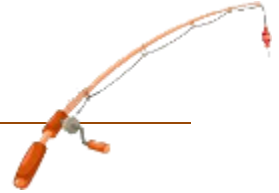


“Time with Grandpa”

Reading Comprehension – Short Stories

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



Ben jumped from bed as soon as the first bit of sun peeped through his window. He grabbed his backpack from his closet and opened it on the floor.

Ben put in some of his favorite things to take with him on his trip to visit Grandpa. He put in a book on building forts, a book on making go-carts, and a new book he had gotten from the library about a kid detective who creates his own spy gear. He also put in a model car kit and his stuffed bear. He was ready to go!

Going to visit his grandfather for a week by himself was always Ben’s favorite part of summer vacation. Grandpa would take him fishing and to baseball games. Grandpa also taught Ben how to fix things around the house.

Last year, when he was eight years old, Ben had learned how to replace a broken doorknob and how to fix a leaky faucet. Grandpa was **patient** and did not mind taking many hours to show Ben how to use his tools.

Ben’s mom stuck her head in his bedroom door. “Grandpa’s here,” she said with a smile.

Ben grabbed his backpack and ran into the kitchen where Grandpa was waiting. “Ready, big guy?” asked Grandpa. “Or do you want to eat breakfast before we leave?”

“Ready,” said Ben. As he kissed his mother goodbye, he felt his stomach rumble. “We can eat later!”

Questions:

1) Ben jumps out of bed because

- A. he is late
- B. he is scared
- C. he is excited
- D. he is worried

2) How old is Ben?

- A. seven years old
- B. eight years old
- C. nine years old
- D. ten years old

Questions(continued):

3) What time of year is it?

- A. spring
- B. summer
- C. autumn
- D. winter

4) What is Ben's favorite part of summer vacation?

- A. fixing stuff
- B. going fishing
- C. visiting his grandfather
- D. going to a baseball game

5) Used in paragraph 4, what is the meaning of **patient**?

- A. very slow
- B. sick in the hospital
- C. good about sharing
- D. taking time without complaint

6) Judging by the things Ben puts in his backpack, what does he like to do most?

- A. make things
- B. ride go-carts
- C. spy on people
- D. read big books

7) Where and when does this story take place?

- A. at Grandpa's house in the early afternoon
- B. at Ben's house in the early afternoon
- C. at Grandpa's house in the morning
- D. at Ben's house in the morning

8) According to the story, what is one of the things Ben's grandpa taught him to do?

- A. use a drill
- B. build a fort
- C. fix a leaky faucet
- D. build a model car

9) What is the most likely reason Ben does not eat breakfast?

- A. He is not hungry.
- B. He does not like his mother's cooking.
- C. He wants to leave for his grandpa's house.
- D. He has already eaten.

10) Which of the following things does Ben seem to like?

- I. baseball
 - II. reading
 - III. fishing
- A. I only
 - B. I and II
 - C. II and III
 - D. I, II, and III

Answers and Explanations

1) **C**

In paragraph 1, the author writes, “Ben jumped from bed as soon as the first bit of sun peeped through his window.” In paragraph 3, we learn that “Going to visit his grandfather for a week by himself was always Ben’s favorite part of summer vacation.” Since Ben is jumping out of bed at dawn to visit his grandfather and visiting his grandfather is Ben’s favorite part of summer vacation, we can infer that Ben is excited to visit his grandfather. Therefore **(C)** is correct.

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

2) **C**

Paragraph 4 begins, “Last year, when he was eight years old, Ben learned how to replace a broken doorknob.” Since Ben was eight years old last year, he is one year older, or nine years old, this year. Therefore **(C)** is correct.

Since the story says that Ben was eight years old last year, he is not eight years old now. Therefore **(B)** is incorrect. The story does not contain information to support answer choices **(A)** and **(D)**. Therefore they are incorrect.

3) **B**

In paragraph 2, we learn that Ben is packing “some of his favorite things to take with him on his trip to visit Grandpa.” Paragraph 3 says, “Going to visit his grandfather for a week by himself was always Ben’s favorite part of summer vacation.” Since Ben is going to visit his grandpa, and Ben visits his grandfather during summer vacation, we can infer that it is summer. Therefore **(B)** is correct.

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

4) **C**

Paragraph 3 says, “Going to visit his grandfather for a week by himself was always Ben’s favorite part of summer vacation.” Therefore **(C)** is correct.

In paragraph 3 the story also tells us that “Grandpa would take him fishing and to baseball games. Grandpa also taught Ben how to fix things around the house.” Although Ben likes all of these things, they are listed to tell us *why* visiting Grandpa is Ben’s favorite part of summer vacation. They are not, in and of themselves, Ben’s favorite part of summer vacation. Therefore **(A)**, **(B)** and **(D)** are incorrect.

