

MY VACATION

3RD
Grade



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My Vacation

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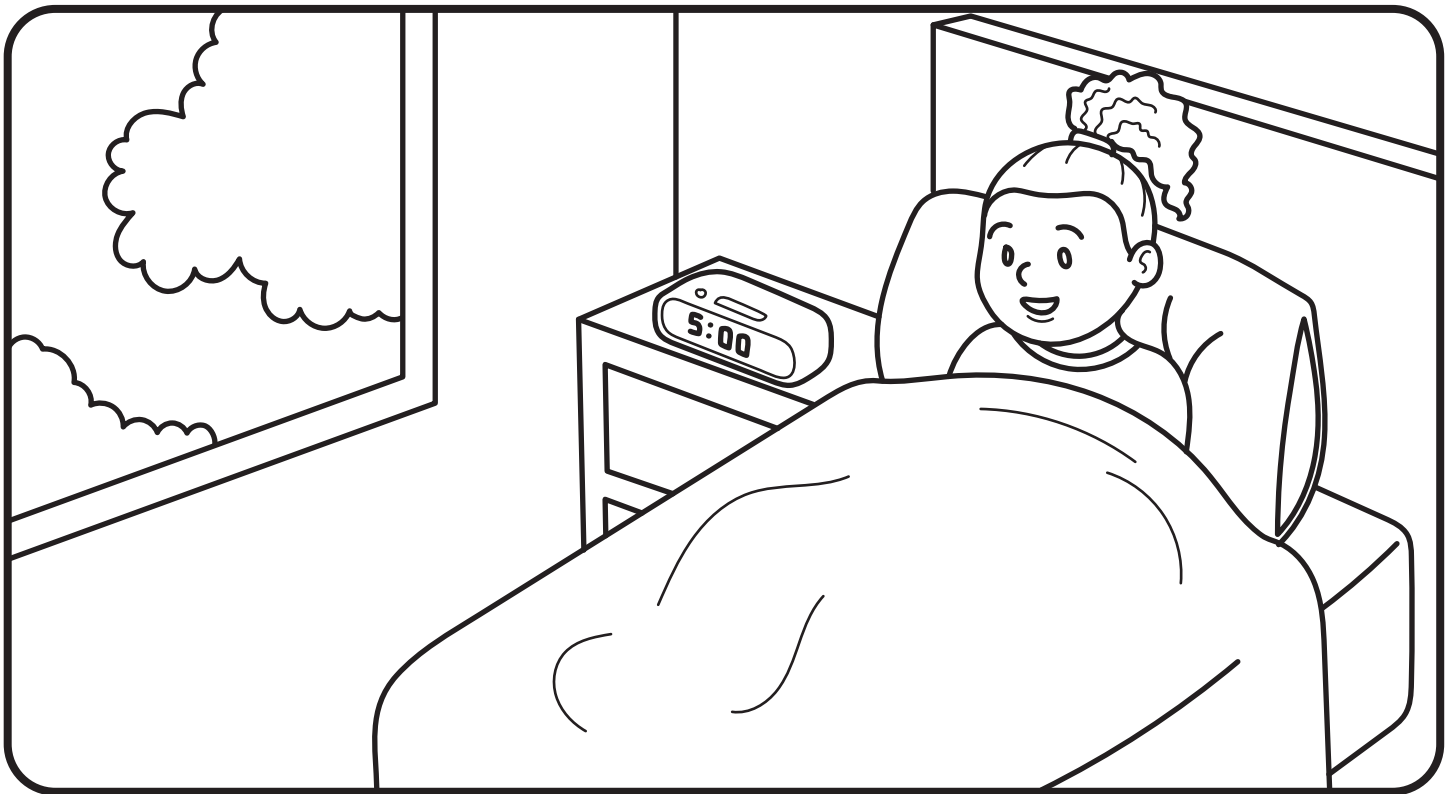
** Includes Answer Sheet*

My Vacation: Part 1

Directions: Read Part 1 of "My Vacation" and answer the questions on the following page.

I woke up long before my alarm clock. This was not normal for me because I loved being tucked in my warm, comfy bed. But today was no ordinary day. I was too excited to sleep because it was vacation day! I was so excited that I hardly slept a wink. Mom said I'd better get some rest because otherwise I'd be crabby. Dad told me that I'd need a lot of energy to do all things he had planned for our camping trip.

