Warm-Up 15

SPEEDING SPIDER

As the sun was setting low in the sky, Camel was munching on some grass when he noticed Spider running past. "Something must be wrong," he thought. "If Spider is running, I should be running, too." So he started to run after Spider.

Fox was sitting and watching the sunset. He saw Spider and Camel race by. He thought something must be wrong. He decided to run after Spider and Camel.

Rabbit was in his kitchen cutting fresh vegetables. He noticed Camel out the window. He called Snake on his cell phone. Snake called Roadrunner and Quail on walkie-talkies. Quail called Hedgehog on the house phone.

Before long, Rabbit, Snake, Roadrunner, Quail, and Hedgehog were running madly after Fox, Camel, and Spider.

Hedgehog started to get tired of all the running. He was having trouble breathing and keeping up with the rest of the animals. He called out to Fox. "Fox, why are we running?" Fox asked Snake, and Snake asked Roadrunner. None of the animals knew the answer to the question. Finally, Camel asked Spider.

"Spider, why are we running?"

Spider looked back and smiled. "I don't know why you are running, but I am late for dinner!"

STORY QUESTIONS

1. Why was Fox running?
   a. He saw his friends were running.
   b. He was late for a football game.
   c. He needed exercise.
   d. He wanted to get to school on time.
2. What technology did the animals use to communicate with each other?
   a. computers and cell phones
   b. a BlackBerry® and e-mail
   c. cell phones and walkie-talkies
   d. TVs and cell phones
3. Why was Hedgehog tired of running?
   a. He would rather be swimming.
   b. He was having trouble breathing and couldn't keep up with the rest of the animals.
   c. He wanted to do a relay race instead.
   d. His legs were shorter than the rest of the animals' legs.
4. What lesson can we learn from these animals?
   a. Don't just follow the crowd, understand why you are doing something.
   b. Always get your parents' permission before you go to a friend's house.
   c. Always call your parents if your plans change.
   d. Never talk to strangers.

Antonym and Synonyms

Which word means the opposite of fresh in paragraph 3?

Rabbit was in the kitchen cutting fresh vegetables.

a. new
b. old
c. crisp
d. ripe

Homonyms

Which word sounds like knew in paragraph 5, but is spelled differently?

a. know
b. no
c. knee
d. new

Multiple Meaning Words

In paragraph 2 which meaning of the word race is used?

He saw Spider and Camel race by.

race\reys\vb 1: to be in a contest for speed 2: to run horses or dogs. 3: to go swiftly.

a. entry 1
b. entry 2
c. entry 3

Comprehension

Which question is answered in paragraph 7?

a. What is camel eating?
b. How did snake call Roadrunner and Quail?
c. Why is Spider running?
d. Why is fox running?

Context Clues

What is the meaning of the word munch in paragraph 1?

a. smelling
b. little
c. chewing
d. cutting

What Genre am I?

Circle the Genre of the story:

Realistic Fiction

Folktale

Non-fiction

Fairy Tale

Author's Purpose:

The author most likely wrote this story to:

a. teach a lesson.
b. explain how animals chase each other.
c. inform readers about the use of technology.

Main Idea?

What is the main idea of this story?

a. Spider was running to dinner.
b. You should never follow a crowd, be a leader!
c. Technology is important for communication.
d. Exercise is important.

Comprehension

Which of the following should not be included in a summary?

a. Camel saw Spider running so he was worried and ran after.
b. Rabbit was cutting fresh vegetables.
c. The animals didn't know why they were running.
d. Rabbit, Snake, Roadrunner, Quail, and Hedgehog all ran.