

## Reading Benchmark 3 Review

My mom knew the grocery store was a place where a 4-year-old could easily get bored and frustrated while sitting in the shopping cart. When I was about 4 years old, she would play a game in the grocery store with me called “I Spy” to keep me from getting bored while shopping and to test my knowledge on colors, shapes, or certain food items.

The game would start with my mom saying, “I spy something green and round.”

I would instinctively react by looking for an item that met her description. When I spotted what I thought she was describing, I would point to the item. She would then tell me if I was correct or not.

When I would look around the store at other kids being wheeled around in shopping carts, they looked miserable and ready to go home. My mom knew how to make going to the grocery store fun, and I couldn’t help but feel sorry for those other kids my age who didn’t have a mom like mine.

1. In the story, the narrator explains the “I Spy” game. Based on what the narrator’s mom said in the second paragraph, what did she “spy”?
    - A. a lime
    - B. an onion
    - C. a lemon
    - D. a grapefruit
  2. The narrator’s mom is most similar to \_\_\_\_\_.
    - A. a teacher in a classroom
    - B. a doctor in a hospital
    - C. a cashier in a grocery store
    - D. a cook in a restaurant
- 

For the longest time, people have been terrified of infection. Before the mid-twentieth century, doctors would have to cut off the part of the body that became infected. Many patients lost their limbs this way, and even more died from the surgery. People tried to use herbal treatments to cure infection, but this was ineffective. Then, Louis Pasteur discovered that germs would not grow on a certain bread mold. Pasteur’s discovery led to the study of antibiotics.

For many years, scientists tried to find out why germs would not grow on molds. This process was perfected when Sir Alexander Fleming made a breakthrough in 1928. His discovery was completely by accident. Fleming was known for being untidy. He had left a substance he called penicillin. He then just needed to find a way to get the drug to the public.

Fleming worked hard for years to make his drug available to large numbers of people. The earliest form of the drug was a powder. The idea was to sprinkle the powder on the wound to treat infection. This did not work often because the drug did not get deep enough into a wound, and the patient would become infected.

About fifteen years later, two American companies discovered methods to make the drug on a large scale. They began selling penicillin to the public. Soon, everyone was recovering from bacterial infections, especially the type in wounds. This was good news, too. Nations around the globe had just become involved in World War II.

3. From this article, it is reasonable to infer that \_\_\_\_\_.
    - A. the United States is responsible for the discovery of penicillin.
    - B. many soldiers survived infected wounds because of penicillin.
    - C. Sir Alexander Fleming knew and worked with Louis Pasteur.
    - D. research is a waste because discoveries are made by accident.
- 

4. My kind had to become accustomed to loneliness. When one is alone, there is nothing to do but study. I became a diligent scholar. I would spend whole days in the Jones study house and then pore over religious works at home. Purchasing and renting books from peddlers. I read constantly. It was summertime and the days were long. Reading a story of three brothers, I imagined that I could write too, and began to cover both sides of a sheet of paper.

The theme of this story is loneliness. What significance does loneliness have for the main character, according to the paragraph above?

- A. It led to his becoming a writer.
  - B. It made him neglect his studies.
  - C. It led him to imagine he was a scholar.
  - D. It made the summer seem very long.
- 

March 2<sup>nd</sup> was a great day at the New York Public Library. More than 250 first and second graders wore red-and-white-striped stovepipe hats. They were celebrating *The Cat in the Hat's* 50<sup>th</sup> birthday. Dr. Seuss's *The Cat in the Hat* picture book has been published for 50 years now. The famous feline danced with children racing around him. At the same time, pink, purple, and white confetti rained down.

Serena Williams, the tennis champion, read *The Cat in the Hat* to second graders. They sat on brightly-colored rugs around her. Two lucky second graders from PS 152 in Manhattan sat next to Williams on a big red chair. Pink and purple umbrellas hung from the ceiling. The students giggled while Williams made her voice change from deep to high for the many characters in the story.

