



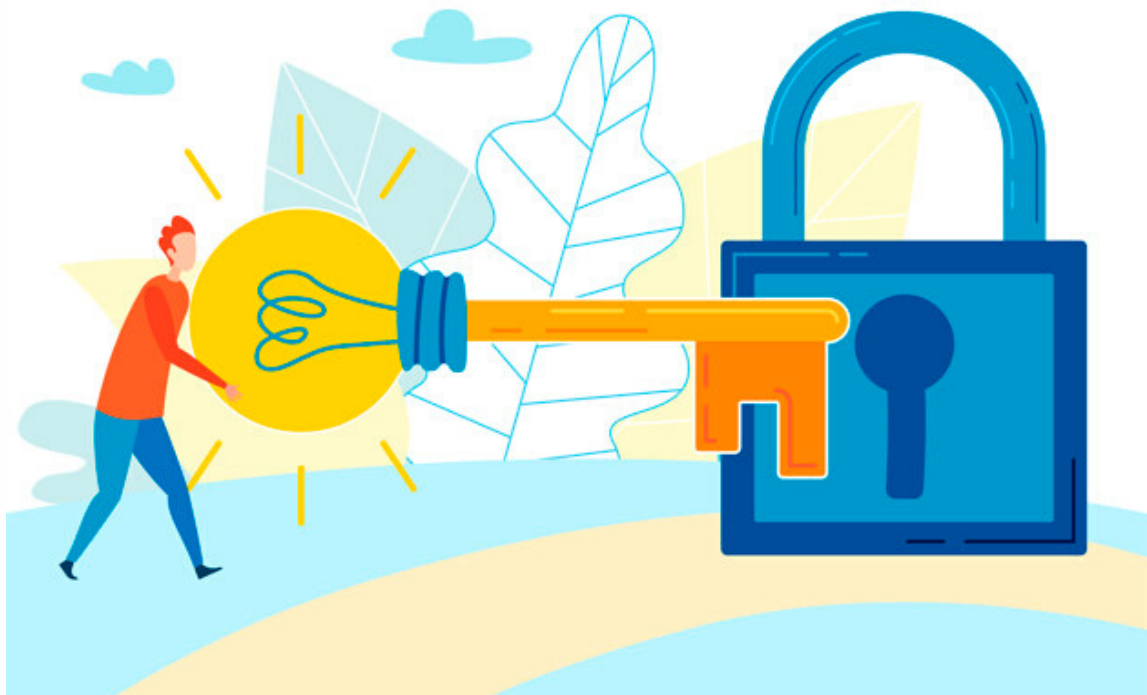
TEACHER
CREATED RESOURCES

Critical Thinking Reading Comprehension

Grade 4

READING COMPREHENSION

Teacher Created Resources



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Read the following passage and answer the questions :

Today, Mike and his mom are going to the library. Mike wants to find a book to read. His mom wants to use a computer there.

When they get to the library, Mike finds a book about detectives. He also finds a book with chapters about a friendly ghost. Finally, he finds a book about a man who lives in the woods without food or water. He puts the books on the front desk and waits for his mom.

Mike's mom sits at one of the computers in the library. She checks her email and looks at pictures of flowers on the internet. Then she reads a news article on a website.

Mike's mom leaves the computer and walks over to Mike, holding up something out for him. Mike looks at her quizzically. It takes him a moment to recognize what she is holding. "I got that movie for us to watch tonight," says Mike's mom. "Are you ready to leave?"

"Sure," Mike says, now holding the movie out in front of him. He reads the cover while walking back to the library entrance. He puts his books and the movie on the front desk to check out. A librarian stands behind the counter holding an electronic scanner. "How long can we keep them?" Mike asks her.

"Three weeks," says the librarian. "Cool," says Mike. Suddenly, Mike is surprised. His mother is checking out something else that is too big to put on the desk. It's a picture of the ocean. "What is that for?" Mike asks. "To put on our wall at home," says Mike's mom.

"You can do that?" Mike asks. Mike's mom smiles at the librarian. "Yes," she says, "but we have to return it in three months."



