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Reading for Critical Analysis Test 2

Fifth Grade Reading
Test

Jill Tonelli

Name: _____

Date: _____

Instructions:

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Crawly Things

by Irene Shultz

Back down to the basement they went.

Sammy led the way.

He said, "Here it is. Bug Town."

They went in. There were great big cases full of thousands of butterflies.

Kathy said, "Look at that bright blue one. It's my favorite."

Sammy made a face. "They may be sort of pretty, but bugs are bugs. They're still crawly."

Kathy said, "But Sammy, these aren't bugs. They're insects. Real bugs have a different kind of mouth, like these butterflies over here."

Sammy gave a little scream. "butterflies!" He walked over for a look.

He said, "Yuck! Right next to them are stinkbugs! Great! Crawly AND Stinky!"

Bill said, "Look at this display. It shows a moth head, bigger than life!"

Dave said, "Its feelers look like feathers."

Sammy walked into another room. Then he sneaked out into the hall to the candy machine.

He put in money for four candy bars. He ate two of them in one second, right there. One chocolate bar and one peanut-butter cup. He put the other two into his back pocket. Then he went back to the others.

Dave was saying, "Look at those claws on its head!" He was pointing to a beetle as long as his finger.

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Bill said, "GIANT STAG BEETLE is what the sign says. How would you like to find that guy in your bed at night!"

Sammy said, "It says found in North America! Hey! That's here! I'm never going camping again!"

Bill laughed. "I'd protect you, Sammy. I'd get him off you with a flyswatter."

Sammy said, "A flyswatter! You'd need a baseball bat to get rid of that thing!"

Sammy began to scratch. He said, "I feel buggy. I'm itching all over. I'm going to wait in the hall."

He left the others in the insect room and stepped out. He ate his last two candy bars.

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1. According to the passage, the way that Bill, Kathy, and Dave are alike is that they all
 - A. go camping.
 - B. dislike bugs.
 - C. like looking at bugs.
 - D. refused to go down to the basement.
-

2. This passage is an example of
 - A. a myth.
 - B. poetry.
 - C. fiction.
 - D. a letter.
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3. Which word from the passage is NOT a compound word?

- A. butterflies
 - B. stinkbug
 - C. flyswatter
 - D. basement
-

4. Kathy's favorite insects at Bug Town are the

- A. stinkbugs.
 - B. stag beetle.
 - C. moths.
 - D. blue butterfly.
-

5. The purpose of the passage is to

- A. entertain.
 - B. inform.
 - C. argue.
 - D. persuade.
-

6. Who went out into the hall for a candy bar?

- A. Bill
 - B. Sammy
 - C. Kathy
 - D. Dave
-

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7. Which word from the passage is a compound word?

- A. thousand
 - B. chocolate
 - C. camping
 - D. baseball
-

8. Why did Bill laugh when talking to Sammy about beetles?

- A. Sammy told a joke.
 - B. He thought Sammy was overreacting.
 - C. Sammy was tickling him.
 - D. He saw a funny bug.
-

9. What is the antonym of *pretty*?

- A. ugly
 - B. nice
 - C. beautiful
 - D. stubborn
-

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1. Sammy buys a candy bar.

2. They go into the basement.

3. Sammy waits in the hall.

4. They look at a stinkbug.

10. Based on the passage, what is the correct chronological order for the above sentences?

A. 2, 4, 1, 3

B. 1, 4, 2, 3

C. 2, 1, 3, 4

D. 3, 4, 2, 1

11. What is the difference Kathy describes between a bug and an insect, and what example does she use to illustrate this difference?

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12. Do Kathy and Sammy feel the same way about the bug collection? Use evidence from the passage to support your answer.

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SNOWFLAKE BENTLEY

Uncle Willie's real name was Wilson Bentley. Read the story to find out more about Uncle Willie.

