

CARS Comprehensive Assessment of Reading Strategies

Plus

Name



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For the Student

Comprehensive Assessment of Reading Strategies (CARS® Series) is a reading program that gives you practice with 12 reading strategies.

In *CARS® Book H* you will complete a Pretest and a Post Test. Each test contains reading passages and questions about the passages. After you read each passage, you will answer 12 questions. Each question helps you practice a particular reading strategy.

You will also complete 5 Benchmark tests. Each test contains longer reading passages, followed by 12 questions for you to answer. These Benchmarks will help keep your reading skills sharp and allow your teacher to see how well you are reading.

CARS® Book H will help you get the most from your reading. You will understand what important information to look for as you read. You will also learn to judge your own work and set reading goals. By the time you finish working with this book, you will be a better reader.

Your teacher will tell you when to take each part of the Pretest. The Pretest will help your teacher find out how well you understand what you read. Then your teacher can decide how to best help you to become an even better reader.

After you finish the Pretest, you will complete a self-assessment. This self-assessment will help you judge your own work. It will also help you set goals for future reading success.

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Pretest: Part I

Read this passage of historical fiction that takes place during the mid-1700s. Then answer questions about the passage. Choose the best answer for Numbers 1 through 12.

A lone snowflake drifted from the slate gray sky, as an icy breeze blew across the meadow, carried the smell of a wood-burning fire from a distant cabin. “I haven’t got much time,” Louis whispered aloud as he scanned the horizon.

Louis began to dismantle the small camp he had made along the bank of the St. Lawrence River. He knew only too well what could happen to a trapper who got caught in a sudden snowstorm, especially in this section of Canada. Louis’s grandfather nearly died on this same spot three years ago, in 1740, during a month-long trapping excursion. A small storm turned quickly into a blizzard. If not for his loyal dogs, Louis’s grandfather would never have escaped in time. Louis had mixed feelings about making camp in this area, thinking it was bad luck. He convinced himself that he was being foolish, but now, he wasn’t so sure.

Louis tugged at the poles of his tent, but they held firm in the frozen ground. Glancing again at the sky, he saw the clouds growing grayer. Louis turned his attention to his belongings—the pelts he had accumulated over the last two weeks and the hiking gear that remained by the water. He threw everything into two identical packs, one for pelts and the other for his gear. He bound them securely to the sled. With his father very ill, Louis had to support his family. These pelts would bring in the money they desperately needed. Animal skins were in great demand, especially in Europe, where fur-bearing animals were scarce.

“Rascal! Badger!” Louis commanded. Almost immediately, the huskies marched out of the woods, followed by four other dogs of various breeds. He was careful to mask his nervousness about the impending storm. If the dogs detected any fear in Louis’s voice, they would not be able to do their job.

Louis began hitching the dogs to the sled mount. As he lashed the lines, he caught a glimpse of a large figure emerging from the woods. His stomach tightened at the sight of an enormous grizzly.

Louis jumped onto the dogsled and grabbed the reins. He blew three brief whistles, the command for the dogs to move, as the grizzly charged toward them.

Though the dogs were fast, they hadn’t yet built up enough speed to outdistance the bear.

Having gained on Louis and the dogs, the bear barreled into the dogsled, knocking Louis over and sending one of the packs flying. Distracted, the bear went after the pack. Louis had the presence of mind to quickly regain control of the sled.

“Let’s move!” Louis barked, his voice wrapped in nervous energy. Sensing the urgency in their master’s voice, the dogs bolted down the narrow trail, heading for home at a pace that would likely leave the bear and the storm far behind.



