

“Talía’s Special Day”

Reading Comprehension – Short Stories

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

Today is a special day for Talía. She is getting ready for a dinner celebration. She wants to look very nice for her night out.

First, she gets her hair cut at a **salon**. A **salon** is a place where people go to get their hair and nails done.

Then, she gets her fingernails painted pink. A woman who works at the salon paints Talía’s nails.

Talía is not happy with the color. She asks the woman to change the color to purple.

She likes the purple very much.

It is almost time to go out. Talía goes home and looks in her closet.

She tries on a pair of light blue pants with a white shirt.

She tries on a purple dress with a black belt.

She tries on a brown skirt with a green top.

She wears the purple dress.

Many of her friends and family are at the restaurant when she gets there.

She hugs her mother and father.

She gives her grandfather a kiss.

Talía’s sister gives her a big smile.

Her best friend, Asra, gives her a present.

Tomorrow is Talía’s birthday, but she is celebrating it tonight.

“Happy Birthday, Talía,” they say. “You look great!”

“I feel great because all of you are here,” says Talía, “for my last night as a teenager.”



Questions:

- 1) What is Talia doing for her special day?
- A. She is having a party at home.
 - B. She is going to her friend's house.
 - C. She is making dinner.
 - D. She is going to a restaurant.
- 2) Why does Talia want to look nice?
- A. She is celebrating.
 - B. It is a national holiday.
 - C. She is going to church.
 - D. She is going a dance.
- 3) What does Talia do first?
- A. She picks out a dress.
 - B. She gets her nails painted.
 - C. She gets her hair cut.
 - D. She goes out to eat.
- 4) Why does Talia change the color of her nails?
- A. It does not match her dress.
 - B. She is not happy with pink.
 - C. Her friends tell her to change the color.
 - D. She is not happy with purple.
- 5) What does Talia wear out?
- A. light blue pants
 - B. a brown skirt
 - C. a purple dress
 - D. a green top
- 6) What does Talia do when she sees her parents?
- A. She smiles.
 - B. She says hello.
 - C. She gives them a hug.
 - D. She gives them a kiss.
- 7) Who smiles at Talia?
- A. her mother
 - B. her sister
 - C. her father
 - D. her friend
- 8) How old is Talia?
- A. 15
 - B. 16
 - C. 19
 - D. 21
- 9) As described in the beginning of the story, what is a **salon**?
- A. a restaurant
 - B. a place where people talk about business
 - C. a gift shop
 - D. a place to get hair and nails done
- 10) Why does Talia feel great?
- A. because she looks great
 - B. because her friends and family are there
 - C. because her hair is cut
 - D. because her nails are purple

“Late”

Reading Comprehension – Short Stories

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



Martin is **in a hurry**.

He is late to work again.

Martin's boss doesn't like it when he is late. Martin was late last week. His boss told him not to be late again. He really wasn't joking either. He was serious. "**I mean it**," Martin remembers him saying.

Martin thinks he might lose his job if he is late again.

The time is now 7:15 am. Martin needs to be at work by 7:30. It takes him 22 minutes to drive to work.

"Things don't look good," he says to himself.

Martin runs out of the house. He jumps in his car. He puts the car in reverse. He backs up without looking.

BOOM!

There is a sound like someone hitting a drum. Martin's car jerks to a stop. He has hit the car parked behind him.

"Oh, no!" Martin exclaims. He is angry now.

Martin looks at his watch. It is 7:18. He needs to get to work.

He looks around. There is no one on the street. There is no one **nearby**.

He looks in the parked car. It is empty.

Martin drives off quickly.

He gets to work 10 minutes late.

Martin's boss is not around. "Thank goodness," he says to himself.

He stops worrying. He sits at his desk to work.

During lunch, Martin goes out to the parking lot. He looks at his car. There is a big dent in the back.

Then he thinks about the other car—the car he hit this morning. "I know that car is damaged too," he thinks.

He feels **guilty**.

"That was not right," Martin says to himself.

He will see if the car is still outside his house when he gets off work.



