



# Answer Key for Focus on Making Inferences

## Answer Key for Page 7

### Exercise A

Students underline the following:  
Mr. James, baseball coach (*given*); Joe,  
first baseman; Ted, hit home runs  
Students circle the following:  
in the dugout, this morning

### Exercise B

Mr. James is a baseball coach.  
(*given*)  
Joe is a first baseman.  
Ted is another player on Mr. James's  
team.  
1. It happens in the morning.  
2. It takes place in the dugout.

## Answer Key for Page 8

Who refers to (a) the names of the  
characters, and (b) how the  
characters relate to each other.  
When refers to the time of the story.  
Where refers to the place where the  
action happens.

## Answer Key for Pages 9 and 10

### Act I: A Campfire

1. The long hike begins. (*given*)
2. They start the fire.
3. They cook the potatoes and hot  
dogs.
4. They eat the food and drink  
lemonade. (*given*)

### Act II: The Fire Spreads

5. Jim dozes off.
6. Jim smells something burning.  
(*given*)
7. Jim sees the fire. (*given*)
8. Jim wonders where Tom is.
9. Jim stamps his feet.
10. Jim throws dirt on the fire.
11. Jim yells for Tom.

### Act III: The Fire Is Controlled

12. Tom shouts back, "I'm coming!"  
(*given*)
13. Tom discovers the fire and pales.  
(*given*)
14. Tom explains what he was doing.
15. Tom helps put out the fire.

## Answer Key for Page 11

Underlined phrases: because we  
planned to cook a meal over a  
campfire, so that we could roast  
the potatoes and hot dogs, in  
order to stop the burning, because  
I was scared, because we had left  
an open fire unattended.

1. It got out of control because Jim  
and Tom left an open fire  
unattended. (*given*)
2. The reason that they were excited  
about the hike was that they  
planned to cook a meal over a  
campfire.
3. They build a fire in order to cook  
the potatoes and hot dogs.
4. He stamped his feet so that he  
could stop the burning.
5. He yelled for Tom because he was  
scared.

## Answer Key for Page 12

Underlined phrases: so that he could  
admire himself, in order to be rich  
and famous, because they would  
want his autograph

1. He wanted to admire himself.
2. He wanted to be rich and famous.
3. Accept any response supported by  
the text.
4. They wanted his autograph.

## Answer Key for Page 13

### Part 2

Who refers to (a) the names of the  
characters, and (b) how the  
characters relate to each other.  
When refers to the time of the story.  
Where refers to the place where the  
story happens.

What refers to (a) all the events  
(happenings), and (b) all the facts  
in an article or story.

Why and how refer to (a) the causes  
of what is happening, and (b) the  
way things happen.

## Answer Key for Pages 14-16

1. Alex is a doctor or nurse. (*given*)
2. Lisa is a tennis player.
3. The time is evening or after dark.
4. The season is winter.
5. The story takes place during  
modern times.
6. The sun is shining outside his  
tent. It must be daytime.
7. The leaves are green. It must be  
spring or summer.
8. She must be in an office.
9. Danisha must be camping  
outside, or in a tent.

## Answer Key for Pages 17 and 18

1. She was tired. She must have  
been going to sleep.
2. If she is going up the hill, she  
might go down the hill in the  
future, or if it is late in the day  
she might be going home for  
supper. She might slide down the  
hill or she might go home to have  
supper.
3. Ethan is ordering so much  
because he is very hungry or  
because he is getting food for  
several people.
4. If you run with untied shoelaces,  
you could trip and fall. Therefore,  
Tanya is probably running with  
untied shoelaces.
5. A radio must be plugged in or  
have batteries as a source of  
power, but if you drop a radio, you  
could break it. Therefore, Yukio's  
radio may be unplugged, or its  
batteries may have run down or  
worn out, or the radio may be  
broken.

## Answer Key for Pages 18-21

1. wag; dog (*given*)
2. their; sisters (*given*)
3. baby; baby
4. police officers
5. married

6. theater
7. ship
8. dawn or daybreak
9. noon; noon
10. kitchen in a house or bakery
11. year
12. plane; excited or happy that she is going to see him
13. leaving school or going home
14. going to recess
15. had to hurry to get to school on time
16. his brother had poured orange juice in the water
17. the frayed wire in the toaster cord sent off sparks
18. She was going outside, and it was cold out.
19. He wanted to catch the bus. He knew he could not run fast enough to catch up with the bus.

