



מקיף ה' אשדוד  
בי"ס על-יסודי ומכללה לטכנאים ולהנדסאים

REVIEW BEFORE 1<sup>ST</sup> TEST

8<sup>th</sup> grade

Reading Comprehension

**SURPRISES IN THE WEATHER**

**1** The weather is full of surprises, and people aren't always ready for them. Read these true stories about unusual weather around the world.

**2** In Europe, spring arrives in April, and the weather usually starts to get warmer. But in April, 2017, winter suddenly returned! Storm Stella hit several countries – Slovakia, Germany, Poland and Romania. The temperatures were extremely cold, and there was heavy snow. Many people couldn't heat their homes because of power cuts. Also, there were many accidents on the road because of the ice. Luckily, the storm didn't last long, and spring finally arrived.

**3** In 2014, the Winter Olympic Games were held in Sochi, a city on the Black Sea in Russia. Before the Olympics started, the organizers<sup>1</sup> had a big problem. They didn't know if there would be enough snow for skiing and snowboarding. In fact, the Winter Olympic Games were in danger of not starting on time. The organizers needed a way to get more snow to the city, so they moved 400,000 tons of snow from the mountains. They also used special machines<sup>2</sup> to make artificial<sup>3</sup> snow. These solutions cost a lot of money, but there was plenty of snow. Everyone was happy when the Winter Olympic Games started on time.

**4** In 2009, China was suffering from a bad drought<sup>4</sup>. The farmers had a big problem because their fields were dry. Suddenly, on November 2, people woke up to see snow on the ground. They were very surprised because it doesn't usually snow in China at that time of year. Where did the snow come from? Scientists used chemicals<sup>5</sup> to create snow. The farmers were excited because they could melt the snow and use it to water their fields.

<sup>1</sup> organizers מארגנים

<sup>2</sup> machines מכונות

<sup>3</sup> artificial מלאכותי

<sup>4</sup> drought בצורת

<sup>5</sup> chemicals כימיקלים



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**Answer the questions about the article.**

1. What was the name of the storm that hit parts of Europe?

(paragraph 2)

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2. During the storm, people were cold in their homes because ... .

(paragraph 2)

- a. there were many accidents on the road
- b. there were power cuts
- c. they couldn't pay for electricity
- d. spring arrived

3. What problem did the organizers have before the Winter Olympic Games began in 2014? (paragraph 3)
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4. Complete the sentences.

What TWO solutions for the Winter Olympic Games cost the organizers a lot of money? (paragraph 3)

- a. They \_\_\_\_\_
- b. They \_\_\_\_\_



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5. Why were people in China surprised by the weather on November 2, 2009? (paragraph 4)

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6. Complete the sentence according to paragraph 4.

Farmers were happy to see snow because \_\_\_\_\_

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7. Another title for this article could be ... .

- a. Creating Snow
- b. Not Enough Snow
- c. Winter Weather Problems
- d. Too Much Snow



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## Vocabulary

### **A Circle the correct answer.**

1. How many ... medals did Israel win at the Olympic Games?  
a. sleepy                      b. gold                      c. grown-up
2. Alice always ... about the weather.  
a. complains                b. takes off                c. holds
3. Because I studied, I feel ... for the English test tomorrow.  
a. on time                      b. prepared                c. for sure
4. Not a lot of Israeli children ... in winter sports because there isn't snow in most areas of Israel.  
a. participate                b. complain                c. hunt
5. What are the ... of the zoo?  
a. opening hours            b. cubs                      c. males
6. Thanks to the firefighters, many people ... the terrible fire.  
a. turned around            b. guessed                c. survived
7. My mother keeps our old toys in the ... of our house.  
a. basement                b. paws                      c. shape
8. There was a ... , so we didn't have any electricity.  
a. performance            b. power cut                c. polar bear
9. The teacher said, "Let's get started ... !"  
a. right away                b. all along                c. out of the question
10. We went camping on the ... .  
a. tail                          b. weekend                      c. beginner





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**B Complete the sentences with the words below.**

won	international	huge	coast	afford
holiday	hardly	similar	canceled	price

1. David's house has seven bedrooms. It is .....
2. Mike's bicycle is very old, but he can't ..... to buy a new one.
3. After months of hard work, Jane ..... the competition.
4. Pete's bag is ..... to Mandy's bag because they are both big and blue.
5. The dance teacher ..... her 5 o'clock class because she was sick.
6. We visited my grandmother. She lives on the west ..... of England.
7. Could you tell me the ..... of these jeans?
8. He stayed at his uncle's house over the .....
9. The Olympics is an ..... sports competition.
10. There were ..... any people in the stadium. It was almost empty.



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**Writing**

**A Complete the sentences with *and*, *but* or *because*.**

1. The plane couldn't take off ..... it was snowing.
2. The tickets cost the same for adults ..... children.
3. I tried to call Edna, ..... she didn't answer the phone.

**B Describe a special day that you spent with friends or family.  
Write 50 words or more. Use the questions below to help you.**

Where did you go?

Who did you go with?

What did you do first?

What did you do next?

How did you feel?

Remember to:

- begin with a topic sentence
- describe the facts
- express your feelings

(Use expressions such as *I think*, *I feel that*)



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**GOOD LUCK!**

