisman used take to dry?

- one day
- four days
- one year
- three years

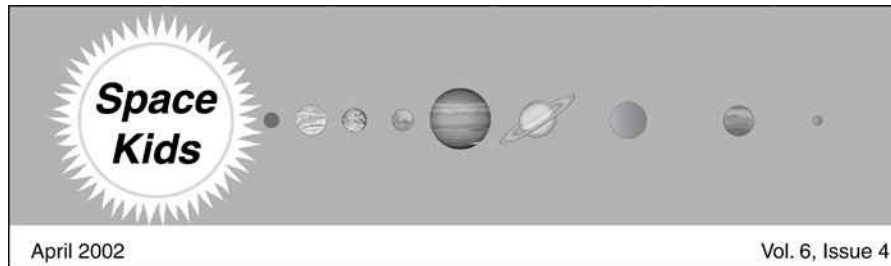
End of Section

09. These are the steps in making a yummy banana smoothie. Number the steps to show the correct order for making a smoothie.

Make a Banana Smoothie

- Finally, pour the mixture into a glass and drink it with a straw.
- First, peel a ripe banana and mash it using a fork.
- Then, get some milk and ice cream out of the refrigerator.
- Shake or blend well.
- Put the banana, milk and ice cream into a shaker or blender.

Use the following information to answer questions 10 to 15



HARD WORK MAKES DREAMS COME TRUE

by Debbie Davis, Staff Writer

- 1 Astronaut Ellen Ochoa shows that with a good education and hard work, you can reach for the stars. Ochoa is the first Hispanic woman to fly into space. She is a scientist, an inventor, and a mother. She is also a hero to young people with big dreams.
- 2 Ochoa was born on May 10, 1958, in Los Angeles, California. As a child she didn't know what she wanted to be when she grew up. Ochoa's mother always told her to stay in school and study hard. She taught her daughter that she could do anything she wanted.
- 3 Ochoa listened to her mother. She worked very hard in school. She liked maths, science, and music. When she was 13 years old, she won a spelling contest. In high school Ochoa spent many hours each week studying for all her classes. She finished with the best grades in her class.
- 4 After high school Ochoa went on to college. One day in college Ochoa heard that the U.S. government had chosen six women to become astronauts. They would be the first female astronauts from the United States. Ochoa decided she wanted to be an astronaut, too. After college she worked as a scientist. She also became an aeroplane pilot. Then she applied to become an astronaut. Her many years of hard work paid off. She was asked to become an astronaut in 1990.
- 5 Ochoa trained for three years. She had to learn all about spaceships called shuttles. She learned to fix things on the shuttle that could cause problems. She had to be ready for any difficulties that could happen in space. She even learned to float in space.
- 6 In April 1993 aboard the space shuttle named *Discovery*, she made history by becoming the first Hispanic woman to travel to space. Ochoa and the other astronauts had many jobs while on the *Discovery*. One of her tasks was to use the shuttle's robot arm to move large objects. Ochoa used a computer to make the arm pick up a satellite and put it into space. A satellite is a spacecraft that usually moves around Earth or some other object. Satellites can take pictures and gather information about planets and stars.

- 7 The nine days in space during Ochoa's first spaceflight were not all work for the astronauts. Ochoa found time to play songs on her flute. She also ate tortillas, one of her favourite foods. She says that tortillas make great space food. They are easy to eat and don't take up much room. Unlike crackers, tortillas don't leave crumbs that could float around and harm the shuttle's computers.
- 8 Ochoa's second trip to space was in November 1994. This time she flew on the space shuttle *Atlantis*. During the trip she used the robot arm again. She used the arm to pull in a satellite from space. The satellite had been used to study the air around Earth. After the *Atlantis* flight, Ochoa went on two more shuttle trips. Altogether, she spent a whole month in space. That's more than 700 hours!
- 9 When she's not in space, Ochoa keeps busy. She likes to ride bicycles with her husband and two sons. She plays the flute. Ochoa also flies an aeroplane when she feels the need to get her feet off the ground.
- 10 Ochoa knows that she is a hero to young people who dream of going into space. She tells them the same thing her mother told her when she was a little girl. "Get a good education and believe in yourself," says Ochoa. "That's how I became a NASA astronaut. The future is yours - think big!"



Astronaut Ellen Ochoa



Ochoa (bottom right) and other astronauts from the space shuttle Discovery

10. Which word from paragraph 5 helps the reader know what **difficulties** means?

- spaceships
- trained
- problems
- years

11. This article is **MOSTLY** about?

- Young girls who have an astronaut for a hero.
- A woman who worked hard to become an astronaut.
- The things that happen on a space shuttle.
- The steps that must be taken to become an astronaut.

