

LESSON 6

Read this poem written by Robert, a year five student. Then answer questions about the poem. Choose the best answer for Numbers 1 to 12.

I close my eyes to the world
and retreat inside my mind.
It's time to take a needed break
and leave my cares behind.

I navigate my course
to another time and space.
Perhaps I'll mingle with the stars
or explore a foreign place.

My compass is my faithful guide;
I'll follow where it leads.
Will I peer beyond the horizon
or just soar at incredible speeds?

I might grab the tail of a comet
and hitch a ride across the sky.
Or orbit 'round the spinning earth
and see the view on high.

I think I hear a familiar voice
calling, 'Better come home soon.'
My mum summons me from afar,
'cause I forgot to clean my room.



<p>Finding Main Idea</p> <p>1. What is a good title for the poem?</p> <p>Ⓐ 'Sky Writing'</p> <p>Ⓑ 'Mind Travels'</p> <p>Ⓒ 'Around the World'</p> <p>Ⓓ 'Space Journey'</p>	<p>Recognising Cause and Effect</p> <p>4. The speaker of the poem is daydreaming because</p> <p>Ⓐ he wants to avoid doing homework.</p> <p>Ⓑ he doesn't want to clean his room.</p> <p>Ⓒ he wants to leave his cares behind.</p> <p>Ⓓ he doesn't want to listen to his mother.</p>
<p>Recalling Facts and Details</p> <p>2. How will the speaker 'hitch a ride' across the sky?</p> <p>Ⓐ by grabbing the tail of a comet</p> <p>Ⓑ by orbiting around the earth</p> <p>Ⓒ by exploring a foreign place</p> <p>Ⓓ by soaring at incredible speeds</p>	<p>Comparing and Contrasting</p> <p>5. In the poem, a compass is compared to</p> <p>Ⓐ a trusted friend.</p> <p>Ⓑ a careful navigator.</p> <p>Ⓒ a loyal guide.</p> <p>Ⓓ an imaginary course.</p>
<p>Understanding Sequence</p> <p>3. Which of these happens first?</p> <p>Ⓐ The speaker ponders a journey to a foreign place.</p> <p>Ⓑ The speaker navigates his course.</p> <p>Ⓒ The speaker receives a request to return home.</p> <p>Ⓓ The speaker wonders if he will peer beyond the horizon.</p>	<p>Making Predictions</p> <p>6. Predict which of these adventures the speaker would most likely mention if the poem were to continue.</p> <p>Ⓐ a tour through a science museum</p> <p>Ⓑ an encounter with the man in the moon</p> <p>Ⓒ a ride on a bus through crowded city streets</p> <p>Ⓓ a trip to Uluru</p>

<p>Finding Word Meaning in Context</p> <p>7. You can tell that <i>mingle</i> means</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ 'explore'. Ⓑ 'travel between'. Ⓒ 'transport'. Ⓓ 'mix in'. 	<p>Identifying Author's Purpose</p> <p>10. The poem was written mainly to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ describe the adventures of a young boy. Ⓑ explain the consequences of daydreaming. Ⓒ entertain readers with imagined adventures. Ⓓ inform readers about a unique way to relax.
<p>Drawing Conclusions and Making Inferences</p> <p>8. There is enough information in the poem to conclude that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ the speaker hopes to become a navigator one day. Ⓑ the speaker has an active imagination. Ⓒ the speaker tends to neglect his chores. Ⓓ the speaker enjoys learning about other countries. 	<p>Interpreting Figurative Language</p> <p>11. The words <i>retreat inside my mind</i> tell you that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ the speaker is forgetting to do something. Ⓑ the speaker is closing himself off from the world. Ⓒ the speaker is taking a break from cleaning. Ⓓ the speaker is troubled with many worries.
<p>Distinguishing Between Fact and Opinion</p> <p>9. Which of these expresses an <i>opinion</i>?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ Robert's mother interrupted his daydreaming. Ⓑ Robert spends too much time daydreaming. Ⓒ Robert needs to go home and clean his room. Ⓓ Robert decided to close his eyes and take a break. 	<p>Summarising</p> <p>12. Which of these is the best summary of the last stanza of the poem?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ A mother grows impatient with her son's daydreaming. Ⓑ A boy considers the journeys he could make in his daydreams. Ⓒ A boy decides to stop daydreaming and attend to his chores. Ⓓ A boy is interrupted from his daydream by the call of his mother.

