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# Test Yourself: Reading Comprehension

**DIRECTIONS** Read each passage and its questions. Choose the answer you think is best for each question. Mark the space for your answer.

## SAMPLE

### Breaking Records

Sports records are being broken faster than ever for several reasons. Athletes are training better, they are using better equipment, and more people than ever are playing sports. In major competitions, it has reached a stage in which it is a surprise if an important record is *not* broken.

A reason why sports records are being broken that is *not* mentioned in this passage is —

- A more people playing sports
- B better equipment
- C better training
- D an increase in organized sports

### Dragon's Tears

The folklore of China is filled with stories of dragons. In the ancient Chinese stories, dragons are not bad, and young men do not set out on quests to destroy them. Dragon emperors have beautiful daughters who want to find good, kind peasant husbands and live happily ever after on Earth. One dragon story takes place in the province of Sichuan, which has 24 small lakes called Dragon's Tears. The story of their name is a favorite Chinese legend.

Wen Peng was a good peasant boy who lived with his widowed mother. He fished and sold his catch to support himself and his

mother. One day he felt an enormous tug on his line. He fought and struggled and finally landed a huge, golden fish. The fish gasped, "Please let me go, and I will reward you." Wen Peng felt sorry for the creature and returned it to the water. In return, the fish gave him a magic pearl.



With the magic pearl, Wen Peng and his mother had all they needed and were very happy. A jealous neighbor saw their prosperity and became very suspicious. "You are sending

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your son out to steal," he told Wen Peng's mother. "There is no other way for you to be doing so well." The mother was so frightened that she told the neighbor about the pearl.

This only increased the neighbor's jealousy, and he was determined to get the magic pearl. As soon as Wen Peng came into the house, he and his men grabbed the boy and began to shake him, demanding the pearl. Wen Peng had hidden the pearl in his mouth, and the shaking made him swallow it.

Wen Peng fainted, and when he woke, he asked his mother for water. He drank and drank but could not satisfy his thirst. He

finally went down to the river where he had caught the fish. It seemed as if he would drink the river dry.

As darkness came, a huge storm arose. Wen Peng's mother watched in horror as her son slowly turned into a great dragon and started to fly away. She begged him not to go, but a gust of wind carried him into the sky as he called, "I am sorry, Mother. I cannot stay."

"Come back. Come back, my son," she continued to call. The dragon turned sadly, and great tears fell from his fiery eyes. After these drops fell to the ground, they formed the two dozen lakes of Sichuan.

1

Wen Peng can *best* be described as —

- A reasonable
- B responsible
- C greedy
- D jealous

3

This story is a legend about —

- A a boy learning a lesson
- B why sons should love their mothers
- C the problems caused by greed
- D how 24 lakes were formed

2

Another good title for this story is —

- A "The Boy and the Magic Pearl"
- B "A Good Son"
- C "Don't Go, My Son"
- D "The Boy Who Became A Dragon"

4

The jealous neighbor was determined to have —

- A all the family's money
- B the magic pearl
- C the power to turn into a dragon
- D the golden fish

GO



**DIRECTIONS** Read each question, then choose the answer you think is best. Mark the space for your answer.

### SAMPLE A

If Notah is in the middle of a line and there are 3 people in front of him, how many people are in line?

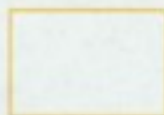
- A** 4                      **C** 7  
**B** 3                      **D** 9

### SAMPLE B

Ms. Taylor got paid \$2434 last month. If Ms. Taylor earns \$21 per hour, *about* how many hours did she work last month?

- A** 150                    **C** 130  
**B** 140                    **D** 120

- 1** Which of these has an area of 4 cm<sup>2</sup>?



**A**



**C**



**B**



**D**



- 2** This figure has an area of 1 square unit.



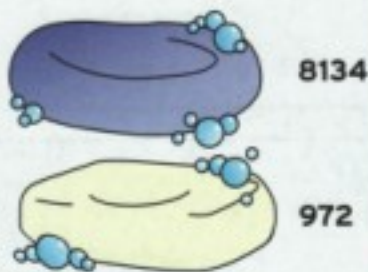
What is the area of the rectangle below in square units?



- A** 3 square units  
**B** 8 square units  
**C** 24 square units  
**D** 27 square units

**GO**

- 12 The Squeaky Clean Soap company made 8134 bars of lavender soap and 972 bars of unscented soap.



How many bars of soap did the company make in all?

- A 9006                      D 17,854  
B 9106                      E NH  
C 8106

- 13 A hardware store sells nails in packages of 125 nails. Ms. Vane bought 12 packages.



How many nails did Ms. Vane buy in all?

- A 1500                      D 137  
B 1400                      E NH  
C 375

- 14 A pet store received a shipment of 1000 pounds of dog food in 40-pound bags.



How many bags of dog food were in the shipment?

- A 25                              D 40,000  
B 250                            E NH  
C 960

- 15 Mr. Pedersen bought four bags of chocolate chips. Each bag has 8 ounces of chocolate chips.



If he uses 27 ounces to make cookies, how many ounces will he have left?

- A 15                              D 7  
B 27                              E NH  
C 13

**STOP**

**DIRECTIONS** Read each sentence. Look for a mistake in punctuation, capitalization, or word usage in the underlined part. Mark the space for the answer choice that shows the correct way to write the underlined part. Mark the last answer choice, *Correct as is*, if the underlined part is written correctly.

## SAMPLE A

Dad's office was close for  
Labor Day.

- A was close for Labor day.
- B were close for Labor Day.
- C was closed for Labor Day.
- D *Correct as is*

## SAMPLE B

Our family visited Cape Cod  
National Seashore last summer.

- A Cape cod national Seashore
- B Cape cod National Seashore
- C Cape Cod national seashore
- D *Correct as is*



After you have answered all the questions, check each answer. Does your answer have correct punctuation, capitalization, and word usage?

1 You should have three pieces of paper red, white, and blue.

- A paper red white and blue.
- B paper: red white and blue.
- C paper: red, white, and blue.
- D *Correct as is*

2 During our visit to my aunt's house, she showed us her photo album.

- A Aunts house, she showed
- B aunts house, she showed
- C Aunt's house, she show
- D *Correct as is*

STOP