<p>Finding Main Idea</p> <p>1. The best title for the passage is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ “Attack of the Grizzly Bear.” Ⓑ “Fur Trapping in Canada.” Ⓒ “Fear in the Wild.” Ⓓ “The Fur Trade.” 	<p>Recognizing Cause and Effect</p> <p>4. Why were animal skins in great demand in Europe?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ The temperatures in Europe were significantly lower than in Canada. Ⓑ Animals of all kinds were uncommon in most of Europe. Ⓒ Fur-bearing animals were not as numerous in European countries. Ⓓ The fur of animals in Canada was more desirable than the fur of animals in Europe.
<p>Recalling Facts and Details</p> <p>2. Which fact is supported by information in the passage?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ A grizzly had once threatened Louis’s grandfather years ago. Ⓑ Sudden snowstorms were not unusual in the area where Louis had been camping. Ⓒ Louis and his father usually went on trapping excursions together. Ⓓ Louis was unaware that one of his packs had been knocked off the sled. 	<p>Comparing and Contrasting</p> <p>5. Which of these tells a way that Louis and his grandfather were <u>not</u> alike?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ They both trapped animals for a living. Ⓑ They both were trapped in sudden snowstorms. Ⓒ They both relied on dogs to save them from a dangerous situation. Ⓓ They both found danger in the same area of Canada.
<p>Understanding Sequence</p> <p>3. The sentences below describe events that took place in the passage.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Louis packed his belongings as quickly as possible. 2. Louis tried unsuccessfully to dismantle the tent. 3. Louis regained control of the dogsled. 4. Louis spotted a grizzly emerging from the woods. <p>What is the correct order of the sentences?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ 1, 2, 3, 4 Ⓑ 2, 4, 3, 1 Ⓒ 1, 3, 4, 2 Ⓓ 2, 1, 4, 3 	<p>Making Predictions</p> <p>6. In the future, Louis will probably</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ use a more modern dogsled to move about the wilderness. Ⓑ acquire a faster and more loyal team of dogs. Ⓒ avoid trapping in an area that has brought danger twice to his family. Ⓓ abandon the trapping trade for a more profitable way of life.

Your teacher will tell you when to take each test. These Benchmarks will help you keep your reading skills sharp. They will also help your teacher see how well you continue to meet your reading goals.

Benchmark 1	20
Benchmark 2	24
Benchmark 3	28
Benchmark 4	32
Benchmark 5	36
Benchmark Answer Form	61

Benchmark I

Read this myth from ancient Greece. Then answer questions about the myth.
Choose the best answer for Numbers 1 through 12.

Aegeus, the much beloved and respected king of Athens, often went traveling about the countryside. One year he journeyed far to the south where he met a woman named Aethra. Aegeus and Aethra fell in love, married, and eventually had a child whom they named Theseus.

Aegeus enjoyed spending time far from his kingdom with his wife and son. But he also took great pride in his responsibilities as king. Aegeus knew his first duties were to the people under his rule. Aegeus knew that his return to Athens was at hand and that he would have to leave his family behind.

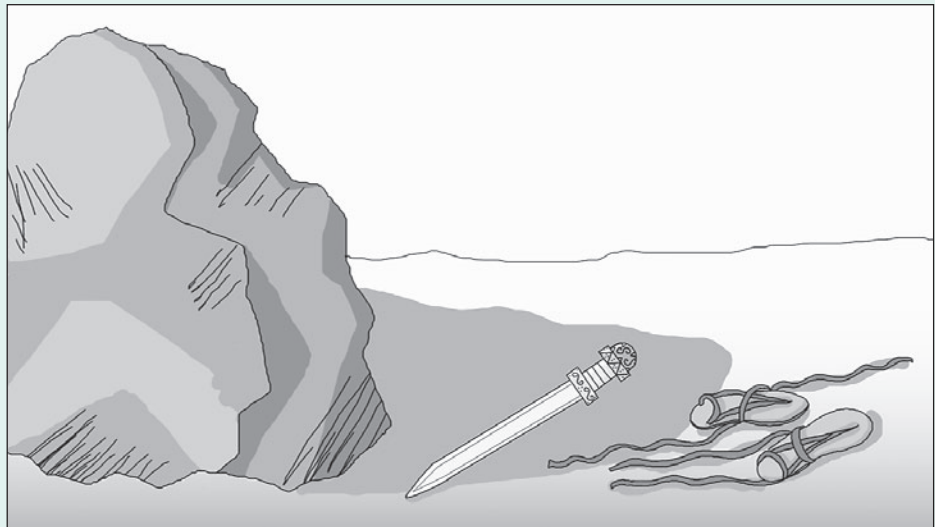
“Perhaps our eyes will never again meet,” Aegeus said to his wife, “but I hope one day to be reunited with my son. I shall leave my sandals and my sword here, under the heaviest of stones. If, when the boy grows up, he is strong enough to lift the stone, then he should take the sword and the sandals and bring them to me in Athens. Then I shall know that the young man is Theseus and that he is worthy to take over my throne.”

