

Name:

Fiction: Drama; Play – Q2:1

Date:

As you answer this week's questions, highlight your evidence in the text.

Forgetful Herb Soup

Based on a Japanese Folktale

Characters

NARRATOR

MERCHANT

INNKEEPER

INNKEEPER'S WIFE (referred to as WIFE in the script)

Setting: The Tavern of the Inn

To the right are a few empty tables and chairs. Some of the chairs have been placed upside-down on the table. WIFE wipes off a table with a rag. When she finishes, INNKEEPER places chairs upside down on the table. NARRATOR stands in the left front corner.

NARRATOR: Late one night, a weary merchant arrived at the tavern of an inn.

MERCHANT enters from left, carrying many full sacks. He knocks on a door.

[Sound effect: Door Knocking]

MERCHANT: Hello? Might I come in for a bite to eat.

WIFE: We're closed.

MERCHANT: I promise, I won't trouble you long. Just a quick bite of bread or...

INNKEEPER: You heard my wife, we are closed for the night.

MERCHANT: Oh please, good people, I've travelled such a long way and my bags are so heavy. I was foolish to carry so much at one time. But I couldn't decide which of my wares to bring to the palace market. Golden goblets? Silver dishes? Fine silk? Exotic spices? So, I just brought them all.

INNKEEPER: I don't care if you're carrying a herd of elephants, we're not opening our door for—

WIFE rushes past INNKEEPER and lets MERCHANT in.

WIFE: Do come in! Please, have a seat. Set those heavy bags down. (exits stage. Calls from off stage) How about a nice bowl of herb (pronounced ERB) soup?

MERCHANT sets bags down at the table and lowers a seat from the table and sits down.

MERCHANT: Sounds perfect.

WIFE: (from off-stage) Oh, it is.

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WIFE returns carrying a large pot with a ladle in it, and bowl with a spoon in it in her other hand.

INNKEEPER: (whispers to WIFE) What are you doing? Our soup today was onion.

WIFE scrapes pot with ladle and spoons it into the bowl.

WIFE: So it was, and there's just enough for one last bowl. We just need to add a dash of our special ingredient: forgetful herb. (reaches into her apron pocket and pulls out a small bag of herbs, sprinkles some into the bowl) Anyone who eats this herb forgets something. With the merchant carrying so many bags, he's bound to forget one of them. Then, whatever is inside is ours.

INNKEEPER: You are so very clever.

WIFE: I know.

WIFE serves MERCHANT the bowl of soup. MERCHANT begins eating.

WIFE: Eat up. You'll need every last spoonful for the long journey ahead.

MERCHANT: Thank you. You are too kind.

WIFE: (smiles) Not at all.

WIFE and INNKEEPER walk off to the side. MERCHANT continues to eat.

INNKEEPER: I wonder which bag he'll leave behind. Perhaps the golden goblets?

WIFE: I bet the silver dishes are so polished I can see myself in them.

INNKEEPER: Then again, my taste buds are craving the exotic spices. It would be nice to be able to season our food with more than onion (continuing in a whisper) or forgetful herb.

As WIFE and INNKEEPER talk, MERCHANT finishes his soup, picks up his bags and leaves.

WIFE: (Clutches her apron) Can't you just see me dressed in silk instead of these rags?

WIFE twirls around, then notices MERCHANT has left.

WIFE: He's gone. Time to claim our forgotten treasure.

INNKEEPER looks under the table. WIFE crawls on the floor. They find nothing.

WIFE: I don't understand. He must have forgotten something.

INNKEEPER looks down at the table, shakes his head and frowns.

INNKEEPER: Oh, he did. He forgot to pay us for his soup.

NARRATOR: Their greed had left them with nothing. And that was a lesson they never forgot.

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| Before you read, make a prediction about this story based on the title. <hr/> | What is the role of a narrator in a play? <hr/> |
| Who are the characters in this play? <hr/> | How is the merchant feeling when he arrives at the tavern? <hr/> |
| Where does the story take place? <hr/> | Why do the wife and innkeeper not let the merchant in the tavern at first? <hr/> |
| The part of the play that describes what is happening on stage is called... <hr/> | Where is the merchant traveling to? <hr/> |
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| What special ingredient does the wife put in the soup? <hr/> | Which word best describes the innkeeper and his wife? giving thoughtful greedy generous |
| What happens to a person if they eat the special ingredient? <hr/> | In the end, what did the merchant forget? <hr/> |
| Which forgotten treasure does the wife say she will be able to see her reflection in? <hr/> | What lesson did the innkeeper and his wife learn in this play? <hr/> |
| Why does the innkeeper hope the merchant forgets the exotic spices? <hr/> | What may have happened if the innkeeper and his wife didn't use the forgetful herb? <hr/> |

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Name:

Nonfiction: Point of View – Q2:2

Date:

As you answer this week's questions, highlight your evidence in the text.

