



# Jean Vanier

## • Reading Comprehension •

### Activity **1** Stop and Think

Read the paragraphs.  
Stop and think as you read.

Jean is born in Switzerland. He has three brothers and a sister. Jean's parents are Catholic. They are religious. Jean's family prays together every day.

**Stop and think:** Think about your family.  
What do you do together as a family?

Jean's parents like to help others. Jean learns that helping others is important.

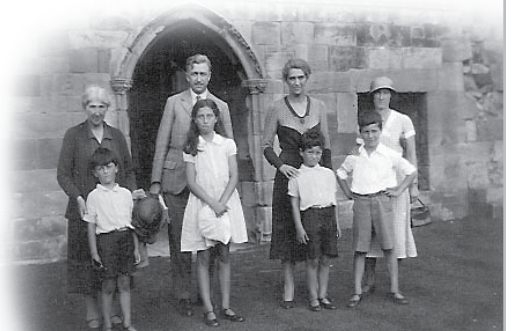
**Stop and think:** Why do you think  
Jean's parents like to help others?

Jean's parents are Canadian. His father works for the government of Canada. He serves Canada in different countries. Jean grows up in England. In 1939, Jean's family moves to France. Jean is 11 years old.

**Stop and think:** Imagine you are Jean.  
How do you feel about moving  
to a new country at the age of 11?  
Why do you feel this way?

Good readers are active readers.

Good readers stop and think about what they are reading. Active reading helps readers understand the ideas.



## Activity 2 Main Idea and Details



Check the details that support each main idea.

The first one is an example.

Good readers can find the main idea and details.

The main idea is the important idea. The details support the main idea.

The details help you understand and remember the main idea.

Main idea	Details
In 1964, people with disabilities have hard lives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ They are kept apart from others.</li> <li>✓ Every day is the same for them.</li> </ul> <p>Jean makes their lives better.</p>
1. Religion is a big part of Jean's life.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a)___ Jean prays with his family.</li> <li>(b)___ Jean works hard at university.</li> <li>(c)___ Jean asks a priest to be his spiritual guide.</li> </ul>
2. Jean spends his life giving to others.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a)___ Jean starts L'Arche.</li> <li>(b)___ Jean searches for meaning in his life.</li> <li>(c)___ Jean starts a group called Faith and Light.</li> </ul>

## Activity 3 Invisible Messages



Read the writer's words. Figure out the invisible message.

Writers do not always explain everything.

Sometimes, writers expect readers to read between the lines. Writers expect readers to figure out the invisible messages.

The writer's words	The invisible message
The students love Jean's classes.	<p><i>Jean is a good teacher.</i></p> <p><i>Jean cares about his students.</i></p>
1. Jean wants to find the meaning of his life.	
2. People come from different countries to help in L'Arche homes.	

**Activity 4** Fact and Opinion



Good readers know the difference between facts and opinions.

Facts can be proven.

Opinions are ideas or beliefs.

Read the sentences.  
Write (F) for fact or (O) for opinion.

1. Jean inspires the world. \_\_\_\_  
Jean makes life better for people with disabilities. \_\_\_\_
2. Jean's family moves too much. \_\_\_\_  
Jean lives in Switzerland, France, England, and Canada. \_\_\_\_
3. Jean calls his community L'Arche. \_\_\_\_  
L'Arche is the best name for the community. \_\_\_\_

**Activity 5** The Table of Contents



Good readers use the Table of Contents.

The Table of Contents helps readers find information quickly.

Read each question.  
Look at the Contents page in your book.  
Which chapter has the answer to the question?  
Write the name of the chapter.  
Find the answer to the question. Write the answer.

Question	Chapter	Answer
Where is Jean born?	Early Years	Switzerland
1. How does Jean find his calling?		
2. What does L'Arche mean?		
3. Where does Jean live today?		

# Activity **6** Make a Connection

Read the idea from the story.  
Make a connection to your life.

Reading is more than understanding the ideas on a page.

Good readers connect the ideas to their lives.

## Idea



## Your Life

Many core members have a special gift. The special gift is their ability to accept others as they are.

Think of your community.  
Are there people who are not fully accepted?  
Who are they?

Sometimes people cannot fully accept others.  
Why?

Have you ever felt that you were not fully accepted?  
Describe your experience.

Have you ever felt that you did not fully accept another person?  
Or a group of people?  
Why do you think you were not able to accept these people?

What can society do to help children grow up to accept others?  
Think about the role of  
parents  
schools  
governments  
religious communities.



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# • Writing •

## Activity 1 Write Your Ideas

Complete these paragraphs about acceptance.  
Use your ideas from page 18.

Your instructor will help you with spelling.

