

Author's Purpose

1

Great Danes are the best dogs in the world. Even though they're very large, they make good pets for people living in apartments because they don't move around much. You should get one!

What is the author's purpose in writing this text?

- A) to persuade the reader to get a Great Dane
- B) to share information about big dogs
- C) to entertain with a dog story

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Cause & Effect

2

It was very quiet in the classroom when the fire alarm rang. The students lined up quickly at the door. They walked outside calmly and lined up in a field.

What happened because the fire alarm rang?

- A) Students played outside in the field.
- B) The classroom got very, very quiet.
- C) Students lined up and went outside.

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Character Traits

3

Sarah took a long time deciding on her new car. She had a mechanic check out the engine. She checked online for its ratings. She didn't like to rush into buying anything.

How was Sarah behaving?

- A) Generously
- B) Happily
- C) Cautiously

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Compare & Contrast

4

Anya and Lee both love outdoor sports. Since Anya lives in California, she swims a lot. She is thinking about joining a swim team. Lee lives in Vermont and is the best skier in her class.

What is one difference between Anya and Lee?

- A) Anya cannot swim as well as Lee.
- B) Both girls are good at skiing.
- C) Anya swims and Lee skis.

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Details

5

Basketball began in 1891 when a PE teacher needed an indoor activity on a rainy day. He made up a list of rules and nailed a peach basket to a wall. At first, the bottom was still on the basket, so the ball did not fall through.

Who invented the game of basketball?

- A) a PE teacher
- B) a list of rules
- C) in 1891

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Inferences

6

Margie looked in her cart. She had milk, eggs, bread and cereal. She headed to the frozen vegetable section. Finally, she decided to buy some apples and bananas in the fruit section.

Where is Margie?

- A) She is at home.
- B) She is in a grocery store.
- C) She is in a toy store.

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Main Idea

7

Honey bees communicate with each other. They can tell other bees where to find food. Honey bees return to the hive and do a dance that lets the other bees know where the food is located.

What is the main idea of this selection?

- A) Honey bees can talk to other bees.
- B) Honey bees fly to far locations for food.
- C) Honey bees dance to communicate.

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Word Meaning

8

The school nurse could see that Amber was in distress. She had thrown up after lunch, and her forehead felt very hot to the touch.

What is the meaning of the underlined word?

- A) the school clinic
- B) comfortable
- C) good health
- D) great pain

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Author's Purpose

9

Horses come in all kinds of colors. A dark brown horse with black legs is called a bay. A horse the color of a new penny is a sorrel. If a horse has large black and white patches of color, it is called a paint.

What is the purpose of this selection?

- A) to persuade readers to buy colorful horses
- B) to inform readers about different horse colors
- C) to entertain with a horse story

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Cause & Effect

10

Farmer Brown's pet mule kept running away. He was getting tired of chasing and catching him, so he decided to build a better fence. His mule never ran away again.

Why did Farmer Brown build a fence?

- A) He was getting old and tired.
- B) His pet mule kept running away.
- C) He wanted people off the grass.

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Character Traits

11

Annalynn worked on her science project every night for several weeks. On the day of the science fair, she smiled as she saw a blue ribbon pinned to her posterboard.

How did Annalynn feel about her project?

- A) Embarrassed
- B) Proud
- C) Pleasant

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Compare & Contrast

12

Some jobs provide services. Teachers and police officers are examples of jobs that serve the public. Other jobs produce goods. A baker creates yummy desserts to eat.

How are teachers and police officers alike?

- A) These jobs mainly produce goods.
- B) Police officer only work with adults.
- C) These jobs both serve the public.

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13

Details

Stacie and Dave love Field Day at school. Stacie likes short races, and Dave is best at longer races. They are going to do the egg toss together.

What event will Stacie and Dave do together?

- A) The egg toss
- B) The short race
- C) The long race

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14

Inferences

Sonya skipped to the barn. She put her helmet and boots on. She went outside and whistled for her horse. It was a great day for a ride.

Which of the following is probably true?

- A) Sonya knows how to ride horses.
- B) Sonya loves to whistle.
- C) Sonya will take her bike out on the trails.

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15

Main Idea

Every living thing needs food. Plants make their own food. Some animals eat plants and some eat other animals. Human beings eat both plants and animals.

Which sentence best expresses the main idea?

- A) Animals like to eat other animals.
- B) All living things need some kind of food.
- C) Plants and humans make their own food.

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16

Word Meaning

Beth was repainting her room. She decided just one more coat of paint and she'd be finished!

What is the meaning of the underlined word?

- A) outer garment worn to keep warm
- B) layer
- C) the fur of an animal
- D) a winter jacket

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Author's Purpose

17

The rabbit challenged the turtle to a race. There was no way the turtle could win, so the rabbit took a nap in the middle of the race. By the time he woke up, it was too late! The turtle had won the race.

What is the author's purpose?

- A) to persuade readers to take daily naps
- B) to share information about turtles and rabbits
- C) to entertain readers with an amusing story

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Cause & Effect

18

Sarah decided to paint the walls in her room a different color. She knew she had to be very careful not to get paint on the carpet. Sarah used a plastic sheet to protect the rug.

Why did Sarah put plastic on the rug?

- A) She didn't want to get paint on it.
- B) She thought about painting the walls.
- C) She made a good decision.

