



Beginning-of-Year Assessment (BOY)

Grade 4 Reading Standards

This BOY assessment is intended to assess current grade 5 students who completed grade 4 reading in the 2019-2020 school year.

Congratulations! You worked very hard in school to learn many new things. Taking this Grade 4 Reading Standards test is a great way to show your family and school what you learned. It is okay if you do not know all the answers. Just try your best. You are amazing! You are taking this test so adults can learn more about how to help you this year.

You can ask an adult for help if you do not understand the directions. You can use a dictionary and scratch paper for this test.

If you do not know the answer to a question, choose the answer you think might be correct. You must answer the questions on your own.

You are now ready to start. Take your time and remember that trying your best is what is important. You're awesome, and you'll do great!

BOY Assessment Grade 4 Reading Standards

Student _____
Class _____
Date _____

Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question.

The Puppy Bowl

1 Months before Puppy Bowl IX was televised, the stars of the show arrived in New York City, where the big event is filmed. There, in a film studio, 63 puppies, 21 kittens, 9 hedgehogs, and 6 hamsters participated in the 2013 Puppy Bowl. With their big eyes and clumsy ways, puppies are very cute to watch on a football field. Audiences agree. The Puppy Bowl has become an annual event, drawing as many as 12.4 million viewers.

Play by Play

2 The Puppy Bowl began in 2005 when the cable channel Animal Planet had a problem. Each year more than 100 million Americans stopped everything to watch the Super Bowl, the biggest football game of the year. This left few viewers to watch the shows on Animal Planet on the day of the Super Bowl. The cable channel decided to create a show that viewers would find interesting.



Trying to Score a Point for the Team

AP Photo/Stephen J. Boitano, FILE

- 3 Many people liked the idea of a Puppy Bowl. It is like a real football game in many ways. The Puppy Bowl is played in a stadium with footballs. However, the stadium is much smaller than a regular football stadium. In fact, it is closer to the size of a school classroom. And the footballs used in the Puppy Bowl aren't real footballs. They are chew toys of different shapes and sizes. Like a real football field, the Puppy Bowl stadium has field goals in the end zones, a green field that is marked with lines, and advertisements posted on the surrounding walls. Of course, there is a major difference between the Super Bowl and the Puppy Bowl. The Puppy Bowl is played by puppies, not humans. But that's not all. The Puppy Bowl has an entertaining halftime show performed by kittens. For the 2013 show, hamsters operated a blimp camera, and hedgehogs were the cheerleaders.

Picking Puppy Players

- 4 Animal shelters throughout the country send in pictures of their puppies, hoping one will be chosen. Each puppy is photographed next to a soda can so that the judges can see its size. Puppies are typically between 8 and 16 weeks old, and each puppy is available for adoption. Petfinder.com, an organization that helps people find pets, picks the players based on cuteness and their ability to play well with others.
- 5 Once the puppies are chosen, they are flown to New York City and taken to a film studio. Many volunteers are waiting at the studio to welcome the puppies, kittens, and other animal participants in the Puppy Bowl.

Puppy Protection

- 6 At the studio, camera crews film the puppies and other animals in action. While the Puppy Bowl is being recorded, the puppies and other animals are well cared for by all the volunteers and crew members. In addition, a veterinarian examines each puppy before it goes on camera and gives medical care that might be needed during the game. A worker from the Humane Society supervises all play. The puppies are filmed for only 20 minutes at a time to make sure that they stay safe and enjoy themselves.
- 7 To make the game fair, the puppies are divided into groups so that they play with puppies their own size. Even though puppies do not know how to play football, they seem to have fun on the field. There are puppy tug-of-war contests, puppies tripping over their own feet, and puppies falling into the water bowl, as well as puppies that seem confused and simply sit on the field.



