



acadience® reading 7–8

Silent Reading

Grade 8 | Progress Monitoring 6

DO NOT WRITE ON THIS PACKET OR OPEN THE BOOKLET
PLEASE WAIT AND LISTEN FOR DIRECTIONS

Sample: Multiple Choice Question

1. Most weeks of the school year, the first day of the school week is:
- A) Friday
 - B) Monday
 - C) Wednesday
 - D) Sunday

Silent Reading

Student Response Sheet

Sample: (A) (B) (C) (D)

Passage 1	Passage 2	Passage 3
1. (A) (B) (C) (D)	1. (A) (B) (C) (D)	1. (A) (B) (C) (D)
2. (A) (B) (C) (D)	2. (A) (B) (C) (D)	2. (A) (B) (C) (D)
3. (A) (B) (C) (D)	3. (A) (B) (C) (D)	3. (A) (B) (C) (D)
4. (A) (B) (C) (D)	4. (A) (B) (C) (D)	4. (A) (B) (C) (D)



Unity

► The start of volleyball season was exciting for Isabella, but frustrating, too. She was ecstatic to have made the team as the starting setter, and she was also energized by the new coach, yet, things weren't coming together in quite the right way. The team had heaps of talent and athleticism, but they lacked the chemistry that would be vital to achieve success. Isabella sighed and mulled over how to best surmount this crucial problem.

After 2 weeks of practicing, Isabella noticed that everyone was still playing individually rather than as a team. The girls seemed to be trying to dazzle the new coach with their formidable skills. Did they not realize there was no "I" in the word "team"? Isabella wanted to be a shining star, too, but knew that her team would never be competitive if everyone failed to collaborate together. It occurred to her that her teammates might just need more time to become familiar with one another. Most of them had never met before tryouts and had certainly never played together. Isabella had competed with Riley and Brianna last year, but they were the only teammates she

knew. This year was a whole new ball game! Two weeks wasn't enough time to develop the necessary camaraderie or establish the required communication between the various positions on the court. Isabella realized this even though she, too, was guilty of sticking mostly to her friends.

Isabella decided she would enlist Riley and Brianna's help to figure out this difficult dilemma in order to ensure the team's overall performance. That evening, the three girls came up with a plan. They decided that they would each ask another girl they didn't know to be their drill partner at practice the next day, and they would also host a dinner at Isabella's house for the entire team.

The next day the girls rotated partners during drills and tried to learn something about each teammate. After 2 hours of scrimmaging it was evident that communication was already improving. Later that evening, as the team enjoyed a pizza dinner, everyone joked and laughed as though they were old friends. There would still be obstacles to overcome, but it seemed that the ball was finally bouncing in the right direction.

Comprehension Questions: Unity

Mark the correct answer on your answer sheet. DO NOT write on this form.

1. The word *mulled* refers to thinking about something:
 - A) intensely with difficulty.
 - B) excitedly with haste.
 - C) impatiently in haste.
 - D) deeply and at length.
2. Something that inspires respect through being impressively powerful is:
 - A) formidable.
 - B) shining.
 - C) collaborative.
 - D) established
3. Among a group of people, the word *camaraderie* refers to mutual:
 - A) trust and friendship.
 - B) frustration and performance.
 - C) patience and energy.
 - D) dilemmas and frustration.
4. Why was it hard for the team members to establish a good relationship?
 - A) They didn't like each other at all.
 - B) They didn't know each other well.
 - C) They weren't trying hard enough.
 - D) They didn't listen to their coach.
5. Isabella asked two friends to:
 - A) have a conference with the coach.
 - B) work on drills after practice.
 - C) help her come up with a plan.
 - D) go to chemistry class with her.
6. Isabella knew that the team needed to:
 - A) improve their serving skills if they were going to win many games.
 - B) establish better communication between various positions on the court.
 - C) improve their relationship with the coach.
 - D) establish opportunities for the players to increase their time on the court.
7. Isabella, Brianna, and Riley planned to each ask:
 - A) a girl they didn't know to be their drill partner the next day.
 - B) the coach to help solve the lack of athleticism.
 - C) a girl they didn't know for help figuring out the teamwork problem.
 - D) the coach to host a pizza party at Isabella's house.
8. According to this passage, the word *chemistry* refers to:
 - A) collaboration between a coach and team players.
 - B) a subject at school all team players have to take.
 - C) harmony among members of a group.
 - D) collaboration without effort or communication.
9. This passage leads us to believe that in order for optimal performance, a team must:
 - A) dazzle a new coach with displays of formidable skills and sportsmanship.
 - B) recruit talented athletes and nurture friendly competition.
 - C) know each other well and form a bond of collaborative trust.
 - D) recruit only the most talented athletes and practice very hard.
10. What was Isabella's point of view about the first 2 weeks of practice?
 - A) It wasn't enough time to improve their scrimmage.
 - B) Her teammates were playing successfully.
 - C) The team had improved after her efforts.
 - D) Her teammates were playing as individuals.