LESSON 7

Here is a letter written by Gwyneth to her neighbour. Read the letter. Then choose the best answer for Numbers 1 to 12.



6 Drumlin Hill Road
Grafton, NSW 2460
21 April 2009

Dear Mr Henshaw,

I want to apologise to you and Mrs Henshaw for the damage I caused to your home yesterday while delivering your newspaper. Since you are new to my route, you probably do not know that I have a reputation for being very responsible. I'm sorry that we started off on the wrong foot.

The reason I did not bring the newspaper up to your door was because I was in a hurry. I thought I could save time by tossing the newspaper onto your front steps instead. Obviously, that was a huge mistake. I had no idea that I could throw so far or so hard. I never thought such a small newspaper could shatter such a large window.

I also want to apologise for ruining your evening. I know that when the paper came crashing through your front window, it landed in the middle of your dining-room table. Unfortunately, you and Mrs Henshaw were having dinner at the time. I could hear Mrs Henshaw's frightened screams all the way outside.

When you came outside to see what happened, I was a bit frazzled. You were kind enough to help me calm down so that I could explain what had happened. Though I know you must have been upset, you were patient and understanding with me.

Again, I am extremely sorry for being so careless. As promised, I will be at your house promptly at 9.00 am on Saturday, ready and willing to help repair the damage.

Sincerely,
Gwyneth Johnson

<p>Finding Main Idea</p> <p>1. The letter is mostly about</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ a newspaper route. Ⓑ an unfortunate accident. Ⓒ a dissatisfied customer. Ⓓ a comical event. 	<p>Recognising Cause and Effect</p> <p>4. Gwyneth threw the newspaper onto the Henshaws' front steps because</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ she was concerned about being late for school. Ⓑ she was trying to save time. Ⓒ she wanted to see how far she could throw. Ⓓ she was unsure about where she was supposed to leave the newspaper.
<p>Recalling Facts and Details</p> <p>2. Which of these is a fact from the letter?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ Gwyneth is believed by others to be an unreliable person. Ⓑ Mr Henshaw lives next door to Gwyneth. Ⓒ Gwyneth reluctantly accepted blame for the accident. Ⓓ Mr and Mrs Henshaw were in the dining room when the accident happened. 	<p>Comparing and Contrasting</p> <p>5. The boxes tell something about Gwyneth and Mr Henshaw.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px 10px;">Gwyneth</div> <div style="margin: 5px 0;">↓</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px 10px;">panicky</div> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px 10px;">Mr Henshaw</div> <div style="margin: 5px 0;">↓</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px 10px;"></div> </div> </div> <p>Which of these belongs in the empty box?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="width: 50%;">Ⓐ furious <li style="width: 50%;">Ⓒ restless <li style="width: 50%;">Ⓑ disturbed <li style="width: 50%;">Ⓓ composed
<p>Understanding Sequence</p> <p>3. The numbered sentences below tell about some of the events described in the letter.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr Henshaw goes outside to assess the damage. 2. Gwyneth tosses a newspaper through the Henshaws' window. 3. Gwyneth promises to help repair the damage. 4. Mrs Henshaw is startled and begins to scream. <p>Which of these tells the correct order of the events?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ 3, 2, 4, 1 Ⓑ 2, 4, 1, 3 Ⓒ 3, 2, 1, 4 Ⓓ 2, 3, 4, 1 	<p>Making Predictions</p> <p>6. Predict how Mr Henshaw will most likely react to Gwyneth's letter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ Mr Henshaw will cancel his newspaper subscription. Ⓑ Mr Henshaw will find humour in the situation. Ⓒ Mr Henshaw will be further disturbed by Gwyneth's actions. Ⓓ Mr Henshaw will appreciate Gwyneth's gesture.

