



Star Kids DLC

Power Reading

Grade 4

Name: _____

Date: _____ Score: _____

I. Fiction Reading Test

Jacob and the Javelin

Jacob was an excellent athlete. Ever since he could remember, he excelled at any sport that he put his mind to. Jacob was an all star on both the cross country and track teams. As he progressed, he dreamed of competing in the field events. For years Jacob was in awe of the Javelin throwers at the High School. The way that Javelin just screamed through the air as travelled to its destination fascinated young Jacob. Jacob couldn't wait to learn for Matt Stevenson. Matt was the Javelin State record holder last year and the Captain of the High School team. Jacob had never even touch a Javelin before, but at the first field practice he got his chance. Coach Hilbert was assigning field events. When he asked for volunteers for the Javelin, just about everyone had their hand up. Jacob needed to make sure he got the coaches' attention. He acted quickly and tapped the coach on the shoulder. Coach looked at Jacob. Jacob immediately did a back flip, while saying, "My name is Jacob and I am head over heels for the Javelin coach!" Coach Hilbert was stunned and belted out, "If you put half as much effort into the Javelin, Matt may have some competition this year! You got it Jacob!" Jacob quickly made a name for himself. The older boys gave him the nickname "Flip". Raymond, the champion hurdler, pulled Jacob aside and explained that getting a nickname is a true honor. Raymond's nickname was "Ups", because he jumps so high during the hurdle events. Matt was the first to test out Flip's Javelin skills. "Hey, Mr. Flip do you mind showing us a quick throw? " "No problem at all!", Jacob replied. Jacob grabbed the longest Javelin he could find and made his way down the runway. He launched the Javelin further than anyone, even Matt, had ever seen. The entire track erupted in cheers! That very moment everyone knew they were watching something special. Once the place calmed down, Matt suddenly realized something! "Great throw Flip! One problem though... It didn't count! You passed the foul line by a clear foot." Matt quickly convinced Jacob to give it another try. This time all that Jacob thought about was the foul line. When he released the Javelin, he quickly realized it was half of the distance of his first throw. He tried all day, but couldn't come close to that first throw. At the end of practice Jacob came to his sense and realized that he had a hard road of practice in his future.

- 1. Who was awarded the nickname "Flip"?**
a. Matt b. Coach Hilbert c. Jacob d. a random track tumbler

- 2. What track and field event is Raymond best known for?**
a. javelin b. hammer throw c. high jump d. hurdles

- 3. Who once was a State champion javelin thrower?**
a. Jacob b. Matt c. Coach Hilbert d. Raymond

- 4. What important trait did the Javelin that Jacob used on his first throw have?**

- 5. What will Jacob need to do in order to become an elite Javelin thrower? Explain.**

B. Literary Elements Questions

Directions: After reading the story, choose the best answer for each question. Click the box of the correct answer.

- 1. Which character trait *best* describes Jacob in regards to sports?**
a. Excellent b. Impulsive c. memorable d. smart

- 2. In what genre is this story?**
a. Realistic Fiction b. Nonfiction c. Folklore d. Poetry

- 3. Which poetic technique is used in the following line: "My name is Jacob and I am head over heels for the Javelin coach!"?**
a. Idiom b. Simile c. Personification d. Hyperbole

II. Nonfiction Reading Test

TV

Directions: Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow. Refer to the text to check your answers when appropriate. Click the box of the correct answer.

Televisions show sounds and pictures. They get data from cables, discs, or over-the-air signals. They turn this data into sounds and images. People watch news and shows on them. You probably call them TVs.

John Baird made the first TV in 1925. It had one color. It could only show 30 lines. This was just enough room for a face. It didn't work well, but it was a start.

The first TV station was set up in 1928. It was in New York. Few people had TVs. The broadcasts were not meant to be watched. They showed a Felix the Cat doll for two hours a day. The doll spun around on a record player. They were experimenting. It took many years to get it right.

By the end of the 1930s, TVs were working well. America got its first taste at the 1939 World's Fair. This was one of the biggest events ever. There were 200 small, black and white TVs set up around the fair. The U.S. President gave a speech over the TVs. The TVs were only five inches big but the people loved it.

They wanted TVs. But World War II was going on during this time. Factories were busy making guns and bombs. When the war was over, TV spread across the country.



By 1948 there were 4 big TV networks in America. They aired their shows from 8 to 11 each night. Local shows were aired at other times. Most of the time, nothing was shown at all. TV was not "always on" like it is now.

Color TVs came out in 1953. They cost too much money for most. Also, shows were aired in black and white. By 1965, color TVs were cheaper. TV stations started airing shows in color. People had to switch if they wanted to see the shows.

Now most TVs are high-def. This means that they have many lines on them. This makes the image clear. TVs have come a long way since Baird's 30 line set. High-def TVs have 1080 lines. There are state of the art sets called 4K TVs. These TVs have 3,840 lines. Some people watch TV in 3D. I wonder what they will come up with next. Smell-o-vision anyone?

1. When did colored TVs come out?

a. 1925

b. 1953

c. 1939

d. 1965

2. Which was not true about the first TV?

- a. It could only show one color.
- b. It only had 30 lines.
- c. It did not have sound.
- d. It did not work well.

3. When did networks start showing programs in color?

- a. 1948
- b. 1953
- c. 1965
- d. 1939

4. Why did the first TV station only show Felix the Cat for two hours a day?

- a. They were running tests.
- b. Felix the Cat was really popular.
- c. Felix the Cat had been a big radio star.
- d. Felix the Cat was the only show that they had.

5. Which of these events slowed the spread of TVs?

- a. The World's Fair of 1939
- b. The Civil War
- c. The election of the U.S. President.
- d. World War II

6. What is the author's main purpose in writing this?

- a. He is trying to explain how a TV works.
- b. He is telling readers how TVs became popular.
- c. He is describing the history of the TV.
- d. He is trying to get people to watch more TV.

7. Which happened first?

- a. The 1939 World's Fair
- b. The release of high-def TVs
- c. The end of World War II
- d. The release of color TVs

8. Why did many families switch to color TVs in 1965?

9. Why was 1939 an important year for TV?

10. How many lines does a 4K TV have?

B. Extended Response

1. Why would watching TV be boring in 1928? (5 pts.)
