

Making Predictions

Reading into the Future



What is a **prediction**?

An educated guess about **what will happen** later in a text.

- Based on things that have already happened.
- Informed by things that you know.
- **Not** outlandish or uncharacteristic.

How do you make a **prediction**?

You are required to make an inference.

- **Think about the text first.**
- What has already happened?
- Has the author left any clues?

- **Then consider what you know.**
- What is likely to occur next?

Example

Ronald was running around the classroom with his shoes untied. One of the nicer boys in the class, Ezekiel, said, “Ronald, your shoe is untied.” Ronald replied, “Don’t talk to me.” He did not like Ezekiel. Ronald then continued running and playing. As he was running around the bookshelf, he stepped on one of his shoelaces and...

Based on information in the text and what you, what is likely to occur next?

Suggested **Answer**

Ronald is probably going to trip over his shoelace and fall.

I believe this because...

- He was warned by another character to tie his shoe (based on the text).
- People commonly trip over untied shoelaces (informed by what I know).

Inappropriate **Answers**

- Ronald will reveal to the class that he has the ability to levitate.
- Ronald will run through the wall.
- Ronald will run for President of the United States and win.

These answers are unrelated to what has already happened or they are completely outlandish.

Review

A prediction is when readers attempt to figure out what will happen next.

- Good predictions are based on the what has already happened in the text.
- Predictions should be informed based on what you know.
- Predictions should not be outlandish or unrelated to what has already happened.

Practice

1. Read the passage.
2. Predict what event will occur next.
3. Explain your answer.

1

A fishing boat is returning from arctic waters with a large haul of crab when they get caught in a big storm. The boat is tossed about in the powerful waves and crashes into a large iceberg. The iceberg punctures the boat and it begins sinking. The men scramble to inflate the life rafts...

What event is likely to happen next?

Explain your answer.

Suggested Answer

The crew will board the life rafts and attempt to weather the storm.

Explanation

The boat is damaged. It cannot continue. The men are inflating life rafts. They will probably get in the life rafts next.

2

Tommy was walking down the street when his neighbor's dog started barking at him through a fence. It was a big dog and Tommy never liked him. He walked over to the dog and started calling the dog names and yelling at it. The dog barked at Tommy. Tommy picked up a stick and began poking the dog through the fence. The dog yelped and Tommy thought that this was really funny. Then the dog jumped against the gate and it flopped open...

Suggested Answer

Tommy is probably going to get attacked by the dog.

Explanation

Tommy teases the dog and the dog is very aggressive. Tommy hurts the dog, which probably made it even more angry. Now the dog has escaped. It will probably attack Tommy.

3

Betty's tooth had been sore all day. It was one of her last baby teeth and it was very loose. When she sat down to eat her lunch, her tooth was so sore that she didn't want to eat. But she was so hungry. She grabbed the big red apple from her lunch tray and sunk her teeth into it. Then she tasted blood. She loosened her bite on the apple and realized that...

Suggested Answer

Betty's baby tooth has fallen out or is stuck in the apple.

Explanation

Betty's tooth is loose. Baby teeth fall out. She took a big bite of an apple. Loose teeth often get stuck in apples. She tasted blood, which means her tooth has probably fallen out.

4

Katrina had been starving ever since she was thrown out of the castle. She had not eaten in days. As she walked by the market, the smells of roasting lamb and chicken caused her mouth to fill with saliva. She wondered how much longer she could last without food. A bread wagon rolled past. It swerved suddenly to avoid a child who had ran across the road. As it swerved a small loaf of bread fell from the truck and landed on the dusty ground. The end of the loaf was in a puddle. Katrina looked around and noticed that nobody was watching, then she...

Suggested Answer

Katrina is either going to eat the loaf of bread or hide it in her clothes and eat it later.

Explanation

Katrina is so hungry that she is desperate. She looks around before she makes her move, which shows that she is thinking about doing something that she does not want others to know.

5

It was a hot summer day and Kyle had just bought a popsicle from the ice-cream man. As he was about to open the popsicle his mom called him in the house to talk about his progress report. Kyle put the popsicle down on the stoop and went to talk with his mother. Twenty minutes later he came back outside to get his popsicle. Some clouds had moved and now the sealed popsicle was sitting directly in the sun. Kyle picked up the package and...

Suggested Answer

The popsicle was completely melted.
Perhaps it leaks out of the package.

Explanation

Kyle has left the popsicle in the sun for much too long. Frozen things melt in the sunlight and hot weather; therefore, Kyle's popsicle has probably melted.