### Answer Key for Page 22

*Who* refers to (a) the names of the characters, and (b) how the characters relate to each other.

*When* refers to the time of the story.

*Where* refers to the place where the story happens.

*What* refers to (a) the events, and (b) the facts.

*Why* and *how* refer to (a) the causes of what is happening, and (b) the way things happen.

### Answer Key for Pages 23-25

Passage 1: Information circled and underlined: Marta Fuentes, medical bag (*given*); Abby, who was twelve; Richie, your brother; Mrs. Arnold, your boy

1. b. Richie's doctor  
c. a family friend
2. a. She returned a book to the Arnolds.  
d. She took Richie's temperature
3. b. Richie's mother  
d. Abby's mother
4. d. Marta said "your boy" when she spoke to Mrs. Arnold about Richie.
5. a. Richie's sister  
d. Mrs. Arnold's daughter
6. c. She was only twelve.  
d. Mrs. Arnold said "your brother could use a cold drink" to her.

Passage 2: Information circled and underlined: Brent, our math lesson (*given*); Andy, the other student I tutor; Mrs. Smith, stamping library cards

7. c. Andy's tutor
8. a. Brent referred to the other

- student he tutors.
9. c. the school librarian
10. b. She was stamping library cards.

### Answer Key for Pages 25 and 26

Passage 1: Information underlined: the alarm rang (*given*), jumped out of bed, still fast asleep, wake up, begin the week, school

1. It is morning.
  2. a. The alarm rang.  
b. She jumped out of bed.
  3. It happens on Monday.
  4. begin the week, school
- Passage 2: Information underlined: hot, dusty (*given*), third day in a row like that, stagecoach, long skirts with so many petticoats
5. It is summer.
  6. It is hot and dusty for the third day in a row.
  7. It occurs during frontier days, or early American history.
  8. a. stagecoach  
b. long skirts with petticoats

Passage 3: Information underlined: sky was watermelon pink with streaks of gold (*given*), geese flying south, time to eat dinner

9. a. The sky was watermelon pink with streaks of gold.  
b. It was time to eat dinner.
10. The sight of geese flying south suggests the story occurs in the fall.
11. It is fall.
12. It is sunset.

### Answer Key for Pages 27 and 28

Passage 1: Information underlined: wheels went clickety-clack, screaming of the whistle, conductor call out, "End of the line!"

1. a. wheels went clickety-clack  
b. screaming of the whistle  
c. conductor call out, "End of the line!"
2. He or she is on a train or a trolley.

Passage 2: Information underlined: "Is it one or two tablespoons of chili powder?" (*given*), smells were so delicious

3. He or she is in the doorway to a kitchen.
4. a. "Is it one or two tablespoons of chili powder?"  
b. smells were so delicious

Passage 3: Information underlined: buzz of the motor (*given*), sun was

- bright, sea gulls circled overhead, wind was cool and moist, rocking gently to and fro
5. He or she is on a motor boat on the water.
  6. *Accept any of the following:* the buzz of the motor, sun was bright, sea gulls circled overhead, wind was cool and moist, rocking gently to and fro

### Answer Key for Pages 28-30

Jean was home alone.<sup>1</sup> (*given*)

Suddenly she heard the basement window creak<sup>2</sup> (*given*) and some bumping noises.<sup>3</sup> Then she heard a thud<sup>4</sup> followed by a muffled groan.<sup>5</sup>

Her heart was pounding<sup>6</sup> as she carefully slid out the back door.<sup>7</sup>

1. Someone is entering the house through the basement.
2. An unknown person fell or bumped into something.
3. Jean is leaving the house.
4. She will go to a neighbor's house to call the police.

Rhoda heard a noise in the kitchen.<sup>1</sup> (*given*) She went to investigate.<sup>2</sup> (*given*) The first thing she saw was the syrup jug on its side.<sup>3</sup> Syrup was oozing slowly down the side of the table.<sup>4</sup> Then she saw the cat desperately licking itself all over.<sup>5</sup> Rhoda burst out laughing.<sup>6</sup>

5. The syrup probably spilled because the cat knocked it over.
6. The cat is licking itself in order to clean the syrup from its coat.

