

READING

This section contains one or two reading selection(s) with several multiple-choice, open-response, and short-answer questions. Please mark your answer for each multiple-choice question by filling in the circle completely for the correct answer. Mark only one answer for each question. If you do not know the answer make your best guess.

Most people enjoy camping—the tents, the roasted marshmallows, the campfires, the wildlife, but what about bears!? Read the following story and then answer the questions that follow.

WHAT ABOUT BEARS?

Dad asked me if I wanted to go camping with him in the mountains, but I was scared—scared of bears!

“What about bears?” I asked.

“A bear comes out only because it’s hungry,” said Dad. “Our food will be sealed most of the time, and we’ll be near the ranger station.” Don’t worry.”

I worried. All night long I dreamed of big, strong bears. Something woke me in the dark. Was it a bear?

No, it was just my dad, gently shaking me awake.

“Honey, are you ready to go camping?” he asked.

When my dad called me Honey, I worried about bears again. Didn’t bears eat honey? But if I didn’t go, I’d miss the surprises, the tents, and toasted marshmallows. I’d miss the fishing and crickets and...

“I’m coming, Dad,” I said.

“We’ll have fun,” said my dad.

“Just please don’t call me Honey on our trip, OK?”

“OK,” Dad said, puzzled.

We pulled out of the driveway with all our camping gear in the trunk. The sun was just coming up. We drove all the way into the mountains, far from city noises.

Dad stopped the car in a spot surrounded by trees. The trees were so tall that I felt like an ant.

We set up our tent and stored our food in a heavy chest. Then we went fishing, just Dad and me. When we cooked and ate our fish, they tasted great.

Soon it grew dark. I looked in the night sky. I saw millions of stars. Dad added wood to the campfire. The stars looked like tiny campfires in the sky.

“How many stars are there?” I asked.

“No one knows for sure,” he said as he put a marshmallow on a long stick and gave it to me. “We learned in school that even if you counted every single grain of sand in the whole wide world, there would be more stars than sand grains.”

I took my marshmallow away from the fire and blew on it. I felt cozy. But then I remembered. Bears!

“What if bears come?” I asked.

“The only bears we might see are American black bears,” he said. “There aren’t any grizzly bears around here anymore.”

“I’m worried about bears,” I said.

“Bears are usually peaceful. But they get angry easily, and they don’t have good manners when it comes to food,” Dad said.

We sat together, watching the stars and listening to the crickets and owls. After a while, my dad said, “If you look carefully, you can see two bears right now.”

I dropped my marshmallow.

My dad laughed and pointed to the night sky. “Look. That’s Ursa Major, or the Big Bear, up there. Over here is Ursa Minor, or the Little Bear.”

I could see how the stars looked a little like a big bear and a little bear. As I looked around, I didn’t feel so scared. These were the only bears around, and they were very far away.

“Dad,” I said, “I guess you can call me Honey.”

“OK, Honey,” he laughed.

Soon I was asleep under the Little Bear and the Big Bear, and when I woke up, it was morning.

READING MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

Please mark your answer for each multiple choice question by filling in the circle completely for the correct answer. Mark only one answer for each question. If you do not know the answer, make your best guess.

1. According to the story, a bear only comes out because *(RL 3.1)*
 - a. it's looking for friends.
 - b. it's looking for water.
 - c. it's looking for a new place to sleep.
 - d. it's looking for food.

2. How does the girl feel the first time her dad calls her "Honey"? *(RL 3.1)*
 - a. happy
 - b. scared
 - c. worried
 - d. loved

3. By reading this story, the reader knows that Ursa Minor is *(RL 3.1)*
 - a. the name of a fish.
 - b. the name of a campground.
 - c. the name of a grizzly bear.
 - d. the name of a star constellation.

4. The storyteller stated in the story, "I took my marshmallow away from the fire and blew on it. I felt cozy. But then I remembered. Bears!" What does the word *cozy* mean? *(RL 3.4)*
 - a. tired
 - b. dizzy
 - c. comfortable
 - d. cold

5. At the end of the story, why did the girl say that her dad could once again call her “Honey”? (*RL 3.4*)
- a. She was no longer angry about going camping.
 - b. She was no longer hungry.
 - c. She was no longer afraid of bears.
 - d. She was no longer afraid of bees.
6. The storyteller stated in the story, “The stars looked like tiny campfires in the sky.” What does this mean? (*RL 3.4*)
- a. The stars were just beginning to come out.
 - b. There were campers in the sky.
 - c. The sky looked like a HUGE fire.
 - d. The sky was frightening.
7. Dad says, “Our food will be sealed most of the time.” He is going to seal the food because (*RL 3.1*)
- a. ants will not be able to get the food.
 - b. sealing the food will keep it fresh.
 - c. bears will not be able to smell the food.
 - d. the food will fit in the car better if it is sealed.
8. Many words have multiple meanings. In the story, a trunk means a storage area in the back of a car. Which could also be a meaning of trunk? (*L 3.4*)
- a. A large sturdy box for holding articles.
 - b. A small green plant that attracts insects.
 - c. A bright colored sign indicating slippery roads.
 - d. A mountain base larger than 1000 feet.
9. Bears are usually peaceful, but they get angry easily. What is the root word for easily? (*L 3.4b*)
- a. easly
 - b. easi
 - c. easy
 - d. ease

10. After arriving at the campsite, what happened next? (RL 3.1)
- 0 a. They went fishing.
 - 0 b. They toasted marshmallows.
 - 0 c. They set up their tent.
 - 0 d. They cooked and ate their fish.

READING SHORT-ANSWER QUESTION

Read all parts of each open-response question before you begin. Write your answers to the open-response questions in the space in your answer booklet.

