Reading Check on Paper

Inference Check · Form B | 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 Tryout

1 Priya's hands were shaking as she walked onto the stage for her tryout. Her mouth felt dry. The music teacher, Mr. Okafor, smiled from the front row. He held a clipboard and a pencil.

2 Priya lifted her violin. For three weeks she had practiced the same song every night. Her dog, Biscuit, had learned to leave the room when she started.

3 The first notes came out thin and squeaky. Priya stopped. She closed her eyes and took a long breath. She thought about the song one note at a time. Then she started again from the beginning.

4 This time the notes were smooth. When she finished, Mr. Okafor wrote something on his clipboard and nodded.

5 That night, a paper on the fridge said "Spring Concert: Priya, violin." Biscuit stayed in the room while she practiced.

Questions 1–5 · The Tryout

1. Finish this sentence about Priya's practice.

Before the tryout, Priya had practiced this song _____.

Circle ONE letter.

A for just one night

B for three months

C for three weeks

D since the last concert

The Tryout · Questions continued

2. Part A. How does Priya most likely feel when she walks onto the stage?

Circle ONE letter.

A annoyed by the teacher's writing

B eager to show the class her new violin

C nervous about playing for the teacher

D relaxed after practicing the song at home

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

Circle ONE letter.

A She practices every night. Biscuit leaves the room.

B Her hands shake, and her mouth feels dry.

C She pauses, breathes, then begins the song again.

D The teacher smiles and holds his clipboard.

4. Part A. What does the paper most likely mean for Priya?

Circle ONE letter.

A She is still waiting for a tryout date.

B She will help the teacher judge other tryouts.

C She has a ticket for the front row of the concert.

D She will play her violin in the concert.

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

Circle ONE letter.

A This time the notes were smooth.

B That night, a paper on the fridge said "Spring Concert: Priya, violin."

C Biscuit stayed in the room while she practiced.

The Rain Barrel

1 Every summer, Mr. Harris's tomato plants dried out in August. This year, Lena had an idea.

2 She found a big plastic barrel in her uncle's garage. Her uncle drilled a hole near the bottom and screwed in a little faucet. Together they set the barrel under the spout where rain ran off Mr. Harris's roof.

3 "What's this for?" Mr. Harris asked, leaning on his cane.

4 "You'll see," said Lena.

5 It rained hard twice that week. The barrel filled almost to the top.

6 In August, the sun baked the neighborhood for ten days straight. The grass in other yards turned brown and crunchy. Lena watched Mr. Harris from her porch. Mr. Harris filled a watering can at the little faucet. He did it every evening, slowly, one can at a time.

7 At the end of the month, he knocked on her door holding a paper bag. It was full of fat red tomatoes. He didn't say much. He just set the bag in her hands and smiled.

Questions 6–10 · The Rain Barrel

6. Does each sentence about the barrel 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

_____ Lena finds the barrel in her uncle's garage.

_____ Lena drills the hole and adds the faucet by herself.

_____ They put the barrel below the roof spout.

The Rain Barrel · Questions continued

7. Part A. What was Lena most likely planning when she put the barrel below the spout?

Circle ONE letter.

A To store water for Mr. Harris’s dry plants.

B To store water for cleaning her uncle’s tools.

C To store water for washing ripe tomatoes.

D To store water for her uncle’s potted plants.

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

Circle ONE letter.

A Lena finds a barrel, and her uncle adds a faucet.

B It rains hard twice, and the barrel fills up.

C Mr. Harris has tomato plants. He asks Lena about the barrel.

D His plants dried out before. Now he fills a watering can.

9. Part A. Why does Mr. Harris most likely bring Lena the tomatoes?

Circle ONE letter.

A To thank her for bringing him tomatoes the summer before.

B To thank her for the rain barrel she helped set up.

C To ask for help picking the rest of the crop.

D To show her which tomatoes he wants her to plant next.

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

Circle ONE letter.

A Mr. Harris asks about the barrel. Later, he brings Lena a bag.

B The barrel fills with rain. Lena watches him from her porch.

C He fills a watering can at the barrel. Then he gives Lena tomatoes.

D Lena watches from her porch. Mr. Harris smiles at her door.

