



The City School

PAF Chapter

Prep + Senior 1 Section

English

Class – 7

2nd Term

Worksheets for Intervention Classes

Grammar Exercises

Homophones

Choose the correct Homophone.

1. Get up my _____ (sun / son).
2. You _____ (ought / aught) to have said it long ago.
3. (Buoys / Boys) _____ float on the sea to warn ships of danger.
4. He skidded because he did not apply the _____ (brake / break).
5. We must try our best to _____ (caste / cast) away all prejudices.
6. I did not have the _____ (hart / heart).
7. The _____ (hair / hare) has a short tail.
8. The flesh of Kangaroo sells very _____ (deer / dear) .
9. He told me the _____ (tail / tale) of a fox.
10. The travellers had a terrible journey through the _____ (torturous / tortuous) road.
11. The children have been playing for _____ (two / too) .
12. What is the _____ (prize / price) of it.
13. Please _____ (pray / prey) for me.

14. We (peel / peal) the orange with a knife.
15. Please _____ (pass / pause) for a while.
16. The time is half _____ (passed / past) ten.
17. Her face became _____ (pale / pall) because of fear.
18. _____ (Ore / Oar) is used to row the boat.
19. _____ (Led / Lead) is a heavy metal.
20. Every airport has a _____ (hanger / hangar) .
21. There is a _____ (whole / hole) in the bucket.
22. The strength for Achilles was on his _____ (heal / heel) .
23. If you want to reach God you have to _____ (forgo / forego) worldly pleasures.
24. _____ (Fowl / Foul) bird does not fly in the air.
25. She narrated series of _____ (descrete / descreet) events.

Affixes

Put the words in brackets in the appropriate form (use a prefixes or a suffixes):

1. He was acting in a very _____ way. (child)
2. She looked _____. She started to cry. (happy)
3. He passed his exam. He was _____ for the second time. (succeed)
4. The team that he supported were able to win the _____. (champion)
5. I couldn't find any _____ in his theory. (weak)
6. He wants to be a _____ when he grows up. (mathematics)
7. There were only a _____ of people at the match. (hand)
8. The road was too narrow, so they had to _____ it. (wide)
9. I think that you should _____ your decision. It may not be the best thing to do. (consider)
10. You need a _____ of motivation, organization and hard work to realize your dreams. (combine)

Synonyms

Write a synonym from the word box for each underlined word on the lines provided.

Speak- exit- ill- hard- funny- angry- rest- infant- clever- hat- jog- rug

1. I will talk with my brother. _____
2. My teacher is very smart. _____
3. I wanted to relax on the weekend. _____
4. That was a hilarious joke. _____
5. The drink stained the carpet. _____
6. I felt sick because I ate too much food. _____
7. My mother was mad at me for not finishing my work. _____
8. We had to leave through the back door. _____
9. I wore a cap to the baseball game. _____
10. I had to run five miles. _____
11. She had a difficult time on the test.. _____
12. We looked at the baby through the window. _____

Connectives

Although- But –So- and- Then -Until

1. _____ travelling by plane is fast, its expensive _____ bad for the environment.
2. Car-racing is exciting, _____ it's very dangerous.
3. I love exciting places, _____ I want to go to a city.
4. It's usually very hot in Australia _____ the end of April.
5. I would like to go to the beach first, _____ we can go to the restaurant.
6. I like to eat beef, _____ I do like to eat chicken.
7. _____ you're saying you want to go diving?
8. I want to go snorkeling, diving _____ to the opera.
9. _____ you finish your homework you can't watch T.V.
10. It's foggy and stormy outside, _____ you should wear a coat _____ boots.
11. You're not 17 years old, _____ / _____ / _____ you'll have to wait till you can drive a car.
12. I love my pet dog, _____ I prefer music.
13. Its windy today, _____ take your umbrella _____ be careful.
14. snorkeling in the sea is exciting _____ fun, _____ I prefer to climb mountains.
15. England is colder than Spain, _____ Spain is hotter than England.

Figures of speech

Figure out which technique is being used: simile, metaphor, hyperbole, or personification. In the boxes, explain how you figured out your answer.

It is possible that more than one technique is being used. If you can, explain each.

1. Life is too much like a pathless wood. Which technique is being used?

2. The needle slept on the broidered vine. Which technique is being used?

3. Beauty calls and gives no warning. Which technique is being used?

4. My Soul goes clad in gorgeous things, Scarlet and gold and blue; which technique is being used?

5. My heart it was a floating bird That through the world did wander free, But he hath locked it in a cage, And lost the silver key. Which technique is being used?

6. A drum pounds out the hymn, That blends with the endless rumble of carts, The scrape of feet, the noise of marts Which technique is being used?

