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The Lad Who Went to the North Wind

A young lad was showing his mother a meat pie he had made. They were	15
very poor. This was their last bit of food. Suddenly, the pie was blown up	30
into the air and away!	35
“I shall go to the North Wind and demand that he return our pie!” said	50
the lad. “I may be small, but I walk tall.”	60
The journey was long and hard. At last, the lad heard a loud and blustery	75
voice calling from the <i>top</i> of a mountain. “Who dares approach the home of	89
the North Wind?”	92
“It is I, the lad whose meat pie you stole this very morning.” The North	107
Wind said he would give the lad a magic red tablecloth that would serve him	122
meals fit for a king.	127
The lad went to an inn to spend the night. There he spread out the cloth	143
and produced a fine feast that he shared with the other guests.	155
The innkeeper’s wife wanted the tablecloth for herself. When the lad	166
was asleep, she took it and exchanged it with her own red tablecloth. The lad	181
took the cloth home to his mother and spread it out on their kitchen table.	196
When no feast appeared, the lad said, “I shall go back, for clearly I have	211
been tricked.”	213
Again, the lad set off on the long journey to the mountain. This time, the	228
North Wind gave him a stick. “It will spray water until you tell it to stop,”	244
said the North Wind. “You will find a good use for it.”	256
When the lad stopped at the inn again, he used the stick to spray water all	272
over the innkeeper’s wife. “Bid the stick be still!” she cried. “You shall have	286
your cloth back!”	289
The lad took the magic cloth and the stick home to his mother. They	303
shared a delicious meal.	307
She hugged the lad. “You may be small, but you walk tall!” she said.	321

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Answer the questions. You may reread parts of the passage to help you.

- 1 How long does it take the lad to travel to the home of the North Wind?
- (A) a week
 - (B) two days
 - (C) five days
 - (D) less than a day
- 2 When the lad FIRST returns home and spreads the cloth out, no feast appears. Whom does the lad think has tricked him?
- (F) his mother
 - (G) the North Wind
 - (H) the innkeeper's wife
 - (I) other guests at the inn
- 3 What is the meaning of the word *Bid* as used below?
- "Bid the stick be still!" she cried.**
- (A) say
 - (B) invite
 - (C) command
 - (D) offer an amount
- 4 Why does the lad spray water all over the innkeeper's wife?
- (F) He suspects that she stole his magic tablecloth.
 - (G) He does not know how to control the stick.
 - (H) She does not have a room for him.
 - (I) She is slow to serve his meal.
- 5 The lad says, "*I may be small, but I walk tall.*" What does he mean? Use details from the passage to support your answer. Write your response on another sheet of paper.

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The Tallest

Some people can name the tallest building in the world. Some people know the name of the longest river. Do you know the name of the tallest trees? 12 27 28

Redwood trees are the tallest trees on Earth. They can grow as tall as a building with thirty floors. Their bark can be a foot thick. If you joined hands with twenty other children, you might be able to form a complete circle around the base of a redwood. These trees can live to be 2,000 years old! 42 57 70 84 86

Redwood trees do not have deep roots. Instead, the roots spread out around the base of the tree. The roots of several trees weave together. This helps them to stand when strong winds blow. 98 112 120

As a redwood tree grows, its lower branches do not get much sun. Because the leaves cannot make food without enough sunlight, the lower branches die. 133 144 146

The leaves on the higher branches keep the tree alive. The highest branches cannot get water from the roots because the roots are too far away. The high branches must get water from the air. The air in the redwoods' habitat is moist. The trees pull water from the air through their spiny leaves. 158 172 186 200

A redwood tree grows from seeds, like other trees. A redwood tree can also grow in other ways. A very strong wind may topple a redwood. The top of the tree snaps off. A new tree can grow from the stump that is left. In fact, a ring of trees can grow from the stump of a fallen tree. 213 228 246 259

In the time of dinosaurs, redwood trees grew in many parts of the world. Now they live along the west coast of the United States. Some trees living today could be from the stumps of trees that lived 20,000 years ago! 273 287 300

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Answer the questions. You may reread parts of the passage to help you.