### Paragraph 1

Some groups of people are not fully accepted by society. \_\_\_\_\_ is one example. People may not accept this group because

\_\_\_\_\_.

Also, \_\_\_\_\_.

### Paragraph 2

\_\_\_\_\_ can help children to grow up to accept others. They can \_\_\_\_\_.  
They can also \_\_\_\_\_.

Read each paragraph out loud.  
Which paragraph do you like better?  
Copy the paragraph on the lines.

Check for capital letters and end punctuation.

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Good writers know that writing is a process.  
Good writers think of ideas before they write.  
Good writers check their writing.



**Activity 2** Organize Ideas 

Read the details for the idea map.

Are the details about people with disabilities in the early 1900s?  
Or are the details about people with disabilities who live at L'Arche? Or both?

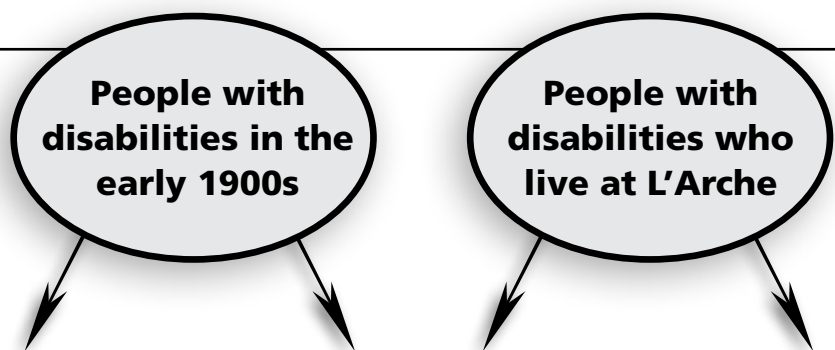
Copy the details into the correct box.  
The first one is an example.

Good writers know that writing is a process.  
Good writers organize their ideas before they write.  
One way to organize ideas is to use comparison and contrast.

**Idea Map**

**Details**

have hard lives ✓	have friends	live together like a family
want to be loved	want self-respect	are locked up
want to feel human	are not part of the community	feel safe and valued
have full lives	are kept behind closed doors	



**Different**

*have hard lives*

**Same**

**Different**

Choose details from the idea map to complete the paragraphs.

### Paragraph 1

People with disabilities want to be \_\_\_\_\_ . They want to feel \_\_\_\_\_ . They also want \_\_\_\_\_ .

### Paragraph 2

In the early 1900s, people with disabilities have hard lives. They are \_\_\_\_\_ . They are kept behind closed doors. They are \_\_\_\_\_ .

### Paragraph 3

People with disabilities have different lives at L'Arche. They have full lives. They have \_\_\_\_\_ . They \_\_\_\_\_ . They feel \_\_\_\_\_ .

## Activity 3 Use Capital Letters and Punctuation



Read the paragraph.  
Add capital letters and end punctuation.

jean vanier is born in switzerland his father works  
for the government of canada he is a diplomat  
jean grows up in england his family moves to france  
jean learns to speak english and french

### In this activity...

#### use capital letters

at the beginning of a sentence,  
with names of people and places, and  
with names of languages.

#### use punctuation

at the end of a sentence.

# • Word Attack Skills •

## Activity 1 Predict the Word



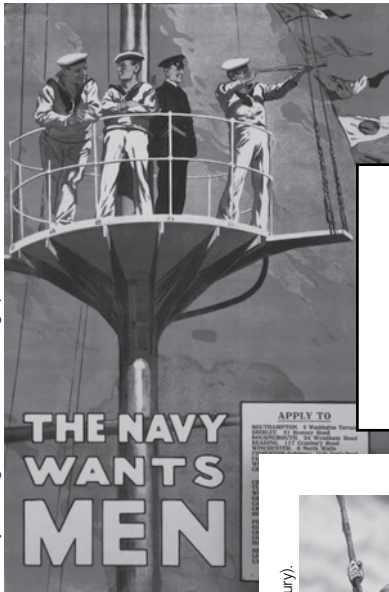
Readers see new words all the time.  
They need to decode the new words.

Good readers decode words  
in different ways.

They use pictures to predict words.  
They use meaning clues to predict words.

These are two ways to decode words.

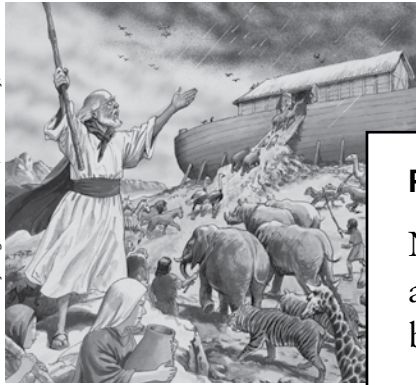
Complete each paragraph.  
Use the pictures to predict the word.



