

Georgia
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5th Reading Test B

Fifth Grade Reading
Test

Practice Test

Name: _____

Date: _____

Instructions:

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Make Your Own Eclipse!

Put a lightbulb into a lamp without a shade and gently tip the lamp over so that it rests on a flat surface with the bulb hanging over the edge (not touching the flat surface). Put a marble on the flat surface near the lightbulb. Turn on the lamp and then darken the room *completely* except for the lamp's glow. Cross to the far side of the room and look to see whether you can see the marble. What happened? It disappeared! The Sun's glare makes celestial objects near to it impossible to see, too.

Now, without moving, hold up your fist in front of the lightbulb. Your fist is causing an eclipse of the lightbulb. Can you see the marble now? You should be able to. In the same way, when a planet or the Moon eclipses the Sun we can see objects close to the sun.

1. How does the author help you understand what happens in this experiment?

- A. The author makes a separate list of materials needed.
 - B. The author raises questions and answers them.
 - C. The author includes measurements of the room and light.
 - D. The author numbers the steps of the directions.
-

2. Which is represented by the marble in the experiment?

- A. an object close to the Sun
 - B. the Sun
 - C. the Moon
 - D. a planet close to Earth
-

3. What actually causes the eclipse in this experiment?

- A. the marble
 - B. the flat surface
 - C. your fist
 - D. the Moon
-

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4. Which material is NOT needed in this experiment?

- A. a marble
 - B. a lamp and lightbulb
 - C. a well-lit room
 - D. a flat surface
-

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Stevie Wonder

by Mark Falstein

Stevland Morris did not have an easy childhood. He grew up without a father in a poor part of Detroit, Michigan. He lived in a world of sounds. He banged on anything that he could get his hands on. Finally, his mother bought him a set of cardboard drums. She knew that sounds were very important to her son. Steveland had been born blind.

Stevie would listen to the radio for hours. He loved the blues best. His favorite blues artist was Ray Charles. This famous singer and piano player had something in common with Stevie. He, too, was blind.

Early on, Stevie decided that he would be just like Ray Charles. He would become a musician. He studied classical piano. He learned to play other instruments. He'd practice by entertaining friends in his neighborhood and church. By the time he was ten, he was writing his own songs.

Soon after that, Stevie met Ronnie White. Ronnie was part of a popular singing group called the Miracles. They worked with Motown. This is a record company owned and run by African Americans. The people there loved Stevie's music. They signed him up and gave him a new name. "Little Stevie Wonder" made his first record in 1963. That song, "Fingertips," sold more than a million copies. It made Stevie a star at the age of 13. His life didn't change all that much, though. He got an allowance of \$2.50 a week. And he had to keep up a "B" average in school.

Stevie's music was exciting. His words and feelings were real. Maybe that's why he had hit after hit. By the time he turned 21, he had sold 35 million records. In 1973, he got his first Grammy Award. It was for "You Are the Sunshine of My Life." There is no higher honor in the record business. Over the next dozen years, Stevie would win more than 15 of them.

Today Stevie Wonder is still making hits. He writes about a song a day. In 1991, he composed the music for Spike Lee's hit movie *Jungle Fever*. Stevie uses his music for good causes, too. He worked to get Martin Luther King's birthday declared a holiday. He helps raise money to feed the hungry. He fights against drunk driving. One poster has a picture of Stevie on it. He is saying, "Before I ride with a drunk, I'll drive myself!"

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Driving is about the only thing that Stevie Wonder has trouble doing. He reads with a special computer. He “watches” movies with a little help from his friends. “Never before have blind people been able to do so much,” Stevie says. “There’s almost nothing I can’t do if I can imagine it.”

5. Which sentence gives an opinion?

- A. Stevie’s music was exciting.
 - B. Stevie made his first record in 1963.
 - C. In 1973, Stevie won his first Grammy Award.
 - D. Stevie would listen to the radio for hours.
-

6. What did Stevie Wonder do first?

- A. He changed his name to Stevie Wonder.
 - B. He sold a million copies of “Fingertips.”
 - C. He met Ronnie White from the Miracles.
 - D. He decided he would be just like Ray Charles.
-

7. How were Stevie and Ray Charles alike?

- A. They both grew up in Detroit.
 - B. They both were in the Miracles.
 - C. They both were blind musicians.
 - D. They both played many instruments.
-

8. Which sentence BEST shows that the author admires and respects Stevie?

- A. One poster has a picture of Stevie on it.
 - B. Stevie uses his music for good causes, too.
 - C. They signed him up and gave him a new name.
 - D. She knew that sounds were very important to her son.
-

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9. How old was Stevie when he wrote his first songs?

- A. 10
 - B. 15
 - C. 21
 - D. 35
-

10. Which word is an antonym for *raise*?

- A. up
 - B. rays
 - C. lower
 - D. praise
-

11. How many records had Stevie Wonder sold by the time he was 21?

- A. 1 million
 - B. 15 million
 - C. 20 million
 - D. 35 million
-

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SNOWFLAKE BENTLEY

Uncle Willie's real name was Wilson Bentley. Read the story to find out more about Uncle Willie.

Uncle Willie got started looking into things when his mother gave him a microscope. I guess he must have been about 15 or so. Well, he was outside one winter day when some snowflakes fell on the glass slide of that little microscope. I wish I could have seen the look on his face when he peeked into that lens. He saw that these snowflakes had six sides, and that each was beautiful.

The old story goes that Uncle Willie ran back into the house and borrowed a piece of black velvet from his mother. Then as more and more flakes fell on its dark surface, he could tell that they all had different designs.

