

Name : _____

Score : _____

Teacher : _____

Date : _____

$$\begin{array}{r} 4,865 \\ + 5,928 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1,853 \\ + 9,500 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 8,543 \\ + 8,780 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2,936 \\ + 1,372 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6,142 \\ + 4,806 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1,380 \\ + 2,553 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2,981 \\ - 1,597 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 7,220 \\ - 2,233 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6,941 \\ - 2,563 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5,008 \\ - 2,812 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 9,190 \\ - 4,986 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 9,294 \\ - 3,596 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 556 \\ \times 42 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 516 \\ \times 67 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 295 \\ \times 28 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 798 \\ \times 48 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 470 \\ \times 50 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 293 \\ \times 32 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$10 \overline{)51}$$

$$12 \overline{)39}$$

$$11 \overline{)70}$$

$$45 \overline{)123}$$

$$10 \overline{)86}$$

$$23 \overline{)91}$$



Name : _____

Score : _____

Teacher : _____

Date : _____

$$\begin{array}{r} 2,350 \\ + 7,801 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 9,545 \\ + 4,710 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6,651 \\ + 3,207 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1,437 \\ + 5,253 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5,409 \\ + 9,375 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5,857 \\ + 1,270 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 8,342 \\ - 5,688 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 8,646 \\ - 1,646 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 8,751 \\ - 5,552 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 9,288 \\ - 3,316 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 8,999 \\ - 2,872 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 9,342 \\ - 5,317 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 312 \\ \times 33 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 746 \\ \times 80 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 810 \\ \times 43 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 137 \\ \times 59 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 231 \\ \times 76 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 336 \\ \times 70 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$10 \overline{)62}$$

$$24 \overline{)59}$$

$$14 \overline{)47}$$

$$12 \overline{)91}$$

$$10 \overline{)91}$$

$$10 \overline{)62}$$



Name : _____ Score : _____
Teacher : _____ Date : _____

$$\begin{array}{r} 1,413 \\ + 7,543 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 3,093 \\ + 7,894 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1,897 \\ + 1,989 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 9,660 \\ + 5,287 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 3,036 \\ + 3,633 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 4,720 \\ + 2,510 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6,851 \\ - 6,507 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 8,365 \\ - 1,249 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5,878 \\ - 3,613 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 9,062 \\ - 5,160 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6,124 \\ - 3,059 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 3,809 \\ - 2,915 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 457 \\ \times 57 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 658 \\ \times 59 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 676 \\ \times 74 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 508 \\ \times 15 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 948 \\ \times 80 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 517 \\ \times 51 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$27 \overline{)84}$$

$$15 \overline{)85}$$

$$13 \overline{)53}$$

$$17 \overline{)70}$$

$$10 \overline{)98}$$

$$12 \overline{)86}$$



Name : _____

Score : _____

Teacher : _____

Date : _____

$$\begin{array}{r} 3,280 \\ + 8,509 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 9,511 \\ + 5,612 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 8,697 \\ + 6,585 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2,437 \\ + 2,119 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1,673 \\ + 2,423 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1,439 \\ + 5,150 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5,076 \\ - 1,725 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 8,960 \\ - 1,185 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 8,113 \\ - 5,392 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 9,069 \\ - 5,870 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5,378 \\ - 5,175 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 8,210 \\ - 5,345 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 729 \\ \times 77 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 516 \\ \times 92 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 969 \\ \times 37 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 667 \\ \times 16 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 735 \\ \times 97 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 224 \\ \times 88 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$12 \overline{)94}$$

$$22 \overline{)107}$$

$$12 \overline{)89}$$

$$18 \overline{)68}$$

$$10 \overline{)52}$$

$$10 \overline{)97}$$



Name : _____

Score : _____

Teacher : _____

Date : _____

$$\begin{array}{r} 3,631 \\ + 4,363 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5,539 \\ + 5,842 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 3,849 \\ + 5,455 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 8,819 \\ + 9,453 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1,325 \\ + 1,826 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2,754 \\ + 6,590 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6,595 \\ - 3,826 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5,176 \\ - 1,674 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5,561 \\ - 3,707 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 9,025 \\ - 7,408 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5,816 \\ - 2,211 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6,765 \\ - 4,574 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 543 \\ \times 60 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 725 \\ \times 47 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 888 \\ \times 76 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 297 \\ \times 50 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 424 \\ \times 94 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 234 \\ \times 46 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$10 \overline{)93}$$