This would be my first time camping. My friend Hilary told me that when her family goes camping they swim in a big lake. My grandpa told me that he loves taking long walks through the forest when he goes camping. My cousin Edward said that when his family goes camping they make a campfire, roast marshmallows, and tell funny stories. I wasn't sure what my parents had in store for us, but I knew that it would be fun.



Practice Understanding What You Read

Directions: After reading "My Vacation: Part 1," read each question carefully. Choose the answer that **BEST** answers the question or write the correct answer on the blank lines provided.

1. Based on the story, why does the narrator wake up before her alarm clock goes off?

A. She does not like to sleep.
 B. She is excited about going on vacation.
 C. She does not want to sleep too long and be crabby.
 D. She is worried that she will sleep too long and miss her vacation.

2. "This was not normal for me because I loved being tucked in my warm, comfy bed. But today was no ordinary day."

What does **ordinary** mean as it is used in the sentence?

A. bad
 B. boring
 C. special
 D. usual

3. Which word from the sentences in number 2 gives a clue to the meaning of **ordinary**?

A. normal
 B. loved
 C. tucked
 D. warm

4. "I was so excited that I hardly slept a wink."

What does the narrator mean when she says she **hardly slept a wink**?

A. She was unable to get much sleep.
 B. She was blinking too much to sleep.
 C. Her eyes were too tired to stay open.
 D. Her eyes did not move during the night.

5. Which sentence from the story **BEST** supports the correct answer to number 4?

A. I woke up long before my alarm clock.
 B. I was too excited to sleep because it was vacation day!
 C. Mom said I'd better get some rest because otherwise I'd be crabby.
 D. Dad told me that I'd need a lot of energy to do all the things he had planned for our camping trip.

6. Fill in the chart below by telling **WHO** matches with each statement in the "WHAT" column. Next, give the paragraph number(s) to show where in the story you found the answer.

Who	What	Where in the story
	Is too excited to sleep	
	Has never been camping before	
	Roasts marshmallows on a campfire	
	Believes the camping trip will be fun	
	Loves to take long walks through the forest	
	Has planned things for the family's vacation	
	Goes swimming in a big lake while camping	
	Believes that not getting enough sleep can make a person crabby	

My Vacation: Part 2

Directions: Read Part 2 of "My Vacation" and do the activities on the following worksheets.

I stayed in my room for a little while thinking about what the camping trip would be like. When I smelled pancakes and coffee I knew it was safe to go downstairs. The pancakes were for me—the coffee was for Dad. After eating a delicious breakfast, I quickly showered, brushed my teeth, and combed my hair.

Next, it was time to pack the car. I never knew that packing a car could take so long! I also had no idea why we needed so much stuff just for a weekend away! By the time the car was packed, I wondered if there would be enough room for me. Mom said not to worry, but I was a little uneasy about fitting in the backseat.

By 10:00 it was finally time to leave. Dad checked the car for what seemed like the millionth time to make sure we had everything. I smashed myself in between a cooler and a pile of blankets and buckled my seatbelt. I wasn't very comfortable but I didn't want to say anything. I didn't want Mom to think I was crabby. Then she might know that I didn't sleep much the night before and tell me to take a nap. I didn't want to miss a thing—not even the car ride!



Summarizing and Order of Events

Practice Summarizing

What is a summary? A summary is telling the most important ideas from the story, including important details that support the “big idea.” A summary should not include your opinion, but should just tell the important facts of what the story is about. A summary should not be too detailed.

Think about the important things that happen in Part 2 of “My Vacation.” Write a summary that tells what Part 2 is mostly about.

Make sure your summary:

- Has a beginning, middle, and end
- Tells big ideas and includes important details

Identify the Order of Events

What is the order of events? A story is usually told in a special order so it makes sense to the reader. The author might tell what happens first, second, third, and so on. Understanding the order of events is important to understanding the story. If an author tells a story about a girl who goes inside to dry off, but forgets to tell that it was raining first, you might be confused!

Think about the order of events in Part 2 of “My Vacation.” Look at the events in the chart below and put a number next to each event to show the order in which each occurs. Put a “1” next to what happens first, a “2” next to what happens next, and so on. Be sure to look at the story to check your answers.

