

Third Grade Assessment Practice Homework for April 10th-April 13th

Return on Monday, April 17th.

	Homework Assignment	Schedule	Parent Signature/Comments
Monday	*Read "Bike Trip" and Do the 8 comprehension questions. Answer the questions in complete sentences.	Guyot: Music Wesley: Tech Warneck: Media 9:30-10:20	
Tuesday	*Read "The Thing in the Cave" and Do the 8 comprehension questions. Answer the questions in complete sentences.	Guyot: Gym Wesley: Art Warneck: Music 9:30-10:20	46
Wednesday	*Read "The Lion and the Mouse" and Do the 8 comprehension questions. Answer the questions in complete sentences.	Guyot: Tech Wesley: Media Warneck: Gym 9:30-10:20	×
Thursday	*Vocabulary-Write the definition for the 10 vocabulary words (Set 1).	Guyot: Art Wesley: Music Warneck: Tech 9:30-10:20	
Friday	No School!	No School!	1

Name:				

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Unit 1 Mini-Lesson

Personal Narratives



A personal narrative is a nonfiction text that retells an experience from the author's life. Most personal narratives are about something "big" in the author's life, such as a proud or sad moment, a trip or adventure, or an event that changed him or her in some way.

What is the purpose of a personal narrative?

A personal narrative is a way to describe an experience so that others feel as if they were there. Writers do this by using sensory details—what they saw, heard, touched, smelled, and tasted—and by including important events, characters, and dialogue. Writers explain what happened and also tell what they were thinking at the time and how they felt.

Who is the audience for a personal narrative?

Everyone is! People record their experiences in diaries and journals, and share them in letters and e-mails.

How do you read a personal narrative?

- 1. The title will likely give you a clue about the experience you will be reading about.
- 2. Pay close attention to the sequence of events.
- 3. Ask yourself: Did this event happen to the person, or did the person make it happen? How did this event affect the person's life?
- 4. Ask yourself: Is the author simply writing to entertain, or is there something that I can learn?

Includes specific details about the time, place, and people involved Focuses on one event Has dialogue in the author's life Personal Narrative Tells the author's thoughts May be a few paragraphs and feelings as well as the or several pages in length actual events

Bike Trip

When I was seven years old, I got my first bike with hand brakes. I was so thrilled that I wanted to go for a ride with my mom and my brother, Matthew. It was a beautiful Sunday morning in June. The sun was bright and there were no clouds in the sky. We were having a wonderful time riding together until we came to a steep hill.

At first I was fine, but as I gained speed I began to panic. I tried to use my pedals to brake. I completely forgot that I needed to use the hand brakes! The bike went faster and faster and began to vibrate and veer from side to side. I was totally out of control! At the bottom of the hill, I fell hard and hit my chin on the sidewalk. For a moment, time seemed to stand still. Blood was gushing out of a big hole in my chin. I was moaning in pain. "Am I going to die?" I asked. "No," my mom said, "but we need to get you to a doctor."

We threw the bikes into the trunk of a taxi and headed to the doctor's office. The doctor examined my chin and said, "You'll be fine, but you need two layers of stitches." Two layers of stitches! I felt like jumping out of the chair and

running away. But I sat there bravely and gripped the chair as she injected my chin with a painkiller. My mom cried as the doctor stitched, but I didn't because the stitches didn't really hurt.

When the doctor was done, we went to a frozen yogurt store. I promptly forgot about my chin. Instead I concentrated on the cold, smooth, delicious treat and my family. It had been an extremely emotional day for all of us.

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se what you read in the passage to answer the questions.	}
• What clues tell you that the storyteller was a child when this story happened?	
• What does steep mean in the first paragraph?	
• What two events happen that cause the storyteller pain?	
• What is the effect of the storyteller going too fast down the hill?	
• What is this passage mainly about?	
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The storyteller was riding bikes with two other people. Who are they? Why is it important to mention them in the story?	
What is the author's purpose for telling this story? To entertain? Inform? Persuade?	
Do you think the storyteller is afraid of doctors now? What clues in the text help you find the answer?	



Unit 2 Mini-Lesson

Realistic Fiction

What is realistic fiction?

Realistic fiction features characters and plots that could actually happen in everyday life. The settings are authentic—they are based on familiar places such as a home, school, office, or farm. The stories involve some type of conflict or problem. The conflict can be something a character faces within himself, an issue between characters, or a problem between a character and nature.

What is the purpose of realistic fiction?

Realistic fiction shows how people grow and learn, deal with successes and failures, make decisions, build relationships, and solve problems. In addition to making readers think and wonder, realistic fiction is entertaining. Most of us enjoy "escaping" into someone else's life for a while.

Who is the audience for realistic fiction?

Anyone is the audience for realistic fiction. Realistic fiction is especially enjoyable for readers who are interested in human thoughts, feelings, and experiences in a realistic place or circumstance.

How do you read realistic fiction?

- 1. The title will give you a clue about an important character or conflict in the story.
- 2. Pay attention to the thoughts, feelings, and actions of the main characters.
- 3. Note how the characters change from the beginning of the story to the end.
- 4. Ask yourself: What moves this character to action? Can I learn something from his or her struggles?

