Vocabulary Skill Check

Grade 3 · Multiple meanings · Try 1

Name or code _____ Date _____

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

Passage 1

A **bat** may rest under a roof during the day. Its body has soft fur, and its wings fold beside it.

At dusk, it can fly out to look for insects. People can watch from outside without touching the animal.

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

Circle ONE letter.

A a wooden stick used to hit a ball
B a small bird covered with feathers
C a flying animal with fur
D a ball used in a team game

Passage 2

A cut piece of tree trunk shows marks inside the wood. Each **ring** forms a circle around the middle.

Some marks are wider than others. A reader can count the circles from the middle to the bark.

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

Circle ONE letter.

A a sound made by a bell
B a line shaped like a circle
C a call made on a telephone
D a small band worn on a finger

Passage 3

Owen carried a stack of empty boxes toward the door. A loose strap lay across his path.

His shoe caught the strap, making him **trip**. He stumbled forward and put down the boxes to steady himself.

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

Circle ONE letter.

A travel somewhere for a visit
B walk slowly without stopping
C catch a foot and lose balance
D turn around to face another way

Passage 4

The nature club stopped on the path above a quiet pond.

A **bank** sloped down beside the water.

Grass grew on that strip of ground between the path and the pond.

The students drew the scene while their leader checked the map.

4. As used in paragraph 2, what does the word “bank” most likely mean?

Circle ONE letter.

A land beside a body of water
B the tilt of a bike in a turn
C a place that keeps money safe
D a path built to cross water

Passage 5

A leaf and a small twig drifted together beneath the footbridge.

The students saw that both objects moved downstream without anyone touching them.

Their leader said the stream had a strong **current** there.

They stayed on the bridge and watched until the objects disappeared around a bend.

5. As used in paragraph 3, what does the word “current” most likely mean?

Circle ONE letter.

A water rising higher on a shore
B something happening at this time
C the depth of a body of water
D water flowing in one direction

Passage 6

Ben helped put the empty boxes away after the art show.

He set a flat cardboard box beside a wooden box.

He lifted the cardboard box with one hand, but needed help to lift the wooden one.

Ben chose the **light** box to carry first.

6. As used in paragraph 4, what does the word “light” most likely mean?

Circle ONE letter.

A pale rather than dark in color

B not heavy to carry

C bright enough to light a room

D small enough to fit in a pocket

Teacher use: ____ / 6