<p>Finding Word Meaning in Context</p> <p>7. The best meaning for the word <i>reputation</i> in paragraph one is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ 'to be or look like something'. Ⓑ 'one who is the cause of an accident'. Ⓒ 'one's character, as judged by others'. Ⓓ 'something done regularly'. 	<p>Identifying Author's Purpose</p> <p>10. Why did Gwyneth write the letter?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ to describe the cause of an upsetting event Ⓑ to show appreciation for a neighbour's kindness Ⓒ to offer an apology to her neighbour Ⓓ to inform a neighbour about a decision
<p>Drawing Conclusions and Making Inferences</p> <p>8. From Gwyneth's letter you could conclude that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ Gwyneth had been delivering newspapers for only a short time. Ⓑ Gwyneth's actions were not typical. Ⓒ Gwyneth is easily upset by minor incidents. Ⓓ Gwyneth frequently acts in a reckless manner. 	<p>Interpreting Figurative Language</p> <p>11. The phrase <i>started off on the wrong foot</i> means</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ 'began to annoy one another'. Ⓑ 'made a mistake at the very beginning'. Ⓒ 'met under difficult circumstances'. Ⓓ 'argued for the first time'.
<p>Distinguishing Between Fact and Opinion</p> <p>9. Which of these is an opinion about Gwyneth?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ Gwyneth wants to help repair the damage she caused. Ⓑ Gwyneth threw a newspaper through a window. Ⓒ Gwyneth is too young for the responsibility of a paper route. Ⓓ Gwyneth missed her target when she threw the newspaper. 	<p>Summarising</p> <p>12. What is the best summary of the letter?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ A girl meets a new customer under unusual circumstances. Ⓑ Admitting a mistake takes great courage. Ⓒ Newspaper routes require dedication and commitment. Ⓓ A girl communicates her feelings about her actions.

LESSON 8

Read this article about a historical figure. Then answer questions about the article. Choose the best response for Numbers 1 to 12.

The Bad Luck of William Bligh

The next time you're having a bad day, remember Captain William Bligh. He was a successful sailor and leader. But today we mainly remember him for two big disasters.

Bligh was born in England in 1754. He joined the navy when he was seven. He didn't actually go on a boat until he was sixteen. It was pretty normal for boys to be signed up at very early ages. This meant that when they actually became sailors they wouldn't have to wait as long to be promoted.

When he was a young sailor Bligh was picked by Captain James Cook to be a Sailing Master on his ship. This meant that Bligh was on Cook's third voyage. This was also Cook's last voyage. He was killed by islanders during it.

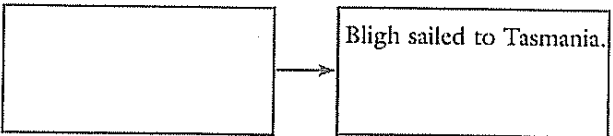
Bligh was a confident sailor and eventually became a captain of a ship called the *Bounty*. This ship is most famous today because of what happened when some of the crew decided not to follow Bligh's orders any more. The 'mutiny on the *Bounty*' resulted in Fletcher Christian and his men taking over the ship. They forced the Captain and some of his loyal men into a small lifeboat. Bligh had lost his ship, which was a bad thing. But he was also now in the middle of the ocean without any way of telling where he was. Luckily, Bligh was a better sailor than he was a captain. He managed to get all the men in the boat home safely, after an exciting forty-seven day voyage. They were even attacked by cannibals.

Even though it hadn't really been his fault, Bligh found the loss of the *Bounty* hard to get over. People thought he was a bad captain. But by hard work and dedication he managed to build up his reputation again.

In 1805 Bligh became the Governor of New South Wales. This was on the other side of the world, but it was a good job. Bligh wasn't governor for very long before he suffered another mutiny. Soldiers decided to get rid of his government. This was called the Rum Rebellion.

Bligh was pretty well removed from his job and thrown out of New South Wales. He fled to Tasmania, but couldn't get enough people interested in trying to take back control of New South Wales from the army.

Bligh eventually went back to England. Luckily for him, his run of bad luck seemed to be over. He went back to the navy for a few more years and died in 1817, without anyone trying to overthrow him again.

