

Student Name: _____

Class: _____

Date: _____

Instructions: **Read each question carefully and circle the correct answer.**

1. Decide whether the underlined event is the cause or the effect.

As the night grew colder, the campers put on jackets.

- A. cause
- B. effect

2. Decide whether the underlined event is the cause or the effect.

Kari didn't enter the contest because she missed the deadline.

- A. cause
- B. effect

3. Decide whether the underlined event is the cause or the effect.

The rainy weather caused the picnic to be postponed.

- A. cause
- B. effect

4. Read the sentence and decide if it is a fact, an opinion, or both.

The fair is only in town until Saturday.

- A. fact
- B. opinion
- C. both fact and opinion

5. Read the sentence and decide if it is a fact, an opinion, or both.

At night, you can see the sunset from any window in the apartment.

- A. fact
- B. opinion
- C. both fact and opinion

6. Read the sentence and decide if it is a fact, an opinion, or both.

Trevor's grades are low, so he should do more homework.

- A. fact
- B. opinion
- C. both fact and opinion

Read the story and answer the questions that follow.

"I remember it like it was yesterday, Rachel." My grandfather leaned back in his chair with his eyes closed. He smoothed back the last of his gray hairs from his forehead and began to describe that historic day...

"That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind," astronaut Neil Armstrong proclaimed as he stepped from the lunar landing vehicle "Eagle" onto the surface of the moon. Astronaut Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin Jr. joined him on the moon a few minutes later. Michael Collins, a third astronaut, remained in the small command ship "Columbia" to monitor Armstrong and Aldrin. As Armstrong and Aldrin glided along the moon's surface, they took pictures and collected samples of moon rocks and soil. After almost 22 hours of exploring the moon's surface, the astronauts returned to the Apollo 11 spacecraft.

Grandfather opened his eyes and sat up. "Did you know some people didn't get to watch the first moon landing because they didn't have a television yet?"

"Didn't everyone have televisions in 1969?" I asked in disbelief.

Grandfather laughed. "It wasn't like today, with some families having two or three televisions. Can you understand now why I'm proud that you want to be an astronaut when you grow up? Space exploration will be more and more important to humankind as the years go by. I hope to see you in space someday, next to astronauts from all over the world. I believe space exploration in the future will bring countries together. It will be a great opportunity for you. I'm sure you'll be an astronaut we're all proud of!"

For once I agreed with my grandfather. I also believe space exploration should be a way for all countries to work together. With technology from all over the world, who knows how far we can go in space!

7. Which line from the passage is a flashback to 1969?

- A. Grandfather opened his eyes and sat up.
- B. Armstrong and Aldrin glided along the moon's surface.
- C. Space exploration will be increasingly important to mankind as the years go by.
- D. Didn't everyone have televisions in 1969?

8. Which line is part of the story's plot?
- A. The grandfather expresses an interest in his granddaughter's dream to be an astronaut.
 - B. The granddaughter turns off the television to talk to her grandfather.
 - C. The grandfather calls his wife in from another room.
 - D. The grandfather drives his granddaughter to Space Camp.
9. Which statement is a historical fact from the story?
- A. Who knows how far we can go in space!
 - B. The astronauts took pictures and collected samples of moon rocks and soil.
 - C. Space exploration will become more important to humankind as the years go by.
 - D. Rachel would like to become an astronaut.

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Alex was a curious child. He was always getting into mischief. His antics drove his mother crazy. She always worried that one day Alex would poke his nose somewhere that it wasn't wanted. It was not as if Alex was a troublemaker, he just wanted to know what was going on around him.

One day his mother's worst fears were realized. Alex was coming home from school when he decided to stop at the corner market. There he ran into the neighborhood bully, Thomas, and his partners in crime, Peter and Tyler. Alex knew he should just keep walking and pretend not to notice them, but it was too late.

Peter motioned for Alex to come over to them. Alex approached the group nervously. He was worried about what they would do to him. The group was known to terrorize other students just for fun. Alex never quite understood how their actions could be considered amusing, but he didn't have time to ponder that thought for long because at that moment, Tyler boasted, "Hey Alex, I bet you're too scared to join us!"

"What do you mean scared?" responded Alex.

