

# Reading Comprehension

in Varied Subject Matter

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

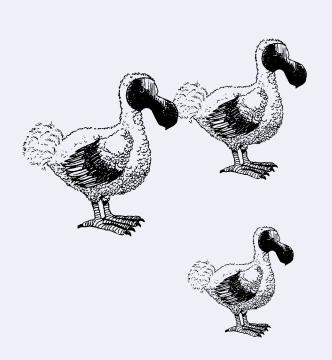
Grades 2-11

Passages from
National Geographic
Society

Build literal and inferential comprehension skills with reading selections across the content areas



## What is Reading Comprehension in Varied Subject Matter?



Reading Comprehension spans grades 2–11 and comprises fourteen student books. The series offers nonfiction reading passages with comprehension questions on a variety of subjects.

- Topics and questions prepare students for standardized tests and provide valuable practice in nonfiction reading comprehension.
- Short passages on a variety of topics are followed by varied comprehension exercises including story recall, inferential questions, and writing prompts.
- Reading passages promote thinking and learning across the content areas and include topics in science, social studies, literature, math, and more.

The Early Reading Comprehension workbooks (Books A–D) are for young readers, specifically grades 2 through 4. Reading Comprehension (Books 1–6) targets grades 3 through 8, and MORE Reading Comprehension (Levels 1–4) is designed for junior high and older students.

The entire Reading Comprehension series is particularly useful in a classroom that has students of varying reading abilities. The consistent format allows students in the same class to use different levels in the series. Students gain confidence and increase their reading, language, and comprehension skills as they progress through the series.



Visit epsbooks.com/RCVSM to find Sample lessons

## **Features for You**

## **Benefits for Your Students**

- Passages include a variety of content area topics, allowing for cross-curricular reading practice.
- Students maintain interest and increase their knowledge as they read nonfiction passages across the content areas.
- Each passage for grades 2–11 is followed by a writing response prompt, similar to those encountered on many standardized tests.
- Students learn to think critically and respond to texts in writing as they build language and comprehension skills.
- Vocabulary development exercises are incorporated into each lesson as students identify and define key words from the passages.
- Students increase their comprehension and understanding and they build essential vocabulary skills in context.
- The Reason for Reading prompt preceding each passage sets a purpose for reading.
- Students activate prior knowledge and bring what they know to the topic.

## **Skills Addressed**

## Early Reading Comprehension (Grades 2–4)

- Story elements
- Literal comprehension questions
- Recalling the main idea and details
- Sequencing
- Matching vocabulary words with meanings
- Responding to reading passages

## Reading Comprehension (Grades 3–8)

- Story recall
- Sequencing
- Drawing conclusions
- Vocabulary development
- Main idea
- Extending thoughts in writing
- Inference

## **MORE Reading Comprehension** (Grades 8–11)

- Story recall
- Sequencing
- Drawing conclusions
- Vocabulary development
- Main idea
- Extending thoughts in writing
- Inference

## **Types of Exercises**

## Early Reading Comprehension

- About the Passage introduces the selection to the readers and asks them to determine the main idea
- Can You Remember? asks students to recall literal information from the passage
- Put the Sentences in the Correct Order
   lists four sentences from the selection and asks students to sequence them in the correct order
- Match the Words with Their Meanings

   asks students to match vocabulary from the passage with its meaning
- Write about It provides several prompts for students to respond critically to the passage in writing



## Reading Comprehension and MORE Reading Comprehension

- About the Passage introduces the selection to the reader and activates prior knowledge
- Reason for Reading explains the reading skill being emphasized in the passage
- Thinking It Over asks two to three broad questions that students must answer with a complete sentence
- Studying the Passage asks both literal and inferential questions in multiple-choice and true/false formats including main idea, interpretation, sequencing, and drawing conclusions
- Using the Words encourages students to use vocabulary from the passage in a paragraph
- Write about It provides several prompts for students to respond critically to the passage in writing including their own interpretations

## How can I fit Reading Comprehension into my curriculum?

## Early Reading Comprehension, Reading Comprehension, and MORE Reading Comprehension can be used in a variety of ways.

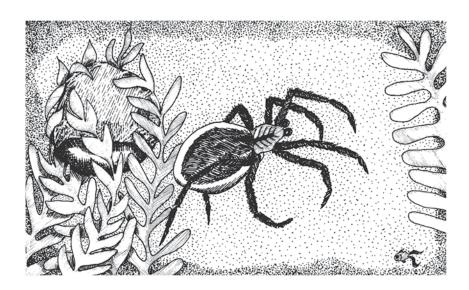
The program can be used to supplement any existing reading program. Students can begin in second grade with *Early Reading Comprehension* Book A and move through the series to *MORE Reading Comprehension* for junior high and high school. The books in this series can also be used to differentiate instruction. Students can be assigned different selections at different levels according to their skills or interests. In addition, students can read passages on the same theme at different reading levels and discuss them as a group.

