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Word Recognition and Vocabulary

Students understand relationships between words and can use component structures and clues from context to decipher word meaning.

The girl is sitting at her



1. piano.
2. bed.
- ✓3. desk.
4. book.

161-170

Read the sentence.

Juan was very blue when his puppy was missing.

In this sentence, the word blue means

1. cold.
2. sky.
- ✓3. sad.
4. dog.

171-180

Read the story.

At last, the children got to school. They were happy to see their teacher. The engine on the school bus had broken and was smoking. Another bus had to bring the students to school.

In the paragraph, engine means

1. lunch.
2. camera.
3. truck.
- ✓4. motor.

181-190

Read the sentence.

Sara has a new red velvet bonnet to wear on her head in the music program.

The word bonnet probably means

1. dress.
- ✓2. hat.
3. play.
4. green.

191-200

The words road, rode, and rowed have their meanings listed below. Choose the word meaning that does not go with one of these words.

1. the past tense of ride
- ✓2. a machine that looks like a human
3. a broad trail
4. to propel a boat with oars

201-210

Which set of words all have the same root word?

1. extra, relax, pretext
- ✓2. knowledge, unknown, knowing
3. here, where, there
4. contain, restrain, plain

211-220

If the prefix "poly-" means many, then which of these words is a polysyllable?

1. prince
2. sculpture
- ✓3. personality
4. conscience

221-230

Read the sentence.

The proud athlete spurned any offer of assistance.

What does spurned mean?

1. condemned
- ✓2. rejected with disdain
3. withheld
4. reluctantly turned down

above 230

Read the paragraph.

We mold our character through our living acts. As the years roll on, the accomplishments of yesteryear should be crystallized in a crowning tribute, symbolizing one's life in respected simplicity. One of our memorials, selected while you live, will imperishably preserve your personality and continue the cherished ideals of your family name because the permanency of this inimitable, blue-gray granite is guaranteed.

Choose an antonym for imperishably.

1. invulnerable
2. extinguishable
3. permanently
4. indestructibly

Reading Comprehension-Literal

Students can recall, identify, classify, and sequence details, facts, and stated main ideas from a variety of written materials and can interpret directions.

Read the story.

Ryan likes to play ball. He likes his pet dog. His favorite toy is a truck. He is a little boy.

What is he?

1. a dog
2. a girl
- ✓3. a boy
4. a ball

Read the label.

This bug spray can be used on your grass. You can use it on your flowers, too. It can even be used on your trees, but do not use it where your pets go.

The label says to keep this bug spray away from

1. trees.
2. flowers.
3. grass.
- ✓4. pets.

Read the story.

Jose lives near the store, and his friend Ben lives several miles away. Ben asked Jose the shortest way to his home without going by the school. Jose told him, "Go two blocks south, six blocks west, and then three blocks south. My house is on the corner, number 8701."

After walking six blocks west, which direction should Ben go?

1. north
2. east
- ✓3. south
4. west

Read the story.

I can always count on seeing a lineup of sparrows on the telephone line outside my window. They are there night and day. The sparrows have become my friends through the summer — I have fed them and they have sung me songs.

Which title tells the main idea of this story?

- ✓1. My Friends the Sparrows
2. Sparrows Are Fun
3. What Sparrows Do
4. Sparrows on the Line

Read the sentences about four animals.

- A. A large electric eel can release powerful electric shocks.
- B. Currents produced by electric catfish are loud enough to be heard.
- C. The snout fish use electric current to communicate.
- D. The stargazer fish may use electric power to attract a mate.

What do all these fish have in common?

1. All live in fresh water rivers.
- ✓2. All have the ability to produce electric current.
3. All have the ability to harm humans.
4. They have a way to communicate that is different from all other animals.

Read the passage.

The Presidential Physical Fitness Award can be earned by any boy or girl 10 years or over. The award is presented to students who meet the goals for these seven activities: 30-yard dash, 50-yard dash, 600-yard endurance run, standing jump, sit-ups, pull-ups or arm-hangs, and softball throw. Only 15 out of every 100 children in the U.S. are able to qualify. Others find it impossible to meet the goal for one or more of the events.

What is the main idea of the passage?

1. You must be 10 years old to participate.
- ✓2. You must meet goals to earn this award.
3. Fifteen out of 100 students fail.
4. There are 7 activities in the Physical Fitness Test.

Read the label from a prescription.

Medicine Center (208) 555-5250 No. 2211 For: Doug Jones

9-6 p.m., Closed Sunday Dr. C. Smith Two refills

Directions: Take 2 capsules with milk now, then 1 capsule 4 times a day for six days.