"Well, you know today is April Fools' Day, and that it is the only day when pranks are allowed. We are going to play some pranks and I bet you won't join us. What do you think, guys?" Tyler taunted. "Don't you think Alex is chicken?"

The group responded with an exuberant "Yes!" and that was the last straw. Alex was determined not to let these bullies get the best of him. Instead of listening to his inner voice warning him of the dangers of proceeding with their plan, he ignored any sense of reason and decided to join the boys in their devilish scheme.

"Count me in boys," Alex answered wearily.

The boys let Alex in on their plan to egg the neighborhood, especially Mrs. Manley's house. Mrs. Manley lived all by herself atop the hill in a dilapidated house. Many of the children believed she was a witch, but Alex's mom was a friend of hers, and he knew she was just a lonely old woman. The boys agreed to meet at sundown on the corner with the supplies.

Alex was nervous for the rest of the afternoon. He didn't want to go home for fear his mother wouldn't let him back out later that evening. He didn't want those stupid boys to make fun of him for chickening out. Finally the sun began to set, and he started to walk to the designated meeting spot.

The rest of the crew had already assembled by the time Alex arrived. Peter greeted Alex with a smile and said, "Guess what, tonight is your lucky night! You get to personally egg Mrs. Manley's house." Alex's heart sank. He knew that if he did it he would hear about it later from his mother, yet if he backed out now, he would never be able to show his face again at school. Alex turned to Peter and said, "All right, but I want you to come with me to hold the flashlight."

The group proceeded up the hill. As they slowly approached their target, Alex got a lump in his throat. He began to feel hot and sweaty all over, and he felt like he was going to get sick. Peter turned to him and

asked, "Hey, are you all right?"

"I'll be okay. I just need to rest for a minute," Alex answered. He sat on the curb and thought about his options. He knew he had to think fast in order to get out of this predicament. Just when he thought his time had run out, Mrs. Manley came out onto her porch and called out into the night, "Alex, is that you?"

Now the group of boys all turned to Alex and asked, "You know Mrs. Manley?!"

Mrs. Manley called out again, and this time she invited the boys inside for cookies and soda. Something magical happened at that moment because Peter and the crew seemed to soften at her offer, and the boys proceeded into her yard.

The boys sat and laughed for a while eating the homemade cookies Mrs. Manley set out for them. Alex felt relieved that he didn't have to go through with the egging of the house, and now, with the help of Mrs. Manley, he had gained new friends.

10. What does exuberant mean in the following passage:

"The group responded with an exuberant "Yes!"

- A. jealous
- B. enthusiastic
- C. envious
- D. angry

11. Why did Mrs. Manley offer the boys cookies and soda?

- A. she was probably lonely
- B. she feared their attack
- C. she wanted to mock them
- D. she had leftovers on hand

12. Who was the leader of the gang?

- A. Peter
- B. Thomas
- C. Tyler
- D. Alex

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

The train station was strangely quiet. The sun shining through the windows cast long beams of light on the floor. The station attendant slowly swept the platform. Hannah sighed and looked at the clock. It would be another hour before her train arrived. Then she would be carried back to the world of papers and exams with only winter break to look forward to.

Hannah's thoughts returned to her summer. It had been wonderful. Her aunt and uncle had taught her all about their farm. She was responsible for the orphaned lambs that her uncle had taken in during the spring storms. They were such adorable creatures. It was difficult to leave them behind. She began to remember some of her favorite moments on the farm...

"Hannah! Hannah! Wake up child - it's nearly six o'clock!" Hannah heard her aunt calling from the foot of the stairs.

"I'm awake! I'll be down in two minutes!" With that, Hannah was out of bed and into her overalls. She splashed some cold water on her face and raced down the stairs, out the back door, and into the barn. She was late to feed her lambs and help milk the cows.

Her uncle smiled when he saw her running up to the barn. "Good morning, sleepy girl. The cows are finished, but your little lambs are still hungry." He handed her a bucket of food for the lambs and gave her shoulder a pat. "Don't be too long. You don't want to miss your aunt's homemade sausage and waffles."

Hannah walked toward the lambs. They bleated happily when they saw her. They nuzzled up to her legs and tried to stick their faces into her bucket. "Good morning. Settle down now. Everyone will get some food." Hannah spoke calmly to the lambs as she sat down on her little stool and began to feed the lambs from her hands. When the lambs had eaten they began to nudge Hannah, and she stroked the soft curly fleece on their heads. As she sat and stroked the lambs she thought about how much she enjoyed living on the farm with her aunt and uncle.