<p>Finding Main Idea</p> <p>1. What is the main topic of paragraph two?</p> <p>Ⓐ Bligh joined the navy when he was young.</p> <p>Ⓑ Bligh was a captain.</p> <p>Ⓒ Bligh had a lot of bad luck.</p> <p>Ⓓ Bligh was a bad leader.</p>	<p>Recognising Cause and Effect</p> <p>4. The graphic organiser shows a cause and effect relationship.</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Cause Effect</p>  </div> <p>Which of these belongs in the empty box?</p> <p>Ⓐ Fletcher Christian threw Bligh off the <i>Bounty</i>.</p> <p>Ⓑ The Rum Rebellion threw Bligh out of his job and New South Wales.</p> <p>Ⓒ Bligh was with Captain Cook when he died.</p> <p>Ⓓ People thought Bligh was a bad captain.</p>
<p>Recalling Facts and Details</p> <p>2. What job did Captain Cook pick Bligh for?</p> <p>Ⓐ captain</p> <p>Ⓑ sailing master</p> <p>Ⓒ governor of New South Wales</p> <p>Ⓓ sailor</p>	<p>Comparing and Contrasting</p> <p>5. The Rum Rebellion was different to the mutiny, because</p> <p>Ⓐ Fletcher Christian threw Bligh off the <i>Bounty</i>, but he was allowed to stay in New South Wales.</p> <p>Ⓑ the <i>Bounty</i> was a secret, but everyone knew about the Rum Rebellion.</p> <p>Ⓒ Fletcher Christian was a mean man, but the Rum Rebellion happened because Bligh was mean to everyone else.</p> <p>Ⓓ Bligh was thrown out by the army, but thrown off the boat by his own sailors.</p>
<p>Understanding Sequence</p> <p>3. Which of these happened first?</p> <p>Ⓐ Bligh went on Cook's third voyage.</p> <p>Ⓑ Fletcher Christian didn't like Bligh.</p> <p>Ⓒ Bligh joined the navy.</p> <p>Ⓓ Bligh returned to England.</p>	<p>Making Predictions</p> <p>6. Predict what might have happened if Bligh had managed to get support in Tasmania.</p> <p>Ⓐ The Rum Rebellion might have happened again in Tasmania.</p> <p>Ⓑ Fletcher Christian might have helped the army in New South Wales.</p> <p>Ⓒ Bligh might have been able to stay as governor.</p> <p>Ⓓ Bligh might have decided to attack England.</p>

<p>Finding Word Meaning in Context</p> <p>7. In the fourth paragraph, the word <i>confident</i> means</p> <p>Ⓐ 'sure'. Ⓑ 'proud'. Ⓒ 'happy'. Ⓓ 'secret'.</p>	<p>Identifying Author's Purpose</p> <p>10. The article was written mainly to</p> <p>Ⓐ teach a lesson about boats. Ⓑ entertain readers with a story about cannibals. Ⓒ describe the bad luck of a historical figure. Ⓓ persuade people to join the navy.</p>
<p>Drawing Conclusions and Making Inferences</p> <p>8. From the article, you can conclude that</p> <p>Ⓐ Bligh was a nice man who was always treated unfairly. Ⓑ Bligh wasn't the kind of leader that people respected. Ⓒ Fletcher Christian was a better captain than Bligh. Ⓓ Bligh would have done better in New South Wales if he had been born there.</p>	<p>Interpreting Figurative Language</p> <p>11. What is the meaning of the word <i>fled</i>?</p> <p>Ⓐ 'flew away' Ⓑ 'ran away' Ⓒ 'hid behind a bird' Ⓓ 'stayed and fought'</p>
<p>Distinguishing Between Fact and Opinion</p> <p>9. Which of these is a <i>fact</i>?</p> <p>Ⓐ Fletcher Christian was cruel to get rid of Bligh. Ⓑ Bligh was born in England in 1754. Ⓒ Bligh had no friends. Ⓓ Bligh should have drowned.</p>	<p>Summarising</p> <p>12. What is the best summary of the article?</p> <p>Ⓐ Captain Cook liked Bligh. Ⓑ Bligh couldn't find anyone to help him in Tasmania. Ⓒ Bligh wouldn't have got promoted if he hadn't joined the navy at age seven. Ⓓ Bligh was a successful sailor and leader, but he is best remembered for the bad luck of the mutiny on the Bounty and the Rum Rebellion.</p>

LESSON 9

Read this article about an adventurous aviator. Then answer questions about the article. Choose the best answer for Numbers 1 to 12.

Nancy Bird

Nancy Bird was born in Sydney in 1915. When she was four she tried to launch herself off her family's back fence. She'd heard about the Great England to Australia air race, which was exciting the whole country. But Nancy had to wait a little while longer to get off the ground herself. When she was thirteen she went for a joy flight in a Gipsy Moth aeroplane. She started saving up for flying lessons straight away.

