

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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**FIFTH GRADE-READING (READ5\_4)**

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**Guardian**

Tina decided to buy a dog to protect her house. First, she went to a dog show to look at different kinds of dogs. The people at the dog show recommended several types of dogs, including Doberman pinschers, chows, and German shepherds. Then Tina went to several pet stores and asked for more information about each type of dog. After much thought, Tina got a German shepherd.

Before she brought her new pet home, Tina purchased a large bed, several toys, a collar and leash, and some food. Within the first week, Tina took her new dog, Guardian, to a local veterinarian to begin the necessary round of shots for new puppies. When Guardian was six months old, Tina enrolled him in obedience school twice a week to teach him good behavior. After Tina spent her hard earned money, much time, and hard work, she was rewarded with a great pet and a guard dog all in one.

- 
1. Tina probably called her dog Guardian because she
    - A. wanted the dog to protect her.
    - B. thought it was a German word.
    - C. named it for a person she knew.
    - D. knew the trainer would like that name.

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  2. In deciding what kind of dog to buy, what did Tina do first?
    - A. She visited pet stores.
    - B. She went to a dog show.
    - C. She talked to dog trainers.
    - D. She asked for information about dogs.

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  3. When Guardian was six months old, Tina
    - A. found him in a pet store.
    - B. entered him in his first dog show.
    - C. began taking him to obedience school.
    - D. took him to a veterinarian for the first time.

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# The Haunting of Miss Cardamon

by Margaret Mahy

Sunlight fell like bars of pirate gold where Miss Cardamon walked, but Miss Cardamon did not see it. A spider's web wagged in the wind as Miss Cardamon walked by, but Miss Cardamon wouldn't wag back. Coming out through a narrow crack in the pavement, grass held up green fingers, but Miss Cardamon wouldn't shake hands with it.

She was a woman in a hurry. Her step was firm, her eyes were stern, her back was stiff and straight. She walked in straight lines whenever she could, and the weedy, wandering ways of the world were unknown to her. Even the city sparrows stood at attention when Miss Cardamon walked by.

Miss Cardamon worked at planning the city. She sat in front of her computer and fed it programs she had written. The computer fed the city-building computers with her instructions and built the city the Cardamon way. She was good at four-lane highways and highrise buildings made of concrete and mirror glass, but for some reason she was not very good at parks or playgrounds.

One day, walking down a perfectly straight sidewalk, Miss Cardamon found she was walking behind a very strange, shaggy woman who looked as if she had bark instead of skin. As for her dress, it was all ragged at the bottom, with lots of bright threads hanging down.

"That's a very unfortunate woman," thought Miss Cardamon. "You can tell she doesn't know how to walk in straight lines."

As she walked, this shaggy woman jingled and jangled because she was wearing a lot of bracelets and very long earrings. She was carrying an armful of colored parcels.

As Miss Cardamon watched, the woman dropped her parcels, which scattered in every direction as if they were setting out in the world to seek their fortunes.

"Oh," cried the woman. "My parcels! Could you help me?"

"I'm sorry," said Miss Cardamon. "I'd like to help you, but I only walk in straight lines, and your parcels have gone in every direction."

The shaggy woman turned slowly and looked at Miss Cardamon. "You poor thing," she said, smiling. "Well, luckily for you, I'm here to help you."

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4. Which of the following is a compound word?
- A. jingled
  - B. shaggy

- C. highrise  
D. direction
- 
5. Which sentence in the passage contains a simile?  
A. Miss Cardamon worked at planning the city.  
B. Sunlight fell like bars of pirate gold where Miss Cardamon walked.  
C. She sat in front of her computer and fed it programs she had written.  
D. Her step was firm, her eyes were stern, her back was stiff and straight.
- 
6. What happens last in the passage?  
A. The shaggy woman drops her parcels.  
B. Miss Cardamon works on her computer.  
C. Miss Cardamon only walks in straight lines.  
D. The shaggy woman offers to help Miss Cardamon.
- 

## Since Hanna Moved Away

*by Judith Viorst*

The tires on my bike are flat.

The sky is grouchy gray.

At least it sure feels like that

Since Hanna moved away.

Chocolate ice cream tastes like prunes.

December's come to stay.

They've taken back the Mays and Junes

Since Hanna moved away.

Flowers smell like halibut.

Velvet feels like hay.

Every handsome dog's a mutt

Since Hanna moved away.

Nothing's fun to laugh about.

Nothing's fun to play.  
They call me, but I won't come out  
Since Hanna moved away.