- 8 A referee watches the puppies during the game and stops the game when necessary. If a puppy drags a toy to the end of the field, the referee announces a touchdown. Volunteers cheer when they hear the news. A puppy that gets too playful on the field may have to take a break. A puppy that falls asleep gets a time-out. And when there is a “personal foul,” a volunteer quickly grabs some paper towels to soak up the puddle!

9 The staff members at Animal Planet enjoy the company of the puppies until the camera crews have collected many hours of film. Then they review the film and select the cutest moments to share with viewers of the Puppy Bowl.

Everyone Wins

10 In addition to the cuteness and fun, the Puppy Bowl has a serious side. All the puppies, kittens, and other animals come from animal shelters. And by the end of the Puppy Bowl each year, all of them are adopted. But that's not all. Petfinder.com reports that the Puppy Bowl increases the overall number of adoptions nationwide. The Puppy Bowl is always a fun day with a happy ending for both animals and humans.



Fumble, the 2012 Puppy Bowl's Most Valuable Puppy, with His New Owner

AP Photo/Mary Altaffer

1. Which detail from the selection supports the idea that people enjoy watching the Puppy Bowl?
 - A. Animals are filmed months before the Super Bowl takes place.
 - B. The Puppy Bowl is seen by as many as 12.4 million viewers every year.
 - C. Animal shelters throughout the country send pictures of animals.
 - D. The Puppy Bowl can be seen on the same day as the Super Bowl.

2. The main purpose of this selection is to —
 - A. compare football players with puppies
 - B. describe how puppies learned to play a human sport
 - C. persuade the reader to adopt a pet from an animal shelter
 - D. provide facts about a popular animal show

3. Read the following information about the origin of the word supervise.

from the Latin *super-* + *vidēre*, meaning “to see”

This information helps the reader know that the word supervises in paragraph 6 means —

- A. encourages
 - B. judges
 - C. determines
 - D. watches
4. The author organizes the information in paragraph 3 by —
- A. explaining why a game played by puppies is better than the same game played by humans
 - B. listing the reasons a cable channel created a show with puppies
 - C. comparing the puppy football game with a real football game
 - D. showing all the ways that puppy football is entertaining to watch

5. One of the main goals of the Puppy Bowl is to —
- A. promote finding new homes for different kinds of pets
 - B. encourage the public to spend more time watching real football
 - C. encourage viewers to play games with their own pets
 - D. show that puppies can do many of the same things humans do
6. Which section of the selection contains information about how veterinarians help with the Puppy Bowl?
- A. Play by Play
 - B. Picking Puppy Players
 - C. Puppy Protection
 - D. Everyone Wins

7. What is the best summary of the selection?

- A. The Puppy Bowl gathers animals from across the country and films them for a show that airs on the cable channel Animal Planet. The 2013 show included puppies, kittens, hamsters, and hedgehogs playing a kind of football game.
- B. The cable channel Animal Planet created the Puppy Bowl to air on the day of the Super Bowl. The show brings together animals from shelters across the country so they can participate in a football game. Viewers are encouraged to adopt the show participants.
- C. When the cable channel Animal Planet realized that viewers were leaving the channel to watch the Super Bowl, a show was created to bring viewers back. The show is called the Puppy Bowl. It features puppies and other animals.
- D. The Puppy Bowl is filmed in a studio for the cable channel Animal Planet. Puppies are filmed playing a version of football. Kittens, hamsters, and hedgehogs have also been featured on the show.

Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question.

Two Silvery Smiles

1 The school bus rumbled down the street. Usually Christopher enjoyed looking out the window, but today the world outside didn't seem important. Christopher felt stretched tight, like the rubber bands on his new braces.

2 When the bus stopped and his friends Rashid and Timothy climbed aboard, Christopher stood up and waved eagerly.

3 "Christopher Ledbetter," the bus driver scolded. "No standing on my bus!" Christopher slumped into his seat as his friends sat next to him.

4 The fourth-grade picnic was scheduled for tomorrow, and Christopher's mother had said that he could go under one condition—that he didn't get into any more trouble this week.

