

Read the following passage and answer questions 1 through 12.

First Day of School

- 1 Elisa studied her reflection in the mirror. She was wearing a green top and blue jeans. Moments ago she was wearing a pink top and a brown skirt. In fact, she had already tried on several outfits that morning, but nothing seemed right. For a moment, Elisa considered changing clothes again but decided against it. "What's the use?" she asked herself as she plopped back on the bed.
- 2 As if on cue, her mother called to her from downstairs. "Elisa! Hurry up, honey! You don't want to be late for your first day of school."
- 3 Don't remind me, Elisa thought to herself. It was not just the first day of school. It was Elisa's first day at a brand new school. Picking out clothes for the first day of school was hard enough when you already knew your classmates. It was even harder when it was the first time that you would ever meet them.
- 4 "Elisa!" her mom called out. "I see the bus coming down the street!"
- 5 "This is it," Elisa said to herself. She hopped off the bed and ran downstairs. Her mother stopped her at the bottom of the steps.
- 6 "I know you're nervous about starting at a new school," her mother said. "But I know how friendly you are and soon everyone else will too."
- 7 Elisa had her doubts, but she did not mention them. She understood that moving to a new town had also been hard on her mother. Elisa put on a brave face and said, "It will be okay." Then she hugged her mom and ran outside where the bus was already waiting.
- 8 As she climbed on the bus, she was surprised to discover that she was the very first person on board. It was a blessing and a curse. Elisa was happy to avoid other people for as long as she could, but she knew it would not last long. She took a seat near the back.
- 9 As the bus continued on its route, Elisa watched with a growing sense of dread as other kids filed on the bus. It seemed like everyone already knew each other. She had spent the past week worrying that other kids would make fun of her, but being ignored felt just as bad.
- 10 As the bus drew closer to the school, Elisa noticed a girl in the seat in front of

her. It looked as if she didn't have anyone to talk to. "What have I got to lose?" Elisa told herself.

- 11 She leaned over the seat in front of her and extended her right hand. "Hi, my name is Elisa." The girl could hardly believe it. Her eyes brightened as she shook Elisa's hand.
- 12 "Nice to meet you," she said, "my name is Ruth." There was an awkward silence because neither knew what to say. Ruth was the first to speak again. "I'm so glad you introduced yourself," she blurted out. "I just moved to this town, and I don't know anybody."
- 13 Elisa could hardly believe her ears. "Really? I just moved here, too!" The girls shared a laugh, and then Elisa grabbed her book bag and moved up one row to sit with Ruth. The time passed quickly as they got to know each other, and the bus soon pulled in front of the school. The building was decorated with banners welcoming the students back to school.
- 14 Just when Elisa thought she might get nervous again, Ruth chimed in. "I'll race you to the schoolhouse door!" she said. Before Elisa could respond, Ruth was scurrying down the aisle and off the bus. Elisa followed quickly behind, and both girls sprinted toward the door. They arrived at the exact same time.
- 15 "It's hard to believe I dreaded walking through this door all summer long," Ruth said.
- 16 "I know," said Elisa. "But now everything is easier with a friend!"

1 **In which word from the story does -er mean the same as it does in harder?**

- A mother
- B her
- C over
- D easier

2 **In paragraph 11, what does the word extended mean?**

- F pulled back
- G stretched out
- H held still
- J waved quickly

3 **Elisa believes that wearing the right outfit will —**

- A get the teachers to like her
- B impress her new classmates
- C help her get good grades
- D make her look intelligent

4 **What conclusion can the reader make after reading paragraph 9?**

- F Elisa was the only person who had trouble picking out clothes.
- G Most of the students on the bus knew each other.
- H Some of the students already knew Elisa.
- J There were many children who were new to the school.

5 **Which of these is the best summary for this story?**

- A Elisa wants to impress people at her new school, but has trouble deciding what to wear on her first day.
- B Elisa is nervous about attending a new school, but after introducing herself, she makes a new friend.
- C Elisa and her mother are both worried about meeting new people after they move into a new neighborhood.
- D Elisa has a good first day at school because she and her friend are both starting at a new school.

6 **Which sentence from the story shows that Elisa is friendly?**

- F As the bus drew closer to the school, Elisa noticed a girl in the seat in front of her.
- G Elisa followed quickly behind, and both girls sprinted toward the door.
- H She leaned over the seat in front of her and extended her right hand.
- J Just when Elisa thought she might get nervous again, Ruth chimed in.

7 **What is the most likely reason Elisa did not have time to eat breakfast?**

- A She took too much time getting dressed.
- B She forgot to turn her alarm clock on.
- C She didn't know what time the bus would arrive.
- D She spent extra time making breakfast.

