Unit 1 – We’ve Got Talent

capable  disclose  extraordinary  invisible  master  practice
develop  extraordinary  manufacture  mature  variety

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1A Introduction

Ever wish you had a superpower or an amazing talent? What would it be? The rapper in this song talks about all the different kids in his class. Let’s just say they have some very special talents.

1B Song Lyrics

Yeah. We’ve got talent. So much talent...

Now I don’t know why, but, um, this year, Every kid in my class is, like, kind of weird. Each one is extraordinary, one of a kind, And when we show our talents, we’ll be blowing your mind. First up, there’s a girl named Fanisha W, She can make her tongue look like a W. She said it took a lot of practice, again and again, She did the same thing, and I’d give it a “10.” Now I must disclose and tell you a secret, That Peter Secrist has a nose that he can eat with. He can put his nose in a cup of juice, And slurp it up quick, like it was nothing new. Now Kato is capable and able to cut through a table, Using nothing more than his pinkie. He goes, “Hi-ya!” and the table’s in half, He’s like a ninja, yeah, but he’s only eight and a half. Casper is one of the best, a master at talking, But not to humans; no, he’s squawking. He talks to birds, chats with the pigeons, Like, “Hdroo-hdroo,” so with the pigeons he’s chilling.

We’re extraordinary...
We’ve got talent, uh-huh!
(x4)
Now our teacher, Ms. Leemer, likes to be sure
That we don’t show off too much.
But I’ve seen her turn into a lizard. “A lizard?”
Yes, I swear she’s some kind of witch or wizard.
Murs acts like an adult, real mature,
But he’s the youngest guy in our grade for sure.
He’s developed and brought about a new machine,
It makes and manufactures a super bean.
If you eat this bean you disappear,
I mean you’re invisible; no one can see you there.
So you can wander through the town like a ghost,
Stealing licks off of other people’s ice cream cones.
Liz wrote a whole book in the fourth grade,
It became a best seller by the fourth day.
Don’t forget Jorge, who built a whole horse,
Out of forks and spoons and some knives, of course.
We have a variety of talents, a whole bunch,
And none are the same; they’re all different ones.
So, yeah, we’ve got talent and it’s really ill,
But, hey, you never know someone’s hidden skills.

Hook

1C Words Defined

capable
(adj) Able to do things well; skilled. The teacher asked for someone capable of leading the class while she was gone for 10 minutes.

develop
(verb) To go through a process of growth. As Marley got older, she developed a taste for spinach.

disclose
(verb) To make known. The cop said he would never disclose the name of the undercover agent who had helped him arrest the gang.

extraordinary
(adj) More than what is normal or regular; amazing. You might be good at playing the piano, but this one dude named Mozart was extraordinary.
invisible

(adj) Unable to be seen. Nate heard that rubbing pickle juice all over your body would make you invisible, but he didn’t want to try it.

manufacture

(verb) To make something, often using a machine; to make up. The rubber taco factory manufactures rubber tacos in three different sizes.

master

(noun) A person who has power over something; or someone who is very skilled. Frida was a master at painting, which is why she is so famous.

(adj) Main; most important; or being like a master. A master CD is the high-quality disk you make copies from.

mature

(adj) Fully grown, or behaving like an adult. Kiki is the opposite of mature: She acts like a baby all the time.

(verb) To become fully grown or developed. A little sapling will one day mature into a giant tree.

practice

(verb) To say or do over and over in order to get better at something. Sean practiced rhyming every day in the hopes of someday becoming a great rapper.

(noun) An event where you do something again and again to get better at it. I love playing in baseball games, but I hate baseball practice.

variety

(noun) 1. A number of different forms or types. Even though all the kids at her school liked basketball, Kasia knew she had a variety of choices for what sport to play. 2. Change; lack of sameness. I don’t want to live the same life every day—I need variety.

1D Synonyms

Circle the word on the right that matches the meaning of the word or phrase on the left.

1. not able to be seen  | extraordinary  | invisible  | capable  
2. to age  | mature  | capable  | practice  
3. incredible  | invisible  | extraordinary  | manufactured  
4. to work at something  | practice  | disclose  | mature  
5. different types  | variety  | master  | disclosed  

variety
1E Fill in the Blank
Write the word in the blank so that the sentence makes sense.