7. They only know our love was brief, And passing like an autumn leaf. Which technique is being used?

8. They went like moths into the grass with folded wings. Which technique is being used?

9. There the unregulated sun Slopes down to rest when day is done, which technique is being used?

10. A poem is merely a flowering twig of thought. Which technique is being used?

Punctuation

Read each sentence. Choose the answer that shows correct punctuation and capitalization for the underlined words.

1. While the television was broken we played a lot of board games.
 - a. Broken, We
 - b. broken we,
 - c. broken, we
 - d. Broken We
 - e. Correct as is

2. "He that loses wealth loses much," coined Miguel de Cervantes, "but he that loses courage loses all."
 - a. cervantes, "but
 - b. Cervantes "but
 - c. Cervantes, "But,
 - d. Correct as is

3. My Father was born on June 16, 1949.
 - a. My father,
 - b. My father
 - c. my father
 - d. My Father,
 - e. Correct as is

4. "Are there enough pencils for everyone?" Nathan asked.
 - a. Everyone?" Nathan
 - b. everyone Nathan
 - c. everyone?" nathan
 - d. Correct as is

5. "why did you bring that stray dog home," my mamá asked, "when you know your papá doesn't like animals in the house?"
 - a. why
 - b. "Why,
 - c. "Why
 - d. Why
 - e. Correct as is

6. Many centuries ago most people thought the worlds' surface was flat, not round.
 - a. worlds
 - b. worl'ds
 - c. world's
 - d. Correct as is

7. Anthony wants to be a catholic priest.
- Catholic Priest.
 - Catholic priest?
 - Catholic priest.
 - Catholic, priest.
 - Correct as is
8. Please put a Band-Aid on Jonathan's cut.
- Jonatha'ns
 - Jonathans
 - Jonathans'
 - Correct as is
9. "You need to have your lines memorized by this Friday," said Mr. Nicholas, "so you'll be prepared for dress-rehearsal."
- friday
 - Friday"
 - Friday,
 - Correct as is
10. We are going to the carnival in Shippensburg Saturday afternoon?
- Saturday, Afternoon.
 - Saturday afternoon.
 - saturday afternoon?
 - Saturday, afternoon.
 - Correct as is

Modal Verbs

Complete the following sentences using appropriate modal auxiliary verbs.

1. I don't think that I _____ be able to go. (will / should / can)
2. You _____ to be punctual. (should / ought / must)
3. _____ I wait here? (Would / Should)
4. _____ you mind waiting for me? (Could / Would / Should)
5. You _____ pay your debts. (must / ought)
6. I _____ not have watered the plants. As soon as I finished, it started raining. (need / must / should)
7. She _____ read when she was just four. (could / must / can)
8. If you had finished that assignment on time, you _____ not have lost your job. (will / would / may)
9. I was afraid that he _____ get angry. (may / can / might)
10. How _____ you contradict me? (dare / need / should)
11. I ran fast and _____ reach safely. (would / was able to / could)
12. _____ I open the window? (would / should)
13. _____ I have another piece of cake? (Would / Should / Could)

Conditional Sentences

Complete the Conditional Sentences. Decide whether to use Type I, II or III.

1. If I had time, I _____ shopping with you.
2. If you _____ English, you will get along with them perfectly.
3. If they had gone for a walk, they _____ the lights off.
4. If she _____ to see us, we will go to the zoo.
5. I would have told you, if I _____ him.
6. Would you mind if I _____ the window?
7. If they _____ me, I wouldn't have said no.
8. My friend _____ me at the station if he gets the afternoon off.
9. If I _____ it, nobody would do it.
10. If my father _____ me up, I'll take the bus home.

Literature

Chapter 11

At 5:22 a.m., Milo remembers that he must wake Chroma, the conductor, for a sunrise, but then decides to conduct the orchestra himself. He then goes to wake Chroma, expecting the orchestra to stop playing once he stops conducting. However, they play louder and faster than before, resulting in a whole week passing by! Becoming frustrated, or upset, Milo drops his hands at his sides, and the orchestra stops.

Milo, Tock and the Humbug must continue on their journey. They come across a carnival wagon with a sign on it: "Kakofonous A. Dischord," the "Doctor of Dissonance."

Dr. Dischord tells Milo that he looks like he is suffering from a lack of noise. He moves around the wagon, grabbing bottles that are labeled with names like "Loud Cries" and "Whistles and Gongs." He mixes them all in another bottle.

Milo asks him just what kind of a doctor he is. "... I'm a specialist. I specialize in noise - all kinds - from the loudest to the softest and from the slightly annoying to the terribly unpleasant."