8 **Which event causes Elisa's attitude about school to change?**

- F Elisa is late for the bus.
- G Elisa races Ruth to the front door.
- H Elisa meets Ruth on the bus.
- J Elisa is ignored by others on the bus.

9 **The author most likely wrote this story to —**

- A describe how wearing the right clothes is important when making new friends
- B tell about a girl's bad experience
- C explain why children move to new schools
- D show that being brave and meeting people can lead to new friendships

10 **Read the sentence from paragraph 1.**

She was wearing a green shirt and blue jeans.

Which word sounds like blue but is spelled in a different way and has a different meaning?

- F blew
- G blow
- H drew
- J glue

11 **To find a synonym for "sprinted," a student should look in —**

- A an encyclopedia
- B a dictionary
- C a glossary
- D a thesaurus

12 **What word could replace reflection in paragraph 1?**

- F thoughts
- G image
- H lesson
- J memories

Read the following passage and answer questions 13 through 28.

Cute Little Bugs



- 1 Have you ever had a jar to catch cute little bugs in? Have you ever caught the red ones with black dots on their backs and put them in your jar? Has anyone said, "Put that ladybug back. It is a good bug." Well, they are right.
- 2 Ladybugs do not bite or sting. They do not harm plants or animals, and they do not carry diseases. Ladybugs are helpful. Gardeners and farmers usually like to see ladybugs on their plants. They like it because of what the ladybugs enjoy eating.
- 3 Ladybugs love to eat aphids. Aphids are tiny little insects that harm many plants. These tiny insects suck juice from plants' leaves. This causes the leaves to die. When the leaves die, the plant will usually die or not produce good flowers or vegetables.
- 4 Ladybugs love to eat! A ladybug can eat up to 50 aphids a day. This is the reason farmers and gardeners love the cute, little bugs. In fact, they will buy ladybugs and put them in their gardens.
- 5 Remember to leave the ladybugs alone the next time you are out looking for bugs to occupy, or be inside, your jar. They help keep the aphid population down.

13 **What is another word for bug as it is used in paragraph 1?**

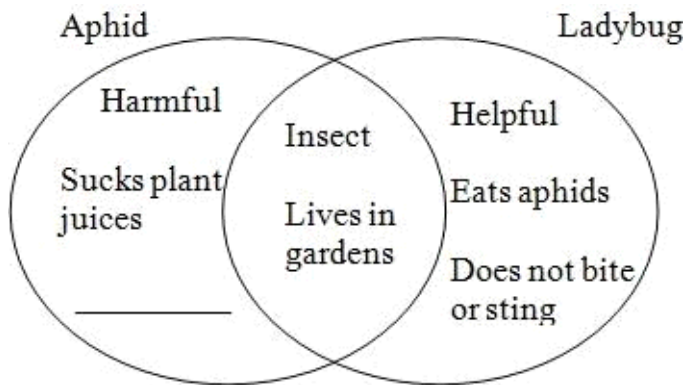
- A sickness
- B buy
- C insect
- D bother

14 **As it is used in paragraph 5, the word occupy means —**

- F to be inside
- G to do over
- H to hold office
- J to change out

- 15 Which word means the same as usually in paragraph 2?
- A rarely
 - B often
 - C always
 - D never
- 16 What might happen if a gardener didn't have any ladybugs in his or her garden?
- F Aphids would go somewhere else.
 - G The gardener's plants might not look pretty.
 - H The gardener would not have any harmless bugs.
 - J Aphids would eat most of the plants.
- 17 Which of these is the best choice for a heading for paragraph 3?
- A How To Catch Ladybugs
 - B Gardeners Like Ladybugs
 - C Ladybugs Eat A Lot
 - D Aphids Harm Plants

- 18 Read the Venn Diagram.



According to the article, which fact belongs on the blank line?

- F Purchased by farmers
 - G Causes plants to die
 - H Gardeners like them
 - J Likes to eat aphids
- 19 What question would a student most likely ask after reading paragraph 2?
- A Do ladybugs bite or sting?
 - B When is the best time to catch ladybugs?
 - C How are ladybugs helpful to people?
 - D Where do ladybugs live?

