

Read the story “Gus the Good Worker” before answering Numbers 1 through 10.

Gus the Good Worker

Dad and Seth were going to visit Grandpa today. Grandpa was in the hospital because he got sick last week. Grandpa was feeling better now. He would go home soon. Seth had made a “get well” card for him. He held it tightly in one hand. He held Dad’s hand tightly in the other. He felt nervous because he had never seen Grandpa sick.

Seth looked around as he walked to Grandpa’s room. He saw bright lights and people in white coats. Seth looked down the hall. What was that? It had just gone around the corner. Was it a dog?

“Come in, Seth!” called Grandpa. Seth went in. Dad lifted him onto the bed. Grandpa looked like himself, other than his clothes. He wore a hospital gown, which looked like a big, long shirt. Seth gave Grandpa the card. Then Seth asked Grandpa a question.

“Do dogs go to hospitals when they are sick?” asked Seth.

Grandpa laughed. “No, why? Did you see a dog?”

“I think I did!” said Seth.

“I think you saw Gus,” said Grandpa.

“Who is Gus?” asked Seth.

Grandpa said that Gus was a dog owned by a man named Ari. Ari brought Gus to visit people in the hospital, to help them feel better. They could pet Gus. Gus would give them his paw to shake.

Just then, a man and a dog came in the room. The man said hello. The dog licked Seth's face!

"This is Gus and I am Ari," the man said. Seth saw a collar around the dog's neck. A tag hung from the collar. Seth asked what it was.

"That tag shows Gus works at the hospital," said Ari. He told Seth that Gus had to learn how to do his job. Gus was trained to sit nicely and not bark. He knew to let people pet and hug him.

Seth gave Gus a gentle hug because he did not want to hurt the dog.

Gus rolled onto his back. Ari gave Seth a brush. Seth brushed the dog's belly while everyone talked.

"Time to go, Gus," said Ari. "We have other people to visit."

Seth said goodbye. He wished Gus were his pet. But he was glad Gus could help people.



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Now answer Numbers 1 through 10. Base your answers on “Gus the Good Worker.”

- 1 What do you think Seth wrote in the card he made for Grandpa?
- Ⓐ Good job
 - Ⓑ Get well soon
 - Ⓒ Happy birthday
 - Ⓓ Have a nice trip

- 2 Read this sentence from the story.

Grandpa was in the hospital because he got sick last week.

A *hospital* is a place where people go

- Ⓕ to get well.
 - Ⓖ to make art.
 - Ⓗ to buy clothes.
 - Ⓘ to have a party.
- 3 What does Seth see in the hospital that surprises him?
- Ⓐ Seth sees bright lights.
 - Ⓑ Seth sees a dog in the hall.
 - Ⓒ Seth sees people in white coats.
 - Ⓓ Seth sees Grandpa talk with Ari and Gus.

- 4 Read this sentence from the story.

He felt nervous because he had never seen Grandpa sick.

What does *nervous* mean in the sentence above?

- Ⓕ happy
 - Ⓖ mad
 - Ⓗ nice
 - Ⓘ worried
- 5 Seth asks Grandpa if dogs go to the hospital when they are sick. Seth wants to find out if
- Ⓐ the dog will lick his face.
 - Ⓑ he can have a dog for a pet.
 - Ⓒ there really is a dog in the hospital.
 - Ⓓ he can meet Gus and Ari in Grandpa's room.

- 6 Read this sentence from the story.

He wore a hospital gown, which looked like a big, long shirt.

What words help you understand what *gown* means?

- Ⓕ He wore
- Ⓖ long shirt
- Ⓗ a hospital
- Ⓘ which looked

- 7 Read this sentence from the story.

Seth gave Gus a gentle hug because he did not want to hurt the dog.

What does *gentle* mean in the sentence above?

- Ⓐ hard Ⓒ soft
Ⓑ mean Ⓓ tight
- 8 Which word BEST tells how Seth looks in the picture on page 26?
- Ⓕ happy
Ⓖ mad
Ⓗ sad
Ⓘ surprised
- 9 What detail from the story tells you that Seth likes Gus?
- Ⓐ Seth says goodbye.
Ⓑ Seth sees the tag on Gus.
Ⓒ Seth wishes Gus were his pet.
Ⓓ Seth thinks he sees a dog in the hall.
- 10 What is the root word of *trained*?
- Ⓕ rain
Ⓖ rained
Ⓗ train
Ⓘ training

Read the story “The Guinea Pig” before answering Numbers 11 through 20.

