

Teacher reads the directions only. Student reads the passage and answers.

Directions: Read the passage. Afterwards, fill in the circle of the best answer according to the passage. Remember to reread the passage to check your answers.

What happens when pride and ignorance get out of control? The answer to this question can be found in Edgar Allan Poe's classic story, "The Cask of Amontillado."

Montessor has been insulted by Fortunato and plans to get revenge. He meets Fortunato at a festive carnival. "I have purchased a cask of rare wine, Fortunato." Montessor, knowing that Fortunato thinks of himself as a wine expert, invites him to his underground wine cellar to taste the wine. He explains that he was going to invite Luchesi to judge the wine, but felt that Fortunato would offer more expertise.

The two men talk and drink some wine as they make their way into the vault where the rare wine is stored. Fortunato is very unsteady because he has drunk quite a bit. When they reach the cellar, Montessor persuades Fortunato to enter. He is deep within the dark crypt. Montessor grabs him and chains him to the wall. He builds a brick wall, sealing Fortunato's fate. Montessor will never be insulted by Fortunato again.

1 Who prides himself as being a famous wine expert?

- Luchesi
- Fortunato
- Montessor

C1.1
RL.6

In Edgar Allan Poe's story, "The Masque of the Red Death," a clever prince believes he can escape the inevitable.

A deadly disease known as the Red Death is plaguing the kingdom. Prince Prospero, hopeful yet eccentric, decides to ignore the illness and instead throws a fancy masquerade party. With his followers inside the palace, he orders his servants to lock the gates so no one can enter or exit.

Prince Prospero elaborately decorates six of the seven rooms in a single color scheme. The seventh room is black with bright crimson windows. The partygoers are dressed in wild, multi-colored costumes. They are having the time of their lives while death looms outside the castle.

At midnight, a strange uninvited guest makes an appearance. His mask resembles the face of a corpse and his garments, a shroud. Prince Prospero becomes extremely angry and chases the intruder into the black room. When the prince confronts the intruder, he immediately dies. The other guests enter the room ready to attack. One by one they collapse. The Red Death had made its way into the palace. No matter how wise the prince, or how beautiful the palace or the people, Prince Prospero was unable to avoid death.

2 When does the uninvited guest make its appearance?

- at seven
- at ten
- at midnight

Someone gives you an object that will grant you three wishes. What do you do? Do you believe it and make the wishes, or do you believe it is nonsense? In "The Monkey's Paw" by W.W. Jacobs, you may discover a reply to this inquiry.

While the wind roars furiously, the White family awaits the arrival of their guest, Sergeant Major Morris. He relates an extraordinary tale about a monkey's paw. Given to him by an old fakir, he explains that the paw can grant three people three wishes. He believes that the paw is evil and throws it into the fire. Retrieving the paw, Mr. White wishes for two hundred pounds to pay the mortgage on their home.

The next day, his son Herbert leaves for work. Shortly thereafter, a stranger appears at the door with dreadful information. Herbert was killed in an unforeseen accident. He gives the Whites two hundred pounds as compensation for funeral expenses. After mourning for several days, Mrs. White has a brilliant idea. Why not make a second wish and wish their son alive? Mr. White is terrified and grabs the paw from his wife's hand. Frantically, he makes his third and final wish: to return his son to everlasting peace!

3 This passage is mostly about _____.

- Herbert's accident at work
- money to pay off a mortgage
- an item that grants wishes

C1.2
RL 6

4 Which of the following statements from the passage is an opinion?

- The next day, his son Herbert leaves for work.
- Mrs. White has a brilliant idea.
- Mr. White makes his third and final wish.

C10.1
RL 6

Hui said, "The dog is scratching himself all the time." Robert answered, "Maybe he needs a bath." What other reason could there be for the dog's scratching?

5 These sentences are mostly about _____.

- why a dog might scratch himself
- Robert helping Hui
- how fleas make a dog scratch himself

C1.2
RL 6

Changing Vacations

Every December since he could remember, Justin's family took a vacation on Downhill Mountain. This was Justin's favorite time of the year. The main reason Justin loved to go to Downhill Mountain was because it was the steepest mountain. Justin loved to go sledding down the mountain because it was so fast and fun.

This year, however, Justin's parents decided not to go to Downhill Mountain. His parents explained that they had found a new vacation place. Justin became so upset he didn't talk to his parents for a week.

