

Answer Key

Hundreds of years ago, in a land far away, an old man named Alexander rescued helpless children. Alexander had a very kind heart. (Or, **He**, Day) didn't want the children to go (children, milking, **without**) food, clothing, or shelter. Alexander often (drove, clean, their) his mule-drawn wagon around the (busy, find, **town**) searching for homeless children to help.

(Old, **On**, Ago) this particular day, Alexander drove his (said, homes, **wagon**) through a very poor village. He (**saw**, can, all) a little boy and a little (with, **girl**, clean) sitting in an alley. Their clothes (down, help, **were**) torn, and the children were very (boys, **dirty**, barn). They sat close together and cried.

"(Far, New, **Why**) are you crying?" asked Alexander from (**atop**, young, work) his wagon.

"Our mother and father (help, busy, **have**) died. We have no family and (dishes, **nothing**, rescued) to eat," said the little girl.

"(In, Of, **We**) are hungry," said the little boy. "(Old, **Can**, And) you help us, Sir?"

Alexander told (**the**, find, go) little boy and girl to climb (how, very, **into**) his wagon. Alexander took the little (sat, **boy**, this) and girl to his farm in (had, poor, **the**) country. At the farm, they saw (often, **dozens**, happy) of other children busy at work. (More, An, **Out**) in the field, young boys were (**cutting**, through, helpful) down hay. In the barn, young (wagon, **girls**, with) were milking cows.

"All of these (hundreds, homeless, **children**) have lost their parents," Alexander told (help, **the**, were) little boy and girl. "We all (food, drawn, **work**) together so we can eat and (alley, **keep**, fell) the farmhouse clean. I find good (**homes**, sleep, heavy) with loving mothers and fathers for (**most**, down, when) of the boys and girls. I (long, **will**, with) find a good home for you (came, book, **too**). But until we find a good (then, why, **home**) for you, I must teach you (and, **how**, had) to work so you can help (**us**, not, are) keep ourselves fed."

The boy and (told, from, **girl**) were more than happy to work. (Rose, **The**, Sat) little boy ran out into the (shelter, **fields**, library) to work with the other boys. (Not, Find, **The**) boys were kind and helpful. They (**taught**, stormy, report) the little boy how to use (me, **a**, by) pitchfork. The girl offered to help (don't, book, **with**) the cooking and the dishes. The (turned, **little**, their) boy and girl were very happy (of, so, **in**) their new home.

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Answer Key

Beatrice hated books. Books were dusty and musty and (**filled**, heard, louder) with long, tangled sentences that made (and, **no**, in) sense—at least not to Beatrice. (Shelf, Voice, **Books**) were heavy and clumsy and so (pages, report, **boring**) that whenever Beatrice sat herself down (few, **and**, who) forced herself to read, she fell (heard, moldy, **right**) to sleep.

One stormy evening, Beatrice (with, **was**, from) sitting in the library doing nothing (**when**, side, floor) her mother looked in on her.

"(Tangled, **Beatrice**, Chuckle), darling," she said, "why don't you (came, bless, **read**) a book?"

"All the books in (tried, went, **here**) are boring," she told her mother.

"(Close, **They**, Show) are not," her mother shouted. "You (voice, who, **will**) read a book, and you will (**give**, head, heavy) me a full report in the (dinner, snuggled, **morning**)." Then she stormed out of the (tail, **room**, cross).

Beatrice was so angry she kicked (all, for, **the**) wall and screamed twice. She screamed (his, fact, **the**) first time because she'd stubbed her (you, stay, **toe**) and the second time because a (sight, **book**, few) had become dislodged from the shelf (block, **above**, howl) and fallen on her head.

The (**book**, songs, lose) fell open on the floor at (step, ago, **her**) feet. A few stray wisps of (elevators, **sparkling**, tenderest) dust rose from its moldy pages, (chocolate, potatoes, **tickling**) Beatrice's nose and causing her to (**sneeze**, vanilla, further).

"Bless you."

The voice came from (dog, all, **the**) shadows all around Beatrice. She heard (to, **a**, or) faint chuckle as she narrowed her (you're, fact, **eyes**) and looked from side to side. (As, **No**, In) one was there. Beatrice knew she (**was**, bone, let) alone with the book, so who (clown, that, **had**) spoken to her?

"I did, you (told, move, **fool**)."

The voice came again, louder this (only, **time**, when), and Beatrice finally looked down at (but, too, **her**) feet realizing that it was the (kind, **book**, fish) that spoke. Beatrice tried to close (now, into, **the**) cover of the book with her (got, **toe**, cold).

"That won't work," said the book, (**now**, what, boy) ruffling its pages because it was (**upset**, spoke, notice). "I don't like to be kicked. (Feels, Since, **Books**) should be treated with respect. Let (too, was, **me**) show you something."

The book ruffled (day, see, **its**) pages once more, and a strong (food, **wind**, know) blew as the pages turned. Finally, (for, don't, **the**) book stopped on a page with (it, **a**, by) picture of a trapdoor. The handle (**of**, but, he) the trapdoor gleamed.

"Go ahead," said (this, **the**, just) book. "Pull it open. A world (it, one, **of**) adventure awaits you, young Beatrice."

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Answer Key

Crystal's next door neighbor was a very large and strange man. He was well over six feet (last, hole, **tall**) with feet the size of tennis (ringing, **rackets**, followed). Sometimes while riding the bus to (**school**, build, weather), Crystal saw him at the dump (exactly, gorgeous, **digging**) through piles of garbage. Sometimes while (outing, **riding**, along) the bus home from school, she (just, year, **saw**) him walking down the sidewalk lugging (**a**, I, be) heavy burlap sack over his shoulder. (Whales, Anything, **Crystal**) never knew what was in the (that, **sack**, true). She could only guess as she (outside, shouted, **watched**) him open his front door and (woman, facts, **close**) it behind him. Her older brother, (Rope, **Jason**, Piles), had an idea.

"Maybe the guy (**next**, kids, hear) door is so poor," he told (destined, highly, **Crystal**) one afternoon, "he has to go (my, **to**, as) the dump to scavenge for food. (**I**, To, Us) bet he collects old boots and (days, **makes**, laugh) boot-leather soup." Crystal wrinkled her (made, loop, **nose**). She didn't like the sound of (thin, **that**, tell).

"Do you think I should bring (real, knot, **him**) some food?" she asked. "I could (heavy, **bring**, great) him some of the leftover cinnamon (final, cool, **rolls**) Mom made last weekend." Jason was (**too**, need, all) busy laughing to answer. Crystal ignored (part, **her**, high) big brother. She knew he could (you, for, **be**) rude and mean sometimes.

The next (decision, evaporate, **morning**) before school, Crystal walked across the (disk, **yard**, crane) and knocked on her neighbor's front (**door**, drop, pill). She knocked several times, but no (even, soon, **one**) answered. Crystal left the tray of (splashes, **cinnamon**, brighten) rolls covered with tinfoil on his (night, each, **steps**) and ran to catch the bus. (Best, **She**, Gave) didn't see the curtains twitch as (have, done, **she**) turned to leave, but she did (**see**, lost, pack) piles of rusty old pipes stacked (to, no, **in**) the backyard.

All day as Crystal (how, **sat**, she) in class, she wondered what her (popcorn, **neighbor**, weekend) used those pipes for. When she (off, dad, **got**) home, she found a clean plate (team, **and**, grow) a folded piece of tinfoil on (most, kept, **her**) front steps. She ran across her (**yard**, would, going) to her neighbor's door.

Before she (story, **could**, after) knock, the door opened. Her neighbor (kennel, owners, **stood**) in the doorway towering over her. (**Crystal**, Returned, Familiar) would have been scared to death (she, **had**, gone) there not been a kind smile (tag, see, **on**) his face and a sincere look (new, toy, **in**) his eyes. He didn't say a (asked, **word**, enjoy). Instead he handed her a beautiful (want, kind, **set**) of silver wind chimes.

"How lovely," (**she**, left, next) said. "Thank you very much." Crystal (last, **now**, come) understood what her neighbor did with (will, you, **his**) burlap sack and his backyard full (to, **of**, one) pipes.

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Answer Key

Fall is my favorite season. I love to watch the leaves (**change**, behind, could) color and flutter to the ground (by, as, **on**) cool, crisp fall days. All of (she, **my**, lit) fondest memories seem to involve fall.

(Who, **One**, And) of my favorite memories happened around (of, us, **a**) campfire last October. My cousins from (**Nebraska**, destroy, surprised) had come to visit us, and (in, to, **we**) spent the afternoon gathering firewood and (computer, **preparing**, controlled) the area for a campfire. After (rocket, **dinner**, spread), everyone walked down the path to (love, **the**, high) beachfront where we had set up (**a**, I, on) pile of logs for the fire. (By, Is, **It**) was almost dark, and we could (wanted, **barely**, trouble) see each other's faces.

"Isn't someone (speed, **going**, remote) to light the fire?" asked my (**Uncle**, game, around) Milton.

"Be patient. The children have (or, to, **a**) plan," said my mother.

My cousin (waste, **Sarah**, from) had climbed a nearby oak tree (said, over, **and**) was hidden from view. When everyone (him, **was**, fall) quiet, she lit a match. Suddenly, (he, **a**, in) ball of fire came shooting down (**on**, all, had) a thin wire and onto the (area, have, **pile**) of logs. The crumpled newspaper caught (when, **fire**, hope) and within seconds, flames rose high (like, them, **into**) the air.

Uncle Milton let out (if, or, **a**) high-pitched shriek and took a (**step**, send, here) backwards. As he stepped back, he (everyone, distance, **stumbled**) over something behind him, lost his (planets, **footing**, rocket), and landed with a splash in (by, **a**, to) bucket of water.

My cousins and (or, **I**, we) took one look at Uncle Milton (was, for, **and**) began to laugh. One by one, (cool, **the**, last) adults began laughing until Uncle Milton (flew, **was**, ago) the only one who wasn't laughing. (**Then**, Only, Mind), a smile slowly spread across his (tea, run, **face**), and soon he was laughing harder (look, **than**, float) any of us.

"May I ask (ginger, bring, **where**) that bucket of water came from?" (our, **he**, of) said when the laughter had died (wants, all, **down**).

"I filled it and brought it (class, door, **here**) this afternoon in case the fire (sun, **got**, soon) away from us," said my cousin (space, care, **Chip**). "You should have expected us to (see, said, **use**) that kind of caution, Dad. You're (be, **a**, at) firefighter, remember?" he asked. Uncle Milton (**was**, last, my) the fire chief in his hometown.

"(Tips, Often, **Well**), aren't you just a chip off (thin, **the**, with) old block," said my uncle, and (memories, **everyone**, stopped) started laughing all over again.

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Answer Key

Every day after school all the kids flocked to Jim's house to play computer games. They knew that Jim was the (**best**, cold, few) player in the school, maybe even (to, **in**, as) town. Nobody could beat Jim at (off, away, **any**) computer game, but they always tried.