Pigs: The Perfect Pets?

Lots of people have dogs or cats for pets. But, pigs just might be the best pets ever.

Pigs are smarter than dogs and cats. Researchers say pigs are as intelligent as a three-year old child. They can solve basic mazes and puzzles. In one study, pigs were taught to play a simple video game using their snout. Chimpanzees were taught to play the same game using their hands. Pigs were just as good at playing the game as chimpanzees.

It's important to train your pig, and teach it good manners. An untrained pig can be **destructive** and break things. Luckily, because pigs are intelligent, they are easy to train. Pigs can also learn the same tricks dogs do. Pigs can learn to sit, shake a hoof, fetch, spin around, come and more. They can be taught to go potty outside. Like dogs, pigs can learn to walk on a leash.

If you think pigs are dirty, think again. Pigs enjoy being clean. So why are farm pigs always covered in mud? Pigs can't sweat. They wallow in mud to stay cool. There are ways for pigs to stay cool other than taking a mud bath. A pet pig is just as happy to splash around in a kiddie pool. On hot days, pet pigs like to chill indoors in the air conditioning.

But aren't pigs too big to live in our homes? A farm pig can weigh up to 1,000 pounds. However, most people who want a pet pig choose miniature pigs or pot-bellied pigs. Miniature pigs can be as small as 12 pounds. Pot-bellied pigs can grow to be 125 to 200 pounds. That's the same size as some large breed dogs.

Cats can be stand-offish. Dogs jump up on you and give slobbery licks. Pigs are just right when it comes to affection. They enjoy a good cuddle. Pigs also love to play. Play keeps a pig's mind and body active. They don't like to be bored. A bored pig can get into things and cause problems. But good owners enjoy playing with their pigs, so that isn't an issue.

Pigs like to dig in dirt with their snouts. This is called "**rooting**". A pet pig needs a spot to root outdoors. This doesn't have to ruin your yard. Just fence off a section of your yard for your pig to root in. The rest of your yard can be kept just the way you like it.

Pigs are smart, affectionate, and playful. With so much going for them, pigs might be the perfect pet!



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| <p>Before you read, make a prediction about the text based on the title and text features.</p> <hr/> | <p>Based on the article, what is the meaning of the word destructive?</p> <hr/> |
| <p>Before you read, do you believe pigs make better pets than dogs or cats? Explain.</p> <hr/> | <p>How can you prevent a pet pig from being destructive?</p> <hr/> |
| <p>Based on the first paragraph, how does the author feel about having a pig as a pet?</p> <hr/> | <p>According to the 3rd paragraph, what are some ways pigs are like dogs?</p> <hr/> |
| <p>What is the first reason the author gives for why pigs are the perfect pet?</p> <hr/> | <p>Many people believe pigs are dirty. What is the point of view of the author?</p> <hr/> |
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| <p>What detail does the author give to prove that pigs enjoy being clean?</p> <hr/> | <p>Now that you've read "Pigs; The Perfect Pets?", what is your point of view? Are pigs the perfect pet? Explain.</p> <hr/> |
| <p>If someone wants a pet pig, what type of pig should they get?</p> <hr/> | <hr/> |
| <p>According to the author, what is one way pigs show affection?</p> <hr/> | <hr/> |
| <p>Based on the text, what is rooting?</p> <hr/> | <hr/> |

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Fiction: Point of View – Q2:3

Date:

As you answer this week's questions, highlight your evidence in the text.

The Unicorn Promise

"Please, Mom!!" Gia begged outside the dressing room. "Let Carly take me next door to Hobby World while you're trying on dresses. My friends said they're getting the Glitter Glow Unicorn back in stock today."

Carly had promised to buy her little sister Gia the Glitter Glow Unicorn for her birthday. But, they were nearly impossible to find. It was always sold out. Everywhere! Gia's birthday was back in August. It was now October. Carly didn't get why Glitter Glow Unicorns were so popular. They shed glitter everywhere. But it was the only present Gia wanted.

