

Grade 3

Assessment of Reading, Writing and Mathematics, Primary Division

Student Booklet Language 1

SPRING 2012

**RELEASED SELECTIONS AND
ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS**

Education Quality and
Accountability Office



Please note: The format of this booklet is different from that used for the assessment. The questions themselves remain the same.

Language 1

Section A

A Good Decision

Deedee went outside to ride her bike. 1

“Remember your helmet,” Mother called. 2

“I will,” said Deedee, “safety first.” 3



The air was hot and sticky like warm syrup. 4
Deedee placed her helmet on her head and snapped the strap. Then she sailed her bike down the driveway and onto the sidewalk.

As Deedee’s feet pedalled faster and faster, drops of sweat began to roll down her forehead. 5

“I am *melting*,” Deedee groaned out loud. “I wish I could take off this sweaty helmet!” 6

Just then, a big acorn fell from a squirrel’s nest and *plunked!* on Deedee’s helmet! She smiled and kept going. 7

Up the street, Deedee met Mrs. Mack and her dog, Barker. “Hello, Mrs. Mack,” she said as she darted under an oak tree. The tree’s low-hanging branch went *scritch, scratch!* on her helmet. Deedee smiled and kept going. She pedalled faster and faster. 8

- Suddenly, Deedee saw Mr. Green’s car pulling out of his driveway. She slammed on her brakes! Her wheels skidded on some gravel, and down she tumbled, bumping her helmet on the concrete. 9
- Mr. Green rushed over. “Are you OK, Deedee?” he asked worriedly. 10
- “I think so,” said Deedee, her voice shaking. She took off her helmet and looked at the dent she had just put in it. 11
- “Thank goodness you were wearing that helmet!” Mr. Green said. 12
- “I know!” Deedee said. “From now on, just call me ‘Safe-dee’!” 13

1 What does the word “sailed” mean as used in paragraph 4?

- rode bravely
- rode smoothly
- walked fearlessly
- walked comfortably

2 The word “melting” (paragraph 6) is written differently to show the reader that

- Deedee is worried.
- Deedee is rushing when she says it.
- Deedee is showing feeling in her voice.
- Deedee is saying something important.

3 What does the word “plunked” mean as used in paragraph 7?

- caused a crack
- made a scratch
- fell from a tree
- hit with a sound

4 What causes Deedee to fall off her bike in paragraph 9?

- Deedee is just learning how to ride a bike.
- Deedee’s brakes are not working properly.
- Deedee does not notice the gravel on the road.
- Deedee is cycling quickly and is forced to brake.

5 Explain why Deedee smiles at the end of paragraphs 7 and 8. Use details from the text to support your answer.

6 Explain why Deedee says “From now on, just call me ‘Safe-dee’!” in paragraph 13. Use details from the text and your own ideas to support your answer.

That Was Summer



Have you ever smelled summer?

Sure you have.

Remember that time

When you were tired of running

Or doing nothing much

5

And you were hot

And you flopped right down on the ground?

Remember how the warm soil smelled—

And the grass?

That was summer.

10

Remember that time

When the storm blew up quick

And you stood under a ledge

And watched the rain till it stopped

And when it stopped

15

You walked out again to the sidewalk,

The quiet sidewalk?

Remember how the pavement smelled—

All steamy warm and wet?

That was summer.

20

Remember that time

When you were trying to climb

Higher in the tree

And you didn't know how

And your foot was hurting in the fork

25

But you were holding tight

To the branch?
Remember how the bark smelled then—
All dusty dry, but nice?
That was summer. 30

If you try very hard,
Can you remember that time
When you played outside all day
And you came home for dinner
And had to take a bath right away, 35
Right away?

It took you a long time to pull
Your shirt over your head.
Do you remember smelling the sunshine?
That was summer. 40

7 What does the word “flopped” mean as used in line 7?

- turned
- hunched
- crouched
- collapsed

8 Why are the words “that was summer” used in lines 10, 20, 30 and 40?

- to connect the memories of summer
- to remind the reader that summer is wet
- to emphasize the smell of the tree’s bark
- to tell the reader that summer will return

9 What does the word “it” refer to in line 15?

- the rain
- the ledge
- the storm
- the sidewalk

10 What senses is the speaker asking the reader to remember in lines 25–29?

- smell and sight
- touch and sight
- smell and touch
- touch and sound

11 Explain why the speaker asks questions repeatedly throughout the text. Use details from the text to support your answer.

12 Describe how the speaker feels about summer and explain why. Use details from the text to support your answer.

13 Write a paragraph explaining whether you would prefer to walk or be driven to school.

Ideas for My Paragraph

Write your answer on the next page.

Language 1

Section B

Prairie Dogs Have Their Own Towns

Have you ever heard an animal make a high-pitched barking sound, and then dive into a hole in the ground? If you have, you may have seen a prairie dog. Prairie dogs are about the size of rabbits, but have shorter ears. Although they are called prairie dogs, they are not really dogs. In fact, they are related to squirrels and chipmunks. However, unlike those other animals, prairie dogs live in large groups called “towns.” 1

If you walk into a prairie dog town, you won’t find any streets or stores. Instead, you will see grassy land with hundreds of holes in it. Occasionally, you might notice a prairie dog climbing out of its hole and running over to visit another burrow. 2



Besides the fact that they are social, there is another reason prairie dogs live in towns. Living in large groups is safer than living alone. If a hungry hunter such as a fox or an owl comes by, a prairie dog’s neighbour barks a warning. When a warning bark is sounded, all the prairie dogs in the town dive into their deep burrows, where it is safe. 3

Prairie dogs live on the prairies—vast areas of flat grassland in Western Canada. They dig their deep burrows close to other burrows. Prairie dogs like to have many neighbours. Some prairie dog towns are very large and are home to thousands of prairie dogs. Seeing many holes in the ground is a good way to know that you have found a prairie dog town. 4

1 What is paragraph 1 mainly about?

- how prairie dogs dive
- where prairie dogs live
- what prairie dogs look like
- how prairie dogs make a barking sound

2 What does the word “burrow” mean as used in paragraph 2?

- a large group
- a prairie dog town
- a prairie grassland
- an underground hole

3 What does the title tell the reader?

- Prairie dog towns have many streets.
- Prairie dogs store their food in one place.
- Prairie dogs live together in a community.
- Prairie dogs build homes on flat grasslands.

4 What does the word “neighbour” refer to in paragraph 3?

- a prairie dog
- the next town
- a hungry hunter
- the people nearby

5 Explain how a prairie dog town is the same as or different from a town for people. Use details from the text to support your answer.

6 Explain why prairie dogs live in large groups. Use details from the text to support your answer.



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