- 20 **What is the author's purpose for writing this selection?**
- F To entertain readers with a short story
 - G To describe a garden full of grouchy ladybugs
 - H To inform readers of the importance of ladybugs
 - J To persuade readers to get rid of ladybugs
- 21 **Why does the author not want you to collect ladybugs in a jar?**
- A Ladybugs are too cute to put in a jar.
 - B Ladybugs are very hard to catch.
 - C Ladybugs do not carry diseases.
 - D Ladybugs help keep the plants healthy.
- 22 **Based on the picture with the story, the reader knows the article is most likely about —**
- F insects
 - G gardens
 - H farming
 - J diseases
- 23 **Which of these is the best choice for a heading for paragraph 3?**
- A How To Catch Ladybugs
 - B Aphids Harm Plants
 - C Gardeners Like Ladybugs
 - D Ladybugs Eat A Lot
- 24 **Which word has a suffix that means the same as -ful in the word harmful?**
- F fulfill
 - G awful
 - H shameful
 - J fullback
- 25 **This selection is mainly about —**
- A how ladybugs help farmers and gardeners
 - B how to look for ladybugs in a garden
 - C how to buy ladybugs
 - D what ladybugs look like

- 26 **Which statement shows that ladybugs are harmless?**
- F They like to eat aphids.
 - G They do not bite or sting people.
 - H They are red with black spots.
 - J They are quite helpful.
- 27 **Which question does the article answer?**
- A Where do ladybugs come from?
 - B Why do ladybugs make good pets?
 - C Where do ladybugs go in the winter?
 - D How do ladybugs help plants?
- 28 **Where in a book about bugs should a student look to find the meaning of the word "aphid"?**
- F Table of Contents
 - G Index
 - H Glossary
 - J Appendix

Read the following passage and answer questions 29 through 35.

The Big Spill

- 1 Something terrible turned into something good when I was in kindergarten. I will never forget it.
- 2 It was a warm spring day close to the end of the school year. My class was having a picnic on the playground. My classmates were having a great time swinging on the swings and singing songs about squirrels.
- 3 Mrs. Carson was placing food and drinks on the picnic tables. I lingered near the tables and watched her work. I watched her unpack sandwiches and pickles. I was hungry and eager to fill my stomach with peanut butter and jelly. I looked forward to tasting the chocolate in the cookies she baked.
- 4 Mrs. Carson called my name. "Would you like to be my helper?"
- 5 I was so excited! I skipped over to the table and said, "Yes!"
- 6 "I am using a can opener to open this big can of juice. See how the opener pushes a hole through the top of the can?" I had seen my mother do this hundreds of times. I was not old enough to pour juice from the heavy can, but I could hold my cup while my mother poured.
- 7 "Will you carry this to the other picnic table?" Mrs. Carson asked. I reached out to pick up the can and realized that Mrs. Carson had poked the holes through the bottom of the can. The label was upside-down. I thought I had better fix that problem. I turned the can over and set it on the table.
- 8 Suddenly, Mrs. Carson gasped and came running toward me. She reached out to the can and flipped it over. The wooden table was covered with sweet-smelling fruit punch. It dripped down the sides of the table and created a pool of red liquid. Dirt floated on the top.
- 9 I felt hot tears stinging my eyes. I saw big, red splotches of juice on my dress. I stared at the half-empty can of juice. My shoulders shook as I sobbed the words, "I've ruined the picnic."
- 10 "It's okay," Mrs. Carson said as she looked in my eyes. That juice has a lot of sugar in it. Why don't we have something healthier to drink?"
- 11 She placed the can in an empty paper shopping bag and pulled a piece of paper from her clipboard. As she scribbled a note, she said, "Give this to Ms. Rose in the cafeteria. She'll bring us a nice, cold pitcher of water."
- 12 I took the note and turned toward the door. Even though we were not in the classroom, I learned an important lesson that day.

29 **In paragraphs 4 and 5, the author most likely feels —**

- A lonely
- B worried
- C pleased
- D embarrassed

30 **Read the sentence from the story.**

I turned the can over and sat it on the table.

Why did she do this?

- F She wanted the label to be upright.
- G She wanted the teacher to help her.
- H She wanted to pour the juice out.
- J She could not see the holes at the top of the can.

31 **Read the sentence from paragraph 11.**

She'll bring us a nice, cold pitcher of water.

This sentence appeals to the reader's sense of —

- A smell
- B taste
- C hearing
- D sight

32 **In paragraph 7, the author most likely feels —**

- F helpful
- G embarrassed
- H sad
- J shy

33 **Which sentence appeals to a reader's sense of sight?**

- A I felt hot tears stinging my eyes.
- B Dirt floated on the top.
- C That juice has a lot of sugar in it.
- D I thought I had better fix that problem.

34 The author most likely wrote this story to —

- F** describe what happens when a child does not follow directions
- G** show how an embarrassing situation can be a learning experience
- H** prove picnics can be difficult for children
- J** explain why it is better to play than help others

35 The author includes paragraph 12 in the story to —

- A** explain how the students were able to get drinks
- B** show that something good came out of a difficult situation
- C** describe why schools don't need classrooms
- D** provide a reason why the teacher planned a picnic