In order to learn to fly Nancy had to go against the wishes of her own father. But her flying teacher was none other than Charles Kingsford Smith. Kingsford Smith was already an Australian flying legend. Nancy was one of his first pupils at the Kingsford Smith Flying School in Mascot, Sydney. It was 1933, and Nancy was just seventeen. Women pilots were a very rare thing at the time. It was strange even for a woman to be wearing long pants. Kingsford Smith himself didn't take her seriously at first, mainly because Nancy was so young and very short. But Nancy wasn't someone who let setbacks get her down. She persisted. Kingsford Smith learned to respect her as a great and gifted pilot.

In 1935 Nancy was hired to operate an air ambulance service in outback New South Wales. Nancy used her own Gipsy Moth plane. It was now an air ambulance that covered huge distances to help people all over the bush. She saved many lives by flying people who were too far away from medical care to hospitals. This was all at a time when air travel was still a new thing, and old-fashioned country people often had trouble getting over the fact that Nancy was a woman. In fact in 1935 a politician, HVC Thorby, declared that flying wasn't something women should do. After a lot of pressure, Nancy gave up flying for a while in 1938.

But Nancy hadn't gotten to where she was by letting men tell her what to do. She had always loved flying, and she wasn't about to have a change of heart. While she married and raised her family, she started working to create an organisation for those like her. The Australian Women Pilots Association was founded in 1950. Nancy was its president for forty years. By this time, female pilots were no longer a rare thing. Thanks in part to the efforts of Nancy, and others like her, women had proved that they had just as much right to the skies as men.

<p>Finding Main Idea</p> <p>1. What is the article mostly about?</p> <p>(A) a young girl's vow to learn how to fly aeroplanes</p> <p>(B) the struggles faced by a girl who wanted to fly out of her backyard</p> <p>(C) the various flights attempted by a female pilot</p> <p>(D) the life and career of a great female pilot</p>	<p>Recognising Cause and Effect</p> <p>4. Why didn't Charles Kingsford Smith take Nancy seriously at first?</p> <p>(A) He heard the story about her trying to fly off her back fence.</p> <p>(B) She was taller than him and he didn't like that.</p> <p>(C) She was very young and very short.</p> <p>(D) He thought she only wanted to learn to fly so she could wear long pants.</p>				
<p>Recalling Facts and Details</p> <p>2. Who declared that flying wasn't something women should do?</p> <p>(A) HVC Thorby</p> <p>(B) Charles Kingsford Smith</p> <p>(C) Nancy Bird</p> <p>(D) Nancy's father</p>	<p>Comparing and Contrasting</p> <p>5. The article is most like</p> <p>(A) an autobiography.</p> <p>(B) a biographical sketch.</p> <p>(C) a short story.</p> <p>(D) historical fiction.</p>				
<p>Understanding Sequence</p> <p>3. The boxes tell about the life of Nancy Bird.</p> <table border="1"><tr><td>Nancy tries to fly off her back fence.</td><td>Nancy has a joy flight in a Gipsy Moth.</td><td></td><td>Nancy operates an air ambulance service in the bush.</td></tr></table> <p>1 2 3 4</p> <p>Which of these belongs in box 3?</p> <p>(A) Nancy founds the Australian Women Pilots Association.</p> <p>(B) Nancy has to give up flying for a while.</p> <p>(C) Nancy got married and raised her family.</p> <p>(D) Nancy learnt to fly with Charles Kingsford Smith.</p>	Nancy tries to fly off her back fence.	Nancy has a joy flight in a Gipsy Moth.		Nancy operates an air ambulance service in the bush.	<p>Making Predictions</p> <p>6. Predict what would most likely have happened if Nancy had ignored pressure to stop flying in the 1930s.</p> <p>(A) She would have gotten sick of it anyway.</p> <p>(B) She would have decided that Thorby was right.</p> <p>(C) She might have crashed.</p> <p>(D) She would have continued to be a great pilot, and gotten an even better reputation.</p>
Nancy tries to fly off her back fence.	Nancy has a joy flight in a Gipsy Moth.		Nancy operates an air ambulance service in the bush.		

