

Test Name : INFERENCES

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Date : _____

Your Name : _____

Teacher : _____

Class Name : _____

Directions

Because they are young or small, children may not think that they can make a difference in anyone's life or help others. Read the following passage about a boy whose mother encourages him to paint to help the homeless. Then answer the questions that follow.

Art for Charity

As Matthew and his Mother walked out of the grocery store, Matthew saw a man on the sidewalk.

"Hey, Mom. What's wrong with that guy?"

"From the way he looks, I suspect he's homeless," his mom answered.

As she spoke, Matthew glanced back toward the sidewalk. The man had dingy clothes that seemed too big for him, and his face and hair appeared dirty. Since the sun shone warmly, the man carried his coat instead of wearing it. He walked slowly, like someone with nowhere to go. For a moment his eyes met Matthew's, and suddenly the homeless seemed much more real than they did on television.

"He probably doesn't have anything—no car, new clothes, food—shouldn't we do something for him, Mom?" asked a concerned Matthew.

"I donate money to the local homeless

shelter," she replied.

"Well, what about me? I've never done anything for anyone like him."

"No one expects someone your age to think about poverty or homelessness yet," answered his mom, "but I'm impressed that you care enough to notice that needy people exist."

"I wonder what I could do, though; I can't get a job yet," thought Matthew aloud.

"Right, and at your age, I can't allow you to volunteer at a shelter either."

"The only thing I'm good at is painting, but decorating their cardboard boxes won't do them any good," Matthew said as he unloaded the grocery bags into the car.

"How did you know some of them lived in cardboard boxes?" his mom asked.

"I've heard it on the news."

"You must know about a lot of things we haven't discussed. Hey, I have an idea," she said as Matthew closed the trunk. "A group that works to help the homeless plans to hold an auction soon. People donate items to sell, and the money benefits the local shelter."

"That's great, Mom," Matthew said sarcastically, "but I don't own anything worth selling."

"Yes, you do. You own your talent, and the pictures you paint might be perfect for the

auction,” she told him.

“Do you think that anyone would want to buy one of my paintings?” Matthew asked doubtfully. “I’m pretty young and some artists practice their whole lives before selling a painting.”

“I have no doubts about your abilities. You have a special gift, Matt, and you can use it to help others if you choose to,” said his mom. “Young people can sing, dance, paint, compete—do anything if they have talent and drive—so what makes you any less incapable?”

Matthew grappled for excuses. “Someone might make fun of my pictures or the group won’t want them.”

“Matt, no one will criticize your work because it is good, and everyone will know you did it for a good cause. People will want it so they can tell their friends a local artist painted it for charity.”

“You think so? Ok, I’ll give it a try.”

As Matt and his mom drove away, the man continued to walk slowly down the sidewalk.

1. You can tell that Matt will probably—

- A take guitar lessons
- B give his money to the homeless man
- C learn to cook
- D paint a picture for the auction

2. How does Matt’s mother seem to feel about letting him paint for the auction?

- A Angry
- B Delighted
- C Encouraging
- D Unsure

Directions

Mike is having a special sale at his bicycle shop this weekend. Read Mike's ad below to see what he offers. Then answer the questions that follow.

Special Bike Sale at Mike's

Mike's bikes are always priced **LOW LOW LOW!**

Thanks to extra supplies, ALL bikes will be sold at even **LOWER** prices.

This weekend only.

Don't wait! Monday will be too late!

Is your old bike really worth the cost of repair?

Don't spend another dime on that old pile of junk metal.

Buy a brand new bike at Mike's.

Need to exercise?

Don't pay an expensive membership fee at the gym!

Mike's exercise bikes are priced just right.

Thinking of the perfect birthday gift?

Mike's bikes are sure to please.

Mike always gift wraps and delivers at no extra charge.

Looking for an exciting ride?

Every head will turn to watch as you cruise around your neighborhood on a sleek new model.

Choose from mountain bikes, ten-speed bikes, minibikes, racing bikes, exercise bikes, and more.

Top name brands. Latest models.

Compare prices and save.

Mike's prices are unbeatable!

	REGULAR PRICE	LOW PRICE
Ten-speed bikes	\$79.99	\$59.99
Mini bikes	\$59.99	\$39.99
Exercise bikes	\$89.99	\$69.99

Hurry in for the best selection!

Store hours: 9am–9pm

3. From this ad, you can tell that on Monday, Mike's bikes will probably—
- A no longer be available.
 - B have a delivery charge.
 - C go back to the regular low prices.
 - D stay at the special weekend sale prices.
4. From this ad, you can conclude that Mike sells —
- A a variety of bikes
 - B only racing bikes
 - C only bikes with training wheels
 - D mostly old model bikes
5. Which of the following details best supports your answer to the previous question?
- A Mike sells ten-speed bikes.
 - B Mike's shop carries top name brands.
 - C A bike from Mike's shop makes a good birthday gift.
 - D You can choose mountain bikes, ten-speed bikes, exercise bikes, and more at Mike's shop.

Directions

How much do you know about grizzly bears? Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

The Mighty Grizzly

A million years ago, grizzly bears shared their snowy North American home with the saber-toothed tiger and the mastodon. Today, of those animals only the grizzlies survive. Though their numbers have dwindled, thousands of grizzly bears still roam the wilds of Canada and Alaska. Several hundred more live in the mountains of the northwestern United States.

Grizzlies look different from other bears. They are large brown bears that get their name from their silver-tipped, or grizzled, fur. They also have a high forehead and a large hump on their shoulders. They have long, straight claws that make it difficult for them to climb trees.

