

Kentucky Summative Assessments



Grade 3 Reading Released Items 2022

Directions: Read the excerpt from “The Travels of the Little Toy Soldier.” Then answer the questions.

from “The Travels of the Little Toy Soldier”

by Carolyn Sherwin Bailey

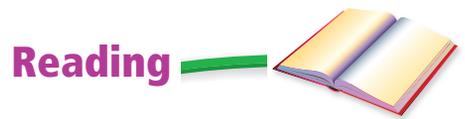
This story is about the travels of a toy soldier, made of wood from a great pine tree that once stood in the forest, [who] has a heart that is as brave and true as the heart of the tree from which he was made.

- 1 When the Toy Soldier went from the toy shop to live in Gregory’s house the little boy thought that he had never seen such a fine soldier in his life. He made him captain of all the soldier ninepins¹ and guard of the toy train, and he took him to bed with him at night. Then, one day, James, who lived next door and was Gregory’s neighbor, came over to play with Gregory.
- 2 “What a nice Toy Soldier!” James said.
- 3 “Yes, he’s mine,” Gregory said.
- 4 “May I play with him?” James asked.
- 5 “No, I said he was my Toy Soldier,” Gregory answered.

...

- 6 Then the two little boys began pulling the Toy Soldier to see which could get him away from the other, and the Toy Soldier did not like it at all. He was fond of a good battle, but not of a quarrel. He decided that he would not stay in a house where there was a mean boy, and so he tumbled out of a window that was close by and fell, down, down, to the street below.
- 7 The Toy Soldier had not lain long on the sidewalk when Harold passed by and picked him up.

¹ ninepins – a British game similar to bowling, using nine wooden pins and played in an alley; the traditional form of skittles



- 8 “I wanted a toy soldier and here is the finest one I ever saw,” Harold said; and he slipped the soldier inside his coat and started on, for he was going to school. The Toy Soldier lay close to Harold’s watch that was tick, tick, ticking the time away, but Harold loitered², and at last he stopped to play a game of marbles with another little boy whom he met. “I don’t care if I am late for school,” he said.
- 9 “Oho!” thought the Toy Soldier, and as the two little boys played he dropped out from under Harold’s coat and into the gutter. When Harold reached school, late, the Toy Soldier was gone.
- 10 Joe found the Toy Soldier in the gutter and ran home with him to his mother.
- 11 “I have a Toy Soldier!” he said.
- 12 “How brave he looks,” said Joe’s mother.
- 13 All the rest of the day the Toy Soldier went about with Joe and listened to what he said and watched what he did.
- 14 “I can’t go to the grocer’s; I’m afraid of his dog.”
- 15 “I can’t put in that nail. I am afraid that the hammer will slip and hit my finger.” This was what the Toy Soldier heard.
- 16 Then it was Joe’s bedtime, and the Toy Soldier went upstairs with him to bed, but Joe cried all the way.
- 17 “I can’t go to bed. I’m afraid of the dark!” he said.
- 18 When Joe was asleep the Toy Soldier slipped out of his hand and fell into a scrap basket. He knew very well that he couldn’t stay with a child who was always making excuses.
- 19 No one saw the Toy Soldier when the basket was emptied in the morning. He went with the scraps into a huge bag, and then into a wagon, and then into a factory where men sorted the cloth to make it into paper. One of these men found the Toy Soldier and took him home to his little boy, who was injured and had to stay alone all day.

² loitered – stood around doing nothing



- 20 “Has it been a good day, John?” his father asked.
- 21 “Oh, yes!” laughed John as he hugged the Toy Soldier.
- 22 “You have my supper ready just in time,” his father said, watching the soup bubbling in a shining pot on the stove.
- 23 “And I cleaned a little and set the table,” John said.
- 24 “Has your back hurt you very much to-day?” asked his father.
- 25 “A little, but I don’t mind that,” John said. “See how fine the Toy Soldier looks standing on the table!”
- 26 “Oho!” thought the Toy Soldier, “now I have found a place where I can stay. Here is another soldier, cheerful and willing to work, and brave!”

