

Teaming Up to Help

xylophone—a musical instrument with wooden bars of different lengths that are struck to give different notes.

- 1 Kim took her flute and books from her locker and started toward the door. It had been a long, busy day. As she passed the gym, she noticed her friends reading a poster.
- 2 “Come on over, Kim!” called Lou. Shari, Juan, and Lou were reading about an activity on Saturday. “We are cleaning up the area around Perry Park,” Lou said. “There’ll be a picnic after we’re done. How about helping us?”
- 3 “Well, um-maybe. I mean no,” Kim answered. “I don’t think I can. I have my flute lesson on Saturday.”
- 4 Shari looked puzzled. “It’s to help the ‘Keep Our City Clean’ project,” she said. “We’ll have a good time.”
- 5 “Umm, I need to go. I’ll see you guys later.” Kim quickly headed down the hall and out the door. She did not enjoy yard work and the thought of cleaning a park was not pleasant.
- 6 On Saturday Lou, Juan, and Shari arrived with their parents at the park. Lou gave large garbage bags to everyone. Before long, fifteen students were stuffing leaves, fallen branches, and paper into the bags.
- 7 As Kim walked home from her flute lesson, she heard the faint sounds of laughter coming from the park. Kim hesitated, feeling selfish for not joining her friends. They were so cheerful!
- 8 When she arrived home, Kim decided to practice her flute, but it was difficult to concentrate on her music. Her thoughts wandered as she compared her mood with that of her friends. She gently placed her flute in its case.
- 9 Her friends smiled at one another when they saw Kim coming to the park. “Over here!” called Shari. Kim joined them and listened as they discussed how much fun they had.
- 10 By noon, the park was clean and the kids were glad to rest. When the food was ready, the hungry children ate like there was no tomorrow! The volunteers had worked very hard. Kim was so proud of her friends for cleaning up the park that she invited

them to her house to celebrate.

- 11 Lou and Juan ran to their own homes to get a surprise. When everyone arrived at Kim's house, Lou took out his xylophone, while Juan joined in with his guitar. Kim

ran to her bedroom and returned with her flute. The sound of music filled the air as they all joined in together. Kim was grateful for her friends and was looking forward to the next project where she would be part of their team.

1. An antonym for difficult as used in paragraph 8 is

- A confusing.
- B impatient.
- C simple.
- D curious.

2. After reading the title, "Teaming Up to Help," what question would the reader most likely ask?

- A What kind of sports are the children playing?
- B How many children are on a team?
- C What are the children joining together to do?
- D Are the children from the same school?

3. When did the volunteers finish cleaning the park?

- A in the morning
- B at noon
- C in the evening
- D at midnight

4. Which detail supports the fact that the passage is fiction?

- A The characters are not real people.
- B It contains conversations and short sentences.
- C It explains how to clean up parks.
- D Some musical instruments are described.

5. Why does Kim have trouble practicing her flute?

- A The new music she was playing was very difficult.
- B She was thinking about the fun her friends were having.
- C The sound of people working outside disturbed her thinking.
- D She thought about helping with the next neighborhood activity.

6. What does the author suggest to the reader?

- A Most schools would have fewer problems if students cleaned up the trash.
- B When people work together as a team, the job becomes easier.
- C The project was successful because there was a picnic for the volunteers.
- D The students will form a music group since they each have musical talent.

7. Which word best describes how Kim felt when she did not help with the clean-up project?

- A selfish
- B nervous
- C excited
- D grateful

8. How do Kim's feelings change in the story?

- A from afraid to cautious
- B from happy to gloomy
- C from uncertain to eager
- D from popular to lonesome

9. A reader can tell that Kim's friends are not upset with her because

- A they welcome her when she arrives at the park.
- B they tell her to fill more bags for the team.
- C they give her some snacks to eat while they work.
- D they know she will soon start telling them funny stories.

10. Which would best prepare a student to read this story?

- A working with friends
- B taking music lessons
- C working alone on a job
- D playing on a winning team

11. In paragraph 10, why did Kim invite her friends to her house?

- A Kim wanted the band to practice.
- B She wanted her mother to share the picnic.
- C Kim wanted to be part of a team.
- D She wanted to celebrate their success.

12. Why did Shari, Lou, and Juan want another person on their team?

- A Four people needed to be on each team.
- B They could fill more bags with four people working.
- C They wanted someone else to play music with them.
- D Work was more fun when more people were involved.