5) **D**

patient (*adjective*): capable of calmly awaiting an outcome or result; not hasty or impulsive.

In paragraph 4, we learn that Grandpa taught Ben “how to replace a broken doorknob and how to fix a leaky faucet. Grandpa was **patient** and did not mind taking many hours to show Ben how to use his tools.” We can understand from these statements that Grandpa did not complain about taking a lot of time to teach Ben how to fix things. Therefore **(D)** is correct.

Although someone might need to be patient if something is happening very slowly, being patient is not the same as being slow. Therefore **(A)** is incorrect. Sometimes a person who is sick in the hospital is called a *patient*, but that is a different meaning than the one used in this story. No one in this story is sick or in the hospital. Therefore **(B)** is incorrect. Being patient means not minding that things take a long time, and being good about sharing means not minding letting other people use our things. Being patient and being good at sharing are not the same. Therefore **(C)** is incorrect.

6) **A**

In paragraph 2, the story says that Ben brings “a book on building forts” and “a book on making go-carts.” These two books explain how to make things. The story says Ben brings another book “about a kid detective who creates his own spy gear.” This book is about another kid who makes things. The story then says that Ben brings “a model car kit.” A model car kit is something that you make into a model car. All of these items involve making things. Therefore **(A)** is correct.

Ben may like to ride go-carts, but the book is about *making* go-carts. Therefore **(B)** is incorrect. Ben also may like to spy on people, but the book is about a kid who “creates his own spy gear.” Therefore **(C)** is incorrect. Ben probably does like to read books, since he packed so many, but we do not know if his books are “big.” Therefore **(D)** is incorrect.

7) **D**

At the beginning of the story, we learn that Ben jumps out of bed when the “sun peeped through his window.” Paragraph 5 says, “Ben’s mom stuck her head in” Ben’s “bedroom door.” These statements tell us that the story takes place at Ben’s house. In paragraph 6, Grandpa asks Ben, “Do you want to eat breakfast before we leave?” This, and the earlier statement that Ben jumped out of bed when the sun first came in the window, lets us know that it is morning. **(D)** is the only answer choice that lists both Ben’s house and morning. Therefore **(D)** is correct.

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

8) **C**

In paragraph 3 the story says that Grandpa “taught Ben how to fix things around the house.” The next paragraph says that Ben had learned how to “fix a leaky faucet.” Therefore **(C)** is correct.

In paragraph 4, the story tells us that Grandpa did not mind showing “Ben how to use his tools.” A drill is a tool, but we do not know if Grandpa taught

Ben how to use a drill specifically. Therefore **(A)** is incorrect. In paragraph 2, the story tells us that Ben was bringing a book about building forts to his grandpa's. However, the story does not say that Ben's grandpa taught him how to build a fort. Therefore **(B)** is incorrect. In paragraph 2, we also learn that Ben put a model car kit in his backpack to bring to his grandpa's. However, the story does not say that Ben's grandpa taught him how to build a model car. Therefore **(D)** is incorrect.

9) **C**

At the beginning of the story, Ben jumps out of bed at dawn to fill his backpack for a trip to visit his grandpa. We later learn that "going to visit his grandfather for a week by himself was Ben's favorite part of summer vacation." These statements show us that Ben is excited to visit his grandpa. Therefore **(C)** is correct.

In the last paragraph, Ben "felt his stomach rumble," which likely means he is hungry. Therefore **(A)** is incorrect. The story does not contain information about whether Ben does or does not like his mother's cooking. Therefore **(B)** is incorrect. Ben tells his grandpa, "We can eat later." We can infer from this that Ben is hungry and has not eaten breakfast. Therefore **(D)** is incorrect.

10) **D**

In paragraph 3, we learn that visiting his grandfather "was always Ben's favorite part of summer vacation. Grandpa would take him fishing and to baseball games." Since Ben loves to visit his grandfather, and his grandfather takes him to baseball games, we can infer that Ben likes baseball. This supports **option (I)**. In paragraph 2, it says that Ben filled his backpack with "some of his favorite things to take with him on his trip to visit Grandpa. He put in a book on building forts, a book on making go-carts and a new book he had gotten from the library about a kid detective who creates his own spy gear." Since these books are described as some of Ben's "favorite things," we can infer that Ben likes books and reading. This supports **option (II)**. Since his grandfather also takes him fishing, we can infer that Ben likes fishing. This supports **option (III)**. Therefore **(D)** is correct.