Suddenly, the sharp sound of a train whistle brought her back to reality. She looked up and realized that her train had arrived. She quickly picked up her luggage and headed to the platform. Her summer was truly over. "Maybe next year . . .," she thought as she walked up the steps to the train.

13. If the author thought Hannah was irresponsible, how might the story have changed?
- A. All of the lambs would have received more than enough food during feeding time.
 - B. Hannah would not have been at the train station before her train was due to arrive.
 - C. Hannah would have stayed in bed even though the lambs still needed to be fed.
 - D. Hannah would not have learned anything about farming lifestyles and animals.
14. What is similar about the animals on the farm and animals in a zoo?
- A. they produce food for people to use
 - B. they have to be cared for and fed
 - C. they have tons of visitors that want to see them
 - D. they live in small cages with other animals
15. How did Hannah feel about leaving her aunt and uncle's farm?
- A. anxious
 - B. excited
 - C. somber
 - D. joyful

Read the story and answer the questions that follow.

The terms "rabbit" and "hare" have often been thought to be interchangeable. However, there are several differences between a rabbit and a hare.

To begin with, a hare is generally larger than a rabbit. Hares also have much longer ears. Perhaps the most apparent difference between the two species is what occurs right after birth. Rabbits are born blind, without fur, and completely helpless. A newborn hare, on the other hand, is wide-eyed and covered with fur. The newborn hare can also hop around on the day of birth.

Hares and rabbits also live in different styles of homes. Hares usually make their nests in ground hollows. Rabbits generally dig deep burrows and bear their young in an underground nest.

Although rabbits and hares look very similar, there are several differences that make the two species unique.

16. Based on the story you just read, which animal is the most helpless at birth?
- A. rabbit
 - B. hare
 - C. both are helpless
 - D. neither are helpless
17. What generalization could a reader make after reading this passage?
- A. Hares can hop much faster than rabbits.
 - B. Hares are born with more advantages than rabbits.
 - C. Rabbits have tough claws for digging.
 - D. Rabbits gain sight after the second day of birth.
18. Which of the following statements is not an opinion?
- A. Rabbits are often thought of as hares.
 - B. Rabbits make better household pets than hares.
 - C. Hares have softer fur than rabbits.
 - D. Hares are smarter because they live in hollows.

Read the following story and answer the questions that follow.

"Ugh," thought Sylvia, "I can't do it! The work is just too hard!"

"Sylvia, time for dinner," her mother called.

Sylvia slowly got up from her desk and carefully turned to pick up her crutches. As she hobbled tentatively across the room she watched for her cat, Rumpus, who was always running between her feet. "If he runs under my feet now we'll both end up in a heap on the floor," she thought. As she continued slowly down the stairs, she thought about the last few weeks. It had been really tough for her to go back to school today, having spent three weeks in the hospital after the accident and six more weeks recovering at home. And there were still tons of medical appointments to keep, physical therapy exercises to do, and occupational therapy classes to take. How was she ever supposed to get caught up on all her schoolwork? She ate dinner, did her exercises, and decided the algebra would have to wait as she slipped into bed and fell asleep.

"Hi, Sylvia!" exclaimed Jackie the next day as she slid into the desk beside Sylvia. "How are you feeling today?"

"A little better, thanks Jackie," Sylvia replied, surprised at Jackie's sudden interest in her. But then she had never really paid much attention to Jackie. She was new and Sylvia and her friends hadn't really been interested in getting to know her. Though Sylvia's friends hadn't been too interested in Sylvia, either, these past few weeks.

Jackie interrupted Sylvia's thoughts. "Were you able to get the homework done last night? It was a really long assignment, wasn't it?"

"It was long," Sylvia replied, "and I have missed so much. I really don't know how I will be able to catch up." Sylvia was surprised at herself. She wasn't usually so open with people.

"It must be so hard," Jackie said. "I had knee surgery two years ago and I could hardly keep up with all

the physical therapy and the doctor's visits. Keeping up with school was impossible. I ended up going to summer school so I could stay with my class. If you would like I can come over a couple of nights a week, and we can work on our homework together. I can even help you with your exercises. I bet I had to do some of the same ones you do!"