<p>Finding Word Meaning in Context</p> <p>7. You can tell that <i>setbacks</i> in paragraph 2 means</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ 'minor accidents'. Ⓑ 'things that prevented progress'. Ⓒ 'unfavourable weather conditions'. Ⓓ 'outcomes that are difficult to determine'. 	<p>Identifying Author's Purpose</p> <p>10. The main purpose of the first paragraph is to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ inform readers about a major accomplishment in Nancy's life. Ⓑ provide general information about Nancy's childhood. Ⓒ describe Nancy's early fascination with flight. Ⓓ inform readers of where and when Nancy was born.
<p>Drawing Conclusions and Making Inferences</p> <p>8. Nancy was president of the Australian Women Pilots Association for forty years after she was forced to stop flying. A reader could conclude that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ Nancy didn't want anyone else to learn to fly. Ⓑ Nancy had lost interest in flying in this time. Ⓒ Nancy never gave up her love of flying, and did her best to help other women pilots who faced the same problems she did. Ⓓ Nancy was a lot more interested in being president. 	<p>Interpreting Figurative Language</p> <p>11. You can tell that <i>a change of heart</i> is a</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ sudden interest. Ⓑ new way of feeling about something. Ⓒ decision about one's career. Ⓓ strong desire.
<p>Distinguishing Between Fact and Opinion</p> <p>9. Which of these is an <i>opinion</i>?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ The Australian Women Pilots Association was founded in 1950. Ⓑ Nancy gave up flying for a while in 1938. Ⓒ It was 1933, and Nancy was just seventeen. Ⓓ Flying wasn't something women should do. 	<p>Summarising</p> <p>12. Which of these is the best summary of the article?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ Nancy Bird was very young in 1933. Ⓑ Nancy Bird saved the lives of people who didn't think she should be flying in the first place. Ⓒ Nancy Bird's love of flying saw her become a great pilot at a time when women usually couldn't. Ⓓ Nancy Bird was taught to fly by Charles Kingsford Smith.

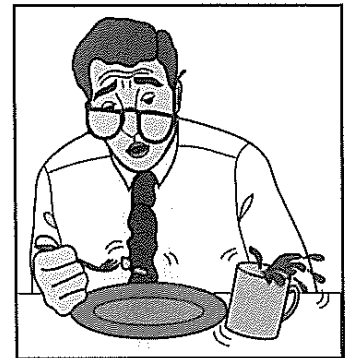
LESSON 10

Here is a short story about a seismologist. Read the short story. Then choose the best answer for Numbers 1 to 12.

Tim Olsen took a deep breath as he stepped off the boat. He had just arrived in Apia, Western Samoa. The small resort town was filled with summer tourists. This was no holiday for Tim, however. His computers and seismometers had shown earthquake activity near Apia. As a precaution, his company had sent him from his home in Sydney to Apia to monitor any new activity.

Carrying his suitcase and several bags of equipment, Tim trudged over to the nearest hotel and checked in. As he walked to his room, Tim looked up at Mount Fito, a volcano that had been dormant for several hundred years. Once inside his room, he set up his equipment and switched on the seismometer. A slight spike began to grow along the line of waves. Tim then felt a tremor, one so small that only people indoors would notice. The windows in his room chattered like teeth, and his keys began to move across the table. Tim grabbed his notepad and quickly scribbled, 'Time: 9.15 p.m., Reading: 1.3.' He lay on the bed awaiting the next tremor. After a long day of travelling, Tim was soon asleep.

Beep! Beep! blared Tim's alarm clock the following morning. He hopped out of bed to check the overnight readings. 'Nothing,' muttered Tim, rubbing his eyes awake. He quickly dressed and went to the hotel restaurant to enjoy his favourite breakfast – pancakes. Just as he was finishing the last bite, he felt a tremor under his feet. The table began to shake and curious patrons wondered aloud what was happening. Tim threw a ten-dollar note on the table and half-ran to his room to check the latest recordings. On his notepad he wrote, 'Time: 8.12 a.m., Reading: 2.2.' He turned on the radio and heard the report about the earthquake. The epicentre was only half a kilometre from the hotel and was situated right under the volcano. Tim picked up the phone to call his employer.



Tim briefed his boss, Rick Peters, on the situation. 'I'm going to need some more people down here as soon as possible.'

But Tim's boss wasn't convinced. 'Olsen, it's too soon. Don't jump the gun.'