Early Reading Comprehension, Reading Comprehension, and MORE Reading Comprehension are perfect for small group and one-on-one instruction with struggling readers or English Language Learners.

Logical Thinking: Strange Happenings

## 17 An Odd Spider

What is odd about this spider?



Most spiders live on land, but this spider is different. It spends most of its time under water. How does it breathe? It breathes by making a tent full of air bubbles under water.

First it **spins** a **web** in the shape of a bell. Then it **fixes** it to plants under the water. Next it swims up to the top of the water and **traps** a tiny bubble of air with its hairy back legs. It drags the bubble to its web. It does this many times until its home is full of air. Then it sits nice and snug in its web and feeds on tiny fish and other water animals.

#### The passage is about a spider that

- (a) can't spin a web
- (b) lives under water (c) lives in plants

#### Can you remember?

- 1. Most spiders
  - (a) fly

- (b) live on land
- (c) live under water

Comprehension exercises following every passage promote story recall including main idea.

## Early Reading Comprehension, Book B, p. 33

(a) birds nesting	(b) how birds chang	ge (c) keeping birds
( )	their homes	as pets
Can you remember?		
1. Birds get ready for thei	ir trip south in the	
(a) summer	(b) fall	(c) winter
2. What shape do snow go	eese fly in?	
(a) Y	(b) V	(c) X
3. They don't		
(a) go the same way	(b) go to the same place	(c) get lost
4. Which of these may be	harmful to the birds?	
(a) flowers	(b) trees	(c) TV antennas
5. The birds fly north in the	he	
(a) apping	(1.)	( ) ( 11
(a) spring	(b) summer	(c) fall
		(c) fall
Put the sentences in the	e correct order.	
Put the sentences in the In the spring the s	e correct order.	ek again.
Put the sentences in the In the spring the g It takes place even	geese make the trip bac ry year.	ck again.  Consistent exercises ask
Put the sentences in the In the spring the g It takes place even Not all the birds in	geese make the trip bac ry year. make it.	Consistent exercises ask students to synthesize the information they
Put the sentences in the In the spring the g It takes place even Not all the birds in	geese make the trip bac ry year.	Consistent exercises ask students to synthesize the information they read and sequence
Put the sentences in the In the spring the g It takes place even Not all the birds in	geese make the trip bac ry year. make it.	Consistent exercises ask students to synthesize the information they
Put the sentences in the In the spring the g It takes place even Not all the birds n Snow geese trave	geese make the trip bac ry year. make it.	Consistent exercises ask students to synthesize the information they read and sequence events from the story.
Put the sentences in the  In the spring the g  It takes place even  Not all the birds n  Snow geese trave  Match the words with t	geese make the trip backry year. make it. It thousands of miles.  Cheir meanings.  (a) a loud, sharp not	Consistent exercises ask students to synthesize the information they read and sequence events from the story.
Put the sentences in the  In the spring the game of the series of the se	geese make the trip backry year. make it. It thousands of miles.  Cheir meanings.  (a) a loud, sharp not	Consistent exercises ask students to synthesize the information they read and sequence events from the story.
Put the sentences in the  In the spring the g  It takes place ever  Not all the birds n  Snow geese trave  Match the words with t  1. bustle  2. rustle	geese make the trip bac ry year. make it. Il thousands of miles. Cheir meanings.  (a) a loud, sharp not leaves	Consistent exercises ask students to synthesize the information they read and sequence events from the story.

## Early Reading Comprehension, Book C, p. 14

Social Studies: Great Americans



## **Some of Our Great Presidents**

What do you know about the four presidents in the chart below?

Charts are an easy and quick way to learn. Here are some facts about some of our greatest presidents. Study the chart and then see if you can answer the questions.

