

Reading Comprehension

The Chicago Fire

Chicago is one of the biggest cities in the United States. Several tall buildings made of stone, metal, and glass currently dominate the famous downtown skyline. However, the buildings weren't always like that. Majority of the buildings in Chicago were actually made of wood until the big fire happened and changed the landscape.

The fire began on the night of Sunday, October 8, 1871. A man named Daniel Sullivan went on a walk to visit his neighbors. When he arrived, he saw that the barn was on fire. As Sullivan ran away from the barn, the fire spread quickly because everything was very dry from the intense heat and the lack of summer rain. Many people noticed the fire and started frantically shouting, "Fire! Fire!"

A few miles away, there was a man named Mathias Schaffer who had the job of spotting fires. From the top of the courthouse building (the tallest building in Chicago) Schaffer sent out an alarm alerting the firemen to the south side of the city. However, the fire was actually on the southwest side. Therefore, by the time the firemen arrived to the scene of the fire, it had already been blazing for over an hour spreading far distances.

The firemen bravely tried to contain the fire, but the strong wind pushed flames toward the center of the city. The winds were even strong enough to blow burning cinders across the Chicago River causing buildings such as the Courthouse, one of the oldest buildings in Chicago, to catch fire. The fire continued to ravage the city until rain fell late the next evening, finally putting the flames out.

Despite the devastating loss of lives, homes, and buildings, most of the citizens decided to stay in Chicago. The city, with help from all over the world, was rebuilt. Taller buildings were constructed out of brick and steel and equipped with more modern technology, such as the elevator, shaping the city we know today.



Score: ____ / 10 = ____ %

Name: _____

Respond to each prompt about the reading passage using a complete sentence.

1 In what type of genre does the passage belong?

4 What is the main idea?

2 What is the setting?

5 What are two or three details that support the main idea?

3 How did the fire cross the river and into the center of the city?

Score: ___ / 10 = ___ % Name: _____

1 Is the given sentence a *statement* or a *command*? Mark your answer.

Clean your room on Saturday.

- (A) statement (B) command

2 Write the base word in each word.

fearless _____

disapprove _____

4 Write the contraction for each pair of words.

we have = _____

they will = _____

5 Draw a line to match the homophone to the correct picture.

pair •

•



pear •

•



3 Rewrite the sentence on the line with correct capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.
My dad got milk eggs and Sugar.

Score: ___ / 10 = ___ %

Name: _____

1 Write a *command* for your friend.

2 Underline the base word in each word.

joyful

disagree

slowly

3 Write the words in order to make a complete sentence.

didn't go central today to park they

4 Write the two words that make up each contraction.

we'll = _____

couldn't = _____

5 Complete the sentence by circling the correct homophone.

Running is _____ (banned, band) in the halls of our school for safety reasons.

Reading Comprehension

The Ants Went Marching

One day Lance, the leader of the ant group, came up with a plan to gather and store food. He said, "The harsh winter is quickly approaching and we need to save up lots of food. Let's go to the park and work together. We will share all the food we find."

The ants marched toward a blanket full of food. Lance shouted, "Let's march toward the sandwich and pick up all the crumbs." All of the ants got to work. All but one ant, named Sammy.

Sammy intended to help the team get crumbs to store for the winter, but then he got distracted by a large piece of chocolate cake. He thought, "If I get that piece of cake all by myself, I can eat the chocolate cake all by myself! This one piece of cake will be enough for me to get through the entire winter." So, instead of helping his team, Sammy walked away from the line and marched towards the cake.

When Sammy got to the cake, he couldn't wait to taste it. He nibbled on the corner of it. "Mmmmm! This cake sure is tasty!" he said. Sammy grabbed the bottom edge of the cake and lifted it with all his might. It went up... up... up... and then crash! The enormous slice of cake fell on top of Sammy. He shouted, "Help! Help! I'm stuck under the cake!"

Lance looked over and saw helpless Sammy. He exclaimed, "Follow me gang!" The ants followed their leader to the piece of cake and surrounded all sides of the cake.

"One, two and lift!" instructed Lance. They lifted the cake and Sammy was free.

"Thank you! I'm sorry I left the team," Sammy cried.

"We accept your apology Sam," replied Lance. "We will gladly welcome you back as long as you promise to always stick with us."

"Oh, I promise!" Sammy said.

"Welcome back to the team!" Lance said with a smile. And all of the ants cheered.



Score: ____ / 10 = ____ % Name: _____

Respond to each prompt about the reading passage using a complete sentence.

1 What is the setting?

2 Describe the main character.

3 Why do the ants need to collect so much food?

4 What was the problem in the story?

5 What was the solution to the problem?

1 Fix each mistake by writing the plural form of each underlined noun.

The lily are in between the bush.

2 Draw a line to match each prefix with its correct meaning.

- | | |
|-------|-------------------|
| mis • | • again |
| re • | • not or opposite |
| dis • | • bad or wrong |

3 Rewrite the sentence on the line with correct capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.
Did your mom bye shoes for rick.

4 Color, trace, and write the sight word.

myself

myself _____

5 Write a sentence using the sight word from #4.

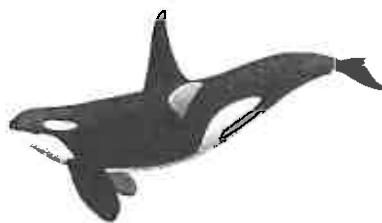
Reading Comprehension

Orcas

An orca, or killer whale, is one of the ocean's top predators. Orcas hunt several types of animals like fish, walrus, seals, penguins, sea turtles, sharks, and even other kinds of whales. An average-sized orca can eat up to 500 pounds of food *each day!*

Orcas use many different techniques to hunt. One way involves hunting together in a cooperative pod. The cooperative pods are family groups that work together as they hunt. For example, one way they work together is to slap their tails on the water's surface. The slap the surface in unison and with such causing a wave to wash prey, such as penguins and sea lions, off the ice and into the water. Another way they work together to hunt is to surround a larger animal, such as a blue whale. They will chase and nibble away at it until it becomes too exhausted to continue. Then the orcas get to have their meal.

People are taught to chew their food carefully so they don't choke. Orcas eat in a way that is very different from people. While they have over forty teeth that are long and sharp, they only use them for ripping and tearing their prey, not chewing. Smaller animals such as seals are swallowed whole and slide down the throats of the orcas. Bigger animals are torn apart and eaten in smaller chunks.



Score: ___ / 10 = ___ % Name: _____

Respond to each prompt about the reading passage using a complete sentence.

1 What is the nickname for orcas?

2 What are the orcas' teeth used for?

3 Name some animals that are prey to the orcas.

4 What is one way an orca hunts for food?

5 Write your favorite fact about orcas.
