

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

DIRECTIONS

Read the text and then answer the questions.

Kate got the telephone call right after she got home from school one day. Usually, she talked to her father on the weekends, so she was somewhat surprised that he had called in the middle of the week. "Kate," he said, "I'm glad you're home. I need to talk to you about something important."

Now Kate was getting worried, so she quickly asked, "What's wrong?"

"Nothing, I promise," her dad reassured her. "In fact, I've got some very good news: Celia and I are getting married. I know it's a lot to think about at once, but I hope you'll be happy about it."

"Married?" Kate asked unhappily. She had met Celia before, and thought she was nice, but getting married? That was a different matter completely.

SCORE

1. (Y) (N)

2. (Y) (N)

3. (Y) (N)

4. (Y) (N)

5. (Y) (N)

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Total

1. Why does Kate's father call her?

- (A) to tell her he is coming for a visit
 (B) to tell her he is getting married
 (C) to tell her he has a new job
 (D) to tell her he is moving to a new home

2. Who is Celia?

- (A) Kate's mother
 (B) Kate's teacher
 (C) Kate's friend
 (D) Kate's father's fiancé

3. Which definition of *right* is used in the first sentence?

- (A) correct
 (B) the opposite of left
 (C) fair
 (D) immediately

4. Which word could be used in place of the word *usually*?

- (A) once
 (B) never
 (C) normally
 (D) possibly

5. What does the language at the end of the text tell the reader about Kate's character?

- (A) She is upset.
 (B) She is happy.
 (C) She feels confident.
 (D) She loves her dad.

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SCORE

1. (Y) (N)

Kate and her best friend, Sasha, sat at their favorite cafeteria table during lunch. Kate looked absolutely miserable, and Sasha wondered what was wrong.

"It's my dad," Kate explained unhappily. "He's getting married to Celia, and I'm really upset about it."

2. (Y) (N)

"Why?" Sasha asked. "Don't you like Celia? I thought you said she was pretty nice."

"Well," Kate admitted, "it's not that I don't like her; she is nice. It's just that I don't like the idea of him getting married again, I guess."

3. (Y) (N)

"I know what you mean," Sasha said encouragingly, "but maybe it won't be so terrible."

4. (Y) (N)

"I hope you're right," Kate sighed. "I'm supposed to visit my dad next weekend, and he says we can discuss it then."

5. (Y) (N)

1. Why does Kate look miserable?

- (A) She is upset that her dad is getting married.
- (B) She is angry with Sasha.
- (C) She is angry with her teacher.
- (D) She is angry with Celia.

4. Which is a synonym for *absolutely*?

- (A) happily
- (B) hardly
- (C) completely
- (D) somewhat

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Total

2. What is the setting?

- (A) the library
- (B) Kate's home
- (C) Sasha's home
- (D) the school cafeteria

5. Which word describes the tone of this text?

- (A) informative
- (B) silly
- (C) funny
- (D) serious

3. Which of these is **not** an adverb?

- (A) encouragingly
- (B) favorite
- (C) absolutely
- (D) really

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DIRECTIONS

Read the text and then answer the questions.

Normally, Kate enjoyed visiting her father; she liked his house, and she liked doing things with him. But this time, she wasn't looking forward to the visit. Her father was getting married, and she wasn't happy about it. She wanted him to be happy, but she didn't like the idea of him getting married. So she was in a grumpy, unhappy mood. Still, she dragged out her suitcase and started packing it. She was sure she was going to have a terrible time, but just the same, she pulled out her swimsuit. Kate loved to swim, and her father took her swimming whenever she visited. At least she could look forward to doing that while she was there. There wasn't much else to be happy about, though, and Kate felt worse and worse as she finished her packing.

SCORE

1. (Y) (N)

2. (Y) (N)

3. (Y) (N)

4. (Y) (N)

5. (Y) (N)

___ / 5

Total**1.** Where is Kate going?

- (A) to the hospital
 (B) to a new school
 (C) to visit her father
 (D) to the grocery store

2. Why did Kate pack her swimsuit?

- (A) Her father asks her to bring it.
 (B) She always goes swimming when she visits her dad.
 (C) She just bought it and wants to show it to her father.
 (D) She has no room for anything else.