5 "What a terrible week!" Christopher grumbled. "First braces, and now I might not be able to go to the picnic."

6 "But today is Friday, Christopher," Timothy reminded him. "You only have to stay out of trouble one more day."

7 The bus chugged up a hill. To Christopher the turning wheels seemed to be groaning, "One more day! One more day!"

8 "All right!" he burst out.

9 "Christopher!" called the bus driver. "Quiet down back there!"

10 Christopher hadn't meant to yell. He never intended to get into trouble, but it just seemed to happen.

11 Christopher explained to his friends that the week's misfortunes were not his fault. On Tuesday he had scribbled a math problem on his desk, but only because he was out of paper. On Wednesday he had dropped grape jelly on his library book, causing the pages to stick together. He had told the librarian that he was just trying to catch up on his reading during lunch, but she still said that he would have to pay to replace the book. Yesterday he had tripped on his untied shoelaces and crashed into Maria Morris. He stood up now to demonstrate to Rashid and Timothy how it had happened.

12 "Christopher!" the bus driver called again. "No standing on my bus!"

13 "I'm going to miss the picnic," Christopher sighed.

14 Rashid and Timothy tried to make their friend feel more hopeful.

15 "When my mother wants my sister and me to sit still, she

tells us to take deep breaths,” Rashid said. “You could try that.”

- 16 “Well, I can breathe,” Christopher said. He tried to open his mouth wide, but the rubber bands stretched between his top and bottom teeth were so tight that he could open his mouth only a little.



- 17 The bus came to a stop in front of the elementary school.
- 18 Christopher stepped off the bus and walked carefully, watching his feet so that he wouldn't trip again. He was still looking down when he entered his classroom—and stumbled right into Maria Morris.
- 19 “Take a deep breath,” Christopher reminded himself. He opened his mouth as wide as he could when BOING! One of the rubber bands flew off his braces and landed on Maria.
- 20 Christopher clapped one hand over his mouth. He wanted to apologize, but he was afraid to open his mouth. Who knew what might pop out? And just as he feared, Maria complained to their teacher Mr. Gregg about the rubber band, and Christopher was sent to the principal's office.
- 21 Christopher shuffled slowly down the hall, trying not to think about his mother's warning and the class picnic he was sure to miss. Mrs. Vander, the principal, was standing at her office window. Christopher just knew that Mrs. Vander would never believe that he had accidentally shot the rubber band.
- 22 “I was hoping I wouldn't see you today, Christopher,” Mrs. Vander said, turning just in time to see him stumble over the rug in front of her desk. “I haven't seen you since Wednesday.”

- 23 "That's only because you weren't here yesterday," Christopher said truthfully. "But really, Mrs. Vander, what happened just now wasn't my fault. I accidentally—" he pleaded.
- 24 He heard the other rubber band snap off from his teeth and watched it sail through the air and land on Mrs. Vander's desk.
- 25 Then Mrs. Vander chuckled, exposing a mouth full of metal-covered teeth.
- 26 Christopher stared. "That's where you were yesterday!" he exclaimed. "Now you have braces, too!"
- 27 "Just like yours," Mrs. Vander said. "And I'm having a little trouble with the rubber bands also."
- 28 Mrs. Vander agreed to help Christopher explain the situation to Maria and Mr. Gregg, insisting he "be on your best behavior for the rest of the day."
- 29 "Yes! Definitely!" said Christopher. "And besides . . ."
- 30 "Yes?" asked Mrs. Vander and flashed a silvery smile.
- 31 "I'm out of rubber bands," Christopher answered, flashing his own silvery smile.

