

Third Grade
MSTEP Homework Packet # 1

Sent home on 2-27-20

Return by 3-5-20

Student's Name

Tryout Test: Part 1

Estimated time: 50 minutes

Directions: Read the passage. Then answer the questions that follow.

The River

- 1 As my aunt spread our blanket on the ground, I looked at the river. It flowed gently over smooth rocks and sparkled in the sun. I turned to see my two cousins scramble up to a small rocky ledge. Below them, the river formed an unusually deep pool. My cousins, Sam and Molly, called it their "swimming hole."
- 2 It was the first day of my visit to the North Woods with my cousins. I had never been to a place like this. Everywhere you looked, huge trees reached for the sky, and rivers wound their way through them. Back home, we have one wide river that slowly flows between two rows of tall buildings. Hundreds of cars cross it each day on concrete bridges. But here, Molly and Sam swam in rivers! They said I would love it.
- 3 Suddenly Sam hit the river like a cannonball, splashing water everywhere. Two seconds later his grinning face popped back up through the surface.
- 4 "Come on in, Kate!" he shouted. Then he swam to the shallow area near me. I was still watching him when I heard Molly's splash.
- 5 "Kate?" my uncle said. "Are you going to try it?"
- 6 I shrugged. I was thinking how I'd rather be at the YMCA pool back home. I loved it when my mom watched me do tricks there. Here, I wondered what might be lurking in this water. Some kind of biting fish? Plenty of nasty bugs had already made a feast of me.
- 7 For a long time I watched my cousins jump and swim. They never got tired of it. I also watched the other people near us. An entire family took turns jumping in as their large brown dog watched.
- 8 Finally, I decided to jump—just once. I was tired of watching. I climbed up the ledge and saw the cool water below. It looked miles away, but it invited me in. I took a deep breath and glanced to my right. Sitting near me was the dog, looking hot and bored.
- 9 I stepped off the ledge and kept my body straight. Feet first, I shot into the deep water. My body slowed down before it reached the bottom. Then I gave one big flap with my arms. Right before I reached the surface, I could hear and feel someone else plunge into the water.
- 10 The gentle current began to guide me down the river. As I swam I heard people on the shore shouting and laughing. My heart sank. Did I look that funny? Then I turned and saw the brown dog swimming behind me! I slowed down and let him catch up to me. When we reached the shallow water, I stood up and tried to run to the shore. I laughed as the dog splashed beside me.
- 11 "Kate!" my aunt shouted as we flew past her. "Please be careful!"
- 12 The dog beat me to the jumping ledge. He gave his soaked body a good shake. Everyone watched us. I jumped again, and sure enough, my new friend followed. Over and over we jumped and swam together until it was time to go.
- 13 "Great place!" I said to Molly while we folded the blanket. The dog barked from the ledge. Molly and Sam and I all waved good-bye.
- 14 Then Molly hugged me. "I'm glad you had fun," she said. "Can you come again next summer?"

- 1 Read this sentence from the passage.

"Please be careful!"

Knowing the meaning of the suffix *-ful* helps you understand that careful means—

- A filled with care.
 - B less care.
 - C not able to care.
 - D care again.
- 2 At first, Kate does not want to go in the river because—
- A she is afraid there might be biting fish in the water.
 - B she has never learned how to swim.
 - C the water is not as clean as it is in the pool at the YMCA.
 - D she doesn't know how to do any tricks.
- 3 The story is written from the point of view of—
- A Kate
 - B the dog
 - C Molly
 - D Kate's aunt
- 4 Reread paragraph 6 that describes Kate's feelings about the river. Do you agree with Kate's point of view, or do you have a different opinion about the river? Write a few sentences describing your point of view. (3 points)

- 5 Read this sentence from paragraph 6 of the passage.
- Here, I wondered what might be lurking in this water.
- Which word has nearly the same meaning as lurking?
- A floating
 - B prowling
 - C jumping
 - D swimming

- 6 In paragraph 8, what does the narrator mean when she says the water “invited” her in?
- A The water actually spoke to her.
 - B The water looked so good that she wanted to jump into it.
 - C A person in the water invited her to jump.
 - D Her aunt told her to jump in the water.
- 7 What did Kate first think when she heard people laughing?
- A Sam had jumped in after her.
 - B The dog was following her.
 - C The people thought she looked funny when she swam.
 - D She had something stuck in her hair.
- 8 Describe how the narrator’s feelings about the swimming hole change. What causes the change? Use details from the story to support **your** answer. (3 points)

Directions: Read these two selections.