"I did promise I'd get her one," Carly said. "But no store has had them for months."

"All right," agreed Mom. "Promise me you'll come right back and stay together."

"We promise," the girls said.

Carly asked the Hobby World cashier where to find the Glitter Glow Unicorns.

"If we have any left, they'd be in aisle 8," he answered.

"Come on!" Gia took off running. Carly trailed after her. On the shelf in aisle 8, there was one Glitter Glow Unicorn left.

"He's perfect!" Gia gave the small unicorn a big hug. Glitter came off on her shirt.

Carly checked the price tag: \$25. Exactly the amount she had in her coat pocket.

"Let's go buy it," said Carly.

A gray-haired woman stood in the check-out line behind them.

"Oh, a Glitter Glow Unicorn!" said the woman. "I got my granddaughter one. She loves it."

"Me too!" said Gia.

"Next," called the cashier.

Carly plunked \$25 down on the counter.

"That'll be \$26.75," said the clerk.

"The price tag says \$25!" said Carly, surprised.

"Yes, but there's sales tax," the clerk explained.

"Let's go ask Mom if we can borrow the extra," said Gia.

"Can you keep this behind the counter for us?" asked Carly. "We'll be right back."

"Sorry, it's against store policy to put items on hold," said the cashier.

"You go," said Gia. "I'll wait here with my unicorn."

"I can't," said Carly. "We promised we'd stay together. If I go without you, Mom will be mad."

"Can we buy it now and pay you the sales tax later?" asked Gia.

"No can do," said the cashier. "If you can't pay the full amount, you have to put it back."

"No!" cried Gia. "Someone else will buy it. Carly, do something. You promised!"

Carly didn't know what to do. Maybe she could just pretend to put it back. And instead, slip the unicorn into her pocket. Would it be stealing if she came back and paid for it later? Or maybe the nice old lady would be willing loan them a few bucks. Carly could promise to pay her back as soon as they got money from their mom. But was it rude to ask a stranger for money?

A man in line called out, "Are you buying the unicorn or not? If not, I want to get it for my son."

Carly needed to make a decision fast! What was she going to do?

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| <p>Before you read, make a prediction about this story based on the title.</p> <hr/> | <p>What promise did Carly make to Gia?</p> <hr/> |
| <p>Who are the two main characters in the story?</p> <hr/> | <p>Why wasn't Carly able to give Gia a Glitter Glow Unicorn for her birthday?</p> <hr/> |
| <p>Where does most of the story take place?</p> <hr/> | <p>Why did Carly not care for Glitter Glow Unicorns?</p> <hr/> |
| <p>What does Gia want to do at the beginning of the story?</p> <hr/> | <p>How many Glitter Glow Unicorns are left at Hobby World?</p> <hr/> |
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| <p>How much money does Carly have in her pocket?</p> <hr/> | <p>Based on the story, do you think Carly is a good sister? Support your answer.</p> <hr/> |
| <p>Why didn't Carly have enough money for the Glitter Glow Unicorn?</p> <hr/> | <p>What is Carly's problem at the end of the story?</p> <hr/> |
| <p>Why can't Carly go ask her mom for some extra money?</p> <hr/> | <p>Carly thinks about stealing the Glitter Glow Unicorn. Do you agree or disagree? Explain.</p> <hr/> |
| <p>Carly won't leave Gia at the store to ask her mom for money. Do you agree or disagree? Explain.</p> <hr/> | <p>Carly thinks about barrowing money from the old woman. Do you think it is okay to barrow the money? Explain.</p> <hr/> |

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Nonfiction: Time Order – Q2:4

Date:

As you answer this week's questions, highlight your evidence in the text.

The Early History of Flight

The earliest records of human flight date back more than 1,000 years before Orville and Wilbur Wright invented the airplane in 1903. The first flying machines somewhat looked like today's hang gliders. The wings didn't flap or bend. They were straight and **rigid**. The flying machines were built to soar like eagles, not flap like other birds.

