



READING SUCCESS

Second Edition



Ken Methold





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² **dig** to make a hole in earth or sand

⁷ **flagpole** a long wooden or metal pole from which a flag is hung

¹⁴ **reach** to touch; to get to

¹⁹ **lay down** to put down

Not Stupid

Track 01

⁵ Fred and Ted were not very smart. They were always getting things wrong. The only work they could get was **digging** holes and painting. These were easy jobs, but Fred and Ted still made mistakes. They dug holes in the wrong places or painted things the wrong color. Once they painted a floor and then walked on it while the paint was still wet.

One day their boss asked them to paint a **flagpole** outside the office building. "This shouldn't be too difficult for them," their boss thought. "All they need is paint and brushes."

¹⁰ Their boss told them where the paint and brushes were and went away. An hour later, he came back. Fred and Ted were not painting the flagpole. They didn't even have the paint and brushes. Fred was standing against the flagpole, and Ted was standing on his shoulders, trying to **reach** the top of it with a ruler.

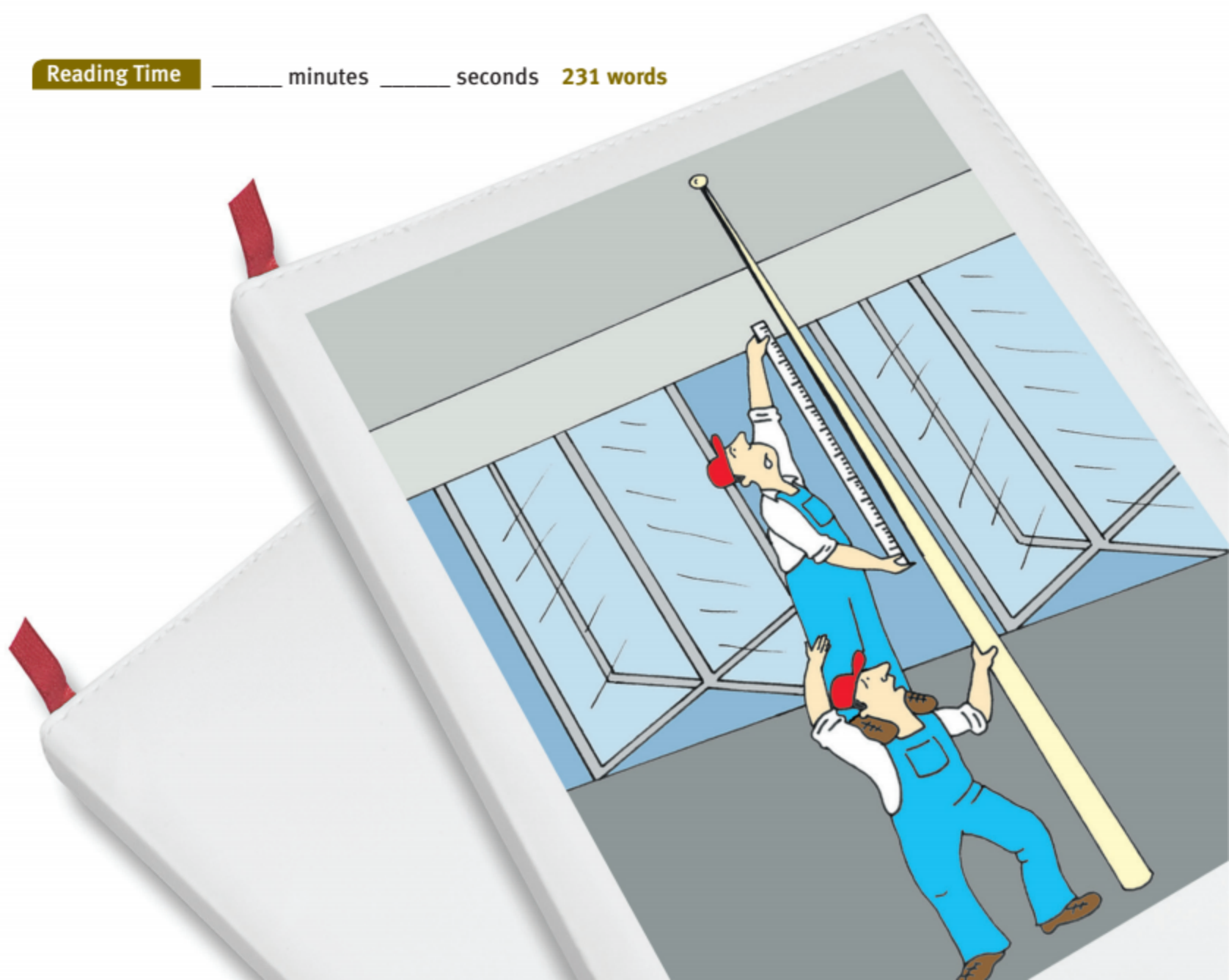
¹⁵ "What are you two men doing?" their boss asked.

