

## LITERALLY SPEAKING

Newport/Mesa
ProLiteracy
Unlock the Potential
A program of the Newport Beach Public Library

2020 HOLIDAY EDITION

Developing the literacy skills of adults to empower them to achieve greater success in their lives – at home, at work, and in the community.

## Support NMPL with the purchase of this cozy tee!

THANKS TO 4SOCIETEE, A PERCENTAGE OF EVERY T-SHIRT SOLD GIVES BACK TO NEWPORT/MESA PROLITERACY. THIS TEE IS COMFORTABLE, SOFT, COTTON AND HIGH-QUALITY.





# NOTICE: There are changes to the Citizenship Test / Naturalization Interview for all residents who filed their naturalization forms after 12/1/2020

There are now 128 test questions in the new version, up from the 100 previously. The USCIS officer will ask 20 questions instead of 10; and the candidate must answer at least 12 questions correctly to pass.

All questions will still be asked orally. In addition, many questions now require a more "essay-like" response.

There are no changes to the English portion of the naturalization civics test. An understanding of the English language, including the ability to read, write and speak basic English must be demonstrated.

- Speaking: A USCIS officer will determine ability to speak and understand English during the eligibility interview
- Reading: A candidate must read out loud one out of three sentences correctly to demonstrate an ability to read in English.
- Writing: A candidate must write one of three sentences correctly to demonstrate an ability to write in English.

According to pundits, these changes may be revoked by the new incoming administration.

For more information, please go to <a href="https://www.uscis.gov/citizenship/2020test">https://www.uscis.gov/citizenship/2020test</a>

### Donations Welcome

Donations by credit and debit can be made online: <a href="http://bit.ly/NMPLDonate">http://bit.ly/NMPLDonate</a>

Donations through the mail can be made via check: Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy 1000 Avocado Avenue Newport Beach, CA 92660

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#### My Favorite Holiday Memory by Younghae Klm

Shi Shii Shush!! My husband put his finger on his lips and wisperd me "Do you want to wake them?" We were checking my kids room to see they were completely in sleep. It was Christmas Eve.

That was the first Christmas we had since we moved to the U.S. When Stephanie was 6 years old and Ted was 3 years old. Stephanie was on the stage being a little confused about Santa is true. On the other hand she still wanted to believe because she wanted to have a gift from Santa and Ted was clueless.

We lived in a high rise apartment when we were in Korea. There was no fireplace and of course no chimney. We watched a Disney cartoon and movie in which Santa always carried a big pack filled with gifts for the kids. He is usually pretty big but he must have a certain way to go down without messing his red and white Santa uniform.

The new house we had was a perfect setting for Christmas. We were so excited to have a memorable experience that we can share with my kids before it is too late. We baked cookies wondering which cookie will be picked by Santa. They were curious about their gift underneath the tree especially Santa will bring to them. Ted kept holding up the gift and shaking it and asking his sister what she thought that could be. He asked me so many questions about what time Santa will come; If he waited here, he could meet Santa and he would give the gift to him in person; If the fireplace was not too small to come down; What if he lost direction to come here: Could we leave the orange juice just in case he did not like milk; etc. It was endless curiosity. When he was excited he looked like forgot to breathe, I could feel his heartbeat from the far side.

It was one of the hardest days to make them go to bed. After we checked they were in deep sleep, me and my husband started to do what we planned. I ate one cookie and one bite for the other cookies. I dug some soil from the flower bed and left some near the fireplace and stepped on the dirt to make a footprint. I drunk some of milk too and left the gift underneath the tree. Our Mission was accomplished. Now we were too excited to fall asleep.

"MOM MOM MOM MOMMY!!!!" Screaming from my two kids woke us up. Ted and Stephanie jumped up on our bed and told me Santa came and ate the cookie and milk. He left the gift for them too. Gift was exactly what they wished for. I still remember how excited they were. For the time he was no doubt about Santa. I don't remember when he knew Santa was not existing. It was the happiest Christmas I ever had. Learner's Corner

Due to space restrictions, this essay has been edited.

### Registration is now open for online classes

Life Skills: Idioms\* **Public Speaking & Daily Conversation** News You Can Use\* Writing Your Story **Grammar & Vocabulary** 

\*2 Sessions Available

Must be a registered learner. Contact the Literacy Office for more details.

New to the NMPL? New Learner Orientation is on January 13th at 10am. Click Here

#### **News For You Online**



Each week, read up to seven new stories. There is a built-in audio feature, so you can listen to each sentence as you read. Each story has comprehension questions for better understanding. Difficult words are defined with pop-up vocabulary. You can practice writing by leaving comments on stories. For fun, you can also do the weekly crossword puzzle and word search. NMPL learners and tutors can contact the Literacy Office to get online access.