12. When did Ochoa decide she wanted to become an astronaut?

- When she was in college.
- When she was 13 years old.
- Before she got out of high school.
- When she was a small child.

13. It is not a good idea to eat crackers on a space shuttle because

- they take up too much space.
- their crumbs can damage the computers.
- they don't taste as good as tortillas.
- most astronauts don't like to eat them.

14. Ochoa would probably tell a group of students that they should

- join a music class.
- all become scientists someday.
- do the best they can in school.
- learn how to use robot arms.

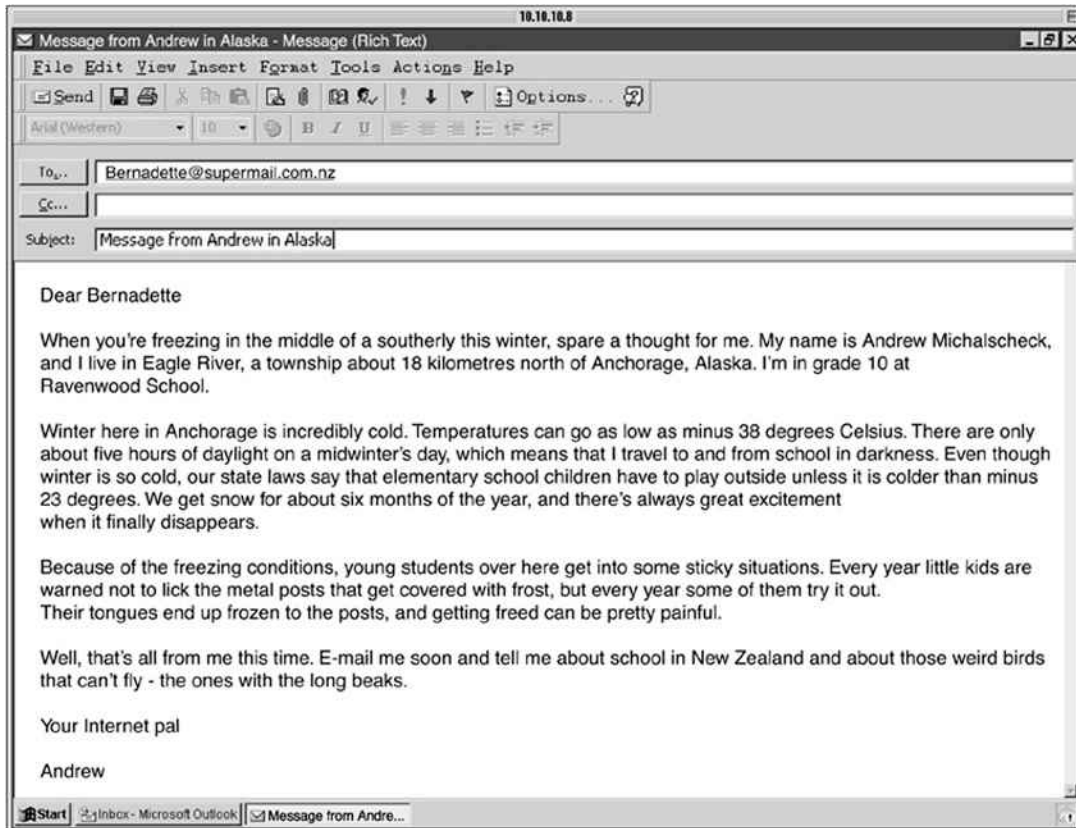
15. The reader can tell that Ochoa's mother

- liked science and maths very much.
- believed her daughter could do great things.
- thought space would be a good place to visit.
- wanted her daughter to play flute.

End of Section

Read E-mail From Alaska and answer questions 16 to 19

Email from Alaska



16. On average, how many hours of daylight are there on the shortest day in Alaska?

17. To which address was this E-mail sent?

18. The **sticky situations** that Andrew refers to in his e-mail are when children

- take risks because they have to go to school in the dark.
- injure their tongues because they lick metal posts.
- stay out too long and get covered in frost.
- are forced to stay outside during school breaks.

19. Andrew wants information about two things in New Zealand. What are the two things?

.....
End of Section

Read *Wish* and answer questions 20 to 22

Wish

*This is an extract from the novel *Wish* by Felice Arena.*

Jack suddenly felt his eardrums go pop. He was so excited. For an instant, everything around him was blanketed in complete whiteness. All he could hear was the loud rattle and hum of the engine below his feet. He pressed his face up **against the tiny window beside him** to see streams of **raindrops racing across his reflection**.

"This is so cool!" he said, finding it difficult to contain his excitement. "What's this button for? And this one here?" He couldn't help but ask.

Suddenly, while Jack ogled the controls buzzing and flashing before him, the whiteness scattered to reveal **clear sunshine blue** as far as the eye could see.