- 
7. This passage is an example of
- A. an essay.
  - B. a drama.
  - C. poetry.
  - D. a folk tale.
- 
8. The purpose of this passage is to
- A. discuss.
  - B. examine feelings.
  - C. inform.
  - D. provide humor.
- 
9. What is the MAIN feeling in this passage?
- A. sadness
  - B. happiness
  - C. loneliness
  - D. nervousness
- 
10. What is the MAIN idea of this passage?
- A. Friends always move away.
  - B. It hurts when friends move away.
  - C. Friendship is always painful.
  - D. Hanna did not care about her friend.
- 

### The Shopping Trip

Characters: Dad  
                  Matt, a ten-year-old boy  
                  Chris, Matt's eight-year-old sister

*Scene 1*     *[The snack aisle of a grocery store. Dad, Matt and Chris are looking at soft drinks and snacks.]*

**Dad:**       What do you want for snacks this week? Chips? Crackers?  
Candy?

**Chris:**       We haven't tried these Cheesee Treats yet. And look at this

new kind of pop—Fizzy Fruit. It says it has five percent juice. Should we try it, Matt?

**Matt:** To tell you the truth, Chris, I'm really tired of that stuff. Now that I am trying out for the junior track team, I'm starting to pay attention to what athletes eat. Cheesee Treats aren't real cheese, just a fatty snack with cheese flavoring sprayed on. And sure, Fizzy Fruit has five percent juice, but the other ninety-five percent is just like regular pop—sugar water, artificial flavoring, and fizz. Sometimes I feel like those people who make snacks are trying to fool us.

**Chris:** What do you mean, trying to fool us?

**Matt:** Oh, they put a healthy name like "cheese" or "fruit" on their product, but they don't put healthy things in their product. You have to look very closely to see what is really in what you're eating.

**Dad:** Matt, you seem to know a lot about food suddenly. Where did all this knowledge come from?

**Matt:** Well, I got interested when the coach started talking about good nutrition as a way to become a better athlete. So I got some books from the library, and started paying attention to the nutrition articles in the newspaper and magazines. But some really useful information is on the labels right on the packages. You can find out how much fat and salt is in a product just by checking the label.

**Chris:** Does this mean that you don't like snack food anymore? Are you going to quit eating it always? I thought you loved this stuff.

**Matt:** Oh, I still like it, and I'll probably have pop at parties and eat chips and other snacks every so often. I just don't think it's smart to eat it all the time.

**Dad:** Well, I'm glad you're thinking about what you eat. But that still leaves us with a problem—what should we have for you to snack on at the house?

*Scene 2 [The produce section of the same grocery store.]*

**Matt:** I think that we can find something good here!

**Dad:** We certainly have a lot of things to choose from. Should we go for fruits or vegetables?

**Matt:** I want to have some salads for lunch, so let's get lettuce, tomatoes, cucumbers, celery, and sprouts. And these baby carrots and some cut-up broccoli make good snacks.

**Chris:** Well, I really like apples, grapes, and peaches. Can we get some of those?

**Matt:** I can't believe you said that, Mrs. Cheesee Treats and Fizzy Fruit!

**Chris:** Hey, I want to try out for junior track in a few years, too. I'm just going to start getting ready now!

*[All laugh]*

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11. This passage can BEST be described as
- A. an essay.
  - B. a drama.
  - C. nonfiction.
  - D. a folk tale.
- 
12. The author probably wrote this passage to
- A. explain the layout of grocery stores.
  - B. describe what a balanced diet should be.
  - C. make people think about their food choices.
  - D. show how a brother and sister care about each other.
- 
13. Why does Matt call Chris "Mrs. Cheese Treats and Fizzy Fruit"?
- A. because Chris makes those items
  - B. because Chris is buying those items
  - C. because Matt wants Chris to buy those items
  - D. because Matt is surprised Chris wants something else
- 

### **Summer's Heat**

In mid-afternoon's summer heat  
The shade of Gramma's front porch  
  
invites me to relax  
The rusty old swing is  
    just the right place to almost nap  
As Gramma tells stories of when Daddy was little  
And lets me snuggle against her  
    red-checked apron and smell  
        the aroma  
  
of fresh-canned preserves  
  
that lingers on her fingertips.

- 
14. Why does the grandchild snuggle?
- A. to get out of the shade
  - B. to gently wake Gramma
  - C. to hear the sound of the rusty swing
  - D. to smell the fresh-canned preserves
-

15. Gramma can be described as all of the following EXCEPT

- A. kind.
- B. warm.
- C. hurried.
- D. talkative.

---

16. This passage is an example of

- A. a poem.
- B. a drama.
- C. a folktale.
- D. nonfiction.