After reading the book, Williams shouted, "Tip your hat to the Cat!" The students took off their hats and waved them excitedly.

5. Which sentence should be included in the summary of the passage above?
- A. After reading the book, Williams shouted, "Tip your hat to the Cat!"
  - B. The students giggled while Williams made her voice change from deep to high.
  - C. Two lucky second graders from PS 152 in Manhattan sat next to Williams on a big red chair.
  - D. Serena Williams, the tennis champion, read *The Cat in the Hat* to second graders.
- 

Sarah had been climbing the hill for four hours already. She felt her cheeks burn. Her heart was beating louder, too. Even her backpack felt heavier by the second. As she wiped the sweat from her face, the only things she had seen for ages were grass and rocks. The hill seemed endless. She wanted to give up already. *I can't*, Sara thought. Not if I want to get rid of the nickname "*Slowpoke Sara!*"

"Come on, girl," Jenny shouted from higher up the hill.

"I.....I," Sara managed to speak between breaths "am coming."

Jordan, the class bully, was also far ahead of her. Jordan yelled as loud as he could, "Last one to the top has to carry all the backpacks."

"I will show him who is faster," Sara mumbled. She rolled up her sleeves, took a long breath, and took faster steps. *Jordan is not going to tease me in class tomorrow! I have to run faster!* In a few minutes, she had almost caught up with Jordan. Just as she was about to best Jordan, she saw a little bird trapped in a bush. It was fluttering its wings and desperately trying to escape. Sara carefully managed to reach near the bush and slowly removed the tangled vine from the bird's scrawny feet. In the blink of an eye, the bird stretched its wings and flew.

"Wait," Sara yelled at Jenny who was now at the top of the hill. Sara was the last one to get to the top, once again.

6. Sara can be best described as \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. competitive because she fails to beat her friends.
  - B. mean because she wants to beat Jordan so badly.
  - C. kind because she rescues the bird that is trapped.
  - D. confused because she thinks the hill seems endless.
- 

Danielle shuddered as she ducked her head to enter the attic room. The light was dim, but she could see broken chairs piled up in a corner and a child's collapsed playpen nearby. The ceiling was pitched, slanting upward to a point, but she couldn't stand up all the way except in the very center. She felt a bead of sweat slip down her cheek and wondered why it was so hot in the shadowy room. She wanted to run away, slam the door behind her, and never return

to the place where so many memories lay covered with dust---but she couldn't. She had to find her mother's photograph album, the one from the summer before Jimmy left home forever.

7. How does the setting affect Danielle?
    - A. The darkness of the room makes her scared.
    - B. The slanted, low ceiling makes her lonely.
    - C. The pile of broken chairs makes her sad.
    - D. The room's temperature makes her sweat.
  
  8. How does the setting affect the plot of the story?
    - A. Danielle wants to spend time going through her mother's things.
    - B. Danielle senses some danger in the room but can't say what it is.
    - C. Danielle wants to run away from the room and never return to it.
    - D. Danielle feels exhausted by climbing the stairs up to the attic.
- 

That was it. The day had arrived when Khadija had to give shapes to her ideas. After months of thinking hard and reading diligently, Khadija had to write the essay that would sum up her identity. After all, many wise pairs of eyes were going to look at a piece of paper decide if Khadija was worthy enough for their prestigious program.

Khadija sat down in front of the computer with a cup of hot cocoa. The steam was rising into the air like ocean tides attracted to the moon. She could not drink it just yet, just like she could not start writing right away. She had never before felt so nervous. Khadija was a stray kitten in the thunderstorm, shivering for lingering moments. She was her own rescue, so she calmed herself down. The web spun by defeating thoughts in her head had finally gave away.

Khadija knew she was deserving of the scholarship and the admission. She just had to write it on the paper. It was not about the vocabulary now. It was about the delivery of her life story, and Khadija knew she could do it. When the cocoa had become lukewarm, Khadija took the first sip and typed in her first word.

