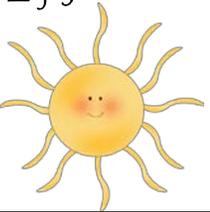


# HOME PRACTICE - <English I Reading>

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday Sunday
Complete 1 Story	Enjoy the weekend! 				
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Complete 1 Story	Enjoy the weekend! 				

A little practice  
everyday helps  
your  
academic skills  
stay!





# The Great Banana

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

Many people think that we are the only creatures that look to the stars and see pictures, but there are others that look up and see things. Where we see the Big Dipper in the sky at night, the gorillas and monkeys see the Great Banana. Here is why...

Once upon a time, a great banana tree grew in the jungle. It was taller than all the others around it. The King of the Gorillas waited patiently beneath the tree for the first bananas to ripen, so he could shake them down. He was as strong as he was patient, but there was another one who also knew of the tree.

The King of the Monkeys was sneaky and fast. He also loved bananas very much. He waited nearby the great banana tree. He watched the Gorilla King and laughed. He knew that he could climb quickly and steal the banana before the Gorilla could shake it down. So, the Monkey King waited, too.

When the first giant banana had finally ripened, the Monkey King snuck up the back of the tree and took it. The Gorilla King smelled something suspicious, because he never trusted monkeys. He glanced up and saw the Monkey King stealing his banana! With great anger, he shook the tree, and the Monkey King fell from the tree, still holding the banana.

Upon the ground, the two kings struggled to have the banana. They could not share, and they could not give up. Finally, as the two squeezed and fought for the banana, it shot out of their hands with great force. The banana sailed high into the sky and became caught in the stars.

Sadly, the great banana tree had been destroyed in their fight, and the two kings had become enemies. The Great Banana still hangs in the sky to remind them of their selfishness. The banana had been big enough to share, but they had chosen not to.



# The Great Banana

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What does the Gorilla King want?
  - A. a big melon
  - B. a great banana
  - C. a new hat
  - D. a giant carrot
  
2. How does the Gorilla King plan to get the banana?
  - A. He will climb the tree.
  - B. He will wait for it to fall.
  - C. He will shake it down from the tree.
  - D. None of the above
  
3. Who also wants the banana?
  - A. the Monkey King
  - B. the Hippo King
  - C. the Chimpanzee King
  - D. the Orangutan King
  
4. What happened when the two Kings wanted the banana?
  - A. they decided to share
  - B. they took turns getting bananas
  - C. they played a game to decide who gets it
  - D. they fought over it
  
5. What lesson does the Great Banana in the sky represent?
  - A. don't be selfish
  - B. fight hard for what you want
  - C. never give up
  - D. be sneaky

# The Great Banana – Answer Key

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What does the Gorilla King want?
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## "I Fly"

### Reading Comprehension – Short Stories

Directions: Read the story. Then answer the questions below.

I fly airplanes for work.  
I am a pilot.

Sometimes, I take my little girl with me.  
Her name is Bristol.  
Bristol likes to look out the window of the airplane.  
She likes to look at the clouds.  
She thinks the clouds look like animals.  
She points at one with her finger.  
"I see a giraffe!" she says.



I also have a little boy.  
My little boy does not like to be up high.  
He does not come with me on the airplane.  
He likes to play airplane with me.  
We play airplane when I get home.  
We run around the yard. We wave our arms in the air. We make airplane noises.

### Questions:

1) Who is telling this story?

- A. Bristol.
- B. A little boy.
- C. A pilot.
- D. A friend.

2) What does Bristol like to do in the airplane?

- A. Look out the window.
- B. Run in the yard.
- C. Sit in the back.
- D. Be the pilot.

3) Bristol points at something outside the window. What does she point at?

- A. A giraffe.
- B. Her dad.
- C. A cloud.
- D. A tree.

4) Why doesn't the little boy like to fly?

A. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# Mannerless Marty

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

Marty had no manners. He acted like a pig. He was rude, loud, and gross. Marty was trouble, and he thought it was funny.

At the table, he burped after each bite. He wiped his mouth on his sleeve. He sneezed on the tablecloth. He chewed with his mouth open. He slurped his soup.



In school, he interrupted constantly. He took people's stuff without asking, ruined it, and then returned it. He tore pages in books and picked his teeth with them. He made rude comments without apologizing.



On the bus he wiped his nose on the seats. He rubbed dirty hands on his neighbors. He snored loudly, even if he wasn't really asleep. He took his shoes off and put them up on the next seat.

At home, he hogged the bathroom, but wouldn't flush. He drank out of the milk jug. He didn't wipe his feet before he came in, so he left mud everywhere. He tore out all the good parts of the newspaper.



Marty didn't get invited to birthday parties. He had to clean up his room on weekends instead of playing. No one wanted to sit near him on the bus. He made people uncomfortable. He missed out on a lot of chances. Even his grandmother didn't want him to visit!

Mannerless Marty got tired of being alone. He decided to clean up his act. Eventually, he made a few friends and a few good habits.

Always remember your manners!