Milo rejects the potion that Dr. Dischord makes for him, so Dr. Dischord then gives it to his assistant, DYNNE. DYNNE is a blue smog shape that is a collection of unpleasant noises. The travelers must continue their journey to Digitopolis, but Dr. Dischord warns them that they must pass through the Valley of Sound - which, judging by DYNNE'S horrified expression, proves to be a bad place indeed.

1. What happens when Milo conducts the orchestra?

2. Explain the statement, "He looks like he is suffering from a lack of noise."

3. Describe Dischord and his wagon.

4. Who was Dynne and what was his job?

Chapter 12

Their journey next takes the travelers into a silent valley where no sounds can be heard, no matter how loud they shout. The people living in the valley march with signs protesting the quiet. They are ruled by a Sound keeper, who has banned all sounds. They ask Milo to help bring back sounds.

Milo visits the Sound keeper and is relieved that he can hear his voice again. The Sound keeper describes beautiful moments of silence to Milo, who thinks that she talks a lot "for someone who loves silence." She shows him the vault that holds "every sound that's ever been made in history," including the tune George Washington whistled while crossing the Delaware. Words and music are stored here, and even the sound of the ocean heard in seashells. The Soundkeeper explains that she has to withhold sound to prevent horrible noises like the ones made by Dr. Dischord and the DYNNE. Unfortunately this means that good sounds are also not heard. Milo is unable to change her mind about reinstating sound, so he leaves—but not without smuggling out a sound in his mouth.

1. What do the people of the Valley of Sound ask Milo to do?

2. Describe how the Soundkeeper saves sounds.

3. Explain how Milo brought a sound out of her fortress.

4. Find an example of onomatopoeia in Chapter 12.

Chapter 13

Milo returns from his visit to the Soundkeeper and says that he has sound on the tip of his tongue. A cannon is aimed at the fortress wall, and Milo drops a small sound from his tongue into the cannon. It's the soft sound of "but." The sound hits the wall and a thundering crash is heard. The fortress crumbles, and the vaults burst open, releasing all the sounds in the world. When the smoke clears, the Soundkeeper is seen sitting on a pile of rubble. She is very sad but realizes silence is not the solution to controlling sound.

The DYNNE appears carrying a huge sack filled with sounds that escaped from the vault. The sounds are not terrible enough to interest him so he returns them to the Soundkeeper. Milo tells her that he is on his way to rescue Rhyme and Reason. She gives Milo a package filled with sounds so that he doesn't get lonely.

Milo drives along the shoreline and sees an island with palm trees in the distance. First the Humbug leaps from the car and sails toward the island, then Tock disappears. The same thing happens to Milo, and he joins the others on the island. They meet a man named Canby who is confused about his own identity. Milo asks him to describe himself, and he says he is as tall and

short as can be, and as generous and selfish as can be. He continues to describe himself in opposite terms. He tells them that they are on the Island of Conclusions, and they got there by jumping. However, leaving is more difficult because one can't jump away from Conclusions, and the island is very crowded. The only way off the island is to swim back.

Milo, Tock, and the Humbug manage to swim back to the car and resume their trip to the mountains.

1. What sound did Milo drop into the cannon?

2. Where was the sound stored?

3. How was the sound released?

4. Who was Canby?

5. How did Milo and his friends get rid of conclusions?

Chapter 14

The road divides into three, and a sign gives the distance in miles, rods, yards, feet, inches, and half inches. A strange figure steps from behind the sign and agrees they must decide which road to take. He is the Dodecahedron, and he is constructed from an "assortment of lines and angles" that form a mathematical shape with 12 faces. Each face has a different expression.

The Dodecahedron explains that everything is precise in Digitopolis, and problem-solving is a very important skill. Milo asks him if every road is five miles from the city, and the Dodecahedron replies that they have to be, because they only have one sign. They set off for the "land of numbers," and the Dodecahedron lectures Milo on why "numbers are the most beautiful and valuable things in the world."

The Dodecahedron leads them down into the numbers mine, where they meet the Mathemagician. He is dressed in a flowing robe covered with mathematical equations. They look at the sparkling stones

in the mine, and Milo accidentally drops one and it breaks into pieces. The Mathemagician tells Milo not to worry because the broken stones are used for fractions.

1. What did Digitopolis look like?

2. Describe Dodecahedron.

3. Who leads Milo to Mathemagician?

4. Write a short note on Mathemagician.

Chapter 15

Milo's lunch with the Mathemagician proves to be as baffling as his banquet with King Azaz. They dine on subtraction stew, which makes them hungrier rather than fuller and leaves the poor Humbug, who gorges himself on twenty-three bowls, practically starving. After the meal, the Mathemagician magically transports the group to his workshop, where he uses his magic staff to dazzle the group with mathematical tricks. Milo asks to see the biggest number, and the Mathemagician leads him to an enormous number 3. Milo corrects himself and asks to see the longest number, and the Mathemagician opens a closet to display a very flattened number 8.

