ELA Spring Break Practice

Peter Pan in Kensington Gardens
by J.M. Barrie

If you ask your mother whether she knew about Peter Pan when she was a little girl, she will say that she did. If you ask her whether he rode on a goat in those days, she will say that he did. Then, if you ask your grandmother whether she knew about Peter Pan when she was a girl, she will also say that she did. But if you ask her whether Peter Pan rode on a goat in those days, she will say she never heard of him having a goat. Perhaps she has forgotten. Still, she could hardly forget such an important thing as the goat. Most likely, there was no goat in the story when your grandmother heard the story as a little girl. Stories are often changed as they are passed on from one person to another. (adapted from "Peter Pan in Kensington Gardens" by J.M. Barrie)

1. What is the theme of the passage?

☐ A. Peter Pan is a story that most people enjoy.
☐ B. Mothers have better memories than grandmothers.
☐ C. People may have forgotten that Peter Pan rode a goat.
☐ D. A story is different for each person who tells it.

Andy was a greedy ant. He always wanted the biggest crumbs of food all for himself. One day, he was hungry, so he stuck his head out of the anthill to look around for food. Close by was a blanket with 4 people sitting on it. Also, on top of the blanket were many delicious and large crumbs of food. He licked his lips and started crawling to the blanket.

"Hey," said Kurt who crawled up behind Andy. "Where are you going?"

"Don't worry about it," said Andy. He did not want to share the crumbs with Kurt. "I'll be back later."

Kurt saw that Andy kept looking at the blanket with the people. "Just don't go to that picnic," Kurt said. "It can be dangerous with the people there. You should wait until they leave. That's what everyone else is doing."

"Sure," Andy said as he crawled as quickly as he could toward the picnic blanket.

2. Which detail from the passage suggests that Andy ignored Kurt’s advice?

☐ A. Kurt saw that Andy kept looking at the blanket with the people.
☐ B. One day, he was hungry, so he stuck his head out of the anthill to look around for food.
☐ C. He licked his lips and started crawling to the blanket.
☐ D. "Sure," Andy said as he crawled as quickly as he could toward the picnic blanket.

3. Read the sentences from the passage.

"Hey," said Kurt who crawled up behind Andy. "Where are you going?" "Don't worry about it," said Andy.

Which sentence explains Andy’s response to Kurt?

☐ A. He wanted the food for himself.
☐ B. He did not want Kurt to get hurt by the people.
☐ C. He did not want to concern Kurt.
☐ D. He wanted to learn what kind of food was there.
Jerry was a gray and white cat. He was fed twice a day and liked to do pleasant things. The thing he liked most was chasing his tail. He came close to catching it, but it was always just out of reach.

One day, a kitten named Molly came to live at Jerry’s home. Molly was friendly. She enjoyed watching Jerry chase his tail.

“You will never catch it,” said Molly. Her words made Jerry really want to catch it. One morning, Jerry caught it! He decided he would never let it go.

Molly laughed and went to lick Jerry’s ears. It tickled. He wanted her to stop, but he could not speak. He had to put up with it.

Then, the cats heard food being poured. Molly ran to her bowl. Jerry tried to run but kept falling down.

“You cannot eat with your tail in your mouth,” said Molly. “I will eat your food.”

“No!” said Jerry. His tail popped out of his mouth. He ate his food quickly.

After that, Jerry still liked to chase his tail. If he did catch it, he held it for a second. Then he set it free so that he could chase it again.

4. What is the setting of this story?

- A. the kennel
- B. the vet’s office
- C. Jerry’s house
- D. Molly’s room

5. Which word best describes the setting of this story?

- A. dangerous
- B. comfortable
- C. windy
- D. scary

This Is the Key

This is the Key of the Kingdom;
In that Kingdom is a city;
In that city is a town;
In that town there is a street;
In that street there winds a lane;
In that lane there is a yard;
In that yard there is a house;
In that house there waits a room;
In that room an empty bed;
And on that bed a basket—
A Basket of Sweet Flowers:
Of Flowers, of Flowers;
A Basket of Sweet Flowers.