How Penguins Stay Warm

1 Emperor penguins live in one of the coldest places on Earth. In the Antarctic winter, the wind can blow faster than a car on a highway. The temperature can drop far below freezing. Yet these birds stay out on the ice for months.

2 Their first protection is their feathers. Penguins have short, stiff feathers packed tightly together. Underneath is a thick layer of fat. Feathers and fat work like a winter coat and a sleeping bag at the same time.

3 Their second protection is each other. In the worst storms, thousands of penguins press together in a tight group called a huddle. The birds in the middle stay warm. The birds on the outside face the wind.

4 But the penguins don’t stay in one spot. The huddle slowly shifts. Birds from the edge work their way in, and birds from the middle move out. Over time, many penguins take a turn near the warm center.

Questions 11–15 · How Penguins Stay Warm

11. Finish this sentence about penguins.

Under a penguin’s feathers is _____.

Circle ONE letter.

A a layer of ice

B a thick layer of fat

C a winter coat

D a sleeping bag

How Penguins Stay Warm · Questions continued

12. Part A. Why might a penguin at the edge move toward the middle of the huddle?

Circle ONE letter.

A To stay beside the same birds for the whole night.

B To find food that other birds have saved there.

C To get enough space to spread its wings.

D To reach shelter from the wind in the middle.

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

Circle ONE letter.

A The edge faces the wind, while the middle stays warm.

B Their feathers are short, stiff, and packed close together.

C The winter wind is strong. The birds stay out on the ice.

D Some birds move out, and the huddle shifts slowly.

14. Part A. What would happen if the birds stopped changing places in the huddle?

Circle ONE letter.

A The middle birds would face the wind more often.

B The outside birds would spend more time in the warmest spots.

C The outside birds would have fewer chances to warm up.

D The middle birds would have to grow longer feathers.

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

Circle ONE letter.

A Birds from the edge move in. The middle stays warm.

B Strong winds blow. Penguins have tightly packed feathers.

C The huddle shifts slowly. Birds move out of the middle.

D Birds stay on ice. Outside birds face the wind.

The Art Cabinet

1 On Monday morning, the class hamster's cage was empty. The little door was open a crack.

2 "Pepper is gone!" said Malik.

3 Ms. Chen asked everyone to search quietly. Kids looked under desks and behind the bookshelf. Nobody found anything.

4 At lunch, Malik noticed something by the art cabinet. Tiny pieces of shredded paper were scattered on the floor. A trail of sunflower seed shells led under the cabinet door.

5 Malik lay on his stomach and peeked inside. In the back corner was a pile of torn-up construction paper. In the middle of the pile, something small and brown was curled up, sound asleep.

6 Ms. Chen smiled and handed Malik a sticky note. "Write a reminder for the cage," she said.

7 Malik wrote in big letters: CHECK THE LATCH!

Questions 16–20 · The Art Cabinet

16. Finish this sentence about Ms. Chen.

Ms. Chen first asks everyone to _____.

Circle ONE letter.

A search quietly

B leave the room

C write on a sticky note

D put the art supplies away

The Art Cabinet · Questions continued

17. Part A. Why is there most likely a pile of torn paper in the cabinet?

Circle ONE letter.

A The class has stored Pepper's empty cage in the corner.

B Pepper has used the torn-up paper to make a sleeping place.

C Malik has piled the paper there while searching the room.

D Someone has left a small brown toy among the paper.

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

Circle ONE letter.

A Children look under desks and check behind the bookshelf.

B Seed shells lead under the cabinet. Malik looks inside.

C The cage is empty. Something brown sleeps in a paper pile.

D Ms. Chen smiles and gives Malik a note for the cage.

19. Part A. What does Malik most likely want to stop from happening again?

Circle ONE letter.

A Pepper getting out of the cage again.

B Art paper being put in the wrong place.

C Paper scraps being left on the floor.

D Pepper being woken while trying to sleep.

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

Circle ONE letter.

A On Monday morning, the class hamster's cage was empty. The little door was open a crack.

B At lunch, Malik noticed something by the art cabinet. Tiny pieces of shredded paper were scattered on the floor.

C A trail of sunflower seed shells led under the cabinet door.

Answer Sheet · Inference Check · Form B

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	A B C D	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 D
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 D	20	A B C

Teacher use

Literal comprehension _____ / 4

Inference _____ / 8

Evidence _____ / 8