2 Worksheet on Reading Comprehension

Text: "My brain has crashed", from: Düwel/Grün, *The Media,* Viewfinder Topics New Edition plus (München: Langenscheidt, 2011), pp. 42f.

A   IMPROVING READING COMPREHENSION

You'll find reading comprehension questions in almost every school tests and all major standardized tests. In order to be able to answer the questions, you must fully understand what you read. Here are some tips:

- look up unknown words <u>and</u> write down their German or English meaning

- in your Viewfinder Topics books: study the vocabulary and explanations that go with the text

- take notes (on the margin or a separate piece of paper)

- highlight important ideas, arguments and statements

- learn the function of paragraphs: find out what the point of the paragraph is (underline it!) and where the supplemental information is

B   MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

1. Which stylistic device was used here: "hitched a ride on the information superhighway" (l. 15)? (If necessary, look up the meaning of the words in the Viewfinder Reference Library on the internet.)

- ☐ alliteration
- ☐ metaphor
- ☐ onomatopoeia
- ☐ ellipsis

2. A paraphrase of "[S]he is very much alive to the wonders of the web" (ll. 13 f.) would read:

- ☐ She is alive thanks to the wonders of the web.
- ☐ She is aware of the wonders of the web.
- ☐ She is unaware of the wonders of the web.
- ☐ She appreciates the wonders of the web.

3. What are the main technical weaknesses of computers, according to the author? (More than one answer can be correct.)

- ☐ Computers can crash and connections terminate.
- ☐ Software may need updating.
- ☐ Computers can be infected with viruses.
- ☐ Software may not meet user's needs.
- ☐ Computers may be too slow for certain programs.

4. What might be an RSI? (More than one answer can be correct.)

- ☐ gamer's thumb
- ☐ Rubik's wrist
- ☐ Blackberry thumb
- ☐ iPhone thumb
- ☐ iPod finger
- ☐ Android finger

C   TASKS AND QUESTIONS ON THE TEXT

1. Find another headline for the text.

_____

_____

2. What does the headline "My brain has crashed" reveal about the article's subject matter?

_____

_____

_____

3. Find examples of metaphorical and informal language in the text.

_____

_____

_____

(Daniela Pröls)

Klett