6. What is the best clue that this is a poem?

- A. It tells a story about a basket of flowers.
- B. It is hard to understand what it is about.
- C. It has a rhyme at the end of every line.
- D. It is written in lines rather than sentences.
For Rosa Parks
by J. Robbins

They said, "Stand," but Rosa sat;
She knew it wasn't right
to treat her as if she was wrong
because she wasn't white.
She knew that freedom is a fight
that only brave souls win;
She also knew our value lies
in what's beneath our skin.
Rosa fought for what is right;
Her courage paved the way
for kids like you and me to ride
the freedom train today.

7. What genre does this piece belong in?

○ A. a biography
○ B. poetry
○ C. a legend
○ D. drama

The day of the big race was finally here. Sam was both excited and nervous about this track meet. Although he had easily won all of the races he had run this season, this time he would be racing against some tougher competition. Sam walked up to the starting line and checked out the other racers. One of the racers caught his attention. There was a boy in a yellow jersey who was at least 6 inches taller than Sam. The boy was a giant next to the other runners. Sam got nervous by the boy's appearance. He thought the other boy would surely outrun him with his long, muscular legs. The boy looked very confident. He, too, had won all of his races this season. Sam stepped up to the starting blocks and got in position. The starting gun went off. The other boy bolted like lightning out of the starting blocks. He was off to a commanding lead. Sam was running as swiftly as he could, but he was still behind the other boy. For the first few seconds, it appeared that the other boy might win. Sam did not want to be defeated this easily. He mustered some strength within himself and began to run more rapidly. He ran as fast as a cheetah around the track and past the other runners. He narrowed the gap between him and the boy in the yellow jersey. Sam was determined to triumph over the other runner. He continued at his speedy pace until he finally caught up with his rival. At this point, the two were running neck in neck, and it was difficult to determine who would win. Then, at the last possible moment, Sam took the lead. He crossed the finish line a split second before the other boy. Sam was victorious.

8. What is the meaning of the phrase "bolted like lightning"?

○ A. The boy races in bad weather.
○ B. The boy started the race fast.
○ C. The boy was unreal.
○ D. The boy looked like a storm.
9. What does the author mean by using the phrase "was a giant" to describe the boy in the yellow jersey?

○ A. The boy was mean to the other runners.
○ B. The boy was not really a human being.
○ C. The boy wanted to run faster than everyone.
○ D. The boy was taller than the other runners.

Many English words and word parts can be traced back to Latin and Greek. By learning what parts of words mean, you can figure out the meanings of bigger words that you might not know at first glance. Look at the chart below, and then, answer the question.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Latin &amp; Greek Word Part</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
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<tr>
<td>tele</td>
<td>from a distance</td>
<td>anthro</td>
<td>humans; people</td>
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<td>contra</td>
<td>against</td>
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<tr>
<td>dict</td>
<td>to say</td>
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<td>to hate</td>
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10. Read this sentence.

Mr. Smith was an angry misanthrope who never talked to anybody.

In the sentence above, the word misanthrope most likely means

○ A. someone who loves people.
○ B. someone who loves to travel.
○ C. someone who hates people.
○ D. someone who hates speaking.

11. Read this sentence.

"Don't contradict me!" she yelled when someone did not agree with her opinion.

In the sentence above, what does the word contradict mean?

○ A. to say something against someone
○ B. to say something kind to someone
○ C. to hate someone's personal opinions
○ D. to say something from a distance
A fifth grader's comments about a movie:

Last night, my friends and I went to see the movie Attack of the Killer Vegetables. This movie was both exciting and funny. I have never seen so many explosions and car chases. Every time a killer vegetable was destroyed, it would blow up into a million pieces. The best part of the movie was the battle between the people of Earth and the vegetable army. I am going to buy this movie as soon as it comes out on DVD.

