

Name: _____

Date: _____

FIFTH GRADE-READING (READ5_5)

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.

 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.

 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.

Water Talkies

During a vacation in Hawaii, Richie Stachowski, 11, of Moraga, Calif., went snorkeling with his dad. Richie was disappointed he could not talk underwater about the many colorful and amazing things he saw.

When Richie got home, he started work on a device that would allow him to talk underwater. His invention—the Water Talkies—is basically a megaphone that allows sound waves to travel about 15 feet underwater. Water Talkies are now offered at toy stores around the country. With help from his mom, Richie set up a factory to make Water Talkies. (He calls his company "Short Stack" because his favorite breakfast food is pancakes.)

"The next thing I want to invent is an underwater pogo stick," Richie says.

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4. What does Richie want to do next?
- A. find a job at a toy store
 - B. invent a surfboard with wheels
 - C. invent an underwater pogo stick
 - D. start his own company
-
5. Richie named his company "Short Stack" because
- A. he is very short for his age.
 - B. pancakes are his favorite breakfast food.
 - C. his vacation in Hawaii was very short.
 - D. Water Talkies only work over short distances.
-
6. This passage was written to
- A. tell a true story.
 - B. ask questions of the reader.
 - C. remind the reader to do something.
 - D. persuade the reader to do something.
-
7. Who went snorkeling?
- A. Richie's parents
 - B. Richie and his dad
 - C. Richie and his mom
 - D. Richie and his parents
-

from *Shark Rescue*

by Tandi Jackson

Maria waved to her family as the ferry pulled out of Luganville harbor. The trip to Malekula could be long and uncomfortable, but Maria had been looking forward to it all term. After a year of school and exams, she was going to enjoy her vacation. "Even if I have to help my cousins in the gardens, there will still be plenty of time for fun," she thought.

Searching for a seat on the crowded ferry Maria stepped over boxes of canned meat, chickens in cages, bananas, and clusters of coconuts that cluttered the deck. At last, she found a place to sit next to a woman with a baby in her arms and another small child clinging to her skirt.

Maria smiled at the child and held out her hand to him. "How about sitting on my knee?" she asked kindly.

The small boy buried his head in his mother's skirt.

"Tavita's very shy," laughed his mother. "We live at Aulua, but we've been visiting Tavita's grandmother at Luganville. Now, I can't wait to get home." She looked anxiously at the darkening sky. "I hope we are not going to run into bad weather. Sometimes, the seas can be very rough."

"Well, we may as well get comfortable," said Maria, putting her bags under the seat. "It's going to be a long night."

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8. Which pair of words from the passage does NOT rhyme?

- A. shy/sky
- B. seat/meat
- C. smiled/child
- D. crowded/canned

9. To which city is Maria going for vacation?

- A. Aula
- B. Tavita
- C. Malekula
- D. Luganville

10. This passage

- A. tells a story.
 - B. explains something.
 - C. persuades the reader to do something.
 - D. describes a person or thing.
-

The Magic Turtle

by Alvin Schwartz

Here is the story of a "magic" trick with a turtle. You will probably catch on quickly . . . read about someone who did not.

The candy store was owned by Madame Perrier and her husband, Louis. They lived in an apartment above the store with six goldfish and a small turtle no more than an inch across.

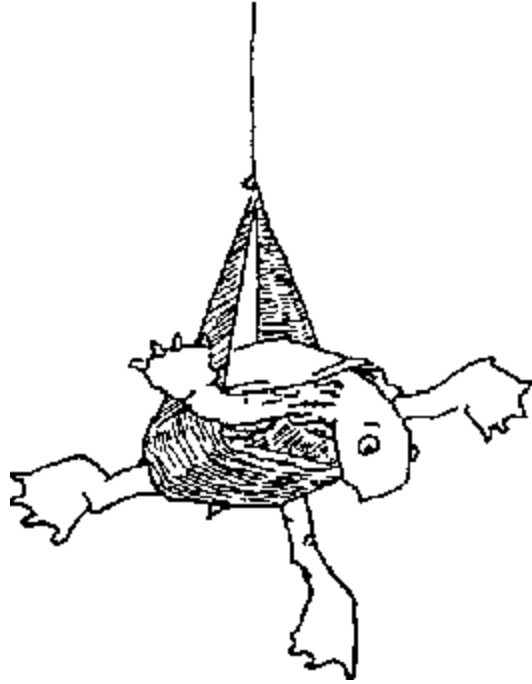
Madame kept the fish and the turtle in a fish tank on a sill outside the kitchen window. Several times a day, she fed them bread crumbs and talked to them about the weather, the store, the candy, whatever was on her mind.