President	When President	First Lady	General Information
George			
Washington	1789-1797	Martha	Our first president.
			Our capital is named after
frag			him. He never lived in the
			White House because it
17/10			wasn't built when he was
			president.
A STATE OF THE STA			He led our army against the English in the
AMUNDS MITT			Revolutionary War
			(1775–1781).
Thomas			(1775–1701).
Jefferson	1801-1809	Martha	He <b>drafted</b> the
			Declaration of
			Independence and started
			the University of Virginia.
James			, ,
Madison	1809-1817	Dolley	While he was president, we
			fought the English a
			second time in the War of
			1812 (1812–1814). During
			this war, the English
			burned down the White
			House.

Exercises promote vocabulary development and include vocabulary words taken from the reading selection.

## Early Reading Comprehension, Book D, p. 24

	(a) air	(b) food	(c) blood
~	1 0		
	an you remember?		
1.	You breathe air in thr		( )
	(a) nose	(b) skin	(c) muscles
2.		into two smaller pipes	that go to the lungs is
	kept open by	(la)	(a) a flam
2	(a) bones	(b) rings	(c) a flap
5.	Your lungs are like	(b) balloons	(a) Iritas
4	(a) pears	(b) balloons	(c) kites
4.	When you breathe in (a) gets wider	(b) gets taller	(c) doesn't move
_			(c) doesn't move
Э.	When you breathe out (a) bigger	(b) smaller	(c) They stay
	(a) bigget	(b) smaller	the same.
			the sume.
Pι	ıt in the correct ord	er.	
Pι		er. e lungs room to pull in	more air.
Pı	This gives th		
Pı	This gives th When you be	e lungs room to pull in	igh your nose.
Pu	This gives th When you by The diaphrag	e lungs room to pull in reathe in, air goes through shortens and moves	igh your nose.
Pu	This gives th When you by The diaphrag	e lungs room to pull in eathe in, air goes throu	igh your nose.
	This gives th When you by The diaphrag	e lungs room to pull in reathe in, air goes through shortens and moves ash the air out again.	igh your nose.
M	This gives th When you by The diaphrag	e lungs room to pull in reathe in, air goes through shortens and moves ash the air out again.	igh your nose. down.
M	This gives th When you be The diaphrag The lungs pu  atch the words with	reathe in, air goes through shortens and moves ash the air out again.  (a) tells you about	igh your nose. down.
M	This gives the When you be The diaphrage The lungs put atch the words with 1. describes	e lungs room to pull in reathe in, air goes through shortens and moves ash the air out again.  their meanings.  (a) tells you about (b) goes into two	agh your nose.  down.  at something
M	This gives the When you be The diaphrage The lungs put atch the words with 1. describes 2. windpipe	reathe in, air goes through shortens and moves ash the air out again.  their meanings.  (a) tells you about (b) goes into two (c) a long tube the	agh your nose.  down.  at something or more parts or pieces

### Reading Comprehension, Book 1, p. 79

Selection 25—Subject: Literature Theme: Myth, Folklore, and Fantasy

#### HOW HAWAII WAS CREATED

ABOUT THE PASSAGE

The Hawaiians have a myth explaining the **origin** of their islands. Where do you think they came from?

(a) the tears of a whale

(c) a hurricane

(b) out of the sea

(d) none of these

REASON FOR READING

To see how a common, everyday experience can be used to tell a magical story.

#### READ THE PASSAGE

Maui sat on the beach looking out to sea. He was waiting for his brothers to return from fishing. He had wanted to go fishing with them, but they said, "Why should we take you? We do all the work paddling, and you pull in all the fish." Maui had to admit this was true. He was just a little lazy.

To pass the time, Maui **fashioned** a fishhook from bone. He was a good carver, and soon it was ready for use. He held it up in the sunlight to admire it, and as he did so, he prayed to the gods to give it special powers.

At last Maui's brothers returned. "How many fish did you catch?" Maui asked.

"None," they answered. "There were no fish in the sea. There was nothing to catch but seaweed."

"You should have taken me," Maui told them.

"How do you think you can catch fish that aren't there?" his brothers asked crossly.

"Take me tomorrow and I will show you," said Maui with a **mischievous** grin.

The next day the brothers took Maui fishing with them. It was not because they believed he would catch any fish. Quite the opposite. They wanted to teach him a lesson for **boasting.** 

When they were far out to sea, the brothers began to fish. But Maui lay back in the canoe, enjoying the sun.

"Why aren't you fishing?" the brothers asked Maui. "You said you could catch some fish, so why don't you start?"

"We're not far enough out," replied Maui, "paddle some more."

The brothers paddled farther out to sea. But Maui told them to go still

Exercises mimic those commonly found on standardized assessments and provide test-taking practice.