A parent's comments about a movie:

My son and his friends went to see the movie Attack of the Killer Vegetables last night. Although I had heard about this movie, I was not aware of the amount of fighting and dangerous situations in the movie. Now, all my son can talk about is guns, explosions, and car chases. I am worried that he is thinking too much about fighting and war. I wish I had seen Attack of the Killer Vegetables first, so I could have told him to wait until he is older to see a movie like this.

12. How is the fifth grader's point of view different from the parent's point of view?

- A. The fifth grader thinks the movie has too many exciting fights and car chases.
- B. The fifth grader wishes he had waited until he was older to see the movie.
- C. The fifth grader believes the fighting and explosions in the movie were stupid.
- D. The fifth grader enjoys the fighting and dangerous situations in the movie.

13. Based on this passage, how would the parent most likely describe this movie?

- A. too scary for a young person
- B. too much fun for a school night
- C. too loud in the movie theater
- D. too boring for a parent to watch

Do you know where to find Italy on a map? Italy juts out from the European continent. It sticks out into the Mediterranean Sea. It is shaped like a high-heeled boot. The toe is pointed to the island of Sicily. Other important islands to its west are Sardinia, Corsica, and Elba. To the north are France, Switzerland, Austria, and Germany. Some countries lie to the east. They are across the Adriatic Sea. Croatia, Bosnia, and Herzegovina are found across the water.

14. Which sentence from the passage supports the idea that Italy is surrounded by water?

- A. The toe is pointed to the island of Sicily.
- B. Do you know where to find Italy on a map?
- C. It is shaped like a high-heeled boot.
- D. It sticks out into the Mediterranean Sea.

15. The passage is mainly about

- A. the Adriatic Sea's coast.
- B. Italy's geographic location.
- C. Italy's politics and history.
- D. important islands near Italy.
16. While Italy has many rivers, they tend to be short. At four-hundred miles, the Po is the longest. South America, on the other hand, has many long rivers. The Amazon is the longest river in South America. It is 3,500 miles longer than the Po.

This passage is organized using

- A. problem and solution.
- B. cause and effect.
- C. compare and contrast.
- D. chronological order.

17. One afternoon, Stefan was walking home from the park. He had been playing baseball with his friends. Stefan was remembering a great catch he made when he heard a strange noise above him. He looked up and saw a cat stuck in a tree!

Stefan thought for a minute. It looked like Mrs. Nelson's cat. She would be upset if it got hurt. He tried to climb the tree, but he could not reach the lowest branch.

"Come on, kitty," Stefan called. "Come down from that tree. I'll catch you."

The cat just sat there. Stefan tried calling again, but nothing. He turned around to see if anyone was coming by, when the cat decided to jump. Before Stefan could put his arms out to catch it, the cat landed on his shoulder.

"Oh, you sweet boy!" Mrs. Nelson called. "You saved my cat! Stefan, you are my hero today!"

"It was nothing," Stefan grinned. He sure didn't feel like a hero, but why not enjoy this for a while?

Which of the following best summarizes the story?

- A. Stefan tried to climb a tree to save Mrs. Nelson's cat that was stuck. The cat jumped down by itself, but Stefan still acted like a hero to Mrs. Nelson.
- B. Stefan walked home from the park where he had been playing baseball with friends. He looked up and saw Mrs. Nelson's cat stuck in the tree.
- C. Mrs. Nelson called Stefan a hero after her cat jumped from the tree without any help. Stefan was just walking home from the park after a game.
- D. Stefan tried to climb the tree and called to the cat to get it to come down from the tree. Mrs. Nelson called Stefan her hero for saving the cat.

18. 

Jack Sprat could eat no fat,
His wife could eat no lean;
And so between the two of them,
They licked the platter clean!

The purpose of a nursery rhyme like the one above is to

- A. inform the reader on how to eat healthy.
- B. entertain the reader with a simple poem.
- C. teach the reader about a married couple.
- D. persuade the reader to like rhyming poems.
19. While Italy has many rivers, they tend to be short. At four hundred miles, the Po is the longest. It runs from Turin to its outlet on the Adriatic Sea south of Venice. The river can be navigated by boat. The Arno flows through Florence and Pisa. The Tiber is Rome’s river.