$$11 \overline{)73}$$

$$11 \overline{)42}$$

$$12 \overline{)74}$$

$$10 \overline{)67}$$

$$11 \overline{)83}$$



Name : _____

Score : _____

Teacher : _____

Date : _____

Write the Correct Comparison Symbol (> or <) in Each Box

1) $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{2}{4}$

9) $\frac{1}{8}$ $\frac{5}{8}$

2) $\frac{4}{9}$ $\frac{5}{9}$

10) $\frac{6}{7}$ $\frac{4}{7}$

3) $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{2}{4}$

11) $\frac{4}{5}$ $\frac{2}{5}$

4) $\frac{5}{10}$ $\frac{6}{10}$

12) $\frac{5}{8}$ $\frac{3}{8}$

5) $\frac{2}{3}$ $\frac{1}{3}$

13) $\frac{2}{7}$ $\frac{3}{7}$

6) $\frac{8}{11}$ $\frac{3}{11}$

14) $\frac{1}{6}$ $\frac{4}{6}$

7) $\frac{2}{10}$ $\frac{9}{10}$

15) $\frac{6}{12}$ $\frac{1}{12}$

8) $\frac{2}{6}$ $\frac{3}{6}$

16) $\frac{5}{11}$ $\frac{10}{11}$

When the denominators are the same, the fraction with the _____ is the largest fraction.



Name : _____

Score : _____

Teacher : _____

Date : _____

Find the Greatest Common Factor for each number pair.

1) 30 , 12 _____

2) 6 , 24 _____

3) 3 , 8 _____

4) 6 , 24 _____

5) 4 , 10 _____

6) 24 , 10 _____

7) 30 , 5 _____

8) 12 , 24 _____

9) 15 , 2 _____

10) 3 , 2 _____



Name: _____

Multiple-Step Problems



- a. Craig has a twenty dollar bill. He buys six squirt guns for \$2 each. How much money did Craig have left?

- b. Maria invited 4 of her friends over for a water balloon fight in the backyard. At the start of the game, Maria gave each of her friends 2 water balloons. She had one water balloon for herself. How many water balloons did they have altogether?

- c. Matthew and his brother Shawn played swimming-pool-basketball. Each basket was worth 3 points. Matthew scored 9 points. Shawn scored 6 points. What is the total number of baskets made during this game?

- d. Lauren and Gina's mother told her daughters they can swim in the pool for 20 minutes. First, they swam laps in the pool for 7 minutes. Then they swam underwater for one minute. Then they played water polo for 8 minutes. How much longer can they stay in the pool?

Name: _____

Multiple-Step Problems



- a. Luke had two ten dollar bills. His younger sister Leia had a five dollar bill. They combined their money to buy a gift for their father that costs \$22. How much change did they receive?
- _____
- b. Tricia's mother let her play outside for 15 minutes. When she went outside, she played with her dog for 5 minutes. Then she rode her bike for 4 minutes. She spent the rest of the time catching bugs. How many minutes did Tricia spend catching bugs?
- _____
- c. Clark and his brother Kent played floor hockey in their living room. Each goal was worth 2 points. Clark scored 6 points. Kent scored 8 points. How many goals did they score altogether?
- _____
- d. Jimmy and Kelly ran a snack stand in their front yard. They sold cookies for 5¢, apples for 6¢ and cupcakes for 10¢. They sold 3 cookies, 2 cupcakes, and 1 apple. How much money did they make altogether?
- _____

Name: _____

Adjectives with **er** and **est**

Some adjectives end in -er and -est. These adjectives compare nouns.

Add **-er** to most one-syllable adjectives that compare two things.

example: The black cat is smaller than the orange cat.

Add **-est** to most one-syllable adjectives that compare three or more things.

example: Of the three cats, the black one is the smallest.



Choose the correct adjective in parenthesis to complete each sentence. Write the adjective on the line.