"We have to find out how much paint we need," Ted said, "so we're measuring the flagpole."

"That's not the way to do it," their boss said. "Pull the flagpole out of the ground and **lay it down**."

²⁰ "Ha!" Fred said. "We're not stupid. We can't measure how high it is that way. We can only measure how long it is."

Reading Time _____ minutes _____ seconds **231 words**



Vocabulary Review

■ Match each word with its meaning.

- | | |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. wet • | • a. a tool used for painting |
| 2. mistake • | • b. something done wrong |
| 3. brush • | • c. having water on or in something |

Reading Comprehension

■ Choose the best answer.

- What is this story about?

a. A famous paint company	b. A hardworking farmer
c. Two foolish workers	d. A mean boss
- In this story, what were the men trying to paint?

a. A hole	b. A flagpole
c. The floor	d. A building
- What stupid thing did the men do?

a. Measure the wrong thing	b. Do an easy job a difficult way
c. Take too long for a small job	d. Paint the pole the wrong color
- If you “measure” something, you _____.

a. find the length of it	b. look closely at it
c. put paint on it	d. tell how to do it

Summary

■ Fill in each blank with the correct word.

flagpole

ground

long

paint

smart

A boss wanted to find an easy job for two workers to do. The workers were not very **1** _____. The boss told the men to **2** _____ a flagpole. The two men tried to measure the **3** _____. Their boss told them to lay the flagpole on the **4** _____. The men said, “That will tell us how **5** _____ it is but not how high.”

A Day at the Beach



From my diary

I go to the beach as often as I can. There is a good beach near where I live, and I often spend a whole day there.



The best part of the beach is the **rock pools**. These are pools of **seawater** that stay behind when the **tide** goes out. I like looking at them because they are often full of different **sea creatures**.

There are usually small crabs in the rock pools. When I try to touch them, they dig holes in the sand and try to hide. Sometimes, but not often, there are little fish.

My favorite creatures are the sea **snails** and other creatures that live in shells. There are always lots of little shells in the rock pools, and I like to collect them. I have a large collection of shells. They all have special names, but I don't know what they are. Usually the shells are empty, but sometimes there is a creature inside the shell. Sometimes there is a crab in a shell.

Yesterday I found a very big shell. I held it up close to my face so that I could look into it. Suddenly, a large **claw** came out of the shell and pinched my nose! There was a big crab inside!

I'll be more careful the next time I look into a large shell.

⁴ **rock pool** a small area of water in rocks near the ocean

⁵ **seawater** the salty water in the ocean

⁵ **tide** the water that splashes up against the beach

⁶ **sea creature** any of the animals and fishes that live in the sea

¹¹ **snail** a small sticky creature that carries a shell on its back

¹⁸ **claw** the sharp end of a front leg of some animals

Reading Time _____ minutes _____ seconds 226 words



Vocabulary Review

■ Choose the correct word to put in the blank.

- The hotel had a very large _____ for the guests to swim in.
a. hole b. shoulder c. snail d. pool
- If you go to the beach when the _____ is low, you can find interesting things.
a. claw b. fish c. rock d. tide
- She picked up the crab by its shell so it could not _____ her.
a. spend b. pinch c. dig d. collect

Reading Comprehension

■ Choose the best answer.

- What did the girl like best about the rock pools?
a. The animals b. The seashells c. The seawater d. The sand
- The next time she finds a shell at the beach, he will _____.
a. throw it in the ocean b. pinch his nose
c. make sure nothing is inside it d. use it to dig a hole in the sand
- When does she like to visit the beach?
a. Any time b. At high tide
c. During low tide d. In the morning
- Which word means the same as “creature”?
a. Animal b. Collection c. Shell d. Wave

Summary

■ Fill in each blank with the correct word.

beach

shell

pinched

pools

creatures

In her diary, the girl wrote about visiting the 1 _____. She likes to look in the small 2 _____ in the rocks. Many sea 3 _____ live in these pools. She especially likes to look at crabs and seashells. One time, as she was looking into a 4 _____, a crab came out and 5 _____ him. She will have to be more careful in the future.