

# Responding to Readings

## Book Two: Reading, Discussing, and Writing about Issues and Ideas

### Teacher's Guide

#### Reflecting Solutions

##### Chapter 1: Laughter, page 7

1. Laughter makes us feel better; it spreads from person to person; it provides relief and helps us feel refreshed.
2. His friend's humor is more sarcastic while his cousin's is more innocent.
3. Ridiculous situations.
4. Cheers.
5. It's silly, especially TV comedy.
6. By forcing themselves to laugh.

##### Chapter 2: Culture, page 9

1. To think and react in different ways.
2. His boss forced him for his side business.
3. She didn't answer the question. Instead, she interpreted the question to mean something entirely different.
4. Japanese often don't say a clear reason.
5. Japanese treat seniors with respect.
6. We all need love, friendship, comfort and security.

##### Chapter 3: Education, page 9

1. A master's degree and a Ph.D.
2. Social studies, math and English (a foreign language).
3. The university entrance exam.
4. Japan's performance on international tests.
5. More school hours doesn't necessarily equal higher test scores.
6. Schools could teach practical skills like cooking or building a house or teach thinking skills.

##### Chapter 4: Stuff, page 11

1. Don't borrow or lend money or things.
2. Most have been good.
3. He put two of her CDs in one case.
4. He borrowed four CDs.
5. They can harm a friendship.
6. Yes.

## Chapter 5: Marriage, page 13

1. No.
2. a) An older woman or company boss
2. b) Politics and religion.
3. The day he met her.
4. A good point is kids can feel comfortable in two languages; a bad point is communication is more difficult and visiting both sets of parents can be challenging.
5. Divorce.

## Chapter 6: Non-violence, page 17

1. A teacher or coach intends to help the person while the criminal doesn't.
2. His teacher pulled his hair as a punishment.
3. A teacher can use communication, understanding and patience.
4. Encouragement and instruction.
5. A parent is bigger and stronger as well as older and smarter.
6. Now we understand motivation and the best ways to learn.

## Chapter 7: Gay pride, page 19

1. It has decreased.
2. Married people can save money on taxes.
3. It means a person tells others he or she is gay.
4. a) God hates gays and if we allow gay marriage then people will want to marry animals.
- b) Historically, marriage has always been between a man and a woman.
5. It will probably increase.

## Chapter 8: Media, page 21

1. About 500 years.
2. He had to rely on his ears and imagine the characters and situations.
3. They only had one television.
4. Watch or read the news; listen to radio; watch video; play games; learn on educational sites; or enjoy social media.
5. Star Chart is an app that tells which star groups are visible; Shazam recognizes songs; Maps tells how to get places.
6. People will use the Internet wisely.

## Chapter 9: Masks, page 23

1. An elevator.
2. Contacting viruses and sometimes getting sick.
3. They don't let us see the faces of others; they are uncomfortable; they make breathing more difficult; they make society less friendly.
4. Some people wear masks to escape human interaction.
5. In dangerous situations like when we are truly sick or there is an outbreak.

### Chapter 10: Overtime, page 25

1. Factory and service workers get overtime while professionals don't.
2. a) 14 or 15 hours
2. b) They were doing high level research; they also wanted to advance their careers, get promoted and earn respect.
3. For appearance, because their boss stays late.
4. Working OT can keep people from living a full life. For example, people have little time to develop hobbies, a social life, relationships or relax.
5. They might find a cure for cancer or create beautiful music.

### Chapters 11 & 12: Students write questions

### Chapter 13: Gaman, page 31

1. When the blood flow gets cut off.
2. The older generation values gaman.
3. a) The bell (which means the end of zazen).
3. b) It made him stronger.
4. When we are upset our upper lip may start to shake (literal answer).  
Because they want others to endure pain bravely.
5. Something is wrong.
6. Pain is physical; suffering is mental.

### Chapter 14: Ikigai, page 33

1. Parents, friends, and society.
2. Rich people can own many things, always eat delicious food, travel anywhere and always live in comfort.
3. Many stars get depressed or abuse alcohol or drugs.
4. Meaning, satisfaction, and a chance to contribute to society.
5. Each person has unique talents and abilities.
6. Keep physically and mentally fit.