8. How can the reader tell that attending the picnic is important to Christopher?
- A. He tries to be very careful when he arrives at school on Friday.
 - B. He invites his friends to sit next to him on the bus ride to school.
 - C. He tells the principal what happened in Mr. Gregg's class.
 - D. He hasn't been to the principal's office this week.
9. Christopher's friends most likely think that —
- A. the bus driver is being unfair
 - B. the principal will tell Christopher's mother that he can't go to the picnic
 - C. his actions are amusing
 - D. he can stay out of trouble long enough to be allowed to go to the picnic

10. Paragraph 22 is important to the story because it shows that Christopher —
- A. is hoping the principal is absent again
 - B. has been sent to the principal's office often
 - C. expects the principal to allow him to attend the picnic
 - D. is willing to explain to the principal what really happened
11. What is the best summary of paragraphs 7 through 10?
- A. Christopher tells his friends Timothy and Rashid that he doesn't think he can go the whole day without getting into trouble.
 - B. Christopher compares how he is feeling to how the bus chugs up the hill.
 - C. Christopher has a problem that he shares with his friends Timothy and Rashid.
 - D. Christopher is too loud on the school bus and gets in trouble with the driver.
12. What does the word misfortunes mean in paragraph 11?
- A. Demanding jobs
 - B. Difficult decisions
 - C. Confusing messages
 - D. Unlucky events

Read the next two selections. Then choose the best answer to each question.



Ricochet: The Dog Who Surfs to Raise Funds

- 1 A dog on a surfboard is something you might enjoy seeing in a funny video. But would you believe that a real surfing dog could help raise money for those in need? A golden retriever named Ricochet is using her special talents to do just that.
- 2 Ricochet's trainer started coaching her to become a service dog when she was a puppy. Ricochet did well at many tasks during training. She learned how to turn on lights, tug open doors, and do other jobs. These skills would help her to assist a person with special needs. However, Ricochet had a bad habit that caused her to fail service dog training. She liked to chase birds. While this energetic activity might seem cute, it made Ricochet unfit to assist a person with special needs.

Surfing for a Cause

- 3 Judy Fridono, the dog's trainer, concentrated on Ricochet's positive qualities. Like most retrievers, Ricochet loved water, so Fridono took her to the beach. Ricochet quickly became good at surfing. Her talent got people's attention. Fridono decided that instead of being a service dog, Ricochet would become a "SURFice" dog. The idea was that Ricochet could use her surfing talent to raise money to help people.
- 4 Ricochet's first fund-raiser was in 2009. She starred at a benefit to help a teenager named Patrick. Patrick was unable to walk, but he had always dreamed of surfing. At the benefit, Patrick and Ricochet were supposed to use their own surfboards. Ricochet decided to hop on Patrick's board, however. They surfed together, and thrilled spectators donated more than \$10,000. The money helped pay for Patrick's physical therapy and his own service dog.
- 5 Encouraged by this event, Fridono started the organization Surfin' for Paws-abilities. Ricochet now travels to different locations and surfs at events to raise money for the organization that helps people in need.



Ricochet surfs with Patrick at a fund-raising event in 2009.

© AP Images/Lenny Ignelzi

A Talented Fund-Raiser

- 6 Ricochet also raises funds and awareness for many causes that help both people and animals. She's surfed to earn money to buy pet oxygen masks for fire departments. She's surfed at fund-raisers to help fight human and animal cancer. She's even shown off her surfing skills to raise money to buy teddy bears for children in hospitals and people in nursing homes. It should not be surprising that she has also surfed to raise money to supply food for animal shelters.
- 7 As of 2012, this amazing dog has raised \$250,000 to help those in need.

