Name _____ Date _____

Inference exercise

Conversation1

A: Why is he taking so long?
B: He has to get changed; you know. He's got all that make-up to take off.
A: Well, we've been here forty minutes now. It's cold out here. Are you sure we're at the right door?
B: Yes, I'm sure. Come on. Let's not give up now. I've just got to see him close up.
A: They say he's really quite ugly.
B: Oh, no, that's not true. I've seen him on TV a couple of times. He's got the cutest smile.
A: Well, I don't know. I'm just about frozen. If he doesn't come out in another two minutes, I'm going home.
B: Oh, look! Here he comes. Quick, where's your pen?!?

1. Where are these people?
    1. At a cinema
    2. At a radio station
    3. Outside a theater
    4. At a superstore near the theater
2. What are they doing?
    1. waiting for one of the performers to come out
    2. waiting for their friend to come out
    3. waiting for their car driver
    4. waiting for a play performance
3. Who are they talking about?
    1. the performer
    2. their boyfriend
    3. their driver
    4. the play producer
4. What do they want?
    1. the performer's picture
    2. the performer's signature
    3. their pen
    4. the TV. program

Directions III: Read each sentence; then circle the one answer choice that is a logical inference based upon that sentence.

1. Blood cholesterol used to be thought of as a problem only for adults.
    (1) Blood cholesterol is no longer a problem for adults.
    (2) Only children have a problem with blood cholesterol.
    (3) Blood cholesterol affects both adults and children.

2. When apple growers talk about new varieties of apples, they don't mean something developed last month, last year, or even in the last decade.
    (1) Apple growers haven't developed any new varieties in recent decades.
    (2) Some varieties of apples can be developed in a short time, but others take a long time.
    (3) New varieties of apples take many years to develop.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Name _____ Date _____

Inference exercise

3. In all cultures, gestures are used as a form of communication, but the same gestures may have very different meanings in different cultures.
   (1) No two cultures use the same gestures.
   (2) One gesture will never have the same meaning in two cultures.
   (3) A person from one culture may misunderstand the gestures used by a person from another culture.

4. Although sheepherding is an older and more beloved occupation, shepherds never caught the attention of American filmmakers the way cowboys did.
   (1) There have been more American films about cowboys than about shepherds.
   (2) Films about shepherds were popular before films about cowboys.
   (3) Cowboys are generally younger than shepherds.

5. As an architect, Thomas Jefferson preferred the Roman style, as seen in the buildings of the University of Virginia, to the English style favored by Charles Bullfinch.
   (1) The architecture of the University of Virginia was influenced by the Roman style.
   (2) Bullfinch was an English architect.
   (3) Jefferson preferred to build in the English style of architecture.

6. Even spiders that do not build webs from silk use it for a variety of purposes, such as constructing egg sacs and nursery tents.
   (1) All spiders build webs.
   (2) Spiders that build webs don't build egg sacs or nursery tents.
   (3) Silk is used by all spiders.

7. Illegible handwriting does not indicate weakness of character, as even a quick glance at the penmanship of George Washington, Franklin D. Roosevelt, or John Kennedy reveals.
   (1) Washington, Roosevelt, and Kennedy all had handwriting that was difficult to read.
   (2) A person's handwriting reveals a lot about that person.
   (3) The author believes that Washington, Roosevelt, and Kennedy all had weak characters.

Directions IV: Read the passages. If the statements following the passages are valid inferences based on those passages, mark the items I. If the statements cannot be inferred from the passage, mark those items X.

A legend is a popular type of folk tale. In some ways, legends resemble myths, another type of folk tale. But myths describe events from antiquity and usually deal with religious subjects, such as the birth of a god. Legends tell of recognizable people, places and events and often take place in comparatively recent times. Some legends are based on real persons or events, but many are entirely fictional. The legends of the superhuman accomplishments of Paul Bunyan and Pecos Bill are imaginary, while the legends about Washington and Lincoln are mostly exaggerations of real qualities those two presidents had.
All societies have legends. Most legends began as stories about the heroes of a particular region, occupation, or ethnic group. For example, John Henry was a legendary hero of black Americans, and Casey Jones of railroad workers. Over time, however, these figures have become national heroes.

_____1. Both legends and myths can be classified as folk tales.
_____2. Myths generally take place in comparatively recent times.
_____3. The stories of Paul Bunyan and Pecos Bill are not true, but they are based on actual people.
_____4. Legends about Washington and Lincoln are not entirely fictional.
_____5. John Henry and Casey Jones are today well-known only by small groups of people.

LIVEWORKSHEETS