



CRCT Prep Grade 2 Reading Comprehension

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To the Students

In this reading comprehension workbook, you will read many fiction and nonfiction passages, as well as some poetry. You will then answer multiple-choice and open-ended questions about what you have read.

As you read and answer the questions, please remember:

- You may refer back to the text as often as you like.
- Read each question very carefully and choose the **best** answer.
- Indicate the correct multiple-choice answers directly in this workbook. Circle or underline the correct answer.
- Write your open-ended responses directly on the lines provided. If you need more space, use a separate piece of paper to complete your answer.

Tips for Answering Multiple-Choice Questions

Multiple-choice questions have a stem, which is a question or an incomplete sentence, followed by three answer choices. You should select only one answer choice. The following are some tips to help you correctly answer multiple-choice questions on the CRCT Grade 2 Reading Test:

- Read each passage carefully.
- Read each question and think about the answer. You may look back to the reading selection as often as necessary.
- Answer all questions on your answer sheet. Do not mark any answers to questions in your test booklet.
- For each question, choose the best answer, and completely fill in the circle in the space provided on your answer sheet.
- If you do not know the answer to a question, skip it and go on. You may return to it later if you have time.
- If you finish the section of the test that you are working on early, you may review your answers in that section only. Don't go on to the next section of the test.

Here are some guidelines to remember when writing your open-ended answers:

- Organize your ideas and express them clearly.
- Correctly organize and separate your paragraphs.
- Support your ideas with examples when necessary.
- Make your writing interesting and enjoyable to read.
- Check your spelling and use of grammar and punctuation.
- Your answers should be accurate and complete.

DOGS DON'T DANCE

Lucy the dog loved watching the birds. The birds would dance across the grass when no one was looking. They seemed very happy as they hopped around the yard. Lucy wanted to dance with the birds. But they flew away every time she got close.

Lucy sat sadly in the yard. She heard a “tweet! tweet!” from high above. It was a bluebird in the tree.

“What do you want, dog?” asked the bluebird. “Why do you chase us?”

“I don’t want to chase you,” said Lucy. “I only want to dance with you.”

The bluebird laughed loudly. “Dogs don’t dance,” said the bird. “You are too large. You will fall.”

Lucy knew she could dance if she tried. She was a clever little dog.

“Show me,” said Lucy. “I will learn the steps.”

The bird moved around the yard like a cloud in the sky. Lucy watched carefully. When he finished, Lucy danced. The bird was pleased. This dog could dance!

The other birds came to watch the little dog. The animals happily danced together every day. Lucy proved that dogs could do anything!

1. This story is make-believe because the

- A. animals talk to each other.
- B. birds hop around the yard.
- C. dog chases the birds away.

This question asks you to think about what makes this story make-believe. You can tell when a story is make-believe when something happens in the story that couldn't happen in real life. Look at the answer choices. The first one says that the animals talk to each other. Answer choice A is good choice because you know that animals can't really talk to each other. Look at answer choice B. Birds hop around yards in real life, so this isn't right. Dogs can also chase birds in real life, so answer choice C is not right. The best answer is A.

2. This story is mostly about a

- A. happy bluebird.
- B. dog who wants to dance.
- C. dog who needs a friend.

This question asks you what the story is mostly about. The bluebird is in the story, but he is not the main character. You can cross off answer choice A. This story is about a dog who wants to dance, so answer choice A is not a good choice. Lucy is friendly, but she is not looking for a friend in the story. Answer choice C is not right. Answer choice B is best.

It was a bluebird in the tree.

3. Which word has two word parts?

- A. was
- B. tree
- C. bluebird

This question asks you to find the word that has more than one syllable. A syllable is a part of a word. Look at answer choice A. The word was has only one part. This is not the right answer. Tree also has one word part. So answer choice B is wrong. Bluebird has two word parts. This means answer choice C is the best answer.

4. Another good title for this story would be

- A. "The Mean Bluebird."
- B. "A Dancing Dog."
- C. "Chasing Birds Away."

