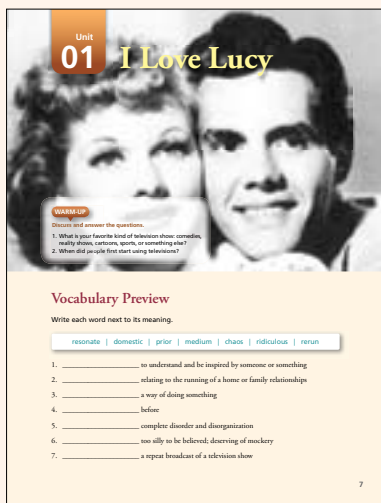


How to Use This Book

Each unit in the *Reading Jump Plus* series includes eight parts. These parts work together to initiate student interest and develop understanding by first getting students thinking about the unit's topic, leading students through a reading passage, then consolidating students' comprehension of the reading passage, having students consider their own experiences and opinions related to the topic, and finally, further exposing students to the key vocabulary learned in each unit. A summary of each section is below.



Warm-Up

Each Warm-Up activity includes two questions aimed at stimulating students' interest about the topic. Sample responses to each Warm-Up question are provided in the answer key.

Vocabulary Preview

This section lists key vocabulary found within the passage. They are level-appropriate and limited, so students encounter mostly known words in each reading passage.

Before You Read

With this short introduction to the topic, students are provided with a means of accessing additional information helpful for the understanding of the reading passage. Each Before You Read section offers more specific details of the topic and gives new opportunities for discussion.

◇ I Love Lucy

Before You Read

I Love Lucy was an iconic television show. It featured a female comedian, Lucille Ball, and her husband in real life, Desi Arnaz. Together, they transformed the television industry. Although their show only lasted a few seasons, the series continues to be enjoyed on television today, providing audiences with endless hours of laughs at the expense of one of the funniest women ever on television.



Television was still a new **medium** when *I Love Lucy* began. Television stations had been showing programs in the United States for only a dozen years before *I Love Lucy* started filming in 1951. Although it was only on the air for six seasons, the show had an impact that **resonates** today.

- Lucille Ball, the show's star, was a pioneer for female comedians. **Prior** to the show's broadcast, physical comedy had only been connected with **great** male film actors. Charlie Chaplin, Laurel and Hardy, and the Marx Brothers all became famous for turning accidental trips and falls into **chaos**. The audience would roar with laughter as these men took physical beatings from animals, people, and other objects. Lucille Ball was one of the first female comedians who allowed herself to be the object of people's laughter. In one famous scene, she is working at a conveyor belt. She is supposed to wrap pieces of chocolate as they go by. The conveyor belt is too fast, however. She stuffs the chocolate in her mouth, in her hat, and in her shirt until she looks **ridiculous**.
- Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz, her husband on the show and in real life, also changed the way that the television business worked. They helped pay for the filming in order to have ownership of the show. Then, companies paid them to show commercials or advertisements during the show. Lucy and her husband soon discovered that there was a lot of money to be made in **reunns**, as they became television's first millionaires. Nowadays, producers know that there is significant money to be made in **reunns** and DVD sales.
- Most significantly, the show provided a blueprint for many television comedies that followed. The show, which was set inside Lucy's home, focused on **domestic** situations and problems. Many of the most popular sitcoms of all time, such as *All in the Family*, *The Cosby Show*, and *The Simpsons*, followed the lead of *I Love Lucy*. The comedic situations in these shows stemmed from the discomforts of domestic life. *I Love Lucy* can honestly be called the mother of all comedy programs.



1. *I Love Lucy* was the first being shown on TV.
2. *I Love Lucy* is a situation comedy.
3. *I Love Lucy* is a situation comedy.

Reading Passage

The Reading Passages in each unit have been structured to present information in a familiar organizational pattern. Suggested time limits have been provided at the end of each passage to help students develop their reading speed. Additionally, audio recordings of the passages are available.

Comprehension Check

The Comprehension Check section includes four multiple choice questions and three open-ended questions. Each question focuses on specific details of the passage to solidify understanding. Answers are provided in the answer key.

Comprehension Check

Choose the best answer.

- What is the main idea of the passage?
 - Women have played important roles in television comedies.
 - The *I Love Lucy* show had a big impact on American television.
 - The business of making television shows has changed a lot over time.
 - The most popular sitcom in history was made by Ball and Arnaz.
- How long was *I Love Lucy* on the air?
 - Six seasons
 - Twelve years
 - Six years
 - Twelve seasons
- What did Lucille Ball do differently than other female comedians?
 - She did jobs at the beginning of the show.
 - She got married.
 - She made a fool of herself in order to make people laugh.
 - She quit stand-up to act in a television series.
- Where was the setting of *I Love Lucy*?
 - In the factory where Lucy worked
 - In Lucy's house
 - On a television set
 - In Desi's office

Answer these questions.

- What does Lucille Ball have in common with Charlie Chaplin?

- Why did Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz help pay for filming the *I Love Lucy* show?

- What are *All in the Family*, *The Cosby Show*, and *The Simpsons* about?

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Think & Write: Outline | [Comprehension Check](#) | [Think & Write](#) | [Vocabulary Practice](#)

Complete the outline.

after the first | domestic comedies | resonates today | millionaires from
was a pioneer | film stars | focusing on

1st Paragraph
 Thesis: The *I Love Lucy* show had an impact that _____

2nd Paragraph
 Main Idea: Lucille Ball _____ comic actors.
 Detail: Ball used physical comedy like male _____

3rd Paragraph
 Main Idea: As a business model, *I Love Lucy* showed that money could be made _____ television of a program.
 Detail: Ball and Arnez became _____ reruns.

4th Paragraph
 Main Idea: Popular US sitcoms today are _____ similar to *I Love Lucy*.
 Detail: Comedies _____ domestic comedies include *All in the Family*, *The Cosby Show*, and *The Simpsons*.

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Think & Write

Each Think & Write activity presents a graphic organizer reflecting key information from the reading passage. With these graphic organizers, students reinforce their comprehension of the unit as well as practice organizing texts. Answers for each activity are provided in the answer key.

Think & Speak

The Think & Speak section provides three questions to allow students to reflect further on the unit's topic. Students are asked to discuss the questions with their peers in order to increase their speaking and conversing skills.

Vocabulary Practice

A variety of activities are recycled throughout the Vocabulary Practice section. Fun puzzles, multiple choice questions, and summary completion activities give students additional exposure to the key vocabulary of each unit.

Think & Speak | [Comprehension Check](#) | [Think & Write](#) | [Vocabulary Practice](#)

Discuss and answer the questions with your friends.

- Can you think of any actresses or actors who use physical comedy?
- Have you ever laughed at someone when they got hurt? What happened to them?
- What is your favorite program these days? Why do you like it?


Vocabulary Practice

Fill in the blanks with the correct words from the box.

bluipert | chaos | domestic | production | medium
pioneer | reruns | resonated | ridiculous | comedy

The *I Love Lucy* show, which was and still is an important show for the _____ of television, started filming in 1951. It immediately _____ with audiences with its familiar _____ situations and family problems that provided the comedy. In addition, Lucille Ball, the show's star, was a _____ of female comedians. She was not afraid to use physical _____ to get laughs. Viewers would roar with laughter when she made herself look _____. The show was not only influential in its focus on the domestic discomforts created by the costume _____ around Lucy. It also influenced the economy of television. The stars paid for the show's _____ for the rights to own the show. Ball and Arnez became millionaires.

Many shows that followed the *I Love Lucy* _____ see similar success. There is a lot of money to be made from DVDs and _____ nowadays.



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