Family Literacy: Community-Based English Tutoring Program
Joint project by San Diego Unified and San Diego Community College District
Ann Gianola, August 1999
Too Tired to do Homework

Jose Martinez is nine years old. He is a fourth grade student at Washington Elementary School. It is 7:00 P.M. and Jose has just finished eating his dinner. His mother is standing at the sink washing the dishes. Jose walks into the living room and turns on the TV. Then he sits down on the sofa and puts his feet up on the coffee table.

“Jose,” his mother calls out from the kitchen. “What are you doing?”

“I’m watching TV,” answers Jose.

“It’s not time to watch TV,” says Jose’s mother. “It’s time to do your homework.”

“But Mom!” cries Jose. “It’s a baseball game between the San Diego Padres and the Los Angeles Dodgers! I need to see what happens.”

“Sorry, but your report on California is what’s happening in this house. Remember the report is due this Friday.”

“That’s right, Mom. It’s due on Friday. Today is only Tuesday. I have a lot of time to finish that report. I’m too tired to do homework tonight.”
Circle Yes or No to the statements about the story.

Yes  No  1. Jose is nine years old.

Yes  No  2. Jose is a fifth grade student at Washington Elementary School.

Yes  No  3. It is 7:00 P.M. and Jose has just finished playing baseball.

Yes  No  4. His mother is putting her feet up on the coffee table.

Yes  No  3. Jose walks into the living room and turns on the TV.

Yes  No  4. Jose is watching a football game on TV.

Yes  No  5. Jose wants to see what is happening.

Yes  No  6. Jose’s report is due on Thursday.

Yes  No  7. The report is on California.

Yes  No  8. Jose says that he is too tired to do homework tonight.
Use the words in the box to label the pictures below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>doing homework</th>
<th>eating</th>
<th>feeling tired</th>
<th>watching</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>playing</td>
<td>sitting</td>
<td>walking</td>
<td>calling out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>playing</td>
<td>sitting</td>
<td>walking</td>
<td>calling out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>playing</td>
<td>sitting</td>
<td>walking</td>
<td>calling out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>playing</td>
<td>sitting</td>
<td>walking</td>
<td>calling out</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

-----------------------Family Literacy: Community-Based English Tutoring Program-----------------------
Joint project by San Diego Unified and San Diego Community College District
Ann Gianola, August 1999
Draw a line between the grade level and the spelling of the correct ordinal number.

1st    fourth
2nd    tenth
3rd    second
4th    twelfth
5th    seventh
6th    first
7th    eleventh
8th    fifth
9th    eighth
10th   third
11th   ninth
12th   sixth

Practice: Is your daughter in the seventh grade?

No, she isn’t. She’s in the sixth grade.

Is your son in the fifth grade?

No he isn’t. He’s in the first grade.
Practice the questions below. Then walk around the class and ask other students these questions. Fill in the grid below with their answers.

1. What is your child’s name?
2. How old is he / she?
3. What grade is he / she in?
4. Where does he / she go to school?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child’s Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jose</td>
<td>nine</td>
<td>fourth</td>
<td>Washington Elementary School</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Practice the days of the week. Copy the days of the week on the lines below.

Sunday ______________________
Monday ______________________
Tuesday ______________________
Wednesday ____________________
Thursday ______________________
Friday ________________________
Saturday ______________________

Read each sentence and fill in the correct number of days.

1. It is Tuesday. Friday is in 3 more days.
2. It is Saturday. Monday is in _____ more days.
3. It is Wednesday. Sunday is in _____ more days.
4. It is Friday. Thursday is in _____ more days.
5. It is Monday. Wednesday is in _____ more days.
6. It is Thursday. Monday is in _____ more days.
Listen to the tape. Circle the word you hear.

1. Monday  Tuesday  Wednesday  Thursday  Friday
2. Monday  Tuesday  Wednesday  Thursday  Friday
3. Monday  Tuesday  Wednesday  Thursday  Friday
4. Monday  Tuesday  Wednesday  Thursday  Friday
5. Monday  Tuesday  Wednesday  Thursday  Friday
6. Monday  Tuesday  Wednesday  Thursday  Friday
7. Monday  Tuesday  Wednesday  Thursday  Friday
8. Monday  Tuesday  Wednesday  Thursday  Friday

Write the time you hear.

1. Your doctor’s appointment is at __________.
2. They usually eat dinner at __________.
3. Does the baseball game start at __________.
4. School ends at __________.
5. The teacher will call you at __________.
6. The meeting has been changed to __________.
7. He’ll pick up the children at __________.
8. She arrives before school at __________.
Find the words from the story that have the same meaning as the definitions below. Then write each word on the correct line. The first one is done for you. Some may have more than one answer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>place to sit in the living room</th>
<th>9.</th>
<th>state</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>sofa</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>female family member</td>
<td>10.</td>
<td>first name for a boy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>evening meal</td>
<td>11.</td>
<td>number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>grade level</td>
<td>12.</td>
<td>baseball team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>day of the week</td>
<td>13.</td>
<td>place in kitchen for washing dishes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>room for making food</td>
<td>14.</td>
<td>time of day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>city</td>
<td>15.</td>
<td>room for watching TV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>homework assignment</td>
<td>16.</td>
<td>place where a family lives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Problem Solving

Jose’s mother wants him to do his homework after dinner. Jose wants to watch a baseball game on TV and complains that he feels too tired to do homework.

What can be done about this problem? Discuss in a group some possible answers.

Questions for discussion

1. Do you have any children in elementary school?
2. What time do your children usually do their homework?
3. Do you need to remind them to do their homework?
4. Do they sometimes make excuses for not doing their homework? What kind of excuses?
5. Do your children like to watch TV?
6. Would you allow your children to complete their homework another time if they wanted to watch a special program on TV?
7. Name some activities that you or other members of your family sometimes feel too tired to do.

Examples: I feel too tired to wash the dishes.
   My son feels too tired to do his homework.
   My daughter feels too tired to finish her assignment.
   My husband feels too tired to cook dinner.
Following Steps of Good Homework Habits

1. Does Jose’s mother say that homework is important? Yes  No

2. Does she tell Jose to begin his homework after dinner? Yes  No

3. Is there a place for Jose to do his homework? Yes  No

4. Does Jose’s mother have homework supplies available? Yes  No

5. Does she check to see that Jose is doing his homework? Yes  No

6. Does she turn off the baseball game on TV? Yes  No

7. Does she encourage Jose as he works? Yes  No

8. Does she promise a reward when he finishes? Yes  No