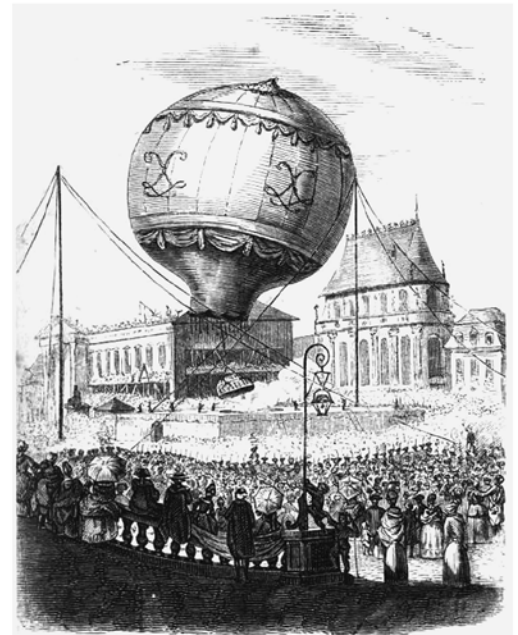
In 853, a Muslim astronomer named Abbas Ibn Firnas built the world's first flying machine. He was 70 years old! He made the wings out of bamboo, tied together by strips of silk. Then he covered it with eagle feathers. He strapped himself in with a harness. According to records, he took off from a cliff and stayed airborne for several minutes. Unfortunately, Firnas couldn't slow down for his landing and crashed. He survived the crash but was seriously injured.

There are records of two other early glider flights. In 1005, a British monk named Eilmer of Malmesbury jumped off a tall tower. He glided for about 10 seconds before crashing and breaking both his legs. The next was a Turkish scientist named Hezarfen Ahmet Celebi. In 1638, Celebi jumped off a tower. He traveled 2 miles across a body of water and successfully landed on the other side.

The first hot air balloon was invented in 1783 by French brothers Joseph Michel and Jacques Etienne Montgolfier. The first balloon passengers weren't people. They were a sheep, a duck, and a rooster. The animal test flight happened in September of 1783. Two months later, on November 21, the first manned balloon flight was **launched**. They flew for 20 minutes over Paris.

Hot air balloons could fly, but they couldn't be steered. In 1852, French inventor Henri Giffard built an airship. His balloon was shaped more like a skinny football. It was powered by a steam engine. It also had a wheel, like a boat, for steering.

Between 1891 and 1896, Otto Lilienthal, a German engineer, designed 18 different gliders. Over those 5 years, Lilienthal flew his gliders almost 2,000 times. During his final flight, he got caught in a strong wind. He lost control of his glider, crashed, and was killed.



Grande Montgolfière de Versailles entrant un mouton, un coq et un canard.
The first hot air balloon flight, 1783.



First engine powered flight - 120 feet in 12 seconds

Before inventing the airplane, the Wright brothers designed 3 gliders of their own. Gliders do not have engines. When they designed their airplane, they added an engine. On December 17, 1903, the Wright brothers flew the first airplane in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.

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| <p>Before you read, make a prediction about the text based on the title and text features.</p> <hr/> | <p>What was the problem with the first flying machine?</p> <hr/> |
| <p>Based on the 1st paragraph, what did the first flying machine look like?</p> <hr/> | <p>According to the article, what was the outcome of the glider flight in 1005?</p> <hr/> |
| <p>What materials were used to build the first flying machine in 853?</p> <hr/> | <p>How were the two glider flights mentioned in the 3rd paragraph different?</p> <hr/> |
| <p>Based on the text, what is the meaning of the word rigid?</p> <hr/> | <p>What year was the first hot air balloon invented?</p> <hr/> |
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| <p>Who were the first hot air balloon passengers?</p> <hr/> | <p>What is the difference between a glider and an airplane?</p> <hr/> |
| <p>When did the first manned hot air balloon flight take place?</p> <hr/> | <p>What year was the first airplane flown?</p> <hr/> |
| <p>Based on the text, what is the meaning of the word launched?</p> <hr/> | <p>What information do you gain from the caption under the second photograph?</p> <hr/> |
| <p>What problem did French inventor, Henri Giffard, solve?</p> <hr/> | <p>How did the author organize the information in this article?</p> <hr/> |

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Nonfiction: Technical Text: Sequence – Q2:5

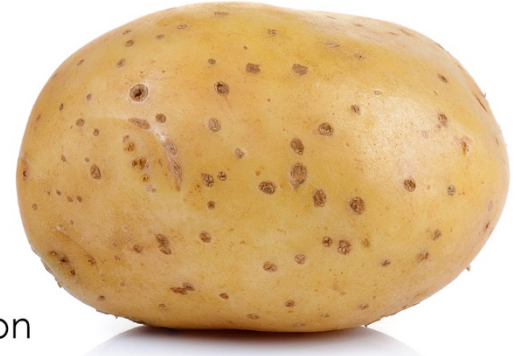
Date:

As you answer this week's questions, highlight your evidence in the text.

