

2011 Year 3 — Literacy preparation material

Reading and Viewing

Wait for your teacher.

Read page 2 of the magazine and then answer questions 1–8.



1 Which word shows that this explanation may not be true?

April Fool's Day is thought to have begun in France.

Shade one bubble.



2 Before 1500, the French believed that each year began

- in April.
- in January.
- with a holiday.
- with some tricks.

3 In 1582, the French king made his people

- plan a new festival.
- use a new calendar.
- begin the New Year later.
- take part in a new festival.

4 What caused the news to spread slowly?

- People were unsure of what to do.
- People lived in villages and towns.
- People travelled on foot or by horse.
- People were slow to learn new ideas.



- 5** People who lived in villages far away from the king didn't
- know the king's order.
 - agree with the king.
 - learn very easily.
 - know good tricks.
- 6** Today, people have fun on April Fool's Day by
- making up jokes and riddles.
 - doing funny things with pasta.
 - getting people to believe silly things.
 - pretending that it is New Year's Day.
- 7** The TV station said that spaghetti was
- great children's food.
 - very tricky to eat.
 - made with flour.
 - grown on trees.
- 8** The story about spaghetti was shown in
- Italy.
 - France.
 - England.
 - Australia.

Read page 3 of the magazine and then answer questions 9–19.

Max's Secret 

My name is Sarah. I want to introduce you to the best dog in the world, my dog Max. Max is extraordinary. He can run around the trampoline a hundred times without getting tired. He can jump over the fence and makes the fence higher and higher. I actually think he separates himself from other dogs because he is so good. I think that's why that would spoil all Max's fun.

But I'm not allowed to tell him he uses just for me.

When I was little, Mum let me help her cook cakes and biscuits. She said she couldn't cook without her little kitchen helper. When we had finished baking, Mum would give me a small treat. But when I wasn't looking, I let Max lick the bowl after me. I shared my treats with Max.

Now that I am at school, Mum only bakes when we are going to have a picnic or a party. I don't let Max lick my bowl anymore but Max knows when Mum is baking. He doesn't need my help anymore but Max thinks he wants to be the cook. But that is not what Mum thinks. Mum thinks he wants to be the kitchen helper.

When I get home from school, Mum has hidden all the biscuits and cakes in the cupboard. She says it's a secret. I know it's a secret.

She likes to think I don't know that she has hidden them. I think I do know. I think it's a secret skill. If Max is standing beside the oven, I know he wants to be the kitchen helper. I know that there are baked treats in the oven. I know there is one for me and one for Max too. He deserves it.

Please don't tell him the secret. He's a good boy. Please don't tell him the secret. He's a good boy.

It is so funny. Mum can't work out how I know where the biscuits are hidden. Max and I have our secret.



9 Max is extraordinary because he can

- cook with Sarah.
- do clever things.
- jump high fences.
- find his way home.

Shade one bubble.



10 Which one of these is true?

- Max is a child.
- Max is an adult.
- Max's owner is a child.
- Max's owner is an adult.

11 *That would spoil all Max's fun.* (Paragraph 1)

In this sentence, the word *fun* refers to the way Max

- plays in the yard.
- likes to eat biscuits.
- escapes from the yard.
- jumps higher and higher.

12 Mum called Sarah *her little kitchen helper* because Sarah

- was a good cook.
- cleaned the kitchen.
- let Max lick the bowl.
- helped with the baking.

13 Sarah let Max eat from the bowl

- when Mum could not see.
- when Mum said she could.
- when the cooking was over.
- when Max barked for some.

14 In the third paragraph, Sarah says that Max *loved cooking as much as I did*. What do they both love about cooking?

- helping Mum
- stirring the bowl
- eating bits of food
- playing in the kitchen

15 Mum hides the cakes and biscuits so

- they can't go stale.
- Max can't lick them.
- she can eat them herself.
- she can keep them for visitors.

16 In the fourth paragraph, Sarah says Max is *MY little helper*.
She means that

- Max helped in a different way from the way Sarah helped.
- Max helped the same person Sarah helped.
- Max helped the people Sarah let him help.
- Max helped in the same way Sarah helped.

17 Max helps Sarah find the treats by

- wagging his tail quickly.
- whining at the cupboard.
- looking up at the empty bowl.
- standing near where they are kept.

18 What does *surveillance* mean in this text?

- waiting
- watching
- surprising
- surrounding

19 Max shows Sarah where to find the baked treats because he

- hates secrets.
- wants the reward.
- likes tricking Mum.
- thinks that it is fun.

Read page 4 of the magazine and then answer questions 20–27.



20 Sam Southland wrote

- a story in a magazine.
- an invitation to readers.
- an opinion on recycling.
- facts about saving the planet.

Shade one bubble.



21 In the first paragraph, Jessica tells the reader

- what the solution is.
- who she is writing to.
- why there is a problem.
- where she comes from.

- 22** In paragraph 1, the word *even* is used to show that plastic bottles
- can be very flexible.
 - come in different sizes.
 - are not that common in schools.
 - hold things you wouldn't expect.
- 23** Jessica chose the words *don't bother* and *just drop them* to show that people
- don't know how to recycle.
 - are too lazy to recycle.
 - are moving too quickly.
 - can't find bins.
- 24** Jessica uses paper and vegetables as examples of things
- that take ages to break down.
 - that break down differently.
 - that can harm waterways.
 - that clog up the dump.
- 25** Jessica finishes her last sentence with an exclamation mark to show how
- angry she was.
 - worried she felt.
 - strongly she felt.
 - excited she was.
- 26** What is Jessica's key message?
- Everyone should pick up litter.
 - Everyone needs to recycle plastic bottles.
 - Plastic bottles can be used to make clothes.
 - Plastic bottles take a long time to break down.

27 Use the numbers from 1 to 6 to show the order Jessica introduces the ideas in her letter. The last box **6** has been done for you.

- Plastic bottles are used a lot.
- Waterways are polluted by plastic.
- Plastic takes a long time to break down.
- People don't care where they put rubbish.
- 6** People need to recycle plastic bottles now.
- Marine animals can be harmed by plastics.