For the next couple of years, poor Uncle Willie kept trying to draw the pretty patterns he saw. But I hear he was a terrible artist. And the snowflakes had a habit of melting before he was more than half done.

Anyway, on his 17th birthday, Uncle Willie got a big surprise. His whole family had scrimped and saved all year to buy him a new-fangled camera. It cost what was a small fortune in those days – one hundred dollars! But it could take pictures through a microscope.

Uncle Willie tried for two years to get just the pictures he wanted. No luck. But I still have a newspaper clipping that shows what Uncle Willie wrote in his notebook one special night: “January 15, 1885. Temperature 21-27°F, loud wind SW, snowfall about five inches, general storm, dark and cloudy. First snow crystals ever photomicrographed.” He had finally done it!

For the next 40 years or so, Uncle Willie never stopped taking pictures of snowflakes. And he never stopped studying them either. In fact, he came to know more about snowflakes than anyone else in the world. It tickled him pink to be called “The Snowflake Man.”

We'd sit and listen for hours while he told us how he'd taught himself to take better pictures. He found out he had to hold his breath so that it wouldn't melt the snowflakes he was shooting. And he figured out that moving snowflakes with a pin-pointed rod was better than moving them with a feather. But my favorite story was how he had to rig up lines and pulleys to work his camera. His own arms were too short!

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You know it was funny, but Uncle Willie never cared a bit about all the money he could have earned. He just asked enough to pay for his work. People everywhere bought his pictures to copy the designs. Snowflakes showed up on everything from jewelry to wallpaper. He was world-famous, but he never changed. He took almost 6000 photographs – with that same old camera he got when he was 17.

But Uncle Willie did have a special dream come true. When he was in his sixties, one of the books he had written finally was published. It was all about those snowflakes he loved so much.

12. The author thinks that Uncle Willie was a special person MAINLY because he

- A. started his own business and became rich.
 - B. could draw patterns of the snowflakes he saw.
 - C. was good at inventing and using camera equipment.
 - D. was curious about nature and shared his interest with others.
-

13. Even with the right equipment, what makes photographing snowflakes MOST difficult?

- A. They are so small.
 - B. They break easily.
 - C. They melt quickly.
 - D. They are all different.
-

14. Uncle Willie first began photographing snowflakes when he was about

- A. 15 years old.
 - B. 17 years old.
 - C. 40 years old.
 - D. 60 years old.
-

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15. Which BEST describes the author's writing?

- A. relaxed and friendly
 - B. serious and businesslike
 - C. silly and teasing
 - D. sad and regretful
-

16. Which sentence from the story helps you BEST understand Uncle Willie?

- A. "And he was really happy, doing what he liked best."
 - B. "Uncle Willie never cared a bit about all the money he could have earned."
 - C. "I hear he was a terrible artist."
 - D. "In fact, he came to know more about snowflakes than anyone else in the world."
-

17. Uncle Willie spent a lot of time inventing new equipment because

- A. he did not care about money.
 - B. inventing things was what he enjoyed most.
 - C. he needed the equipment to photograph snowflakes.
 - D. that was what he was paid to do.
-

18. Which did Uncle Willie probably consider to be his greatest accomplishment?

- A. inventing new camera equipment
 - B. selling beautiful photographs of snowflakes
 - C. publishing a book about snowflakes
 - D. sharing his love of snowflakes with others
-

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19. How did Uncle Willie feel about being called “The Snowflake Man”?

- A. surprised
 - B. honored
 - C. insulted
 - D. disappointed
-

A Carriage Without Horses

Henry Ford was born on July 30, 1863 on a farm in Michigan. Early on, Henry knew three things about himself. He didn't like farming, he didn't enjoy book work, and he loved working with machines. It was Henry Ford's talent for working with machines that put him in the history books and changed daily life in America.

When Henry was sixteen, he left his family's farm and went to work in Detroit. He learned about repairing machines and became an expert in repairing road engines. Later, Ford became the chief engineer for the Detroit Illuminating Company. While he enjoyed his work, Henry's real fun was working in a shed behind his house. Henry worked evenings and Saturdays in his shed.

In 1899, he started the Detroit Automobile Company. This company closed in 1901. Finally, in 1903, Henry and some other people created the Ford Motor Company. He wanted to create a car that everyone would like. This meant that he wanted to make it a good car at a good price. Soon, many Americans were driving Ford's Model T. Americans loved driving the Model T! By the 1920s, Ford's company was producing sixty percent of the cars in the United States.

Although Henry Ford died in 1947, his company still exists today. Thanks to Henry Ford's talent with machines and his imagination, millions of people are driving his cars today.

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20. What kind of story is this?

- A. fiction
 - B. nonfiction
 - C. drama
 - D. folk tale
-

21. Early in his life, what did Henry Ford know about himself?

- A. that he liked farming
 - B. that he liked studying
 - C. that he liked machines
 - D. that he liked cars
-

22. Which BEST completes the analogy?

imagination is to idea as

thinking is to _____

- A. speaking
 - B. facts
 - C. writing
 - D. thought
-

23. What kind of car did Henry Ford want to build?

- A. a car that was fancy
 - B. a car that everyone would like
 - C. a car that the rich would like
 - D. a car that was expensive
-

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24. What happened to the Detroit Automobile Company?

- A. It was a company created by Ford and his friends.
 - B. It was a company that made power machines.
 - C. Its closing led to the beginning of the Ford Motor Company.
 - D. It became the largest company in the world.
-