

## A Real Life Batman

Daniel Kish has been completely blind since he was a toddler, yet he can hike, play basketball, and even ride a bicycle! Just like a bat, Kish uses echolocation to navigate his environment. As he moves, Kish makes a clicking noise with his tongue. The noise bounces off the objects around him and he uses his ears to "see" them in his mind.

The clicking makes it much easier for Kish to get around and live independently, but the method does have limitations. He still can't see colors and while a bat can detect an object as small as a gnat, Kish says something needs to be at least as big as a softball for him to know it is there. "It's like seeing with dim flashes of light," Kish says.

Kish believes that any blind person can learn to echolocate, although it is easier for children. He has founded a nonprofit organization called *World Access for the Blind* to teach children to echolocate. "It isn't that difficult to teach. It really isn't," Kish says. "I believe that the brain is already partly wired to do this." Kish believes that echolocation is a life-changing skill and that every blind person should have the opportunity to learn it. He says that not allowing it would be, "very shortsighted."

◆◆ IT: inference, vocabulary, understanding quotes

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

TEXT  
TIME 1

### Show What You Know

1. How is Daniel Kish like a real life batman?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Could Daniel use echolocation to make sure that his clothes match?  
\_\_\_\_\_ Why or why not?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. How does Daniel describe what seeing by echolocation is like?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. At the end of paragraph 3, the word, "shortsighted" means:  
a) not being able to see things that are far away  
b) helping blind people to see.  
c) not planning well for the future.  
d) being too short to see something in a crowd

Text Time Created by Rachel Lynette ©2015 all rights reserved

## At the Amusement Park

Justin and his little brother, Lucas, were waiting in line to ride the roller coaster at the amusement park. Justin was in charge since he was older, and so far things had gone pretty well. They had ridden the bumper cars, the Ferris wheel, and the tea cups. The line was long and Justin was restless. He decided to check his phone to see if he had any texts. Soon he was texting with his best friend Carlos.

When he was done texting, Justin started to say something to Lucas, but Lucas wasn't there! Justin looked all around, but Lucas was no where to be seen. Justin left the line and started searching for his brother. He looked around the other lines and at the snack bar. Where had he gone?

There were so many people! It was hard to see. Justin was starting to get really scared when he suddenly spotted Lucas wandering around by the roller coaster line. He ran to Lucas and hugged him hard. "Where were you?" he asked.

"I told you, I was going to the bathroom," Lucas replied. "You must not have heard me because you were busy texting, and now we've lost our place in line." The boys made their way to the end of the line and this time Justin kept his cell phone in his pocket!

◆ L: inference, sequence, summary, theme

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

TEXT  
TIME 2

### Show What You Know

1. What are two things you can infer about Justin?

1) \_\_\_\_\_

because \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

because \_\_\_\_\_

2. Number the events in the order that they happened.

\_\_\_\_\_ Justin leaves the roller coaster line.

\_\_\_\_\_ Justin and Lucas go to the end of the line.

\_\_\_\_\_ Justin and Lucas ride the bumper cars.

\_\_\_\_\_ Justin texts his friend Carlos

\_\_\_\_\_ Justin hugs Lucas.

3. Write a one-sentence summary of this story:

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Which of these is the theme of the story?

a) You should not text at an amusement park.

b) Justin is not very responsible.

c) Getting lost is no fun.

d) It is important to take responsibilities seriously

## Be a Tree Detective

Look at the rings in the cross-section of the tree trunk below. What can they tell you about the tree it came from?

Every spring and summer, a tree grows a new layer of wood. Toward the end of the summer, the cells that make up the wood are smaller, which makes them darker too. Counting the dark rings will tell you the age of the tree.

You can tell other things too. For example, if a ring is wide, that means it was a good year for the tree - plenty of nutrients, water, and sunshine. If a ring is thinner, then the tree had a bad year and did not grow very much.



