Reading - 4th Grade Practice Test

Fourth Grade Reading Test

Suzy Skelton

Name: __________________________  Date: __________________________

Instructions:

Bubble in the correct answer. Read each choice before marking your answer.
Dear Erik,

Surprise! I bet you didn’t expect a note from your mom in your lunch! How is your school day so far? I hope it is going well. You always do your best. I am proud of you!

Because I had to leave so early this morning, I wrote this note last night and stuck it into your lunch box to wish you well on your speech today. With all of your spectacular research, writing, and practice, you are going to do great!

I know that you get a little nervous talking in front of large groups—everybody does. But, just remember what you practiced and you just might forget about being nervous.

Here are just a few things to remember:

1. Make eye contact with your audience.
2. Speak clearly and slowly.
3. Look at your notecards only when you have to.
4. Enjoy yourself! Once you are in front of the class, pretend that you are a famous expert on your topic and that everyone is listening carefully to your EVERY word. (I do that sometimes!)

Well, that’s all for now. I am thinking of you today and I know you will do great. Do your best and be brave like George Washington. He was an excellent choice for your speech.

Good luck Erik!

Maybe we can go out for ice cream later!

Love,

Mom
1. Where did Erik probably find this note?
   A. at his house
   B. in his lunch
   C. in the mail
   D. on the ground

2. What will Erik be doing in school today?
   A. writing note cards
   B. researching his topic
   C. giving a speech
   D. having ice cream

3. Erik’s mother wrote this last night because she
   A. needed to practice writing
   B. was planning her lunch
   C. had trouble sleeping
   D. had to leave early

4. You can tell from the passage that
   A. Erik’s mother did the research for Erik’s paper
   B. Erik will give a speech on George Washington today
   C. Erik’s mother will be at his school
   D. Erik has a special snack in his lunch box
Neighborhood Day

by Paul Tulien

The Wilson children were playing in their shady front yard after an early breakfast. They had just said good-bye to their mother, who was on her way to work.

It felt as though it was going to be another hot summer day.

A neighbor hurried by, carrying a paper bag.

“Hello, Mr. Darby,” Jimmy Wilson called. “Where are you going?”

Mr. Darby paused a moment. “I’m going on a picnic. It’s a holiday today.”

“Howdy?” asked Jimmy’s sister, Lisa. “What holiday is it today?”

“It’s the ninth of August.”

“What holiday is the ninth of August?”

“August 9 is the Ninth of August, just as July 4 is the Fourth of July.”

“But the Fourth of July is Independence Day. What is the ninth of August?”

But Mr. Darby, who was a little deaf, had gone on and was already out of hearing range.

“I never heard that the ninth of August is a holiday,” Lisa said. “Let’s go in and ask Grandma.”

Grandma was making cookies.

“What holiday is today, Grandma?” Lisa asked.

“It isn’t any holiday.”
“But Mr. Darby said he was going on a picnic because today is a holiday.”

“He must have been joking.” A little later Grandma added, “I suppose it could be a local holiday. Maybe this town was founded on this day, so they’re celebrating. We’ve lived here so short a time we wouldn’t know about it. I wonder why none of the neighbors has said anything about it.”

“Where will they have the celebration?” Lisa asked.

“In the park I suppose.”

“Are we going?” Jimmy asked.

“No, I guess not.”

“Why can’t we?”

“Yes, Grandma, why can’t we?” Lisa asked.

“Well, I suppose we could. While the cookies are baking, we can make some sandwiches.”

In a short time they were on their way. Mrs. Green looked out her front door. “Where are you going so bright and early in the morning?”

“Mr. Darby said he was going on a picnic because today’s a holiday.”

“What holiday is that?” asked Mrs. Green.

“I’m sure I don’t know.” Grandma answered, chuckling. “I thought it might be some local holiday, but maybe he was just joking.”

“He must have been. Well, have a good time. I wouldn’t mind going on a picnic myself.”

“Why don’t you? We’d like company,” Lisa said.
“It would take too much time to get ready. The two youngest of my six aren’t even up yet.”

“Let me help.” Grandma said. “If it’s a joke, I wouldn’t want us to be the only ones fooled.”

“Thank you! My children would enjoy it. They’re always saying there’s nothing to do. Mr. Darby was joking, but we can have a good time anyway.”

When the other children in the neighborhood heard about the picnic, they ran home to ask their parents if they could go, too. Before long the news had spread all through the little village.

By noon most of those who didn’t work in the city were in the park. Even the owners of the stores and shops had closed their doors and come. But Mr. Darby, who started it all, wasn’t there, and nobody knew where he was.

Everybody had fun. The children played games while the grown-ups sat on benches and talked. And many were surprised at how many new friends they made that day.

At sundown, Mr. Darby came home after spending the day fishing down by the river. Everybody wanted to know what he meant that morning when he said it was a holiday.

“I was just joking,” he said, surprised at what he had started. “I finished a painting job yesterday, and it was so hot I wanted a day off before I began another job.”