1. Martin is _____ than Marcia. (old, older, oldest)
2. That is a very _____ car. (small, smaller, smallest)
3. Mount Everest is the _____ mountain in the world. (high, higher, highest)
4. This is the _____ blanket in the house. (warm, warmer, warmest)
5. Maria is _____ than Jan right now. (happy, happier, happiest)
6. That was the _____ sundae I've ever eaten. (big, bigger, biggest)
7. Katrina ran even _____ than I did. (fast, faster, fastest)
8. January is the _____ month of the year. (cold, colder, coldest)
9. That is a very _____ fishing pole. (long, longer, longest)
10. Mr. Jones is the _____ teacher in the school. (nice, nicer, nicest)

Name: _____

Using More and Most with Adjectives

Some adjectives compare by adding the words more and most.

Use the word **more** with adjectives that compare two things.

Use the word **most** with adjectives that compare three or more things.

Choose the correct words in parenthesis to complete each sentence.
Write the words on the line.

1. This is the _____ chicken I've ever eaten.
(more delicious, most delicious)
2. Football is the _____ sport of all.
(more exciting, most exciting)
3. This weather is _____ today than yesterday.
(more beautiful, most beautiful)
4. Penny is _____ than her sister.
(more excited, most excited)
5. That's the _____ spelling word we have been assigned this week.
(more difficult, most difficult)
6. Basketball is a _____ sport than fishing.
(more physical, most physical)
7. Winter is the _____ season of all.
(more wonderful, most wonderful)
8. Bobby is a _____ child than Jimmy.
(more well-behaved, most well-behaved)

Name: _____

Four Years Ago

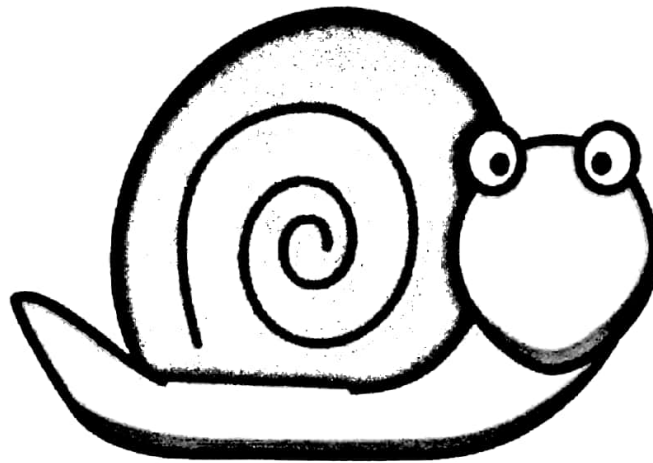
How old were you four years ago?
Describe some things you can do now
that you could not do then.



Handwriting practice lines consisting of 18 horizontal lines for writing.

Shawn the Speedy Snail

by Michael Stahl



Shawn was a snail unlike any other snail in the ditch. All of the snails that Shawn knew were slow. They were slow to get food, slow to get water, slow to get anywhere. The snails of Shawn's ditch were so slow because they each had huge shells on their backs that they had to carry around. The shells were heavy, but they had to be because the shells were the snails' homes! Certainly, Shawn had a shell on his back too, just like all the others. He even named it "Shawn's Place." He was funny like that, and the snails enjoyed his sense of humor. What made Shawn so fast was that he was stronger than everyone else. Having his home on his back didn't bother him like it did the others in Shawn's ditch. The others would complain and sigh, so depressed that they had such a weight to carry on their shoulders and backs. Because Shawn was the strongest, and could carry his home with ease, he was also the fastest, making Shawn the speediest snail around.

From the time Shawn was a baby snail, he could beat any of the snails he knew in the ditch in a race. He grew up challenging each snail to a race, and he was undefeated. Shawn started using his speed for his benefit and his benefit only, though, which was something he would later regret. Anytime there was a leaf that fell to the ground, Shawn would race to it and eat until he got full before anyone else would get the chance. Shawn was always quicker to the roots, too, and he'd eat them right up. If it rained, and puddles of water formed at the bottom of the ditch, Shawn drank and drank all he needed, right in front of all his friends and family, who were slowly gathering at the pools. It was almost as if Shawn was showing off how strong and fast he was all the time. The other snails liked Shawn, but the way he used his speed was making them angry.

After some time, when the other snails became particularly hungry because Shawn was beating them to all the food, the snails in the ditch decided that enough was enough.

"Shawn! Stop eating so much before we can have our helping," cried Blaine.

"Yeah, Shawn! We know you're big and strong and fast," agreed Susan. "You don't have to keep reminding us about how slow we are," she added.

