

Term Four Week Three: Monday Literacy Tasks

Reading Task:

Read the following text then respond to the comprehension questions below.

‘Hard Running’

Benny hated his father’s eager-beaver approach to weekends. His idea of the perfect Saturday was to get up late and spend the rest of the day doing nothing but recover from the week at school. Yet at his father’s insistence here they were down near Sydney’s Botanic Gardens in the early morning—and on one of his beloved Saturdays!—the pair of them jogging along the harbour foreshore through weather that had kept all but the most determined tourists indoors.

‘Isn’t this fun?’ his father shouted above the roar of the wind.

And what a wind! It snatched at the overcast sky, sending unwary birds tumbling through the air like scraps of torn paper; it whipped the harbour into a frenzy, the grey waters erupting into ridges of fleeting white; it beat at the great Port Jackson fig trees until they creaked and groaned under the onslaught.

This is fun? Benny thought to himself, plodding wearily along. As far as he was concerned it was more like torture. Or worse, like being caught up in some ancient battle, with the whole of Sydney under siege from an unnamed force.

As though in opposition to that force, the wind shrieked louder than ever, bringing Benny to a stop. Even his father faltered. While over to their left there was a grinding, tearing sound followed by a frantic swish of limbs and leaves, and with a thump that made the whole slope tremble, one of the giant figs came crashing down.

‘Come on,’ his father insisted, straining forward, dismissing the fallen tree with a wave of the hand.

But Benny had had enough. ‘Let’s take a look,’ he shouted back, and walked across to where the tree was lying forlornly on its side, its roots fanned out like the tentacles of some dead octopus.

Question Time

- 1. What is the main source of tension between Benny and his father?**
 - Benny prefers running during the week whereas his father likes to run on the weekend.
 - Benny's father doesn't mind running in bad weather whereas Benny dislikes it.
 - Benny thinks trees are important whereas his father thinks they are uninteresting.
 - Benny's father likes to be active on weekends whereas Benny would prefer to relax.
- 2. The words eager-beaver indicate that Benny thinks his father is -being**
 - obnoxious.
 - temperamental.
 - overzealous.
 - boring.
- 3. Which word could replace onslaught (paragraph 3) and retain the writer's meaning?**
 - ambush
 - assault
 - disruption
 - confusion
- 4. Benny likens the running conditions to *torture* and being caught up in an *ancient battle* because**
 - he is using his imagination to make the run seem more exciting.
 - he is exaggerating his negative thoughts about the run.
 - he is experiencing actual physical pain.
 - he feels he was forced into spending time with his father.
- 5. The descriptions in paragraph 5 mainly focus on one of the five senses. What is this sense? Give one example from paragraph 5 to support your answer.**

Sense of _____

Example:

6. **Benny's main intention when he says, *Let's take a look*, is**
- to have a break from running.
 - to investigate the tree roots.
 - to provoke his father.
 - to see if the tree can be saved

Writing Task:

Correct the following spelling mistakes. DO NOT DELETE THE INCORRECT WORD. Just write the word correctly at the end of the sentence.

1. They drove on the new **hiway** to the coast.
2. I hurt my left **sholder** when I fell off my bike.
3. The orchestra mainly performs **traditionel** music.
4. I fried **onyon** rings on the barbecue.
5. The hungry lion stalked its **pray** .
6. We use an empty milk **craite** to carry the books.
7. Dad grew a massive **pumkin** and entered it in the local show.
8. We intended to buy flowers but we **bort** fresh vegetables instead.
9. The **pengwin** is a flightless bird.
10. They **wayed** each ingredient for the recipe.

Highlight the correct answer to the following language convention questions.

1. **Which sentence needs a question mark?**
 - Whichever flavour I choose will be great
 - Where they are going is a mystery
 - When he arrives we can all leave together

-What colour are you painting your room

2. Which option completes this sentence correctly?

If I had known that it was going to rain, I would never _____ to the beach.

-have gone

-be going

-go

-gone

3. In which sentence is the pencil case described?

-Last week I lost my pencil case for two days.

-I usually carry my pencil case home in my backpack.

-I needed a pen so I emptied my bag looking for my pencil case.

-I found my battered old plastic pencil case under my desk.

4. Which clause completes this sentence correctly?

Having completed the obstacle course, _____

-cheering for our teammates.

-before the finals were run.

-so the finalists were chosen.

-we all had a drink and a rest.

5. Which sentence is punctuated correctly?

-“Are you going to see the fireworks tonight, Matt asked?”

-“Are you going to see the fireworks tonight?” Matt asked.

-“Are you going to see the fireworks tonight Matt asked?”

-“Are you going to see the fireworks tonight”? Matt asked.

6. Which option correctly combines this information into one sentence?

Some Australian mammals lay eggs. The echidna is an Australian mammal that lays eggs.

-Australian mammals, including the echidna, lay eggs.

-Some echidnas are Australian mammals that lay eggs.

-Some Australian mammals, such as the echidna, lay eggs.

-The echidna is an Australian mammal laying eggs.

7. Which sentence contains an adjective?

- I watered the plants before school.
- The sudden rain sent us running for cover.
- The tickets are going on sale on Monday.
- I am knitting a jumper for winter.

8. Which sentence is a command?

- He told her to hurry up or they would be late.
- If you are late we will start without you.
- We need to check the timetable so we arrive on time.
- Make sure you lock the door when you leave.

9. Which word has the same meaning as *ought* to in this sentence?

Students ought to do their homework as soon as they get it.

- must
- should
- could
- will

10. Which is the correct sentence?

- The new car runs very smooth.
- Sami tried very hard to improve.
- Sue was calling loud but no one heard her.
- Our team did fantastic in the game.