"Jackie, that would be great." It sounded too good to be true, that someone might actually understand what she was feeling and want to help. "Did you really have to go to a lot of physical therapy and do all those awful exercises?" asked Sylvia.

"Oh yes, for months," nodded Jackie solemnly, "but they get much easier as you heal. Hey, we can show each other our scars, too!"

"Ewww." Sylvia pretended to grimace and then smiled playfully. She didn't even realize that it was the first time she had really smiled in weeks.

Jackie noticed and returned the smile. "Will you draw me a map to your house? I know we live close to each other, but I still haven't figured out the neighborhood. What time can I come over?"

"Oh, it's really easy. Let me show you." Sylvia pulled out a piece of paper and began to draw. Jackie leaned over to watch. And both girls were thinking how great it would be to have a friend like the other.

19. What happened to Sylvia before the story began?
- A. She had surgery on her knees.
 - B. She tripped over her cat and landed in a heap on the floor.
 - C. She was in an accident that injured her legs.
 - D. She fell down and hurt her legs.
20. What is most likely to happen next in the story?
- A. Jackie throws away the map to Sylvia's house at lunchtime.
 - B. Sylvia and Jackie go to the park and play a game of basketball.
 - C. One of Sylvia's other friends invites her over for dinner.
 - D. Sylvia tells her mother that Jackie is coming over to do homework.
21. How did Sylvia feel as she went downstairs for dinner?
- A. angry
 - B. excited
 - C. fearful
 - D. overwhelmed

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

Happy Tots Day Care and Preschool

After-School Helper Responsibilities:

The goal of the Happy Tots program is to provide excellent childcare for children ages two to four years old in a friendly, caring, and clean environment.

The position of After-School Helper is important to the work of the Happy Tots program. After-School

Helpers are students in sixth to twelfth grade who work from six to fifteen hours a week after school hours. The After-School Helpers assist the regular Happy Tots staff in the following areas: supervision, play, rest, snack, cleanup, and music. Because of insurance regulations, After-School Helpers do not help with checkout.

Your assistance to the program is important; therefore, being on time is expected. If you are not able to be on time, please call the program director so arrangements can be made to cover your responsibilities.

Illness is always a concern in a day care environment. If you are sick, please do not come to work. Call the program director, and a substitute will be called to cover your responsibilities.

Supervision: The playground supervisor will direct you to an activity on the playground. You will usually be asked to supervise a small group of children at a specific activity to ensure their safety and enjoyment. There will be one staff member for every four children on the playground.

Play: The playroom supervisor will direct you to an activity. You will usually be asked to oversee a small group of children at a specific indoor activity such as art, food exploration, block play, books, or puzzles. This is an opportunity for you to develop a relationship with the children at Happy Tots. Attempt to engage the children and encourage them to enjoy the activity. If you need help with any of the children, the playroom supervisor is there to assist you.

Rest, Snack, and Music: The instructors will give you specific responsibilities for rest time, snack time, and music time. During rest time you will usually be asked to help prepare the afternoon snack. During snack time, you will assist the children at the snack table. During music time, you will sit with the children and participate in the music activities.

Cleanup: Cleanliness is important in a day care setting. Your regular cleanup duties will include wiping the snack tables, sweeping and mopping the hard floors, vacuuming the carpeted floors, and washing the toys.

We are glad to have you as a part of the Happy Tots team. If you have any questions, please ask any of the Happy Tots staff members.

22. Why is the position of After-School Helper important to the Happy Tots program?
- A. The After-School Helpers help the regular staff provide an excellent day care environment.
 - B. The After-School Helpers assist with checking the children out to their parents at the end of the day.
 - C. The After-School Helpers provide janitorial assistance to the Happy Tots program.
 - D. The After-School Helpers supervise the children while the regular staff members take their breaks.
23. How many hours a week could an After-School Helper work at Happy Tots Day Care and Preschool?
- A. 3 hours
 - B. 8 hours
 - C. 16 hours
 - D. 20 hours

- 24.** If you have questions about the responsibilities of an After-School Helper, to whom should you direct your questions?
- A.** the instructors
 - B.** the playground supervisor
 - C.** any of the Happy Tots staff
 - D.** the program director