Questions:

- 1) At the beginning of the story, Martin is **in a hurry**. What does this mean?
- A. He is running.
 - B. He is angry.
 - C. He is late.
 - D. He is moving fast.
- 2) Why is Martin in a hurry?
- A. because he is late
 - B. because he is running
 - C. because he is moving fast
 - D. because he had a car accident
- 3) Martin remembers when his boss told him, "**I mean it.**" What does this mean?
- A. The boss is serious.
 - B. The boss is angry.
 - C. The boss is emotional.
 - D. The boss is interested.
- 4) What does Martin think will happen if he is late to work again?
- A. He will get a pay cut.
 - B. He will need to buy a watch.
 - C. He will get fired from his job.
 - D. He will need to adjust his schedule.
- 5) What time does Martin need to be at work?
- A. 6:30
 - B. 7:15
 - C. 7:30
 - D. 8:15
- 6) If Martin leaves the house at 7:15, what time does he get to work?
- A. 7:32
 - B. 7:37
 - C. 7:40
 - D. 7:52
- 7) What is the loud noise?
- A. Martin yelling
 - B. police sirens sounding
 - C. Martin driving off the road
 - D. Martin hitting someone's car
- 8) Martin checks if there is anyone nearby. What does **nearby** mean?
- A. in
 - B. next to
 - C. close by
 - D. far away
- 9) Why doesn't Martin get in trouble with his boss today?
- A. His boss is not around.
 - B. He gets to work on time.
 - C. His boss feels sorry for him.
 - D. Martin says he is sorry for being late.
- 10) Who does Martin talk to in the story?
- I. himself
 - II. his boss
 - III. his friends
- A. I only
 - B. I and II
 - C. II and III
 - D. I, II, and III

Questions (continued):

11) How do Martin's feelings change during the story?

- A. from hurried to guilty to angry
- B. from angry to guilty to hurried
- C. from hurried to angry to guilty
- D. from angry to hurried to angry

12) Why did Martin look around after he hit the car?

- A. He needed help.
- B. He wanted a ride to work.
- C. He needed to check the time.
- D. He wanted to check if anyone saw him.

13) As used at the end of the story, what does it mean to feel **guilty**?

- A. to feel bad about doing something
- B. to feel worried about doing something
- C. to feel unsure about doing something
- D. to feel like you want to change something

14) What might Martin do if the car he hit is still there after work?

- I. He might try to hide the dent.
 - II. He might try to find the owner.
 - III. He might leave a note on the windshield with his phone number on it.
- A. I only
 - B. I and II
 - C. II and III
 - D. I, II, and III

Do you think Martin is a good employee? Why or why not?

The writing area consists of ten horizontal lines. A large, thick red 'X' is drawn across the entire set of lines, indicating that this section is not to be used for writing.

Name _____ Date _____

Who, What, Where, When, Why, How

Fill in the gaps with the correct wh (or how) question.



1. _____ are you going to the zoo? On Thursday.

2. _____ are you going with to the park? I'm going with Tim.

3. _____ are you buying at the store? I'm buying bread.

4. _____ are the crayons? In the crayon bin.



5. _____ are you? I'm fine.

6. _____ are you crying? Because I'm sad.

7. _____ is that? It's a marker.

8. _____ are you going home? At 3 p.m.

9. _____ do you live? On Main Street.



10. _____ old are you? I'm 6 years old.

QUESTION WORDS MULTIPLE CHOICE TEST 1

- 1) Teacher: Sam, _____ do the dolphins live?
Sam: They live in the sea, sir.
a) what b) where
c) who d) which



- 7) Anny: _____ salt do you add to the soup?
Chef: Only one tea spoon.
a) how many b) what
c) how much d) where



- 2) A: _____ is your music teacher?
B: Mr. Larson.
a) what b) where
c) who d) which



- 8) A: _____ do the Pearsons go to the cinema?
B: Twice a month.
a) how often b) how many
c) how much d) how times



- 3) A: _____ is his favourite free time activity?
B: Fishing.
a) what b) where
c) who d) which



- 9) A: _____ are you going to wear at Susan's wedding?
B: A nice dress.
a) which b) where
c) who d) what



- 4) A: _____ do you want to go on your summer holiday?
B: Paris.
a) what b) where
c) who d) which



- 10) A: _____ perfume would you like to buy?
B: Both please.
a) which b) where
c) who d) why



- 5) A: _____ do you feed a dog?
B: Because dogs are friendly animals.
a) why b) how
c) what d) which



- 11) A: _____ dogs does Mrs. Maddox have?
B: She's got two dogs.
a) how often b) how many
c) how much d) how times



- 6) A: _____ does Michael go to school?
B: On foot.
a) why b) how
c) what d) which



- 12) A: _____ is that man over there?
B: He is a superhero. His name is Mr. Birthday.
a) why b) how
c) what d) which