### Reading Comprehension, Book 3, p. 18

well-known conductor, voiced the thoughts of many when he said, "A voice like yours is heard only once in a hundred years."

Perhaps Marian Anderson was remembering her return to the United States and that day in December 1935 when she sang in the New York Town Hall with her leg in a cast. Despite pain from a broken foot, she had sung beautifully and received a standing ovation. She had thought then that she had finally been accepted by people, but again it was not so. She tried to give a concert in Washington, D.C., in the famous Constitution Hall. The hall was owned by the Daughters of the American Revolution, an organization of women whose families had fought for freedom against the British. They refused to let Marian Anderson sing there because she was Black.

This time her prejudiced treatment be-

came a national issue. Leaders of the government invited her to give an outdoor concert. On the morning of Easter Sunday, she stood on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. Behind her was the statue of Lincoln, who had freed the slaves, and in front of her was an audience of 75,000 people—Black and White. Her act was a courageous one that became one more step toward defeating prejudice.

Honors and praise continued to fill Marian Anderson's life. She sang in New York at Carnegie Hall and with the Metropolitan Opera Company. She sang abroad, this time sent by the United States State Department. She was appointed a **delegate** to the United Nations and received the Medal of Freedom, our nation's highest civilian peacetime award. Still, I have a feeling that it was the day at the Lincoln Memorial that Marian Anderson was remembering nearly forty years later.

(1)	What was Marian Anderson's profession?
(2)	What was her courageous act?

#### > STUDYING THE PASSAGE

THINKING IT OVER

- (1) Find the Main Idea: Choose one.
  - (a) How Marian Anderson learned to sing.
  - (b) How Marian Anderson helped the cause of Black people.
  - (c) Marian Anderson's singing career.
  - (d) Marian Anderson's travels as a singer.
- (2) Find the Facts: Mark each one true or false.
  - (a) Marian Anderson received a medal from the president.
  - (b) She had an unhappy childhood.
  - (c) She had always loved to sing.
  - (d) Her church raised money so she could have singing lessons
  - (e) She won a competition in which 300 other young people competed.
  - (f) She went to Europe to sing because her fellow Americans were still biased against Black people.
  - (g) She faced the same problems of bias in Europe.
  - (h) She was told, "A voice like yours is heard only once in a hundred years."

18

Exercises promote both literal and inferential thinking including drawing inferences and thinking beyond the text.

## Reading Comprehension, Book 4, p. 48

	<ul><li>(f) Some of the water seeps into the earth.</li><li>(g) There is not a great deal of water stored underground.</li><li>(h) Water eventually finds its way back to the sea.</li></ul>	(f) (g) (h)
(3)	<ul> <li>(a) The vapor rises with warm air until the air begins to expand.</li> <li>(b) If the clouds are carried over continents by the winds, it may fall on land.</li> <li>(c) Where does the water in a spring come from?</li> <li>(d) It is taken up by the roots of living plants.</li> <li>(e) The great reservoir for most of the water on earth is the ocean.</li> <li>(f) But most of the underground water continues to seep down through the soil where it is stored temporarily.</li> <li>(g) Trace a brook to its source.</li> <li>(h) Even the vast reservoir is not lost permanently to the water cycle.</li> </ul>	
(4)	Go beyond the Facts: Which one is true?  (a) The water cycle takes a year to complete.  (b) The more it rains the more water there will be.  (c) There is never a time when water is not in our presence.  (d) If there is a drought, it means there is less water in the world.	_
(5)	Determine the Writer's Style: Which one is <i>not</i> correct?  (a) She uses a visual aid with an explanation.  (b) She gives facts and details.  (c) She begins with a descriptive passage.  (d) She begins with an anecdote—a short story.	_
U.	SING THE WORDS	
	Words and Their Meanings: Write the letter of the correct definition beside the word.	se together I stored for use
(2)	Write a paragraph using at least 2 of the words from the list above. Use a separate piece of	f paper.
W	RITING ABOUT IT	
Us	e a separate piece of paper.	
(1)	Reread the passage and underline the important facts. Then summarize the passage in or paragraph giving the facts as clearly and logically as possible.	one short, clear
(1,		of specific trees

## Reading Comprehension, Book 6, p. 15

1) Words and Their Meaning	gs: In the passage find the boldface words for these definitions.
	(a) a change; alteration
	(b) started; formed
	(c) great effect
	(d) careful plans; tactics
	(e) a person who wants to do away with something
	(f) mocked; laughed at; ridiculed
	(g) exemptions or freedom from charges, taxes, or disease
	(h) put a request into formal writing
	(i) extreme; marked by departure from the usual
	(j) women who work to get women the right to vote
	he played in the women's rights movement.
son, describing the part si	the played in the women's rights movement.  Ewspaper during Susan Anthony's time expressing your views for, or again
son, describing the part solution solution solution solution and solution s	the played in the women's rights movement.  Ewspaper during Susan Anthony's time expressing your views for, or again
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### MORE Reading Comprehension, Level 1, p. 40

Selection 14—Subject: Philosophy, Logic, and Math Theme: What Do You Think?