# Mannerless Marty

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What's Marty's problem?
  - A. He's mean.
  - B. He doesn't have good manners.
  - C. He cheats on his tests.
  - D. He doesn't do his homework.
  
2. Which of these DOES Marty do at the table?
  - A. He eats everything with a knife.
  - B. He eats all of his broccoli.
  - C. He sneezes on the tablecloth.
  - D. He puts his elbows on the table.
  
3. Which of these DOESN'T Marty do at school?
  - A. He is rude and doesn't apologize.
  - B. He interrupts all the time.
  - C. He ruins people's things.
  - D. He runs in the hallway.
  
4. Which of these DOES Marty do at home?
  - A. He colored on the walls.
  - B. He ate the last piece of pizza.
  - C. He hogged the bathroom.
  - D. He talked back to his parents.
  
5. How does Marty finally get friends?
  - A. He starts behaving better.
  - B. He pays them.
  - C. He invites them all to a party.
  - D. He gives them candy.

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## “My Family”

### Reading Comprehension – Short Stories

Directions: Read the story. Then answer the questions below.



Hi, my name is Eric. I want to talk about my family.



I have two sisters. Their names are Rachel and Carrie. Rachel is 18 years old. Carrie is 10 years old. They are very nice.



My mother's name is Julia. She is 40 years old. My mother is also very nice.



My father's name is Andre. He is smart. He is an engineer. He builds bridges.



I also have a dog. My dog's name is Paw. He is a big dog. He is a brown dog. He is a big brown dog.

I love my family.

---

Questions:

1) How many sisters do I have?

- A. one
- B. two
- C. three
- D. four

2) How old is my mom?

- A. twenty-five
- B. thirty
- C. thirty-five
- D. forty

3) My dad is...

- A. a doctor.
- B. a lawyer.
- C. an engineer.
- D. a construction worker.

4) What is the name of my dog?

A. \_\_\_\_\_

5) What color is my dog?

- A. He is white.
- B. He is black.
- C. He is brown.
- D. He is yellow.

6) What is the name of my younger sister?

A. \_\_\_\_\_

7) What is the name of my older sister?

A. \_\_\_\_\_

8) Is my dog small or big?

- A. He is small.
  - B. He is big.
-

# My First Airplane Trip

Story By: Judie Eberhardt

School was finally out. Now I will get to go to California to visit my favorite aunt, Aunt Helen. Aunt Helen came to our house two years ago, and now that I am a big girl, I am going to fly to her house all by myself! I'm so excited. Mom was going to take me to the airport and stay until the plane left the ground. I didn't know what to expect. Mom and Dad told me how the fly attendants would make sure I was in the correct seat and even ask me what I wanted to drink.



The next day, we were off to the airport. Mom showed me the way to the security checkpoint. Then a lady at the gate checked my ticket and into the big plane I went. Another lady helped me find my seat and put my bag in the overhead compartment. Next, I buckled up and was ready for takeoff. The pilot came on the loud speaker and told everyone to prepare for takeoff. That's when I became so scared! No one told me that the plane would be so high in the air so fast! All the houses and cars looked like tiny ants. For a moment, I lost my breath, because I was so scared. The flight attendant could see that I was afraid. She came over and sat next to me in the empty seat. "Are you OK?" she asked. "Yes, just a bit scared because this is my first airplane trip." "I see," answered the flight attendant. "There is nothing to be afraid of." "Just sit back and relax." "Try to enjoy the view." "What is your name?" "I'm Linda." She then brought me a soda to drink. After drinking my soda, I fell asleep for a while, until I heard the pilot say, "Prepare for landing." "The temperature in Los Angeles is 75 degrees and sunny." With that announcement, I knew I was almost to Los Angeles and that Aunt Helen would be waiting for me at the gate when I got off the plane. As I went down the plane and into the airport, I saw Aunt Helen waiting for me by the ticket counter. I ran to her, and she gave me a big hug. "Did you enjoy your first airplane trip?" asked Aunt Helen. "I did, but it was a little scary at first." "The nice flight attendant took good care of me," said Linda. "I'm looking forward to the flight home." "Hold it just a minute," said Aunt Helen. "You just got here, and we have a week of fun things to do." "You can't run home too soon. Linda smiled a big smile.

# My First Airplane Trip

Story By: Judie Eberhardt

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What state was Linda flying to?
  - A. New York
  - B. Florida
  - C. Ohio
  - D. California
  
2. How long had it been since Linda saw Aunt Helen?
  - A. Two years
  - B. Two months
  - C. One year
  - D. Six months
  
3. What word from the story describes Linda when the plane took off?
  - A. Lonely
  - B. Mad
  - C. Scared
  - D. None of the above
  
4. When did Linda fall asleep?
  - A. After reading a book
  - B. After doing a puzzle
  - C. After watching a movie
  - D. After drinking a soda
  
5. Where was Aunt Helen when Linda got into the airport?
  - A. Near the escalator
  - B. Near the stairs
  - C. Near the snack bar
  - D. Near the ticket counter

## My First Airplane Trip – Answer Key

Story By: Judie Eberhardt

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

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