Write your answer to question 11 in the space provided on the next page.

WHAT ABOUT BEARS?

(RL 3.6)

11. What About Bears is a story about a little girl who is who is scared of bears.
- A. Explain how the dad’s advice helped the girl feel more comfortable going on the camping trip. Use details from the story to support your answer.
- B. How would you feel about camping out? Explain.

Do not write on this page. Please write your answer to this open-response question in the space provided in your answer booklet.

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Reading

A large rectangular box with a thick black border, containing ten horizontal lines for writing or reading practice. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across most of the width of the box.

READING

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Star Parties

More than a hundred adults and kids gather on a cold evening, chattering excitedly as they stand in the dark on a Virginia hillside.

The odd thing is, no one has turned on a flashlight, and no streetlights or house lights wink on around them.

These people have traveled to the countryside more than an hour from Washington, D.C., to get away from the glow of city lights. That's because they are attending a star party.

Star parties are gatherings where professional and amateur astronomers set up their telescopes and invite people to come learn about the night sky. Getting away from light pollution, or artificial skylight from buildings for example, helps stargazers see objects in the sky much better.

At this star party, Sean O'Brien of the National Air and Space Museum's Einstein Planetarium starts off by asking the crowd to simply look up and take in all they can see. He points out plenty of things that can be seen without special equipment. Stars, satellites, and even the Andromeda galaxy can be found if you know where to look.

After O'Brien's guided tour, several dozen astronomers offer close-up views. Each has focused their telescope on a different part of the sky. As kids take a look, the owner gives a mini-lesson.

O'Brien says you can have your own star party at home and learn a lot just by paying attention to what's happening up above. "Watch the sky as the seasons pass, and you will see that it changes," he says.

"Or start with the moon. Lots of people know the full moon and the crescent moon, but don't know the phases in between. Notice when and where you are seeing it—maybe even in the early morning while you wait for the school bus."

More Stargazing Tips from Sean O'Brien:

- Winter is a good time for stargazing because the haze caused by summer's humidity in many parts of the country is gone.
- You don't need an expensive telescope, just a star chart. In fact, a telescope can be frustrating if you don't have a basic knowledge of the night sky. Try binoculars first, and use a tripod to hold them up so your arms don't get tired.
- Find a place where you feel safe.
- Look for a spot where lights aren't shining in your eyes, like in the shadow of your house where your neighbor's porch light is blocked.
- Take your time. You will see a lot more after 30 minutes in the dark than you will after just a few minutes because your eyes need time to adjust to the dark.

Looking for a star party near you? Contact your local planetarium, science museum, or astronomy club.

READING MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

Please mark your answer for each multiple-choice question by filling in the circle completely for the correct answer in your answer booklet. Mark only one answer for each question. If you do not know the answer, make your best guess.

12. Why do people travel to the countryside to attend star party? *(RI 3.8)*
- a. that is where their friends are
 - b. to get away from the glow of the city lights
 - c. to see the bears in the woods
 - d. because the air is fresher in the country
13. In the night sky many things can be seen with special equipment. Which of the following **cannot** be seen unless you use special equipment? *(RI 3.1)*
- a. Pluto
 - b. Andromeda
 - c. Satellites
 - d. Stars
14. Which statement from the passage is an opinion? *(RI 3.9)*
- a. Stars, satellites, and even the Andromeda galaxy can be found if you know where to look.
 - b. Getting away from light pollution, or artificial skylight from buildings for example, helps stargazers see objects in the sky much better.
 - c. Lots of people know the full moon and the crescent moon, but don't know the phases in between.
 - d. You don't need an expensive telescope, just a star chart.
15. The storyteller stated in the story, "More than a hundred adults and kids gather on a cold evening, **chattering** excitedly." What does the word "**chattering**" mean? *(RI 3.4)*
- a. to talk rapidly
 - b. a large number of people
 - c. looking around wildly
 - d. to be very cold

16. According to the story, why do people attend star parties? *(RI 3.2)*
- a. to see all the celebrities on the red carpet
 - b. for people to come learn about the night sky
 - c. they like all the wonderful food they serve there
 - d. so people can see how important stars are
17. By reading this story, you can infer that a star party usually takes place during which season? *(RI 3.3)*
- a. Summer
 - b. Fall
 - c. Winter
 - d. Spring
18. The storyteller stated in the story, “The odd thing is no one has turned on a flashlight.” What is another word for odd? *(L 3.4a)*
- a. silly
 - b. strange
 - c. common
 - d. good
19. In the story it says to use a **tripod**. In the word tripod, what does the prefix **tri-** mean? *(L 3.4b)*
- a. one
 - b. two
 - c. three
 - d. four
20. Why is star gazing in the winter better than in the summer? *(RI 3.8)*
- a. The summer humidity is gone.
 - b. Everyone gets to wear their heavy coats.
 - c. Because you can see your breath.
 - d. The star flowers are blooming.

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21. Why is it important to **take your time** when star gazing? (RI 3.9)

- a. So you don't have to rush back to the city.
- b. So everyone will be able to see what you see.
- c. So you can see all the planets.
- d. Your eyes need time to adjust to the dark.

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Kentucky Short-Answer Question General Scoring Guide

Score Point 2

You complete all components of the question and communicate ideas clearly.
You demonstrate an understanding of the concepts and/or processes.
You provide a correct answer using an accurate explanation as support.

Score Point 1

You provide a partially correct answer to the question and/or address only a portion of the question.
You demonstrate a partial understanding of the concepts and/or processes.

Score Point 0

Your answer is totally incorrect or irrelevant.

Blank

You did not give any answer at all.