

Reading Comprehension Assessment

Directions: Read the passage. Then answer the questions below.

MATERIALS

A material is what something is made of. There are 5 basic materials. Most things are made with these materials. Some things are made of metal. Some things are made of glass. Some things are made of wood. Some things are made of cloth. And some things are made of plastic. There are some other materials. But they are not used as much as these 5 materials.

Let's talk about metal first. Metal is very heavy. And it is very hard and strong. It usually feels cool if you touch it. We use metal to make lots of things. We use it for forks and knives. We use it for keys. We use it for cars. We use it for these things because it is very strong.

Next, let's talk about glass. Glass is very smooth. It feels cool to touch. It is not as heavy as metal. It is hard. But it is not strong. It breaks very easily! Then why do we use it? We use it because it is clear! You can see through glass! That's why we use it for windows. That's also why we use it for glasses.

1) Which sentence from the passage best describes the main idea?

- A. "We use cloth to make lots of things."
- B. "Metal is very heavy."
- C. "There are 5 basic materials."
- D. "A helmet and a bag seem different."

2) According to the passage, which of these things is a material?

- A. chairs
- B. clothing
- C. windows
- D. wood

3) According to the passage, how does glass feel?

- A. smooth and cool
- B. warm and soft
- C. light and hard
- D. sharp and heavy

Now, let's talk about wood. Wood is lighter than metal and glass. It is not as strong as metal. But it is much stronger than glass. We use wood to make lots of things. Things made from wood are usually light and hard and strong. Chairs and tables are made from wood. Pencils are made from wood.

Now let's talk about cloth. Cloth is very light. It is much lighter than wood. And it is very soft. We use cloth to make lots of things. For example, it is used to make clothing. And it is used to make blankets.

Last, let's talk about plastic. Plastic is also very light. But it is different from cloth. Sometimes it is soft. And sometimes it is hard. Plastic can be used to make thin plastic bags. These are light, soft, and strong. But plastic can also be used to make bicycle helmets. These are light, hard, and strong. A helmet and a bag seem different. But they are both made from plastic.

4) In paragraph 4, the passage says, "Wood is lighter than metal and glass."

What is the main purpose of this sentence?

- A. to explain something
- B. to recommend something
- C. to compare something
- D. to demonstrate something

5) Which material would you use if you wanted to make something that was strong and very light?

- A. plastic
- B. wood
- C. metal
- D. glass

7) In this passage, we learn about 5 different materials. Which of these materials do you think is best? Why?