

“New Shoes for Maddy”

Reading Comprehension – Short Stories

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

Maddy loves to jump rope, ride her scooter, and ride her skateboard. One day, Maddy gets a hole in the shoes she likes best while riding her scooter. They are pink with hearts and a Velcro tab. Now she needs new shoes.

Maddy's mom takes her to the department store on Saturday morning. The store is filled with people looking for shirts, dresses, pants, and toys. Maddy's mom takes her to the shoe area.

The shoe area is crowded, and there is a long wait. Maddy does not mind. Maddy sees a pair of purple sneakers with orange laces. She sees a pair of red sandals with dots. She sees a pair of green flip-flops. She wants the purple sneakers.

"But you do not know how to tie your laces," says Maddy's mom.

"I will learn," says Maddy.

Maddy's mother thinks. She does not want to tie Maddy's laces each morning before school.

"If we buy the purple sneakers, you must learn to tie them before you can wear them to school," says Maddy's mom.

"I will! I **promise!**" says Maddy. She is very happy.

Maddy practices tying her laces for the rest of the day. She practices more on Sunday. Finally, she learns how to tie her laces.

She gets to wear her new shoes to school on Monday.

"I did it," she says with a big smile.



Questions:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1) Why does Maddy need new shoes? | 2) How does Maddy get a hole in her shoes? |
| A. Her shoes are too small. | A. riding her skateboard |
| B. Her shoes are very old. | B. riding her scooter |
| C. She lost her favorite shoes. | C. jumping rope |
| D. She got a hole in her shoes. | D. playing basketball |

Questions (continued):

3) Which shoes have a hole?

- A. the green flip-flops
- B. the red sandals
- C. the pink shoes with hearts
- D. the purple sneakers

4) Which shoes does Maddy want to buy?

- A. the pink shoes with hearts
- B. the purple sneakers
- C. the green flip-flops
- D. the red sandals with dots

5) How does Maddy feel about the long wait at the store?

- A. She is mad about it.
- B. She is happy about it.
- C. She is excited about it.
- D. She feels okay about it.

6) Who does Maddy see in the store?

- A. a lot of people
- B. her older sister
- C. her friends from school
- D. one of her neighbors

7) When can Maddy wear her shoes to school?

- A. when she learns how to tie the laces
- B. as soon as she leaves the store
- C. after summer vacation
- D. tomorrow

8) As used in paragraph 8, what does **promise** mean?

- A. that Maddy wants to learn to tie
- B. that Maddy will learn to tie
- C. that Maddy cannot learn to tie
- D. that Maddy might learn to tie

9) What does Maddy's mom not want to do?

- A. buy Maddy new shoes
- B. buy Maddy green flip-flops
- C. buy more than one pair of shoes
- D. tie Maddy's shoes each morning

10) How might Maddy feel after learning to tie?

- I. happy
 - II. proud
 - III. nervous
- A. I only
 - B. I and II
 - C. II and III
 - D. I, II, and III

11) What lesson did Maddy learn?

- A. Practice makes perfect.
 - B. Do not ride a scooter with pink shoes.
 - C. Be careful what you wish for.
 - D. School is fun with new shoes.
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Answers and Explanations

1) **D**

At the beginning, the story says, "One day, Maddy gets a hole in the shoes she likes best while riding her scooter. They are pink with hearts and a Velcro tab. Now she needs new shoes." We can understand from this that Maddy needs new shoes because she got a hole in the shoes with the pink hearts. This means **(D)** is correct.

The story does not provide information to support answer choices **(A)** and **(B)**. Therefore they are incorrect. Maddy did not lose her favorite shoes. She got a hole in them, so **(C)** is incorrect.

2) **B**

At the beginning, the story says, "Maddy gets a hole in the shoes she likes best while riding her scooter." This makes **(B)** correct.

At the beginning, we learn that Maddy loves to "ride her skateboard," but she does not get a hole in her shoe while riding her skateboard. This means **(A)** is incorrect. Maddy also "loves to jump rope," but she does not get a hole in her shoe while jumping rope, so **(C)** is also incorrect. The story does not provide information to support **(D)**, so it is incorrect.

3) **C**

At the beginning, the story says, "Maddy gets a hole in the shoes she likes best while riding her scooter. They are pink with hearts and a Velcro tab." We can understand from this that Maddy got a hole in the shoes with pink hearts. This makes **(C)** correct.

In the middle of the story, "Maddy sees a pair of purple sneakers with orange laces. She sees a pair of red sandals with dots. She sees a pair of green flip-flops." Maddy sees these shoes when she is shopping for new shoes, so these are not the shoes that have a hole. Therefore **(A)**, **(B)**, and **(D)** are incorrect.