Milo finally clarifies that he means the number of the greatest value, prompting the Mathemagician to give a lengthy speech about infinity. He leads Milo to a staircase that he claims will lead to infinity, and Milo happily starts climbing, telling Tock and the Humbug that he should be back in just a few minutes.

1. How does this chapter describe Milo's lunch with Azaz?

2. What happened after they finished their meal with Mathemagician?

3. What was the biggest and longest number according to Mathemagician?

4. What is infinity?

Chapter 16

Milo gives up on his trip to Infinity and returns to the Mathemagician's workshop, where he finally broaches the subject of Rhyme and Reason. When Milo tells him that Azaz has agreed to release the princesses, the Mathemagician refuses to allow it since he and Azaz always disagree. The Mathemagician tells Milo that if he can prove that he and Azaz have ever agreed, he will consent to the release of the princesses. Milo points out that if the Mathemagician and Azaz always disagree then they have agreed to disagree. The Mathemagician gracefully accepts his defeat and even gives Milo a miniature version of his magic pencil as a gift.

1. What happened when Milo shared his plan of rescuing Rhyme and Reason?

2. Why did Mathemagician disagree to rescue Rhyme and Reason?

3. How did Milo manage to agree Mathemagician?

4. What gift did Milo receive from Mathemagician?

Chapter 17

Milo, Tock, and the Humbug are happily working away on the absurd projects they were assigned by the faceless gentleman when Milo points out that he feels like he could go on forever. He decides to use the magic wand the Mathemagician gave him to figure out just how long it will take him to complete his task and discovers that it will be 837 years. Milo confronts the gentleman and discovers that he is the Terrible Trivium, "demon of petty tasks and worthless jobs, ogre of wasted effort, monster of habit."

The travelers run away from the demon, running and scrambling up the increasingly steep and difficult path with the Trivium not far behind them. From nowhere a voice begins shouting what seems to be helpful advice, directing the three companions through a confusing part of the trail. But before they know it, they drop into a deep pit and realize they've been tricked. The owner of the voice introduces himself as the long-nosed, green-eyed, curly-haired, wide-mouthed, thick-necked, broad-shouldered, round-bodied, short-armed, bowlegged, big-footed Monster—or simply the Demon of Insincerity.

The demon warns Milo and his friends not to try to escape from the pit since he is "one of the most frightening fiends in this whole wild wilderness". Tock and the Humbug cower in fear, but Milo pulls out the telescope that Alec Bings told him would show things as they really were. He takes a good look at the Demon of Insincerity and discovers that he is a small, pathetic-looking animal. Crushed by Milo's realization of the truth, the demon wanders away while the travelers climb out of the pit.

They continue along the path for a time and, upon stopping for a rest, find themselves in the palm of the Gelatinous Giant. They do not notice the giant until he announces himself because this demon tries as hard as it can to look exactly like whatever is around it. Being different simply is not safe, the giant explains. Milo cannot believe that someone so big could be afraid of anything, yet the Gelatinous Giant says he is afraid of everything, especially ideas. Milo pulls out the box of words that King Azaz gave him and shoos the giant away with it.

And so the travelers are on their way once again. News of their journey seems to have spread across the demon network, though, and soon an entire throng of monsters is hot on their trail. Once they spot this horrible crowd, among its members all of the demons they had already met, Milo, Tock, and the Humbug press ahead at an even more urgent pace.

1. Write a short note on the Terrible Trivium.

2. What were the tasks given to Milo and his friends by the Terrible Trivium?

3. Describe the demon of Insincerity.

4. Who was Gelatinous Giant?

5. How did Milo get rid of the Giant?

Chapter 18

Racing ahead, the three companions soon come upon the staircase to the Castle in the Air. As they reach the first step, they notice a little man at a desk with a huge book upon it. The Senses Taker asks all sorts of questions about the travelers that become increasingly trivial, and he writes down all of the answers in his ledger. They become engrossed in the question game and forget all about the castle and the horde of demons chasing them until Milo drops the bag of sounds that the Soundkeeper gave him. The package breaks open and explodes with laughter, pulling Milo from his trance since humor is the one sense the Senses Taker cannot seize.

1. What happened when they reached the first step of the staircase?

2. Who was the Senses Taker?

3. What was the trick played by the Senses Taker?

4. How did Milo get rid of the Senses Taker?

Chapter 19

Tock, carrying Milo, the Humbug and the princesses on his back, glides down from the Castle in the Air and lands with a sudden jolt. The group quickly begins running down the Mountains of Ignorance as the horde of demons spots them and follows. Milo casts a glance over his shoulder and sees a horrible host of monsters that appears to be gaining on them. Just as the demons have caught up and are poised to pounce, they inexplicably stop in their tracks. Milo looks up and sees the armies of Wisdom, led by King Azaz and the Mathemagician, galloping towards them. The demons turn tail and run back up into the dark places from which they came.