In the paragraph above, the word navigated means

- A. fished.
- B. traveled.
- C. seen.
- D. emptied.

20. **lead** /leɪd/ v.
a: to guide on a way especially by going in advance
b: to direct on a course or in a direction
c: to serve as a channel for

**lead** /lɛd/ n.
a: a heavy, soft, bluish-white metallic element found mostly in combination and used especially in pipes, cable sheaths, batteries, solder, and shields against radioactivity
b: a thin stick of marking substance in or for a pencil

Which sentence uses the noun lead as it is defined in the second dictionary entry?

- A. Grant took lead of the expedition.
- B. Felix wanted to lead the tour but was too sick to do so.
- C. Great leaders always lead the way.
- D. The lead in the pencil had been worn down to the eraser.

21. **wind** /wɪnd/ n.
a: a natural movement of air of any velocity, especially the earth’s air or the gas surrounding a planet in natural motion horizontally
b: an artificially produced movement of air
c: musical wind instruments, especially as distinguished from strings and percussion

**wind** /wɪnd/ v.
a: turn completely or repeatedly about an object
b: to encircle or cover with something pliable; bind with loops or layers
c: to cause to move in a curving line or path

Which sentence uses the verb wind as it is defined in the second dictionary entry?

- A. If you wind the music box, it will play a beautiful song.
- B. Once the kite caught the wind, it flew higher in the sky.
- C. Jodie was a great musician with wind instruments like the flute.
- D. The wind blew off Craig’s hat, and it tumbled down the driveway.
22.
My family went on a trip from Texas to Minnesota. We were able to drive on the **interstate** the whole way.

What is an **interstate**?

- A. a road in cold regions
- B. a road in the country
- C. a road that connects states
- D. a road that stays in one state

23. Harry tore the wrapping paper off his birthday present. When he saw the cover of the box, he bounced in his seat. It was the toy jet that he had wanted. He tore open the top of the box to get to his toy. He pulled out a piece of the jet’s wing. He looked at his parents. “Dad, will you **assemble** it for me?” he asked.

Which of these is the meaning of **assemble** as it is used in this sentence?

- A. put together
- B. play with
- C. bounce around
- D. tear paper

24. The doctor started to walk again, carrying the cat cradled over one shoulder, the cat’s eyes peeping out of the **gauze**. The doctor was stroking its back. He was confident the cat’s wounds would heal soon.

In the passage above, the word **gauze** means

- A. bandage.
- B. sack.
- C. cradle.
- D. blanket.

25.

The story about clumsy lion cubs who meet strange animals was quite **humorous**.

What does the word **humorous** mean?

- A. without laughs
- B. having humor
- C. too many jokes
- D. the most funny
26. The most important reason that life can exist on Earth is its atmosphere. Without it plant and animal life could not have developed. There would be no air to breathe. There would be no clouds, weather, or even sounds, only a deathlike stillness and an endlessly black sky.

What is the meaning of the word atmosphere in the paragraph above?

- A. plant and animal life
- B. the water in the oceans
- C. the surface of the ocean
- D. the air around us

27. Do you want to buy a new home without all the hard work? Shop for your new home in the Real Estate Journal. We're here to make your house hunting easier.

The author's purpose in writing this selection is to

- A. persuade the reader to buy the Real Estate Journal.
- B. teach the reader the value of working hard in life.
- C. give directions to the reader for finding a new home.
- D. describe to the reader the joy of owning a home.

28. Passage 1

Wetlands

There are several types of wetlands. Marshes and swamps are both considered wetlands. A marsh is an area of low, wet land. It is usually treeless and has different kinds of grasses growing in it. There are saltwater marshes in Georgia. Similar to a marsh, a swamp is also a low and wet area. A swamp, however, often has trees growing in it. It is sometimes covered by a slow-moving body of water. The Florida Everglades is one example of a large swamp.