Eddie was dreading Tuesday.<sup>1</sup> (*given*) That was the day he was going to the dentist to get braces,<sup>2</sup> (*given*) and Eddie could just imagine how his classmates would tease him.<sup>3</sup>

On Wednesday, Eddie took twice the usual time to eat his breakfast.<sup>4</sup> Afterwards, he decided that he had to change his shirt,<sup>5</sup> even though it was not dirty.<sup>6</sup> His father could not understand why Eddie was taking so long.<sup>7</sup> Eddie was not usually so fussy.<sup>8</sup>

7. He dreaded Tuesday because he did not want to have braces, and he thought his classmates would make fun of him.
8. Most likely he changed his shirt in order to delay going to school and finding out how his classmates would react to his braces.

José saw Rosita put her bicycle away.<sup>1</sup> (*given*) Rosita walked slowly toward the house with dragging feet and slumped shoulders.<sup>2</sup> (*given*) Once inside the house, she threw her baseball mitt and jacket in the closet<sup>3</sup> and slammed the door.<sup>4</sup> José did not have to ask what had happened at the game.<sup>5</sup>

- Rosita acted like someone who was sad or upset.
- Rosita dragged her feet because her team had lost the game or she had not played well.

### Answer Key for Page 31

- Who
- Why and How
- When
- What
- Where

### Answer Key for Pages 32-34

- They are in the living room or den.
- It occurs in the evening or night.
- Ursula's boss lets her go home early; Ursula is always laughing at work.
- Monica's boss is training her how to do a good job; Monica's boss cares about her.
- b. resentful  
c. frustrated
- b. responsible  
c. concerned
- a. She feels her boss is not doing her job.  
d. She does not respect her boss.
- b. She is irresponsible.  
c. She does not care about her employee's future.
- She wants to be sure that Tina gets home safely.
- She doesn't want Tina to know she worries.
- Tina hears the bedsprings creak in her mother's bed, and she can tell from her mother's breathing that she is still awake.
- Tina knows that her mother doesn't want her to know she worries.
- They are brothers.
- She would not let them have a snack before bedtime.
- They expect that the shirt will fall on Calvernia when she opens the door.
- The dog comes through the door before Calvernia does, and the shirt falls on the dog.

### Answer Key for Pages 35 and 36

Where? It happens in the kitchen.  
What? He has a meal.  
When? It occurs at mealtime.  
Who? He is a robot.  
Which elements are fantasy? The fantasy is a robot that feeds itself.

### Answer Key for Page 37

Where? It occurs on Earth.  
Who? They are human beings.  
When? It happens at night.  
How? They react with suspicion and fear.  
What? They destroy it.  
Why? The creatures fired at his gift.  
Inference: *Answers might include the following:* He flies away because he thinks the creatures are dangerous or unfriendly.  
Could this story really happen? No  
Which elements are fantasy? a. characters, c. plot

### Answer Key for Pages 38 and 39

- When? It occurs in the future at sunset.
- Where? Answers might include the following: in the country or outside of town.
- Why? It has run out of fuel.
- Who? Tyler and Devon speak to him.
- What? Answers might include the following: They talk about what is wrong with the car, how Tyler and Devon can help Victor.
- Why? It is self-service.
- b. the setting (when / where)  
The setting is not real because we do not yet have flying cars.  
c. the plot (what)  
The plot is not real, because a person who needs fuel would not pass a fuel station simply because it is self-service.
- No, it could not have happened.  
We do not have flying cars, and it is extremely unlikely that a person in need of fuel would pass a fuel station simply because it is self-service.

### Answer Key for Pages 40 and 41

- It occurs in Scotland.
- It occurs in present and ancient times.
- They are ancient warriors, the Picts.
- They carry him to the edge of a town where there is a hospital.
- He might have pulled it off one of

the Picts' cloaks, or they might have given it to him.

- No. The ancient Picts disappeared over a thousand years ago so they could not have helped Allen.
- It is winter.
- It is near midday, noon.
- Roxanne's friend
- The king is going to give Sir Wilfred a raise.
- a. Sir Wilfred dropped the royal crown in the moat.  
b. Sir Wilfred insulted a visiting prince.
- Sir Wilfred is silly or crazy.
- It was high heels on his horse.
- No. The knights of old did not get paid or get raises in their pay.