A huge celebration ensues and all of the people Milo met during his journey through the Lands Beyond show up to congratulate him for finding Rhyme and Reason. King Azaz finally tells Milo the "secret" he warned him about back in Dictionopolis: the mission to save Rhyme and Reason was actually impossible. The king explains that he kept this from Milo because "so many things are possible just as long as you don't know they're impossible."

After Milo and his friends enjoy an joyous celebration, the princesses tell Milo that it is time for him to return to his home. He exchanges goodbyes with all the people he has met in the Lands Beyond, including his friends Tock and the Humbug, and sets out on the highway in his electric car.

1. How did the princesses come out of the castle in the air?

2. What happened when the horrible demons came in their tracks?

3. What happened to the demons?

4. What happened after the celebration?

Chapter 20

Milo comes upon a tollbooth like the one he assembled in his bedroom and passes through it to find himself right back where he began. He realizes that days or weeks have passed while he has been away and hopes that no one has been worried. As it turns out, however, only a few hours have passed. It is near nightfall and Milo, who is exhausted, decides to go to bed.

The next day begins like any other. Milo goes to school where he is distracted by thinking of making his next trip through the tollbooth. He rushes home from school planning to hop in his electric car and have another adventure. When he reaches his bedroom, however, he finds that the tollbooth is gone. In its place is a note addressed "FOR MILO, WHO KNOWS THE WAY." The note explains that there are many more boys and girls in need of the tollbooth and suggests that, thanks to the lessons he has learned, Milo can explore many more wonderful lands all by himself. The tollbooth was just the first step, it seems, and now Milo is free to do all the exploring and adventuring he desires. Milo contemplates this, looking around at his room in a whole new way and seeing all sorts of wonderful and interesting things. "Well I *would* like to make another trip," Milo thinks, "but I really don't know when I'll have the time. There's just so much to do right here."

1. How long did Milo stay away from his home?

2. What was the impact of Tollbooth on Milo?

3. What was written on the note?

4. "Well I *would* like to make another trip," Explain.

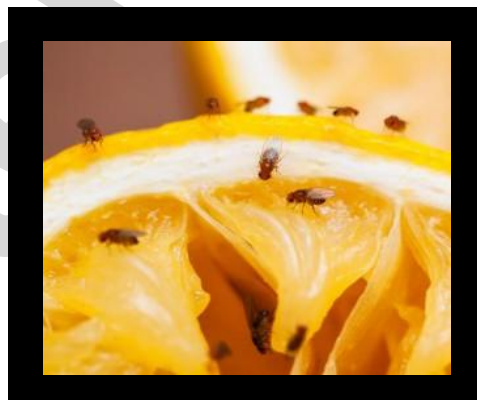
Reading Comprehension

Directions: Read the passage. Then answer the questions below.

Fruit Fly Fix

It is breakfast time. You have been looking forward to eating a nice ripe banana ever since you woke up. Just when you reach for the delicious piece of fruit on your counter, you see something that makes you much less hungry: a swarm of fruit flies!

Fruit flies are tiny insects that are attracted to ripe or rotting fruits and vegetables. The flies not only eat the fruit, they also lay their eggs there. A single fruit fly can lay up to 500 eggs on the surface of a piece of fruit. Within eight days, the fruit flies that hatch from these eggs are full adults that can then lay their own eggs. As you can see, what might start out as a small fruit fly problem can become very large very quickly.



Although there is a chance fruit flies can carry germs on to your food, this is not very likely. Fruit flies are annoying, but they probably will not hurt you. Because they are such a nuisance, however, most people want to get rid of these pesky bugs as quickly as possible. Some people use pesticide sprays on the fruit flies. Although this will kill the flies, it will also spread harmful poison all over your kitchen. Luckily, there is also a completely safe way for you to get rid of fruit flies in your house.

The first step is for you to remove all fruits or vegetables from your counter. Store these items in the refrigerator or in sealed containers. Clean up any spilled juice or bits of food that might be on the floor. Take out the trash and empty the recycling bin. Wash any dirty dishes that are in your sink. Doing all of these things will stop new fruit flies from finding food or places to lay their eggs.

Next, make a trap to catch all of the remaining fruit flies in your house. First, fill a small bowl with a few tablespoons of vinegar. Then, put a piece of very ripe or rotting fruit into the vinegar. Cover the bowl very tightly with a sheet of plastic wrap and poke a few very small holes in the wrap with a fork. If all goes according to plan, the flies will enter the trap through the holes but will be unable to fly back out. This trap will catch all of the remaining fruit flies. You can either kill these flies or release them outdoors. Fruit flies can be a pest, but they do not have to make you crazy. With a little effort, you can get existing flies out of your house and prevent new ones from taking over your kitchen.