Like other bears, grizzlies can run at great speed in spite of their massive size. Some grizzlies learn to be very good hunters, but most grizzlies do not find meat very often. Usually they graze on plants and berries or dig up roots to eat. They do love to eat squirrels and can quickly tear up a large patch of earth with their powerful claws to catch one. In the spring, when the snow thaws, grizzlies often feed on the carcasses of animals that did not survive the cold winter. Many grizzlies are lucky enough to live near rivers where salmon return to lay their eggs. Those bears become expert at fishing. Eating lots of fish gives the bear important nutrients that will keep it healthy while it hibernates.

In late summer, grizzlies develop a big appetite and may eat several times their weight in just a few weeks. When it has eaten enough, a grizzly finds a good place to make its winter den. It will choose a place high up in the mountains. The grizzly will dig an entrance and then make its sleeping den a little higher. This keeps melting snow from filling the sleeping quarters. It also keeps the den cozy by

trapping warmth created by the bear's body. The warm air rises and cannot escape down the tunnel. Once a bear goes into its den it usually will not come out again all winter.

During the winter, mother grizzlies have their babies. The tiny cubs grow to about five pounds by the time spring comes. Then they leave the den with their mother to begin learning about the world. She teaches them which foods to eat, even though they still get most of their nutrients from their mother's milk. The mother grizzly teaches the cubs what to be afraid of while she protects them from danger. The cubs stay with their mother through one or two winters so that they can learn how to dig a den and hibernate. Once they have learned those things, their mother begins giving her cubs the cold shoulder. She ignores them and chases them away to let them know it is time for her to start the cycle again. The cubs start to take care of themselves. In this way, the rugged life of the grizzlies continues as it has for a million years.

6. What will the mother bear probably do after her cubs leave?

- A She'll clean out her den
- B She'll find another mother's cubs to keep her company
- C She'll follow them to make sure they stay away
- D She'll mate and have a new litter

7. Which statement is supported by information in the passage?
- A Grizzlies must find a cave in which to hibernate.
 - B A grizzly hunts once a week during the winter.
 - C A grizzly usually does not eat or drink all winter long.
 - D A mother bear brings berries to her new cubs during the winter.
8. Why do grizzlies develop a big appetite in the late summer?
- A Hot weather makes them need more nutrients.
 - B They know that is when the best berries ripen.
 - C They have been very active in the spring.
 - D They must put on fat before they hibernate.

Directions:

People's favorite memories are often those of family vacations. They recall those glorious days when summer arrived and children were let out of school. Then their parents would toss suitcases into the back of the station wagon or mini-van, gather up the masses, and aim toward the chosen destination. Read the following poem about a boy's vacation experience. Then answer the questions that follow.

Family Vacation

The car is riding low, a burdened ship upon the sea
Filled with family and a dog. Then, of course,
there's me.

We left at six this morning, and we've driven all
the day.

"We'll be there soon, just hold your horses," Mom
sure likes to say.

Mom clutches the steering wheel, and Dad's
reading a map

While Grandma snores and mumbles as she takes
another nap.

I'm sitting in the middle between Frank and Lottie
Lou.

Grandma's in the back with Kim and our mutt
named Boo.

We ate lunch at a restaurant in some town that I
don't know.

Then we stopped for ice cream, and I sloped mine
on my toe.

We got lost in the mountains; asked a ranger for
some help.

Then Boo escaped the car, ran away with a yip and
yelp.

Once Frank and I had snared the pooch and stuck
him back inside,

Mom said, "Time to change seats for the next part
of the ride!"

So in the back I go with Kim and smelly, drooly

Boo.

Grandma falls asleep again, leaning against poor
Lottie Lou.

We're driving to the beach to visit cousins Anne
and Joe,
And Mom chirps that we only have three-hundred
miles to go.
The sun has set, the moon's come up, the road is
dark and long,
And Kim, my baby sister, keeps on singing the
same song:

"A-B-C-D-E-F-G . . . H-I-J-K-L-M-N-O-P,
Q-R-S . . . T-U-V . . . W-X, Y and Z."
I tell Mom to make Kim stop; I'm so sick of
ABCs!
So Dad gives Kim the dreaded clangy, clinky
bunch of keys.

*Rattle, rattle, rattle, rattle, jingle, jingle, clink;
Tap-tap-tap-tap-tap-tap-tap, jangle, jangle,
chink!*
I put my hands on my ears and try not to hear the
noise,
And wonder if vacations are the same for other
boys.

Then, suddenly, I feel a hand give my shoulder a
shake.
My eyes open; I'd gone to sleep, but now I am
awake.
Outside the car I see the sea, the waves are white
and blue,
And cousins Joe and Anne say through the
window, "Hey there, you!"

Morning's here and so are we, and now we can
have fun
Playing in the golden sand and building castles in
the sun.
We'll ride the waves, and all along the beach we'll
gladly roam,
Until, oh no! The week is up and it's time to drive
back home.

9. From reading this poem, the reader can tell that—
- A Mom likes to be in charge
 - B Mom likes to drive the car
 - C Mom likes to eat ice cream
 - D Mom likes to go to the beach
10. Why is "Oh, no!" probably a good choice of words for the author to use at the end of the poem?
- A He's thinking about how he'll miss the sand and waves at the beach.
 - B He knows he'll be crowded back in the car with his family for the long trip.
 - C He believes he'll miss his cousins Anne and Joe.
 - D He's worried that he might "sloop" another cone of ice cream on his toe.