How to Jab a Straw Through a Potato

You are going to attempt to poke three items through a potato: First, a knife... then a pencil...and lastly, a drinking straw.

What you need: Potato (uncooked)
Drinking Straws (at least two)
Scissors
Cutting Board
Table Knife (not sharp)
Sharpened Pencil
Adult Supervision and Participation



Instructions

1. Before you begin, make sure the straws are straight. If they're the kind that bend, use scissors to snip off the bendy part. Now you are ready to get started.
2. Set the potato down on the cutting board
3. Have the adult go first, using the knife. Ask the adult to attempt to stab the knife through the potato. They may succeed at getting the knife to go into the potato. But it won't go in very far.
4. Second, you will try the pencil. Make a fist around the pencil. Next, try to **jab** it through the potato. The pencil might make a small hole in the potato, but it won't go all the way through.
5. Third, use a drinking straw. Pick up the potato. Hold it in one hand, between your thumb and fingers. With your other hand, make a fist around the straw, then stab the potato with the straw. It might make a small circular mark in the potato. But likely, stabbing the potato with the straw this way will do more damage to the straw than to the potato!
6. Finally, get a new straw. Grasp the straw 2/3 up. This time, cover the end of the straw with your thumb. After your thumb is in place, give the straw a forceful jab into the potato. It should go all the way through! If it doesn't, try again with a new straw. You don't have to be strong for it to work. Just be confident and give the straw a sharp thrust. Eventually, you'll get the hang of it, and the straw will go through!

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| Based on the title, what will you learn from this text? _____ | Why do you think the author says you need adult supervision? _____ |
| What 3 items will you use to poke a potato? _____ | How many steps in this process are there altogether? _____ |
| What other items will you need? _____ | What should you do BEFORE you begin? _____ |
| According to the text, what is a table knife ? _____ | Who should perform the third step? _____ |
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| Which step requires you to use scissors? _____ | After you stab the potato with a pencil, what should you do next? _____ |
| What should you do after an adult tries to stab the potato with a knife? _____ | Before you stab the potato with a straw, how should you hold the potato? _____ |
| According to the text, what is the meaning of the word jab ? _____ | Why do you think the first straw didn't work but the second straw did work? _____ |
| According to the author, what will happen after you jab the potato with a pencil? _____ | If you are having trouble getting the straw to go through the potato, what should you do? _____ |

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A World Without Frogs

Frogs are everywhere. They live on the land and in water. Frogs are found on every continent except Antarctica. But frog populations are **declining**. In the last 40 years, several frog species have disappeared. Scientists believe that several factors are causing this to happen. These factors include habitat loss, climate change, and pollution.

What would happen if frogs disappeared?

Lots of Bugs!

Frogs eat bugs. Without frogs, there'd be a lot more bugs! Some bugs, like mosquitos and ticks, carry diseases. More bugs would lead to more people getting sick from insect bites. Bugs would also have a negative effect on farmers' crops. More bugs would feed on their crops. In order to protect their crops from bugs, farmers would have to increase their use of pesticides. Pesticides don't only kill bugs. They can poison other animals. They can also harm humans.

Too Much Algae in the Water!

Frogs help control the bug population. But did you know they control the growth of **algae**?

Frogs lay eggs in the water. The eggs hatch into tadpoles. Tadpoles eat algae. Algae is a tiny aquatic plant. It grows on the surface of ponds. Without tadpoles, algae could cover an entire pond. Algae would block sunlight from getting through. Plants need sunlight to grow. Due to the lack of sunlight, plants that grow under the water would die. The fish that eat those plants would also die.



Also, all that algae would affect the color of the water. Water is normally clear. Algae is bluish-green, so it would cause the water to turn bluish-green, too. It could also make the water taste and smell funny. If humans drank the water, then they could get sick.

Because tadpoles eat algae, they keep algae from growing out of control. They help keep water clear and healthy.

Other Animals Would Go Hungry!

Many animals depend on frogs as a food source. Spiders and wasps eat frog eggs. Shrimp and fish eat tadpoles. Adult frogs are eaten by birds, snakes, and lizards. Without frogs, these animals would need to find a new food source. If they couldn't, then they might starve and die.

