

Story Summary:

Mia and Max go to the park. Max jumps in the pond, splashes ducks, and shakes water everywhere. Mia laughs and almost drops her picnic basket.

Drawing Assessment:

- Illustration should include: Mia, Max (dog), pond, park setting
- Should show action: Max in/near water, splashing, ducks flying away
- Should capture emotion: Mia laughing, picnic basket
- Distinguished: Adds details not in text (trees, sun, other park features)

Sample answer for 'How does your illustration help?':

"My illustration helps the reader see how big the splash was and how surprised the ducks looked. You can also see Mia laughing, which shows how funny it was."

Scoring — 4 points:

- 1 pt: Drawing includes main characters | 1 pt: Shows key event (splash)
1 pt: Shows emotion/mood | 1 pt: Written explanation connects to story

Mastery Rubric:

D — Distinguished	Exceeds expectations; uses text evidence and elaboration
A — Achieved	Meets standard; correct answers with adequate support
P — Progressing	Partially correct; shows some understanding
E — Emerging	Needs significant support; major gaps in comprehension

1. Title:

Answers will vary — accept any age-appropriate book title
2. Describe one illustration:

Should include specific visual details: colors, characters, setting
3. What did the illustration show that words did not?

Look for: details about setting, character appearance, or action that text didn't explicitly describe
4. How did it help understand character's feelings?

Should connect visual cues (facial expressions, body language) to emotions (happy, scared, excited, sad)
5. What scene would you add?

Should identify a scene and give a reason related to comprehension

- Assessment Criteria:**
- Q1: Any valid book title (1 pt)
 - Q2: Specific visual details, not vague descriptions (2 pts)
 - Q3: Identifies something visible but not stated in text (2 pts)
 - Q4: Connects visual cues to character emotions (2 pts)
 - Q5: Identifies a scene AND gives a comprehension-based reason (2 pts)

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Beginning

Sam found a tiny kitten hiding under a bush in the rain. He picked it up gently.

Middle

Sam wrapped the kitten in his jacket and put up signs around the neighborhood.

End

Three days later, a little girl came — it was her kitten Whiskers! She thanked Sam.

Central Message / Lesson:

Sample: "Being kind and helpful to others brings happiness."

Also accept: "Never give up when trying to do the right thing."

Or: "Helping others feels good and can make people very happy."

Scoring — 10 points total:

Beginning (3 pts): Identifies setting, character, and problem

Middle (3 pts): Describes key events and actions taken

End (2 pts): Identifies resolution | Central Message (2 pts): States theme/lesson

1. Weakest → Strongest: **glad → happy → thrilled → ecstatic**

2. Weakest → Strongest: **walk → jog → run → sprint**

3. Weakest → Strongest: **cool → chilly → cold → freezing**

4. Weakest → Strongest: **big → large → enormous → gigantic**

Part C: Use Precise Words — Sample Answers

- 1. 'nice' → **friendly, gentle, sweet, lovable**
- 2. 'said' → **shouted, yelled, screamed, exclaimed**
- 3. 'good' → **delicious, tasty, scrumptious, wonderful**
- 4. 'went' → **rushed, hurried, dashed, strolled, marched**

Teaching Notes:

- Accept any reasonable ordering — some word pairs are debatable
- For Part C, accept any word that is more specific/vivid than the original
- Distinguished: Student explains WHY their word is more precise

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1. Characters:

Grandma Rosa and Lily (her granddaughter)

2. Surprise:

A sunflower grew taller than Grandma — seven feet tall!

3. Grandma's explanation:

"That's because I talk to my plants every day."

4. Lily's response:

She giggled and whispered, "Keep growing, sunflower!"

How do you know?

The text says she "giggled" (happy) and "whispered" (playful/caring)

5. Lesson:

Caring for things helps them grow / Love and attention make a difference

Scoring — 2 points per question (10 total):

2 pts: Complete answer with text evidence

1 pt: Correct but without text evidence or incomplete

0 pts: Incorrect or no response

Distinguished: Uses direct quotes from the text

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Character	Event/Challenge	How They Responded	What This Shows
Grandma	Sunflower grew very tall	Smiled and explained why	She is patient and nurturing
Lily	Saw the giant sunflower	Giggled and whispered to it	She is playful and caring
Sam*	Found a lost kitten in rain	Took it home, put up signs	He is kind and responsible

***Sam from 'The Lost Kitten' (Week 30) — accept any story characters**

Part C: Compare Two Characters — Sample

- Character 1 (Grandma): Patient, nurturing, talks to plants
- Character 2 (Sam): Kind, responsible, helps lost kitten
- Both: Caring, kind to living things, patient

Scoring:
Chart: 2 pts per row (6 total) | Venn diagram: 2 pts per section (6 total)
Distinguished: Uses specific text evidence in comparisons

1. **Main topic:** *Honeybees and their jobs / How honeybees work together in a colony*
2. **Two jobs bees have:** *Queen lays eggs; workers collect nectar; guard bees protect hive*
(Accept any two of the three)
3. **What is a waggle dance?** *A special dance bees do to tell other bees where to find flowers*
Why do they do it? *To communicate the location of nectar/flowers to the colony*
4. **Why are bees important?** *Without bees, many fruits and vegetables we eat would not grow*
(They pollinate plants that produce our food)

Scoring — 2 points per question (8 total):

2 pts: Answer uses specific details from the passage

1 pt: Correct but vague or missing text evidence

0 pts: Incorrect or not supported by text

Distinguished: Uses vocabulary from the passage (colony, nectar, waggle dance)

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Table of Contents	→	Shows where to find topics
Glossary	→	Lists important words and meanings
Heading	→	Tells what a section is about
Caption	→	Tells what a photo shows
Index	→	Lists topics in ABC order with page numbers

Part C: Informational Paragraph — Scoring Guide

Assess student paragraphs using these criteria:

Writing Checklist:

- ___ Topic sentence introduces the animal (1 pt)
- ___ At least 2 facts or details about the animal (2 pts)
- ___ Facts are accurate and relevant (1 pt)
- ___ Closing sentence wraps up the paragraph (1 pt)
- ___ Uses complete sentences with correct punctuation (1 pt)
- ___ Spells grade-level words correctly (1 pt)

Distinguished Writing Sample:

"Dolphins are amazing ocean animals. They breathe air through a blowhole on top of their head. Dolphins live in groups called pods and they use clicks and whistles to talk to each other. Dolphins are some of the smartest animals!"

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