9. The phrase "steam was rising into the air like ocean tides attracted to the moon"
    - A. poetically shows the words Khadija is thinking of writing.
    - B. effectively describes an ordinary detail with beauty.
    - C. help[s the reader picture Khadija's nervous feelings.
    - D. shows the reader the thought process of writers.
  
  10. How does the author show Khadija's anxiety?
    - A. by describing her as a shivering kitten
    - B. by showing the many wise pair of eyes
    - C. by describing the prestigious program
    - D. by showing Khadija as her own resource
- 

Mark was sick of receiving a dozen annoying emails with jokes from Sally every day. He dashed off a sloppy reply letting her know that he wasn't allowed to receive silly emails at school.

11. What does the word **sick** suggest Mark was feeling as it is used in the first sentence of this story?
    - A. bored
    - B. full
    - C. fed up with
    - D. nauseous
- 

### Little Mr. Tinley

He wished to own a horse,  
but he only had a donkey.

And to make things worse,  
his donkey was taller  
than its master.  
For such a small creature  
its tail was very long.  
Every time it was tied  
to rest for the day,  
the donkey found a way  
to somehow sneak outside.  
Mr. Tinley ran to catch it  
so nobody could watch  
a little lonely man's leash,  
and his enormous donkey.

12. Which line from the poem is an example of alliteration?
- A. a little lonely man's leash
  - B. so nobody could watch
  - C. the donkey found a way
  - D. and to make things worse
- 

You must understand that recycling benefits all of us. Recycling is easy if you think about it logically. Instead of throwing away your soda can, simply rinse it out and put it in a separate bin for cans. It's not difficult for you to buy two trash cans and use one for recycling. Earth is your home, and you must take care of it!

13. Which word from the passage above helps the reader identify the point of view?
- A. care
  - B. you
  - C. think
  - D. easy
- 

During World War I, many soldiers died because their wounds became infected. Antibiotics had not been discovered at that time. During World War II, many more soldiers died while in combat. Antibiotics are used to treat infections because they kill bacteria in the body. They are easily the most widely prescribed drug in the world.

14. What is the passage mostly about?
- A. antibiotics
  - B. soldiers
  - C. bacteria
  - D. World War I
15. Which statement best supports the main idea of the passage?
- A. More World War II soldiers died while in combat.
  - B. There were no antibiotics in World War I.
  - C. Antibiotics are used to treat infections.
  - D. Many World War I soldiers died from infections.
-

“Come on in, James! Make yourself comfortable. Are ya hungry? I was gonna fix us a snack. Just hang out here and ‘ll be out in a sec.”

16. The tone of this welcome is appropriate for which situation?
- A. a conference between a teacher and parent
  - B. a formal business meeting at an office
  - C. a school friend coming over to the house
  - D. a teenager interviewing for a part-time job
- 

Global warming should not just be a matter of concern for climate scientists and environmentalists. Since the primary cause of global warming is human actions, we should take full responsibility for it. We must understand that if we continue to release excessive greenhouse gases, global warming will only get worse. Sea levels will continue to rise, more glaciers will melt, and local temperatures will increase. Increased temperatures, in turn, will change the pattern of rainfall. Extreme weather events will expand tropical diseases, affect the seasonal pattern, affect the balance of the ecosystem, and change the way we live.

17. Based on the passage, which of these best describes the author’s attitude toward global warming?
- A. respectful
  - B. concerned
  - C. humorous
  - D. indifferent
- 

Americans are not known for eating healthy meals. Many of us do not absorb nutrients well because our systems have been weakened by years of eating poorly. Juicing vegetables is a convenient way to address this problem, making the nutrients super easy for the body to take in and use.

For people on the go, juicing offers a quick and healthy snack that fits an active lifestyle. Just cut up the veggies, set up the juicer, run the foods through it, and your juice is ready to drink! Sip it slowly, as the high concentration of vitamins and minerals can be a bit of a shock to the system. Before long, you’ll feel a burst of energy so amazing, you could run a marathon!