- 1) In reading this passage, we learn that fruit flies
- I. die immediately after they lay their eggs
 - II. can grow into adults after only 8 days
 - III. are mostly harmless
- A. I only
 - B. I and II only
 - C. II and III only
 - D. I, II, and III
- 2) As used in paragraph 3, a **nuisance** is something that
- A. bothers you
 - B. can be dangerous
 - C. grows fast
 - D. is very small
- 3) According to the passage, why should you not use pesticide spray to kill fruit flies?
- A. most sprays do not actually kill all of the fruit flies
 - B. buying sprays can get expensive if you need to use a lot of them
 - C. the sprays take too much time to work
 - D. it can be dangerous to use them in your kitchen
- 4) Based on the information in the penultimate (next-to-last) paragraph, we can understand that the author thinks that
- A. some people do not mind having fruit flies in their house
 - B. some people do not like killing insects
 - C. fruit flies do not like vinegar
 - D. making a fruit fly trap can be difficult

PAF Chapter
Prep Section

- **Reading Comprehension Assessment**

Directions: Read the passage. Then answer the questions below.

The Rio Grande

Although not the longest river in America, the Rio Grande is one of the most important. But, unlike other significant rivers, it is not used for shipping. In fact, oceangoing ships cannot navigate the waters. No, what makes the Rio Grande so important is its location. Since 1846, it has been the official border of Texas and Mexico.

Rio Grande Geography

The Rio Grande is either the fourth or fifth longest river system in North America. It all depends on how it is measured. Because the river twists so much, it occasionally changes course. And these course shifts can cause it to be longer or shorter. At its last official measure, the Rio Grande clocked in at 1,896 miles. The river starts in Colorado and extends downward to the Gulf of Mexico.

Downward is the best way of describing it too. Not only does the river extend south, but it also starts in the mountains and gets lower and lower in elevation as it extends to the Gulf.

Its name is Spanish for the “Big River,” but the Rio Grande is actually known as Rio Bravo in Mexico. “Bravo” translates as “furious,” so the name makes sense. Because of its twists and turns, it certainly does seem to be angrier than most rivers!

The Rio Grande Today

The Rio Grande today is mostly used as a source of drinking water. Sadly, much of the water has been drained from the river. Parts of the river are almost dry! This is because people use more water from the river than the river can get back from rain and other sources. Experts are working to correct this, though, with hopes of restoring the river to its past strength.

Today, the river is important as a source of water for Texans and Mexicans. More important, it is a symbol of cooperation between two nations. Though borders like the Rio Grande separate nations, they are also shared spaces. The Rio Grande is therefore a symbol of friendship and peace between two peoples.

- 1) According to the passage, why is the Rio Grande so important?
 - A. It is a source of drinking water for most of the United States.
 - B. It is the border of Texas and Mexico.
 - C. It is the longest river system in the United States.
 - D. It is known by two different names.

- 2) In paragraph 3, the author most likely writes that “downward is the best way of describing it too” to
 - A. prove that the Rio Grande’s water levels have gone down recently
 - B. argue that the Rio Grande has changed shape over the years
 - C. highlight the fact that the Rio Grande flows south and from high elevations
 - D. explain why the Rio Grande is known as the Rio Bravo down in Mexico

- 3) Based on its use in paragraph 4, the word furious most nearly means
 - A. angry
 - B. large
 - C. twisted
 - D. dry

- 4) According to the passage, the Rio Grande has endpoints in
 - A. Texas and the Gulf of Mexico
 - B. New Mexico and Colorado
 - C. Texas and Mexico
 - D. Colorado and the Gulf of Mexico

- 5) At the beginning of the passage, we learn that the Rio Grande is "one of the most important" rivers in America. Can you think of another important landform that exists where you live? What makes it so important?

6) In paragraph 5, the author explains that the Rio Grande is slowly going dry. What do you think would happen if the river ever went completely dry? Why? Explain your predictions below.

Lined writing area for student response.

- **Reading Comprehension Assessment**

Directions: Read the passage. Then answer the questions below.

The Incredible Machine

Everyone has a favorite attraction at an amusement park, and I am no different. However, unlike most people who seem to prefer rollercoasters, my favorite ride is a little more gentle. Every time I go to Coney Island, Navy Pier, or the Santa Monica Pier, I absolutely have to ride the Ferris wheel.