Frogs play an important role in the health of our planet. If our world didn't have frogs, we'd have more to lose than the sound of their croaking.

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| <p>Before you read, make a prediction about the text based on the title and text features.</p> <hr/> | <p>Why do authors sometimes include headings in an article?</p> <hr/> |
| <p>Based on the first paragraph, what is the problem frogs are facing?</p> <hr/> | <p>In the section “Lots of Bugs!”, what might happen if frogs disappeared?</p> <hr/> |
| <p>On what continent will you NOT find frogs?</p> <hr/> | <p>How do some bugs make people sick?</p> <hr/> |
| <p>According to the text, what is the meaning of the word declining?</p> <hr/> | <p>If there are too many bugs, what might farmers do to protect their crops?</p> <hr/> |
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| <p>According to the text, what is algae?</p> <hr/> | <p>How might too much algae effect the water?</p> <hr/> |
| <p>How do tadpoles help control the growth of algae?</p> <hr/> | <p>Based on the article, what animals depend on adult frogs as a food source?</p> <hr/> |
| <p>How does the photograph help you better understand the article?</p> <hr/> | <p>If frogs disappeared, what would happen to animals that eat frogs?</p> <hr/> |
| <p>If algae were to cover an entire pond, what might happen?</p> <hr/> | <p>Do you think it is important to protect frogs? Support your answer.</p> <hr/> |

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The Perfect New Shoes

When Anthony's mom said he could have the new sneakers, he could not believe he'd heard her say 'yes'.

"I can have these?" he repeated. He looked around the shoe store, wondering if the "yes" had come from another woman who just sounded like his mom. His mom only bought things on sale. These shoes were full-price.

"You've been helpful at home. You've helped Dad with the yard. All that good work means, yes, I'll buy you those shoes. But make sure they fit with a little room to grow," Mom cautioned. "It'll be awhile before you get another pair this expensive."

These were his dream shoes, just like his favorite NBA player. The sneakers he had been wearing had literally fallen apart. His mom had thrown them in the trash before taking him shopping. His new sneakers were perfect, and he wanted to keep them that way until he wore them to school on Monday. Anthony carried them out of the store in a shoebox.

On Monday morning, Anthony woke to the sound of rain pounding on the roof. He needed to wear sneakers to school for gym, but he couldn't bring himself to put on his new shoes. If he wore them today, they'd get all muddy and wet. Then they wouldn't be perfect!

"You're going to miss the bus! Hurry up," his mom called.

"Just a minute. I'm putting on my shoes." Anthony dug in the back of his closet and found the shoes he hated, the lime green sneakers. Mom had found them in a yard sale last summer. She'd been so happy to get such a great deal on sneakers that still had the tags on them. Anthony thought the tags meant that the kid who owned them before him didn't want to wear them either. His new shoes were size 5. These were size 4, but he squeezed his feet into them. They pinched when he had them laced, but he would have to deal with it. He limped to the kitchen.

"What's wrong? Are you hurt?" asked Mom. Then she looked at his feet. "You're wearing the green sneakers? You said they were the ugliest shoes ever made."

"They still are, and they barely fit. But it's raining, and I don't want to ruin my new ones walking to the bus," Anthony explained.

Mom started laughing. "So, we bought you shoes that are too good to wear?"

Anthony nodded, making a sandwich out of his toast and egg. "If I take on more chores, do you think we can buy me a backup pair? Nothing expensive, just something for rainy days."

"Some rainy day shoes? I think we can work something out," his mom said. "But promise me you'll wear your new ones before you outgrow them. Even the most perfect shoes are no good if you don't wear them."

