

Thelma Gibson Primary School

Pretest 2020

READING COMPREHENSION

GRADE 5 Total: 40 points

Name: _____ Date: 8th October 2020

Read each passage at least two times. Then read each question about the passage. Answer each question in the space provided using your own words. Remember that ALL answers must come from the passages.

Passage 1



It was a hot summer afternoon. The sun was like a giant fireball. Wanda was swinging on her porch swing back and forth. She was hot and bored. Her best friend, Sara, was gone for two weeks, so Wanda had no one to play with. She wished she could think of something to do for fun.

Just then Brad, Wanda's neighbour came running up to the porch. "Wanda! Come on over to my house, quick! A lady just showed up with kittens to give away. If you hurry, you can choose a kitten to keep!"

"I'll be there in a minute," Wanda replied excitedly. "First I have to ask my mom if I can have one." She raced into the house to find her mother and ask permission. In a couple of minutes, Wanda hurried over to Brad's house. Wanda looked at three kittens. She saw a furry lump of coal with green eyes looking up at her. She instantly fell in love with the little kitten and asked if she could have that one. The lady agreed, and Wanda took the kitten home. She knew she would not be bored now that she had a pet to keep her company.

1. Who is the main character in this story? _____
(1pt.)

2. When does this story take place? _____ (1pt.)

3. What is the problem in the story?

- a. Wanda was hot and bored
- b. Wanda didn't like cats
- c. Brad had too many cats

4. How is the problem solved? _____ (1pt.)

5. Read this sentence from the story.

She saw a furry lump of coal with green eyes looking up at her.
Why does the author compare the kitten to coal? _____ (2pts.)

Passage 2

FIRE SAFETY



A fire needs oxygen or air to burn. You can easily smother a small fire with a blanket or a fire extinguisher. Larger fires can't be easily put out. To be safe, you need an escape plan. You and your family should plan at least two escape routes from each room in your home. You should also identify a place outside to meet.

If you are trapped by a fire, open a window and shout for help. Avoid breaking the window; you may need to close it if the smoke starts to come in from the outdoors. If your clothes catch fire, stop, drop and roll or wrap yourself in a wet blanket. These actions will help smother the flames. Never run. The rush of air will fan the flames.

Adapted from Reading Comprehension

1. What must be absent in order for a fire to die? (1pt.)

2. (a) Should a person on fire run around? Yes or No. (1pt.)

(b) Support your answer with evidence from the passage. (1pt.)

3. If a person is on fire, what **TWO** things can he/she do to try and put it out? (2pts.)

4. Read each statement below. Write 'T' if the statement is True. Write 'F' if the statement is False. (4pts.)

To smother a fire is to cut off its oxygen. _____

When a flame is fanned it burns more. _____

An escape plan will prevent a fire. _____

You should smash a window to escape a fire. _____

Passage 3

Joyann's Garden



Joyann and her dad planted a garden in their backyard. She watched every day for the vegetables to grow and get ripe. Finally, it happened! She asked her father if they could go and pick some. Her dad said yes, but not until tomorrow.

Early the next day, Joyann got her gloves and ran to the garden. She stopped suddenly, looked at her vegetables and screamed. To her surprise, birds were pecking on the corn and rabbits were nibbling over the green beans. Sadly she turned away and went back into the house. She wondered if they would ever get to taste anything from the garden or if the animals were going to eat everything. Dad told her not

to worry about it, and that they would go and check the garden together the next day.

Early the next morning, Joyann put on her garden gloves and went into the garden with her father. Together, they picked a full head of lettuce and a basket full of juicy tomatoes and took them into the kitchen. Later that afternoon, Joyann and her dad made a big batch of garden salad which they enjoyed for lunch.

1. Who were the main characters in the story? (2 pts.)

2. Write the sentence from paragraph **ONE** which tells you that Joyann visited the garden regularly. (1pt.)

3. Why did Joyann wear gloves to go into the garden? (1pt.)

4. Write the sentence from paragraph **TWO** which tells you Joyann was concerned about what was happening. (1pt.)

5. Write the group of words from paragraph **TWO** which means the same as 'Tomorrow'. (1pt.)

6. How do we know that Joyann's problem was solved? (2 pts.)

7. Using the numbers 1, 2, 3 and 4 put the sentences in the order that the events happened in the story. (4pts.)

_____ The birds pecked on every ear of corn in the garden.
_____ Joyann and her dad made garden salad for lunch.
_____ Rabbit nibbled every green bean in the garden.
_____ Joyann and her dad planted seeds in her backyard.

Passage 4

SECRETS OF A SPELLING CHAMPION

Learning new words and their spellings can be really exciting. When you're writing a letter or an essay, misspelling words makes you look uneducated and sloppy. Most computers can check your spelling for you. But you can't carry a computer around with you all the time.

So how do you learn? I think the most enjoyable way to learn spelling is by reading a lot. I always carry one of my favourite books around with me to read while I'm waiting in line or traveling somewhere. Books are more fun than a Game Boy and easier to carry.

But just reading isn't always enough. You also have to practice spelling words that are new or difficult. One spelling trick is to carry around a small notebook with you. Anytime you come across a new word, write it down in your notebook. When you get home, look it up in your dictionary and write down the definition. You'll be amazed at how quickly you learn these new words.

I recommend that you practice spelling at home. I give my family a list of words and we pretend that I'm in the spelling bee. If I spell twenty words in a row correctly, then I'm the champion. You could also play spelling bee with your friends. This is a good way of practicing for spelling quizzes.

If you really enjoy spelling you might want to participate in your school's spelling bee. But even if you don't make it, you will have a skill you will appreciate for the rest of your life!

Adapted from: Storyworks Magazine Sept. 1997

1. According to the writer, what are TWO (2) disadvantages of being a poor speller? (2pts.)

2. From the second and third paragraphs, list **THREE** (3) tips suggested to improve spelling. (3pts.)

3. From whom can you get help with your spelling words? (2pts.)

4. What is a spelling bee? (1pt)

5. Read each sentence. Write whether each is a fact or an opinion. (4pts.)

_____ Books are more fun than Game Boy.

_____ Most computers can check your spelling.

_____ Learning new words can be really exciting.

_____ Learning to spell is a skill you will appreciate.

6. What is the main idea of this article? Shade the letter next to the correct answer. (1pt)

- (a) Computers can help you correct your spelling.
- (b) Reading is a great way to pass the time.
- (c) Special methods can help you become a better speller.
- (d) A spelling bee is a good way to learn new and difficult words.