(Was, **One**, Few) afternoon Jim was playing Space Ace (only, made, **with**) his friends. He played very well (**that**, bare, scene) day and reached a championship level (in, a, **of**) performance. His score was higher than (crudely, **anyone**, window) in history. He took a picture (was, far, **of**) the screen and mailed it into (him, **the**, was) company that created the game.

Two (**months**, gloomy, eager) later, while Jim and his friends (thus, work, **were**) playing games, the doorbell rang. Jim's (three, **mother**, house) answered the door, and there stood (that, even, **two**) men in uniforms. They were from (smile, **NASA**, paint), and they wanted to speak to (soon, ask, **Jim**). "Jimmy, come here," said his mother. (Was, **Jim**, Day) stopped playing and ran to the (root, **door**, thus). He was surprised to see men (feet, beats, **from**) NASA standing there.

The men explained (by, or, **to**) Jim that they had seen the (**picture**, vibrant, shabby) of his high score in Space (sand, day, **Ace**) and wanted to know if he (bleak, lifted, **would**) help them. There had been an (shoulders, **accident**, entirely) in space, and some astronauts were (**in**, of, by) trouble. The only hope of reaching (**them**, stood, place) was to send a remote controlled (chance, number, **rocket**) into space. There was no time (at, **to**, by) test the remote controlled rocket. NASA (without, **needed**, kitchen) Jim to fly the rocket for (again, job, **them**) right away.

Jim was more surprised (far, soon, **than**) before. "Yes! I'll help if I (was, **can**, the)," said Jim. Jim and his mother (slide, **flew**, left) to NASA in Florida. There was (**no**, as, or) time to waste. Jim sat in (up, and, **the**) pilot seat. The rocket took off. (Into, **Jim**, Her) controlled the rocket's flight through space. (By, Me, **It**) was just like the computer game! (As, Set, **He**) flew the rocket around planets and (gave, moons, number). He saw many small asteroids ahead (**of**, at, ace) him. He fired the guns to (marched, climbs, **destroy**) space rocks and flew quickly to (since, **reach**, friend) the space station. Finally, Jim saw (more, be, **the**) space station in the distance and (flew, with, high) at super speed. He docked perfectly (from, about, **with**) the space station. Jim had saved (by, over, **the**) astronauts, and NASA was very thankful. (Day, Soon, **Jim's**) picture was in newspapers around the (**world**, next, paper).

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Answer Key

I must be the only ten-year-old kid in the universe who has a time-travel machine. I began to use it just (curiously, equipment, **yesterday**). My time-travel machine has a (sure, **wide**, rear) variety of buttons. Yesterday I got (**in**, of, our), closed my eyes, and pressed one (as, it, **of**) the buttons. When I opened my (way, **eyes**, thick) and looked out, I found myself (as, my, **in**) Ancient Egypt! I peered out the (stretch, **window**, excited) and saw warriors running towards me. (**They**, Spun, Ship) looked angry, so I pressed a (beach, woman, **button**) that said "The Future" and quickly (surprise, **arrived**, several) back at my house.

I decided (met, this, **the**) time-travel machine was way cool (than, by, **and**) called my best friends, Jeff and (mother, **Justin**, travel). I didn't tell them about the (wide, **time**, knew)-travel machine over the phone because (**I**, at, so) knew they wouldn't believe me. They (around, looking, **always**) questioned the things I told them.

(By, **A**, So) few minutes later, I looked out (as, in, **my**) bedroom window. Sure enough, Jeff and (knights, future, **Justin**) were walking up the driveway. "Hey," (a, if, **I**) said. "You guys have to see (go, **the**, say) time machine I found."

"You know (**we're**, fact, eyes) too old for make-believe," Justin (this, **said**, were) as he folded his arms.

"No, (up, end, **I'm**) serious," I insisted, leading them to (**my**, far, let) machine. With their eyes wide open, (rope, out, **they**) stood in complete silence. After a (**lot**, pair, boat) of questions, they convinced me they (soon, spun, **were**) ready to try it out. We (pajamas, feature, **crammed**) into the machine, and I randomly (stories, **pressed**, medium) one of the buttons. Suddenly we (**found**, paper, studio) ourselves in medieval England. Jeff and (crunch, places, **Justin**) were totally amazed. They couldn't believe (chance, **their**, later) eyes! Just as we were about (**to**, an, by) step out, we noticed several knights (at, he, **in**) shining armor approaching. I decided not (of, **to**, far) chance it. I hit the future (corner, caught, **button**), and we ended up safe and (brave, **sound**, builds) back in my home.

Jeff and (start, afraid, **Justin**) made me promise to take them (**on**, by, at) another adventure very soon. Hopefully, next (went, pair, **time**) we will be able to stay (slipper, **longer**, boring) and explore more of the past.

I must be the only ten-year-old kid in the universe who has a time-travel machine. I began to use it just **(curiously, equipment, yesterday)**. My time-travel machine has a **(sure, wide, rear)** variety of buttons. Yesterday I got **(in, of, our)**, closed my eyes, and pressed one **(as, it, of)** the buttons. When I opened my **(way, eyes, thick)** and looked out, I found myself **(as, my, in)** Ancient Egypt! I peered out the **(stretch, window, excited)** and saw warriors running towards me. **(They, Spun, Ship)** looked angry, so I pressed a **(beach, woman, button)** that said "The Future" and quickly **(surprise, arrived, several)** back at my house.

I decided **(met, this, the)** time-travel machine was way cool **(than, by, and)** called my best friends, Jeff and **(mother, Justin, travel)**. I didn't tell them about the **(wide, time, knew)**-travel machine over the phone because **(I, at, so)** knew they wouldn't believe me. They **(around, looking, always)** questioned the things I told them.

(By, A, So) few minutes later, I looked out **(as, in, my)** bedroom window. Sure enough, Jeff and **(knights, future, Justin)** were walking up the driveway. "Hey," **(a, if, I)** said. "You guys have to see **(go, the, say)** time machine I found."

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Jeff and **(start, afraid, Justin)** made me promise to take them **(on, by, at)** another adventure very soon. Hopefully, next **(went, pair, time)** we will be able to stay **(slipper, longer, boring)** and explore more of the past.

Answer Key

I wasn't very excited as my mother and I pulled into a parking lot filled with pot holes in front of a weather-beaten building. Through my smudged glasses, the building (dangerous, telephone, **appeared**) very dull. Behind the building, I (shadow, comes, **could**) see the ocean tossing and I (**wished**, imagine, dreams) my surprise was an ocean outing. (Do, Go, **I'd**) rather stroll along the seashore any (out, look, **day**), than do whatever my mom planned (be, **to**, an) do in that dreary building. But (**before**, window, laugh) I could turn to complain to (up, as, **my**) mother, she'd already climbed out of (for, **the**, we'll) car.

"Great," I said, slamming the (off, try, **car**) door and taking my time as (or, **I**, to) followed her.

The building was about (by, we, **as**) spectacular on the inside as it (sun, **was**, all) on the outside. There was a (tempt, laugh, **dump**) desk stacked with papers, a telephone (highly, **ringing**, accept) off the hook, and a row (**of**, up, by) empty chairs. I didn't see anything (talk, into, **more**) interesting than a thick oak door (room, **and**, held) some dusty sailing equipment. There were (**piles**, dining, more) of rope and rigging everywhere. Suddenly (the, or, **my**) mother was nowhere in sight. I (rolled, **couldn't**, around) imagine what kind of surprise this (teatime, tomorrow, **deserted**) office could produce. "I can see (**this**, more, empty) is going to be an exciting (need, **day**, tell)," I muttered to myself.

"Are you (what's, **Jesse**, never)?" asked a voice. A young woman (**stood**, trays, table) on the far end of the (parrot, corner, **office**). "Your mother asked me to make (door, into, **sure**) you could find your way. Everyone (at, **is**, or) already outside." Curiously, I followed the (front, silver, **woman**) across the threadbare carpet to the (**rear**, from, grip) of the building.

The woman yanked (bit, her, **the**) door open, and we stepped out, (pointed, **blinking**, monkey) in the sunshine. Before me was (was, on, **the**) smell of the sea, a stretch (he, **of**, by) beach, and a gorgeous ship bobbing (you, or, **on**) the waves. My mom was already (be, **on**, why) board.

"What exactly was going on (**here**, when, told)?" I wondered to myself.

My mother (they, next, **must**) have felt me watching her, because (yard, **she**, dead) spun around and started waving her (big, open, **arms**) at me. She was beckoning me (dark, **down**, her) the dangerous-looking dock toward the (**impressive**, chocolate, surrounded) ship.

"Surprise, Jesse!" she shouted. "Do (tell, you, many) want to go whale watching with (do, tea, **me**)? Captain Jones tells me that a (laid, were, **pod**) of Humpback whales was just spotted (rolled, **feeding**, pointed) outside the bay. Hurry up, lazybones!"

(To, Be, I) couldn't think of anything sarcastic to (you, **say**, was) to that. In fact, I was (or, **so**, her) excited that I skipped down the (their, could, **beach**) toward the boat. I guess my (like, near, **mom**) knew how to surprise me after (**all**, out, make).

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Answer Key

It was a cold and dreary day. A few leaves clung desperately to (you, for, **the**) branches of the solitary trees, but (then, from, **most**) of the leaves had been ripped (his, **off**, want) as the wind gusted through. It (**was**, had, she) only the middle of October, but (honest, before, **already**) the wind was bitterly cold. Even (why, **the**, now) trees seemed to shiver.

One house (these, home, **stood**) alone, surrounded by barren fields. It (**seemed**, school, speak) lonely and vulnerable. There were patches (be, as, **on**) the roof where the shingles had (along, **come**, want) off and most of the paint (him, dark, **was**) chipping away. The house looked shabby (why, **and**, wild) neglected.

The inside of the house (**was**, how, with) no cheerier. Its three rooms were (smiled, **starkly**, cottage) furnished, and the floor was bare (staring, elbow, **except**) for a few ragged-looking rugs. (Had, **The**, So) only point of interest in the (**living**, family, blushed) room was the large, crudely made (usual, above, **easel**) that sat near the eastern window.

(By, **A**, Or) slender, aging man stood before the (lonely, shook, **easel**) in bedraggled clothes and bare feet. (But, **He**, My) was painting a beach on the (finger, movie, **canvas**) before him. It was a lovely (know, **scene**, floor) depicting sand, water, and the vibrant (water, cruel, **colors**) of a sunset.

The man was (**pleased**, because, bubbles) with his work thus far. He (**had**, now, see) awakened to the gloomy day, and (not, **his**, talk) mood was as bleak as the (ignored, **weather**, watched) outside. Breakfast had been a hurried (since, monster, **affair**) because he was eager to get (**to**, it, for) work and dispel the aching sadness (as, boy, **in**) his heart.

As soon as the (bowl, **man**, one) began to splash color on the (**canvas**, speak, didn't), his despair started to evaporate. He (cold, found, **began**) to drift away, his concentration entirely (as, far, **on**) the emerging picture before him. His (frantically, **loneliness**, happening) and hopelessness left him, like a (become, speech, **heavy**) shawl lifted from his shoulders. It (she, **was**, time) as if he were a part (**of**, how, at) the scene before him, his memory (that, more, **and**) rendition of it more real than (did, **his**, all) dismal surroundings.

