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Weekly Test Lesson 17

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

The Soccer Discovery

It was a week before soccer tryouts, but Lim was not excited. Although he had spent the entire summer practicing and couldn't wait for tryouts to begin, Lim had just heard bad news from his parents. While all Lim could think about was soccer, all his parents could think about was school. They told Lim that he had to join a club related to one of his classes.

Lim carried his black-and-white soccer ball next door to Darius's house.

"You look ready to go," Lim said, noticing his friend dribbling a bright yellow soccer ball.

"Definitely," Darius said. "I'm hoping we can get one more good week of soccer practice in before tryouts. I heard that Coach Wilkins puts you through quite a workout to make the team."

"Even if I make the team, I might not be able to play. My parents told me I can only play soccer if I join a school club too," explained Lim.

"At least there are a lot to choose from. There's the math league, weekly writers' workshop, and the speech club," suggested Darius.

"I know," sighed Lim. "But soccer is more fun than all of those. Enough school talk! Let's go play!"

Darius and Lim dashed to the soccer field nestled beside the school behind Darius's house. They raced across the field, passing the soccer ball back and forth at different speeds and angles.

"Our summer practices have really paid off with our passing skills," Darius noted as they paused for a drink before practicing their dribbling.

"I know," Lim agreed. "We're in good shape to make the team because we stayed active all summer!"

Darius grabbed his yellow soccer ball, and soon the two boys were moving crisply across the field like dancers on the dance floor. Suddenly, Darius stopped and passed to Lim. Lim quickly stopped in his tracks, slowed the ball, and booted it down the field. The ball launched into the air, traveling seventy feet before rolling to the other side of the field.

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Lim's mouth popped open, and he turned to Darius. "Wow, summer practice must have paid off more than I thought because I've never kicked a soccer ball that far before."

Darius held back a smirk and then began to laugh. "Well, to tell you the truth, you wouldn't have been able to kick it that far in a game."

"What do you mean?" Lim asked, his voice confused as he raised an eyebrow curiously.

"It's an experiment I've been working on with my father during the summer," Darius said. He raced across the field and grabbed the ball. He then drop-kicked it ten feet past Lim.

"That's quite an experiment," Lim replied as he watched the ball stop at a tree.

"Come on, I'll show you," Darius said as he picked up the ball and motioned for Lim to follow.

The two walked back to Darius's house, and Darius explained that his father had been working on different types of gases that could be used to inflate automobile tires.

"He's been testing various gases to see which gets better tire wear," Darius explained as they walked to a small table at the back of Darius's garage. "The same thing can work for soccer balls and basketballs too."

Darius grabbed a bright green basketball and inflated it with a canister of air. He handed it to Lim and said, "Now, try to bounce it."

Lim bounced the ball lightly, and the basketball ricocheted off the ceiling with a boing. "That's incredible!"

"You should see what it does with footballs," Darius said. He grabbed a worn football from the table, walked to the backyard with Lim, and handed his friend the ball. "Now, give it a throw."

Lim hurled the ball sixty feet in front of him.

"You look like a professional quarterback," Darius said while he retrieved the football. "Well, that's about it for science class today. I think we should get back to the soccer field."

Lim bit his lip, amazed by what he had seen, and turned to his friend in bewilderment. "Maybe soccer can wait a little while longer. I'm really interested in this science experiment. Can you show me a little more? I can't wait to tell Mrs. Gleason, my science teacher, about this!"

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Reading

“Maybe you can tell her all about it at science club,” suggested Darius.

Lim’s attention had been unexpectedly diverted. Sure, he loved playing soccer, but perhaps there was more to life than sports.

- 1 Read the dictionary entry.

active /ak:tiv/ *adjective* **1.** engaged in physical movement. **2.** able to react. **3.** engaged as a full-time soldier. **4.** likely to erupt.

Read the sentences from the text.

“I know,” Lim agreed. “We’re in good shape to make the team because we stayed active all summer!”

Which meaning **best** fits the way the word active is used in the sentence?

- (A) meaning 1
- (B) meaning 2
- (C) meaning 3
- (D) meaning 4

- 2 Read the sentences from the text.

Lim bounced the ball lightly, and the basketball ricocheted off the ceiling with a boing. “That’s incredible!”

What do the underlined words add to the story?

- (A) They tell about Lim’s excitement.
- (B) They demonstrate Lim’s strength.
- (C) They prove the gas is not important.
- (D) They show the movement of the ball.

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- 3 This question has two parts. First, answer part A. Then, answer part B.

Part A

From what point of view is the text being told?

- (A) first person, Lim
- (B) third person, Darius
- (C) first person, narrator
- (D) third person, narrator

Part B

Which sentence from the text supports the answer to part A?

- (A) I'm hoping we can get one more good week of soccer practice in before tryouts.
- (B) Our summer practices have really paid off with our passing skills.
- (C) Darius grabbed his yellow soccer ball, and soon the two boys were moving crisply across the field like dancers on the dance floor.
- (D) Wow, summer practice must have paid off more than I thought because I've never kicked a soccer ball that far before.

- 4 Mark each box to show how each setting contributes to the story.

| | The Soccer Field | Darius's Garage | Darius's Backyard |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Lim becomes excited and can't wait to talk to Mrs. Gleason. | | | |
| Lim is able to see how far he can kick the yellow ball filled with gas. | | | |
| Lim sees where Darius and his dad have set up their experiments. | | | |

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- 5 How did playing soccer with Darius's yellow ball help Lim solve his problem?
- Ⓐ Playing with the ball helped Lim realize that it is important to practice to make the soccer team.
 - Ⓑ Finding out that the ball was filled with gas made Lim realize he was not as good at soccer as he thought.
 - Ⓒ Finding out that the ball was filled with gas made Lim realize he might be interested in joining the science club.
 - Ⓓ Playing with the ball helped Lim realize that the experiment would make a great story for the weekly writers' workshop club.
- 6 Why is it important that Lim realizes there is more to life than soccer? Use details from the text to support your answer.

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Writing

- 7 Which sentence contains an error in grammar usage?
- (A) Janelle rapidly ran down the field.
 - (B) Rajeev stopped the ball expertly in front of the net.
 - (C) Felipe skillfully passed the ball between two opponents.
 - (D) Carmen easy scored twelve points before the other team scored.

- 8 Choose the sentence that contains a spelling error.
- (A) Hallie and Thor spent all afternoon decorating the room for the party.
 - (B) The scientist spent a great deal of time researching the problem.
 - (C) We watched the huge jet as it was takeing off from the airport.
 - (D) The old car's engine idled noisily when it halted at the light.

- 9 Read the paragraph. Underline the **two** sentences that are written incorrectly.

Our field hockey game began on Saturday. We played surprising well, scoring three quick goals. However, the opponents eventually caught up, tying the game in a matter of minutes. I ran quick down the field to score the winning goal!

- 10 Chow is writing a character description of her friend Jian. Read the paragraph and complete the task that follows.

Jian enjoys playing football. He thinks it is a lot of fun. He likes to throw passes. He is on a team. The team has not lost a game this year.

Rewrite the paragraph to add concrete words, sensory details, and dialogue.
