Weekly Assessment

Tested Skills and Strategies

Standard Grade
- Vocabulary
- Reading Comprehension

Reading Vocabulary
-0 = 4
-1 = 3
-2,3 = 2
-4 or more = 1

Reading Comprehension
-0 = 4
-1,2 = 3
-3,4 = 2
-5 or more = 1
After seven years of hard work, Hans asked his master for his wages. The master gave Hans a huge piece of gold. On his journey home, Hans met a man galloping along on a fine horse. The youth said aloud, "How fortunate you are to have such a horse as a mount, while I weary myself trudging along."

The horseman descended from the steed and proposed a trade. "I'll trade you my stallion for that gold piece." Hans agreed, so the rider thrust the horse's bridle into his hands. "Just utter a 'C'ck! C'ck!' and the horse will gallop like lightning."

No sooner did Hans attempt to gallop than the horse threw him off. When a peasant discovered him in the ditch, Hans said, "I see you have a nice, quiet cow. I'd prefer a cow that gave refreshing milk to this brute of a horse." The peasant agreed to trade his cow for the stallion, so Hans continued along the route to his mother's village, driving the cow along and whistling merrily.

Hans became thirsty and tried to milk the cow, which favored him with a swift kick. Sweating, thirsty, and bruised, Hans was in despair. Then along came a butcher, to whom Hans said, "How I wish I had a pig to make sausage and other delicacies from!"

"Well, I'll trade you this prime pig for that worthless cow," suggested the butcher.

Before the twilight fell, Hans had swapped the pig for a goose. Finally, he entered the village and saw a scissors-grinder at his trade. "Where did you get that goose?" the man asked.

"I exchanged it for my pig." Hans proceeded to relate his adventures to the scissors-grinder. The man suggested Hans trade the goose for a grinding stone, whereupon Hans again consented.

Hans soon found the stone heavy and laid it down by the side of a stream. While he stooped to drink, the weighty stone tumbled into the water. Free of any tiresome burdens now, Hans exclaimed, "I am the luckiest man alive!" And he hastened homeward to his beloved mother.
Directions: Fill in the circle next to the best answer.

1. What does *bridle* mean in the sentence below?
   
   The rider thrust the horse's *bridle* into his hands.
   
   [A] a harness  
   [B] to control  
   [C] a wedding  
   [D] of a bride

2. Which definition describes a homophone for *route*?
   
   [A] *Noun.* the underground part of a plant  
   [B] *Noun.* a traveled road  
   [C] *Verb.* to give directions  
   [D] *Noun.* a regular path

3. What word could replace *despair* in the story?
   
   [A] joyfulness  
   [B] greediness  
   [C] hopelessness  
   [D] happiness

4. What does the word *consented* mean as it is used in the next-to-last paragraph?
   
   [A] agreed  
   [B] demanded  
   [C] denied  
   [D] refused
5. On Hans's journey home, which event happened first?
   A. The horse flung Hans into a ditch.
   B. Hans traded his cow for a pig.
   C. Hans swapped his pig for a goose.
   D. A man on a fine horse rode by.

6. Which of these happened after Hans got a pig?
   A. He asked his master for his salary.
   B. He swapped his gold piece for a horse.
   C. He traded a goose for a grinding stone.
   D. He attempted to milk a cow.

Use the events below to answer question 7.

1. The horseman descended from the stallion.
2. The peasant traded his cow for the horse.
3. Hans met a scissors-grinder in the village.
4. His master gave Hans a large piece of gold.

7. Arrange the events above in the order in which they take place in the story.
   A. 4, 1, 2, 3
   B. 1, 2, 4, 3
   C. 2, 4, 1, 3
   D. 3, 1, 4, 2

8. What did Hans do after he traded the goose for the grinding stone, and how did he feel about what happened next? Include details from the story in your answer.
   1/2 pt. Hans felt he was lucky - he had no more burdens! He was relieved.
   1/2 pt. He laid the stone by the stream and it fell into the water.
The Golden Mare, the Firebird, and the Magic Ring

A) Fill in the bubble next to the best answer.

1. Alexi left the throne room in despair. In this sentence despair means almost the same as __________.
   - A. happiness
   - B. hopelessness
   - C. anger
   - D. haste

2. Yelena the Fair agreed to accompany Alexi. In this sentence accompany means almost the same as __________.
   - A. to marry
   - B. start a company with
   - C. go away from
   - D. come along with

3. Later, Yelena consented to become the Tsar’s bride. The opposite of consented is __________.
   - A. refuse
   - B. prepared
   - C. wanted
   - D. agreed

4. The Golden Mare helps Alexi because __________.
   - A. she is in love with him
   - B. he is a good hunter
   - C. he spared her life
   - D. she was a gift from Yelena the Fair

5. Alexi must catch the Firebird because __________.
   - A. if he succeeds, the Tsar will reward him with a bag of gold
   - B. he wants to give the Firebird to the Tsar as a gift
   - C. the Tsar wants to give the Firebird to Yelena the Fair as a wedding present
   - D. if he does not succeed, he will be put to death

6. What happens when the Tsar jumps into the cauldron?
   - A. He is killed instantly.
   - B. He turns into a baby.
   - C. He swims to the bottom and finds the ring.
   - D. He turns into a handsome, young man.
7. Why does Alexi order the release of the Firebird?
   ○ A. He cannot bear to listen to the bird’s cries.
   ○ B. The Golden Mare is the Firebird’s friend.
   ○ C. The Firebird is a wedding present for Yelena the Fair.
   ○ D. A bird like that does not belong in a cage.

B) Answer the questions below using complete sentences.

8. How do you know that this selection is a fairy tale? Support your answer with examples from the story.
   Takes place long ago; has imaginary characters and settings; involves good and evil
   “Once upon a time”; Golden Mare / Firebird

9. What personality traits does the Tsar have? How can you tell?
   Spoiled; Selfish; use to getting what he wants; annoyed that Alexi won’t sell the mare

10. Do you think Alexi and Yelena the Fair will be good rulers? Why or why not?
    Answers will vary, but should answer