Passage 2

Tornadoes

A tornado is a type of severe weather known for its funnel-shaped cloud and high winds. Funnel clouds form when winds traveling in two different directions come together and begin to rotate in a circle. Very powerful tornadoes can reach wind speeds of up to 300 mph. Tornadoes can harm people and things. In order to protect themselves, people must follow safety rules. During a tornado, a person should find a place to hide that does not have any windows. If one cannot find a safe place inside a building to hide, that person should lie flat in a ditch or other dry, low place. No one should stay in a car or mobile home because these items can be picked up by the tornado.

How are the overall structures of the two passages different?

- A. Passage 1 has a cause/effect structure. Passage 2 has a chronological structure.
- B. Passage 1 has a problem/solution structure. Passage 2 has a comparison structure.
- C. Passage 1 has a chronological structure. Passage 2 has a cause/effect structure.
- D. Passage 1 has a comparison structure. Passage 2 has a problem/solution structure.
29. Many people have been subject to unsafe drivers. Bad drivers are responsible for more accidents. Car insurance companies can raise their rates due to the increase of wrecks. New traffic laws are passed because of the behavior of dangerous drivers. Drivers who break these laws show a lack of respect for us all.

This passage is organized using

○ A. compare and contrast.
○ B. problem and solution.
○ C. chronological order.
○ D. cause and effect.

(1) In the 1950s, accordion player Werner Thomas of Davos, Switzerland, wrote a song for the flock of ducks and geese in his care. (2) He named his tune "Der Ententanz" or "The Duck Dance." (3) In the early 1960s, Thomas performed the song as a restaurant musician. (4) The people in town loved it and created the famous dance moves. (5) Thomas and his song were discovered by a customer and music producer named Louis van Rijmenant. (6) He liked the song and recorded it. (7) From there, its popularity spread around the globe. (8) The song was introduced in the US in 1982 by music director Norm Edlebeck as "The Chicken Dance." (9) During its history, the tune has been given various bird titles.

30. The sentence that best supports the idea that one does not have to be a professional to create something popular is

○ A. sentence 7.
○ B. sentence 4.
○ C. sentence 3.
○ D. sentence 1.

31. Which sentence supports the idea that success is all about being in the right place at the right time?

○ A. sentence 7
○ B. sentence 5
○ C. sentence 3
○ D. sentence 6
The king penguin is the second-largest penguin. It is about 3 feet tall and weighs around 30 pounds. It has white feathers on its belly. Black and gray feathers cover its back. King penguins also have bright orange patches of feathers on their neck and on the sides of their head. These penguins live on beaches out in the open. They live in large colonies of tens of thousands of penguins. The colonies are found on islands near Antarctica.

Recently, a special king penguin was discovered. It had dark feathers covering its entire body. This penguin is very rare. It is estimated that 1 in every 250,000 penguins might have some dark feathers where the feathers are typically white. However, there is no evidence of another penguin with dark feathers completely covering its normally white sections. The difference in this penguin's coloring does not seem to have any harmful effects on it. It is a very healthy penguin.

32. Read the following sentence from the passage.

They live in large colonies of tens of thousands of penguins.

Which word is a synonym for colonies?

- A. groups
- B. houses
- C. forests
- D. pairs

33. Read the following sentence from the passage.

Recently, a special king penguin was discovered.

Which word or phrase is an antonym of the word recently?

- A. long ago
- B. finally
- C. just now
- D. currently

34. Read the following sentence from the passage.

It had dark feathers covering its entire body.

Which word is a synonym for entire?

- A. huge
- B. whole
- C. part
- D. back

35. Read the following sentence from the passage.

This penguin is very rare.

Which word is an antonym for rare?

- A. intelligent
- B. happy
- C. uncommon
- D. ordinary
The Black Box
by J. Robbins

The night was lonely and full of shadows as Sarah and Abe drove up to a deserted park. They looked nervously out the window as they pulled through the open gates. No one had come by this park for years.