3. Which of these is **not** a compound word?

- (A) swimming
 (B) whenever
 (C) swimsuit
 (D) suitcase

4. Which two words are synonyms?

- (A) *dragged* and *pulled*
 (B) *normally* and *forward*
 (C) *getting* and *packing*
 (D) *started* and *finished*

5. Which simile describes Kate?

- (A) as bright as the sun
 (B) as gloomy as a rainy day
 (C) as happy as a clam
 (D) as quick as a rabbit

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

COMMON GROUND

Kate's father was at the airport waiting to meet her. She was going to spend a week with him, and usually she really enjoyed their visits. But this time was different; her dad was getting married, and Kate wasn't at all sure she liked the idea. She did like Celia. But liking her was very different from having her as a stepmother.

On the way from the airport to her dad's house, Kate didn't say very much. Finally her dad asked, "Do you want to talk about it, Kate?"

For a moment Kate sat silently, thinking about how to put it. Then she said, "I'm sorry, Dad, I just don't think I want you to get married."

Kate's dad glanced over at her with concern on his face. "I thought you liked Celia," he said.

"I do like Celia," Kate answered. "It's not that at all. It's just that I don't know if I want her for a stepmother—that's totally different."

"It really is different," her dad agreed. "But I hope you'll get to like having Celia as a stepmother. She likes you an awful lot, you know, and I'll bet Megan will, too."

"Who's Megan?" Kate wanted to know. She hadn't heard that name before.

"She's Celia's daughter," her dad responded. "She's your age, actually, so maybe you'll even have some things in common."

After dropping Kate's luggage off at her dad's house, Kate and her dad went to meet Celia and Megan at a restaurant. They were going to have dinner together. When they got to the restaurant, Celia and Megan were already there. Celia introduced Megan to Kate. At first, Kate didn't know what to say to Megan; she didn't know her. But then Megan said, "Mom, don't forget I have swimming practice tomorrow."

"You like to swim?" Kate asked hopefully.

"I love it—I'm on our school's swim team," Megan answered excitedly. "Do you swim?"

"I love to swim, too," Kate said with a smile. Maybe having Celia as a stepmother wasn't going to be so bad after all.



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DIRECTIONS

Read "Common Ground" and then answer the questions.

1. At the beginning of the story, how does Kate feel about her dad getting married?

- (A) excited
- (B) unhappy
- (C) overjoyed
- (D) unaware

2. What makes Kate change her mind about having Celia for a stepmother?

- (A) Her and Celia get married.
- (B) Her dad and Celia give her a gift.
- (C) She finds out that Celia likes to swim.
- (D) She finds out that Megan likes to swim.

3. Which question reflects an appropriate purpose for reading this text?

- (A) What is Kate's big discovery?
- (B) Why do Kate and her dad dislike each other so much?
- (C) Where is Kate's mother?
- (D) Is Kate afraid to fly in an airplane?

4. What will Kate and Megan likely do next?

- (A) They will go swimming together.
- (B) They will get angry with each other.
- (C) They will not want to swim.
- (D) They will not eat dinner.

5. How does Kate's dad know that Kate has something on her mind?

- (A) Kate yells at her dad.
- (B) Kate won't get in the car with her dad.
- (C) Kate doesn't say very much.
- (D) Kate tells her dad she's angry with him.

6. How does Kate's dad likely feel now that Kate and Megan have something in common?

- (A) angry
- (B) afraid
- (C) exhausted
- (D) relieved

7. Which phrase lets the reader know that Kate will end up being happy?

- (A) *I have swimming practice tomorrow.*
- (B) *I'm sorry, Dad.*
- (C) *I do like Celia.*
- (D) *a stepmother wasn't going to be so bad after all*

8. Which theme applies to this text?

- (A) Strangers cannot be trusted.
- (B) Don't judge a book by its cover.
- (C) Mistakes can happen.
- (D) Safety is a priority.

SCORE

1. (Y) (N)

2. (Y) (N)

3. (Y) (N)

4. (Y) (N)

5. (Y) (N)

6. (Y) (N)

7. (Y) (N)

8. (Y) (N)

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Total