Then the man added (her, **the**, eye) final element to the painting. It (**was**, how, of) a woman, lovely and graceful. She (time, **was**, try) approaching the painter, her arm lifted (up, at, **in**) salutation and a radiant smile on (out, lose, **her**) face.

As the man completed the (really, **final**, know) touches of the painting he felt (cruel, house, **great**) joy. Painting could brighten even his (couldn't, **darkest**, found) days.

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Answer Key

Late one afternoon, Patrick O'Connor was walking home from school when a strange thing happened. His usual route home took him (walking, **through**, weekend) a dark tunnel and high along (than, table, **some**) cliffs near an ocean. He saw (stories, excited, **nothing**) in the tunnel that amazed him. (**He**, Saw, How) didn't see anything strange as he (three, **walked**, popcorn) along the cliffs above the wild (black, teach, **waters**). But just as he turned down (**the**, more, new) lane that led to his grandmother's (grabbed, **cottage**, harder), a strange sight caught his eye.

(By, So, **It**) was a fairy sitting cool as (a, or, to) cucumber on a corner fencepost. Patrick (heavier, houses, **stopped**), closed his eyes, rubbed them, and (rang, **then**, great) opened them again. The fairy was (**still**, before, rule) sitting on the fencepost, and now (able, hear, **she**) was staring at him. The tiny, (pretended, difference, **shimmering**) woman was the most beautiful creature (grandma, **Patrick**, thought) had ever seen. She had long, (little, heavy, **glossy**) hair and wings like a butterfly.

"(**I've**, Like, Saw) been waiting for you all afternoon, (**Patrick**, because, called) O'Connor," she said. "What took you (me, **so**, sit) long to walk home from school?"

"(In, So, **I**) didn't know anyone was waiting for (old, **me**, ran), so I had no reason to (nearly, years, **hurry**)," Patrick stammered.

"That's an honest answer," (into, **she**, lab) told Patrick. Then she stood up (**and**, six, tell) flapped her pretty wings. Before Patrick (listened, running, **realized**) what was happening, she'd already landed (now, **on**, my) his shoulder and propped her elbow (**on**, as, to) his ear.

"Patrick O'Connor," she whispered. "(How, Who, **Did**) you know your grandmother was friends (pick, **with**, call) the fairies in these parts?"

"No, (as, so, **I**) did not know that," Patrick replied. "(Made, **What**, More) do you want with me?"

"Well, (were, see, **now**) that you and your family live (two, **in**, who) your grandmother's house, the fairies want to be your friends as well. I (**was**, all, over) the one chosen to speak with (of, **you**, the). Has anyone ever told you that (the, into, **you**) have your grandmother's eyes?" Patrick blushed (us, into, **and**) shoved his hands in his pockets (up, **as**, for) the fairy smiled kindly at him.

"(By, **I**, At) must go now, but we will (**speak**, happy, labs) again very soon," the fairy said (new, how, **as**) she blew him a kiss and (situations, **disappeared**, impulsively).

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"**(By, I, At)** must go now, but we will **(speak, happy, labs)** again very soon," the fairy said **(new, how, as)** she blew him a kiss and **(situations, disappeared, impulsively)**.

Answer Key

Laura was very excited that there were only three days of school this week. The long weekend was going to (**be**, was, on) great because Laura was going to (block, after, **stay**) with her grandma and grandpa. She (smarter, **always**, lights) liked to stay with them because (the, dog, **it**) was so much fun.

Mrs. Stevens (word, **gave**, began) a spelling test on Wednesday morning, (**but**, stay, open) Laura could hardly think because she (turn, **kept**, every) imagining what she was going to (sit, as, **do**) after school. She needed to pack (few, **her**, step) clothes in her new black suitcase. (Out, For, **She**) also needed to bring her favorite (brew, **book**, baked) because each night everyone would sit (to, low, **by**) the fireplace and read. Finally, she (**couldn't**, mourning, smarter) forget Mrs. Mouse, her favorite stuffed (further, little, **animal**), who had slept next to her (as, **in**, how) bed since she was little.

By (fact, **the**, lap) afternoon, Laura had an even harder (tail, fell, **time**) listening to her teacher. Laura thought (**about**, home, city) other nights at her grandparent's house. (Bone, Way, **She**) knew that she'd have to be (are, we, **in**) bed before 8:30, even if it (market, twice, **wasn't**) a school night. She also remembered (my, **the**, all) rule to eat ALL your vegetables. Still, (right, hear, **most**) of the differences were fun. Grandma (**would**, park, knack) always let Laura rent a movie (crow, get, **and**) eat popcorn on the couch. Better (owl, **yet**, with), Laura would be able to hear (pieces, always, **stories**) about things HER dad had done (near, most, **when**) he was a kid. Best of (for, **all**, bit), Grandma would ask her how she (**felt**, love, color) about different things, and Laura would (flutter, ground, **always**) feel safe talking.

That night, when (memory, **Laura's**, you're) dad dropped her off at Grandma's, (us, **he**, to) surprised Laura by picking her up (flames, high, **after**) he'd grabbed the black suitcase. He (camps, **teased**, child) her by saying the suitcase was (landed, around, **heavier**) than she was.

"Have a super (**weekend**, someone, caution), Peanut," he said as he rang (when, **the**, his) doorbell. "I wish I didn't have (all, for, **to**) work out of town, but I (one, **do**, and). Have a great time, and I'll (ball, loot, **see**) you Sunday night."

Grandma opened the (water, when, **front**,) door and gave Laura a big (**hug**, our, but). Grandpa took her suitcase and carried (by, me, **it**) upstairs pretending like it was heavy. (Filled, **Laura**, Homes) heard popcorn popping in the microwave. (**She**, Only, Look) looked at the coffee table and (said, **saw**, from) the movie she wanted to see (other, wire, **about**) a girl's basketball team.

"Yes," thought (bucket, **Laura**, woman). "This weekend is going to be (flames, wood, **great**)!"

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"Yes," thought **(bucket, Laura, woman)**. "This weekend is going to be **(flames, wood, great)!**"

Answer Key

"Let's go exploring," suggested Amanda. "I've always dreamed of discovering treasures (day, come, **left**) behind by pioneers."

"Weren't many pioneers (player, **rather**, maybe) poor?" Beth asked thoughtfully. "I never (computer, school, **thought**) of pioneers leaving behind treasures. It (**may**, even, town) be possible that because their wagons (months, picture, **couldn't**) carry everything, travelers buried their belongings (were, **and**, very) hoped they could return for them (screen, **later**, level)."

"I don't care who left it (in, up, **or**) why. I just want to find (answered, **someone's**, champion) long lost money, jewels, gold, or (playing, uniform, **silver**)! Don't you ever daydream about becoming (**rich**, here, score) overnight?"

"Not really," replied Beth. "If (to, I, a) found a lot of money, I'd (controls, surprise, **probably**) just spend it foolishly and it (rocket, waste, **would**) be gone before I knew it."

"(Away, **What**, Sat) if you found gold or jewels?" (there, wants, **asked**) Amanda. "Wouldn't it be fun to (fly, **wear**, among) bangles or hair pieces that were (saved, words, **once**) owned by queens or princesses?"

"Even (remote, **though**, moons) I only wear blue jeans and (asteroid, perfect, **T-shirts**), I suppose it would be amusing (by, **to**, me) decorate my ears and long hair (must, wear, **with**) jewels," laughed Beth. "You know I (**detest**, travel, variety) dresses, and I usually wear a (warriors, because, **ponytail**). I doubt very much that jewels (window, **would**, shining) go with my wardrobe!"

"Does that (ended, next, **mean**) you want to stay home and (able, **play**, stay) something else?" asked Amanda.

"No way," (longer, cool, **cried**) Beth. "Let's go exploring! You never (treat, thing, **know**) what we'll find. We may discover (boat, look, **the**) long lost treasure you've been dreaming (but, **of**, car), or we could find some old (**books**, found, folds) or a long-lost letter. Even (we, and, **if**) we don't find anything, the search (deer, **will**, rude) be fun. We can start at (can, but, **my**) grandma's place down by the river. (Hit, **Let's**, Step) telephone her to get her permission. (Answer, Guys, **Maybe**) we'll get really lucky, and she (**will**, try, soon) bake cookies for us!"

After the (**girls**, future, press) got to Beth's grandma's house and (suddenly, approach, **finished**) their cookies and milk, they ran (they, **off**, move) towards the river. Oh my, what (to, or, **a**) dilemma. Where should they start looking? (Button, **Since**, These) centuries had passed and no trails (believe, question, **remained**), the pioneers could have buried their (**belongings**, yesterday, embarrass) almost anywhere.

The girls sat on (much, off, **the**) riverbank and pretended they were early (totally, hopeful, **pioneers**) traveling through the area. What would (sip, **it**, tea) feel like to leave behind things

Answer Key

(need, **you**, more) love, knowing you might never return? (Why, Are, **As**) they imagined life as pioneers, the (seat, **sun**, by) set. Eventually they ran back to (**the**, them, fold) house to have dinner and ask (future, looks, **Beth's**) grandma what she knew about the (insisted, **pioneers**, pressed).

"Let's go exploring," suggested Amanda. "I've always dreamed of discovering treasures **(day, come, left)** behind by pioneers."

"Weren't many pioneers **(player, rather, maybe)** poor?" Beth asked thoughtfully. "I never **(computer, school, thought)** of pioneers leaving behind treasures. It **(may, even, town)** be possible that because their wagons **(months, picture, couldn't)** carry everything, travelers buried their belongings **(were, and, very)** hoped they could return for them **(screen, later, level).**"

"I don't care who left it **(in, up, or)** why. I just want to find **(answered, someone's, champion)** long lost money, jewels, gold, or **(playing, uniform, silver)**! Don't you ever daydream about becoming **(rich, here, score)** overnight?"

"Not really," replied Beth. "If **(to, I, a)** found a lot of money, I'd **(controls, surprise, probably)** just spend it foolishly and it **(rocket, waste, would)** be gone before I knew it."

"**(Away, What, Sat)** if you found gold or jewels?" **(there, wants, asked)** Amanda. "Wouldn't it be fun to **(fly, wear, among)** bangles or hair pieces that were **(saved, words, once)** owned by queens or princesses?"

"Even **(remote, though, moons)** I only wear blue jeans and **(asteroid, perfect, T-shirts)**, I suppose it would be amusing **(by, to, me)** decorate my ears and long hair **(must, wear, with)** jewels," laughed Beth. "You know I **(detest, travel, variety)** dresses, and I usually wear a **(warriors, because, ponytail)**. I doubt very much that jewels **(window, would, shining)** go with my wardrobe!"

"Does that **(ended, next, mean)** you want to stay home and **(able, play, stay)** something else?" asked Amanda.

