

1. To many forest ecologists, manipulating fuel loads--whether by thinning, prescribed burning or a combination of the two--constitutes the best strategy we have for ensuring that the ponderosa pine forests of the present survive into the future. And the good news, says Mark Finney, a researcher with the U.S. Forest Service's Fire Sciences Laboratory in Missoula, Mont., is that it's probably not going to be necessary to thin or prescribe-burn every acre of forest at risk. According to mathematical models that Finney has developed, reducing fuels in a strategic pattern across a more manageable 20% of the landscape may well be sufficient.

From J. Madeleine Nash, "Fireproofing The Forests," Time (18 August 2003): 52.

2. There's no question that e-stocks have benefited from momentum trading and sector rotation. But analysts say that this time things are different. They point out that Internet use increased throughout the downturn and that online sales, while still only about 4% of all U.S. retail sales, have been growing steadily. Excluding auctions, online consumer sales in the first half of this year reached \$ 42.4 billion, up from \$ 24 billion in the first half of 2001, according to comScore Networks. Online advertising has also rebounded, particularly in the form of paid search listings. All that development has helped bring about the biggest change analysts and portfolio managers latch on to--the rate at which Internet companies are generating actual profits and free cash flow. "At least you can have a rational discussion about what they're really worth instead of 'price to click' and all sorts of other weird made-up metrics," says Kevin Landis, chief investment officer of Firsthand Funds. "They've got real earnings, and they've demonstrated they're not just some crazy, nutty idea." And without an equity market ready to be tapped for easy financing, companies have had to slash costs and focus more on their balance sheets.

From Yuval Rosenberg, "E-Stocks Rise Again," Fortune (1 September 2003): 163.

3. The illness [Lyme disease] is also the subject of a growing debate. While most doctors believe that *Borrelia burgdorferi*, the tick-borne spirochete that causes Lyme, is quickly killed by medication, many patients complain of arthritis, irregular heartbeat, memory loss and motor-skill problems long after they have undergone the standard two-to-four-week treatment regimen. That has led some researchers to conclude that Lyme can return as a chronic illness in perhaps 10 percent of those thought to be cured. "Lyme is much more serious than the public recognizes," says Dr. Brian Fallon, director of Columbia University's Lyme Disease Research Center. "People can have severe cognitive problems for the rest of their lives." The medical establishment, however, remains unconvinced, and a few doctors have been penalized for their treatment of recurrent Lyme. Pat Smith, head of the Lyme Disease Association, a nonprofit group calling for greater research on the disease, thinks pressure not to recognize the chronic form comes from insurance companies: "They don't want to pay."

From J.D. Heyman, "Hidden Plague," People (16 June 2003): 123.

4. As the Tour [de France] moved into Week 2 and [Lance] Armstrong's customary showplace, the Alps, he seemed off his game. He had been lucky to escape relatively unscathed from the mass crash near the finish of stage 1 that sent a few riders home and left Armstrong's former U.S. Postal Service teammate Tyler Hamilton, the leader of Team CSC, with a fractured right collarbone. Armstrong was also feeling the effects of a virus he had caught from his three-year-old son, Luke. Even in the smaller climbs the peloton could sense something different about Armstrong. He didn't have the same acceleration, the same quick cadence he usually does, and the heat was bothering him. "Everyone could see he had weaknesses," said David Millar, a Brit who rides for Cofidis. "He was tired. He was having to push himself, which was maybe not a new experience for Lance, but was a new experience for the rest of us to see. It gave everyone hope."

From Kelli Anderson, "Tour de Lance," Sports Illustrated (4 August 2003): 50.

Below are just that: suggestions. There are many possible ways to paraphrase each excerpt. You may have chosen to emphasize different pieces of the original ~ that's fine. As long as your paraphrase completely rewords the original text, you can focus on any part of the original you wish.

1. Forest ecologists, including Mark Finney of the U.S. Forest Service, believe that the nation's forests can be best maintained and protected by using strategic thinning and planned burning. In fact, Finney's computer models indicate that ponderosa pine forests can be preserved through minimal intervention in the forested terrain. A strategic plan that targets only 20% of the forest may sufficiently control overgrowth. (Nash 52).

2. Stocks for Internet companies have rebounded despite an economic downturn, in part because of increased online consumer spending and online advertising. More importantly, Internet companies are finally showing measurable profits. Kevin Landis, CIO of Firsthand Funds, notes, significantly, that these profits conform to traditional accounting standards, rather than the "weird made-up metrics" that characterized the previous Internet boom. The growing profit margins stem partly from increased sales and paid advertising, but also derive from more effective resource management. (Rosenberg 163).

3. Though most Lyme disease patients recover fully after treatment, doctors have noticed that approximately 10 percent continue to suffer cognitive or neurological problems. Dr. Brian Fallon of the Lyme Disease Research Center at Columbia University warns that the long-term effects of so-called "recurrent" Lyme disease may continue for the rest of a patient's life. Generally speaking, however, the chronic form of Lyme disease receives little research attention or physician acceptance. The Lyme Disease Association, run by Pat Smith, has suggested that cost-conscious insurance companies are responsible for the lack of attention (Heyman 123).

4. Lance Armstrong struggled uncharacteristically in the second stage of the grueling Tour de France. Though he fortunately managed to avoid serious injury in a large collision early on, he suffered lingering effects from a viral infection. His exhaustion was visible to other riders, who noticed that his pacing and speed seemed unusually vulnerable and dared to cultivate their own Tour hopes (Anderson 50).

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http://www.examenglish.com/FCE/fce_use_of_english_part1.htm

http://www.itests.com/web/main/external/en/placement_test.html