Fiction: Characters in a Story – Q2:7

| Monday | Tuesday |
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| <p>Before you read, make a prediction about this story based on the title.</p> <p>_____</p> | <p>When Anthony's mom says "yes", how does Anthony feel?</p> <p>_____</p> |
| <p>Who is the main character in the story?</p> <p>_____</p> | <p>What reasons did Anthony's mom give for saying "yes" to the new sneakers?</p> <p>_____</p> |
| <p>Who is the supporting character in the story?</p> <p>_____</p> | <p>Why was Anthony so excited to get these new sneakers?</p> <p>_____</p> |
| <p>What did Anthony ask his mom for just before the story begins?</p> <p>_____</p> | <p>Why does Anthony keep his shoes in a shoebox as he leaves the store?</p> <p>_____</p> |
| Wednesday | Thursday |
| <p>What caused Anthony to wear his ugly, lime green sneakers?</p> <p>_____</p> | <p>What detail in the story supports that Anthony's mom is usually thrifty (careful with money)?</p> <p>_____</p> |
| <p>Where did Anthony's mom purchase the lime green sneakers?</p> <p>_____</p> | <p>What does Anthony say he will do to earn another pair of shoes?</p> <p>_____</p> |
| <p>How were his lime green sneakers different from his new sneakers?</p> <p>_____</p> | <p>How will Anthony's rainy-day shoes be different from his new sneakers?</p> <p>_____</p> |
| <p>How do you think Anthony is feeling about not being able to wear his new sneakers?</p> <p>_____</p> | <p>What detail in the story supports that Anthony is responsible?</p> <p>_____</p> |

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Fiction: Characters in a Story – Q2:8

Date:

As you answer this week's questions, highlight your evidence in the text.

Playing Cinderella

Nia's flip flops slapped against each step as she ran down the stairs. In the kitchen, Dad was emptying the dishwasher. Her little sister Raven wore a blue sparkly princess dress over her swimsuit. She was twirling around repeatedly on one foot.

"I'm all ready," Nia announced. "Can we leave for the pool now?"

"Not quite yet, I need to finish up in the kitchen." Dad unloaded some glasses.

"Did you pack your pool bag? Towel? Bottle of water? Sunscreen?"

"Yep, yep and yep," answered Nia, proudly. "Plus, swim goggles. I'm all set."

"And the playroom's picked up?" Dad asked.

Ugh! The playroom. Nia hadn't thought of that. "Can't we do it when we get back?"

"Nope, you can't go to the pool till it's done," Dad said. "If you two work together it shouldn't take long."

Nia sighed, "Okay. Raven. Let's go."

Raven kept on spinning. Dad gently put his hand on Raven's head to stop her.

"Enough twirling for now, baby girl. Go help your sister."

Raven stumbled dizzily after Nia into the playroom. There was a pile of dress-up clothes on the floor. A half-finished board game sat on the table. Blocks were scattered over the carpet. A box of crayons was spilled out on top of a coloring book. Raven had made most of the mess. The only thing Nia had left out was the board game.

"Let's get to work." Nia put all the game pieces away in the box.

"I don't like working. It's not fun. I want to play princess," said Raven.

"We can't play princess, now. We're supposed to be cleaning," said Nia.

"I don't want to clean. I want to play princess," said Raven.

"That's not fair. Most of this mess is yours," said Nia, annoyed. She did not want to have to clean up the room all by herself. Then Nia got an idea. "Okay. I'll play princess with you. Let's play Cinderella. You be Cinderella and I'll be the stepmother."

Raven clapped her hands. "Yay!"

"No ball until all of your chores are done, Cinderella." Nia made her voice screechy to sound like the stepmother.

"Please, stepmother. Let me go to ball! What do I have to do?" begged Raven, pretending to be Cinderella.

"Stack those blocks!" ordered stepmother-Nia.

Cinderella-Raven stacked the blocks.

"Put away the crayons and coloring book!" commanded stepmother-Nia.

Cinderella-Raven did as she was told.

"And place those clothes in the basket," stepmother-Nia demanded.

Cinderella-Raven put all the clothes in the basket. After that, the room was clean.

"Now you can go to the ball," declared Nia.

"I'd rather go to the pool." Raven took off her blue princess dress and added it to the basket. "Let's go tell Dad we're done."

Fiction: Characters in a Story – Q2:8

| Monday | Tuesday |
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| <p>Before you read, make a prediction about this story based on the title.</p> <p>_____</p> | <p>Why is Dad not able to leave for the pool when Nia asks?</p> <p>_____</p> |
| <p>Who is the main character in the story?</p> <p>_____</p> | <p>What does Nia forget she needs to do before going to the pool?</p> <p>_____</p> |
| <p>Who are the supporting characters in the story?</p> <p>_____</p> | <p>How does Nia feel when Dad reminds her the playroom needs to be picked up?</p> <p>_____</p> |
| <p>At the beginning of the story, where is Nia and her family getting ready to go?</p> <p>_____</p> | <p>Who made most of the mess in the playroom?</p> <p>_____</p> |
| Wednesday | Thursday |
| <p>What was the first thing Nia picked up in the playroom?</p> <p>_____</p> | <p>What was Nia's idea to get Raven to help pick up?</p> <p>_____</p> |
| <p>How did Raven react to having to pick up the playroom at first?</p> <p>_____</p> | <p>Why did Raven finally decide to help pick up the playroom?</p> <p>_____</p> |
| <p>What did Raven what to do instead of cleaning?</p> <p>_____</p> | <p>What might have happened if Nia got upset with Raven instead of coming up with a solution?</p> <p>_____</p> |
| <p>How did Nia first react to Raven not wanting to help?</p> <p>_____</p> | <p>What detail in the story supports that Nia is clever?</p> <p>_____</p> |