Cinderella

by Charles Perrault

1 In a far-off land, a lonely widower with a beautiful young daughter married a woman with two daughters. The man’s daughter was sweet and kind, but the stepmother and her daughters were haughty and cruel. They were jealous of the girl’s beauty. They treated her as a servant, making her sweep, scrub, and do laundry. She was even forced to remove ashes from the hearth, gaining her the name of Cinderella.

2 Then an invitation came to a palace ball. Stepmother and daughters were delighted and spent days selecting appropriate

gowns. They acted as if Cinderella didn’t exist.

3 At last the happy day came. The three women, dressed in finery, departed for the palace. After they left, Cinderella began weeping.

4 “Oh, I wish . . . I wish . . .” she sobbed.

5 Suddenly the room filled with light. Cinderella beheld an old woman holding a magic wand.

6 “Wh-who are you?” Cinderella asked.

7 “I am your fairy godmother,” the woman said. “Tell me your wishes.”

8 "I wish I could attend the ball," the girl answered. "But I have only rags to wear and no coach to deliver me."

9 The fairy godmother laughed kindly. "Nonsense," she said. "Run into the garden, and bring me a pumpkin."

10 Cinderella obeyed. The fairy godmother touched the pumpkin with her wand and turned it into a gleaming coach. Then she changed six mice into a team of horses and a rat into a regal coachman.

11 "How wonderful!" Cinderella exclaimed. "But my rags . . ."

12 With her wand, the godmother changed Cinderella's rags into a beautiful white gown. Then she gave her a pair of delicate glass slippers.

13 "You are ready for the ball," she said. "But be home by midnight. Or everything will turn back again."

14 Promising not to be late, Cinderella rode away joyfully. At the palace, the prince ran out to see who was arriving in such a splendid coach. He caught his breath when he beheld Cinderella. All the guests stopped dancing and stared. "Who is she?" people asked. "How beautiful she is!"

15 Cinderella danced with the prince all night. But just before midnight, she fled. The prince followed but could not overtake her. In her hurry, Cinderella dropped one of her glass slippers, which the prince found and carefully saved.

16 Just as Cinderella reached home, everything turned back to what it had been. Cinderella was left with one glass slipper. Feeling both sad and happy, she returned to her room.

17 The next day the prince swore to marry the woman whose foot the abandoned slipper fit. When his servant arrived at Cinderella's house, the two stepsisters tried in vain to fit into the tiny slipper.

18 Then Cinderella asked, "Might I try?"

19 Her sisters burst out laughing, but the servant agreed. To everyone's surprise, Cinderella's foot easily slid into the slipper. Smiling, Cinderella pulled out the other slipper and put it on too.

20 As the sisters watched in shock, the servant hurried Cinderella off to the palace. She married the prince and lived happily ever after.

Scarface

1 There once lived a great hunter who was invisible. Called Hidden One, he vowed to marry any woman who could see him.


2 Nearby lived two sisters. The older one was cruel and often tormented the younger one, burning her face with sticks. The younger sister, known as Scarface, was forced to go barefoot and wear rags. One day, the older sister bragged, "I'm going to marry Hidden One." She said to Scarface, "Of course, that's something you could never dream of."

3 Scarface remained silent.

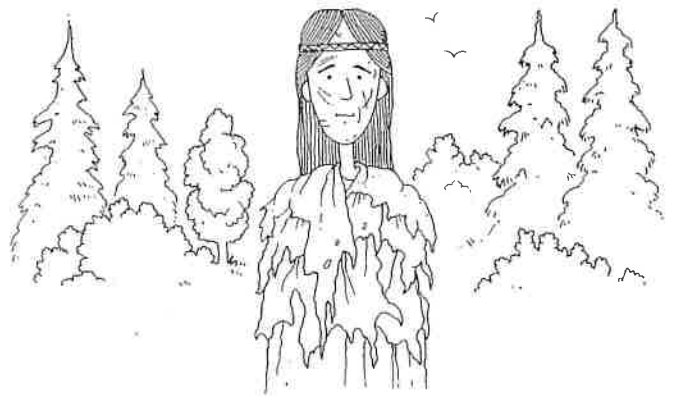
4 When the older sister reached Hidden One's wigwam, his sister, Patient One, greeted her.