Home Green Home

► There are places on Earth, like Iceland, where parts of the surface water and land are naturally heated by volcanic activity. Early civilizations learned to harness this geothermal energy, or heat from the earth, to warm buildings and spas. Today, scientists are exploring how to efficiently and cost-effectively use geothermal energy to heat and cool buildings.

In most places around the world, the upper ten feet of the earth's surface remains at a fairly constant temperature between 50 and 60 degrees Fahrenheit. Since thermal energy is inexpensive and exists around the world, scientists have been searching for ways to harness, or capture, this abundant source of energy. Scientists have experimented with conventional, accepted, and currently used equipment because it is more efficient to adapt an existing technology than to create something new. Therefore, in terms of current technology, the heat pump was an obvious choice to capture and process the ground's geothermal energy.

A heat pump is a machine that transfers heat energy from a heat source to a destination where more heat is desired. The amazing thing about a heat pump is that it can even transfer heat energy

from a cooler source to a warmer destination. In most heat pump systems, air is the heat source. In the winter, heat from the outside air is transferred into the house to warm the inside air. In the summer, the reverse happens, and heat inside the house is moved outside which cools the house's interior.

In a ground-source heat pump system, the ground is the heat source. A carrier fluid, often consisting of water and antifreeze, runs through loops of pipe buried underground. The fluid absorbs heat from the ground as it circulates through the loops and transfers the heat energy into the house through the heat pump. A piece of equipment called a heat exchanger warms indoor air that is distributed through the house. The carrier fluid, now cooled, travels back through the loops of pipe to be reheated. In summer, the process is reversed, and the fluid absorbs heat from inside the house. The warm fluid flows through the loops of pipe in the cooler ground, where the heat is dissipated, or spread out.

While geothermal heat pumps still use electricity to operate, they are very efficient. A heat pump can save homeowners up to 70 percent in heating and 50 percent in cooling costs.

Comprehension Questions: Home Green Home

Mark the correct answer on your answer sheet. DO NOT write on this form.

1. Which of the following describes heat produced naturally by the earth?
 - A) geothermal heat
 - B) captured heat
 - C) ground heat
 - D) heat energy
2. In this passage, which of the following best defines the word *harness*?
 - A) tie up
 - B) capture
 - C) release
 - D) discover
3. The term *heat pump* is best described as an:
 - A) efficient system for cooling a home and making ice for the freezer.
 - B) efficient system for heating a home and providing hot water.
 - C) efficient system for heating and cooling a home.
 - D) efficient system for heating water and cooling a home.
4. Which type of geothermal energy did early civilizations use to warm buildings?
 - A) resplendent
 - B) volcanic
 - C) tectonic
 - D) sulfuric
5. Why are scientists so interested in using geothermal energy?
 - A) It is inexpensive and available in all parts of the world.
 - B) Using geothermal energy can reduce volcanic activity.
 - C) Although incredibly scarce, it is incredibly powerful.
 - D) Other systems of temperature control require finite resources.
6. A heat pump works to warm a building by:
 - A) pumping heat from the earth's core into a building.
 - B) transferring cool air from the building to another location where heat is wanted
 - C) efficiently pumping electric heat throughout the building
 - D) transferring heat from one place to another place where heat is wanted
7. The function of carrier fluid in a ground-source heat pump is to:
 - A) carry excess liquid away.
 - B) clean the heat pump's pipes.
 - C) absorb heat from the ground.
 - D) filter the warm geothermal energy.
8. The word that best describes the function of a heat pump is:
 - A) redistribution.
 - B) operation.
 - C) experimentation.
 - D) absorption.
9. This passage leads us to believe that heat pumps can be used:
 - A) in some locations.
 - B) in most locations.
 - C) only in tropical locations.
 - D) only in very cold locations.
10. Given the information from the passage, we can predict that geothermal heat pumps:
 - A) will eventually be able to operate without electricity.
 - B) will only work in the areas where heat pumps have been tested.
 - C) are at their peak of efficiency and the technology will not change.
 - D) will become a more common source of home heating.