Confetti, the Helpful Horse

- 1 Dogs have been used as guides for a long time. They are the most common type of guide animal. Many people who are blind rely on a dog to help with daily activities. Cheryl Spencer used to depend on a guide dog named Delta to help her. When Delta became unable to work, Spencer learned that some people use miniature horses as guides. At first, Spencer thought this idea was silly. But after learning more, she started looking for a guide horse.
- 2 First Spencer found someone who could train a guide horse. Then she set about finding just the right horse. In 2002 she e-mailed all the nearby miniature-horse farms looking for a horse, 26 inches tall at most, to be trained as her guide. She received an e-mail from a horse breeder named Barbara McDermott saying that the only horse McDermott had that might work was her favorite, Confetti, who was 27 inches tall. McDermott wasn't willing to give Confetti away at first, but Spencer was persistent. After Spencer explained her situation to McDermott, she asked to meet Confetti. A few days later Spencer, her husband, and her horse trainer visited McDermott's ranch.
- 3 When Spencer first met Confetti, she immediately knew the horse would be perfect for her. The trainer also thought Confetti would be a good guide. Even McDermott could see that Spencer was already quite fond of the horse. She agreed to allow Confetti to become Spencer's full-time guide.



© Courtesy of Cookie Serletic

4 Weighing 150 pounds, Confetti is the size of an extremely large dog. She goes everywhere a guide dog would. She even has a “horsey door” so she can go in and out of the house when she wants. Confetti sleeps in Spencer’s closet and eats in the laundry room. When Spencer and her husband eat at a restaurant, Confetti goes with them. Confetti has flown to Boston and has even been to Walt Disney World®!

5 Confetti is only the third horse to be used as a guide animal in the United States. As guides, miniature horses have some advantages over dogs. Most guide dogs can work for only 8 to 10 years, but a horse can work for up to 30 years. These horses have excellent vision, are quick learners, and are gentle and smart. These qualities make them good guide animals and great helpers for people like Spencer.

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13. Use the first selection to answer the following question.

What prevented Ricochet from becoming a service animal?

- A. She was distracted by birds.
- B. She had to get on a surfboard.
- C. She had to learn how to open doors.
- D. She received too much attention from people.

14. Use the first selection to answer the following question.

The author wrote this article most likely to —

- A. convince the reader to support the work that dogs do for others
- B. inform the reader about the special work of an unusual dog
- C. explain to the reader how a dog becomes a service animal
- D. teach the reader how to train dogs to surf

15. Use the first selection to answer the following question.

What information is included in the section titled "A Talented Fund-Raiser"?

- A. Some of the causes that Ricochet has helped
- B. A description of how Ricochet learned to surf
- C. An explanation of why Ricochet could not be a service dog
- D. A story about the first time Ricochet surfed to raise money

16. Use the first selection to answer the following question.

What is the best summary of the article?

- A. Ricochet can surf very well. She helps many people and animals who are in need. She has helped buy pet oxygen masks for fire departments. She has also helped raise money for teddy bears for children in hospitals and people in nursing homes.
- B. Many people have watched Ricochet surf. The first time the dog surfed for a cause, she hopped on the back of a boy's surfboard. People were amazed. Because of this, they gave money for the boy to get his own service dog.
- C. Ricochet helps people and animals by participating in fund-raising events. She helps out by surfing, even though she is a dog. The first person she helped was a boy named Patrick who had always dreamed of surfing even though he could not walk.
- D. Ricochet was training to be a service dog but did not qualify. Instead, she learned to surf, and her trainer realized that she could help others with this unusual skill. Today, Ricochet surfs for an organization that raises money for different causes.

17. Use the second selection to answer the following question.

Read the dictionary entry for the word common.

common \ˈkɑ-mən\ *adjective*

1. shared by people or groups
2. regularly seen or used
3. expected actions or behavior
4. not having wealth or privilege

Which definition best matches the way common is used in paragraph 1?

- A. Definition 1
- B. Definition 2
- C. Definition 3
- D. Definition 4

18. Use the second selection to answer the following question.

The reader can conclude that McDermott most likely —

- A. thinks horses are better guide animals than dogs
- B. enjoys helping others find guide animals to help them
- C. believed Confetti needed more training to help Spencer
- D. misses Confetti but is happy that the horse can help Spencer

19. Use the second selection to answer the following question.

The author included paragraph 4 of the selection to —

- A. explain what Confetti does when she is not working
- B. demonstrate that Confetti is a friendly guide horse
- C. describe what Confetti's life is like with Spencer
- D. show that Confetti is able to take care of herself

20. Use the second selection to answer the following question.

What is the main idea of the selection?