5 "Welcome," said Patient One. "My brother will return soon. Let us go meet him." She led the young woman to the lake.

6 "My brother comes," Patient One said, pointing along the shore. "Do you see him?"

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- 7 "Yes," cried the young woman, though she saw no one.
- 8 The eyes of Patient One narrowed. "What is his shoulder strap?"
- 9 "A strip of rawhide," guessed the young woman.
- 10 Patient One frowned. "Let us go back."
- 11 They entered the wigwam, and a voice said, "Greetings, sister." The young woman looked around but saw no one. She watched as one moccasin, then another, appeared in mid-air and dropped to the floor. Then, bits of food rose from a tray and vanished. She asked Patient One, "Will I be married soon?"
- 12 Patient One answered angrily, "Do you think my brother would marry a liar and a fool?"
- 13 The young woman ran home crying. The next morning Scarface came to her.
- 14 "Sister, let me have skins to make moccasins and new clothes. It is my turn to visit Hidden One."
- 15 "You?" screamed the sister. "Why would he marry a pathetic thing like you?" Scarface had to wear an old pair of her father's moccasins and a dress made of tree bark.
- 16 She walked to Hidden One's wigwam. Patient One welcomed her and led her to the lake.
- 17 "My brother comes," Patient One said. "Do you see him?"
- 18 Scarface gazed along the shore. "Yes, I see him!"
- 19 "What is his shoulder strap?" Patient One asked.
- 20 "His strap is . . . the Rainbow!"
- 21 Patient One's eyes grew wide. "And his bowstring?"
- 22 "His bowstring is . . . the Milky Way!"
- 23 Patient One smiled. "Let us return."
- 24 At the wigwam, Patient One bathed Scarface with special water, making her scars disappear. Then Patient One brought out a beautiful wedding outfit. Scarface had just put it on when a voice said, "Greetings, sister."
- 25 "My brother," said Patient One, "you are discovered!"
- 26 Hidden One approached Scarface. "For years I have waited for a woman of pure heart and brave spirit. Only such a woman could see me. Now we will marry."
- 27 And so they did. Scarface received a new name, Lovely One. For she too had been hidden, but now was hidden no more.