Realistic Fiction

Takes place in a real setting

Deals with a problem (self, others, or nature)

Realistic Fiction

Has characters who act like real people

Is told from a first person or third person point of view

The Thing in the Cave



"Tucker! Where are you?" Tucker is my dog. There's nothing he likes better than chasing birds.

Tucker and I were walking on the beach when a seagull swooped down into the sand. It stood there like a statue. Tucker barked and then took off after the gull.

I thought he'd stop running when the gull was in the air. But my dog kept chasing the gull. I worried whether he'd be able to find his way back to Granny's.

I saw a boy building a handsome sand castle. I asked but he had not seen a dog. "My name's Jake," the boy said as he scooped sand from the moat.

"I'm Cai," I told him as I looked around for Tucker. Suddenly a girl raced down the beach, smashing Jake's castle. The walls collapsed into the moat like melting snowmen.

"I'll get you for this, Linda!" Jake screamed.

"Follow me!" she ordered. "Dad discovered a cave!" We followed Linda like ducklings following their mother. We came to the cave, and Linda strolled right in, totally fearless.

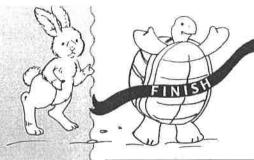
Jake whispered, "Maybe there's a monster in there." I entered the cave, and Jake followed me. Suddenly we heard loud breathing. Linda and Jake ran out immediately. I was alone in the cave with The Thing! But I wasn't afraid because I'd heard that panting sound before.

I carried IT out of the cave. "Ladies and gentleman," I said, "meet 'The Thing,' also known as my dog, Tucker."

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	what you read in the passage to answer the questions. Who are the characters in the story?	
2.	Which character is telling the story?	
3.	Where does the story take place?	
4.	What does the author mean when she compares the castle walls to melting snowmen?	
5.	List the character traits of Cai and Linda.	
6.	What is the main character's problem?	
7.	Is the story told in first person point of view or third person point of view?	
8.	The story uses two similes. A simile is a comparison using the word "like" or "as." Write one of the similes from the story.	
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Unit 3 Mini-Lesson Fables



A fable is a very short story that teaches a lesson, or moral. In most fables, the characters are animals who talk and think like people. This is called personification.

What is the purpose of a fable?

Fables teach people lessons. They often point out the errors in people's behaviors. Fables highlight flaws in character. For example, being dishonest is a character flaw. Being boastful or lazy are also flaws. Fables are enjoyable to read because animals usually play the roles in the fable.

Who invented fables?

People have told fables for thousands of years. Ancient peoples around the world all told fables. Later, in the Middle Ages, people continued this way of storytelling. Aesop is the most famous fable writer. Today, many storytellers still use the fable genre in short stories, plays, and films.

How do you read a fable?

- 1. The title will tell you who the main characters are.
- 2. Look for a character that represents the way humans should NOT behave.
- 3. Look for a character that acts the way humans should behave.
- 4. Notice what happens to the main characters.
- 5. Determine whether the events teach a moral.

Has at least one character with a flaw or problem

Includes main characters that are usually animals

Has a character that learns a lesson



Is short

Has a moral/lesson at the end

The Lion and the Mouse

One day a great lion lay sleeping in his forest den. Each day he took a nap and rested his great head. The other animals were careful not to wake him. Then one day a little timid mouse jumped upon the sleeping lion's head.

The lion awoke when he felt the mouse's footsteps, and he was furious! He grabbed the mouse and roared. "You have dared to wake a sleeping lion! You will pay with your life because I will eat you!"

"Please, Your Highness, forgive me," the mouse begged. "I am sorry, and I promise not to do it again. I will be your friend if you let me live. And I may help you one day."

The lion laughed uncontrollably. "What an impossible idea!" he said. "A mouse save a lion? What can you possibly do for me?" Since the mouse made the lion laugh, the lion was no longer mad. "I will not eat you today," he said. "But next time, I may not be so bighearted."

"Thank you," squeaked the mouse. "You're very kind, and I will repay the favor someday." Then off he scurried.

A few days passed and the lion took a walk in his forest. Unfortunately, he stepped in a hunter's trap. His roar rumbled through the forest until the mouse heard his cry. The mouse searched until he found the lion.

"Stay still," said the mouse. The mouse began to chew the ropes as the lion struggled. Soon the lion broke free.

"Thank you, friend," said the lion. "I did not believe that a small mouse could help me. But I was wrong. You have proved yourself."

Moral: No act of kindness is ever wasted.



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Why does the mouse become scared of the lion?	2
Does the mouse say he is sorry he woke up the lion?	
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Look back at the moral. What is it?	{ 6
What is the mouse's problem?	
This fable uses a writing tool called personification. Which characters were personified?	
	what you read in the passage to answer the questions. Reread the title. What does the title tell you about the story? Why does the mouse become scared of the lion? Does the mouse say he is sorry he woke up the lion? What lesson does the lion learn? What is the lion's problem when he "roared with anger"? Look back at the moral. What is it? What is the mouse's problem? This fable uses a writing tool called personification. Which characters were personified?

M-STEP Vocabulary Words Set 1

*Write the definition of the following M-STEP vocabulary words. Then, review and practice reading and saying their definition with someone at home.

1.	Affix
2.	Antonym
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3.	Article
4.	Audience
5.	Author
6.	Capitalization

7. Central Idea	
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8. Character	
9. Conclude	
9. Condude	
10. Conclusion	*