13. What is the main problem in the story?

- A Kim cannot go to the park because she has to take music lessons on Saturday.
- B Kim had a bad day at school and does not want to be around her friends.
- C Kim's dislike of yard work almost keeps her from doing an important job.
- D Kim's attitude about practicing the flute hurts her relationship with her friends.

14. Why does Kim change her mind about going to the park?

- A She wants to play her flute with them.
- B She wants to have a good attitude like her friends.
- C She wants to be on the team that fills the most bags.
- D She is hungry and wants to eat with her friends.

15. How are Kim and Lou’s attitudes toward the clean-up activity different?

- A Kim dislikes the way Lou always takes charge and tells others what to do.
- B Lou is excited and eager to help with the project, but Kim is not.
- C Kim and Lou disagree on how to clean up the park.
- D Kim talks Lou into helping out on other volunteer projects.

16. Why does Kim tell her friend she has a flute lesson?

- A She is shy about being around other children.
- B She does not want to go out in the cold.
- C She does not want to help clean the park.
- D She is excited about playing her instrument.

17. In paragraph 11, what does the phrase “ate like there was no tomorrow” mean?

- A ate a large amount of food
- B ate food meant for another day
- C ate small pieces of food
- D ate the food too quickly and felt tired

Mary Rodas—Toys, Toys, Toys

1 Have you ever thought that children should run toy companies? Who else would be better for the job than a customer? One toy company decided to listen to a child's opinion. Mary Rodas was hired to work for a toy company when she was only four years old. By the time she was 14, she was a vice-president of the company.

2 Mary's parents came to the United States from El Salvador. They did not speak English very well, but they worked hard to make a living. When Mary was four years old, her father took care of an apartment building. A toy inventor lived in one of the apartments. One day he asked Mary's father if she could play with the toys he made and give her opinion. Her ideas were honest and helpful. He continued to deliver toys to her family's apartment and she played with them, telling him what she thought.

3 One day he showed her a new kind of ball. Inside of the ball was a balloon. The outside had a plain white cloth covering. Although Mary thought the ball was fun, it needed something more. Bright colors would make the ball more interesting. Mary was right! Children liked the colorful ball! It

became popular in many different countries.

4 Although Mary was very young, she was offered a job at the toy company. People listened to her ideas and respected what she said. She told them what she thought kids wanted. Sometimes she would watch other children play to learn about toys they liked. Other times she just had a feeling about whether or not a toy would be popular.

5 After high school, Mary went to college in New York while still working at the toy company. It was not easy, but she worked hard. People often asked her why she went to college if she had a job and was making a large salary. Her reply was, "There is always more to learn."

Mary learned many things over the years. She thinks that the best toys are inexpensive, basic toys that are changed into something new.

Although she is no longer a child, she still plays with toys. She has learned to listen to people about what they like and dislike. Working hard and doing her best are important values that she learned from her parents. Mary, one of the youngest vice-presidents of a company, continues to love her work!

18. Which meaning of run is used in paragraph 1?

- A to move quickly using your legs
- B to operate a computer program
- C to be in charge of something
- D to travel a regular route

19. A reader can tell this selection is nonfiction because

- A it has a character in the story.
- B the writer made up the story.
- C it is about real people and real events.
- D the writer uses short sentences.

20. Which plan would best help a student remember what this article is about?

- A Reread the title.
- B Read the first line in each paragraph.
- C List the words that are hard to spell.
- D Ask the teacher to read the article aloud.

21. In paragraph 5, Mary works for the toy company and goes to college because she

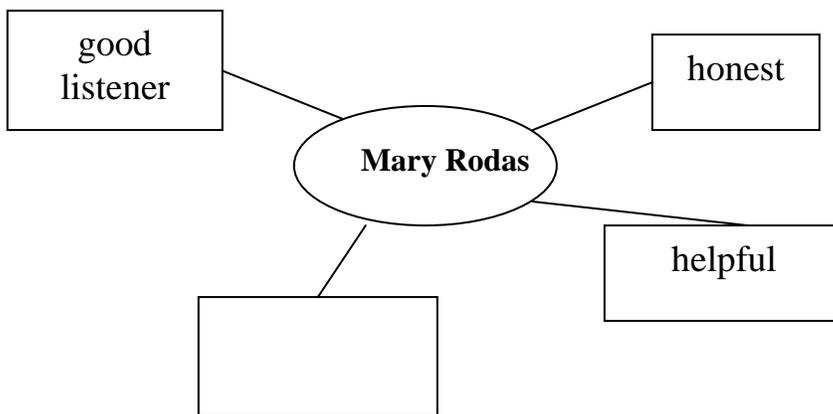
- A wants to get a better job.
- B needs to make more money.
- C enjoys learning new things.
- D is bored at the toy company.