The narrator combs her hair.	
The narrator takes a shower.	
The narrator’s family packs the car.	
The narrator buckles her seatbelt.	
The narrator smells pancakes and coffee.	
The narrator’s mom tells her not to worry.	
The narrator worries there will not be room for her in the car.	
The narrator’s dad checks the car to make sure everything is packed.	
The narrator does not tell her mom that she is uncomfortable because she does not want her mom to tell her to nap.	

Name: _____

Date: _____

My Vacation Word Search

Directions: Find the following words related to camping and circle them in the puzzle below. The words may be horizontal, vertical, or diagonal, forwards or backwards.

Bugs

Hiking

Outdoors

Swimming

Campfire

Lake

Stars

Tent

Fishing

Marshmallow

Stories

Trees

G	E	A	G	E	K	A	L	I	E	B	S	M
N	H	D	U	P	F	T	C	D	A	N	O	U
I	L	S	C	A	M	P	F	I	R	E	U	D
K	O	W	F	U	O	S	E	I	R	O	T	S
I	E	I	S	I	P	F	A	M	P	H	D	S
H	A	M	H	S	S	G	U	B	D	Y	O	U
T	C	M	A	R	S	H	M	A	L	L	O	W
G	E	I	C	A	D	U	I	P	R	K	R	O
W	G	N	E	T	C	O	S	N	T	U	S	E
A	B	G	T	S	E	E	R	T	G	E	O	R

My Vacation: Part 3

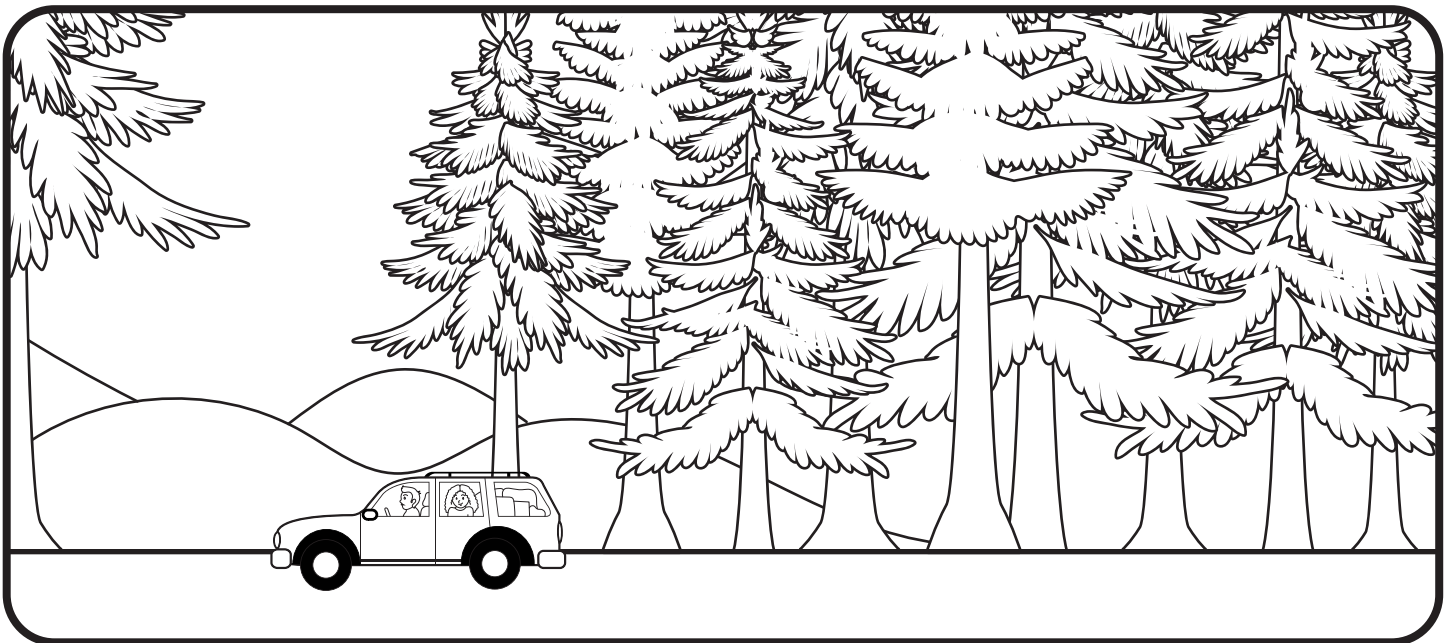
Directions: Read Part 3 of "My Vacation" and do the activities at the end.

