

### READING COMPREHENSION

Read the following text and answer the questions.

#### The Rabbit and the Turtle

One day a rabbit was boasting about how fast he could run. He was laughing at the turtle for being so slow. Much to the rabbit's surprise, the turtle challenged him to a race. The rabbit thought this was a good joke and accepted the challenge. The fox was to be the umpire of the race. As the race began, the rabbit raced way ahead of the turtle, just like everyone thought. The rabbit got to the halfway point and could not see the turtle anywhere. He was hot and tired and decided to stop and take a short nap. Even if the turtle passed him, he would be able to race to the finish line ahead of him. All this time the turtle kept walking step by step by step. He never quit no matter how hot or tired he got. He just kept going. However, the rabbit slept longer than he had thought and woke up. He could not see the turtle anywhere! He went at full speed to the finish line but found the turtle there waiting for him.

1. Who was boasting?
  - a. The turtle
  - b. The rabbit
  - c. The fox
2. Who could run fast?
  - a. The rabbit
  - b. The fox
  - c. The turtle
3. What happened at the start of the race?
  - a. The turtle ran ahead.
  - b. The rabbit ran ahead.
  - c. The rabbit took a nap.
4. What happened at the half-way point?
  - a. The turtle took a nap.
  - b. The turtle went past the rabbit.
  - c. The rabbit stopped to take a nap.
5. Who won the race?
  - a. The fox
  - b. The turtle
  - c. The rabbit
6. What lesson do we learn from this story?
  - a. Turtles go faster than rabbits.
  - b. A turtle should not challenge a rabbit to a race.
  - c. To succeed, we must keep going and not quit.

#### The Frog and the Ox

Many years ago there was a magnificent ox. One day, when he was taking an afternoon walk, a poorly dressed and unimportant looking frog saw him. The frog felt envy toward the beautiful, strong ox. But the frog yelled to his friends, "Look at this ox! But he is no better than I am, if I tried." The frog swelled up to twice his normal size.

"Am I the size of this big ox now?" he asked his frog friends. "You will have to be much bigger to be his size," they said. The frog swelled up even bigger. "How about now?" he asked his friends. "No, but you better not swell up more or you will kill yourself," they warned.

But the frog wanted to be as big as the ox and puffed and puffed. He never got as big as the ox because he burst first.

1. *Magnificent* means
  - A. poor.
  - B. proud.
  - C. great and good looking.
2. The frog was
  - A. green.
  - B. magnificent.
  - C. poorly dressed.
3. The ox was
  - A. magnificent.
  - B. poorly dressed.
  - C. green.
4. What emotion did the frog feel toward the ox?
  - A. envy
  - B. pride
  - C. fear
5. The frog made himself bigger by
  - A. eating a lot.
  - B. doing nothing.
  - C. swelling up his body.
6. The frog's friends told him,
  - A. "You look great."
  - B. "You look as big as the ox."
  - C. "You need to be bigger."

### The Mice in Council

One day a group of mice decided to call a meeting to see what they could do about the cat which was always trying to catch them. They talked about lots of plans but none of them seemed like they would work. At last, a young mouse got up and said that a bell should be hung around the cat's neck so all the mice would be able to hear when he was coming closer. All the mice thought this was an excellent idea. However, an older mouse got up and spoke, "This is a really good idea but who is going to tie the bell around the cat's neck?"

1. What was their problem?
  - A. They didn't have enough food.
  - B. The cat tried to catch them.
  - C. The cat wanted to be friends.
2. Who gave the idea for a plan that would work?
  - A. the young mouse
  - B. the cat
  - C. the older mouse
3. What was the good idea?
  - A. hang a bell around the cat's neck
  - B. put a trap out for the cat
  - C. put a bell on the cat's tail
4. The mice thought that this idea was \_\_\_\_

- A. exciting.
  - B. stupid.
  - C. excellent.
5. Who asked, "Who will tie the bell on?"
- A. the older mouse
  - B. the younger mouse
  - C. all the mice
6. What is the lesson of this story?
- A. It is easier to give ideas than to carry them out.
  - B. Don't propose good ideas?
  - C. Mice are stupid animals and cats are smart.

**WRITING**

Using the simple present, write six things you do every day.

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. \_\_\_\_\_

**GRAMMAR**

In the following sentences in simple present modify the verb if necessary.

- 1. The cat \_\_\_\_\_ (catch) the mouse.
- 2. Sergio and Laura \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to work in the morning.
- 3. Felipe \_\_\_\_\_ (study) very hard for the math exam.
- 4. My parents \_\_\_\_\_ (work) in the same company.
- 5. The architect \_\_\_\_\_ (design) houses for people.
- 6. Maria \_\_\_\_\_ (have) a white car.