The Ferris wheel is simple and yet also quite complex. That is, riding it is easy, but how it works is complicated. A series of carts are attached to a wheel, which is attached to a rim. That rim rotates vertically around an axis, and gravity keeps the carts upright. As simple as the ride seems, only advanced engineers can make safe and fun Ferris wheels.



What It Lacks in Thrills...

While the Ferris wheel is not as thrilling as a rollercoaster, it is still very exciting. The fact of being high in the air makes it so much more entertaining than a lot of rides. I mean, how often do you hang from that high up in daily life?

Nevertheless, I have to admit, I don't seek Ferris wheels out because of their excitement. Rather, I find them very relaxing. At the top of the Ferris wheel, you get beautiful sights of the park. You also get a sense of calm that you don't get in the hustle and bustle of the park below.

Additionally, Ferris wheels are also gorgeous to look at when they are lit up at night. In fact, the original Ferris wheel was designed as much to be seen as to be ridden.

It Happened at the World's Fair

The first Ferris wheel was made by and named after George Washington Gale Ferris, Jr. He designed it for the Chicago World's Fair in 1893. It was the tallest attraction there, standing 264 feet high.

However, visitors to the fair were impressed by the size of the ride as well as the mechanics of it. In 1893, anything that was not turned by hand was considered a sight to see. And the wheel, which was a machine, was truly incredible to see. Further, as one visitor put it, the wheel was amazing because it seemed to be missing support. That is, it did not look like it could stand on its own. And yet it did and even rotated!

They Keep Reaching Higher and Higher

Ferris wheel technology has only improved since then. Most of today's Ferris wheels are much larger than that first one. The largest in the world is the "Singapore Flyer," which stands slightly taller than twice what Ferris's did!

Today, the Ferris wheel is the most common amusement park ride. But that does not mean you

should take them for granted. Instead, be thankful for Ferris' invention. The next time you're at an amusement park, don't just look up at the impressive wheel in the sky on your way to a newer attraction. Take it for a spin!

- 1) As used in paragraph 1, the word attraction most nearly means
 - A. sense
 - B. park
 - C. ride
 - D. vision

- 2) It can be understood that Coney Island, Navy Pier, and the Santa Monica Pier are all examples of
 - A. amusement parks
 - B. Ferris wheels
 - C. vacation spots
 - D. boat docks

- 3) As used in paragraph 2, which is the best antonym for complex?
 - A. impressive
 - B. beautiful
 - C. exciting
 - D. simple

- 4) What does the author like best about Ferris wheels?
 - A. the impressive engineering and beauty of them
 - B. the excitement and thrills they guarantee
 - C. the beautiful sights and relaxation they allow
 - D. the fact that most amusement parks have one

- 5) According to the passage, the Ferris wheel was originally designed for
 - A. Coney Island
 - B. the world's fair
 - C. Disneyland
 - D. Singapore

- 6) This passage was most likely written to
 - A. describe the author's favorite amusement park rides
 - B. explain the original design of Ferris wheels and how they work today
 - C. describe the history of Ferris wheels and why they are so popular
 - D. explain the history of Ferris wheels and why the author likes them

- 7) Using information in the passage, the reader can understand that the tallest Ferris wheel in the world is
 - A. under 250 feet tall
 - B. between 250 and 500 feet tall
 - C. between 500 and 750 feet tall
 - D. over 750 feet tall

- 8) In paragraph 2, the narrator says, "As simple as the ride seems, only advanced engineers can make safe and fun Ferris wheels." Can you think of any other machines that seem simple but actually are not? List at least two and explain why they are not actually simple.

- 9) In paragraph 3, the narrator says, " While the Ferris wheel is not as thrilling as a rollercoaster, it is still very exciting ." Can you think of any other machines that are not "thrilling" but still "exciting"?

- 10) In the final section of the passage, we learn how Ferris wheels "keep reaching higher and higher." This seems to be a common trend among the developers of modern technology. What makes us want to continually strive to create something bigger and better? Is this good? Discuss.

- **Reading Comprehension 2 Level 7**

Directions: Read the passage. Then answer the questions below.

For two months, I have been trying to decide who makes the best ice cream. I have narrowed it down to my four favorite manufacturers: Randolph Farms, Goodies, Disco, and Twinkle.

Let's start with Randolph Farms. Randolph Farms makes very good ice cream. They have lots of different flavors, but this doesn't really matter to me. That's because I always get coffee flavor. They make the best coffee ice cream in the world. I've never had hot coffee (the drink) but people tell me that Randolph Farms coffee ice cream tastes just like the real thing. Also, Randolph Farms uses all natural ingredients to make their ice cream. This is a good idea, I think.