### Chapter 15: Mars, page 35

1. The world was unknown; they thought they might fall off the edge of the earth.
2. Astronauts traveling to Mars will never return to Earth.
3. They will miss sunshine, feeling the wind and eating good food.
4. There is no liquid water on Mars; there is no soil; there is little sunlight.
5. Bones break easier; humans cannot breathe without special equipment; there is no bacteria.
- ~~7-~~ 6. Yes, many have applied.

### Chapter 16: Taxes, page 37

1. Death and taxes.
2. Taxes pay for salaries of public workers, construction of roads and bridges, schools, soldiers and weapons, and social programs.
3. a) It's an attempt to bring greater equality to society.
3. b) With fewer poor people there should be less crime.
4. They think it's unfair to provide more money to poor people; they believe people will become dependent on government assistance.
5. Society would be better without taxes.

### Chapter 17: Guns, page 39

1. No.
2. a) Criminals have guns.
2. b) There are many gun accidents and mistakes.
3. A person with a gun can kill a mass killer.
4. Yes.
5. Most are for guns.

### Chapter 18: Whales, page 41

1. Southern Ocean.
2. To do research.
3. They are intelligent.
4. They don't know or care about whaling.
5. They swim in international waters.
6. Does Sea Shephard try to hit Japanese whaling ships? Or do Japanese whaling ships try to sink SS boats?
7. Both sides take the time to listen, consider facts objectively and empathize with the other side.

# Paragraph Subtopics

Write the subtopic for each paragraph of essays 1-15.

## 1. Laughter

- 1 - introduction
- 2 - funny people
- 3 - British humor
- 4 - American humor
- 5 - **Japanese humor**
- 6 - conclusion

## 2. Culture

- 1 - introduction
- 2 - complaints
- 3 - Japanese interpret
- 4 - Japanese are indirect
- 5 - **respect for seniors**
- 6 - conclusion

## 3. Education

- 1 - introduction
- 2 - tests
- 3 - **cramming in Korea**
- 4 - **Japan education reform**
- 5 - **education in Finland**
- 6 - conclusion

## 4. Stuff

- 1 - introduction
- 2 - writer often lends
- 3 - **an incident of borrowing CDs**
- 4 - **a second incident of lending CDs**
- 5 - lending is risky
- 6 - conclusion

## 5. Marriage

- 1 - introduction
- 2 - **miai**
- 3 - **love marriages**
- 4 - **international marriages**
- 5 - conclusion

## 6. Non-Violence

- 1 - introduction
- 2 - incident in Catholic school

## 3 - nonviolence in a classroom

- 4 - **an incident of a coach abusing a player**
- 5 - **non-violent parenting**
- 6 - conclusion

## 7. Gay Pride

- 1 - introduction
- 2 - **gay marriage**
- 3 - gays want to be recognized
- 4 - **opposing gay marriage**
- 5 - conclusion

## 8. Media

- 1 - introduction
- 2 - **radio**
- 3 - **TV**
- 4 - **the Internet**
- 5 - **cell phones**
- 6 - conclusion

## 9. Masks

- 1 - introduction
- 2 - **viruses and getting sick may strengthen our immune systems**
- 3 - mask bad points
- 4 - **masks help people escape**
- 5 - conclusion

## 10. Overtime

- 1 - introduction
- 2 - **working long hours**
- 3 - OT may be bad
- 4 - **overworking**
- 5 - conclusion

## 11. Health

- 1 - introduction
- 2 - **junk food**
- 3 - **eating for pleasure**
- 4 - **traditional diets**

## 5 - conclusion

## 12. Dieting

- 1 - introduction
- 2 - **pressure on girls to be thin**
- 3 - **going on a diet**
- 4 - **related mental illnesses**
- 5 - conclusion

## 13. Gaman

- 1 - introduction
- 2 - **generational attitudes about gaman**
- 3 - **a zazen experience**
- 4 - **keeping a stiff upper lip**
- 5 - **meaning of pain**
- 6 - conclusion

## 14. Ikigai

- 1 - introduction
- 2 - **getting rich**
- 3 - **becoming famous**
- 4 - **finding meaning at work**
- 5 - **our unique purpose**
- 6 - conclusion

## 15. Mars

- 1 - introduction
- 2 - **2023 trip to Mars**
- 3 - **the challenge of getting there**
- 4 - **the challenges of living on Mars**
- 5 - **more challenges to surviving on Mars**
- 6 - conclusion