

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Weekly Test Lesson 8

Read the passage. Then answer the questions.

## The Little Straw Bull with the Tarred Back

Once there was a Man who made tar and a Woman who spun yarn into cloth. It had been a hard winter, and they'd used most of their food. Often the Man would grumble, "My stomach is so empty I could eat a shoe."

One day, the Woman had a clever idea. She asked the Man to make her a bull out of straw and then to cover it in tar.

The Man did not understand, but he saw that the Woman was serious. He made the Straw Bull and covered it with sticky tar. In the morning, the Woman took the Straw Bull out to the field to let him graze. While the bull grazed, she spun her yarn. After a while, she grew tired and fell asleep.

While the Woman slept, a Bear came out of the forest.

"Who are you?" he asked the Straw Bull.

"I am the Little Straw Bull with the Tarred Back," said the Bull.

"May I borrow some tar?" asked the Bear. "The dogs have torn my side."

The Little Straw Bull did not answer, so the Bear decided to get some tar. When he touched the Little Straw Bull's back, his hand stuck, and he couldn't pull it away.

The Woman woke up and was surprised. She called the Man and said, "The Little Straw Bull has caught a Bear."

The Man seized the Bear and threw him into the cellar.

On the second day, the Woman took the Little Straw Bull out again. Once again, she fell asleep while spinning. This time, a Fox came out of the forest.

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## Reading

“Give me some tar,” said the Fox. “The dogs have torn my side.”

“Take it,” said the Little Straw Bull.

When the Fox tried to take some tar, he got stuck to the Little Straw Bull’s back and couldn’t pull himself away.

When the Woman awoke, she called the Man. The Man took the Fox and threw him in the cellar with the Bear.

The Man thought about the animals in the cellar and the cold winter quickly approaching.

“I am going to make us fine coats of bear skin,” said the Man to the Woman. The Bear became very frightened.

“Man,” the Bear called. “If you set me free, I will bring you some honey.”

“Okay,” said the Man, and set him free.

The Man continued. “The Fox’s fur is fluffy and will make a nice collar for you,” he said to the Woman. The Fox became very frightened.

“Man,” the Fox called. “If you set me free, I will bring you chicken, geese, and ducks.”

“Okay,” said the Man, and set him free.

Soon, the Bear brought a hive of honey. The Fox brought many chickens, geese, and ducks. The Woman was very happy. Now she and the Man would always have eggs and honey. They would never be hungry again.

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## Reading

- 1 Read the sentences from the passage.

Once there was a Man who made tar and a Woman who spun yarn into cloth. It had been a hard winter, and they'd used most of their food. Often the Man would grumble, "My stomach is so empty I could eat a shoe."

What does the phrase My stomach is so empty I could eat a shoe **most likely** mean as it is used in the passage?

- Ⓐ My feet are cold.
- Ⓑ I am very hungry.
- Ⓒ My feet are very tired.
- Ⓓ I have a nervous stomach.

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## Reading

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

**Part A**

The Woman asked for a Straw Bull covered in tar. Why did she have this idea?

- (A) to get food
- (B) to see a Bear
- (C) to have someone to talk to
- (D) to help animals heal themselves

**Part B**

Which detail from the passage **best** supports the answer to part A?

- (A) The Man did not understand, but he saw that the Woman was serious.
  - (B) The Little Straw Bull did not answer, so the Bear decided to get some tar.
  - (C) “I am going to make us fine coats of bear skin,” said the Man to the Woman.
  - (D) Now she and the Man would always have eggs and honey. They would never be hungry again.
- 3 Read the sentence from the passage.

The Man seized the Bear and threw him into the cellar.

Based on this sentence, what does the word seized **most likely** mean?

- (A) tossed
- (B) hugged
- (C) grabbed
- (D) approached

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- 4 Read the paragraphs from the passage. Underline the sentence that **best** explains why the Fox needed tar.

On the second day, the Woman took the Little Straw Bull out again. Once again, she fell asleep while spinning. This time, a Fox came out of the forest.

“Give me some tar,” said the Fox. “The dogs have torn my side.”

“Take it,” said the Little Straw Bull.

When the Fox tried to take some tar, he got stuck to the Little Straw Bull’s back and couldn’t pull himself away.

- 5 Why does the Fox offer to help the Man?

- (A) to trick the Man
- (B) to escape the cellar
- (C) to watch the Woman spin yarn
- (D) to feed the chickens, geese, and ducks

- 6 How does the author make the Bull, the Bear, and the Fox seem like humans? Use details from the passage to support your answer.

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## Writing

- 7 Which sentence is written correctly?
- (A) Amanda cheered smiled and thanked her aunt.
  - (B) Amanda cheered, smiled, and thanked her aunt.
  - (C) Amanda, cheered, smiled and thanked her aunt.
  - (D) Amanda cheered, smiled and thanked, her aunt.
- 8 Which address is written correctly?
- (A) 342 Dogwood Avenue Columbus Ohio
  - (B) 342, Dogwood Avenue Columbus, Ohio
  - (C) 342 Dogwood, Avenue Columbus, Ohio
  - (D) 342 Dogwood Avenue, Columbus, Ohio
- 9 Nina is writing a story for her class. She wants to revise to eliminate any misspelled words. Read this paragraph from her story. Then underline the **two** words that are spelled incorrectly.

First, Nana rolls out pieces of dough and streches them into thin circles. Then she plops a scoop of filling on each one. Next, Vincent pintches together the edges. Finally, Nana drops each ball into a pot of boiling water.

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**Writing**

- 10 Ralph is writing a report about class pets for school. Read the paragraph from his report, and complete the task that follows.

Our class should get a class pet. It will be good for everyone. Our teacher, Ms. Simmons, will enjoy using the pet during science lessons. When we study animals, Ms. Simmons can use the pet to show us facts about a real, live animal! Having an animal means the class will have to take care of it. We will learn how to be responsible and caring.

Rewrite the paragraph to add reasons to make Ralph's opinion better. Be sure to include linking words to connect the opinion to the reasons.

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