"Unreal!! We're above the clouds!" Jack shouted. "It looks as if you could walk on them. To think it was grey and wet down below when we took off!"

Jack shook his head in **wonderment**. It was his first-ever plane ride.

"How high are we?" he asked, turning to the pilot seated beside him.

"About four thousand feet and still climbing," the pilot replied.

"This is cool!" repeated Jack, under his breath.

He looked over his shoulder to see his father smiling back at him. Sitting beside Jack's father, with his head buried in a newspaper, was Dr Smith. Jack still couldn't believe it. Sure he was only in a small four seater plane, but still, how many thirteen-year-olds get the chance to sit in a cockpit and **experience the thrill of flying?**

20. The exclamation marks in the sentence **"Unreal!! We're above the clouds!"** are used to show that

- Jack was shouting with excitement.
- Jack was speaking.
- the author was saying something important.
- Jack was asking a question.

21. Complete the sentences by matching the first part on the left to the second part on the right to show what happened to Jack in the story. The first one has been done for you.

a

1. Jack saw

a. the whiteness scatter.

2. Jack heard

b. the thrill of flying.

3. Jack experienced

c. the controls buzzing and flashing.

4. Jack ogled

d. the rattle and hum of the engine.

22. The word *it* in the sentence, ***Jack still couldn't believe it***, refers to the fact that

the plane was only a four-seater.

Jack was flying in an aeroplane.

the weather had cleared so quickly.

Dr Smith was reading a newspaper.

End of Section

Use the following information to answer questions 23 to 26

THE SQUIRREL'S LOAN

This story of a magpie, a kind of bird, and a squirrel has a great lesson to teach.

THE MAGPIE AND THE SQUIRREL LIVED on the lower slopes of the Himalayas. One cold and snowy winter, the magpie borrowed some nuts from the squirrel, and the squirrel borrowed some feathers to warm his hole in the tree.

In summer, the magpie brought some nuts to return the loan, but the squirrel said, "It's summer and I have plenty of nuts now. You took them from me in winter, so return them to me in winter."

The magpie wondered what he would do because he knew there would be no nuts to be found in winter. So when the squirrel came to return the loan of the feathers, he said, "I have plenty of feathers in my nest now. You took them from me in winter, so return them to me in winter."

"Very well," said the squirrel, and he stored the feathers along with his hoard of nuts.

But it was a hot summer, and the squirrel's house felt like a furnace with all those feathers in it. So he threw the feathers out, thinking he'd pick them up when winter came around and it was time to return the loan.

In winter, there was ice and snow everywhere. The feathers were buried underneath. Try as he might, the squirrel could not dig them out. He said to the magpie, "I'm afraid I can't find feathers in winter."

"Nor can I find nuts at this time," said the magpie. And the squirrel remembered his loan and his words to the magpie, and he was ashamed. He said, "I should expect you to return the nuts when you can, not when you cannot. A loan is meant to help a friend, not to give him trouble."

From then on they helped each other in winter and repaid their debts in summer. They continued to live happily and became even better friends thereafter.



23. Magpie and Squirrel

- helped each other.
- decided not to be friends.
- argued constantly.
- liked to play tricks on each other.

24. Squirrel was **ashamed**. Which word below **BEST** describes **ashamed**?

- Embarrassed
- Sarcastic
- Confused
- Angry

25. Squirrel added the feathers to his **hoard**. In this story, a synonym or word with the same meaning as **hoard** would be

- friends.
- food.
- gifts.
- collection.

26. What do you think will happen the next winter?

- Squirrel and Magpie will move to warmer ground.
- Squirrel and Magpie will not borrow anything.
- Squirrel and Magpie will not borrow from others.
- Squirrel and Magpie will loan nuts and feathers again.