From “The Travels of the Little Toy Soldier” by Carolyn Sherwin Bailey—Public Domain

1

RE012946148_2

Why do Gregory and James argue?

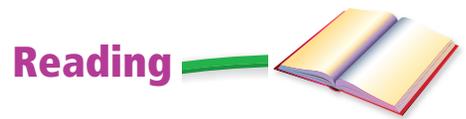
- A They both want to be captain.
- B They both want the toy soldier.
- C They both want to guard the train.
- D They both want to play soldier ninepins.

2

RE012948706_4

How does the phrase “was fond of a good battle, but not a quarrel” in paragraph 6 help the reader understand the Toy Soldier?

- A He wants the boys to start a real battle.
- B He likes to have battles instead of playing games.
- C He would rather argue with a friend than fight an enemy.
- D He thinks the boys are fighting over something that is not important.



3

RE012949344_4

Which statement **best** reflects the lesson that the ending of the story teaches?

- A** Always be on time and ready to learn.
- B** There is nothing to fear but fear itself.
- C** Making mistakes is part of growing up.
- D** It is important to be brave and work hard.

4

RE012946582_4

Which word **best** describes Harold's character in paragraph 8?

- A** Angry
- B** Cheerful
- C** Honest
- D** Thoughtless

5

RE012949059_2,3

Which **two** sentences tell how paragraph 19 fits into the overall structure of the story?

- A** It describes the factory setting where the story takes place.
- B** It describes how the toy soldier is found again in the factory.
- C** It moves the plot forward by explaining who the toy soldier will live with next.
- D** It adds tension to the story by giving the steps used to make cloth from paper.
- E** It develops the conflict in the story by telling why the toy soldier is tired of being owned by careless children.

6

RE012949547_3

How does the toy soldier's perspective shape the text?

- A** By describing what the toy soldier looks like
- B** By explaining how the boys find the toy soldier
- C** By showing why the toy soldier chooses to escape
- D** By suggesting that all the boys deserve to have the toy



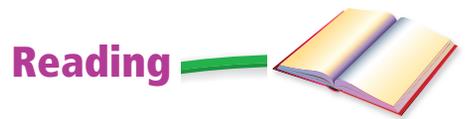
Directions: Read the excerpt from “What Happened to Dumps.” Then answer the questions.

from “What Happened to Dumps”

by Carolyn Sherwin Bailey

Once upon a time there was a little elf named Dumps. Ever since he could remember, things had gone wrong with him.

- 1 He shivered in the cold and kicked the coal bucket when the fire wouldn’t burn. He howled when he stumbled over his own dinner pots that he had left in the middle of the floor; and he stood in his front door and scowled when other happy elves went by without speaking to him.
- 2 He and his family had lived like that for years. When any elf wanted to describe something very sad he would say it was “Down in the Dumps.” And so Dumps went on without a single happy day.
- 3 But suddenly the elves decided to give a party. Oh, it was going to be a very jolly party indeed, and Dumps heard about it. Almost every elf who passed was whistling, or singing something cheerful. And some of them carried their best green suits to the Wood Fairy’s house to be pressed. And when Dumps heard about the party, he cried so loud because he knew he wouldn’t be invited that the Wood Fairy heard him. The noise disturbed her, and she went down to Dumps’ house to see what was the matter with him *now*.
- 4 “Tell me all about it, from the beginning, my dear,” she said to poor little Dumps.
- 5 “I can’t see the sunshine!” Dumps howled.
- 6 “Of course, you can’t,” said the Wood Fairy. “Your windows are dirty. Get some nice spring water in your little pail and wash them.”
- 7 Dumps had never thought of doing that. When he washed the windows the sunbeams streamed in like a golden ladder.
- 8 “Is there something else the matter?” the Wood Fairy asked.