1. Mr. Johnson works at a shop where he _____________ sneakers.
   masters manufactures discloses

2. Marco has taken guitar lessons for years, so he is now a(n) _____________ guitarist.
   mature invisible capable

3. My dad knows a wide _____________ of boring facts about peanuts.
   practice master variety

4. Sarah has _____________ into a very nice young woman.
   manufactured practiced matured

5. I will tell you a secret if you promise to not _____________ that I told you.
   mature disclose develop

1F Connections
Each sentence or group of sentences has a strong connection with one of the words from the unit. Write the correct word on the line below.

1. I can't believe Judy owns a real, live unicorn! That's amazing!
   _______________________________________________________________________________________

2. You must play your violin often if you hope to get better.
   _______________________________________________________________________________________

3. I have to tell you what I know about the robbery.
   _______________________________________________________________________________________

4. My mom makes buttons using a machine she bought on the Internet.
   _______________________________________________________________________________________

5. All tadpoles turn into frogs.
   _______________________________________________________________________________________
1G Applying Meanings
Circle the letter that makes sense or answers the question.

1. If Ramon is capable of tying his shoes, that means he
(A) has never tied his shoes
(B) knows how to tie his shoes
(C) is afraid of tying his shoes
(D) is bad at tying his shoes

2. Which would be the best way to develop an interest in music?
(A) Stop thinking about music.
(B) Sing the same song over and over again.
(C) Listen to a lot of music.
(D) Watch a lot of movies.

3. Which is a mature animal?
(A) rooster
(B) kitten
(C) cub
(D) chick

4. A TV program called a variety show would probably
(A) be all about one family
(B) have many different kinds of entertainment
(C) have a lot of car chases
(D) be only for adults

5. Who would be the most extraordinary neighbor to have?
(A) an old woman who doesn’t like children
(B) a boy who sits next to you in school
(C) an alien who comes from the planet Mars
(D) a couple who owns a friendly puppy

1H Reading
Read the passage below and then answer the questions that follow.

Now You See Me, Now You Don’t

Have you ever wished you could be invisible? Believe it or not, it might be possible soon! Scientists are working on many extraordinary projects right now. They are hoping to discover the secret to invisibility.

In 2007, a man named Professor Tachi in Tokyo developed a remarkable coat. Have you ever seen someone walk in front of a movie projector? When that happens, the movie is projected onto
that person's body. The professor's coat uses this idea to make people invisible.

The coat is made of a shiny material—just like the material on a movie screen. A video camera shoots everything behind the wearer. Then, the video is projected on the coat. When you look at the wearer from the front, it looks like he is invisible!

There are a few problems with Professor Tachi's coat. For one thing, it only works if people are looking at the wearer from the front. The coat is not capable of making someone appear invisible from different sides. For another thing, it does not work very well if the person and the background are moving.

Scientists at Duke University are working on another kind of invisibility coat. These scientists are using light to trick the eye. The reason why we see things is because of light. Think of what it is like to be in a room with no light. It is impossible to see anything!

The coat being made at Duke would make the wearer completely dark. People would look at the person in the cloak and they would not see anything, just like we can't see anything in a dark room.

To understand how it works, think about a large rock in a stream. The water goes around the rock but does not go through the rock. Light would go around the wearer of the coat, just like water goes around a rock in a stream. This would trick the eye into thinking the wearer was invisible.

With a little work, the scientists are hopeful that they can master the art of turning objects invisible. Sometime soon, you may be able to throw on your invisibility cloak and disappear...just like Harry Potter!

1. Where are two places that people are working on invisibility?
____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

2. What is the material like on Professor Tachi's coat?
____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

3. What are some of the problems with Professor Tachi's coat?
____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

4. What can you see in a room with no light?
____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

5. Why does the author compare the Duke University coat to water in a stream?
____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
**ACROSS**

1. I have _______ a big appetite because I didn't eat all day-I'm so hungry!
2. My younger sister is very _______ for her age. Most people think she is much older.
3. To make something using a machine.
4. The chef will never _______ his secret to making delicious pies.
5. Change.
6. Able to do something.

**DOWN**

2. My dog can do an _______ trick where he spins on his back while barking "I love you!"
3. Marvin and I must _______ our song so we can win the talent contest.
4. Joseph is so short; he feels _______ on the basketball court because the other kids never throw him the ball.
5. Bryan is a _______ at doing yo-yo tricks.