Through gritted teeth, Tim replied, 'Mr Peters, you don't understand. There hasn't been an earthquake epicentred under this mountain for over 400 years. I've never seen activity like this before. I need some backup and I need it now!'

He slammed down the phone, hanging up on his boss.

With a sigh, Rick Peters muttered aloud, 'That man is going to have to learn to be more patient.'

Finding Main Idea

1. A good title for this story is
- Ⓐ 'Dormant Volcanoes'.
 - Ⓑ 'Disaster Strikes'.
 - Ⓒ 'On Shaky Ground'.
 - Ⓓ 'Volcanoes and Earthquakes'.

Recognising Cause and Effect

4. Why was Tim sent to Apia?
- Ⓐ His boss believed Mount Fito was going to erupt soon.
 - Ⓑ Rick Peters is concerned whenever small earthquakes take place.
 - Ⓒ Tim's computers and seismometers had shown earthquake activity in Apia.
 - Ⓓ Several earthquakes had already been epicentred near Mount Fito.

Recalling Facts and Details

2. Where was Tim when he felt the second quake?
- Ⓐ in his room
 - Ⓑ in the hotel restaurant
 - Ⓒ on the boat
 - Ⓓ in the hotel lobby

Comparing and Contrasting

5. Which of these is a simile?
- Ⓐ like teeth chattering
 - Ⓑ as a precaution
 - Ⓒ as soon as possible
 - Ⓓ activity like this

Understanding Sequence

3. The boxes tell some things that happened in the story.

Tim felt a small tremor that caused the windows to rattle.

Tim wrote to his notepad, 'Time: 8.12 a.m., Reading 2.2.'

Tim tried to convince Mr Peters to send more help to Apia.

1 2 3 4

Which of these belongs in box two?

- Ⓐ Tim heard a report on the radio about the earthquake.
- Ⓑ Tim checked into his hotel room.
- Ⓒ Tim explained that he had never seen activity like this before.
- Ⓓ Tim hopped out of bed to check the overnight readings.

Making Predictions

6. What will probably happen next?
- Ⓐ A major earthquake will cause Mount Fito to erupt.
 - Ⓑ Earthquake activity will cease to occur in the area.
 - Ⓒ Rick Peters will send the necessary people and equipment to help Tim.
 - Ⓓ Tim's equipment will continue to register stronger quakes.

Finding Word Meaning in Context

7. In the first paragraph, *precaution* means
- Ⓐ 'a determination in advance'.
 - Ⓑ 'an action taken to avoid danger'.
 - Ⓒ 'lacking in protection'.
 - Ⓓ 'occurring at a later time'.

Identifying Author's Purpose

10. The story was written mainly to
- Ⓐ teach readers how to determine the strength of an earthquake.
 - Ⓑ describe the dangers of living near an inactive volcano.
 - Ⓒ entertain readers with a tale of science and suspense.
 - Ⓓ inform others about the life of a seismologist.

Drawing Conclusions and Making Inferences

8. From the story, you can tell that
- Ⓐ Tim does not take his work seriously enough.
 - Ⓑ Tim does not live in Western Samoa.
 - Ⓒ Tim has been monitoring earthquakes for over 15 years.
 - Ⓓ Tim and Rick Peters often disagree about the subject of earthquakes.

Interpreting Figurative Language

11. The words *jump the gun* mean to
- Ⓐ 'fail at something'.
 - Ⓑ 'attract unnecessary attention'.
 - Ⓒ 'annoy or bother someone'.
 - Ⓓ 'act sooner than necessary'.

Distinguishing Between Fact and Opinion

9. Which of these is a *fact*?
- Ⓐ Tim was more knowledgeable than most seismologists.
 - Ⓑ Tim should have been more patient with his boss.
 - Ⓒ Tim arrived in Apia during the summer.
 - Ⓓ Tim's boss is considered to be a stubborn man.

Summarising

12. The best summary of the short story is
- Ⓐ a seismologist cannot decide how to handle a serious situation.
 - Ⓑ a seismologist gives up his holiday to learn more about a volcano.
 - Ⓒ a seismologist is sent to a small island to monitor earthquake activity.
 - Ⓓ a seismologist panics when earthquakes are reported on a small island.

You have now completed Lessons 6–10.
Go to page 32. Complete Self-assessment 2.