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Character Traits

19

As Mom was carrying in the groceries, she tripped over a bike that had been left in the driveway. She shouted, "How many times must I tell you to put your bike in the garage?"

How could the bike owner be described?

- A) Helpful
- B) Irresponsible
- C) Caring

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Compare & Contrast

20

George Washington was the first president of the United States. He led the soldiers during the American Revolution. Abraham Lincoln was the sixteenth president. He served during the Civil War.

Contrast Washington and Lincoln.

- A) Both were presidents.
- B) Both were involved with war.
- C) Washington was the first president and Lincoln was the sixteenth.

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21

Details

Polar bears live where temperatures are cold in places like Alaska and Canada. Polar bears like to eat small mammals, birds and seals.

Where do polar bears live?

- A) In places with lots of birds to eat
- B) Near the Equator
- C) In cold places

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22

Inferences

Learning to play the piano is hard work. A person needs to learn how to read music. It takes hours and hours of practice to be able to play the music correctly.

Which of the following is most likely true?

- A) Good piano players practice a lot.
- B) It's easy to play the piano.
- C) Reading music is difficult.

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23

Main Idea

Thomas Edison was born in 1847. His first great invention was the phonograph, a machine that could record sounds. He also made the motion picture camera, and a useable electric light bulb.

What is the main idea of this paragraph?

- A) Edison was a great inventor.
- B) Edison was an excellent student.
- C) Edison is the reason music can be recorded.

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24

Word Meaning

Daniel was depressed about his dog running away, so supper that night was a joyless time for the family.

What is the meaning of the underlined word?

- A) not depressed
- B) having great joy
- C) without joy
- D) full of joy

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Scoot Directions	Reading Test Prep Answer Key
<p><u>Before the Game</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gather a set of related task cards. • Put a number on each desk to create a path for students to follow. I like to use and reuse a laminated set of calendar numbers. • Give each student an answer sheet (or have them make one). <p><u>Playing the Game</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin the game with students seated at their regular desks. • Each student answers the task card on his or her desk. Make sure to remind all students to put the answer for their task card next to the corresponding number on the answer sheet. • Wait a couple of minutes (or until you see that everyone is ready), then say “Scoot.” • Students move to the desk with the number that follows the one at their last location. If a student is at number 22 and that is the last number, that student the moves to number 1...and so on. • Continue answering and “scooting” until all the cards have been completed for every student or until time is up. <p>A variation would be to post numbered task cards on the walls around the room. Each student would need a clipboard, pencil and answer sheet. Students do their work standing up and step to the left or right when it’s time to scoot.</p> <p><u>After the Game</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have students turn in their answer sheets for grading. • Go over the answers as a whole-class activity. 	<p>1) A 2) C 3) C 4) C 5) A 6) B 7) C 8) D 9) B 10) B 11) B 12) C 13) A 14) A 15) B 16) B 17) C 18) A 19) B 20) C 21) C 22) A 23) A 24) C</p>

Name _____



Reading Task Cards Recording Sheet

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____
- 4) _____
- 5) _____
- 6) _____
- 7) _____
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Name _____



Reading Task Cards Recording Sheet

- 1) _____
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- 21) _____
- 22) _____
- 23) _____
- 24) _____



Inventive Ideas for Terrific Task Cards

Whole Class

- Project a multiple-choice task card for all students to see. Set a designated time for students to answer using whiteboards, hand signals, or A, B, C, D index cards. Answers held up for teacher viewing make a quick and easy formative assessment tool.
- Project an open-ended task card every morning for students to begin working on as soon as they are seated at their desks.
- Project a certain number of task cards for students to answer on a piece of paper to turn in for a daily grade or test grade.
- Mix up task cards on various topics and use as test prep review and practice.
- Copy one page of a task card set as needed for effective (but not overwhelming) homework.
- Put task cards in your substitute teacher plans for a no-prep activity and valuable practice.
- Play Scoot by placing numbered task cards around the room on desks or on the walls. Have students make a numbered answer sheet. Students move from one card to another and record their answers during a set amount of time. When time is up, the teacher tells the students to “scoot” to the next sequentially numbered card.
- Divide the class into teams and play a game such as Jeopardy, Millionaire, or Wheel of Fortune (editable PPT templates can be found online).
- Send students on a Task Card Treasure Hunt by hiding the task cards around the room and sending students around with clipboards and answer sheets.

Small Groups

- Keep task cards in centers for rotations.
- Use task cards as game cards in intervention groups with game board printables or any generic game board such as Candyland or Chutes and Ladders. A correct answer means a student can take a turn on the board game.
- Play Trashketball by having each student draw a task card and answer it. Give one point for a correct answer. Allow students the option of throwing a wadded up piece of paper into the trashcan for a bonus point.

Student Partners

- Pairs work together to answer questions or solve problems on task cards.
- Pair each of your students with an upper grade student from another class and use task cards during a scheduled Study Buddy time.
- Play Turn and Learn by having student partners sit or stand back-to-back with whiteboards or clipboards. Give the pair the same task card to work on, then have them face with other, compare answers, and discuss.

Individual Students

- Pull task cards as needed for tutors or parent volunteers to work on with students who need extra help.
- Keep some creative or more challenging task cards in a basket available for early finishers as an enrichment activity.



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