"No way," **(longer, cool, cried)** Beth. "Let's go exploring! You never **(treat, thing, know)** what we'll find. We may discover **(boat, look, the)** long lost treasure you've been dreaming **(but, of, car)**, or we could find some old **(books, found, folds)** or a long-lost letter. Even **(we, and, if)** we don't find anything, the search **(deer, will, rude)** be fun. We can start at **(can, but, my)** grandma's place down by the river. **(Hit, Let's, Step)** telephone her to get her permission. **(Answer, Guys, Maybe)** we'll get really lucky, and she **(will, try, soon)** bake cookies for us!"

After the **(girls, future, press)** got to Beth's grandma's house and **(suddenly, approach, finished)** their cookies and milk, they ran **(they, off, move)** towards the river. Oh my, what **(to, or, a)** dilemma. Where should they start looking? **(Button, Since, These)** centuries had passed and no trails **(believe, question, remained)**, the pioneers could have buried their **(belongings, yesterday, embarrass)** almost anywhere.

The girls sat on **(much, off, the)** riverbank and pretended they were early **(totally, hopeful, pioneers)** traveling through the area. What would **(sip, it, tea)** feel like to leave

behind things **(need, you, more)** love, knowing you might never return? **(Why, Are, As)** they imagined life as pioneers, the **(seat, sun, by)** set. Eventually they ran back to **(the, them, fold)** house to have dinner and ask **(future, looks, Beth's)** grandma what she knew about the **(insisted, pioneers, pressed)**.

Answer Key

Little Wolf's mother was hungry for rabbit stew one morning, so she told her son to go out and shoot a rabbit for her. She said she would make a (excited, **savory**, beaten) stew for dinner. Little Wolf was (pulled, parks, **happy**) because he loved to hunt. He (pot, **was**, the) good with a bow and arrow (dull, see, **and**) rarely missed when he shot at (but, **an**, oak) animal.

Little Wolf wasn't in the (**forest**, ocean, taking) for very long before he came (time, **upon**, stroll) a rabbit and took aim. He (mom, that, **was**) just about to release his arrow (sure, **when**, find) the rabbit turned and spoke to (open, dog, **him**).

"Oh, please don't shoot me, brave (outside, stroll, **hunter**)," the rabbit pleaded. "I am the (beacon, **mother**, whales) of five defenseless babies. If you (**kill**, just, guess) me, my children will starve."

Little (bones, hurry, **Wolf**) did not lower his bow and (slamming, **continued**, impressive) to aim the arrow right between (out, with, **the**) rabbit's pleading eyes.

"My mother is (carpet, **hungry**, skipped) for rabbit stew," he told her. "(Say, **She**, Too) sent me out into the forest (ask, hook, **for**) rabbit and will be very angry (see, **if**, lie) I return with nothing."

"Return with (imagine, **nothing**, stretch), wise hunter. If you let me (by, or, **go**) so I may tend to my (**babies**, board, toward), I will give you the best (to, how, **of**) luck with my magical powers."

"Bah!" (think, **Little**, street) Wolf said. "We do not need (bear, **luck**, spun). We need food." Still, even though (office, endless, **Little**) Wolf was famished, he could not (where, **shoot**, board) the rabbit because she had spoken (as, my, **to**) him.

"Go on then. I will (blink, **shoot**, about) another rabbit," he said. Despite the (**good**, want, still) luck promised to him, he returned (smell, ship, **that**) evening without a rabbit for his (sunshine, looking, **mother's**) stew.

"You lazy boy!" his mother (vanilla, **shouted**, anything) at him. "Go down to the (smile, great, **river**) and fetch some water for me."

(At, **On**, My) the trail to the river, Little (**Wolf**, never, loud) thought he caught a glimpse of (way, **the**, test) rabbit he'd let go earlier, but (so, I'll, **it**) was too dark to be certain. (Boy, Such, **When**) he got to the river, he (skilled, **dipped**, tempt) his mother's jug into the current, (high, asks, **only**) to pull it out and find (my, in, **a**) silver trout trapped inside. Little Wolf (blast, **tossed**, among) the trout on the beach, dipped (an, let, **the**) jug again, and out came another (says, liar, **fish**)!

"What luck!" Little Wolf said. He (she, **and**, now) his mother had savory trout stew (can, see, **for**) dinner. Little Wolf thought trout stew (more, **was**, me) better than rabbit stew any day.

Little Wolf's mother was hungry for rabbit stew one morning, so she told her son to go out and shoot a rabbit for her. She said she would make a **(excited, savory, beaten)** stew for dinner. Little Wolf was **(pulled, parks, happy)** because he loved to hunt. He **(pot, was, the)** good with a bow and arrow **(dull, see, and)** rarely missed when he shot at **(but, an, oak)** animal.

Little Wolf wasn't in the **(forest, ocean, taking)** for very long before he came **(time, upon, stroll)** a rabbit and took aim. He **(mom, that, was)** just about to release his arrow **(sure, when, find)** the rabbit turned and spoke to **(open, dog, him)**.

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Answer Key

Molly tried to sleep, but she couldn't. Every time she closed her eyes (from, joy, **and**) tried to snuggle her pillows, she (great, **would**, final) remember that tomorrow it would be (face, even, **her**) turn to stand up in front (him, **of**, sue) the class, in front of EVERYONE, (**and**, like, more) give her speech.

Molly couldn't help (as, my, **it**), she was nervous. Tonight when her (**mom**, was, near) tucked her into bed, she folded (no, were, **the**) covers around Molly more snugly than (eager, **usual**, paint).

"I know you're nervous because of (**your**, large, made) speech tomorrow, Molly, but you really (that, beach, **have**) nothing to be scared of."

Molly (splash, **couldn't**, touches) speak, so she nodded instead. Her (left, sun, **mom**) didn't really know what Molly was (age, **so**, now) nervous about. Her mom was thirty-(most, need, **five**) years old, not eight years old (**and**, by, scar) in fourth grade like Molly.

She (gusted, **didn't**, wind) know that Michael O'Connor sat in (roof, bare, **the**) front row of Molly's class. She (lovely, gloomy, **didn't**) know that whenever a girl got (far, **up**, him) to give her speech, he made (middle, **funny**, real) faces and stuck his tongue out (**at**, be, of) her.

What if Molly stood in (barren, alone, **front**) of the class tomorrow and found (were, **she**, loud) couldn't speak? What if she blushed (heart, dismal, **until**) she was as red as a (east, **beet**, wood)? What if her eyes popped out (**and**, face, even) rolled between the aisles to the (neglected, **teacher's**, hurried) desk? What if everyone laughed at (sand, swam, **her**)?

Molly's speech was about the lions (get, **in**, had) Africa. It was about how they (dreary, trees, **lived**) in families called "prides" and how (depicting, hopeless, **lionesses**) did all the hunting. What if (painter, **nobody**, touch) cared about lions?

Molly didn't remember (**falling**, cottage, stopped) asleep. She must have slept because (down, tiny, **the**) next time she opened her eyes (how, **it**, so) was morning and time to go (my, new, **to**) school. Even though she was more (from, wild, **than**) a little bit scared and so (**nervous**, cliffs, creature) she could only eat half her (reason, staring, **cereal**), she still went.

When it was (near, **time**, them) for Molly to give her speech, (led, mean, **the**) whole classroom suddenly got quiet. Molly (route, your, **went**) to the front of the room, (well, **her**, prop) hands trembling. There was Michael O'Connor (**crossing**, beautiful, nothing) his eyes. Molly looked at him (lane, **and**, meat) then looked away.

"Lions live in (Patrick, **Africa**, loves)," Molly said and went on with (was, her, came) speech.

Molly tried to sleep, but she couldn't. Every time she closed her eyes (**from, joy, and**) tried to snuggle her pillows, she (**great, would, final**) remember that tomorrow it would be (**face, even, her**) turn to stand up in front (**him, of, sue**) the class, in front of EVERYONE, (**and, like, more**) give her speech.

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"Lions live in (**Patrick, Africa, loves**)," Molly said and went on with (**was, her, came**) speech.

Answer Key

Mr. Shrunken worked as a filing clerk at the telephone company. All day long he filed names, (there, **names**, school), and more names. Mr. Shrunken thought (with, new, **his**) job was probably the most boring (stay, fun, **job**) on the planet.

One day, Mr. (Laura, **Shrunken**, still) could not take it any longer. (**Even**, Test, Think) though he was in the middle (she, **of**, to) organizing a huge stack of folders, (do, any, **he**) stood up, put on his jacket, (work, over, **and**) walked out the door.

"That's the (boat, **last**, red) I'll ever see of that place," (**he**, all, can) said to himself as he climbed (even, rent, **into**) his car and drove home. "Now (a, I, so) need to find myself a new (be, **and**, cry) more exciting job."

The next morning (off, have, **over**) a bowl of chocolate crunch cereal, (who, **Mr.**, be) Shrunken reviewed the classifieds in the (harder, **daily**, clear) paper.

"It looks like they need (**help**, list, upon) at both the police station and (was, near, **the**) fire station. I'll apply at both (night, **places**, heavy)," he said to himself. Mr. Shrunken (suitcase, weekend, **finished**) his cereal, changed out of his (favorite, **pajamas**, hardly) and slippers into a suit and (**tie**, now, bed), and went out to look for (much, **work**, took).

First, he stopped at the police (talking, animal, **station**), where he got the chance to (rule, **ride**, rang) around with a pair of police (vegetable, everyone, **officers**) in their squad car. An hour (going, **later**, forget), Mr. Shrunken decided dodging bullets and (safe, pack, **high**)-speed chases were not for him.

(**At**, Be, No) the fire station, the firemen asked (as, so, **Mr.**) Shrunken to climb five stories of (doorbell, **ladders**, popcorn) and then slide down the long (town, black, **fire**) pole. Since he was afraid of (upstairs, **heights**, imagine) and burning objects, he left the (from, how, **fire**) station without a job.

The next (dreamed, **morning**, thought), Mr. Shrunken reviewed the classified ads (**yet**, long, ear) again. He was about to set (start, **aside**, doubt) the paper when an ad on (lot, **the**, wear) far corner of the page caught (you, very, **his**) attention.

The ad read, "Brave stunt (blue, near, **man**) wanted for dangerous stunts in a (bangles, **feature**, usually) Hollywood film." The ad said the (jewels, wagons, **studio**) was looking for a tall man (down, more, **with**) a medium build and a mustache. (**The**, Else, Stay) ad also gave the number to (bake, here, **call**) if interested. Mr. Shrunken stood up.

"(My, Saw, **I'm**) tall," he said. "I have a (behind, **medium**, cookies) build and a mustache." He marched (passed, **across**, dinner) his kitchen and picked up the (permission, treasure, **telephone**). Mr. Shrunken was sure tomorrow he (early, queen, **would**) start a new job.

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Answer Key

My name is Elmer, and I'm nearly six years old. Six years old is about 42 (new, hour, **dog**) years, so it is a little (performance, **embarrassing**, neighborhood) to tell you that I got (**lost**, saw, how) at my age. Actually, I got (make, **lost**, you) because I listened to my kennel (must, rocks, **mate**), Abby, who often gets us into (shovels, leaped, **trouble**).