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### Paragraph 1

This poster shows \_\_\_\_\_ in the navy. One sailor is looking through a \_\_\_\_\_ .



© Noah's Ark by English School (20<sup>th</sup> century).

### Paragraph 2

Noah \_\_\_\_\_ an ark to save the animals. He saves tigers, \_\_\_\_\_ , birds, and \_\_\_\_\_ .

Complete each sentence.  
Use meaning clues to predict the word.

1. Jean's parents are \_\_\_\_\_. They pray every day.
2. Jean lives in many \_\_\_\_\_ countries. He lives in France, England, and Switzerland.
3. It is \_\_\_\_\_ to cross the ocean during the war. The Germans sink Allied ships.

## Activity 2 Find Common Patterns

Look at each word in the box.  
Each word has a common pattern.  
Group the words under the correct pattern.

<i>lock</i> ✓	<i>dance</i>	<i>chance</i>	<i>romance</i>
<i>name</i>	<i>tame</i>	<i>rock</i>	<i>shock</i>
<i>France</i>	<i>shame</i>	<i>block</i>	<i>same</i>

Good readers look for common patterns in words.  
This is another way to decode words.

**ock**

**ance**

**ame**

lock

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Read the sentences in the box.  
Circle the words that have one of these patterns:

**ock   ance   ame**

Many words have common patterns.  
The patterns look and sound the same.

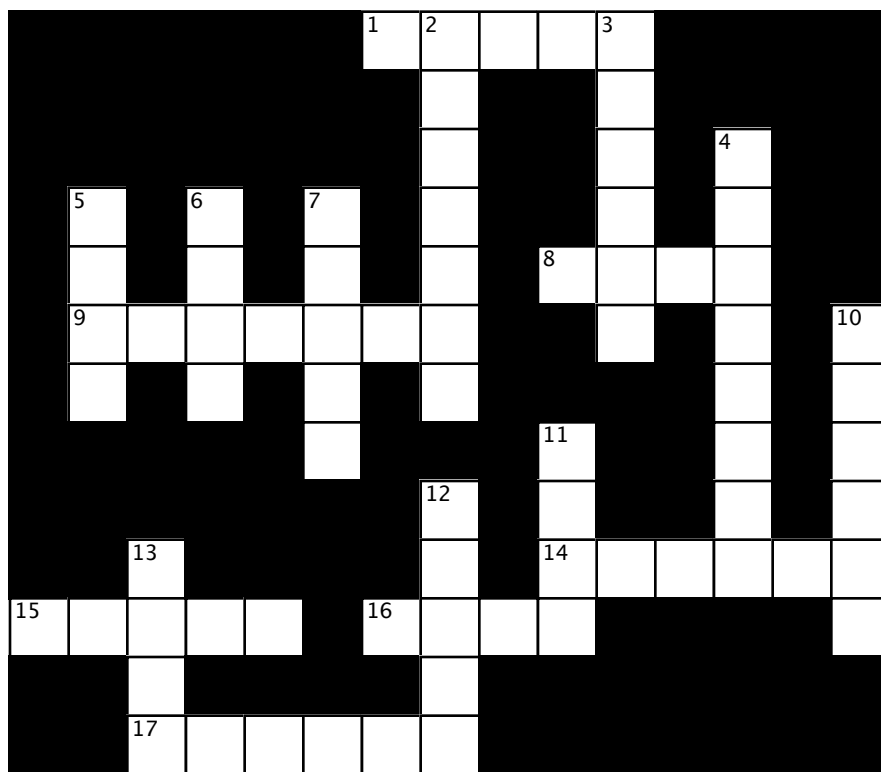
### Find the Common Patterns



1. People with disabilities are locked up.
2. It is shocking to see how they live.
3. Jean lives in France and England.
4. He believes we all need a chance to be loved.
5. Jean names his community "L'Arche."
6. L'Arche members are all treated the same.

# • Crossword •

Jean Vanier



## Crossword Clues

All the answers to the clues are from Jean Vanier's biography.

### ACROSS

1. breakfast, lunch, dinner
8. sign up and become part of something
9. creatures
14. people speak French in this country
15. believe in (rhymes with must)
16. opposite of less
17. closed with a key

### DOWN

2. British people speak this language
3. something that stands for an idea
4. people are this if they are born in Canada
5. we do this in our place of worship
6. a big boat
7. this runs on railway tracks
10. go on a trip
11. not in danger
12. a lot of rain will cause this
13. boring