22. Which word would a reader use to look for information about Mary Rodas in an encyclopedia?

- A Mary
- B toys
- C Rodas
- D inventor

23. Which idea shows that making toys is a complicated process?

- A Toys have to be tested and improved before they can be sold.
- B Toys need to have bright colors.
- C Children like inexpensive toys that are simple.
- D Children need to go to college to learn about toys.



24. Which other word describes Mary?

- A responsible
- B thankful
- C impatient
- D hesitant

25. Which book would best help a student find information about how toys are made?

- A *America's 100 Most Popular Toys*
- B *The Biography of Mary Rodas*
- C *Toy Building: Past and Present*
- D *Mary Rodas's Road to Success*

26. Which statement is probably true about Mary Rodas?

- A Her listening skills helped her to become a good worker.
- B She grew tired of playing with toys.
- C She had a difficult time in school.
- D Her job experience helped her get hired by the toy company.

27. How can you tell that Mary is a hard worker?

- A She invented toys when she was young.
- B She had a job while she went to school.
- C She thought of colors for the new ball.
- D She watched children play with toys.

28. Which is a fact in the story?

- A Going to school and working was not easy but she did both.
- B Mary, one of the youngest vice-presidents of a company, continues to love her work.
- C Mary Rodas was hired to work for a toy company when she was four years old.
- D They did not speak English very well but they worked hard to make a living.

29. What can the reader tell about Mary's suggestions?

- A They showed that she did not spend much time playing with the toys.
- B They were not taken seriously by the toy company.
- C They were usually different from comments made by other children.
- D They helped the inventor improve his toys.

30. The information in paragraph 3 tells the reader that

- A Mary's idea made the new ball better.
- B the white cloth looked good on the new ball.
- C children could bounce the new ball better.
- D Mary's new ball floated like a balloon.

31. Which sentence best describes what this story is about?

- A Adults should listen carefully to children's ideas.
- B Mary enjoyed sharing the new toys with her friends.
- C Adults usually buy toys developed by Mary's company.
- D Mary's attitude toward learning led to her success.

32. Mary Rodas and Kim from "Mary Rodas—Toys, Toys, Toys" and "Teaming Up to Help" would most likely agree that

- A honesty is important.
- B neighbors should help one another.
- C music makes people happy.
- D time is money.

33. Which theme is found in both "Mary Rodas—Toys, Toys, Toys" and "Teaming Up to Help"?

- A People should be honest.
- B Friendship is valuable.
- C People work better together.
- D Sharing is important.

34. How are "Teaming Up to Help" and "Mary Rodas—Toys, Toys, Toys" alike?

- A Both show how young people can make a difference.
- B Both describe people volunteering in the community.
- C Both show how the actions of one person can let a group down.
- D Both describe why working with friends is important.

4th Grade Sample Reading Selections #4-5

	State Obj.:	DOK:	ANSWER:
1.	1.3	2	C
2.	3.1.a	2	C
3.	3.1.b	1	B
4.	3.1.c	2	A
5.	3.2.a	2	B
6.	3.2.a	3	B
7.	3.2.c	2	A
8.	3.2.c	2	C
9.	3.3.b	2	A
10.	3.4.a	2	A
11.	3.4.d	2	D
12.	3.4.d	2	B
13.	4.2.a	2	C
14.	4.2.a	2	B
15.	4.2.d	2	B
16.	4.2.d	2	C
17.	4.3.b	3	A

18.	1.1	2	C
19.	3.1.c	2	C
20.	5.1.f	2	B
21.	3.2.c	2	C
22.	5.1.e	1	C
23.	3.4.a	2	A
24.	3.3.c	2	A
25.	5.1.a	2	C
26.	3.2.a	3	A
27.	3.3.b	2	B
28.	3.4.c	2	C
29.	3.2.b	2	D
30.	3.2.b	2	A
31.	3.3.a	2	D
32.	4.2.c	3	B
33.	4.2.c	3	C
34.	3.4.b	3	A