Aegeus tried to console his wife, but there was no comfort to be found in their parting. Aegeus returned to his palace in Athens, leaving Aethra to raise young Theseus alone, which she did with much dedication and love. In time, Theseus grew to be a fine young man with all the might of a mountain. When he was ready, his mother brought him to the stone and explained what his father had done years before. Theseus easily raised the stone and removed the sandals and sword from underneath. He put on his father’s sandals and secured his father’s sword around his waist.

“We both know that it is time for me to leave, Mother,” said Theseus, sadly. “I must go to my father in Athens and show him that I am worthy to take over.”

Aethra fought to control her grief, a sadness she had never known before. She knew there was nothing she could do to alter her son’s fate. She could only issue one warning: “Stay on the main road to Athens, Theseus. In this way, you will meet as few troubles as possible on your journey.”

Theseus was not one to ordinarily disobey his mother. However, the thought of a long journey with little adventure was like imagining a sky without stars. So, rather than traverse the main road to



Athens, Theseus traveled instead through the countryside. Each traveler he met offered grave warnings, imploring Theseus to turn back and avoid the monsters that lay waiting in the forest and among the cliffs. But Theseus was not deterred. “Then I shall slay them with my father’s sword,” he declared. “The news of my deeds will precede my arrival in Athens. I will make my father proud before I even arrive!”

The first monster Theseus encountered was Sciron. Sciron would first rob his victims of all they owned and then throw them off a cliff into the sea where they were devoured by a giant turtle. Theseus slew Sciron and delivered to him the same fate that Sciron delivered to his victims.

Soon after, another monster named Sinis appeared. But Sinis was no match for Theseus, who slew this monster as well. Many more monsters appeared, each more powerful than the one before. All of them met their doom at the hand of Theseus. For the first time, the people of the countryside began to feel free now to enjoy their land. But one terrible creature remained, and his name was Procrustes, the most feared monster of all.

Theseus had been warned of this monster and so when he met him, he was prepared to do away with him. Once inside Procrustes’s den, Theseus wrapped his strong, sinewy arms around the creature and squeezed the life out of him. Theseus then found a treasure room filled with gold and silver inside the den, which he distributed to the people of the countryside.

As predicted, Theseus arrived in his father’s palace already a well-known and much respected young man. He was beloved by the people for he had freed them from their fears and had been generous toward them. As Aegeus watched Theseus walk proudly past the pillars into the royal courtroom, he saw the sandals and the sword that he had left for the boy. King Aegeus wept with delight, for here, indeed, was a man as beloved as he, worthy to succeed him.



Finding Main Idea

1. What is the main idea of paragraph 7?
- Ⓐ Theseus's mother grieves over her son's departure.
 - Ⓑ Theseus takes a dangerous route to Athens.
 - Ⓒ Theseus learns he must go to find his father.
 - Ⓓ Theseus bravely confronts several monsters.

Recognizing Cause and Effect

4. Why did Aegeus return to Athens?
- Ⓐ because he could no longer care for his wife and child
 - Ⓑ because he had to return to his kingdom
 - Ⓒ because there was trouble in Athens
 - Ⓓ because his people demanded that he return

Recalling Facts and Details

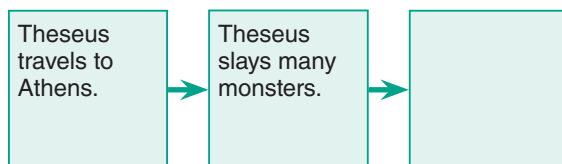
2. Inside Procrustes's den, Theseus found
- Ⓐ a sword.
 - Ⓑ a giant turtle.
 - Ⓒ coins and jewels.
 - Ⓓ gold and silver.

Comparing and Contrasting

5. In the myth, Theseus's strength is compared to a
- Ⓐ monster.
 - Ⓑ stone.
 - Ⓒ pillar.
 - Ⓓ mountain.

Understanding Sequence

3. The boxes show some of the events in Theseus's life.



What belongs in the empty box?

- Ⓐ Theseus easily lifts the stone.
- Ⓑ Theseus and his mother say good-bye.
- Ⓒ Theseus faces the most feared monster of all.
- Ⓓ Theseus grows into a strong and brave young man.

Making Predictions

6. What will most likely happen next?
- Ⓐ Aegeus orders Theseus arrested.
 - Ⓑ Theseus and his father will rule Athens together.
 - Ⓒ Theseus will take over his father's rule.
 - Ⓓ Theseus will return to his home in the countryside.

Post Test

Your teacher will tell you when to take each part of the Post Test. The Post Test will help your teacher see how your reading has improved.