We traveled from Illinois to Michigan (his, **to**, and) see our owners' relatives. It was (to, **a**, by) long ride, and our owners did (**quite**, paced, length) a bit of visiting when they (walked, thinking, **arrived**). I guess that's why we missed (help, **our**, near) long daily walk. When they let (had, by, **us**) out the next morning, Abby took (prepared, **advantage**, wonderful) of the situation and started running. (In, As, **I**) impulsively followed her!

We were exploring (or, up, **a**) new neighborhood, and the next thing (**I**, if, at) knew, two black Labradors appeared and (special, animals, **started**) sniffing me all over. Abby bolted (songbird, **towards**, silence) the highway and left me to (soon, other, **fend**) for myself. The labs' owner, who (perform, **seemed**, himself) mean at that moment, tried to (**control**, talent, forest) her noisy dogs. Finally, she placed (they, last, **her**) hands on her hips and firmly (showed, **yelled**, tonight), "Kennel!" I understood that word, so (to, of, **I**) ran into the kennel with the (solo, there, **labs**). I guess I wasn't supposed to (was, **go**, the) inside because she dragged me out (but, the, **by**) my collar.

The lady commanded me (**to**, by, he) sit. She read my tags and (clothing, **giggled**, because). Then she asked a familiar but (outstanding, **embarrassing**, opportunity) question. "Elmer? What kind of name (you, can, **is**) that for a handsome dog like (adventure, burritos, **yourself**)?" She called my owners' number and (**left**, have, great) a message for them. My owners (famous, **quickly**, person) returned her call and made arrangements (the, **to**, is) pick me up. She fed me (city, next, **some**) biscuits and called her office to (good, make, **say**) she'd be late. She offered me (**a**, is, so) portable kennel to sit in while (can, see, **my**) owners came to get me. My (things, example, **owners**) were happy to see me. They (loving, **thanked**, museum) the nice lady before she left (by, **for**, have) work.

Some people say it's a (pass, this, **dog**) eat dog world out there, but (up, a, **I**) disagree. Especially when you are lucky (**enough**, great, chance) to get lost near a kind (for, **dog**, good) owner. However, I know was lucky, (time, **and**, bed) I think I've learned my lesson. (**The**, Near, Go) next time Abby wants to go (different, **exploring**, sometimes), I'll remind her that there's no (should, **place**, visit) like home.

My name is Elmer, and I'm nearly six years old. Six years old is about 42 **(new, hour, dog)** years, so it is a little **(performance, embarrassing, neighborhood)** to tell you that I got **(lost, saw, how)** at my age. Actually, I got **(make, lost, you)** because I listened to my kennel **(must, rocks, mate)**, Abby, who often gets us into **(shovels, leaped, trouble)**.

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Answer Key

Old Mr. Jenkins was digging around in his flower garden one afternoon when his hoe hit something solid. He put down the hoe and (there, **picked**, small) up a shovel.

"It must be (upon, name, **one**) of those pesky rocks again," he (boy, **told**, was) his cat, Virginia, who was always (**watching**, roosters, morning) him. "When will I get rid (in, had, **of**) all of the rocks in my (village, **garden**, lived)? I've been digging up rocks for (small, every, **more**) than fifty years."

"Meow," Virginia said (say, the, **as**) she watched Mr. Jenkins turn and (three, **start**, they) digging.

The rock that Mr. Jenkins (soon, **hit**, call) with his hoe was long and (would, heard, **narrow**). It was soft, brown in color, (**and**, how, near) had two rounded ends. At first (a, **Mr.**, by) Jenkins thought he was digging up (my, he, **a**) petrified log. Soon though, he realized (and, **he**, was) was digging up a fossilized bone.

"(Time, Much, **Good**) heavens!" Mr. Jenkins exclaimed when he'd (stages, **finally**, clapped) unearthed the bone and saw how (shyly, **huge**, came) it was. "What do you make (**of**, but, too) this thing, Virginia?"

Virginia, the cat, (along, beach, **leaped**) gracefully down into the hole Mr. (perfect, **Jenkins**, winter) just dug.

Mr. Jenkins could tell (beautiful, forward, **Virginia**) was thinking as she paced the (drama, **length**, friend) of the bone. Finally, Virginia stopped. (**She**, Last, Book) jumped out of the hole and (forgot, shyness, **stopped**) five feet across the lawn from (one, **it**, saw). She began to dig another hole (lost, turn, **with**) her furry paws.

Mr. Jenkins was (ring, **about**, long) to scold Virginia because she was (finish, **digging**, raccoon) in the middle of his tulip (them, sign, **patch**), but he was curious. Instead of (**hollering**, director, requested), he picked up his shovel and (movie, bay, **went**) to help.

An hour later, Virginia (even, **and**, now) Mr. Jenkins dug up another bone. (Know, **This**, Trust) bone was the skull of a (winning, beamed, **dinosaur**). It was as big as Mr. (sister, agreed, **Jenkins'**) lawn mower and had rows and (upon, **rows**, have) of sharp teeth. The teeth were (**the**, role, end) same size as the blade on (of, my, **Mr.**) Jenkins' hoe. When Mr. Jenkins saw (star, **the**, way) skull, he set it down carefully (big, out, **and**) walked into his house. From his (jumped, bullets, **kitchen**), he used the telephone and called (**the**, work, his) local museum.

"I've got something out (**in**, was, big) my garden I think you'll want (not, put, **to**) see," he told the scientist who (costume, watching, **answered**) the phone. "Bring shovels!"

Old Mr. Jenkins was digging around in his flower garden one afternoon when his hoe hit something solid. He put down the hoe and **(there, picked, small)** up a shovel.

"It must be **(upon, name, one)** of those pesky rocks again," he **(boy, told, was)** his cat, Virginia, who was always **(watching, roosters, morning)** him. "When will I get rid **(in, had, of)** all of the rocks in my **(village, garden, lived)**? I've been digging up rocks for **(small, every, more)** than fifty years."

"Meow," Virginia said **(say, the, as)** she watched Mr. Jenkins turn and **(three, start, they)** digging.

The rock that Mr. Jenkins **(soon, hit, call)** with his hoe was long and **(would, heard, narrow)**. It was soft, brown in color, **(and, how, near)** had two rounded ends. At first **(a, Mr., by)** Jenkins thought he was digging up **(my, he, a)** petrified log. Soon though, he realized **(and, he, was)** was digging up a fossilized bone.

(Time, Much, Good) heavens!" Mr. Jenkins exclaimed when he'd **(stages, finally, clapped)** unearthed the bone and saw how **(shyly, huge, came)** it was. "What do you make **(of, but, too)** this thing, Virginia?"

Virginia, the cat, **(along, beach, leaped)** gracefully down into the hole Mr. **(perfect, Jenkins, winter)** just dug.

Mr. Jenkins could tell **(beautiful, forward, Virginia)** was thinking as she paced the **(drama, length, friend)** of the bone. Finally, Virginia stopped. **(She, Last, Book)** jumped out of the hole and **(forgot, shyness, stopped)** five feet across the lawn from **(one, it, saw)**. She began to dig another hole **(lost, turn, with)** her furry paws.

Mr. Jenkins was **(ring, about, long)** to scold Virginia because she was **(finish, digging, raccoon)** in the middle of his tulip **(them, sign, patch)**, but he was curious. Instead of **(hollering, director, requested)**, he picked up his shovel and **(movie, bay, went)** to help.

An hour later, Virginia **(even, and, now)** Mr. Jenkins dug up another bone. **(Know, This, Trust)** bone was the skull of a **(winning, beamed, dinosaur)**. It was as big as Mr. **(sister, agreed, Jenkins')** lawn mower and had rows and **(upon, rows, have)** of sharp teeth. The teeth were **(the, role, end)** same size as the blade on **(of, my, Mr.)** Jenkins' hoe. When Mr. Jenkins saw **(star, the, way)** skull, he set it down carefully **(big, out, and)** walked into his house. From his **(jumped, bullets, kitchen)**, he used the telephone and called **(the, work, his)** local museum.

"I've got something out **(in, was, big)** my garden I think you'll want **(not, put, to)** see," he told the scientist who **(costume, watching, answered)** the phone. "Bring shovels!"

Answer Key

Once upon a time, in a small village called Bandion, there lived a boy called Samir. Samir had three roosters, and every (mermaid, belonged, **morning**) they would say, "Cock-a-doodle-(as, **do**, now)! Cock-a-doodle-do!" As soon (by, who, **as**) Grandma heard their call, she would (just, **get**, with) up and start her day. They (under, truth, **would**) call again, and Grandpa would rise (**and**, chin, swim) begin his day. When they called (deep, hand, **for**) the third time, Samir and his (water, **father**, right), mother, and brothers would wake up (sea, back, **and**) get ready for the new day. (**Everyone**, Panicked, Harmless) in Samir's family depended on the (turtles, swirled, **roosters**) to wake them up in the (herself, popped, **morning**). Samir loved his roosters very much (have, **and**, don't) took excellent care of them.

One (all, **day**, held), two of Samir's uncles came to (**the**, now, saw) village to visit. They stayed for (mermaid, flashes, **several**) days. The roosters would say, "Cock-(on, **a**, or)-doodle-do" promptly at the stroke (by, **of**, now) every hour. Samir's uncles were impressed (with, our, **that**) his family didn't need a clock, (**and**, book, held) they wished they each had one (**of**, by, his) Samir's roosters. On the last day (you, me, **of**) their visit, Samir's uncles convinced him (see, **to**, how) give them each a rooster. After (were, too, **all**), he did have three roosters and (head, can, **one**) rooster should be enough. Each uncle (could, **picked**, nobody) a rooster and left for their (**home**, going, when).

Samir stroked the rooster that was (stuck, magic, **left**) behind. "You are all alone now," (to, all, **he**) said sadly.

The next morning, the (get, **lone**, see) rooster did not crow. Grandma waited (them, open, **and**) waited for it to call. When (kitchen, **Grandpa**, knocked) finally got up and left for (said, **work**, more), he was late. Everyone in the (coming, slight, **family**) got up late that day, and (**everyone**, invisible, collect) was angry

"Why didn't the rooster (wink, about, **crow**)?" everyone asked. Samir understood. The remaining (grandma, **rooster**, street) was lonely and missed his friends (cold, trade, **very**) much. Samir decided to write to (corn, **his**, back) uncles and beg them to return (much, places, **their**) roosters. Before he could finish his (sticks, **letters**, stamping), there was a knock at the (**door**, mouth, boy). Both of his uncles had returned (said, **with**, long) their roosters.

"Take your roosters back," (water, not, **they**) said. They did not crow this (foolish, dumped, **morning**), and we were all late!"

Samir (because, **gathered**, skillful) his roosters into his arms and (**said**, much, bowl), "You clever roosters. You planned not (my, for, **to**) crow if you were ever separated."

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Samir **(because, gathered, skillful)** his roosters into his arms and **(said, much, bowl)**, "You clever roosters. You planned not **(my, for, to)** crow if you were ever separated."