The Guinea Pig

The bell rang. The second graders in Room 2A felt gloomy. It was raining outside. Mr. Garcia stood in front of the class. He was not gloomy. He had a big smile on his face.

“Good morning!” said Mr. Garcia.

“Good morning, Mr. Garcia,” said the class. Their voices were quiet.

“I have a surprise for you,” Mr. Garcia announced. There was a box on his desk. A piece of cloth covered the box.

“What is that?” Paula asked. Mr. Garcia pulled off the cloth and uncovered a shiny metal cage.

“This is your surprise!” said Mr. Garcia. He reached inside the cage. The children were quiet. What was inside? Mr. Garcia took out a guinea pig! It was mostly black with a white belly. The children stopped being gloomy. They became excited! They crowded around Mr. Garcia.

The children could not wait to pet the guinea pig. This was a special day because it was rare to have pets in class. Some of the children had never seen a guinea pig before.

Jason asked, “Can I hold it? I have experience holding a guinea pig since I have one at home.”

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"You will all get a turn," said Mr. Garcia. He handed the guinea pig to Paula. She was cautious and held it very carefully. It was warm and soft.

"Welcome to our class," she whispered. She was quiet so she would not startle the pet.

The children took turns holding the guinea pig. Mr. Garcia told them that guinea pigs make great pets. He said they are easy to care for. Paula wished she had a guinea pig at home, like Jason.

"My guinea pig is my friend. He is a great pet," Jason told his classmates.

At the end of the class, Paula put the guinea pig back in its cage.

"Will it be here tomorrow, too?" Paula asked.

"No," answered Mr. Garcia. "It will visit a different class."

Paula let out a groan. She was sad the guinea pig had to leave. She wished her class could have a pet every day.

"Let's be thankful that the guinea pig could visit," said Jason. "It was a great friend for the day."



Now answer Numbers 11 through 20. Base your answers on “The Guinea Pig.”

- 11** Based on the picture on page 31, where does the story take place?
- Ⓐ in Paula’s House
 - Ⓑ in a cafeteria
 - Ⓒ in a classroom
 - Ⓓ on a playground
- 12** Why do the children feel gloomy at the BEGINNING of the story?
- Ⓕ It is raining outside.
 - Ⓖ A pet visits their class.
 - Ⓗ Jason has a pet guinea pig.
 - Ⓘ The guinea pig is in a cage.
- 13** What is the root word of *reached*?
- Ⓐ ached
 - Ⓑ each
 - Ⓒ reach
 - Ⓓ reaching

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- 14 Read this sentence from the story.

“I have experience holding a guinea pig since I have one at home.”

What does *experience* mean in the sentence above?

- Ⓕ skill learned by doing something
 - Ⓖ something done the first time
 - Ⓗ something you cannot do
 - Ⓘ forgetting how to do something
- 15 What do the children do when they want to see the guinea pig that Mr. Garcia is holding?
- Ⓐ They talk in quiet voices.
 - Ⓑ They crowd around Mr. Garcia.
 - Ⓒ They say it is a special day in school.
 - Ⓓ They take turns petting the guinea pig.

- 16 Read this sentence from the story.

This was a special day because it was rare to have pets in class.

What does *rare* mean in the sentence above?

- Ⓕ put it in order
- Ⓖ seen all the time
- Ⓗ not happening often
- Ⓘ too hard to understand

- 17 Read this sentence from the story.

She was cautious and held it very carefully.

What word tells you what *cautious* means?

- Ⓐ carefully Ⓒ it
Ⓑ held Ⓓ She

- 18 Read this sentence from the story.

**She was quiet so she would not
startle the pet.**

What does *startle* mean in the sentence above?

- Ⓕ hurt Ⓗ thank
Ⓖ scare Ⓘ warm

- 19 How do you know that Paula feels sad when
Mr. Garcia tells her the guinea pig will not be back?

- Ⓐ She laughs loudly.
Ⓑ She lets out a groan.
Ⓒ She whispers to the pet.
Ⓓ She holds the pet carefully.

- 20 How does Jason try to make Paula feel better at
the END of the story?

- Ⓕ He tells Paula that guinea pigs make great pets.
Ⓖ He tells Paula that he has a guinea pig at home.
Ⓗ He asks Mr. Garcia if he can hold the guinea pig.
Ⓘ He says the guinea pig was a great friend for the day.