- ❶ From where do high branches of a redwood tree get water?
- Ⓐ They use sunlight to make water.
 - Ⓑ They pull water from the roots of the tree.
 - Ⓒ They pull water from the roots of other trees.
 - Ⓓ They pull water from the air through their leaves.
- ❷ What helps redwood trees to stand when strong winds blow?
- Ⓕ their thick bark
 - Ⓖ their higher branches
 - Ⓗ their dead lower branches
 - Ⓘ their roots woven together with the roots of other trees
- ❸ Which word has the OPPOSITE meaning of the word *moist* in the first sentence below?
- The air in the redwoods' habitat is moist. The trees pull water from the air through their spiny leaves.**
- Ⓐ dry
 - Ⓑ fresh
 - Ⓒ hot
 - Ⓓ wet
- ❹ What structure does the author use in the FOURTH paragraph?
- Ⓕ cause and effect
 - Ⓖ problem and solution
 - Ⓗ compare and contrast
 - Ⓘ main idea and supporting details
- ❺ The author does not use feet or meters to describe the height of a redwood tree or the distance around its base. How are those distances described? Why do you think the author describes them this way? Write your response on another sheet of paper.

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Button Time

Hi! My name is Amanda. I want to tell you about an adventure that	14
happened because my brother, Zeke, lost a button from his favorite jacket.	26
Mom, Dad, Zeke, and I were on vacation in South Dakota. We were walking	40
down a side street when Mom saw a button shop. We all went in to see if we	58
could find a match for Zeke's missing button.	66
Zeke and I found a small open display case that was marked "Antique	79
Buttons." We both reached out and touched a button. There was a sudden	92
flash of light. I closed my eyes and opened them to bright sun.	105
Everything around us had changed. We were all standing outside in a	117
strange town. The buildings were the kind you see in old cowboy movies.	130
Some horses grazed in a paddock behind one of the buildings. We had	143
traveled back in time!	147
We went into a building with a sign that read "Cityville Post Office." The	161
man who ran the post office said soon he would be heading to California	175
to look for gold. That's how my family ended up running the post office in	190
Cityville, South Dakota, in 1849.	195
Back then, people had to bring their letters to the post office to be	209
mailed. Everyone also had to pick up his or her mail at the post office.	224
We used a wood stove for heat and for cooking and lit oil lamps for light.	240
Life in the old West was A LOT OF WORK!	250
Then a peddler came to town. He was selling shell buttons that looked	263
exactly like the antique ones in the button shop. Mom, Dad, Zeke, and I all	278
held each other's hands while Mom touched one of the buttons. FLASH! We	291
were back in the button shop and back in this century!	302

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Answer the questions. You may reread parts of the passage to help you.**1** Why did Amanda and her family go into the button store?

- Ⓐ to buy Zeke a new jacket
- Ⓑ because Mom collects antique buttons
- Ⓒ to look for a match for Zeke's missing button
- Ⓓ because they were on vacation in South Dakota

2 Who is the narrator of this story?

- Ⓕ an unnamed narrator
- Ⓖ Amanda
- Ⓗ Mom
- Ⓘ Zeke

3 What is the meaning of the word *grazed* as used below?**Some horses grazed in a paddock behind one of the buildings.**

- Ⓐ ate grass
- Ⓑ barely touched
- Ⓒ scraped the skin
- Ⓓ ate light snacks instead of full meals

4 What caused Amanda and her family to travel through time?

- Ⓕ watching a cowboy movie
- Ⓖ entering a button shop
- Ⓗ touching a button
- Ⓘ losing a button

5 How was life in the old West **DIFFERENT** from life today? Use details from the passage to support your answer. Write your response on another sheet of paper.

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The Emperor and the Peasant Boy

Early one morning, a lone traveler walked down a dusty road. Around a	13
bend in the road, he came upon a young peasant boy gathering firewood in a	28
field. The boy's family needed the wood to cook their meals.	39
"I can see that it is not easy to find wood in this field," the traveler said.	56
"Why don't you go up into the forest on the hillsides? There must be plenty	71
of wood up there."	75
"Oh, no!" the peasant boy exclaimed, as though shocked by the	86
suggestion. "All of the land in the forest belongs to the emperor, and the	100
emperor's law says that no one else may enter the forest."	111
"What a shame," the traveler said. "All that good wood up there is going	125
to waste. Your emperor must be a selfish ruler to be unwilling to share his	140
wood with his people."	144
"The emperor may not be a generous person," said the boy, "but that	157
doesn't give me the right to break the law."	166
"Well," the traveler said, "I must be on my way." The peasant boy said	180
goodbye to the stranger and went back to collecting wood.	190
Several days later, a messenger came. The boy and his family were	202
ordered to return with the messenger to the emperor's palace. When the	214
peasant boy saw the emperor's face, his eyes grew wide, and his jaw	227
dropped. "You're the stranger," the boy gasped, "the man I met on the road!"	241
The emperor smiled. "You refused to break my laws. For that, I intend to	255
reward you and your family." He gave them a chest of gold. "Thanks to you,"	270
the emperor continued, "I have learned that one of my laws is unjust. From	284
now on, all who wish to enter my forests may do so!"	296

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Answer the questions. You may reread parts of the passage to help you.