Shawn was a little upset about their remarks. "Well, maybe if you would exercise a little bit more, you could beat me to the food and the water!" he said.

"How can we become stronger if you keep beating us to our food?" replied Harvey.

"We all think it's about time you found another ditch, one that you can have all to yourself," said Blaine.

That hurt Shawn. He felt a knot in his heart. Slowly, as slowly as he'd ever crawled before, he left the ditch for another place to find food and water.

He knew that there was another ditch across the road that was completely empty of other snails. Shawn was the only one who knew that because he was the only one capable of getting across the road safely, with his speed and all.

A couple of weeks went by. Shawn missed his friends across the road, and he realized that his ditch had even more food than the other, much more than he'd ever need. He decided he'd pay them a visit. He waited by the side of the road for the closest car to pass. Once it did, he speedily crossed back over to his old ditch. What he found made him more upset than anything ever before.

"Shawn!" cried Blaine. "We need your help. There isn't enough food in this ditch anymore. We're too weak and too slow to find enough for all of us to eat."

Shawn's friends were starving. Even though they had asked him to leave the ditch, it was only because of his selfish actions. Shawn knew what the right thing to do would be.

One-by-one, Shawn lifted each of his snail friends up on top of Shawn's Place and as fast as he could, which, for Shawn, was pretty fast, brought them over to the ditch on the other side of the road. They were all safe and sound, especially after Shawn raced around the ditch getting food and bringing it straight to his weaker friends. Shawn would never use his speed to show off again.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. Why is Shawn able to beat the other snails to the food and water?

- A. Shawn is smarter and meaner than the other snails.
- B. Shawn is friendlier and more loving than the other snails.
- C. Shawn is stronger and faster than the other snails.
- D. Shawn is smaller and slower than the other snails.

2. After Shawn returns to the first ditch, he discovers a problem. There is not enough food for the snails in the ditch. How does Shawn solve this problem?

- A. Shawn carries the snails to another ditch where there is more food.
- B. Shawn races to a fallen leaf before any of the other snails can get to it.
- C. Shawn complains and sighs that he has to carry a big weight on his back.
- D. Shawn drinks all the water he needs out of a puddle in the ditch.

3. Shawn uses his speed for his own benefit.

What evidence from the story supports this statement?

- A. When Shawn crosses the road, he realizes that his new ditch has even more food than the one he left.
- B. When Shawn returns to his old ditch for a visit, his friends tell him that there is not enough food anymore.
- C. Whenever a leaf falls to the ground, Shawn races to eat it before anyone else has a chance to.
- D. If the other snails exercised a little bit more, they might be able to get to the food and water faster.

4. Why do the other snails tell Shawn to find another ditch?

- A. They are starving and need Shawn to help them find more to eat.
- B. They are worried that Shawn will get hit by a passing car if he crosses the road.
- C. They do not like Shawn showing off by beating them to all the food and water.
- D. The snails enjoy Shawn's sense of humor and like that he has named his shell "Shawn's Place."

5. What is a theme of this story?

- A. Being slower and weaker than those around you will make them want to get rid of you.
- B. When facing a problem, sometimes the best solution is to wait until the problem goes away by itself.
- C. Having a sense of humor is more important than treating others with kindness and respect.
- D. Using your abilities to help others is better than using them to help just yourself.

6. Read the following sentence: "If it rained, and puddles of water formed at the bottom of the **ditch**, Shawn drank and drank all he needed, right in front of all his friends and family, who were slowly gathering at the pools."

What does the word **ditch** mean in the sentence above?

- A. a shell carried on an animal's back
- B. a hole in the ground
- C. a race to get food
- D. a new place to live

7. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence below.

In the beginning of the story Shawn uses his speed to help himself get food; _____ he uses his speed to help get food for others.

- A. in the end
- B. in particular
- C. especially
- D. first

8. What does Shawn do after spending a couple of weeks in his new ditch?

9. Why does Shawn go back to his old ditch for a visit?

10. Why does Shawn decide never to use his speed to show off again? Explain your answer using evidence from the passage.

What's for Breakfast?

by ReadWorks

Of course Dad decided to blame *me* when he came downstairs this morning to make coffee and burn toast, and saw the mess in the kitchen and the living room. "DANIEL," I heard him from my post in the bathroom. I stood there on my toes to see what I'd look like if I were taller, brushing my teeth and wondering if I could get out the door with un-brushed hair, and without Miranda, my older and snottier sister, noticing.