Answer Key

One day Addie was collecting seashells in the surf when the flash of a fish tail caught her eye. At first Addie thought she'd seen (club, for, **the**) tail of a really small whale, (how, **so**, we) she backed away. Suddenly, a woman's (team, this, **head**) popped up out of the water, (**and**, came, now) Addie saw that the tail belonged (by, as, **to**) a mermaid.

The mermaid had tangled (wrote, story, **green**) hair. She had webbed skin between (kick, **her**, next) blue fingers and gills behind her (turn, class, **ears**). The scales on her tail were (school, **silver**, below) and green.

Addie was so surprised (two, them, **she**) dropped her seashells. Her mother had (wished, **always**, control) told her that mermaids didn't exist.

"(Saw, **Do**, Hey) not be frightened of me," the (advise, agreed, **mermaid**) said. "I'm the last of my (past, **kind**, field) living in these waters, and I'm (**terribly**, outside, project) lonely. Would you like to come (eager, group, **under**) the water with me? I'll give (**you**, with, goal) a tour of the ocean."

Addie (swift, ship, **knew**) that she probably shouldn't go with (flew, **the**, here) mermaid, but her curiosity was too (caused, **fierce**, voice). Soon she found herself chin deep (be, of, **in**) the sea with the mermaid splashing (sound, **beside**, knocked) her.

"I don't think I should (to, **go**, arm) under the water," Addie said. "I (among, call, **don't**) have gills behind my ears like (look, blue, **you**) do."

"Just hold my hand tightly, (**and**, open, you) everything will be all right," the (troupe, **mermaid**, morning) replied. Then she took Addie's hand (door, see, **and**) dove under the water.

At first (monkey, would, **Addie**) panicked as the green waves swirled (sparkle, moving, **around**) her. But she quickly realized the (around, **mermaid**, complain) was telling the truth. As long (to, **as**, him) Addie held onto her hand, she (shout, pair, **could**) breathe under water and swim like (**a**, up, to) fish.

"Come on now," the mermaid (brown, looks, **told**) Addie. Her voice sounded eerie under (hand, **the**, my) water.

The mermaid gave Addie a (other, **tour**, lion) of the coral reef, and they (very, hours, **swam**) with a colony of harmless jellyfish. (More, Ask, **They**) even rode on the back of (on, **a**, if) giant sea turtle. When Addie finally (tiny, **let**, mama) go of the mermaid's hand and (gasp(ed), steep, **waded**) out of the water, the sun (back, cane, **was**) setting and she could hear her (**mother**, noise, animal) calling for her.

"Thanks," Addie said.

"(Sat, Hour, **Any**) time, friend," the mermaid replied, and (news, join, **with**) a flash of her tail, she (then, **was**, come) gone.

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Answer Key

Randy was a raccoon, and he loved to act on stage. He was preparing an animal talent (**show**, stew, took). Randy scurried throughout the forest talking (by, as, **to**) the animals of the woods. He (loved, **wanted**, lower) each animal to perform one act (or, who, **in**) the animal talent show.

Soon the (will, **big**, him) night came. All the animals of (**the**, don't, go) forest showed up for the performance. (River, Then, **Randy**) organized the performers, and the first (good, **one**, too) to perform was Gretchen the goose.

(Glimpse, Pleading, **Gretchen**) walked out on stage and said, "(Shoot, Lazy, **Thank**) you all for coming tonight. I've (perform, **prepared**, animals) a special song I would like (**to**, for, he) sing for you." She took a (trail, day, **deep**) breath and honked. She honked and (hungry, **honked**, arrow) and honked. It did not sound (sent, need, **very**) good, but it was the best (tend, **that**, more) Gretchen could do. She bowed when (luck, now, she) was finished, and all the animals (**clapped**, famished, another) politely.

"Borris, you're next," said Randy. (Caught, Savory, **Borris**) the bear shyly walked out on (fetch, **stage**, dark) staring at the floor.

"Uh, I (jug, **am**, boy) going to dance," said Borris. The (pull, **bear**, find) danced a little, shuffling his feet (said, any, **back**) and forth. He soon forgot his (certain, earlier, **shyness**) began to really enjoy himself. He (time, closed, **stood**) on his back feet and danced (**backwards**, tomorrow, remember) and forwards. He turned around in (to, **a**, up) circle. He jumped from one foot (as, **to**, I) the other. The animals cheered and (whenever, nervous, **whistled**). Borris' dance was really quite good.

(But, With, **Sue**) the songbird was up next. She (went, **sang**, live) a beautiful solo. Her performance was (looked, **perfect**, suddenly), thanks to all her years of (classroom, trembling, **practicing**). The animals sat in awed silence (class, **until**, about) she finished.

Robert the rabbit performed (**a**, in, so) play in which he acted as (her, to, **if**) a man was hunting him. First (not, eat, **he**) ran away, then he ran back, (half, **and**, only) then he acted as if he (bit, with, **were**) hit by a bullet. The animals (**clapped**, morning, aisles), but they were too scared by (when, give, **the**) drama to enjoy it.

Randy the (opened, quieted, **raccoon**) was the last one to perform. (But, **He**, So) performed a wonderful drama about a (front, **king**, blush) who was looking for a queen. (And, **The**, Give) audience laughed and cried. The animals (pride, calls, **loved**) Randy's performance. They clapped and requested (asleep, crosses, **another**) performance.

"Please come to the next (**animal**, lioness, speech) talent show, and you will see (years, **more**, usual)," said Randy. All the animals of (what, roll, **the**) forest left the talent show looking (blushed, **forward**, fourth) to the next performance.

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"Uh, I **(jug, am, boy)** going to dance," said Borris. The **(pull, bear, find)** danced a little, shuffling his feet **(said, any, back)** and forth. He soon forgot his **(certain, earlier, shyness)** began to really enjoy himself. He **(time, closed, stood)** on his back feet and danced **(backwards, tomorrow, remember)** and forwards. He turned around in **(to, a, up)** circle. He jumped from one foot **(as, to, I)** the other. The animals cheered and **(whenever, nervous, whistled)**. Borris' dance was really quite good.

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Answer Key

Tad didn't pay much attention to the goldfish in the crystal bowl on his dresser. Most mornings he just tapped a (all, **bit**, more) of food into the bowl and (most, **went**, huge) to school. He never talked to (day, job, **his**) pet. He never admired the fish's (filing, thought, **golden**) scales or delicate fins and tail, (**and**, long, most) he didn't notice the skillful way (was, any, **in**) which the fish swam circles in (one, **the**, take) water.

One day Tad was feeding (put, new, **his**) fish and thinking about the monster (stack, jacket, **movie**) he planned to see that evening, (they, **when**, both) the fish spoke to him.

"Hey," (need, over, **the**) fish gargled, "you're dumping too much (**food**, car, hour) into my bowl. Watch what you're (crunch, pair, **doing**), foolish boy!" Tad was so surprised (got, **he**, to) dropped the container of fish food (at, out, **on**) the floor.

"No," he said to (**himself**, changed, slippers) as he shook his head. "It (fire, calm, **isn't**) possible for my fish to speak (by, not, **to**) me because fish don't talk. This (**kind**, suit, work) of thing only happens in monster (cereal, **movies**, chance), not in reality."

"This is happening (in, **to**, for) you," the fish proclaimed. "I'm (by, is, **a**) goldfish, and I'm speaking to you, (object, climb, **young**) man. You've ignored me since the (job, **day**, yet) you got me. For one thing, (long, **the**, has) water in this bowl is too (**cold**, again, aside). Just dip your finger in it, (when, **and**, far) test it yourself. I don't know (page, **how**, read) I've survived under these cruel conditions."

(Ad, For, **Of**) course, the water in the bowl (medium, stood, **wasn't**) too cold for the goldfish, but (**how**, tall, gave) was Tad to know? How was (call, sure, **Tad**) to know that his goldfish was (name, six, **not**) an ordinary fish, and as soon (so, **as**, dog) he dipped his finger into the (lost, **water**, mate), he would trade places with the (listened, traveled, **goldfish**)?

Tad stuck his finger in the (often, daily, **water**) and found it was cold, but (**not**, our, did) freezing. "It feels just fine to (all, shy, **me**)," he tried to say, but no (start, **sound**, owner) escaped him. Tad was now trapped (who, **in**, try) the fish bowl, and the goldfish (**had**, mean, hip) become a little boy. Tad swam (message, suppose, **around**) the fish bowl frantically, but when (get, eat, **he**) tried to speak, only bubbles came (I've, **out**, you) of his mouth. He watched his (wants, **fish**, that), who was now a boy, move (**around**, yelled, lesson) his bedroom.

"I think I'll try to see (why, the, **one**) of those monster (however, **movies**, people) you mentioned," he told Tad. "Goodbye, (portable, **Tadpole**, Labrador)."

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Answer Key

The Writer's Club was an interesting group of talented school children who loved to write. Their faculty advisor suggested an interesting (around, flower, **project**) for them. Each of them would (solid, **write**, when) one paragraph of a story that (**would**, pesky, years) be printed in the school newspaper. (Told, Get, **The**) suggestion was eagerly accepted by participants. (House, **Joanie**, Heavens), the sports star of the school, (could, paced, **began**) the story. She wrote this paragraph:

"(Meow, Same, **Judy**) sat in class and watched her (**friend's**, curious, length) gym class play soccer. She wished (saw, **so**, cat) hard that she could be excused (feet, soon, **from**) class and play with them. Suddenly, (out, **her**, dig) teacher saw her looking outside and (hole, came, **said**), 'Why don't you go and play (**with**, bone, tulip) them?' Judy didn't sit there another (fossil, earth, **minute**). She grabbed her books and folders (step, told, **and**) ran out to the field. She (careful, **joined**, you'll) the soccer team and immediately scored (by, **a**, us) goal. She was awesome!"

Next was (**Scott's**, sharp, paced) turn. He was a fan of (walked, **science**, scolded) fiction.

"Just as Judy scored the (village, rooster, **winning**) soccer goal, aliens beamed her aboard (upon, **their**, small) ship and flew off. Two large (lived, heard, **alien**) guards came at her to seize (**her**, soon, call) and throw her into a cell. (Day, Time, **Judy**) gave the two of them a (wake, **swift**, ready) kick to the shins and seized (brother, **control**, depend) of their ship. She flew back (she, in, **to**) her school and waved at the (everyone, convinced, **students**) below."

It was Jessica's turn next. (**She**, Have, Late) loved movies, so she wrote about (left, later, **them**).

"Then Judy flew off to California. (The, One, **She**) flew the spaceship right past the (understand, **Hollywood**, separated) sign and landed at a movie (knock, **studio**, return). One movie director asked if she (**would**, write, uncle) fly her spaceship for him in (**one**, not, crow) of his movies. She said, 'Yes, (his, got, **but**) only if I can have the (convinced, **starring**, depended) role.' The director agreed."

Finally it (both, **was**, play) Stephen's turn. The faculty advisor asked (care, loot, **him**) to end the story with a (pit, ball, **nice**) conclusion.