Once the family got to the new vacation spot, Justin could not believe his eyes. To his amazement, he saw before him a mountain twice the size of Downhill Mountain. Justin said that he never wanted to return to Downhill Mountain again.

6 Which of the following events happened first?

- Justin could not believe the size of the mountain in the new vacation spot.
- The family arrived at the new vacation spot.
- Justin was upset with his parents.

C2.1
RL.6**Tina's Favorite Song**

The radio announcer had just announced that Tina's favorite song would be coming on the radio in five minutes. She wanted to record the song, but she had never recorded a song by herself. Since no one was in the house to help her, Tina decided to attempt the recording alone. First, Tina ran to grab a blank cassette tape from the bedroom. Then she placed the tape in the cassette deck. Next, she studied the buttons to make sure she could find the "record" button. Then, she waited for the song to begin. Finally, Tina pressed the "record" button. Tina, pleased at how well her first recorded song came out, recorded twenty more songs before she ended her taping session.

7 What is the first thing Tina did once she decided to tape her favorite song?

- Tina placed the tape in the cassette deck.
- Tina went to get a tape.
- Tina recorded twenty more songs.

C2.1
RL.6

Brooke practiced the piano for hours during the week before her recital. She did not want to disappoint her instructor because he had been so patient with her. All of Brooke's hard work paid off when she performed her recital piece flawlessly. As Brooke took a bow, her instructor smiled broadly.

8 Brooke knew her instructor was _____ with the quality of her performance.

- concerned
- dissatisfied
- comfortable

C4.0
RL.6

During the first act of the play the audience erupted with laughter and clapped loudly. Scott knew his line was, "The birds chirped loudly," but he said, "The birds burped loudly" by mistake. Without missing a beat, Scott laughed to himself, and then continued on with his performance while keeping a straight face.

9 Because Scott made a mistake with his line, the audience _____.

- was disappointed with his performance
- became awkwardly silent
- enjoyed his comical performance

C4.0
RL.6

10 In general, the audience felt that Scott's performance was _____ to watch.

- awful
- enjoyable
- boring

C10.3
RL.6

Usually it takes a long time and lots of patience for scientists to find a cure for a disease like smallpox that traveled the world and almost always killed its victims. There were cases of smallpox as long ago as 1200 B.C. and there seemed to be no way to stop it. Very little could be done for those who became ill with "the pox" as it was called. Almost everyone who came down with it died or at least was left badly scarred or blind. This disease traveled the world for at least 3000 years. Finally, in 1796 A.D., Dr. Edward Jenner began to have some success with a vaccine made from the liquid in the blisters caused by a similar disease called cowpox. However, it was another 200 years before this vaccine was developed well enough for wide use. By 1980 the vaccine was available all over the world and the World Health Organization was able to declare that smallpox had been wiped out.

11 From this passage we can draw the conclusion that _____.

- it will take 3000 years to find a cure for AIDS
- scientists should work harder
- smallpox is not a common disease now

C5.0
RL 6**Jackie Robinson**

All through the long summer of 1947 Jackie Robinson kept his cool and did not respond to the jeers and insults of the crowds and other players. This was the first summer a African-American man ever played in major league baseball. Branch Rickey, manager of the Brooklyn Dodgers, wanted Robinson to integrate baseball by playing on his team. In our country at that time, there was a great deal of discrimination against African-Americans. Robinson was ignored by the other players so he felt a great loneliness. It was hard for Jackie to go out day after day to play ball and hear abuse and name calling from the stands, the other team, and even sometimes his own teammates. However, Robinson had promised to keep quiet, and so he did. At the end of the season he was named Rookie of the Year, had a batting average of .297, and led the league in stolen bases. Jackie Robinson had opened the door for other African-American athletes.

12 Branch Rickey was probably _____ about the way the summer turned out.

- grumpy
- hurt
- happy

C5.0
RL 6

Soccer Camp

When everyone lined up to stretch, Sheryl looked sideways at the other campers. This was her first year at soccer camp. The other girls were chatting, but Sheryl hadn't made any friends. "Actually," Sheryl thought, "I don't care if I make friends. I just hope I play well."

The coach called all the campers together and then divided them into teams for a practice game. Sheryl fretted as she took her position on the field. "What if I screw up?" she muttered. "I really want to do well." As soon as the game started, Sheryl's nervousness evaporated. As usual, the swift tide of the game carried her away. At the end of the game, Sheryl made a spectacular pass to a teammate who scored the winning goal. "Great pass," the girl said as she slapped hands with Sheryl.