Use the following information to answer questions 27 to 30

The Charro

- 1 "I have bad news," announced Mrs. Carrillo, the Spanish club's sponsor. "We're nearly \$1,000 short of the amount we need to take our trip to Mexico City next month."
- 2 The club members groaned. Since the idea of going to Mexico had been brought up back in September, it had been an incentive to raise as much money as possible. They had hoped that their last fund-raiser, a dinner featuring enchiladas and other traditional Mexican dishes, would provide the rest of the funds they needed. However, it had not brought in as much money as they had expected.
- 3 "How depressing," Adrian said gloomily. "All year we've practised our Spanish, and now there's no way we'll get to Mexico City."
- 4 Marisol refused to give up so easily. "Look at us! We're already thinking it's hopeless. Don't be so pessimistic! There has to be a way to raise the money!" she said. "Everybody go home and think. Ask your parents, friends, and neighbours. Let's meet again in two days to see whether anyone has a suggestion."
- 5 After school Marisol decided to visit Grandpa Delgado at his ranch. Talking with him always made her problems seem smaller. Just being at the ranch made her feel better, so she went whenever she was agitated about something. She knew she could rely on the land's unchanging beauty.
- 6 Marisol found her grandfather in his old barn. "I guess we'll need to pull this shabby old barn down pretty soon," he said when he saw her. "It's falling apart. It seems as if it deteriorated overnight. Now that we've built a new barn, it's just taking up space around here - like me, I suppose." He sighed and looked around. "I built it right after I came to this country. It looks as though we've both just about outlived our usefulness."
- 7 As Marisol watched him looking around the barn, she got an idea. "Grandpa, wasn't there a theatre group near here that used to perform in a barn?"
- 8 "Why, yes," Grandpa Delgado said. "The Red Barn Players. They're not around anymore. It was a good idea, performing in a barn. We don't have fancy theatres around here like those you would find in a big city."
- 9 "How many folding chairs do you think could fit in this barn?" Marisol asked.
- 10 He wrinkled his brow and thought a moment. "Probably a hundred or so. Why?"
- 11 Marisol's words came out in a rush. "I have an idea for how to earn money for my Spanish club. We could put on a play right here in your barn! If we gave two performances and if a hundred people came to each one and if tickets cost five dollars each . . ." She tapped her feet as she did the maths in her head. "That's \$1,000!" she said triumphantly.

- 12 At their next meeting, Marisol's fellow club members liked the idea. Mrs. Carrillo said, "Marisol, why don't you and Carlota find a play for us to perform. We need to decide on the play right away so we'll have time to rehearse, build sets, make costumes, and advertise. In the meantime we can work on turning the barn into a temporary theatre."
- 13 Marisol and Carlota spent hours at the library looking for a play, but nothing seemed right. "Here's one about a zookeeper who discovers his gorilla can talk," Carlota said.
- 14 Marisol shook her head. "None of these will work. They're too short, and none of them has more than three roles," she said.
- 15 "Besides," added Carlota, "we should do a play that has something to do with Mexican culture."
- 16 Marisol paused for a moment as an idea came to her. "I wrote a play for English class a few months ago about my grandpa when he was a young *charro*, a Mexican cowboy. Would you like to see it?"
- 17 Carlota went home with Marisol and read the play. When Carlota finished reading, she turned to Marisol and said, "It's perfect!"
- 18 The other club members liked it, too. Parts were assigned, and rehearsals began. Marisol didn't have a part, but she helped with sets and costumes. Her whole family got involved to make sure the play was a success because they were proud of her. Marisol's father put up posters on every telephone pole for miles around. Her older brother Ray, who attended college in a nearby town, promised to bring a group of friends on opening night.
- 19 Before the play Mrs. Carrillo explained the purpose of the event and thanked the audience for attending. Then the performance began. Marisol watched nervously from backstage. At one point Adrian, who was playing Marisol's grandfather, had to sing an old Mexican folk song. He had a good voice, but he must have forgotten the words. Marisol listened in horror as his voice faded away, and the barn went silent.
- 20 Then another voice, deep and rich, took up the song. Marisol peeked out at the audience and saw Grandpa Delgado. He had risen to his feet and was singing the song as she had heard him sing it many times. He turned to the rest of the crowd. "Sing along," he invited them. "You know the words." To Marisol's amazement many of the older men and women joined in. Their voices swelled, reaching into every corner of the dark, dusty barn and transforming it into a place of wonder.
- 21 After the play was over, Marisol helped count the profits. They had made more than \$500. She felt sure that they would be able to reach their goal after the next day's performance.
- 22 Grandpa Delgado came over to congratulate her. "I guess this old thing still has some life in it after all," he said with a wink.

23 "I always knew that it did, Grandpa," Marisol said, winking back. The trip to Mexico City would be great, but nothing could ever replace Marisol's happiness when she heard her grandfather's strong voice ringing throughout the barn.

27. In paragraph 11 the author creates a feeling of

- unhappiness.
- appreciation.
- confusion.
- excitement.

28. In paragraph 6, the word *deteriorated* means

- became full.
- walked.
- grew.
- got worse.

29. Which of these statements reflects Grandpa Delgado's change of opinion at the end of the story?

- Things get less useful the older they become.
- Older people should retire so that the young can take over.
- Young people do not want to listen to old songs.
- Growing old does not make a person less useful.

30. What are paragraphs 1 to 3 of this story **MAINLY** about?

- The Spanish club not raising enough money to go to Mexico City
- Why members of the Spanish club have been practising their Spanish all year
- A fund-raiser that features enchiladas and other traditional Mexican dishes
- What kinds of ideas students have to raise money for the Spanish club trip