Making inferences worksheet

4th grade reading · Literature · RL.4.1

Name _____ Date _____

For grown-ups: 11 questions from our making inferences practice, easier ones first. Read a question aloud if your child wants that, then check together with the answer key on page 3. Read the passage before the questions that go with it. Circle the letter of the best answer, or the right word where there are no letters.

Muddy Paws

When Jamal got home from school, the back door was open a crack. That was odd. He was sure he had closed it that morning.

He stepped into the kitchen and froze. A trail of muddy paw prints led from the door, across the tile, and up onto the counter. The loaf of bread that had been sitting there was gone. Only the empty plastic bag remained, shredded into pieces on the floor.

"Biscuit!" Jamal called.

From the living room came a thump, then silence. Jamal walked slowly around the corner. His dog was lying on the rug with her head on her paws. Her eyes rolled up to look at him without moving her head. A crumb clung to her whiskers. Her belly looked much rounder than it had that morning.

Jamal sighed and crouched beside her. "You know you're not supposed to be on the counter," he said. Biscuit's tail thumped once against the floor, very slowly.

He got the mop. Then he made a note to tell his dad that the back door latch needed fixing, again.

1. **What happened to the bread?**

   A. Biscuit ate it **B.** Jamal's dad ate it **C.** A stranger took it **D.** It was never there

2. **How did Biscuit get muddy?**

   A. Jamal gave her a bath **B.** She dug in a houseplant in the kitchen
   C. She went outside through the open back door **D.** It was raining inside the house

3. **How does Biscuit seem to feel when Jamal finds her?**

   A. Proud **B.** Guilty **C.** Hungry **D.** Playful

4. **What does the word "again" at the end suggest?**

   A. The door is new **B.** Jamal has never told his dad
   C. The latch has been broken before **D.** Jamal is angry at his dad

Making inferences worksheet

4th grade reading · questions, continued

5. **True or false: Jamal has been waiting a long time.**

> Jamal checked his watch, sighed, and shifted his weight to his other foot. The bench beside him was full. He checked his watch again.

○ **True** ○ **False**

6. **What most likely happened before this scene?**

> Zoe stood in the kitchen with flour on her nose. The smoke alarm was still beeping. On the counter sat a tray of very dark, very flat cookies.

A. Zoe burned the cookies she was baking
B. Someone else baked cookies for Zoe
C. Zoe cleaned the kitchen
D. Zoe bought cookies at a store

7. **True or false: Amara is enjoying the movie.**

> Amara yawned and checked the time on her phone for the third time. She started braiding and unbraiding the fringe on the blanket.

○ **True** ○ **False**

8. **What can you infer about where Priya is?**

> Priya held her breath as the room went dark. A giant screen lit up in front of her, and the smell of buttered popcorn drifted from the row behind.

A. At home **B.** At a restaurant **C.** At a movie theater **D.** At school

9. **How does Mateo feel about his test score?**

> Mateo folded the paper in half, then in half again, and shoved it deep into the bottom of his backpack. "How did it go?" asked Leo. "Fine," Mateo muttered, not looking up.

A. Disappointed
B. Excited
C. Proud
D. Surprised in a good way

10. **What can you infer about the relationship between Kenji and his grandfather?**

> Every Sunday, Kenji and his grandfather played chess at the same park table. Grandpa always let Kenji take back one bad move. Kenji always pretended not to notice when Grandpa fell asleep between turns.

A. They do not know each other well
B. They are close and kind to each other
C. They argue a lot
D. They are very competitive

11. **Why is Sofia most likely whispering?**

> Sofia tiptoed past the crib and whispered to her dad, "Is the soup ready?" He nodded and pointed at the pot, holding a finger to his lips.

A. The soup is a surprise
B. She is telling a secret
C. She has a sore throat
D. She does not want to wake the baby

Answer key: Making inferences

4th grade reading · More practice and a guide for parents at tutorsaurus.com/learn/4th-grade/inference

1. **A. Biscuit ate it**
   Paw prints to the counter, a shredded bag, a crumb on her whiskers, and a round belly all point to Biscuit.
2. **C. She went outside through the open back door**
   The door was open a crack and the muddy prints started at the door, so she had gone outside.
3. **B. Guilty**
   Lying still, looking up without moving her head, and a slow tail thump are signs a dog knows it did wrong.
4. **C. The latch has been broken before**
   Saying the latch needs fixing "again" means this problem has happened before.
5. **True**
   Checking his watch twice, sighing, and shifting his feet show he has waited a while.
6. **A. Zoe burned the cookies she was baking**
   Flour on her nose shows she was baking, and the smoke alarm and dark cookies show they burned.
7. **False**
   Yawning, watching the clock, and fidgeting are signs she is bored.
8. **C. At a movie theater**
   A dark room, a giant screen, and popcorn are clues that Priya is at a movie theater.
9. **A. Disappointed**
   Hiding the paper, muttering, and not looking up suggest he is unhappy with his score.
10. **B. They are close and kind to each other**
    Meeting every week and quietly being gentle with each other shows a close, caring relationship.
11. **D. She does not want to wake the baby**
    Tiptoeing past a crib and the finger to the lips mean they are trying not to wake a sleeping baby.