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4th Reading Quiz B

Fourth Grade Reading
Quiz

Practice Test

Name: _____

Date: _____

Instructions:

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Fireflies

The sounds of cicadas

hum in the trees

as fireflies zip across the front lawn.

Their twinkling tails light up

our glass collecting jars for

one

brief moment

Then we open the pierced lid and let

them out one by one.

Their phosphorescent luster streaks our palms

as our fingers

become launching pads for

their flashy flight into the

overhanging branches of evening.

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1. The purpose of this passage is to

- A. convince the reader to catch fireflies.
 - B. entertain the reader with thoughts of fireflies.
 - C. give the reader facts about fireflies.
 - D. inform the reader how to care for fireflies.
-

2. What does the author describe just after the sounds of cicadas in the trees?

- A. the twinkling lights of the fireflies' tails
 - B. fireflies zipping across the front lawn
 - C. the fireflies using fingers for launching pads
 - D. glass jar lids being pierced
-

3. What finally happens to the fireflies in the passage?

- A. They stay in glass jars.
 - B. They go to sleep for the night.
 - C. They are set free.
 - D. They stop lighting up.
-

4. This passage is an example of what kind of writing?

- A. a story
 - B. a folk tale
 - C. a report
 - D. a poem
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5. When do the events in this passage take place?

- A. one night
 - B. several days
 - C. a whole summer
 - D. many years
-

6. What is the root of the word *twinkling*?

- A. twin
 - B. ink
 - C. twinkle
 - D. inkling
-

7. The word *overhanging* is an example of

- A. a contraction.
 - B. a compound word.
 - C. a prefix.
 - D. a root word.
-

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The Grinding Mill

Hundreds of years ago there was a king who had a very unusual grinding mill made of stone. It looked like a normal mill, but it had very special powers. All one had to do was to request what one wanted and turn the mill. Out would come whatever was requested. If rice was requested, rice came out. If corn was requested, corn came out. The king could even ask the grinding mill for gold, and it would perform his every command.

Soon, a thief heard of this special mill and was determined to steal it, but he didn't know where the king kept his most precious possession. Therefore, he disguised himself as a scholar and went to the king's court. There he was able to find a small girl whom he asked about the miraculous mill. She surprised him by revealing exactly where the mill was. "The king doesn't bother to hide it," she told him. "He just keeps it in plain sight by his lotus pond where no one would think of looking for it."

With this knowledge, the thief was able to easily steal the mill the next evening and was planning his escape. Suddenly he realized that all the roads and streets would be blocked the moment the theft of the mill was discovered. So he resolved to go back to his own country by sea.

Once he was safe in the boat with the mill, he began to sing and dance at the thought of how rich he would be. He thought of what he would request from the mill. He tried to imagine something everyone would need. "I'll ask for salt," he exclaimed. "Everyone has a use for it. It preserves meat and seasons food. I can sell it and become a rich man, the richest man in the country.

"Salt! Salt! Make salt!!" he commanded the mill. The mill began to turn and turn. Soon salt spilled from the sides of the boat. But the thief barely noticed. He was too busy thinking of the house he was going to have, the many servants who would wait on him, and the lovely wife he would marry.

Finally the boat was so full of salt it sank to the bottom of the sea. And since no one told it to stop, it is still turning even today and making the oceans of the world full of salty water.

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8. In the passage, what was so special about the grinding mill?

- A. It ground special kinds of grain.
 - B. It made whatever people wanted.
 - C. It was used only by the little girl.
 - D. It was buried under the sea.
-

9. What is the root of *miraculous*?

- A. race
 - B. rack
 - C. miracle
 - D. mirror
-

10. Why does the thief decide to ask for salt?

- A. Everyone needs it.
 - B. His wife asked for it.
 - C. It is easy for the mill to make.
 - D. The boat can hold a lot of it.
-

11. At the beginning of the passage, where was the grinding mill located?

- A. by the ocean
 - B. in the safe
 - C. by the lotus pond
 - D. in the garden
-

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12. Who is the main character in this passage?

- A. the king
 - B. the future wife
 - C. the thief
 - D. the little girl
-

13. This passage explains how

- A. the king found the mill
 - B. the ocean became salty
 - C. to make salt
 - D. to work the mill
-

14. What did the thief do in order to get the mill?

- A. He asked the king.
 - B. He dressed as a scholar.
 - C. He pretended he needed salt.
 - D. He hid in the lotus pond.
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