After you finish the Post Test, you will complete a self-assessment. This self-assessment will help you judge your own work. It will also help you see how well you are meeting your reading goals.

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Self-assessment 2	60

Read this history article about a little-known fact. Then answer questions about the article. Choose the best answer for Numbers 1 through 12.

A Missing State?

As you know, the United States is composed of 50 states. The first thirteen states to join the country were the thirteen original English colonies, while the last two to join were Alaska and Hawaii. But, did you know that there was once another state that almost joined our country more than 200 years ago?

The strange fate of this would-be state began in 1784 when some early settlers decided to leave North Carolina. They hoped to create the fourteenth state made from territory west of the Blue Ridge Mountains. The United States government gave this land to North Carolina as payment for its Revolutionary War debt. Settlers trekked across the Blue Ridge Mountains and settled in this new territory. There, they set up settlements with the objective of creating a new state. This region was originally called Watuga, but settlers renamed the area Franklin. They wanted to honor American inventor, politician, and writer Benjamin Franklin, one of the original founders of the United States.

Between 1784 and 1788, more than 25,000 people moved into Franklin. Unwavering in their desire for statehood, the settlers elected as governor a man named John Sevier to lead them. Many considered Sevier vain and stubborn, but he was also a military hero who had exhibited great courage. The people elected Sevier, however, for a more selfish reason. He promised the settlers a two-year grace period before they would have to pay any taxes.

After Sevier was elected governor, the town of Greenville was selected as the state capital. In time, the new government was functioning well. No one went hungry and the state was at peace. More and more people moved to the area. Settlers were so happy that they voted to remain independent of North Carolina. Settlers even wrote to Benjamin Franklin and invited him to move to the region that now bore his name. Franklin proclaimed that he was proud to have a prospective state named for him. However, his work in Philadelphia prevented him from moving.

At one point, the citizens of Franklin considered not becoming part of the United States at all. Instead, they discussed the idea of becoming a nation and even thought about obtaining money from Spain. None of these ideas, however, bore any fruit.

When the people of Franklin made a formal request for statehood, Congress ignored their appeal. Instead, Congress had their governor, John Sevier, arrested for treason, though he later escaped. At the same time, the settlers became involved in a war with Native American tribes. Many settlers abandoned their homes since they were unable to defend themselves against attack. In order to survive, the people of Franklin had to set aside their differences with North Carolina and fight side by side with the state's militia. By 1789, the people of Franklin rejoined North Carolina in order to stay united with the state that had assisted them, and the state of Franklin vanished for good. The land itself rejoined the United States and became called "the Southwest Territory." Eventually, the people in this territory became part of a new state—Tennessee.



the would-be state of Franklin

Finding Main Idea

1. What is the main idea of paragraph 2?
- Ⓐ The United States government gave the territory west of the Blue Ridge Mountains to North Carolina.
 - Ⓑ Few people realize that long ago a group of settlers hoped to create the fourteenth state.
 - Ⓒ Benjamin Franklin was invited to live in a new state that was named after him.
 - Ⓓ A group of settlers wanted to form a new state in honor of Benjamin Franklin.

Recognizing Cause and Effect

4. The main reason John Sevier was elected governor was
- Ⓐ he promised no taxes would have to be paid for two years.
 - Ⓑ he was a military war hero.
 - Ⓒ he was a man of great courage.
 - Ⓓ he vowed to achieve statehood for Franklin.

Recalling Facts and Details

2. The settlers of Franklin were originally from
- Ⓐ Tennessee.
 - Ⓑ the Blue Ridge Mountain area.
 - Ⓒ North Carolina.
 - Ⓓ many of the thirteen original colonies.

Comparing and Contrasting

5. An objective is most like
- Ⓐ a scheme.
 - Ⓑ an intention.
 - Ⓒ an example.
 - Ⓓ an inspiration.

Understanding Sequence

3. The first thing the settlers did was
- Ⓐ become involved in a war with Native Americans.
 - Ⓑ elect a governor to lead their new state.
 - Ⓒ choose a location for the state capital.
 - Ⓓ make a formal request for statehood.

Making Predictions

6. What would have most likely happened if the settlers had not gotten involved in a war?
- Ⓐ The state of Tennessee would never have been created.
 - Ⓑ They would have been able to create their own nation.
 - Ⓒ Their governor would not have been arrested.
 - Ⓓ They would have continued their fight for statehood.