

Making Inferences

Read each passage and answer the question that follows.

Passage 1

Daniel wiped the sweat off of his forehead and bent over to catch his breath. His Rebels jersey was soaking wet with sweat. He glanced up at the clock and his team's timeout was almost over.

It was the second overtime of the game. The Westlake Panthers were known as being the best team in the entire state of Missouri and Daniel's team was playing them close. Now there was only four seconds left and his team was down by one point. Daniel did not want to lose. He had worked too hard for this moment.

The referee handed the basketball to Daniel and he threw it in to his teammate who immediately passed it back to Daniel. Daniel said to himself, "Please make this! Please!" He dribbled one step to his right, jumped in the air and shot.

It seemed like the ball would hover in the air for hours as Daniel watched it approach the goal. The fans were screaming, but Daniel did not hear them. He could only watch the ball as it finally hit the rim, bounced high into the air and then fell back down to the rim again. This time it bounced back against the backboard, and then dropped into the net! The buzzer sounded loudly, and the crowd went wild. Daniel helped his team beat the Panthers!

Why do you think Daniel was unable to hear the cheering crowd?

- a. He was wearing ear plugs.
- b. He had a hearing problem.
- c. His focus was all on the shot.
- d. He was listening to his coach.

Passage 2

When the bell rang to announce that school was over it seemed louder than it ever had before. Perhaps this was because Jonathon was dreading his walk home from school. He had been looking out the window of his classroom for the last hour watching the rain pour down and the fierce lightning slamming against the ground. The thunder was so loud that it would make the whole class jump in their desk with each bang.

Jonathon had to walk a full mile to get home from school. His mother asked him to take his umbrella to school this morning and Jonathon did not think he would need it. He ignored her and kept playing a video game.

He stayed in his desk while everyone exited the classroom. He was hoping his teacher, Mr. Daniels, wouldn't notice him there and let him wait while the storm passed.

"Jonathon, let's go, I have to lock up my classroom." Mr. Daniels said.

Jonathon grabbed his backpack and slowly walked towards the school exit. Once he got to the door, he took a deep breath and pushed it open. Immediately the wind knocked him back a bit as rain drenched his clothes. Just then, he heard the honking of a horn.

His mother was yelling from the driver seat of their car, "Jonathon, over here! Hurry!"

He never felt so happy to see his mother. He ran to the car as fast as he could, not even caring how wet he got.

What startled the students in the class?

- a. Mr. Daniels yelling at them
- b. sound of the thunder
- c. the sound of the bell ringing loudly
- d. Jonathon was scaring them

Read the story above. How do you think Jonathon feels about thunderstorms?

- a. He likes to play in rain.
- b. He is scared of them.
- c. He thinks they are interesting.
- d. He does not like nor dislike the rain.

Passage 3

The girls found the typewriter on the boardwalk. Sophie didn't even know what the bulky, black machine that looked like a big keyboard was. Ramona explained what it was, a machine with which you type on a piece of paper. Because Anya decided that taking the machine to the lost and found would be the best idea, the girls followed her. Anya was the strongest, so she carried the typewriter, huffing and puffing.

The lost and found area was closed until the next morning. The girls decided to take the typewriter to their hotel and to bring it back in the morning. Anya was so excited that she almost dropped it.

Sophie and Ramona got some printing paper from the front desk. After dinner, the girls huddled around the typewriter. Anya figured out how to scroll the paper and put it in correctly. Then, each took turn typing up a story. They had so much fun that they forgot it was almost past their bedtime. Too tired, they left the typewriter in the lobby and went upstairs to their rooms where their families waited for them.

All the guests at the front desk and in the lobby heard Anya's scream. She had just discovered that the typewriter was missing. The story the girls wrote was on the table. Ramona and Sophie soon joined their friend and nearly broke into tears.

"It wasn't ours anyway," Ramona said.

"I wanted to take it to the lost and found," Anya said, sobbing.

Just then, an old man in the lobby called out to the girls. "Did you type up that story on my machine? Where did you find it? Come on over here."

Select the two inferences you can best make based on the story.

- a. The girls are cousins.
- b. Anya knows the old man.
- c. The girls are close to each other.
- d. Anya thinks and acts quickly.