We drove away from the house. We passed by my friend Hilary's home. Next we drove by my school. Then we went by my favorite restaurant. Before long, we were driving down roads I no longer recognized.

Dad listened to the radio and Mom read a book. My eyes were burning and I could feel them getting heavier and heavier. Mom said I looked tired and should close my eyes for a little bit. As long as she wasn't asking me to take a nap, I figured it was okay to close them. Of course, I fell asleep pretty quickly. I wondered if mom knew that I'd fall asleep if I closed my eyes.

When I woke up I looked out the window. I was worried that I'd missed the drive. Dad told me we still had about an hour left before we arrived, so I knew that I hadn't missed anything important.

We were no longer driving through cities or towns, but were out in nature. Tall pine trees lined both sides of the road. We were surrounded by green grass, rolling hills, trees, and a big, blue sky. I decided to count how many trees I saw. I quickly realized that there were too many to count. We hadn't even reached the campground yet and I already felt like I was a million miles away from home. I didn't feel worried or crabby anymore. I didn't know if it was the nap that helped me feel at peace or if it was the storybook surroundings, but all I knew was that I was happy.



Practice Your Reading Comprehension

Directions: Read each sample text from Part 3 of "My Vacation," and circle the questions that can be answered based on the text.

1. *"My eyes were burning and I could feel them getting heavier and heavier. Mom said I looked tired and should close my eyes for a little bit. As long as she wasn't asking me to take a nap, I figured it was okay to close them."*
 - A. How long is the narrator's nap?
 - B. Why does the narrator take a nap?
 - C. Why doesn't the narrator like to take naps?
 - D. Why doesn't the narrator's mom ask her to take a nap?

2. *"When I woke up I looked out the window. I was worried that I'd missed the drive. Dad told me we still had about an hour left before we arrived, so I knew that I hadn't missed anything important."*
 - A. Where is the narrator?
 - B. Why does the narrator wake up?
 - C. Why is the narrator worried?
 - D. What does the narrator see when she looks out the window?

3. *"We were no longer driving through cities or towns, but were out in nature. Tall pine trees lined both sides of the road. We were surrounded by green grass, rolling hills, trees, of course, and a big, blue sky."*
 - A. What does the narrator see?
 - B. Where is the narrator going camping?
 - C. What is the narrator's hometown like?
 - D. How far from the city is the campground?

4. *"I decided to count how many trees I saw. I quickly realized that there were too many to count. We hadn't even reached the campground yet and I already felt like I was a million miles away from home."*
 - A. How far from home is the narrator?
 - B. How many trees does the narrator see?
 - C. Why does the narrator stop counting trees?
 - D. When will the narrator reach the campground?

5. *"I didn't feel worried or crabby anymore. I didn't know if it was the nap that helped me feel at peace or if it was the storybook surroundings, but all I knew is that I was happy."*
 - A. How does the narrator feel?
 - B. Why is the narrator crabby?
 - C. Why did the narrator take a nap?
 - D. What does the narrator's campground look like?

Name: _____

Date: _____

Learn Vocabulary Words with Multiple Meanings

Some words look the same, but mean different things depending on how they are used in the sentence. Read the following sentences to see an example.

Sentence 1: The toy won't move unless you **wind** it up first.

Sentence 2: I need a jacket because the **wind** is cold today.

In Sentence 1, **wind** is a verb—an action. But in Sentence 2, **wind** is a noun—a thing.

Directions: Find some words from Part 3 of "My Vacation" that have more than one meaning. Look at the way the word is used to figure out what it means. Write the word in the first column. Then, write the sentence from the story in the second column. In the third column, write a sentence that shows the word being used in a different way. Underline the word in your new sentence.