- 9 “My fire won’t burn, even though I kick the coal bucket every day,” Dumps sobbed.
- 10 “Well, try blowing the fire,” the Wood Fairy suggested.
- 11 Dumps had never thought of doing that. His bellows were stiff, but he blew them very hard, and—crackle—there was a nice bright fire, and his kettle began to sing!
- 12 “Is that all?” asked the Wood Fairy.
- 13 “Oh, no!” Dumps sighed, “The other elves are giving a party, and I’m not invited.”
- 14 “It is for all the elves, and you don’t have to be invited,” the Wood Fairy said. “Stand up straight and let me brush your suit. Now run along, my dear.”
- 15 So Dumps started up the hill to the party, laughing all the way, for he just couldn’t help it. You see, he had so many years of being one of the Dumps to make up for! He laughed until all his wrinkles were gone, and he was puffed out with happiness. . . .
- 16 “Who can this new . . . cheerful elf be?” asked all the other elves, as Dumps arrived at the party, turning a double-somersault into their midst¹. “We are all here except Dumps, and of course this isn’t he?”
- 17 Then Dumps showed them how he could turn back-somersaults, and make a see-saw out of a rush leaf. He taught them how to play baseball with white clover heads, and how to make a swing of braided grasses. He surprised himself with all the good times he was able to think up.
- 18 “Of course, this isn’t Dumps,” the other elves decided. “His name must be Delight.” And Dumps never told them their mistake, for it wasn’t really a mistake at all. Now, was it?

From “What Happened to Dumps” by Carolyn Sherwin Bailey—Public Domain

¹ midst – the middle of



7

RE012951010_3

In paragraph 18, which evidence helps the reader to better understand Dumps when he thinks being called Delight “wasn’t really a mistake at all”?

- A** He knows the words begin with the same letter and thinks the names Dumps and Delight both fit him.
- B** He does not want to hurt the elves’ feelings so Delight is a good name for him.
- C** He has changed from sad to cheerful and deserves the name Delight.
- D** He went to the elves’ party on purpose to experience Delight.

8

RE012950104

Directions: Move the correct answers to the box. Not all answers will be used.

Move **three** details into the correct boxes to show how Wood Fairy’s suggestions help Dumps. Two details will not be used.

- Use a ladder
- Join the others
- Kick the coals
- Clean the windows
- Blow air on it

Dumps’ Problems	Wood Fairy’s Suggestions
Cannot see the sunshine	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 30px; width: 100%;"></div>
Fire will not burn	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 30px; width: 100%;"></div>
Not invited to the party	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 30px; width: 100%;"></div>



9

RE012949722_4,2

Why is Dumps so unhappy at the beginning of the story? Select **two** correct answers.

- A He does not like his nickname.
- B He is cold because the fire does not burn.
- C He kicks the coal bucket and hurts his foot.
- D He is ignored by the happy elves passing by.
- E He scowls because he must stand at the door.

10

RE012951285_3

Which evidence **best** supports the lesson that it is important to listen to wise advice?

- A “When any elf wanted to describe something very sad he would say it was ‘Down in the Dumps.’” (paragraph 2)
- B “And so Dumps went on without a single happy day.” (paragraph 2)
- C “Dumps had never thought of doing that.” (paragraph 11)
- D “‘Oh, no!’ Dumps sighed, ‘The other elves are giving a party, and I’m not invited.’” (paragraph 13)

11

RE012951534_1

How does paragraph 3 fit into the structure of the story?

- A It provides the event that changes Dumps’ life.
- B It gives details about the invitation to the party.
- C It explains the advice Dumps must follow.
- D It describes the scene at the party.

12

RE012953386_4

How are the Toy Soldier and Dumps treated differently at the beginning of the stories?

- A The Toy Soldier is sold to a family, and Dumps has his own happy family.
- B The Toy Soldier is favored by the boys, and Dumps is accepted by his friends.
- C The Toy Soldier is considered trash and discarded, while Dumps is an honored guest.
- D The Toy Soldier is treated with respect and given tasks, while Dumps is mostly ignored.



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