"DANIEL!"

I came downstairs still wearing my pajamas and saw a bunch of magazines on the rug by the couch, toppled over from their usual stack on the coffee table. Then I saw the bad mess in the kitchen. The jars with Miranda's baking supplies are usually lined up along the counter, but one of them was on the floor in pieces, and there was flour everywhere. Dad was standing in the middle of it, wearing half of a suit: shiny black shoes and pressed work pants, but no shirt; and his hair still wet from the shower. I laughed. That was a mistake.

"Did you do this, funny man?" The coffeemaker sounded like it was gargling mouthwash. I guess Dad wasn't so mad that he couldn't make his java.

"No, Dad, I didn't." It was the truth, too. When I turned off the TV the night before, the magazines were still stacked. And when I got my nighttime cup of water from the kitchen, there was no flour on the floor.

"Really? Because we've had this problem before, with footballs and jump ropes, and indoor kite-flying." Dad obviously did not believe me.

"Really, Dad, I have no idea how this happened. I got some water in the middle of the night, but everything was clean then."

Dad turned around and got some bread and butter, and honey. The toaster sounded like it hurt when he pushed the lever down. It was old and never made toast right. I only ate toast when I slept over at other people's houses. Dad didn't really care what his toast tasted like, I guess.

"I don't have time to clean this up, Daniel, and I'm mad. Go upstairs and get ready for school." Dad filled a big bowl with water.

"Okay." I was halfway up the stairs when Miranda's cat, Oatmeal, shot up underneath my

legs. "DAD!" I yelled. "I BET IT WAS OATMEAL!"

I don't think Dad heard me, but I got dressed and the more I thought about it, the more I just *knew* it had been Oatmeal. That cat always causes problems. At night he either fights things that can't fight back, like the couch or the cabinets or the laundry baskets downstairs, or he sits in the upstairs hallway and howls, trying to get into our rooms to show off the socks he hunts and kills. He's annoying, which means he's Miranda's perfect pet.

"Hey, Bozo." Miranda came out of her room dressed in high-tops and a red polka-dot dress. She had some bracelets on, which, plus the dress, made her look kind of like a girl, except that her bracelets had skulls on them and her sneakers were black.

She was a weird sister. She was in sixth grade and I was in fourth. I didn't understand why she didn't dress normally. Everything had to have something black or bone-y in it.

"Your stupid cat got me in trouble, Miranda."

"Maybe if you hadn't set precedent so many times, you wouldn't get blamed for wrecking the house."

"I didn't set precedent!" I didn't even know what that word meant.

"Precedent, dummy. And yes you did, every time you played ball or some other stupid game in the house." She walked past me and petted Oatmeal as he slithered toward her door.

"Hurry up, or I'll eat all the cereal."

I didn't hurry up. I put on my shoes and was silently thankful that she hadn't noticed my messy hair. I walked back downstairs with heavy feet, and let my backpack hit the steps behind me.

Dad was eating his burned toast with honey, and trying to mop up a gloppy mess on the floor. He did not look happy. Miranda was at the table eating a bowl of Kix. She threw one at me. I decided to skip cereal.

"Daniel, this is unacceptable," Dad muttered.

"Dad, it was Oatmeal. He went on a night rampage and did this."

"MIRANDA!" Dad raised his voice.

"Dad, he's just being a cat. He has wild instincts." Miranda didn't even lift her head.

"You need to start keeping your cookie things in the pantry."

"They look good in the jars."

"Fine. They'll just have to look good in the jars in the pantry."

Miranda decided not to argue, I guess, because she shut up. Dad was struggling. The paper towels he was using to wipe up the wet flour weren't doing a good job. He threw two handfuls in the trash, but there were still smears of paste on the ground and some dry flour powdering the corners of the kitchen. Dad looked at the clock on the stove, and he said, "Look at the time! We have to go." Then he rushed to the laundry room to put on a work shirt.

"Get your school stuff together and get in the car," Dad said. He huffed his way out the door. Miranda got up and went back upstairs, leaving me in the kitchen by myself. I sidestepped the sticky streaks of flour on the ground and got a Popsicle from the freezer. Breakfast!