#### THE FIRST WOMAN TO SAIL THE ATLANTIC ALONE\*

ABOUT THE PASSAGE

You have probably heard about Amelia Earhart, the first woman to fly solo over the Atlantic. But have you heard of the first woman to sail it alone? Heading for the United States, Ann Davison set out from her native England in 1952. This selection describes part of her historic voyage.

REASON FOR READING

Before you begin reading, try to imagine the kinds of problems this woman faced and how she might have dealt with them. Then compare your ideas with the facts presented in the passage.

#### READ THE PASSAGE

She opened a Christmas package given her by friends before she sailed. The greetings, cards, and small gifts not only failed to cheer her, but also made her feel more lonely. The boat was making only a half a knot, so she ran the engine for a while, and this improved her spirits. She decided to run it a little every day while the calm lasted. It kept the engine from **corroding**, and the sound was good for her **morale**. She was discovering what a good many other long-distance sailors had learned: the single-hander's main enemies are lack of confidence, discouragement, and loneliness.

The next day she got the wind she had asked for—too much of it. A **squall** struck before daylight, heeling *Felicity Ann* dangerously. Ann Davison groped her way on deck and struggled to reef the mainsail. The wind was from the west—dead ahead. Little progress was made during this difficult day of squalls. Finally she gave up trying to sail and **consoled** herself by reading poetry in the cabin. In the afternoon the wind blew briefly out of the east, and a few miles were made toward the goal. The rain squalls and the spray had soaked everything in the cabin by this time. She had run out of places to store wet clothes, and there was no way to dry them.

More calms, **interspersed** with squalls. Fuel for the engine was almost gone, and she knew she would not be able to run it a little every day as she had hoped. She passed her time reading and inventing memory games. By January 8, struggling in this way to gain a few miles every day, she calculated that she was only about seven hundred miles from Barbados, the nearest of the West Indies. The twin staysails were working again now, and she was creeping along on her course, but the **fatigue** was beginning to tell. She suspected she was suffering from a vitamin **deficiency**, although she had faithfully taken her vitamin tablets. And her mental **depression** was as much concern to her as her physical health. Although she had originally planned to sail a little farther to Antigua, she decided to head for Barbados, the nearest West Indies island.

Sailing through squalls that required her to reef and change sails constantly, usually in the middle of the night, she fought on to the northwest. She passed the sixty-day mark, the maximum time she had calculated for the voyage. Now she must ration both food and water rigidly. To make Felicity Ann steer better, she tried streaming heavy ropes astern, but in the changeable squalls the ropes got tangled up, and she had to pull them into the cockpit and untangle them. This exhausted her even more. And her eyes were getting so swollen that seeing was difficult. Finally, on January 18, weak and dispirited, she made out a faint shape on the horizon, the mountainous outline of Barbados. As she came up on the island, hungry for the sight of houses and green grass, night fell, and she was forced to stand offshore until morning.

<sup>\*</sup>From They Sailed Alone, by MacDonald Harris. Copyright © 1972 by MacDonald Harris. Reprinted by permission of Houghton Mifflin Company.

### MORE Reading Comprehension, Level 2, p. 44

Selection 14—Subject: Philosophy, Logic, and Math

Theme: What Do You Think?

#### SYMBOLIC LOGIC

ABOUT THE PASSAGE

The following problem is given again at the end of this passage. Compare the answer you give now to the answer you give after reading the selection.

**Hypothesis: Premise** 1 — All sardines are fish. Premise 2 — All fish can swim.

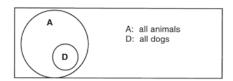
Conclusion: All

REASON FOR READING

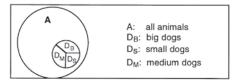
To see if you can follow the explanation in order to solve a particular type of problem.