- A. Spencer spent a long time trying to find a guide horse to help her.
- B. Confetti is a miniature horse that has become a wonderful guide animal.
- C. Guide horses must be trained before they can help people with special needs.
- D. Confetti is a lot like a dog and can go anywhere a guide dog can go.

21. Use both selections to answer the following question.

One **difference** between Ricochet and Confetti is that Ricochet —

- A. helps a person with special needs
- B. has an owner who cares about her
- C. was unsuccessful at becoming a guide animal
- D. had to learn to do something before helping others

22. Use both selections to answer the following question.

Both selections express the importance of —

- A. making animals famous
- B. making new friends
- C. teaching about animals
- D. caring for those in need

23. Use both selections to answer the following question.

Which sentence best describes a **difference** between Ricochet and Confetti?

- A. Ricochet required training, but Confetti did not.
- B. Ricochet helps many people, but Confetti helps one person.
- C. Ricochet spends time outdoors, but Confetti works indoors.
- D. Ricochet does not notice other animals, but Confetti does.

24. Use both selections to answer the following question.

What is one **difference** between the animals featured in the two selections?

- A. Ricochet was able to stay with her owner, but Confetti had to leave her owner in order to do her job.
- B. Ricochet's duties are typical for a service animal, but Confetti performs tasks that are not usually done by an animal.
- C. Ricochet's owner believed she would make a good guide animal, but Confetti's owner worried that she would not make a good guide animal.
- D. Ricochet must stay at home with her trainer, but Confetti travels as part of her job.

Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question.

The Spelling Test

by Suzy Kline

Characters

NARRATOR

HERBIE JONES

MISS PINKHAM

MR. JONES

OLIVIA JONES

ANNABELLE LOUISA HODGEKISS

- 1 [Settings: Miss Pinkham's third-grade classroom; Herbie's house.]
- 2 [Time: One week in March.]
- 3 **MISS PINKHAM:** As a special bonus this week, I have a challenge for the whole class. If you can learn to spell your name, address, town, state and zip code correctly, I will mail you a postcard saying congratulations.
- 4 **HERBIE:** Hmmmmmm, I know I usually don't study my spelling words, but . . . gee, that postcard would be good news for Dad to find in the mail.
- 5 **NARRATOR:** Herbie's dad works the night shift at an airplane factory, and the first thing he does when he gets up around 2:00 P.M. is look in the mailbox.
- 6 **HERBIE:** I can hear him now . . .
- 7 **MR. JONES:** Bills! Bills! Bills! There's nothing but bills!
- 8 **HERBIE:** I can do something about that.
- 9 **NARRATOR:** As soon as Herbie got home that afternoon, he practiced writing his spelling words on the dusty coffee table. His sister Olivia was shocked.
- 10 **OLIVIA:** What *are* you doing?
- 11 **HERBIE:** Studying.
- 12 **OLIVIA:** Studying? Since when?
- 13 **HERBIE:** Since I got my spelling list. How do you study spelling?
- 14 **OLIVIA:** You're asking *my* advice about something?
- 15 **HERBIE:** Well, you do make better grades than I do.
- 16 **OLIVIA:** Well, Herbie, I write the words down . . .
- 17 **HERBIE:** Yeah?
- 18 **OLIVIA:** . . . and I say them to myself. That's about it. No biggie.
- 19 **HERBIE:** What if you have a tough word like Laurel? I keep getting the a and u mixed up, and I never remember which one comes first. The same thing

happens with the o and u in pound.