Uncle Willie got started looking into things when his mother gave him a microscope. I guess he must have been about 15 or so. Well, he was outside one winter day when some snowflakes fell on the glass slide of that little microscope. I wish I could have seen the look on his face when he peeked into that lens. He saw that these snowflakes had six sides, and that each was beautiful.

The old story goes that Uncle Willie ran back into the house and borrowed a piece of black velvet from his mother. Then as more and more flakes fell on its dark surface, he could tell that they all had different designs.

For the next couple of years, poor Uncle Willie kept trying to draw the pretty patterns he saw. But I hear he was a terrible artist. And the snowflakes had a habit of melting before he was more than half done.

Anyway, on his 17th birthday, Uncle Willie got a big surprise. His whole family had scrimped and saved all year to buy him a new-fangled camera. It cost what was a small fortune in those days – one hundred dollars! But it could take pictures through a microscope.

Uncle Willie tried for two years to get just the pictures he wanted. No luck. But I still have a newspaper clipping that shows what Uncle Willie wrote in his notebook one special night: “January 15, 1885. Temperature 21-27°F, loud wind SW, snowfall about five inches, general storm, dark and cloudy. First snow crystals ever photomicrographed.” He had finally done it!

For the next 40 years or so, Uncle Willie never stopped taking pictures of snowflakes. And he never stopped studying them either. In fact, he came to know more about snowflakes than anyone else in the world. It tickled him pink to be called “The Snowflake Man.”

We'd sit and listen for hours while he told us how he'd taught himself to take better pictures. He found out he had to hold his breath so that it wouldn't melt the snowflakes he was shooting. And he figured out that moving snowflakes with a pin-pointed rod was better than moving them with a feather. But my favorite story was how he had to rig up lines and pulleys to work his camera. His own arms were too short!

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You know it was funny, but Uncle Willie never cared a bit about all the money he could have earned. He just asked enough to pay for his work. People everywhere bought his pictures to copy the designs. Snowflakes showed up on everything from jewelry to wallpaper. He was world-famous, but he never changed. He took almost 6000 photographs – with that same old camera he got when he was 17.

But Uncle Willie did have a special dream come true. When he was in his sixties, one of the books he had written finally was published. It was all about those snowflakes he loved so much.

13. The author thinks that Uncle Willie was a special person MAINLY because he

- A. started his own business and became rich.
 - B. could draw patterns of the snowflakes he saw.
 - C. was good at inventing and using camera equipment.
 - D. was curious about nature and shared his interest with others.
-

14. Even with the right equipment, what makes photographing snowflakes MOST difficult?

- A. They are so small.
 - B. They break easily.
 - C. They melt quickly.
 - D. They are all different.
-

15. Uncle Willie first began photographing snowflakes when he was about

- A. 15 years old.
 - B. 17 years old.
 - C. 40 years old.
 - D. 60 years old.
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16. Which BEST describes the author's writing?

- A. relaxed and friendly
 - B. serious and businesslike
 - C. silly and teasing
 - D. sad and regretful
-

17. Which sentence from the story helps you BEST understand Uncle Willie?

- A. "And he was really happy, doing what he liked best."
 - B. "Uncle Willie never cared a bit about all the money he could have earned."
 - C. "I hear he was a terrible artist."
 - D. "In fact, he came to know more about snowflakes than anyone else in the world."
-

18. Uncle Willie spent a lot of time inventing new equipment because

- A. he did not care about money.
 - B. inventing things was what he enjoyed most.
 - C. he needed the equipment to photograph snowflakes.
 - D. that was what he was paid to do.
-

19. Which did Uncle Willie probably consider to be his greatest accomplishment?

- A. inventing new camera equipment
 - B. selling beautiful photographs of snowflakes
 - C. publishing a book about snowflakes
 - D. sharing his love of snowflakes with others
-

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20. How did Uncle Willie feel about being called “The Snowflake Man”?

- A. surprised
 - B. honored
 - C. insulted
 - D. disappointed
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