"Are you sure about this, Sarah?" Abe asked, his voice sounding loud in the silence all around them. Sarah jumped at his words and looked around one more time. She knew that she and Abe had no choice but to carry out their plan, but she was still nervous.

"I know we have to do this, Abe. If we don't bury this secret tonight, it will haunt us and our family forever," she said, her voice barely above a whisper. Both of them turned slowly and looked at the black box in the back seat. The box was covered by a dark blanket, and it was almost invisible in the dark night. I only wish it were invisible, Sarah thought. If it were invisible, our lives would never have been ruined by the ghost that haunts this box.

36. What type of writing is this?

- A. biography
- B. fiction
- C. nonfiction
- D. poetry

Jonna's parents told her she could buy a bike if she saved up for it herself. One day, she saw a used bike at a store downtown and fell in love with it. It was red with a black racing stripe, and it already had a bell and a light. She looked at the price tag: $25. When Jonna got home, she counted out all the money in her piggy bank. It came to $17.45. She didn't have quite enough. What could she do?

She told her dad the problem, and he scratched his head. "Well," he said, "you could knock on a few neighbors' doors and see if they have any jobs you could do."

"But I don't know how to do anything!" she told him.

"Sure you do. Think hard."

Jonna looked out the window just as a gust of wind blew. Yellow leaves floated down from their chestnut tree. "Got it!" she said, and she ran past her dad and out the door.

"Don't forget your jacket," her dad called after her. "October can be mighty chilly."

By the time Jonna had knocked on 10 doors, she'd lined up 5 jobs raking leaves over the next week. At $5 apiece, she'd have earned $25 by Saturday, more than enough to get that bike.

37. Which of the following best describes the plot of this story?

- A. Jonna asks her parents if they will buy her a bike, but they tell her she needs to earn the money to buy the bike herself.
- B. Jonna's parents won't let her buy the bike she wants, so she rakes leaves for people around the neighborhood and buys it anyway.
- C. Jonna doesn't have enough money for the bike she wants, so she rakes leaves around the neighborhood to earn enough to buy the bike.
- D. Jonna talks to her dad, who tells her she should keep saving her allowance and buy the bike in a few months.
38. What causes Jonna to rake leaves?

- A. Her dad wants her to help the family make money.
- B. She wants her parents to let her go to the movies.
- C. Her dad makes her do chores on Saturdays.
- D. She needs money to buy the bike she wants.

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**Sam's Report**

by c. safos

The clouds hung low in the gray sky. The chirping of the bluebirds woke me. As I woke, I got a funny feeling in my stomach. Today was the day. Today, I had to do something I have been afraid to do for a long time.

Mom came into the kitchen asking, "Are you ready, Sam?"

"Yes," I answered quietly. I wasn't really!

The school bus came on time, and I sat with my friend, Billy. We chatted about baseball and trading cards. It was a great way to get my mind off of what I had to do. As we approached the school, I could feel my heart beating. My hands were starting to sweat. I hated this!

I entered Mrs. Owens' class. "Hi Sam," she said as I walked in.

"Hi," I said and quickly sat in my seat. The time was near. Mrs. Owens said it was time to begin our special day.

Mrs. Owens announced, "Sam, you'll be first." I got up slowly, looking at the ground. I looked up, and everyone was staring. Mrs. Owens must have known I was nervous because she came by me and put her hand on my back. Then she turned to me and asked, "Sam, what did you like best about your report on Hawaii?"

I thought about the things I had read about surfing. I started to talk. Before I knew it, I was telling the class about everything. I talked in front of the whole class. It wasn't scary after all. The class clapped as I finished, and Mrs. Owens was smiling. I was proud of myself.

39. How did Sam feel at the **beginning** of the story?

- A. happy
- B. excited
- C. nervous
- D. proud

40. How did Sam feel at the **end** of the story?

- A. proud
- B. scared
- C. puzzled
- D. nervous

41. Why did Mrs. Owens put her hand on Sam's back?

- A. She was angry with Sam for being late.
- B. She was pushing him to the front of the class.
- C. She was trying to get Sam's attention.
- D. She wanted to comfort Sam.
Passage 1

After Chris and Tina moved into their new house with their parents, they discovered a new friend. A small gray cat visited their doorstep almost every day.