Second, we have Goodies. Goodies makes excellent ice cream. Like Randolph Farms, Goodies uses all natural ingredients. They only make three different flavors—strawberry, vanilla, and chocolate— but they make them very well. The strawberry is amazing. Every bite of it reminds me of the strawberries that I used to pick behind my old house. The vanilla is wonderful. It is very smooth and has a refreshing, creamy taste. The chocolate is outstanding. It is made with real cocoa beans from Bolivia. I didn't know where Bolivia is so I decided to look for it on a map. After hunting awhile, I discovered that it is in South America! That's a long way to go to get cocoa, so it must be good. I would say that the only drawback to Goodies ice cream is that they only make three different flavors.

Third, we have Disco. Disco ice cream is okay. They don't have many good flavors. Actually, the only Disco flavor I like is Bubblegum. It is vanilla ice cream with little chunks of bubblegum in it. After you eat the ice cream, you can blow bubbles with the gum. That's pretty fun.

Finally, there is Twinkle. Twinkle ice cream is mediocre. The only good thing about Twinkle is that it is relatively inexpensive. You can buy a whole carton of twinkle ice cream for \$4.50. That's only two weeks' allowance for me.

Questions

- 1) Which of the following would be the best title for this passage?
 - A. Strawberry, Vanilla, Chocolate, and Bubblegum Too!
 - B. The Four Top Ice Cream Manufacturers
 - C. The Finest Ice Cream in the World
 - D. Picking the Best Ice Cream Manufacturer

- 2) If the author wanted to get a scoop of coffee ice cream, where would he or she probably go?
 - A. Randolph Farms
 - B. Goodies
 - C. Disco
 - D. Twinkle

- 3) In paragraph 1, the author uses a colon. A colon (:) looks like two dots, one on top of the other.

Colons are used to separate different parts of a sentence. The part before the colon introduces an idea and can stand alone as a sentence. The part after the colon gives more detailed information about this idea, often as a list. If the colon could talk, it would say, "And here they are!"

Using this information, it can be understood that which of the following sentences contains the correct use of a colon?

 - A. My friends are: sweet, young, and generous.
 - B. I like: to talk on the phone at night.
 - C. I have three pets: Toto, Spot, and Rover.
 - D. I want a new bicycle: or new roller skates.

- 4) According to the passage, the author likes Randolph Farms ice cream because it
 - I.is all natural
 - II.is made in Bolivia
 - III. comes in many flavors
 - A. I only
 - B. I and II only
 - C. II and III only
 - D. I, II, and III

- 5) In paragraph 3 the author writes, "That's a long way to go to get cocoa, so it must be good." Using this information, we can understand that the author believes that
- A. Goodies loses money on sales of chocolate ice cream
 - B. Bolivia makes the best cocoa in the world
 - C. things that are hard to get must be high quality
 - D. cocoa from the United States is not very good
- 6) According to the passage, the author likes Disco ice cream because it
- A. is relatively inexpensive
 - B. has bubblegum in it
 - C. is made in Bolivia
 - D. is okay
- 7) According to the passage, how is Randolph Farms ice cream different than Goodies?
- I. Randolph Farms has many different flavors and Goodies does not.
 - II. Randolph Farms uses all natural ingredients and Goodies does not.
 - III. Randolph Farms is very expensive and Goodies is not.
- A. I only
 - B. I and II only
 - C. II and III only
 - D. I, II, and III
- 8) An adjective is a word that is used to describe a thing. For example, in the sentence, "The car is fast," the word "fast" is an adjective. Using this information, which of the following are adjectives used in paragraph 3?
- I. flavors
 - II. excellent
 - III. old
- A. I only
 - B. I and II only
 - C. II and III only
 - D. I, II, and III

- 9) According to the author, what is the only drawback to Goodies ice cream?
- A. cheap ingredients
 - B. expensive price
 - C. mediocre quality
 - D. a lack of flavors
- 10) How much money does the author receive in his or her weekly allowance?
- A. \$2.25
 - B. \$4.50
 - C. \$9.00
 - D. Not enough information is provided
- 11) Given the information included in the passage, which of the following statements would the author most likely agree with?
- A. Each manufacturer has its strengths and weaknesses.
 - B. The best manufacturers are the ones with the most flavors.
 - C. Goodies is certainly not the best manufacturer, as they only have three flavors.
 - D. Each manufacturer is good for different reasons.
- 12) If the author did decide that one manufacturer is best, which one would he or she probably choose?
- A. Randolph Farms
 - B. Goodies
 - C. Disco
 - D. Twinkle
- 13) How many weeks would it take for the author to save enough money to buy two cartons of Twinkle ice cream?
- A. 1 week
 - B. 2 weeks
 - C. 3 weeks
 - D. 4 weeks

Write a letter to the editor of newspaper, complaining against the increasing nuisance of beggars in the city.

Blank lined area for writing a letter.

PAF Chapter
Prep Section