Think about the story you have just read. A title tells you a little about the story. Answer choice A isn't a good choice. The bluebird was not really mean. Answer choice B is good because the story is about a dancing dog. Answer choice C is not right. Lucy does not mean to chase the birds away. Answer choice B is the best answer.

5. In this story, the word proved means
- A. showed.
 - B. played.
 - C. dreamed.

This question asks you to figure out the meaning of a word. Look at the sentence where this word is found: *Lucy proved that dogs could do anything!* You can try putting each of the answer choices into the sentence to try to find the answer. *Showed* fits well in the sentence, so answer choice A may be correct. *Played* does not fit, so answer choice B is not right. *Dreamed* does not fit either. Answer choice C is incorrect. Answer choice A is best.

6. What lesson does this story teach? Use information from the story in your answer.

For this question, you will have to write a few sentences about what lesson this story teaches. Think about what was important in the story. What do you think the author wanted the readers to learn? Use these ideas in your answer.

Sample response:

I think that the lesson of this story is that you can do anything. Even though Lucy was a dog, she wanted to do dance. She believed that she could do it. By carefully watching the bird, she could see how he danced. Once she put her mind to it, Lucy found herself dancing.

A large rectangular frame with a double-line border. Inside the frame, there are 20 horizontal lines spaced evenly down the page, providing a template for writing.

THE STAR

by Jane Taylor

Twinkle, twinkle, little star
How I wonder what you are!
Up above the world so high,
Like a diamond in the sky.

When the blazing sun is gone,
When he nothing shines upon,
Then you show your little light,
Twinkle, twinkle, all the night.

Then the traveler in the dark,
Thanks you for your tiny spark,
He could not see which way to go,
If you did not twinkle so.

In the dark blue sky you keep,
And often through my curtains peep,
For you never shut your eye,
Till the sun is in the sky.

As your bright and tiny spark,
Lights the traveler in the dark-
Though I know not what you are,
Twinkle, twinkle, little star.

1. Which word rhymes with dark?
 - A. dirt
 - B. cart
 - C. mark

2. When does the star shut its eye?
 - A. when the sun is in the sky
 - B. when it shows its little light
 - C. when it is up above the world so high

3. Which word has the same ending sound as EYE?
 - A. by
 - B. me
 - C. eel

4. How does the star help the traveler?
 - A. by making it warm
 - B. by shining up high
 - C. by making it bright

“If you did not twinkle so.”

5. Which word has two word parts?

- A. you
- B. did
- C. twinkle

6. What do stars look like in the sky? What do you think about when you look at them?

MAKING BANANA BREAD

Ingredients:

2 eggs

1 3/4 cup sifted flour

2 teaspoon baking powder

1/4 teaspoon baking soda

1/2 teaspoon salt

1/3 cup vegetable oil

2/3 cup sugar

1 cup mashed bananas

1. Ask a grown-up to heat the oven.
2. Mash bananas with a fork in a small bowl.
3. Beat eggs in another bowl.
4. In a large, bowl mix together flour, baking powder, baking soda, and salt.
5. Add the vegetable oil to the large bowl.
6. Stir sugar into large bowl. Continue stirring until the mix is fluffy.

7. Add the eggs to the large bowl.
8. Add flour and bananas. Stir well.
9. Bake for 70 minutes.
10. Let bread cool. Then slice and enjoy!

Makes 16 slices.

1. How many ingredients does the recipe need?
 - A. 4
 - B. 6
 - C. 8

2. How much sugar do you need to make the banana bread?
 - A. 1/2 teaspoon
 - B. 2/3 cup
 - C. 1/3 cup

3. How much banana bread does this recipe make?
 - A. 2 slices
 - B. 8 slices
 - C. 16 slices

Beat eggs in another bowl.

4. Which word has two word parts?
- A. beat
 - B. another
 - C. eggs
5. Which word has the same ending sound as the word small?
- A. tall
 - B. smart
 - C. sugar

6. What other ingredients might be good in the banana bread?
Name two things you would add to the bread.