Word	Original Sentence	New Sentence
1. close	Mom said I looked tired and should <u>close</u> my eyes for a little bit.	I could tell we were <u>close</u> to our destination when I saw the signs.
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		

Name: _____

Date: _____

Reading the Pictures

What is the purpose of pictures? Pictures can make a story better and add meaning to it. Sometimes you learn something from a picture that can't be found in the words of the story. Other times the pictures show what happens in a part of the story.

Drawing Activity: Pick one thing from each of the three parts of the story that you think is important for the reader to understand. Fill out the chart below, then draw a picture to show what is happening in that part of the story. Be sure your picture matches the details from the story.

Part 1 of "My Vacation"	Part 2 of "My Vacation"	Part 3 of "My Vacation"
I am drawing a picture of what happens in line ____ through line ____.	I am drawing a picture of what happens in line ____ through line ____.	I am drawing a picture of what happens in line ____ through line ____.
This part of the story is important because...	This part of the story is important because...	This part of the story is important because...
Picture 1	Picture 2	Picture 3



DIPLOMA

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for excellence in
completion of

Answer Sheets

My Vacation

Practice Understanding What You Read

Summarizing and Order of Events

My Vacation: Word Search

Practice Your Reading Comprehension

Learn Vocabulary Words with Multiple Meanings

Answer Sheet

Name: _____

Date: _____

ANSWERS Practice Understanding What You Read

Directions: After reading "My Vacation: Part 1," read each question carefully. Choose the answer that **BEST** answers the question or write the correct answer on the blank lines provided.

1. Based on the story, why does the narrator wake up before her alarm clock goes off?

A. She does not like to sleep.
B. She is excited about going on vacation.
C. She does not want to sleep too long and be crabby.
D. She is worried that she will sleep too long and miss her vacation.

2. "This was not normal for me because I loved being tucked in my warm, comfy bed. But today was no ordinary day."

What does **ordinary** mean as it is used in the sentence?

A. bad
B. boring
C. special
D. usual

3. Which word from the sentences in number 2 gives a clue to the meaning of **ordinary**?

A. normal
B. loved
C. tucked
D. warm

4. "I was so excited that I hardly slept a wink."

What does the narrator mean when she says she **hardly slept a wink**?

A. She was unable to get much sleep.
B. She was blinking too much to sleep.
C. Her eyes were too tired to stay open.
D. Her eyes did not move during the night.

5. Which sentence from the story **BEST** supports the correct answer to number 4?

A. I woke up long before my alarm clock.
B. I was too excited to sleep because it was vacation day!
C. Mom said I'd better get some rest because otherwise I'd be crabby.
D. Dad told me that I'd need a lot of energy to do all the things he had planned for our camping trip.

6. Fill in the chart below by telling **WHO** matches with each statement in the "WHAT" column. Next, give the paragraph number(s) to show where in the story you found the answer.

Who	What	Where in the story
Narrator	Is too excited to sleep	Paragraph 1
Narrator	Has never been camping before	Paragraph 2
Edward	Roasts marshmallows on a campfire	Paragraph 2
Narrator	Believes the camping trip will be fun	Paragraph 2
Grandpa	Loves to take long walks through the forest	Paragraph 2
Dad	Has planned things for the family's vacation	Paragraph 1
Hilary	Goes swimming in a big lake while camping	Paragraph 2
Mom	Believes that not getting enough sleep can make a person crabby	Paragraph 1

Answer Sheet

Name: _____

Date: _____

ANSWERS Summarizing and Order of Events

Practice Summarizing

What is a summary? A summary is telling the most important ideas from the story, including important details that support the "big idea." A summary should not include your opinion, but should just tell the important facts of what the story is about. A summary should not be too detailed.

Think about the important things that happen in Part 2 of "My Vacation." Write a summary that tells what Part 2 is mostly about.

Make sure your summary:

- Has a beginning, middle, and end
- Tells big ideas and includes important details

For 3 points, the summary must include all 3 elements listed below.

For 2 points, the summary must include 2 of the 3 elements listed below.

For 1 point, the summary must include 1 of the 3 elements listed below.

- Summary tells the big ideas and includes important details.
- Summary is written objectively and not as an opinion.
- Summary has a clear beginning, middle, and end.