---

17. Which is the BEST new title for the passage?

- A. Back Porch
- B. Left All Alone
- C. Time with Gramma
- D. Red-checked Aprons

---

*Few people have been able to look into the center of a tornado and live to tell anyone what they saw.*

*Will Keller has. Read the article below to find out what he saw, and then answer the questions.*

## **DEADLY FUNNEL**

*by Malcolm Weiss*

In one out of a hundred thunderstorms, a whirling, twisting, roaring funnel grows downward from the base of the storm. The funnel touches the ground and becomes dark, as dust and dirt are sucked up. A tornado—the most violent storm on earth—has been born. Few people have looked into the heart of a tornado and lived to talk about it. But one who did was Kansas farmer Will Keller.

Keller was out in his field on a hot, stormy June afternoon when he looked up and saw a tornado bearing down on him. He ran to his tornado cellar, which he had built underground.

Keller was about to close the door when he turned for a last look at the tornado. He noticed that the whirling bottom of the funnel-shaped cloud was beginning to rise off the ground. He knew that as long as the funnel wasn't touching the ground, he would be safe, even if it passed directly overhead. As he watched at the edge of the cellar, he was fascinated by what he saw.

"Steadily the tornado came on, the end gradually rising above the ground. I could only have stood there a few seconds, but it seemed like a long time.

"At last the great, shaggy end of the funnel hung directly overhead. Everything

was as still as death. There was a strong gassy odor, and it seemed I could not breathe. There was a screaming, hissing sound coming directly from the end of the funnel. I looked up, and to my astonishment, I saw right into the heart of the tornado.

"There was a circular opening in the center of the funnel, about 50 or 100 feet in diameter, extending straight upward for a distance of at least one-half mile, as best I could judge. . . . The walls of this opening were of rotating clouds . . . made brilliantly visible by constant flashes of lightning which zigzagged from side to side. Had it not been for the lightning, I could not have seen the opening . . . ."

Mr. Keller was lucky to reach his cellar in time. Hundreds of people are killed each year by tornadoes, and thousands more are injured. Damage runs over a billion dollars. Much of this destruction is caused by the terrible speed of the winds swirling around the tornado's center. Scientists estimate that they range from a low of about 200 miles an hour to a high of 600 miles an hour, perhaps even higher . . . .

- 
18. How does a tornado begin?
- A. A funnel grows from the base of a thunderstorm.
  - B. A circular opening fills with lightning.
  - C. It rises from the ground after a grand disturbance.
  - D. A gentle shower begins.
- 
19. Which does the author say is a major difference between a thunderstorm and a tornado?
- A. where the weather occurs
  - B. the direction traveled
  - C. if there is lightning
  - D. whether there is a funnel
- 
20. Which is the most likely reason Mr. Keller's account was included in this article?
- A. He is the only person ever to survive a tornado.
  - B. He was a tornado expert at the time of the tornado.
  - C. He observed a tornado from an unusual point of view.
  - D. He was the first Kansan to experience a tornado.
- 
21. Which causes most of the damage done by tornadoes?
- A. temperature change
  - B. heavy rain
  - C. high winds
  - D. lightning
- 

### **Wanted: Volunteers to Work at Safety Town**

Are you looking for something to do this summer? Are you in 4th, 5th, or 6th

grade? Do you like helping kindergarten or 1st grade children? Then look no further. Safety Town has the job for you. Not only will you be helping young children learn how to cross the street and stay away from strangers, but you will also be having fun outside. Volunteer and help teach young children how to be safe outside.

---

22. Safety Town teaches young children

- A. indoor safety.
  - B. how to cross a street.
  - C. how to talk to strangers.
  - D. how to play with other students.
- 

23. Which sentence does NOT describe the kind of people needed by Safety Town?

- A. They want to teach safety.
  - B. They like to work outdoors.
  - C. They are at least sixteen years old.
  - D. They want to help young children.
- 

24. The MAIN purpose of this passage is to

- A. tell a story.
  - B. explain something.
  - C. persuade the reader to do something.
  - D. describe a person or thing.
- 

25. What is the MAIN idea of this passage?

- A. the importance of safety
  - B. graduating to 6th grade
  - C. becoming a safe driver
  - D. helping children learn safety
- 

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### **FIFTH GRADE-READING(READ5\_4)**

(Answer Key)

1. wanted the dog to protect her.
2. She went to a dog show.
3. began taking him to obedience school.
4. highrise
5. Sunlight fell like bars of pirate gold where Miss Cardamon walked.
6. The shaggy woman offers to help Miss Cardamon.

7. poetry.
8. examine feelings.
9. sadness
10. It hurts when friends move away.
11. a drama.
12. make people think about their food choices.
13. because Matt is surprised Chris wants something else
14. to smell the fresh-canned preserves
15. hurried.
16. a poem.
17. Time with Gramma
18. A funnel grows from the base of a thunderstorm.
19. whether there is a funnel
20. He observed a tornado from an unusual point of view.
21. high winds
22. how to cross a street.
23. They are at least sixteen years old.
24. persuade the reader to do something.
25. helping children learn safety