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Maple Syrup: Tapping into Sweetness

Maple syrup is made from the **sap** of the maple tree. Sap is a liquid that flows inside the tree. It carries water and nutrients throughout the tree.

The process of getting the sap out of the tree is called "tapping the tree." First, a hole is drilled into the trunk. Next, a short hollow tube is hammered into the hole. This tube is called a **tap**. As the sap flows through the tree trunk, some of it drips through the tap. Smaller trees will only have one tap. Bigger trees can have more than one tap. Don't worry, tapping doesn't harm the tree.



Trees are only tapped from late winter through early spring. The weather needs to be just right for sap to flow. The temperature needs to be below freezing overnight. It needs to be above freezing during the day. When the sap freezes at night and thaws during the day it creates pressure inside the tree. This pressure causes the sap flow.

A bucket is placed under the tap to collect the sap. Once the bucket is full, it is emptied into a collection tank. Sometimes, plastic tubing is used instead of buckets. The tubing carries the sap right to the collection tank. Sap collection continues until tree buds appear. When buds sprout, the sap starts to turn bitter. It's time to remove the taps for the season.

Once the sap has been collected, it gets filtered to remove any dirt. Now, it's ready to be turned into syrup. It takes forty gallons of sap to make one gallon of maple syrup. Why? Sap is mostly water. It has very little sugar in it. To get a thick, sweet syrup, the water must be boiled off. A piece of equipment called an evaporator heats the sap. Water evaporates as steam. The sap gets thicker and sweeter until it becomes maple syrup.



Worker checking maple syrup in evaporator

Sometimes, sandy grains of sugar form in the syrup. No one wants gritty syrup! The syrup goes through a filter to remove any sugar crystals. Finally, the syrup is poured into containers. It is now ready for sale.

Not all pancake syrups sold in stores are real maple syrup. Some are fake and don't have any maple syrup in them at all. However, real maple syrup has only one ingredient: maple syrup!

Nonfiction: Connections Between Sentences – Q2:9

| Monday | Tuesday |
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| <p>Before you read, make a prediction about the text based on the title and text features.</p> <hr/> | <p>Does tapping a tree to remove sap harm the tree?</p> <hr/> |
| <p>According to the text, what is sap?</p> <hr/> | <p>During what season do trees get tapped?</p> <hr/> |
| <p>What is the connection between these two sentences from the text?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. First, a hole is drilled into the trunk. 2. Next, a short hollow tube is hammered into the hole. <p>cause/effect ; compare/contrast ; sequence</p> | <p>What is the connection between these two sentences from the text?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When sap freezes at night and thaws during the day it creates pressure inside the tree. 2. This pressure causes the sap to flow <p>cause/effect ; compare/contrast ; sequence</p> |
| <p>According to the text, what is a tap?</p> <hr/> | <p>What temperature should it be overnight when collecting sap?</p> <hr/> |
| Wednesday | Thursday |
| <p>What is the connection between the 4th and 5th paragraph? (circle one)</p> <p>cause/effect compare/contrast sequence</p> | <p>What is the connection between these two sentences from the text?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Some syrups are fake and don't have any maple syrup in them at all. 2. However, real maple syrup has only one ingredient: maple syrup! <p>cause/effect ; compare/contrast ; sequence</p> |
| <p>What could be used instead of buckets to collect the sap?</p> <hr/> | <p>Why does it take so much sap to make a small amount of syrup?</p> <hr/> |
| <p>Why shouldn't you collect sap from a tree that is sprouting buds?</p> <hr/> | <p>What does an evaporator do?</p> <hr/> |
| <p>How do the photographs in this article help you better understand how maple syrup is made?</p> <hr/> | <p>What happens right before syrup is poured into containers for sale?</p> <hr/> |

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