

Name _____

September Reading Test Review

Interpreting Characters Unit 1

Due September 4th

Your reading test is on September 5th . To prepare for this test, study this sheet, read the excerpt from Fireflies and complete the questions following.

Reading Intensely to Grow Ideas

- *Find a book you want to read.
- *Read as if you are in the book.
 - *Figure out confusing parts.
- *Note important things to talk about later.
- *Find the flow of the book-get into the world of the story.
 - *Make movies in your mind.

Grow Ideas about a Character

- *Note patterns in the character's actions. Use these to form ideas about the character.
- *How do the character's new actions fit with/change those ideas?
 - *Why might the character act like this?
- *Pay attention to a character's desires and how they are achieved.

from Fireflies by Julie Brinckloe

On a summer evening, I looked up from dinner, through the open window to the backyard.

It was growing dark. My treehouse was a black shape in the tree, and I wouldn't go up there now.

But something flickered there, a moment - I looked, and it was gone. It flickered again, over near the fence. *Fireflies!* "Don't let your dinner get cold," said Momma.

I forked the meat and corn and potatoes into my mouth. "Please, may I go out?" The fireflies - "Momma smiled, and Daddy nodded. "Go ahead," they said.

I ran from the table, down to the cellar to find a jar. I knew where to look, behind the stairs.

The jars were dusty, and I polished one clean on my shirt. Then I ran back up, two steps at a time.

"Holes," I remembered, "so they can breathe." And as quietly as I could, so she wouldn't catch me dulling them, I poked holes in the top of the jar with Momma's scissors.

The screen door banged behind me as I ran from the house. If someone said, "Don't slam it," I wasn't listening.

I called to my friends in the street, "Fireflies!" But they had come before me with polished jars, and others were coming behind.

The sky was darker now. My ears rang with crickets, and my eyes stung from staring too long. I blinked hard as I watched them - *Fireflies!* Blinking on, blinking off, dipping low, soaring high above my head, making patterns in the dark.

1. Which detail supports the idea that he is excited to catch fireflies?
 - a. *I ran from the table, down to the cellar to find a jar.*
 - b. *It was growing dark.*
 - c. *“Don’t let your dinner get cold,” said Momma.*
 - d. *The sky was darker now.*

2. Why do the narrator’s parents let him go outside?
 - a. to play tag with his friends in the street
 - b. to enjoy the past-time of catching fireflies
 - c. to buy ice cream for dessert
 - d. to escape the heat of the house

3. What effect does the arrival of the fireflies have on the narrator?
 - a. The boy disliked fireflies and wanted to hide.
 - b. The boy wanted to be excused from the dinner table so he can go outside to capture fireflies.
 - c. The boy planned to call his friends and spend the rest of the evening playing baseball outside.
 - d. The boy worked out a plan so he did not have to wash the dishes.

4. What causes the narrator to ask to go outside?
 - a. the sunrise
 - b. the noise from the street
 - c. a call from his friend
 - d. the arrival of the fireflies

5. You can tell from the passage that . . .
- a. All of the families who live on the street will be outside all night.
 - b. The narrator is frightened by the fireflies.
 - c. The narrator will not be alone.
 - d. Fireflies are small beetles that fly.
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6. You can tell from the passage that . . .
- a. the narrator has caught fireflies before.
 - b. fireflies will not appear in the evening.
 - c. a thunderstorm is on its way.
 - d. fireflies are called lightning bugs.
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7. Which event in the story happens first?
- a. Momma warned the boy to not let his dinner get cold.
 - b. Momma and Daddy gave the boy permission to go outside.
 - c. He used Momma's scissors to poke holes in the top of the jar.
 - d. The fireflies made patterns in the dark.
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8. Which event in the story happens last?
- a. Momma served dinner.
 - b. Momma, Daddy, and the boy ate the meat, corn, and potatoes.
 - c. His friends joined him in the street.
 - d. The boy slammed the door.

9. Which sentence best explains the relationship between the boy and his parents?
- a. Momma and Daddy are controlling parents and annoyed with the boy's request to leave dinner early.
 - b. Momma and Daddy support the narrator's excitement about capturing fireflies.
 - c. Momma and Daddy are not concerned about the boy's time outdoors.
 - d. The boy is scared to be outside by himself and wants his parents to watch him capture the fireflies.

10. What kind of person is the boy? Be sure to include one trait and supporting evidence. Write in complete sentences. (2 pts.)