"But Judy was bored as (he, **a**, I) movie star and with the spaceship, (**so**, has, bet) she returned home and went to (soap, clam, **bed**). The next day at school all (rude, **her**, crow) friends asked her what happened. All (door, **she**, mean) said was, 'I scored the winning (throw, frown, **soccer**) goal.'"

The story was published in (**the**, ant, come) school newspaper, and the readers requested (by, **a**, or) sequel.

The Writer's Club was an interesting group of talented school children who loved to write. Their faculty advisor suggested an interesting **(around, flower, project)** for them. Each of them would **(solid, write, when)** one paragraph of a story that **(would, pesky, years)** be printed in the school newspaper. **(Told, Get, The)** suggestion was eagerly accepted by participants. **(House, Joanie, Heavens)**, the sports star of the school, **(could, paced, began)** the story. She wrote this paragraph:

"(Meow, Same, Judy) sat in class and watched her **(friend's, curious, length)** gym class play soccer. She wished **(saw, so, cat)** hard that she could be excused **(feet, soon, from)** class and play with them. Suddenly, **(out, her, dig)** teacher saw her looking outside and **(hole, came, said)**, 'Why don't you go and play **(with, bone, tulip)** them?' Judy didn't sit there another **(fossil, earth, minute)**. She grabbed her books and folders **(step, told, and)** ran out to the field. She **(careful, joined, you'll)** the soccer team and immediately scored **(by, a, us)** goal. She was awesome!"

Next was **(Scott's, sharp, paced)** turn. He was a fan of **(walked, science, scolded)** fiction.

"Just as Judy scored the **(village, rooster, winning)** soccer goal, aliens beamed her aboard **(upon, their, small)** ship and flew off. Two large **(lived, heard, alien)** guards came at her to seize **(her, soon, call)** and throw her into a cell. **(Day, Time, Judy)** gave the two of them a **(wake, swift, ready)** kick to the shins and seized **(brother, control, depend)** of their ship. She flew back **(she, in, to)** her school and waved at the **(everyone, convinced, students)** below."

It was Jessica's turn next. **(She, Have, Late)** loved movies, so she wrote about **(left, later, them)**.

"Then Judy flew off to California. **(The, One, She)** flew the spaceship right past the **(understand, Hollywood, separated)** sign and landed at a movie **(knock, studio, return)**. One movie director asked if she **(would, write, uncle)** fly her spaceship for him in **(one, not, crow)** of his movies. She said, 'Yes, **(his, got, but)** only if I can have the **(convinced, starring, depended)** role.' The director agreed."

Finally it **(both, was, play)** Stephen's turn. The faculty advisor asked **(care, loot, him)** to end the story with a **(pit, ball, nice)** conclusion.

"But Judy was bored as **(he, a, I)** movie star and with the spaceship, **(so, has, bet)** she returned home and went to **(soap, clam, bed)**. The next day at school all **(rude, her, crow)** friends asked her what happened. All **(door, she, mean)** said was, 'I scored the winning **(throw, frown, soccer)** goal.'"

The story was published in **(the, ant, come)** school newspaper, and the readers requested **(by, a, or)** sequel.

Answer Key

Thelma's new neighbor was mighty odd. She knew her neighbor was strange (surf, tail, **from**) the moment the moving van pulled (fish, **into**, real) the driveway of the house across (eye, at, **the**) street. She knew he was different (seen, small, **just**) as soon as she saw him (**walk**, shell, pop) up to the front door of (saw, **his**, out) new house.

Thelma wanted to walk (water, backed, **across**) the street and introduce herself, but (ears, like, **her**) new neighbor's costume made her stop (all, **and**, this) stare. The man wore shiny black (close, **boots**, these) that came to his knees and (by, or, **a**) black top hat. He had a (surprised, belonged, **mustache**) that curled up at the ends (**and**, told, more) a peculiar sparkle that lit his (curiosity, realized, **chocolate**) brown eyes. Thelma watched as he (chin, waters, **threw**) open his front door, took a (splash, **moment**, green) to look inside, and then abruptly (dove, **swung**, eerie) around and walked back to the (**moving**, swirled, breathe) truck parked in his driveway.

"Well, (hand, **come**, truth) on," he shouted. "Make yourselves at (long, held, **home**)!"

Then, to Thelma's complete surprise, a (ears, **gang**, flash) of clowns stepped out of the (time, reef, **back**) of the truck. A troupe of (harmless, **monkeys**, mermaid) and many more exotic animals followed (like, onto, **the**) clowns. Thelma saw a pair of (**zebras**, coral, colony), a bearded lion, and a very (final, hear, **large**) tiger. She gasped when she saw (of, **a**, be) mama elephant and her tiny baby.

"(Her, **How**, And) could the circus be moving in (setting, **across**, behind) the street?" Thelma asked herself. What (lonely, tells, **would**) she and the other neighbors do (rainy, found, **about**) the noise that would surely be (himself, **caused**, nothing) by their new neighbor with all (work, boom, **his**) animals?

Thelma stayed at home and (in, **sat**, over) by the telephone, waiting for her (afternoon, approached, **neighbors**) to call and complain about the (desk, **new**, since) neighbor. She sat for hours but (I'd, **no**, you) one called. She could hear loud (**music**, slump, lawn) and the sound of wild animals (outside, **coming**, better) from the house across the street. (Knew, Bore, **Still**), no one knocked on her door (he, so, **to**) ask her if she was annoyed (went, **with**, can) the noise.

At one o'clock in (**the**, but, them) morning, the phone rang. The voice (had, are, **on**) the other end had an Irish (nobody, **accent**, selects).

"Hi. I'm you're new neighbor," said (up, saw, **the**) voice. "I'm having a party. All (seed, hate, **your**) friends are already here. Would you (even, **like**, when) to join us?"

Thelma's new neighbor was mighty odd. She knew her neighbor was strange (**surf, tail, from**) the moment the moving van pulled (**fish, into, real**) the driveway of the house across (**eye, at, the**) street. She knew he was different (**seen, small, just**) as soon as she saw him (**walk, shell, pop**) up to the front door of (**saw, his, out**) new house.

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"Hi. I'm you're new neighbor," said (**up, saw, the**) voice. "I'm having a party. All (**seed, hate, your**) friends are already here. Would you (**even, like, when**) to join us?"

Answer Key

Theodore was an actor in movies. He was not a big movie (**star**, lawn, very), but he did like to act. (Can, Tall, **He**) was called an extra. You see (paper, **extras**, blocks) acting in movies all the time. (Toys, **Just**, Came) look at all the people walking (far, along, **down**) a street in a movie scene. (Songs, Pride, **Those**) people are all extras. When you (store, beyond, **watch**) a movie and see people standing (angels, **around**, shirt) in the background, you are watching (**the**, list, wash) extras at work.

Theodore's last acting (cup, **job**, stay) was to play a police officer (how, to, **in**) a big Hollywood movie. Before beginning (soup, **work**, hotel), Theodore needed to put on some (sparkle, honey, **makeup**). In the movies, women and girls (learn, along, **aren't**) the only ones who wear makeup. (**A**, It, Am) makeup artist helped put the makeup (low, **on**, by) Theodore's face. The makeup made him (band, lamb, **look**) good on film. Then Theodore had (how, **to**, why) put on a costume. His costume (here, met, **was**) a police officer's uniform. When he (hand, **wore**, tune) the costume, he looked just like (as, to, **a**) real police officer. Even though he (music, **wasn't**, guitar) really a police officer, he sure (**looked**, dance, alive) like one. He even had a (kid, soul, **gun**) in his holster. The gun wasn't (land, **real**, stop) and it couldn't fire bullets, but (did, see, **it**) did look real enough for a (five, **movie**, shoes).

Once Theodore was ready, he had (**to**, day, up) wait. He waited while the cameramen (solo, real, **moved**) their cameras into place. He and (top, **the**, try) other actors waited for the director (me, can, **to**) tell them where to stand and (rock, **what**, along) to do. The director told Theodore (**to**, far, see) jump out of the way when (beat, corn, **the**) star of the movie rode by (man, **him**, star) on a horse. He would have (**to**, I'm, as) be careful so the horse wouldn't (lane, **run**, down) into him.

"Action!" yelled the director. (Best, **The**, All) actors started performing. Theodore did everything (met, step, **the**) director told him to do. He (taste, about, **acted**) like a police officer, and when (pant, **the**, clap) star rode by on the horse, (natural, grandma, **Theodore**) jumped out of the way. Theodore (blue, **was**, road) a good actor, but he wasn't (could, belong, **really**) acting this time. He really did (**need**, who, ink) to jump out of the way (him, me, **of**) the horse! Theodore and the other (dance, **actors**, silly) worked all night to make the (jump, never, **scene**) just right. When the movie was (diamond, **finished**, firehouse), it was fun for Theodore's friends (care, bell, **and**) family to see him on the (fun, **big**, walk) screen.

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Answer Key

There was a cave in the forest not far from Scarlett's house. Weeds and brambles half blocked the (talent, prepare, **opening**) to the cave, but the local (act, **kids**, all) still knew where to find it. (Next, Show, **They**) gathered there on summer evenings before (one, **the**, you) sun set and dared each other (if, as, **to**) go inside. So far, no one (will, **had**, see) been daring enough to enter because (week, last, **they**) knew caves were dark and dangerous.

(**Scarlett**, Roberta, Animals), like the other children, was wary (to, my, **of**) the cave. But the cave also (king, **made**, look) her curious because she'd heard that (man, **bats**, were) often lived inside caves. She'd also (quite, years, **heard**) that pirates sometimes hid their treasure (**in**, was, she) caves. "Maybe," she thought, "there is (master, honked, **pirate**) treasure in the cave in the (special, **forest**, beyond). Maybe if I am brave enough (is, **to**, not) go inside I'll find a treasure (forgot, enjoy, **chest**) waiting for me filled with diamonds (play, why, **and**) rubies."

After many days, Scarlett talked (**her**, foot, bell) best friend, Millie, into helping her (bran, pray, **look**) for treasure in the cave. One (shyness, **evening**, portray) they ventured into the cave with (I, **a**, to) set of lanterns.

"Don't be frightened, (queen, talent, **Millie**)," Scarlett whispered outside the cave. "Don't (back, **you**, clap) want to be rich? There's pirate (jump, when, **gold**) in there, Millie. I just know (upon, create, **there**) is. We could both be wearing (lash, **ruby**, wish) earrings in school tomorrow."

Millie looked (fish, with, **into**) the dark cave. Even though she (too, cold, **was**) holding a lantern, she couldn't make (**out**, my, find) the depth of the cave. She'd (finger, found, **tried**) to talk Scarlett out of this (attention, **adventure**, goldfish), but she knew it was no (now, **use**, swam). When Scarlett had her mind set (in, cry, **to**) do something, she did it.

Millie (followed, ordinary, condition) quietly behind Scarlett as she entered (dip, new, **the**) cave. After walking about a hundred (spots, **feet**, got), Scarlett suddenly wobbled and pitched forward. (Around, Finger, **Millie**) caught her around her waist just (a, **in**, by) time. The girls looked down and (move, but, **saw**) they were standing at the edge (try, no, **of**) a large hole. After that scare, (when, **they**, tried) gave up and headed out of (say, **the**, why) cave. Once they were both safe (**and**, hid, bee) out in the open again, Millie (summer, called, **sighed**) with relief.