### Answer Key for Page 42

- It has a surprise ending. Tyler and Devon work hard pushing Victor's car to a gas station, but Victor refuses to go there because it is self-service. It is funny because Victor thinks it is less work to have the car pushed than to pump gas.
- a. characters — The ancient warriors are fictitious because the ancient Picts disappeared over a thousand years ago.  
b. plot — Because the Picts disappeared from Scotland over a thousand years ago, they could not have helped Allen.
- a. Allen wakes up in a hospital many miles from where his plane crashed.  
b. Allen was found with the clasp of the ancient Picts in his hand.
- Several funny mental pictures were created in this story:
  - Wilfred having a loose rivet
  - Wilfred dropping the king's crown in the moat
  - The visiting prince giving a performance for the king
  - Wilfred riding a horse that is wearing high heelsThere are two puns in the story:
  - When the visiting prince asked Wilfred how he could get an audience, the prince meant an interview or meeting with the king, not an audience in the sense of people watching a show.
  - Throughout the story, the reader believes that the word "raise" means a promotion or additional income. It is only at the end of the story that the reader learns that "raise" means a lift, in this case high heels for Wilfred's horse.

### Answer Key for Pages 43-45

(Pages 43–45 may be used as a test. Score 1 point for each item. A passing score is 11 out of 14 points.)

#### Part 1

1. b. friends
2. It takes place in the winter.
3. The action is outdoors on a hill in a golf course.
4. Accept reasonable answers such as the following: She thought it would be fun; she liked to try new things.
5. Accept reasonable answers such as the following: She loses control; she becomes frightened.
6. Yes. Accept reasonable answers such as the following: Sharon cannot control the sled; she could have been hurt when the sled crashed into the tree.

#### Part 2

1. a. in the morning
2. It happens at the entrance to a museum, or in the lobby of a museum.
3. Ryan liked to tease Keith.
4. Keith knocked it over when he shoved Ryan away.
5. Keith knocked over the container.
6. The ticket collector hurt Keith's feelings when he called him an idiot.
7. They laughed at the tickets falling like a snowstorm.
8. *Accept reasonable answers such as the following:* She was fair with them, or she expected students to be responsible for what they did.

### Answer Key for Pages 47 and 48

#### Exercise A

1. purrs
2. "Your teacher asked me to speak with you about your behavior in class."
3. hard day at the office, Mrs. Shen

### Answer Key for Pages 48 and 49

#### Exercise B

1. bacon and eggs, early swim in the lake
2. open fire, lake
3. streetlights went on
4. ran up the steps and rang the bell
5. trick or treat, monster mask
6. door opened and the light shone

### Answer Key for Pages 49 and 50

#### Exercise C

1. "Don't show me that error message," screen went blank
2. error message, screen went blank
3. broken glass, "I'm sorry"
4. tears, "I'm sorry"
5. court, dribbling the ball

### Answer Key for Page 50

#### Exercise D

1. exam paper, big red A
2. horse stumbled and whinnied
3. stagecoach driver had to rest his horses, too
4. Lee watched Aisha pass out envelopes, Aisha walked right by her desk, envelopes contained invitations to Aisha's birthday party.

### Answer Key for Pages 51 and 52

#### Exercise E

1. He stood on the balcony in the early morning, at sunrise.
2. He lives on the planet Atanis.
3. He trusted or respected their knowledge.
4. Answers may include the following: The planet was going to explode, burn to ashes, or shake into pieces.
5. Tor-ban was the ruler or king of Atanis.
6. He ordered a search for a planet to colonize and had a fleet of spaceships built.
7. Earth
8. a. part of small solar system with nine planets  
b. blue in color

- c. third from its sun
- d. supports human life
9. The little blue planet has a culture that is less developed / advanced than the culture of Atanis.

### Answer Key for Pages 53-55

(Pages 53–55 may be used as a test. Score 1 point for each item. A passing score is 11 out of 14 points.)

#### Part 1

1. d. outdoor pool
2. It takes place during the day.
3. He wanted to show off in front of Amanda to impress her.
4. He waved his arms in an effort to regain his balance.
5. Mike must have splashed her when he fell off the diving board.
6. Accept reasonable answers such as the following: She was irritated because he got her wet, or she thought he was a show-off.

#### Part 2

1. c. around suppertime
2. b. Ivan's home
3. It is a bird that can be taken far from its home and find its way back there.
4. They thought his project with Wilson was a little odd, but they liked him anyway.
5. No; Ivan knew they were only teasing him.
6. Accept reasonable answers such as the following: They were close, or they cared about each other.
7. They hoped that the bird would find its way home.
8. Ivan was proud that Wilson had found his way home.

### Answer Key for Page 56

*(Use this activity as a springboard for teaching creative writing.)*