#### READ THE PASSAGE

Suppose we want to express the idea that all dogs are animals. If we let D represent the set of all dogs and A represent the set that contains all animals, then set A contains set D; that is, set D is a proper subset of A. We can illustrate this concept by using a Venn diagram. In the Venn diagram below, we have drawn a smaller circle to represent D, the set of dogs, inside the larger circle A, the set of all animals. The diagram shows that every dog is an animal.

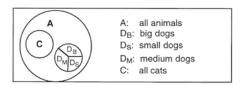


We could also divide the set D into three subsets: the set of big dogs, the set of medium dogs, and the set of small dogs. We would then **modify** our diagram to include this information (See Diagram 2).



The way the smaller circle is subdivided to include the whole area of D indicates not only that

all dogs are animals, but that there is no dog that is not a big dog, a medium dog, or a small dog.



To our previous example we have added set C, the set of all cats (See Diagram 3). The nonoverlapping circles C and D illustrate the fact that although all cats are animals and all dogs are animals, no cat is a dog and vice versa.

Sets C and D are examples of **disjointed** sets because they have no elements in common. In Venn diagrams, such sets are represented by two nonoverlapping circles or closed areas. Such illustrations represent the idea of "no" or "none" in symbolic logic.

Venn diagrams can also be used to represent the concept of "some." Diagram 3 shows that the set of animals includes animals that are cats and animals that are not cats (for instance, dogs). Therefore, the diagram illustrates the premise that some animals are cats and some aren't. It is important to note that in mathematical logic, the term *some* means one or more, and hence, could conceivably mean *all*. So we could conclude that *some* cats are animals, although it's more precise to state that *all* cats are animals.

### MORE Reading Comprehension, Level 4, p. 8

Selection 3—Subject: Combined Subjects Theme: Transportation

#### THE POWERFUL RIVER\*

ABOUT THE PASSAGE

One of the most efficient transportation systems in the world is very close to home—inside of us. It is our cardiovascular system.

How long does it take for a drop of blood to circulate throughout your body?

- (a) About a second
- (c) About a minute
- (b) About 30 seconds
- (d) About 5 minutes

REASON FOR READING

To practice reading for details and following a logical sequence of events.

#### READ THE PASSAGE

Within the human body flows a river unlike any other earthly river—a crimson stream that courses through every organ, twists past every cell on a journey that stretches sixty thousand miles, enough to circle the planet two and a half times. Earthly rivers refresh the land with water; the body's stream nourishes and cleanses, delivering food and oxygen to every cell, removing waste, regulating the human environment. Earth's rivers flow through inorganic rock and sand; the body's river travels through living tissue. The powerful heart that propels this stream and the vessels that guide it are all alive. The human river can regulate its own **velocity**, its banks widening or narrowing to control the shifting tides. And it can change its own course, instantly channeling its swift currents to meet new demands: swimming or sleeping, contemplating, celebrating, running a race or rocking an infant-each alters the flow of this powerful river.

#### The Life-Giving Loop

Every 60 seconds, 1,440 times a day, our blood cycles through the body; traveling the double loop—from heart through lungs and from heart through body—known as the cardiovascular system. Fresh, oxygenated blood begins its voyage to the body's tissues by bursting from the left side of the heart into the arching aorta, the body's largest artery. Even the average resting heartbeat hurls about two ounces of blood against the aorta walls

with great force. These tidal waves of blood smash against the aorta 70 times a minute, delivering their blows 2–5 billion times during the average life span.

Rigid metal pipes could not withstand this battering for long, but the living tissues of our blood vessels have evolved with just this function. Artery walls have three layers: a smooth inner lining, a thick middle layer of elastic membranes and muscle, and an outer layer of fibrous connective tissue. The aorta's elastic membranes stretch with the impact of each surge of blood; its strong muscle fibers then recoil, channeling the **intermittent** waves into one continuous stream. The resilient muscles also act as a subsidiary pump, propelling blood through our larger arteries at a rate of one foot a second.

As arteries divide and subdivide, the elastic membranes in their walls **diminish**, and the proportion of muscle grows. A single muscle cell may wrap two or three times around each of the smallest arteries, the last short branches of the arterial tree. Rhythmically squeezing and relaxing, these muscled rings force blood into the ten billion capillaries that fan throughout the body.

Most tissues—brain, intestine, heart, blood vessel—are laced with so dense a network of capillaries that no cell lies more than a millionth of an inch from a blood supply. Capillaries, with **gossamer** walls only one cell thick, are so fine that even red cells must bend and twist to squeeze, one at a time,

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