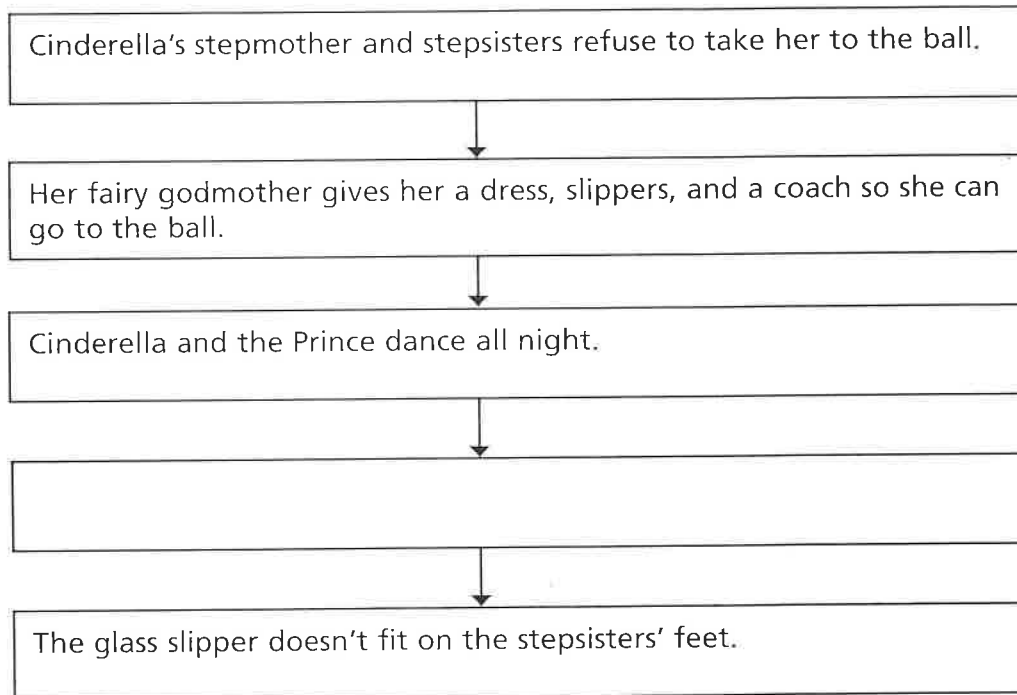


Directions: Use "Cinderella" to answer the following questions.

- 9 The setting of the story is—
- A a kingdom in the mountains.
 - B a small island.
 - C a faraway country.
 - D England in the 1800s.

- 10 Because Cinderella lost her slipper,—
- A the prince was able to find her.
 - B the magic spell was broken.
 - C Cinderella's stepsisters were mad.
 - D the coach turned back into a pumpkin.

- 11 Study the flowchart of the plot of "Cinderella."



Which sentence fits in the empty box?

- A The stepsisters acted as if Cinderella didn't exist.
- B The glass slipper fits on Cinderella's foot.
- C Cinderella and the Prince live happily ever after.
- D Just before midnight, Cinderella flees and drops a slipper.

Directions: Use "Scarface" to answer the following questions.

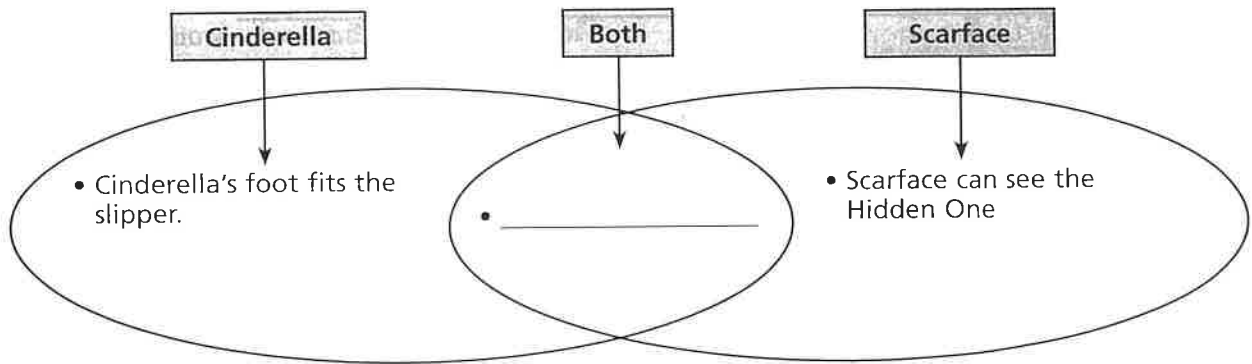
- 12 The illustration helps you understand which of the following details from the story?
- A Scarface had to wear a dress made of tree bark.
 - B There once lived a great hunter who was invisible.
 - C They entered the wigwam, and a voice said, "Greetings, sister."
 - D Patient One bathed Scarface with special water, making her scars disappear.

13 Read the following sentences.

Scarface received a new name, Lovely One. For she too had been hidden, but now was hidden no more.

What lesson or theme from the story do these sentences explain? Use details from the story to support your answer. (5 points)

Directions: Use both "Cinderella" and "Scarface" to answer the following questions.



14 Which statement would fit under the **Scarface** section in the diagram?

- A A fairy tale
- B A myth
- C A Native American folktale
- D A fable

- 15 Which statement would fit under the **Both** section of the diagram?
- A Cinderella and Scarface are treated cruelly by their sisters.
 - B Cinderella and Scarface have scars removed.
 - C Cinderella and Scarface attend a ball.
 - D Cinderella and Scarface receive new names.
- 16 A theme of both of the stories is—
- A Good people will be rewarded in the end.
 - B Friendship is more important than riches.
 - C Greediness will get you nowhere.
 - D Beauty is only skin-deep.

Take a break. Then go on to Part 2.