3 A boy named Jack lived in the apartment just above the Perriers. On warm spring nights, he would lean out his open window and watch Madame feed her pets, and eavesdrop as she talked to them.

4 One evening, as he was watching and listening, he had an idea. It seemed so silly that he laughed. But then he thought, Madame would not mind. She would think it was funny.

The next day, Jack bought five turtles at a pet shop. They all looked just like Madame Perrier's turtle, except that they were larger. They ranged in size from about two inches across to about six inches across. He also bought some cheesecloth and wire and a bamboo fishing pole.

That night, Jack made a small scoop net with the cheesecloth and wire and attached it to the fishing pole. Early the next morning, before anyone else was awake, he reached



When Madame Perrier saw the turtle, she got very excited. "It's *twice* as big as it was yesterday!" she told Louis. The next morning, Jack removed the two-inch turtle and replaced it with a four-inch turtle. It had doubled in size again! When Madame saw it, she ran to the telephone and called everybody she knew.

8 The following morning, while the Perriers slept, Jack removed the four-inch turtle and replaced it with a turtle that was five inches across. *That* caused a sensation. All day long, people in the neighborhood came to see the magic turtle, then went out and told others. The crowd got so large a policeman was sent to keep order. Soon a reporter arrived to interview Madame and take her picture with the turtle. Madame was going to be famous!

9 Jack decided not to replace the five-inch turtle with his six-inch turtle. The tank did not seem large enough. He also was afraid that Madame could not stand the shock. Instead, he

out of his kitchen window with the scoop net and removed Madame's turtle from the tank. He put it in a bucket of water. Then he replaced it with a turtle that was two inches across or twice as large.

not stand the shock. Instead, he decided to make the turtle smaller once more.

Early the next morning, Jack replaced the five-inch turtle with a three-inch turtle. Of course, when Madame discovered what had happened, the excitement continued. Still more people came to see the turtle, and the reporter came back to interview her again.

11The next morning, Jack replaced the three-inch turtle with the one-inch turtle Madame owned at the beginning. That night, he put away the dip net and the bamboo pole. He took his five turtles to the park and let them loose in a stream. On the way home, he stopped in to see Madame's turtle. It was away for a while, at the zoo, she said. A scientist was studying its strange behavior.

Adapted from *As I Remember Him* by Hans Zinsser. Copyright 1940. Published by Little, Brown and Company.

11. Why did Jack's trick with the turtle so easily fool Madame Perrier?

- A. Madame paid little attention to the turtle.
- B. The turtle tank was outside the window.
- C. Madame did not know much about turtles.
- D. Jack used truly magic turtles.

12. What does the word *eavesdrop* mean?

- A. listen secretly
- B. laugh to himself
- C. have an idea
- D. fall down

13. What is the author's purpose in writing this story?

- A. to give the reader information about turtles
- B. to show the reader how to do a magic trick
- C. to entertain the reader with a funny story
- D. to teach the reader a lesson about believing what you see

14.

"Come experience America's classic musical!"

Which word in this sentence shows something belongs to someone or something?

- A. Come
- B. classic
- C. musical
- D. America's

LONG MEG

This passage comes from the book Long Meg by Rosemary Minard. Meg was a young English girl who disguised herself to serve as a foot soldier during the Battle of Boulogne in 1544. Boulogne, where the story takes place, is a city which the French were trying to take from the English. The battle was so long that all the men soldiers were sick from disease and hunger. In this passage, Meg and the laundry women defend Boulogne against a French attack.

"Good women! Good women!" Meg called to the astonished laundresses. "The French are attacking the city, and all our soldiers are sick. But I have an idea, and perhaps we can save Boulogne. Come inside with me and I will tell you my plan."

The women followed Meg into the house. It was a single large room with several fireplaces. In each one steaming kettles of water hung bubbling over the fire. And on the long tables that took up most of the room, fat tubs of hot, soapy wash water sat waiting for the heaps and piles of sheets and shirts and breeches that lay scattered in between them.

