International School of Monterrey

Junior High School **___th Grade**
Trimester ___ **Literature**

Name _____ Date _____ List #: ____-____

Reading Comprehension Worksheet
Clever Grethel

Read the story. Then answer the questions

There was once a cook called Grethel, she would take some of the best of whatever she was cooking, "for," said she, "a cook must know how things taste." Now one day her master said to her, "Grethel, I expect a guest this evening; you make ready a pair of fowls." "Certainly, sir, I will," answered Grethel. So she killed the fowls, cleaned them, and then, as evening drew near, placed them before the fire to roast. And they were nearly done, but the guest had not come. Then she went and put the fowls down to the fire again, and, basting them with butter. Now they began to smell so good that Grethel licked her fingers, "Well, the fowls are good. One of the wings is burning!" she cried, "I had better eat it and get it out of the way." So she cut it off and ate it up, and it tasted good, and then she thought, "I had better cut off the other too." She said, "Why not I make myself happy, with a good meal." So she ate up one of the fowls with great relish and then the second fowl went the way of the first. Just as she was in the middle of it the master came back. "Grethel," cried he, "The guest is coming!" "It will soon be ready." She answered. The master went to see that the table was properly laid, and, taking the great carving knife with which he meant to carve the fowls, he sharpened it upon the step. The guest came, knocking at the front door. When Grethel saw the guest she put her finger on her lip saying, "Hush! Make haste you can out of this, he asked you to come to supper, but he really means to cut off your ears! Just listen how he is sharpening his knife!" The guest, hearing the noise of the sharpening, made off as fast as he could go. Grethel ran screaming to her master. "The guest has run away with my pair of fowls that I had just dished up." "Grethel, What do you mean?" asked he. Then he called out to him to stop, and then he ran after him, the knife still in his hand, crying out, and "Only one! only one!" meaning that the guest should let him have one of the fowls and not take both, but the guest thought he meant to have only one of his ears, and he ran so much the faster that he might get home with both of them safe

Answer each question.

1. **How did Grethel get ready a pair of fowls?**
2. **Did the guest come on time and what did Grethel do?**
3. **How many fowls did she eat?**
4. **Why the master did sharpen the knife?**
5. **What did Grethel say when the guest come?**
6. **Why the master did run after the guest and what did the guest think?**

LIVEWORKSHEETS