Later, when the campers were walking to the dining hall, Sheryl saw a couple of her teammates from the practice game. "Hey Sheryl, come on over and sit with us," they called to her. Sheryl smiled. It looked as if she would both play well and make friends at camp.

13 Sheryl fretted as she took her position on the field. "What if I screw up?" she muttered. "I really want to do well." The word fretted means the same as _____.

- worried
 cheered
 planned

Zebras

Zebras do not carry packs, pull wagons, or tolerate riders. They may look like black-and-white striped horses, but zebras are just different enough to avoid the jobs that horses do.

Horses were domesticated thousands of years ago. Over time, horses became one of humankind's favorite pack animals and means of transportation. Zebras, for all their outward similarity to horses, have never been domesticated. Many people have tried. Few have ever been able to train one zebra, let alone tame an entire herd.

Although zebras look like horses on the outside, the personalities of the two animals are very different. Zebras are very hot-tempered and unpredictable. This makes them quick to bite or kick whoever is near them. Dealing with a zebra is like living on top of an active volcano. In fact, more zookeepers are injured by zebras every year than by tigers. Unless zebras have a change of heart, they'll remain wild animals.

14 Horses were domesticated thousands of years ago. Over time, horses became one of humankind's favorite pack animals and means of transportation." The word domesticate means the same as _____.

- found
- hunted
- tamed

Alexander "Sandy" Calder is known as one of the most inventive sculptors of the Twentieth Century. His mother was a painter and his father was a sculptor. He began creating at an early age making toys and jewelry for his sister.

Calder went to college and studied engineering. In 1926, he went to Paris where he made sculptures of small circus figures from wire, wood, cloth, and other materials. He returned to the United States a few years later. Calder spent his time painting and making mobiles. Mobiles are sculptures that move in the air. These mobiles consist of interesting shapes that are connected by wire, string, and metal rods. Balancing mobiles is a difficult task. His study of engineering helped him to achieve balance in his mobiles. He also created stabiles. Stabiles are large abstract sculptures that remain still.

Calder enjoyed a long, happy life. His artwork and sculptures have brought happiness to millions of people. His mobiles dance all over the world. Some of his giant mobiles and sculptures can be seen in front of public buildings in the United States and Canada. His largest exhibition is located at the Whitney Museum of Modern Art in New York City.

15 Which of the following statements in the passage is an opinion?

- Calder's artwork and sculptures have brought happiness to millions of people.
- Calder went to college and studied engineering.
- Calder began creating at an early age.

C10.1
RL.6

16 I'm sure you agree that science fiction movies are the most entertaining films of today. Their incredible special effects and futuristic plots make them the best movies in the theaters.

The purpose of this passage is to _____.

- entertain
- scare
- persuade

C10.2
RL.6

Teacher reads the directions only. Student reads the sentences and answers.

Directions: Read the sentences. Fill in the circle of the word that correctly finishes the sentence.

17 When he swam toward the shore, the wave made a mountain behind him."
This is an example of a _____.

- simile
- metaphor
- personification

C9.2
RL.6

18 Trying to ride a wild horse is like sitting on top of an active volcano."
This is an example of _____.

- simile
- metaphor
- personification

C9.2
RL.6

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Crystal's New World

Crystal had waited a long time for this moment. She was trembling and shaking in her shoes. At the breakfast table Crystal's mom tried to relax her and reassure her that everything would be all right. Crystal wanted to believe her mother, but she was worried and very nervous.

Crystal left the house and began her journey to the new world. She had heard of this new world from all of her friends and her parents. Now it was time for Crystal to experience the world on her own. When Crystal arrived at her destination, she was more terrified than ever.

Slowly, Crystal walked up the stairs to this new world. As she walked through the front door, she started to relax a little. To her astonishment and delight, Crystal saw that there were numerous other students who were just as petrified of their first day of junior high school as she was.

19 The purpose of this passage is to _____.

- persuade
- scare
- entertain

C10.2
RL.6

The sky darkened; the clouds rumbled as the forest animals scurried away. The impending thunderstorm was quickly approaching. Lightning lit up the sky as the evergreen trees began to sway in the stiffening breeze.

20 The forest animals sensed the approaching thunderstorm because of the _____.

- intense rumbling of thunder
- leaves rustling
- birds disappearing

C10.3
RL.6