"So much for pirate's (condition, **treasure**, bubbles)," Millie said.

"I do like this (watched, inside, **purple**) rock I found, but I don't (give, **think**, more) it was worth the trouble," Scarlett (**replied**, monster, ignored).

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Answer Key

Fifth grade was my favorite year of school. My classmates were intelligent and fun, (was, **and**, who) our teacher, Mrs. Norton, was the (group, loved, **best**) teacher in the school. She made (interesting, paragraph, **everything**) fun. She turned learning into an (immediately, conclusion, **interesting**) activity.

For example, Mrs. Norton created (**something**, suggestion, director) called the Link-Up Program. For (agree, goal, **every**) book a student read, he or (was, **she**, what) was given a paper link to (turn, **add**, day) to the chain of links taped (be, log, **to**) the wall in the hallway. If (**our**, he, paw) class read enough books to stretch (soup, reap, **the**) chain all the way around the (asked, **school**, publish), she would reward us with a (some, **big**, job) party at the end of the (only, field, **year**). To get us started at a (right, long, **good**) pace, she offered another reward. The (try, **boy**, was) and girl who read the most (movie, **books**, guard) by October first would get to (be, is, **go**) out for lunch with Mrs. Norton. (**Guess**, Sign, Along) what? I read the most books (at, low, **so**) Mrs. Norton took my friend, Kim, (**and**, two, them) me to McDonald's for lunch.

Another (participants, yourselves, **interesting**) reward Mrs. Norton used was called (goal, **the**, for) Chocolate Factory. If a student did (new, **an**, but) outstanding job on his or her (complete, control, **homework**) assignment, he or she would go (if, **to**, or) the Chocolate Factory. The Chocolate Factory (are, **was**, one) a wooden box in the shape (hi, I'm, **of**) a little white house. When you (noise, trucks, **opened**) the house by lifting the roof, (**you**, stay, how) could see all of the chocolate (very, **and**, big) other candy that filled the house. (He, To, **A**) student could use one hand to (their, other, **grab**) as much candy as he or (all, **she**, then) could carry back to his or (came, **her**, try) desk. If any candy fell on (out, more, **the**) floor, it went back into the (knees, **house**, shiny). When I was rewarded with a (beard, blue, **trip**) to the Chocolate Factory, I thought (**about**, tiger, party) how I could get the most (abruptly, **chocolate**, complain). I dipped my hand in like (my, so, **a**) scoop and filled it with candy. (Have, **Then**, Other) I carefully carried the candy back (bay, let, **to**) my desk. I had enough candy (**to**, by, saw) share with my friends.

Mrs. Norton (pair, love, **was**) a very patient and kind teacher. (Tiny, **She**, Sew) always made learning more fun and (introduce, **rewarding**, neighbor). I will never forget my fifth (mighty, drive, **grade**) class and all the fun we (ask, wild, **had**). Thank you Mrs. Norton!

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Answer Key

Traveling is a lot of fun. Sometimes I travel so I can (**learn**, needed, actor), and sometimes I travel just because (a, by, **I**) like to see different things. Sometimes (us, **I**, to) travel just to have fun and (up, go, **to**) keep from being bored. I have (**enjoyed**, makeup, director) traveling to ten different countries. Each (enough, friends, **country**) offered different and exciting things to (him, **see**, lose) and do.

One of the most (conclusion, **interesting**, performing) countries I visited was Japan. Things (fun, big, **are**) very different in Japan than they (did, **are**, like) in the United States of America. (Had, Gun, **For**) example, the Japanese people speak Japanese, (**not**, who, like) English. They eat raw fish and (stall, into, **rice**) instead of pizza. Some people wear (while, place, **robes**) instead of suits. The people in (extra, **Japan**, screen) are very kind and thoughtful, but (to, **it**, do) is hard to understand their customs.

(Horse, Artist, **France**) is another country that was fun (as, **to**, be) visit. The capital of France is (until, **Paris**, kind). Paris is a beautiful city with (farm, were, **many**) interesting things to see. I saw (atop, **the**, our) Eiffel Tower, one of the most (child, teach, **famous**) buildings in the world. One of (**the**, boy, ran) biggest museums in the world is (died, **also**, took) in Paris. It is home to (clean, **some**, fed) of the most famous paintings in (saw, girl, **the**) world. The food is very good (out, **in**, you) France. They make good cheese and (**pastries**, because, dislodged). If you ever have a chance, (said, very, **you**) should go to France.

Ukraine is (voices, **another**, longer) country which is very different from (French, asleep, **America**). The people in Ukraine do not (came, **all**, trap) have cars or new clothes, and (slept, entire, **their**) food is a little different from (**our**, how, near) food. But the people are very (market, couch, **loving**) and fun to know. They are (cream, soup, **very**) kind to visitors from the United (street, **States**, meant). If you go to Ukraine, try (be, **as**, to) much of the good food as (**you**, bone, took) can.

Mexico is also a fun (picking, smartest, **country**) to visit. In Mexico City, you (off, **can**, big) speak Spanish and eat burritos. In (lap, news, **the**) coastal areas, you can swim in (red, **the**, bake) ocean. There are many things to (**buy**, off, are) in Mexico, like blankets, pottery, and (campfire, everyone, **clothing**). Many people from the Unites States (last, **visit**, logs) Mexico because the two countries are (was, **so**, one) close together.

If you ever have (he, **a**, my) chance to travel, do not pass (one, by, **up**) the opportunity. You can have great (beachfront, **adventures**, gathering) in other places.

Traveling is a lot of fun. Sometimes I travel so I can **(learn, needed, actor)**, and sometimes I travel just because **(a, by, I)** like to see different things. Sometimes **(us, I, to)** travel just to have fun and **(up, go, to)** keep from being bored. I have **(enjoyed, makeup, director)** traveling to ten different countries. Each **(enough, friends, country)** offered different and exciting things to **(him, see, lose)** and do.

One of the most **(conclusion, interesting, performing)** countries I visited was Japan. Things **(fun, big, are)** very different in Japan than they **(did, are, like)** in the United States of America. **(Had, Gun, For)** example, the Japanese people speak Japanese, **(not, who, like)** English. They eat raw fish and **(stall, into, rice)** instead of pizza. Some people wear **(while, place, robes)** instead of suits. The people in **(extra, Japan, screen)** are very kind and thoughtful, but **(to, it, do)** is hard to understand their customs.

(Horse, Artist, France) is another country that was fun **(as, to, be)** visit. The capital of France is **(until, Paris, kind)**. Paris is a beautiful city with **(farm, were, many)** interesting things to see. I saw **(atop, the, our)** Eiffel Tower, one of the most **(child, teach, famous)** buildings in the world. One of **(the, boy, ran)** biggest museums in the world is **(died, also, took)** in Paris. It is home to **(clean, some, fed)** of the most famous paintings in **(saw, girl, the)** world. The food is very good **(out, in, you)** France. They make good cheese and **(pastries, because, dislodged)**. If you ever have a chance, **(said, very, you)** should go to France.

Ukraine is **(voices, another, longer)** country which is very different from **(French, asleep, America)**. The people in Ukraine do not **(came, all, trap)** have cars or new clothes, and **(slept, entire, their)** food is a little different from **(our, how, near)** food. But the people are very **(market, couch, loving)** and fun to know. They are **(cream, soup, very)** kind to visitors from the United **(street, States, meant)**. If you go to Ukraine, try **(be, as, to)** much of the good food as **(you, bone, took)** can.

Mexico is also a fun **(picking, smartest, country)** to visit. In Mexico City, you **(off, can, big)** speak Spanish and eat burritos. In **(lap, news, the)** coastal areas, you can swim in **(red, the, bake)** ocean. There are many things to **(buy, off, are)** in Mexico, like blankets, pottery, and **(campfire, everyone, clothing)**. Many people from the Unites States **(last, visit, logs)** Mexico because the two countries are **(was, so, one)** close together.

If you ever have **(he, a, my)** chance to travel, do not pass **(one, by, up)** the opportunity. You can have great **(beachfront, adventures, gathering)** in other places.

Answer Key

When Maggie Ray's mother told her they would visit Mrs. Zale at teatime next Thursday, Maggie Ray said she wasn't going. Mrs. Zale lived in the big (watch, **house**, spent) on the corner of the block. (You, **Mrs.**, Said) Zale's yard was filled with dead (cousin, shriek, **trees**) and surrounded by a tall, spiked (nearby, caught, **fence**). The curtains over Mrs. Zale's windows (**were**, air, away) never pulled open, and her house (lost, fire, **was**) always dark at night. Mrs. Zale (water, **didn't**, filled) seem to have any visitors except (soon, oak, **the**) mailman when he delivered her mail.

(Let, **On**, Him) Wednesday, Maggie Ray cornered the mailman. "**(What's**, Light, Where) Mrs. Zale like? I'm supposed to (by, was, **go**) to her house on Thursday for (thin, **tea**, cool), and I need to know."

The (reached, explain, **mailman**) smiled at Maggie Ray. "Don't tell (of, **me**, no) you've never met Mrs. Zale. You've (**lived**, small, docks) down the street from her for (man's, book, **over**) a year."

"Well I haven't," Maggie (Jim, **Ray**, pool) said. "But I have to meet (ran, **her**, into) tomorrow. Do you think you could (time, waste, **tell**) me a bit about her?"

"Oh, (sat, **no**, how)," the mailman said. "Mrs. Zale will (send, **want**, well) you to be surprised."

When teatime (**rolled**, playing, station) around the next day, Maggie Ray's (around, quickly, **mother**) had to drag Maggie Ray up (fly, **the**, way) sidewalk to Mrs. Zale's front door.

"(Me, So, **I**) don't want to go in there," (machine, **Maggie**, variety) Ray panted. "Please don't make me (sue, of, **go**) in there."

Before Maggie Ray could (leading, **escape**, among) from her mother's grip, the front (**door**, fold, drive) opened. Maggie Ray's eyes nearly fell (hit, back, **out**) of her head when a monkey (my, sew, **in**) a red velvet vest opened the (trout, **door**, wide). The monkey squawked at Maggie Ray (they, **and**, my) her mother and pointed them toward (open, cool, **the**) dining room.

The dining room held (**another**, season, forget) surprise. A parrot was sitting on (your, of, **the**) chandelier.

"Hello, hello, hello," he said (by, **as**, I) they walked into the room. "Would (guy, **you**, from) like cream or sugar, cream or (sure, bears, **sugar**)?"

Maggie Ray couldn't believe her eyes. (**A**, At, Or) silver tea service was laid out (as, top, **on**) the dining room table. There were (eyes, about, **trays**) of cookies, tarts, candies, and chocolates.

"(Outside, **Welcome**, Beckon), welcome," said the old woman who (thread, **stepped**, nowhere) into the room. She was dressed (as, who, **in**) an emerald ball gown. "I'm so (fond,

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