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Questions :



- 1) Based on the books Mike finds to check out, we can tell that he is interested in
A. science
B. nature
C. mystery
D. adventure
- 2) As used in paragraph 5, the phrase "check out" most nearly means
A. to see
B. to rent
C. to find
D. to buy
- 3) What does Mike's mom want to do with the picture of the ocean?
A. She wants to buy it.
B. She wants to hang it on her wall.
C. She wants to give it to her friend as a gift.
D. She wants to donate it to the library
- 4) Which of the following would be the best title for this passage?
A. Mike's Mom
B. A Picture of the Ocean
C. At the Library
D. Books, Computers, Movies, and Pictures
- 5) According to the passage, how long can Mike and his mother use the books and the movie before they must return them to the library?
A. one week
B. two weeks
C. three weeks
D. four weeks
- 6) Which of the following would be the best title for this passage?
A. Mike's Mom
B. A Picture of the Ocean
C. At the Library
D. Books, Computers, Movies, and Pictures



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Read the following passage and answer the questions :



Next week I am on vacation. While I am on vacation, I will work on two projects. First, I will fix the washing machine. The washing machine has been broken for two weeks. To fix it, I will need three tools: a screwdriver, a wrench, and a clamp. It will take one day to fix the washing machine.

Next, I will fix our back porch. This is a bigger project. It will probably take about two days to fix the back porch, and will require a screwdriver, a hammer, nails, and a saw. My vacation starts on Monday. I have a lot of work to do, but hopefully I can relax after I finish my work

Questions :

- 1) Which of these tools will the author use more than once?
 - A. a screwdriver
 - B. a hammer
 - C. a clamp
 - D. a saw
- 2) The author of this passage can best be described as
 - A. interesting
 - B. lazy
 - C. constructive
 - D. intelligent
- 3) As used in paragraph 2, what does require mean?
 - A. need
 - B. use
 - C. find
 - D. buy
- 4) What is the earliest day that the author can finish both projects?
 - A. Monday
 - B. Wednesday
 - C. Thursday
 - D. Friday



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Read the following passage and answer the questions :

Most human beings are awake during the day and sleep all night. Owls live the opposite way. Owls are nocturnal. This means that they sleep all day and stay awake at night. Because owls are nocturnal, this means they must eat at night. But finding food in the dark is difficult. To help them, they have special eyes and ears.

Owls have very large eyes. These eyes absorb more light than normal. Since there is little light during the night, it is helpful to be able to absorb more of it. This helps owls find food in the dark.

Owls also have very good hearing. Even when owls are in the trees, they can hear small animals moving in the grass below. This helps owls catch their prey even when it is very dark.

Like owls, mice are also nocturnal animals. Mice have an excellent sense of smell. This helps them find food in the dark. Being nocturnal helps mice to hide from the many different animals that want to eat them. Most of the birds, snakes, and lizards that like to eat mice sleep at night—except, of course, owls!

Questions :



1) In paragraph 1, we learn that "Owls are nocturnal." The word diurnal is the opposite of the word nocturnal. Using information in the passage as a guide, we can understand that an animal that is diurnal

- A. sleeps at night and is awake during the day
- B. hunts during the day and is awake at night
- C. sleeps every other night and is awake during the day
- D. hunts during the day and night

Questions :



2) Based on information in paragraph 2, it can be understood that an animal with small eyes

- A. must be diurnal
- B. has trouble seeing in the dark
- C. can see very well at night
- D. is likely to be eaten by an owl

3) In paragraph 3 the author writes, "This helps owls catch their prey even when it is very dark."

Based on its use in the passage, we can understand that prey is

- A. a noise that an animal makes during the night
- B. a small animal such as a pet dog or cat
- C. an animal that is hunted by other animals
- D. an animals that hunts other animals

4) Based on information in the final paragraph, it can be understood that mice sleep during the day in order to

- A. find food that other animals can not
- B. keep themselves safe
- C. store energy for night time activities
- D. release stress

5) Based on information in the final paragraph, it can be understood that

- A. owls hunt mice
- B. mice can hide from owls
- C. mice and owls both hide from birds, snakes, and lizards
- D. birds and snakes often hunt lizards



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Read the following passage and answer the questions :



Lilly loves her new town. She loves the mall. She loves the parks. She also loves her school. Most of all, though, Lilly loves the seasons. In her old town, it was hot all of the time. Sometimes it is cold in Lilly's new town. The cold season is in winter. Once in a while it snows. Lilly has never seen snow before. So for her, the snow is exciting as well as very beautiful. Lilly has to wear gloves to keep her hands warm. She also wears a scarf around her neck.