In the evening Lisa asked, “Why can’t we do this every year? In July we have the Fourth. In September we have Labor Day. But in August we just don’t have anything.”

Others asked, too—not just children but many grown-ups as well—because they had all had such a good time that day. And so everyone decided to celebrate again next year. But since the “Ninth of August” doesn’t seem to be much of a name, it will be called Neighborhood Day.
5. Where did Mr. Darby spend the day?
   A. eating at a picnic
   B. fishing down by the river
   C. baking cookies with Grandma
   D. painting in the neighborhood

6. Grandma wanted Mrs. Green to come to the picnic because
   A. it was a holiday
   B. it might be a joke
   C. she wanted to be friendly
   D. she wanted something to do

7. Jimmy and Lisa’s mother missed the picnic because she
   A. went fishing
   B. stayed home
   C. went to work
   D. was on vacation

8. What did Lisa conclude about Mr. Darby’s holiday?
   A. His children would not enjoy the holiday.
   B. Mr. Darby was just joking.
   C. They needed a September holiday to celebrate.
   D. Mr. Darby needed a vacation.
How to Hard-boil an Egg

Nature made eggs complete in their own packages. Hard-boiled eggs are easy to make and fun to eat. Here’s how to make one.

You will need:

one egg

water

a one-quart pot

a lid for the pot

salt

a spoon

Put the egg in the pot and cover the egg with water. The water should be one inch above the egg. Add one teaspoon of salt to the pot. Let the egg and water sit until it is room temperature. Put the pot on the stove and turn the burner to medium high. Make sure you have an adult with you to help. Bring the water to a boil. After it comes to a full boil, take the pot off the heat and put the lid on it. Allow the pot to sit for 15 minutes. Take the egg out of the water with a spoon. Put it on a solid surface and spin it. If the egg spins easily, it is done. If it does not spin, put it back in the water and let it sit with the lid on for a few more minutes. When the egg spins, rinse it in cold water. The hard-boiled egg is ready to crack, peel, and eat.
9. What is the LAST step before the egg is ready to crack?
   A. spin the egg on the table
   B. put a lid on the pot
   C. rinse the egg in cold water
   D. sprinkle the egg with salt

10. According to the passage, which of the following is NOT needed to boil an egg?
    A. a spoon
    B. a fork
    C. a lid
    D. a pot

11. What is the next step after putting the egg in the pot?
    A. Put the pot on the stove.
    B. Spin the egg.
    C. Add a teaspoon of salt.
    D. Cover the egg with water.

12. Why do you let the water and egg sit in the pot?
    A. to let the egg soften in the water
    B. to give you time to find an adult
    C. to let it reach room temperature
    D. to see if you need more water
13. When the egg does NOT spin, it means that it

A. should be put back into the pot
B. is ready to be eaten
C. should be rinsed in cold water
D. is ready to be cracked and peeled

14. This passage was written

A. to tell a story
B. to explain how to do something
C. to report information
D. to persuade you to do something
Cabin Fever Draws Fire

On Monday night the city council voted to let Watson’s grocery make a parking lot next to their store. Watson’s plans are to level the old log cabin built by the Darke family 150 years ago.

The cabin has been empty for almost thirty years. It needs many repairs. In fact, many people call it an eyesore. They will be glad when it is gone. We, here at The Hamilton News, however, believe it is time for people to take action and save this building. The staff members at this newspaper believe that these old logs hold important pieces of our past.

Many stories have been told about the Darke cabin. People say that Mark Twain, the great American writer, stayed here when he was a young man. The cabin is the town’s oldest landmark.

Instead of destroying it, we should be rebuilding the cabin into a museum of local history. Of course, we should have done this long ago. We should have put new bricks in the chimney. We should have replaced the panes of glass in the windows.

It is not too late to change “should have” to “must.” Let us raise funds now and gather the necessary volunteers. Our town must hold on to its past and not let Watson’s grocery bulldoze it into dust.

15. Plans call for the Darke cabin to be replaced by

   A. a council building
   B. a grocery store
   C. a parking lot
   D. a new cabin
16. In which paragraph does the author discuss stories about the Darke cabin?

A. paragraph 1
B. paragraph 2
C. paragraph 3
D. paragraph 4

17. Which of these events happened FIRST?

A. The city council held a meeting.
B. The cabin was bulldozed.
C. Watson’s built a grocery.
D. The Darke family built a cabin.

18. Which of these BEST states the ideas in the LAST paragraph?

A. The city council must take over the cabin.
B. With money and people, the cabin can be saved.
C. Without Watson’s money, the cabin can’t be saved.
D. People feel guilty for not repairing the cabin.

19. Which of these could BEST replace the word *landmark* in this passage?

A. place on a map
B. well-known location
C. beautiful area
D. highest point
20. The word *eyesore* suggests all of these EXCEPT

A. ugly
B. unfair
C. unpleasant
D. unappealing