Meg explained her plan, and the women quickly went to work. First they gathered up all the empty buckets they could find and filled them with the hot wash water from the tubs. And as soon as they had emptied a tub, they filled it again with the boiling water from the kettles, being careful to add great quantities of soap.

Then, each carrying a bucket of wash water in each hand, the women hurried after Meg to the city wall. And they got there just in time, for the French had raised their ladders, and on each one several soldiers were already on the way up.

Silently the women moved along the top of the wall and crouched behind the battlement. And beside each woman sat her two buckets of hot, soapy wash water.

Hardly daring to breathe, they waited without a sound while the scrape, scrape of the soldier's boots on the ladders came closer and closer and closer...

Then, from somewhere on the wall, a whistle cut through the silence. And just as Meg had known they would, the startled men on the ladders jerked back their heads and looked up.

But they never saw a thing! For at that very moment each woman emptied her

buckets, and each man received full in his face a tremendous gush of steaming hot wash water.

Splat! went the water, and down went the men. And the first man on each ladder knocked the second man off, and the two of them landed smack on the head of the third man, and so on down the ladders they tumbled, *plop, plop, plop*, like rows of falling dominoes, till they hit the ground below.

What a jumble and tumble of men there was then on the ground outside the wall. The soldiers lay in wriggling heaps of arms, legs, heads, bodies, and feet. And with their eyes full of soapsuds, they couldn't even see to get themselves untangled. Tears ran down their cheeks as they pushed and pulled and yanked and tugged, trying to get themselves free. But the problem was that in all the confusion no one could tell which leg was his, or which was his arm, or whose foot it was that had landed in his face.

Meanwhile, Meg and the washerwomen were busy up on the wall. As soon as the soldiers had fallen, they had dropped their buckets and gathered around the ladders. Pulling and working together, they drew each one up over the wall and stowed it safely inside the city. By the time the French had rubbed the soap from their eyes and could see again, their ladders had disappeared.

Boulogne was saved. Without their ladders, the French would never be able to get inside the city. All they could do was untangle themselves and slink back down the hillside as Meg and the sentries and the washerwomen cheered and cried and threw their arms around each other.

15.

The soldiers lay in wriggling heaps . . .

The word *wriggling* means

- A. moving.
- B. quiet.
- C. large.
- D. tall.

16.

Pulling and working together, they drew each up over the wall . . .

What does the word *drew* mean in the sentence above?

- A. broke
- B. pulled
- C. pictured
- D. threw

17.

. . . being careful to add great quantities of soap.

In the sentence above, what does the word *quantities* mean?

- A. good smells
- B. large amounts
- C. different types
- D. many names

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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18. Which of the following is a compound word?
- A. jingled
 - B. shaggy
 - C. highrise
 - D. direction
-
19. 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.
-
20. 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.
-

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]

-
21. This passage can BEST be described as
- A. an essay.
 - B. a drama.
 - C. nonfiction.
 - D. a folk tale.
-
22. 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.
-

23. Why does Matt call Chris "Mrs. Cheesee 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
-

24. Which word is an antonym for *raise*?
- A. up
 - B. rays
 - C. lower
 - D. praise
-

25. What is the antonym of *pretty*?
- A. ugly
 - B. nice
 - C. beautiful
 - D. stubborn

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FIFTH GRADE-READING(READ5_5)

(Answer Key)

- 1. wanted the dog to protect her.
- 2. She went to a dog show.
- 3. began taking him to obedience school.
- 4. invent an underwater pogo stick
- 5. pancakes are his favorite breakfast food.
- 6. tell a true story.
- 7. Richie and his dad
- 8. crowded/canned
- 9. Malekula
- 10. tells a story.
- 11. Madame did not know much about turtles.
- 12. listen secretly
- 13. to entertain the reader with a funny story
- 14. America's

15. moving.
16. pulled
17. large amounts
18. highrise
19. Sunlight fell like bars of pirate gold where Miss Cardamon walked.
20. The shaggy woman offers to help Miss Cardamon.
21. a drama.
22. make people think about their food choices.
23. because Matt is surprised Chris wants something else
24. lower
25. ugly