When I got outside, Dad was already waiting in the driveway. I got in the front seat (take that, Miranda!) and noticed some crusty flour on the back of his work jacket. I didn't say anything. He'd probably just get mad. He was already mad anyway and getting angrier, as he impatiently honked the horn for Miranda. She shuffled out the front door, holding her lumpy backpack in front of her with both arms. We pulled out and Dad turned on NPR.

"I hope you two packed lunch."

"I forgot," I said. "Can I have some money?"

"Here, take 10 bucks." Dad tossed his wallet into my lap. I looked back at Miranda. I was kind of disappointed that she hadn't gotten mad about me sitting in the front seat.

"Miranda, do you need money, too?" Dad asked.

"No."

"What did you bring for lunch?"

"Oatmeal."

"That's gross, weirdo." Who eats oatmeal for lunch, I thought.

"If you say so, kiddo." Dad rolled his eyes. "I hope you packed the instant stuff, because if you cooked oatmeal just now, it's going to get really cold and nasty, and I'm going to be really annoyed that you wasted time doing that while we were waiting outside for you."

Miranda just looked out the window. We didn't talk for a few minutes, and the radio droned on about the news.

"Yeah, we waited forever," I said, turning around to glare. When I did, I noticed something weird. Miranda's backpack moved. I opened my mouth to say something but Miranda made a mean face and mouthed, "*Don't say anything.*"

A little white paw poked out from under the flap on her bag. I turned around again. Unbelievable! How is it that I was the one who always got in trouble for what that cat did? Miranda was worse than I was!

Dad pulled up to our school. "Have a good day, guys," he said, and I still didn't tell him about the flour-paste on his coat.

I got out; Miranda didn't. I stood on the sidewalk for a moment wondering why she was just sitting there. And then I saw Oatmeal squeeze his way out of her bag, despite her struggle to keep him contained. I slammed the door shut so he wouldn't escape. I heard her shriek and my dad yell, while I watched the cat tear the leather as he clawed his way under the passenger seat.

"MIRANDA!!!" Dad's scream was muffled with all the doors closed. I could hear them arguing, and then Dad waved at me without looking and drove away.

I probably should have felt a little angry that Miranda got to be late to school, or that my dad just drove away like that. But as I walked into the building, I just could not stop smiling.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. During what time of day does the story take place?
 - A. afternoon
 - B. morning
 - C. evening
 - D. midnight

2. Why is Daniel's father upset at the beginning of the story?
 - A. Daniel and Miranda had gotten into a fight.
 - B. There was a bad mess in the kitchen.
 - C. Daniel and Miranda were running late for school.
 - D. Daniel's father was out of clean shirts.

3. Daniel's father appears very stressed throughout the passage. Which evidence from the passage best supports this conclusion?
 - A. Daniel's father suspects Daniel is responsible for the bad mess in the kitchen.
 - B. Daniel's father was eating burned toast with honey and trying to mop up the mess on the floor.
 - C. Daniel's father huffs his way out the door and honks the horn impatiently while waiting for Miranda in the car.
 - D. Daniel's father wishes Daniel and Miranda a good day at school.

4. Why does Daniel's father think it was Daniel who made the big mess in the kitchen?
 - A. Daniel has a history of making messes in the house.
 - B. Daniel always makes a mess when he cooks with flour.
 - C. Daniel was angry with his father and wanted to make him mad.
 - D. Daniel never cleaned up after himself.

5. What is this story mainly about?
 - A. the way Daniel and his family make breakfast
 - B. Daniel's difficult behavior
 - C. a troublemaking cat named Oatmeal
 - D. a morning incident that Daniel and his family experience

6. Read the following sentence from the story: "The toaster **sounded like it hurt** when he pushed the lever down. It was old and never made toast right."

Why does the author say that the toaster "**sounded like it hurt**"?

- A. to emphasize how old and non-functional the toaster was
- B. to show that the toaster had feelings
- C. to emphasize how badly the family treated the toaster
- D. to show that the toaster made the same sounds as a human

7. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence below.

_____ Daniel is frustrated and annoyed by his sister Miranda, he doesn't tell his father that he saw Oatmeal in Miranda's backpack.

- A. In summary
- B. Even though
- C. Because
- D. Since

8. What does Miranda bring to school?

9. Why did Daniel think that Oatmeal made the big mess in the kitchen?

10. Explain why Daniel "just could not stop smiling" at the end of the story. Use information from the story to support your answer.