Identify the Order of Events

What is the order of events? A story is usually told in a special order so it makes sense to the reader. The author might tell what happens first, second, third, and so on. Understanding the order of events is important to understanding the story. If an author tells a story about a girl who goes inside to dry off, but forgets to tell that it was raining first, you might be confused!

Think about the order of events in Part 2 of "My Vacation." Look at the events in the chart below and put a number next to each event to show the order in which each occurs. Put a "1" next to what happens first, a "2" next to what happens next, and so on. Be sure to look at the story to check your answers.

The narrator combs her hair.	3
The narrator takes a shower.	2
The narrator's family packs the car.	4
The narrator buckles her seatbelt.	8
The narrator smells pancakes and coffee.	1
The narrator's mom tells her not to worry.	6
The narrator worries there will not be room for her in the car.	5
The narrator's dad checks the car to make sure everything is packed.	7
The narrator does not tell her mom that she is uncomfortable because she does not want her mom to tell her to nap.	9

Answer Sheet

Name: _____

Date: _____

ANSWERS

My Vacation Word Search

Directions: Find the following words related to camping and circle them in the puzzle below. The words may be horizontal, vertical, or diagonal, forwards or backwards.

Bugs

Hiking

Outdoors

Swimming

Campfire

Lake

Stars

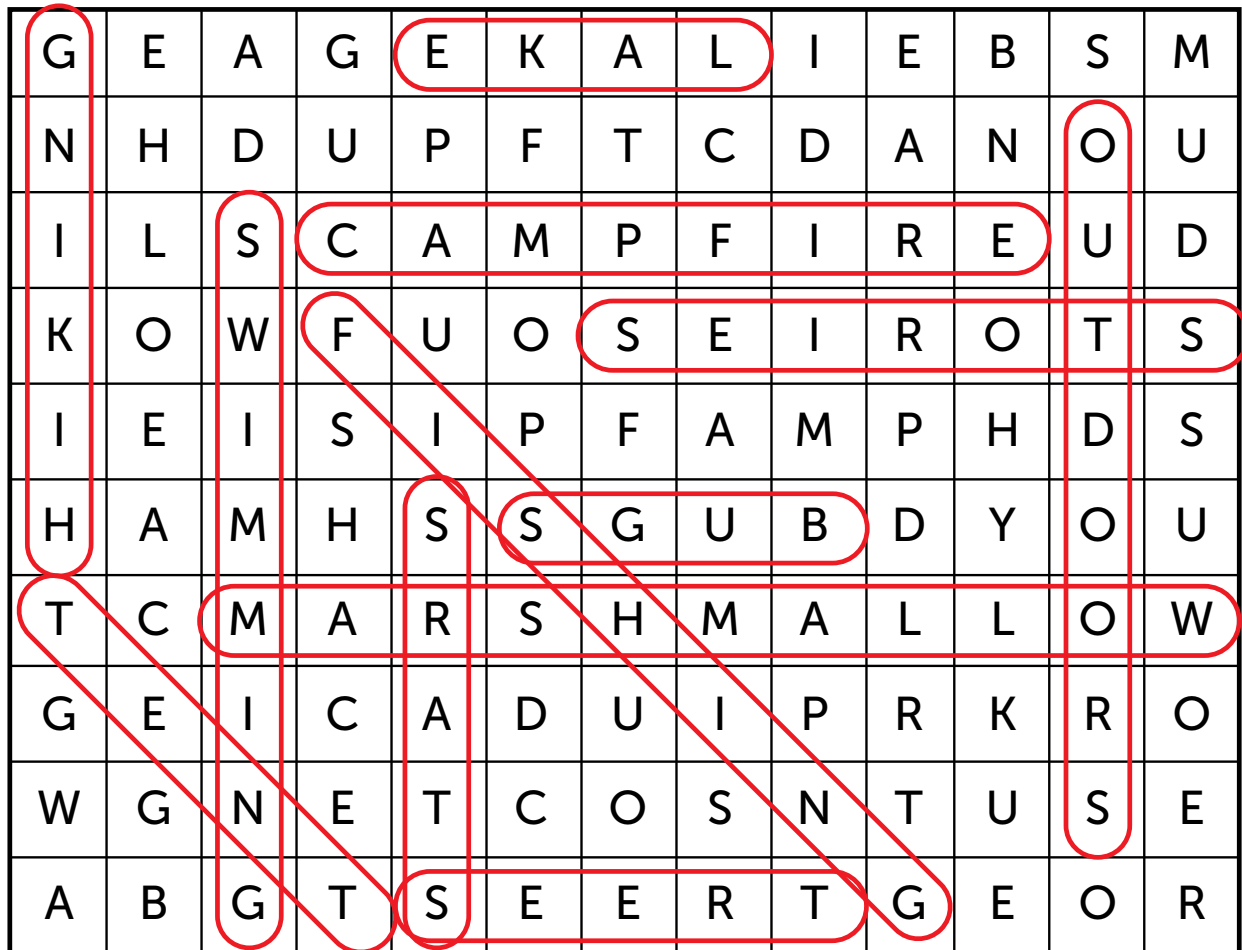
Tent

Fishing

Marshmallow

Stories

Trees



Answer Sheet

Name: _____

Date: _____

ANSWERS Practice Your Reading Comprehension

Directions: Read each sample text from Part 3 of "My Vacation," and circle the questions that can be answered based on the text.

1. "My eyes were burning and I could feel them getting heavier and heavier. Mom said I looked tired and should close my eyes for a little bit. As long as she wasn't asking me to take a nap, I figured it was okay to close them."

- A. How long is the narrator's nap?
- ☒ B. Why does the narrator take a nap?
- C. Why doesn't the narrator like to take naps?
- D. Why doesn't the narrator's mom ask her to take a nap?

2. "When I woke up I looked out the window. I was worried that I'd missed the drive. Dad told me we still had about an hour left before we arrived, so I knew that I hadn't missed anything important."

- A. Where is the narrator?
- B. Why does the narrator wake up?
- ☒ C. Why is the narrator worried?
- D. What does the narrator see when she looks out the window?