"Mom, can we give the cat some tuna?" asked Chris.
"I guess so," she replied. "Go look in the cupboard."
So the kids carefully put a little snack together and walked outside to present their gift. The cat, however, wasn't impressed. How could this be? All cats loved tuna.
"Maybe she has an owner that just fed her," guessed Tina.
"You're probably right. I was kind of hoping she was a stray, though. I really want to get a pet!" said Chris. Just then, their next door neighbor appeared. He scooped down to pick up the cat and smiled at the children.
"Thanks for playing with Boswell, kids. He loves to visit. I am always wondering where he runs off to!" their friendly neighbor said. "Do you kids have any pets?"
"No, but we'd sure like to get one," Chris replied.
"You should go down to the pound. I just got Boswell there, and I think he might have a sibling or two still waiting for adoption. Wouldn't it be nice if they ended up next door to each other?"
"Yeah! Let's ask Mom!" Tina exclaimed.
And so it was decided that a visit to the animal shelter was in order. Chris and Tina brought home two cats, so the whole cat family was reunited. They named their new pets Tuppany and Bailey. They loved playing with their big brother Boswell.

Passage 2

After Chris and Tina moved into their new house with their parents, they discovered a new friend. A small gray cat visited their doorstep almost every day.

"Mom, can we give the cat some tuna?" asked Chris.
"I guess so," she replied. "Go look in the cupboard."
So the kids carefully put a little snack together and walked outside to present their gift. The cat gobbled up the snack and looked for more. The kids giggled and pet its belly. Soon, they could hear a quiet purring sound. "She has such nice clean fur. I'll bet she belongs to the neighbors," guessed Tina.
"You're probably right. I was kind of hoping she was a stray, though. I really want to get a pet!" said Chris. Just then, their next door neighbor appeared. He scooped down to pick up the cat and smiled at the children.
"Thanks for playing with Boswell, kids. He loves to visit. I am always wondering where he runs off to!" their friendly neighbor said. "Do you kids have any pets?"
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"Yeah! Let's ask Mom!" Tina exclaimed.
And so it was decided that a visit to the animal shelter was in order. Chris and Tina brought home two cats, so the whole cat family was reunited. They named their new pets Tuppany and Bailey. They loved playing with their big brother Boswell.
42. How are these stories different?

○ A. All of these are correct.
○ B. In passage 1, Chris and Tina guess that Boswell has an owner because he isn't interested in their food. In passage 2, he eats the food, and Tina suggests he has an owner after petting his clean fur.
○ C. In passage 1, Chris and Tina think Boswell is female at first. In passage 2, they correctly guess he is male.
○ D. In passage 2, Chris and Tina adopt two cats from the animal shelter because they each want their own pet. In passage 1, they adopt three of Boswell's siblings.

43. How are these stories alike?

○ A. Both stories describe the mean next door neighbor.
○ B. Both stories have the same characters.
○ C. Both stories are told from the cat's point of view.
○ D. Both stories show the cat loves to eat tuna.

**Chasing Two Rabbits**

A martial arts student approached his teacher with a question. "I'd like to improve my knowledge of the martial arts. In addition to learning from you, I'd like to study with another teacher in order to learn another style. What do you think of this idea?"

"The hunter who chases two rabbits," answered the master, "catches neither one."

44. What is the main theme of the story?

○ A. It's best to study with two teachers at the same time.
○ B. It's never a good thing to insult your teacher.
○ C. To improve your knowledge, you should study harder.
○ D. Always focus on learning one thing well.
Unpopular: A Love Story
by J. Robbins

CHARACTERS:
Mandy, the most popular girl in school
Alice, Mandy's friend
Roberta, the most unpopular girl in school
Paul, a popular boy
Max, Roberta's friend
Mrs. Carter, a teacher

Stage Set: The cafeteria of a school. There are posters all around the room saying, "Mandy for Class President!" Students are gathered around the cafeteria in groups, and they all seem to be talking and pointing to one girl. She is seated by herself at a table eating her lunch. She doesn't seem to notice the students all around her.