◆ II: main idea, inference, interpreting an illustration

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

TEXT  
TIME 3

### Show What You Know

1. What is the main idea of this passage?
  - a) A tree grows a new layer of wood every year.
  - b) You can tell things about a tree by looking at a slice of the trunk.
  - c) You can tell the age of the tree by counting the rings.
  - d) If the rings are wide, the tree has had a good year.
2. Can you count the rings to tell how old a living tree is?  
\_\_\_\_\_ why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What will cause a tree to have thin rings?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. About how old was the tree in the picture?
  - a) Less than 20 years old
  - b) Between 30 and 50 years old
  - c) More than 50 years old
  - d) You can't tell from the picture

# California Bound!

Clara pulled her bonnet up further over her head to shade her eyes from the sun. It was so hot and the trail was so dusty. As she and her two younger brothers trudged behind their wagon, Clara wondered what life would be like in California.

Her family had left Missouri nearly two months ago with 26 other wagons. Unfortunately, their wagon train had been delayed by heavy rain. The rain had made the trail muddy and the wheels kept getting stuck. Then they'd had to ford a river, swollen over its banks from all the rain. It was cold and scary, and it took some prodding to get the horses to cross, but they'd all made it.

Pa said they were making good time now. Still, Clara knew Pa was worried. She'd heard him talking to Ma when they thought she was asleep. If their wagon train didn't reach the mountains by late fall, it would be too dangerous to cross.

The wagons all stopped. It was time for the mid-day meal. Clara was glad for the rest. She would help Ma prepare the food and maybe when they got going again, Pa would let her ride with him on the wagon for awhile.

◆◆ L: genre, cause and effect, making connections

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

TEXT  
TIME 4

## Show What You Know

1. What genre is this passage?

- a) biography
- b) historical fiction
- c) fantasy
- d) contemporary fiction

How do you know? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What are two effects the rain had on the wagon train?

1) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Why is Pa worried? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Make a connection between this passage and another text. \_\_\_\_\_ How are they similar?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

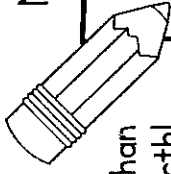
## So Many Satellites!

At this moment, there are more than 2,400 artificial satellites orbiting the earth! A satellite is any object that circles a planet. The moon is a natural satellite. Machines that people make and send into space are artificial satellites.

There are many different kinds of satellites. Weather satellites are used not only to predict the weather, but also to monitor the effect of storms and other natural events. Communication satellites connect people on airplanes, ships, and rural areas. There are TV satellites and satellites for space research. If you use a GPS to keep from getting lost, you are using a network of 20 satellites. GPS stands for Global Positioning Systems.

Some satellites orbit close to the Earth. They are only about 180 miles (300 km) above us. A close-orbiting satellite can circle the earth in about 90 minutes. Other satellites orbit far above the Earth. A satellite that is 22,187 miles (35,786 km) above the Earth has an orbit of exactly 24 hours. If the satellite orbits above the equator, it will always stay in the same place relative to the Earth. Weather and communications satellites use this type of geostationary orbit.

◆◆ IT: vocabulary, main idea, author's purpose



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

TEXT  
TIME 5

### Show What You Know

1. What is an artificial satellite?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What is the main idea of the second paragraph?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What is a geostationary orbit?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What is the author's purpose?  
a) to persuade b) to inform c) to entertain

Give evidence from the text to support your answer:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Text Time Created by Rachel Lynette ©2015 all rights reserved

# Victory

Meg Anderson

She gritted her teeth  
and took a breath as she  
crouched at the line.

She paused,  
the sound of her own heart  
beating beating beating

A quick glance to the right  
and to the left was all it took.  
No one would pass her this time.

This time would be different,  
This time she would  
feel the rush  
hear the cheers  
be at the finish first.

She would finally feel the heavy weight  
lifted from her heart  
and draped around her neck instead.  
Joy would fill places  
where before only worry lived.  
This time,  
victory was  
hers.

◆ P: inference, author's style, point of view

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Show What You Know

1. What is this poem about? \_\_\_\_\_

How do you know?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Why do you think the poet repeats the word  
"beating" three times in the second stanza?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Explain the first three lines of the last stanza in your  
own words.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. From which point of view is this poem written?  
a) first person b) second person c) third person

How do you know?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

TEXT  
TIME 6

Text Time Created by Rachel Lynette ©2015 all rights reserved