AT A CROSSROADS

Reading Worksheet

Name: _____

Class: _____

Date: _____



Reading Text

During their hiking trip, Emma and her friends ventured into a dense forest in search of a beautiful mountain lake that they had heard about from other hikers. The journey was more challenging than they had expected, as the narrow trails were surrounded by tall trees, thick bushes, and fallen branches. After walking for nearly two hours, they arrived at a crossroads where two paths diverged in different directions. A weathered wooden signpost stood nearby, but its faded letters made it difficult to identify which path led to the lake. One trail appeared to lead toward a small village in the distance, while the other disappeared deeper into the forest. Unsure which direction to take, Emma took out her map and carefully compared it with the surrounding landmarks. Her friends offered different suggestions, and the group discussed the possible risks of choosing the wrong trail. After examining the map and considering their options, Emma concluded that the path leading deeper into the forest was more likely to take them to their destination. The group agreed with her decision and continued their journey, hoping that their careful choice would lead them to the lake. Looking back on the experience, Emma realized that a crossroads was not simply a place where two paths met, but also a moment when people had to evaluate their options, consider the consequences, and make a decision despite uncertainty.

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Literal and Idiomatic Meaning

1. In the passage, what does the word *crossroads* literally mean? Is it used literally or idiomatically in the sentence below?

"After walking for nearly two hours, they arrived at a crossroads where two paths diverged in different directions."

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2. What is the idiomatic meaning of *"at a crossroads"*? Choose the best answer.

a. To become lost while travelling through a forest.

b. To face an important decision that may influence the direction of one's life.

c. To arrive at a place where several roads meet.

d. To travel to an unfamiliar destination with friends.

Answer: _____

3. Find the sentence in the passage that explains the figurative meaning of *crossroads*.

Grammar Focus

Complete each sentence with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

1. Emma and her friends _____ (venture) into a dense forest in search of a mountain lake.
2. They _____ (walk) for nearly two hours before arriving at the crossroads.
3. The two paths _____ (diverge) in different directions.
4. Emma _____ (take) out her map and compared it with the surrounding landmarks.
5. Her friends _____ (offer) different suggestions about which path to take.
6. The group _____ (continue) their journey after considering their options.

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