- 20 **OLIVIA:** Oh! In that case you think of something like APES USE RADISHES for the a-u-r in Laurel, and OH UNICORN for the o-u in pound.
- 21 **HERBIE:** APES USE RADISHES! OH UNICORN! Why didn't I think of that?
- 22 **NARRATOR:** That week, Herbie carried his spelling list with him wherever he went. He practiced writing his words on paper, on frosty car windows, on his mother's meatloaf—before it went in the oven—and in the gravel on the school playground. At 11:00 A.M. on Friday, Miss Pinkham passed out the white lined paper.
- 23 **MISS PINKHAM:** Put your name and date on the first highway.
- 24 **NARRATOR:** Miss Pinkham always referred to the blue lines on the paper as highways. When Annabelle Louisa Hodgekiss finished writing her name and date neatly, she sat back in her chair.
- 25 **ANNABELLE:** I didn't even have to study—these words are a cinch.
- 26 **MISS PINKHAM:** Boys and girls, those of you who want to try for the spelling bonus may do so now. Write your full name, address, town, state and zip code.
- 27 **NARRATOR:** Very carefully, Herbie printed his street address. When he came to his zip code, Herbie was in trouble.
- 28 **HERBIE:** 0 . . . 6 . . . 7 . . . 9 . . . What is that last number of my zip code?
- 29 **MISS PINKHAM:** Pass your papers in, please.
- 30 **HERBIE:** What *is* that number?
- 31 **MISS PINKHAM:** Herbie! You are keeping the entire class.
- 32 **HERBIE:** 0 . . . 6 . . . 7 . . . 9 . . . ?
- 33 **MISS PINKHAM:** Herbie Jones, if you don't hand me your paper by the time I count to three . . .
- 34 **HERBIE:** THREE! That's it!
- 35 **NARRATOR:** Annabelle raised her hand.
- 36 **ANNABELLE:** Miss Pinkham, I can't wait to get my postcard in the mail tomorrow. Can't you tell us *now* who got one hundred percent?
- 37 **MISS PINKHAM:** Looking through this stack of papers, I wonder if *anyone* got one hundred percent.
- 38 **NARRATOR:** Saturday afternoon Herbie sat on his porch and waited. And watched . . . for the mail.
- 39 **HERBIE:** Is that him coming around the corner? It is! It's the mailman!
- 40 **NARRATOR:** Herbie raced into the house and grabbed a book off the coffee table. It was *Ten Days to Slimmer Thighs*. Mr. Jones, who had just shaved, walked toward the door. Herbie looked up and noticed he still had some soap around his ears.
- 41 **HERBIE:** Morning, Dad.
- 42 **MR. JONES:** Morning, Herbie. Nice to see you reading. Guess I better check

on the mail. [*Starts to groan.*] Let's see, what's in this mess . . . Whistleman's Department Store, Occupant. HEY, HERBIE!

43 **HERBIE:** [*Hopeful.*] Yeah?

44 **MR. JONES:** You got a postcard. Your teacher said *you* were the *only* student to get a hundred percent on your spelling bonus.

45 **HERBIE:** YAHOO!

46 **MR. JONES:** That's the best news I've found in the mail in a long time.

47 **NARRATOR:** Monday morning right after the Pledge of Allegiance, Miss Pinkham asked . . .

48 **MISS PINKHAM:** Will the one person who received the ONLY postcard please rise?

49 **NARRATOR:** Everyone looked at Annabelle.

50 **ANNABELLE:** I . . . I forgot to capitalize Connecticut.

51 **ALL:** *Who* got the postcard?

52 **HERBIE:** [*Stands up and raises hand.*] Me.

53 **ALL:** HERBIE JONES?

54 **MISS PINKHAM:** Herbie's paper Friday was outstanding. I think we should give him a big round of applause for his achievement.