In spring, flowers bloom and the trees turn green with new leaves. Pollen falls on the cars and windowsills and makes Lilly sneeze. People work in their yards and mow their grass.

In summer, Lilly wears her old shorts and sandals—the same ones she used to wear in her old town. It's hot outside, and dogs lie in the shade. Lilly and her friends go to a pool or play in the water sprinkler. Her father cooks hamburgers on the grill for dinner.

Lilly's favorite season is autumn. In autumn, the leaves on the trees turn yellow, gold, red, and orange. Halloween comes in autumn, and this is Lilly's favorite holiday. Every Halloween, Lilly wears a costume. Last year she wore a mouse costume. This year she will wear a fish costume.

One evening in autumn, Lilly and her mom are sitting together on the porch. Mom tells Lilly that autumn is also called "fall". This is a good idea, Lilly thinks, because in fall all of the leaves fall down from the trees.



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Questions :

1) Which of the following words best describes the way Lilly feels about living in her new town?

- A. skeptical, meaning questioning or showing doubt
- B. apprehensive, meaning anxious or worried
- C. overjoyed, meaning extremely happy
- D. content, meaning satisfied with what one is or has

2) What is Lilly's favorite thing about her new town?

- A. her school
- B. going to the pool
- C. the food
- D. the seasons

3) This passage is mainly about

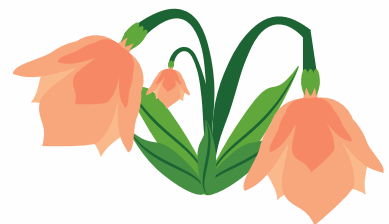
- A. Lilly's favorite season
- B. Lilly and the four seasons
- C. Lilly's favorite activities during winter
- D. Lilly's favorite Halloween costumes

4) In paragraph 2 the author writes, "She also wears a scarf around her neck." What is the best way to rewrite this sentence while keeping its original meaning?

- A. In addition, she wears a scarf around her neck.
- B. However, she wears a scarf around her neck.
- C. Nevertheless, she wears a scarf around her neck.
- D. As a result, she wears a scarf around her neck.

5) Based on information in paragraph 5, which of the following costumes is Lilly most likely to wear next year?

- A. a princess costume
- B. a fairy costume
- C. a ghost costume
- D. a bird costume



Read the following passage and answer the questions :



The living room does not look good. It looks bad without a carpet. Mary and Dan want to buy a carpet. They want to buy a carpet for their living room.

They go to the store. They look at the carpets. There are many colors. There are many sizes. Some have patterns. Some are plain.

Mary likes a pink and purple carpet. It has dots. It has pink and purple dots. Dan says no! He does not like the colors. He does not like the pattern. He does not like the size. The pink and purple carpet is too big.

Dan likes a green and red carpet. It has stripes. It has green and red stripes. Mary says no! She does not like the colors. She does not like the pattern. She does not like the size. The green and red carpet is too small.

Mary and Dan see a tan carpet. It does not have dots. It does not have stripes. It is plain. It is tan and plain. Dan likes the tan carpet. Mary likes the tan carpet. They both like the color. They both like the size. They both say yes!

Mary and Dan buy the tan carpet. They put the carpet in the living room. The living room looks wonderful with the new carpet.



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Questions :



1) According to the passage, Mary and Dan want to put the new carpet in their

- A. bedroom
- B. dining room
- C. living room
- D. bathroom

2) According to the passage, the pink and purple carpet

- A. has dots
- B. has stripes
- C. is too small
- D. is too plain

3) According to the passage, the green and red carpet

- A. is plain
- B. has dots
- C. is too big
- D. is too small

4) According to the passage, both Mary and Dan like the

- A. pink and purple carpet
- B. green and red carpet
- C. tan carpet
- D. blue carpet

5) Mary and Dan do not see a

- A. black and blue carpet
- B. pink and purple carpet
- C. tan carpet
- D. green and red carpet

6) According to the passage, Mary and Dan see a

- I. dotted carpet
- II. striped carpet
- III. plain carpet
- A. I only
- B. I and II only
- C. II and III only
- D. I, II, and III

7) Based on information in the passage, it can be understood that both Mary and Dan would like which of the following carpets best?

- A. a grey carpet with no dots or stripes
- B. a pink and yellow carpet with dots
- C. a blue and green carpet with stripes
- D. a black and white carpet with both dots and stripes