3 Acadience Reading Grade 8/Passage 3

Indira Gandhi

► Indira Gandhi was born in 1917 and her childhood in India was far from normal. Her parents were helping in the fight for Indian independence from Britain, so the police often came to the family home to arrest her mother and father and take them to jail. Indira spent her childhood among activists and copied their style of speaking by giving “thunderous speeches” to the workers in her house. Perhaps, in a way, she was practicing for her future role as India’s first female prime minister.

When India was at last free from British rule, Indira’s father became its first prime minister. Indira admired her father and became interested in politics. When her mother died, Indira became her father’s official hostess while he was leader, which gave her the chance to learn the inner workings of politics. She became active in the ruling Congress Party, and when the man who succeeded her father died, the party chose her to be the next prime minister. By this time, she was already known for her charisma and charm, as well as for her toughness.

India is not an easy nation to govern for many reasons, not the least of which is its huge population; more than a billion people live in India. Its history has been marked by poverty, religious conflict, and fighting among castes, or social divisions. As India’s leader, Indira faced great challenges. In the mid-1970s, her rivals accused her of misusing her power and going against election laws. Her response was to take strong control of the government. She had hundreds of her opponents arrested and put in jail, which caused more problems for her. In 1977, she was voted out of office, but 3 years later, she was elected again to lead the country.

In 1984, a faction of Sikhs used violence to attempt to gain the right to govern themselves in a state in northern India. Indira gave permission for government troops to attack the fighters in a place of worship for followers of the Sikh religion. Many people died in the attack. A few months later, as Indira Gandhi stood in her garden, she was killed by two of her bodyguards, both of whom were Sikhs.

Comprehension Questions: Indira Gandhi

Mark the correct answer on your answer sheet. DO NOT write on this form.

1. To take over a political position from another is called to:
 - A) succeed.
 - B) govern.
 - C) elect.
 - D) practice.
2. In the passage, the word *charisma* refers to:
 - A) being accused of misusing political power to gain a better reputation.
 - B) giving compelling speeches that lead to a successful election campaign.
 - C) having a compelling personality that can inspire devotion from others.
 - D) taking ruthless control of the government using an alluring personality.
3. In this passage, the social divisions of groups of people are called:
 - A) opponents.
 - B) parties.
 - C) roles.
 - D) castes.
4. How did Indira's childhood influence her future career?
 - A) Her parents' fight for Indian independence dissuaded her from politics.
 - B) She was next in line to be prime minister of India.
 - C) She had some business experience as her father's official hostess.
 - D) Being surrounded by activists inspired her to make a difference.
5. India's history has been marked by:
 - A) colonialism and success.
 - B) poverty and conflict.
 - C) success and toughness.
 - D) peace and poverty.
6. One reason it's difficult to govern India is that the:
 - A) population is massive and very diverse.
 - B) terrain is difficult to navigate and travel over.
 - C) various religious groups don't favor taxation.
 - D) British don't get along with people in India.
7. In the mid-1970s, Indira's rivals accused her of:
 - A) spending too much money on parties and official dinners.
 - B) taking strong control of the government using violence.
 - C) attacking and mercilessly killing Sikh fighters.
 - D) misusing her power and going against election laws.
8. What is the main idea of this passage?
 - A) Indira Gandhi excelled at leading her country and is remembered as the best prime minister.
 - B) Indira Gandhi was dedicated to India and became a leader who struggled to govern.
 - C) Indira Gandhi's father was a wonderful leader who remains a well-liked figure in India.
 - D) India is a difficult country to rule due to many reasons including differences in religion.
9. This passage leads us to conclude that in order for a leader to have long-term success, he or she must:
 - A) have strong control.
 - B) have a sparkling personality.
 - C) be related to politicians.
 - D) use power wisely.
10. We can predict that after 1984, the faction of Sikhs in northern India:
 - A) still wanted a free state.
 - B) were sorry for their actions.
 - C) were allied with Britain.
 - D) took control of the government.