4) **B**

In the middle of the story, while Maddy is in the store, she "sees a pair of purple sneakers with orange laces. She sees a pair of red sandals with dots. She sees a pair of green flip-flops. She wants the purple sneakers." We can understand from this that Maddy wants the purple sneakers, so **(B)** is correct.

The pink shoes with the hearts are the shoes with the hole in them, so **(A)** is incorrect. The green flip flops are other shoes that Maddy sees at the store, but she does not want those shoes, so **(C)** is incorrect. Maddy also sees the red sandals with dots, but Maddy does not want those shoes either. This makes **(D)** also incorrect.

5) **D**

Near the beginning, the story says, “The shoe area is crowded, and there is a long wait. Maddy does not mind.” We can understand from this that Maddy feels okay about waiting at the crowded store. This makes **(D)** correct.

In the middle of the story, Maddy “is very happy” about getting the new sneakers, but she is not happy about the wait, so **(B)** is incorrect. The story does not provide information to support answer choices **(A)** and **(C)**. Therefore they are incorrect.

6) **A**

At the beginning, when Maddy goes to the department store, “the store is filled with people looking for shirts, dresses, pants and toys.” Since the store is filled with people, we can understand that Maddy sees a lot of people. Therefore **(A)** is correct.

The story does not provide information to support answer choices **(B)**, **(C)**, and **(D)**. Therefore they are incorrect.

7) **A**

In the middle of the story, Maddy’s mother tells Maddy, “If we buy the purple sneakers, you must learn to tie them before you can wear them to school.” We can understand from this that Maddy must learn how to tie the laces before she can wear the sneakers to school. Therefore **(A)** is correct.

The story does not provide information to support answer choices **(B)** or **(C)**. Therefore they are incorrect. Early in the story, we learn that Maddy goes to the store on Saturday. At the end of the story, Maddy “gets to wear her new shoes to school on Monday.” *Tomorrow* means the day after today, and Maddy wore her new shoes two days after she got the shoes. This means **(D)** is incorrect.

8) **B**

promise (*verb*): to give assurance that you will do something in the future.

In the middle of the story, Maddy’s mother says that Maddy must learn to tie the laces of the purple sneakers before Maddy may wear them to school. Maddy says “I will! I *promise!*” Since Maddy may only wear the shoes if she can tie them and Maddy says that she *will* learn, we can understand that Maddy is saying that she definitely will learn to tie the laces when Maddy says “I *promise.*” Therefore **(B)** is correct.

Want means to desire or wish for. While Maddy does *want* to learn to tie, Maddy’s *promise* that she *will* learn to tie the laces is a statement of what Maddy believes surely will happen. This means **(A)** is incorrect. *Cannot* means unable to. Since Maddy is assuring her mother that she is going to learn to tie the laces, *cannot* is the opposite of *promise*, so **(C)** is incorrect. *Might* means that something could happen but will not happen necessarily. Since Maddy is assuring her mother that she certainly will learn to tie the laces, **(D)** is incorrect.

9) **D**

In the middle of the story, Maddy wants the sneakers with the laces. “Maddy's mother thinks. She does not want to tie Maddy's laces each morning before school.” Since Maddy's mother does not want to tie Maddy's shoes each morning, **(D)** is correct.

Maddy's mother takes her to the store to buy new shoes, so Maddy's mother does want to buy Maddy new shoes. This means **(A)** is incorrect. Although Maddy sees the green flip-flops, Maddy only asks her mother for the purple sneakers. Since Maddy's mother does not give an opinion on the green flip-flops, **(B)** is incorrect. The story does not provide information to support **(C)**. Therefore it is incorrect.

10) **B**

After Maddy learns how to tie the laces, Maddy says, “I did it.” Maddy says this “with a big smile.” Since Maddy has a big smile, Maddy is probably happy. This supports **option (I)**. Since Maddy has worked hard to learn to tie her shoes, and exclaims that she did it, Maddy must be proud that she has learned to tie them. This supports **option (II)**. Since Maddy wanted to learn how to tie the laces and she did learn, it is unlikely that Maddy feels nervous after learning to tie them. This eliminates **option (III)**. Therefore **(B)** is correct.

11) **A**

In the story, Maddy picks out new shoes that she wants very much. In order to wear the shoes, Maddy must learn how to tie the laces. She has to practice for two days to learn how to tie her laces. Since Maddy has reached a goal that was important to her through hard work and practice, Maddy has learned that practice makes perfect. Therefore **(A)** is correct.

Maddy did get a hole in her pink shoes while riding a scooter, but the main idea of the story is that Maddy got to wear her new shoes after putting in hard work to learn how to tie the laces. This means **(B)** is incorrect. Maddy is happy with the shoes that she wanted, so Maddy did not learn to be *careful what you wish for*. This means **(C)** is incorrect. Maddy does not learn that school is fun in this story, so **(D)** is incorrect.