Vocabulary Skill Check

Grade 3 · Meaning from context · Try 1

Name or code _____ Date _____

Read each passage. Circle the letter that gives the best meaning in that passage.

Passage 1

A puddle covered the grass beside the picnic table. The path around it was dry.

To **avoid** the mud, Kai stayed on that path. His shoes were still clean when he reached the table.

1. As used in this passage, what does the word “avoid” most likely mean?

Circle ONE letter.

A stay away from something
B return to after a long time
C wait nearby for a short time
D look at from every side

Passage 2

After the picnic, cups lay on several tables. The class would **gather** them before leaving.

Each student brought cups to one box near the door. Soon the tables were clear and the box was full.

2. As used in this passage, what does the word “gather” most likely mean?

Circle ONE letter.

A put items into separate groups
B bring items to one place
C separate things into smaller pieces
D give things away one at a time

Passage 3

Ben walked past the garden every day. At first he looked only at the tall flowers.

Today he began to **notice** the tiny shoots below them. He pointed to a new green leaf that he had not seen before.

3. As used in this passage, what does the word “notice” most likely mean?

Circle ONE letter.

A search carefully for a long time

B forget about something

C become aware of something

D ask someone to explain something

Passage 4

The club met at the park most Saturdays. Today seemed **ordinary** at first.

Everyone played the same games and ate the same snacks as at each meeting. The leader began a new count of the group.

4. As used in this passage, what does the word “ordinary” most likely mean?

Circle ONE letter.

A new rather than old or used

B normal rather than special

C difficult rather than easy to do

D quiet and without much noise

Passage 5

Two arrows on the old sign seemed to point to the same pond. One arrow pointed left and the other pointed right.

Tori looked **puzzled** and studied the map again. She could not yet understand which path the group should follow.

5. As used in this passage, what does the word “puzzled” most likely mean?

Circle ONE letter.

A confused about what to do

B bored and ready to leave

C curious but already certain

D angry and ready to argue

Passage 6

A loose strap kept Pat from carrying the class banner. A friend stopped to help tie it securely.

Pat felt **grateful** and thanked the friend twice. The two carried the banner to the parade together.

6. As used in this passage, what does the word “grateful” most likely mean?

Circle ONE letter.

A feeling worried about a problem

B pleased with one’s own success

C feeling proud of winning alone

D thankful for someone’s help

Teacher use: ____ / 6