3. "We were no longer driving through cities or towns, but were out in nature. Tall pine trees lined both sides of the road. We were surrounded by green grass, rolling hills, trees, of course, and a big, blue sky."

- ☒ A. What does the narrator see?
- B. Where is the narrator going camping?
- C. What is the narrator's hometown like?
- D. How far from the city is the campground?

4. "I decided to count how many trees I saw. I quickly realized that there were too many to count. We hadn't even reached the campground yet and I already felt like I was a million miles away from home."

- A. How far from home is the narrator?
- B. How many trees does the narrator see?
- ☒ C. Why does the narrator stop counting trees?
- D. When will the narrator reach the campground?

5. "I didn't feel worried or crabby anymore. I didn't know if it was the nap that helped me feel at peace or if it was the storybook surroundings, but all I knew is that I was happy."

- ☒ A. How does the narrator feel?
- B. Why is the narrator crabby?
- C. Why did the narrator take a nap?
- D. What does the narrator's campground look like?

Answer Sheet

Name: _____

Date: _____

ANSWERS Vocabulary Words with Multiple Meanings

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Sentence 1: The toy won't move unless you **wind** it up first.

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Directions: Find some words from Part 3 of "My Vacation" that have more than one meaning. Look at the way the word is used to figure out what it means. Write the word in the first column. Then, write the sentence from the story in the second column. In the third column, write a sentence that shows the word being used in a different way. Underline the word in your new sentence.

Example Answers:

Word	Original Sentence	New Sentence
1. close	Mom said I looked tired and should <u>close</u> my eyes for a little bit.	I could tell we were <u>close</u> to our destination when I saw the signs.
2. bit	Mom said I looked tired and should close my eyes for a little <u>bit</u> .	Once it started to get dark, a mosquito <u>bit</u> me!
3. left	Dad told me we still had about an hour <u>left</u> before we arrived, so I knew that I hadn't missed anything important.	We turned <u>left</u> to get into the campground.
4. nature	We were no longer driving through cities or towns, but were out in <u>nature</u> .	Dad is patient by <u>nature</u> , so he took his time to build our campfire.
5. saw	I decided to count how many trees I <u>saw</u> .	Mom and dad used an axe and a <u>saw</u> to make firewood before we left.
6. count	I quickly realized that there were too many to <u>count</u> .	Late at night sitting around the fire, we told spooky stories about ghosts, werewolves, and <u>Count</u> Dracula!