(Students are chattering all around the stage.)
Mandy: Can you believe that Roberta? (points to the girl sitting alone) She doesn't even try to fit in with the rest of us. Have you seen her clothes?
Alice: I know! It's almost like she is from another planet.
Paul: I don't know, Mandy. I think Roberta is nice. She's really smart, too! I asked her a question in math class, and she knew the answer right away. I'll see you guys after school! (exits)
Mandy: Can you believe that? Paul was actually sticking up for Roberta. We can't let this go on. Everybody in school likes Paul. If he and Roberta are friends, soon everybody else will start to like her, too.
Alice: What can we do?
Mandy: I have a plan, Alice. We are going to make sure that Paul and Roberta stay far away from each other from now on. . . .

45. It is obvious that the passage is a drama because

- A. it has a list of characters.
- B. it has line breaks.
- C. it has a conflict.
- D. it has fictional characters.

46. What does it mean when the drama states, "(Students are chattering all around the stage)"?

- A. The people in the audience are supposed to talk to the actors.
- B. The actors are supposed to do a dance to distract the audience.
- C. The people playing the students are supposed to talk together.
- D. The actors are supposed to start speaking their lines and singing.
Lost and Found

Kim and Chieko walked home from school together each day. One afternoon as they walked through the park, Chieko saw something shiny lying on the ground. She pointed it out to Kim.

"It's a watch," Kim said, bending down to pick it up. She ran her fingers across the diamonds surrounding the watch face.

"Let me see," Chieko said. "Is it broken?"

"No, the watch is fine, but look. The clasp on the strap is broken. I bet the person who lost it doesn't even know it fell off."

"What should I do?" Chieko asked.

"You should keep it," Kim said. "It's beautiful—finders-keepers you know."

"One time I lost my necklace," Chieko said, putting her hand up to touch the blue stone that hung from a silver chain around her neck. "The clasp broke, and my necklace fell onto the school parking lot. When I realized it was gone, I rushed to the office to ask if anyone had turned it in. I didn't think that anyone had. If someone had found it, I was afraid they would keep it. I was so sad."

"So, what happened?" Kim asked.

"Someone did turn it in," Chieko said. "That was one of my happiest days."

"So, what are you going to do?" Kim asked.

"I plan on putting up flyers to see if someone has lost it," Chieko replied.

47. Which detail in the story shows that Chieko is an honest girl?

○ A. She sees something shiny on the ground.
○ B. She will turn in the watch at the office.
○ C. She will put up flyers about the watch.
○ D. She gives Kim her blue stone necklace.

48. How does the reader know that the watch is expensive?

○ A. It is lying on the ground.
○ B. It has a broken clasp.
○ C. It is on a silver chain.
○ D. It has diamonds on the face.

Kim and Louis were walking home from school together when they saw two bullies being mean to their friend Julio. The bullies were bigger than Julio, and they were laughing at him and chasing him around. Julio was trying to get away from the two boys, but he was too small to get very far.

"What should we do?" Kim asked Louis. She felt so bad for Julio that tears started to fill her eyes. Louis felt bad for Julio, too, but he knew that they could not stop the bullies on their own. Their father had always taught them to solve problems with their brains and not their fists.

"We have to run home and get help!" Louis told Kim. They grabbed their backpacks and started running toward their house.

"Do you think Dad is home from work yet?" Kim asked as they raced toward their house.

"I don't know," Louis replied, "but if he's not home yet, we will call the police to help Julio!" Louis' stomach was hurting with fear and anger as he ran. Why did some kids pick on other kids?

49. The reader can tell that this is a story because

○ A. it has characters and a setting.
○ B. it gives information about bullies.
○ C. it describes the life of a person.
○ D. it is written in lines and stanzas.