- ❶ Why was the peasant boy collecting wood?
- Ⓐ to sell at the market
 - Ⓑ to give to the emperor
 - Ⓒ to clear the field for planting
 - Ⓓ for his family to use to cook their meals
- ❷ Which pair of words from the story have the OPPOSITE meaning?
- Ⓕ generous, unwilling
 - Ⓖ selfish, generous
 - Ⓗ ordered, refused
 - Ⓘ share, selfish
- ❸ If *just* means fair and reasonable, what does the word *unjust* mean in the sentence below?
- “Thanks to you,” the emperor continued, “I have learned that one of my laws is unjust.”**
- Ⓐ frequently broken
 - Ⓑ unfair and unreasonable
 - Ⓒ no longer fair and reasonable
 - Ⓓ carefully followed by the people
- ❹ Why does the traveler suggest the boy look for wood in the forest?
- Ⓕ He wants to reward the boy.
 - Ⓖ He wants to get the boy in trouble.
 - Ⓗ He wants to help the boy find wood.
 - Ⓘ He wants to see if the boy will break the law.
- ❺ How does the boy react to seeing the emperor’s face? Use details from the passage to support your answer. Write your response on another sheet of paper.

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Meet Jane Goodall

Jane Goodall has been interested in chimpanzees since she was a little girl. At the age of eight, she decided that she would go to Africa one day.	12
In 1960, she arrived in Africa to study the chimps of Gombe Stream National Park.	28
She hiked up and down the hillsides and all over the forest looking for the chimps. Goodall was able to watch them from a distance through her binoculars, but whenever she tried to get close, they ran away. Three months passed, and still she was unable to approach the chimps.	41
One day a group of chimps passed through a grove of fig trees and stopped to eat the figs. They were just below Goodall, and they could see her watching them. Still, they didn't run away.	43
In the following weeks, the chimps returned each day to eat the figs. Sometimes they would pass by just below where Goodall sat. As the weeks passed, the chimps grew used to her. They realized they had nothing to fear.	57
Now Goodall was able to make more observations. Soon she was able to recognize each chimp. She gave them names such as Fifi, Flo, and David. The chimps got so used to Goodall that they allowed her to move among them.	70
Goodall wrote down everything about the chimps' behavior. She had always thought that chimps were very intelligent. She soon found proof of that. One day she watched David use a long grass stem to "fish" for termites. He pushed the stem into a hole in the termite mound. When he pulled it out, termites were clinging to it. Then he put the end of the stem in his mouth and ate the termites. For the first time, Goodall saw a chimpanzee use a tool.	83
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Answer the questions. You may reread parts of the passage to help you.

- ❶ Why did chimps run away when Goodall tried to get close?
- Ⓐ They were afraid of her.
 - Ⓑ She did not know their names.
 - Ⓒ They did not want to be studied.
 - Ⓓ They were playing a game with her.
- ❷ Why did a group of chimps **FIRST** stop a short distance from Goodall?
- Ⓕ Goodall had hidden herself.
 - Ⓖ Goodall called the chimps by name.
 - Ⓗ The chimps were eating figs from trees.
 - Ⓘ The chimps were “fishing” for termites.
- ❸ What is the meaning of *used to* in the sentence below?
- As the weeks passed, the chimps grew used to her.**
- Ⓐ worn out
 - Ⓑ secondhand
 - Ⓒ did in the past
 - Ⓓ familiar with or comfortable with
- ❹ How did Goodall **FIRST** prove that Chimps are intelligent?
- Ⓕ She saw them answering to their names.
 - Ⓖ She saw them return to a grove each day to eat figs.
 - Ⓗ She saw a chimp use a grass stem to “fish” for termites.
 - Ⓘ She saw that they would allow her to move among them.
- ❺ What are three adjectives that describe Jane Goodall? Use details from the passage to support your answer. Write your response on another sheet of paper.