One thing to remember, to get the most out of your veggie juice, is that it must be drunk within 30 minutes. Fresh vegetable juice is highly perishable. It can be refrigerated for up to 24 hours, but the nutritive value begins to drop very quickly. If you know you won’t be drinking it soon, put it in a glass container with a tight-fitting lid. Don’t fill the container to the very top, as it needs a little room to “breathe.” Then, put it in the fridge and make sure to drink it within a day.

Among the benefits of juicing you will probably notice is that your skin and nails will be healthier. Your hair may even take on an added shine or thickness. This is because the nutrients in fresh juice are fully assimilated and absorbed by the body. Your body literally takes in and uses the juice without having to expend much energy at all to process it!

So, if it’s that easy and convenient, why don’t more people juice their vegetables? Aside from the fact that the juicers themselves can be very expensive, many people do not like the taste of freshly juiced veggies. Green drinks, made from mostly green vegetables, can be especially hard to get kids to consume. Here is an easy solution: Just add a couple slices of apple or a few seedless grapes to your juice. It will sweeten the drink just enough to make it appealing to the taste buds!

18. What statement does the author make to emphasize that juicing is convenient?
- A. “One thing to remember, to get the most out of your veggie juice, is that it must be drunk within 30 minutes.”
  - B. “Among the benefits of juicing you’ll probably notice that your skin and nails will be healthier.”
  - C. “It can be refrigerated for up to 24 hours, but the nutritive value begins to drop very quickly.”
  - D. “Just cut up the veggies, set up the juicer, run the foods through it, and your juice is ready to drink.”

19. Which statement is an exaggerated claim to convince readers that juicing is good for them?
- A. "This is because the nutrients in fresh juice are fully assimilated and absorbed by the body."
  - B. "Before long, you will feel a burst of energy so amazing, you can run a marathon!"
  - C. "For people on the go, juicing offers a quick and healthy snack that fits an active lifestyle."
  - D. "It will sweeten the drink just enough to make it appealing to the taste buds!"
- 

### Passage 1

The migrants flowed in California....from Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico; from Nevada and Arkansas. Carloads, caravans, homeless and hungry; fifty thousand and a hundred thousand and two hundred thousand. They steamed over the mountains, hungry and restless as ants, scurrying to find work to do---to lift, to push, to pull, to pick, to cut anything, any burden to bear, for food. Their kids are hungry. They got no place to live. Like ants scurrying for work, for food, and most of all for land.

We are not foreign. Seven generations back are Americans, and beyond that Irish, Scotch, English, German. One of our folks was in the Revolution, and there were lots of our folks in the Civil War on both sides. Americans. They were hungry, and they were fierce. They had hoped to find a home, and they found only hatred....

### Passage 2

Men with flashlights and pistols on their hips were walking beside the train. When they came to a boxcar, they hauled open the doors and shone the lights inside. A man with a bass voice called out in Spanish, "Traigo pistol. Levantenese los manos! I have a pistol. Raise your hands."

Lupita looked on as Senor Rosario and his family jumped out of their boxcar. To her surprise, three young Mexican men followed them. The railroad guards handcuffed Senor Rosario to one of the young men and handcuffed the other two together. Another guard led Senor Rosario's weeping wife and children away. Tears came to Lupita's eyes.

"Lupita, get your head down," Salvador hissed. Lupita scrunched down, and Salvador quickly pulled the hatch shut as far as he could. Seconds later they saw the beam of a flashlight through the crack. Lupita held her breath. Would they be flushed out too? Would one of the railroad guards climb up, open the turret, and shine his light inside the car?

20. Both of these passages deal with the theme of \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. the need for better housing for immigrants
  - B. outsiders being welcomed into a community
  - C. language and cultural differences among immigrants
  - D. hatred toward immigrants or other outsiders

1.a  
2.a  
3.b  
4.a  
5.d  
6.c  
7.d  
8.c  
9.b  
10.a  
11.c  
12.a  
13.b  
14.a  
15.c  
16.c  
17.b  
18.d  
19.b  
20.d