55 **ALL:** [*Clap.*]

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- 25.** What lesson does Herbie learn in this play?
- A.** Finding humor in a difficult task makes it more enjoyable.
 - B.** Depending on help from others is often challenging.
 - C.** Performing well all the time is impossible.
 - D.** Success is possible through hard work.
- 26.** Annabelle asks Miss Pinkham about the grades immediately after the test because Annabelle —
- A.** thinks everyone in the class should know she did well on the test
 - B.** believes that she made a perfect score on the test
 - C.** wants Miss Pinkham to recognize how much she studied for the test
 - D.** knows that her address is the most difficult to spell

- 27.** The stage directions in paragraphs 42 and 43 are included to help —
- A.** make the play humorous
 - B.** create suspense
 - C.** show a new problem
 - D.** introduce a new character
- 28.** Herbie’s reaction when he learns about Olivia’s study method shows that he is —
- A.** certain that Olivia is making fun of the way he studies
 - B.** jealous that Olivia always makes better grades than he does
 - C.** surprised to learn that the plan is very simple
 - D.** eager to demonstrate some of his own study habits

29. Why does the playwright include a narrator in this play?

- A. To make the main character's conflict seem more suspenseful
- B. To help the audience understand what the characters are thinking
- C. To assist the main characters in figuring out how to solve a problem
- D. To give the audience details about the characters' actions in the scene

30. Read the dictionary entry for the word keep.

<p>keep \ˈkēp\ <i>verb</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To take care of2. To save3. To hold back4. To control

Which definition best fits the way the word keeping is used in paragraph 31?

- A. Definition 1
- B. Definition 2
- C. Definition 3
- D. Definition 4

31. The narrator's lines in paragraph 9 are important to the play because they —

- A. show that Herbie is serious about studying for his spelling test
- B. describe Herbie's favorite method of studying for spelling tests
- C. explain why Olivia is surprised to see Herbie studying for a spelling test
- D. show that Olivia wants to help Herbie do well on his spelling test

Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question.

Air

by Mordicai Gerstein

Air is everywhere.
Why can't I see it?
The sky is made of air.
Is air blue?

5 Air smells like roses
sometimes,
or fresh-cut grass;
gasoline or rain
or skunk.

10 Birds swim in it and so do
butterflies, bees, bats,
and jumbo jets full of people
eating snacks from seat trays.
Swimming in air is called

15 flying.
Why can't I do it?
Wind is air that's
going somewhere;
it musses your hair,

20 and whistles in your ears.
It tears leaves off trees
and blows them away.
Sometimes,
it blows the trees away

25 and houses too,
and whips the seas
into foamy mountains
that collapse and crash,
hissing up the sand.

30 You can't see air,
only what it does.
It has no color or shape
unless you push
it into a balloon,

35 or blow a soap bubble.

Air.

Take a

deeeeeeeeeeep

breath.

40 I'm so glad

it's everywhere.

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32. Read lines 5 through 9 of the poem.

Air smells like roses
sometimes,
or fresh-cut grass;
gasoline or rain
or skunk.

Why does the poet include descriptive language in these lines?

- A. To persuade the reader to spend more time outdoors
- B. To tell the reader that air can smell like many things after it rains
- C. To explain how the smell of roses is different from the smell of skunk
- D. To emphasize that air can be both pleasant and unpleasant

33. Line 38 is different from the other lines of the poem most likely because the poet wants to —

- A. show that this line should be read quickly
- B. add humor to the poem by spelling the word incorrectly
- C. emphasize the idea expressed in the line
- D. suggest that this is the most important word in the poem

34. Which line from the poem best shows that air can be powerful?

- A.** The sky is made of air.
- B.** It tears leaves off trees
- C.** It has no color or shape
- D.** or blow a soap bubble.

35. The speaker in the poem believes that the difference between wind and air is that wind is —

- A.** colder
- B.** thinner
- C.** smelly
- D.** moving

- 36.** What can the reader conclude about the speaker's ideas about air throughout the poem?
- A.** The speaker has changed his mind about air.
 - B.** The speaker wishes that air could be seen.
 - C.** The speaker thinks that air has qualities that make it special.
 - D.** The speaker is confused by his thoughts about air.