When should Doug drink milk?

- ✓1. with the first two capsules to wash them down
2. 2-3 hours after a meal
3. after he has taken all of the capsules
4. at least four times a day

Reading Comprehension-Inferential/Interpretive

Students can make reasonable predictions before, during, and after reading; can draw inferences necessary for understanding; can recognize cause-effect relationships; can synthesize information from a variety of written materials.

Read the story.

Mother was getting ready for Sandy's surprise tomorrow. She had baked a cake and invited all of Sandy's friends. Now all she needed was seven candles for the cake.

Tomorrow would be

1. Sandy's first day at school.
- ✓2. Sandy's seventh birthday.
3. a good day to work in the yard.
4. Mother's birthday.

Read the directions.

Making mud pies is fun. Find some nice sticky mud. Shape it into little pies. Set the pies in the sun to dry out. This will work best on

- ✓1. a sunny day.
2. a rainy day.
3. a snowy day.
4. a cloudy day.

Read the paragraph.

Miss Hill's class was painting a big picture to put on the walls in the hall. Paintings were all spread out on the floor. Suddenly there was a loud noise. It was a fire drill!

What probably happened next?

- ✓1. The children went right outside, and some paintings were stepped on.
2. The other classes waited to leave until the paintings were moved.
3. The fire drill was called off.
4. Miss Hill's class finished the paintings before they went outside.

Read the paragraph.

Making bricks is easy. First, you scrape clay and mud into a ball. Then put the clay and mud into small boxes to give it a brick-like shape. Then you set the blocks of mud and clay in the sun to bake.

After the blocks of mud and clay are set in the sun,

1. their shape changes.
2. they turn to dust.
- ✓3. they dry and harden.
4. they begin to get softer.

The following directions tell how to fix a punctured tire inner tube. Which step in the directions suggests that the leak in the tube may be a very small hole and hard to find?

1. Remove the tire from the rim of the wheel.
2. Pull out the inner tube and put air in it.
- ✓3. Put the inner tube in water or pass your hand across the tube to find the place where the air leaks.
4. Rub glue all around the hole and put on a patch that is much bigger than the hole.

Read the passage.

Once the flower buds are formed, it doesn't matter if the plant is kept indoors or in deep shade. Full sun tends to fade the flowers faster, while cool temperatures prolong their staying power. Although a light frost won't harm most mums, play it safe and bring them indoors if a cold snap threatens.

In the passage, the phrase "full sun" means

- ✓1. no shade.
2. light half of the day.
3. deep shade.
4. cool temperatures.

Read the paragraph.

The 1965 Voting Rights Law was an outgrowth of the protest demonstrations organized by African Americans to draw attention to discriminatory voter registration practices in national elections. The law abolished tests of literacy, knowledge, and character as qualifications for voting. It empowered federal registrars to register potential voters in any county where such tests had been suspended. The Attorney General also had the right to take legal action deemed necessary to eliminate any equivalent of the poll tax.

Which words best describe the author's purpose?

- ✓1. to inform readers about the Voting Rights Law
2. to persuade people to register and vote
3. to inspire readers to work for civil rights
4. to entertain readers

Read the opening paragraph of Spencer Heinz' "Cityscape" column, from The Times, October 10, 1989.

The day was one of those bonus days, a miracle day in early fall with a million miles of sky. But the park was mostly empty. The boombox summer was gone.

The author wants us to think that

1. early fall is a dreary time of year.
2. summer is a better season than fall.
3. fall is a time of wonderful weather.
- ✓4. fall is quieter than summer in the park.

Read the paragraph.

The ocean has many things people need. It is a storing place for water, acting like a huge holding tank. It also is a source of food. Fish are the most important food found in the ocean. Oil and gas, which are found under the ocean's floor, are used for heat and transportation. And the top of the ocean's floor supplies manganese and diamonds.

What can we conclude from this paragraph?

1. The ocean's floor is as important a supplier of our needs as the actual ocean itself.
2. The ocean is the most important supplier of our basic resources.
- ✓3. Human welfare is linked to the ocean as a supplier of our needs.
4. Our basic industries are dependent upon the ocean as their main supplier.

Reading Comprehension-Evaluation

Students understand fact, opinion, bias, assumption, and elements of persuasion. Students can compare works, evaluate conclusions, and apply what is learned.

Which is not a tool?

1. hammer
2. wrench
3. pliers
- ✓4. chair

Which item is a vegetable?

- ✓1. carrot
2. puzzle
3. hot dog
4. swing

Read the advertisement.

Creamy-smooth Beauty Dew Skin Cream gives your skin a radiant glow.

