Reading Check on Paper

Inference Check · Form A | Grades 3–5

Name or code _____ Date _____

Read each passage. Answer each question using the passage. Follow the directions for each response. You may mark the booklet or copy your choices to the answer sheet.

Print double-sided if possible. Each reading starts on a fresh page. Keep the two pages for each reading together.

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.

Questions 1–5 · The Last Seat

1. Put each item with the person who has it in the story.

Use the category letters below. Write one letter for each line. Letters may repeat.

A The boy

B Maya

_____ sketchbook

_____ backpack

_____ folded paper

The Last Seat · Questions continued

2. Part A. 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.

3. Part B. Pick the choice with the clearest clues for Part A.

Circle ONE letter.

A He holds his book and draws little rocket windows.

B Maya sits down with her backpack resting on her knees.

C He looks at her paper, then shows his sketchbook.

D He hides the drawing, and his cheeks turn pink.

4. Part A. 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.

5. Part B. Which listed text gives the clearest evidence for your answer to Part A?

Circle ONE letter.

A The boy looked at it for a long time. Slowly, he turned his sketchbook back around.

B “Your domes are better than mine,” he said. “Can you show me how you made them round?”

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

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.

Questions 6–10 · Snow Day Plan

6. Does each sentence match the story?

Use the category letters below. Write one letter for each line. Letters may repeat.

A Matches the story

B Does not match

_____ The radio says that all schools are closed.

_____ Nico thinks his friends will wait at school.

_____ Rosa is wearing pajamas when she watches Nico.

Snow Day Plan · Questions continued

7. Part A. 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.

8. Part B. Pick the choice with the clearest clues for Part A.

Circle ONE letter.

A The sled holds one rider. Nico tells Rosa to get ready.

B Nico looks at the old sled and thinks about the big hill.

C Rosa watches Nico get ready. Snow covers the cars.

D Nico gets his sled ready and sets it beside the door.

9. Part A. 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.

10. Part B. Pick the choice with the clearest clues for Part A.

Circle ONE letter.

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

B An hour later, the sled and both baskets were tied together with a jump rope.

C Rosa sat in the last basket, laughing so hard she could barely hold on.

How Owls Hunt

1 A barn owl sits on a fence post at night. The field below looks empty and dark. But the owl is listening. Somewhere in the grass, a mouse is moving. The mouse is the owl's prey, the animal it hunts for food. When the owl hears it, the owl drops into the dark. Its talons, its long, sharp claws, are stretched out in front.

2 Barn owls hunt mostly by sound. A barn owl's face is shaped like a dish. The feathers on its face push sound toward its ears, the way cupped hands help you hear a quiet voice. A barn owl's ears are not even: one is a little higher than the other. Sound reaches the two ears a little differently. This helps the owl tell exactly where a noise is coming from, even in tall grass.

3 Barn owls are also quiet fliers. Most birds make a whooshing sound when they flap. A barn owl's wing feathers have soft, fringed edges that break up the air as it moves. The mouse in the grass does not hear the owl coming.

4 Scientists who study barn owls have tested this in dark rooms. Even with no light at all, a barn owl could find a mouse by sound alone.

Questions 11–15 · How Owls Hunt

11. Finish this sentence about the owl.

At the start, the barn owl is sitting _____.

Circle ONE letter.

A in the tall grass

B on a fence post

C inside a dark room

D beside a cupped hand

How Owls Hunt · Questions continued

12. Part A. What would happen if the mouse stopped moving through the grass?

Circle ONE letter.

A The owl would have trouble finding the mouse.

B The owl would find the mouse more easily.

C The owl would hunt the mouse mostly by looking.

D The owl could still hear the mouse well.

13. Part B. Pick the choice with the clearest clues for Part A.

Circle ONE letter.

A The field is dark and the owl holds its claws out front.

B Its face is like a dish. Most birds make a sound when they flap.

C The owl dives when it hears the mouse. It can hunt in the dark.

D The owl stretches its claws out and flies very quietly.

14. Part A. Why would quiet wings help the owl catch the mouse?

Circle ONE letter.

A They help the owl hear a mouse while sitting still.

B They help the owl get close before the mouse notices.

C They help the owl grip the mouse after it is caught.

D They help the owl choose a place to rest with its food.

15. Part B. Pick the choice with the clearest clues for Part A.

Circle ONE letter.

A Most birds make a whooshing sound when they flap.

B A barn owl’s wing feathers have soft, fringed edges that break up the air as it moves.

C The mouse in the grass does not hear the owl coming.

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.”

Questions 16–20 · The Lost Key

16. Finish this sentence about Grandma Lucy.

Grandma Lucy wants to go to _____.

Circle ONE letter.

A the garden to pick tomatoes

B the kitchen to eat breakfast

C the sale at the library

D the porch to close the gate

The Lost Key · Questions continued

17. Part A. 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.

18. Part B. Pick the choice with the clearest clues for Part A.

Circle ONE letter.

A Grandma checks the drawer, her purse, and coat pockets.

B Owen searches the basket, then shows something that jingles.

C Grandma comes in with tomatoes, then goes back outside to close the gate.

D Owen goes onto the porch and sees tomatoes in the basket.

19. Part A. 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.

20. Part B. Pick the choice with the clearest clues for Part A.

Circle ONE letter.

A Grandma checks her purse, drawer and pockets. Owen remembers the basket.

B Grandma sighs about being late. Owen walks back into the kitchen.

C Grandma checks coat pockets. Owen eats cereal before searching.

D Grandma laughs after the search. Owen shows her something that jingles.

Answer Sheet · Inference Check · Form A

Name or code _____ Date _____

Circle the letter you chose in the booklet. A number in parentheses tells you how many letters to circle. For write-in items, copy the letters in the order shown.

Question	Mark or write your answer	Question	Mark or write your answer
1	____ / ____ / ____	11	A B C D
2	A B C D	12	A B C D
3	A B C D	13	A B C D
4	A B C D	14	A B C D
5	A B C	15	A B C
6	____ / ____ / ____	16	A B C D
7	A B C D	17	A B C D
8	A B C D	18	A B C D
9	A B C D	19	A B C D
10	A B C	20	A B C D

Teacher use

Literal comprehension _____ / 4

Inference _____ / 8

Evidence _____ / 8