Inference Skill Check

Making Inferences · Grades 3–5 · Try 1

Name or code _____ Date _____

Read each passage and circle one answer for each question.

Passage 1 · The Lost Key

1 Grandma Lucy could not find her car key. She checked her purse. She checked the kitchen drawer and every coat pocket.

2 “We’re going to be late for the library sale,” she sighed.

3 Owen sat at the table with his cereal. He remembered something. Last night, Grandma had come in from the garden with a basket of tomatoes. She had set the basket on the porch steps. Then she had gone back out to close the gate.

4 Owen put down his spoon. He walked out to the porch. The basket was still there, full of red tomatoes. He tipped it gently and dug down to the bottom.

5 A minute later, he walked back into the kitchen. He didn’t say anything. He just held up his hand and let something jingle.

6 Grandma Lucy laughed. “Now we have to hurry,” she said, “or all the good books will be gone.”

1. Where was the missing car key most likely found?

Circle ONE letter.

A In a coat pocket.
B In the kitchen drawer.
C Beside the garden gate.
D In the porch basket.

2. How are Grandma’s search and Owen’s search different?

Circle ONE letter.

A Grandma picks one place. Owen checks all her places.
B Grandma thinks back. Owen waits for her to tell him.
C Grandma tries several places. Owen thinks about last night.
D Grandma asks for help. Owen looks close to his chair.

Passage 2 · Snow Day Plan

1 Nico pressed his nose to the cold window. Snow covered the cars, the mailbox and the top of the fence.

2 The radio said what he had hoped for. “All schools are closed today.”

3 Nico ran to the closet and pulled out his boots, his hat and the old red sled. His little sister, Rosa, watched from the stairs. She was still in her pajamas.

4 “Can I come?” she asked.

5 Nico looked at the sled. It was only big enough for one. He thought about the big hill behind the library, where his friends would be waiting.

6 He set the sled down by the door. Then he went to the kitchen and came back with two plastic laundry baskets.

7 “Get your boots on,” he told Rosa. “We’re making a train.”

8 An hour later, the sled and both baskets were tied together with a jump rope. Rosa sat in the last basket, laughing so hard she could barely hold on.

3. Why does Nico most likely add laundry baskets to his plan?

Circle ONE letter.

A To carry clothes for his friends at the hill.

B To put the old sled away for the day.

C To make a place for Rosa to ride along.

D To lend the sled to his friends for the day.

4. Why did Nico use a jump rope for his train?

Circle ONE letter.

A It lets Rosa pull her basket away.

B It helps Nico carry empty baskets indoors.

C It makes extra room inside Nico’s sled.

D It keeps the sled and baskets together.

Passage 3 · The Last Seat

1 Maya climbed onto the bus and looked for a seat. Every seat was taken except one, next to a boy she didn’t know. He had a sketchbook on his lap. He was drawing a rocket with tiny round windows.

2 Maya stood still for a moment. Then she slid into the seat and kept her backpack on her knees.

3 The boy looked at her. Then he turned his sketchbook so she couldn’t see the page. His cheeks turned pink.

4 “I like rockets too,” Maya said quietly. She pulled a folded paper out of her pocket. It was her drawing of a moon base, with ladders and round domes.

5 The boy looked at it for a long time. Slowly, he turned his sketchbook back around. “Your domes are better than mine,” he said. “Can you show me how you made them round?”

6 By the time the bus reached school, the page had two rockets on it. One had round domes and Maya’s name under it.

5. How does the boy most likely feel when Maya first sits beside him?

Circle ONE letter.

A Excited to show her how to draw rockets.

B Shy about showing his drawing to someone new.

C Upset because she has taken his sketchbook.

D Worried that she will miss their stop.

6. What most likely happened during the rest of the bus ride?

Circle ONE letter.

A Maya and the boy worked on drawings in his sketchbook.

B Maya left her moon-base drawing with the boy.

C The boy put his sketchbook away for the ride.

D The boy showed Maya a finished page he had made before the ride.

Teacher use: ____ / 6