This ad claims that the product will make us

1. happier.
2. healthier.
- ✓3. better-looking.
4. safer.

Read the breakfast cereal ingredients.

PUFFO	GRAIN-O	BIG KID
Ingredients: puffed corn corn sweetener sugar salt	Ingredients: toasted wheat rolled oats sesame seeds salt	Ingredients: rolled oats rolled barley rolled wheat

Kay is trying to eat less salt. She will probably eat

1. any of these cereals.
2. PUFFO.
3. GRAIN-O.
- ✓4. BIG KID.

If you were writing an essay that argued that summer is a better season than winter, which fact would you include?

1. Winter snow allows people to ski.
2. Summer heat causes many people to become dehydrated.
- ✓3. Biking and skating trails are clear of snow in the summer.
4. Winter temperatures can often be warm and pleasant.

Read the paragraph.

Some people don't like to use computers. They think that they are too hard to use and they break down too often. Don't they realize that computers save us time and effort? Surely, people who don't like computers are confused.

What is the underlying assumption in this paragraph?

- ✓1. Everyone should use and appreciate computers.
2. Most computers don't break down.
3. People are breaking the computers.
4. Computers can help educate students.

Read the following sentences.

Mrs. Smith, who has taught junior high school math for the past 30 years, received a certificate of appreciation honoring her for her years of service.

Which statement is the most objective, fair, clear, and accurate?

1. She is the best teacher in junior high school.
2. Math is a difficult subject to teach.
3. She should be appreciated for her long career.
- ✓4. She was recognized for her years of service.

Which headline is factual and unbiased?

1. City Paralyzed by Freak Storm
- ✓2. Record Snowfall Hits City
3. Merry Mood Follows Incredible Snowstorm
4. Heroic City Survives Worst Storm of Century

Literary Response and Analysis

Students can respond to stories based on characters, themes, plot, and setting.

Read the sentence.

Before the children went outside to play, their father said, "Be sure to wear your mittens, warm jackets, hats, and boots."

This is part of a

1. poem.
- ✓2. story.
3. song.
4. letter.

Read the story.

John went to visit his Grandma. He saw her cows, horses, and pigs. He helped his Grandma pick apples.

John is at a

1. school.
- ✓2. farm.
3. zoo.
4. circus.

Read the paragraph.

Jim and John went outside for recess. Jim took a basketball with him. John wanted to play with the basketball, too. Jim did not want to share the ball. They both began to argue. Finally, John shoved Jim down and took the ball away from him.

What is described in the paragraph?

1. the setting
- ✓2. the problem
3. the solution
4. the main character

Read the passage.

Mary Ann worked all afternoon to clean the house. She folded the clothes and put her little brother's toys away. She washed and put away all of the dirty dishes in the sink. She even vacuumed the carpets in the house. When her mother came home she said, "I am so happy you cleaned the house! You are such a good daughter!" Mary Ann's face beamed!

What word best describes how Mary Ann feels?

1. tired
2. hungry
3. sleepy
- ✓4. happy

Read the passage.

Tina's arm was tired of turning the jump rope. Would Carrie ever miss? "100!" Carrie puffed, "one hundred one, one hundred two..." "Peppers!" yelled Tina, suddenly turning as fast as she could. Carrie stumbled and missed. "No fair!" she wailed.

What was Carrie's problem here?

1. She is not good at jumping.
2. She cannot count past 100.
3. Tina stole her jump rope.
- ✓4. Tina treated her unfairly.

Read the passage.

Juan watched the sparkles dancing on the river. He loved the bright sun on the water and the feel of the soft breeze on his face. The sky above was a brilliant blue. What a good day!

This passage seems to be part of a

1. poem.
2. joke.
3. report.
- ✓4. story.

Read the paragraph and answer the question.

Just as the clock struck midnight, Greg was awakened by a sound coming from outside his window. He jumped out of bed to inquire about the sound. As he approached the window he saw Robot GB-47 landing his spacecraft. The bright green lights from the spacecraft's anti-gravity boosters caused Greg to cry out in excitement.

What does the author portray in this paragraph?

- ✓1. a science fiction setting
2. a historical fiction setting
3. a tall tale setting
4. a mystery setting

Read the sentences.

The engine coughed. The wind sighed. Fortune smiled on her. The photograph leered from the wall.

What type of figurative language is used in the sentences?

1. simile
2. metaphor
- ✓3. personification
4. symbolism

Which literary device does Carl Sandburg employ in his poem "Fog"?

The fog comes on little cat feet.

It sits looking over harbor and city on silent haunches and then moves on.

1. onomatopoeia
2. oxymoron
3. parallelism
- ✓4. extended metaphor