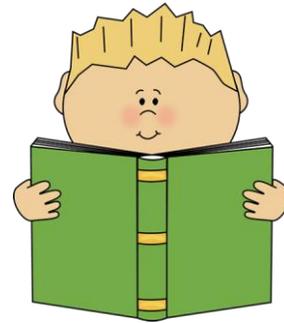


Name: _____

Date: _____

Directions:

1. Read the short story below.
2. Read it again, but this time do a close read.
3. Answer the questions below the story.



The Finish Line

Simon waited at the finish line, a large sign in his hands. He felt anxious and excited as he peered into the sunlight, looking for that familiar face. He glanced down at his sign and smiled. He had stayed up late the night before to make it. It would be fun to hold it up high and shout, "Congratulations! You did it!" Simon looked up again and finally saw him coming from around the bend, his legs strong and swift as he ran forward. Simon jumped up and down and held his sign high. He felt so proud! What a great accomplishment! "Congratulations! You did it!"

Questions:

1. What is one thing you know about Simon? _____

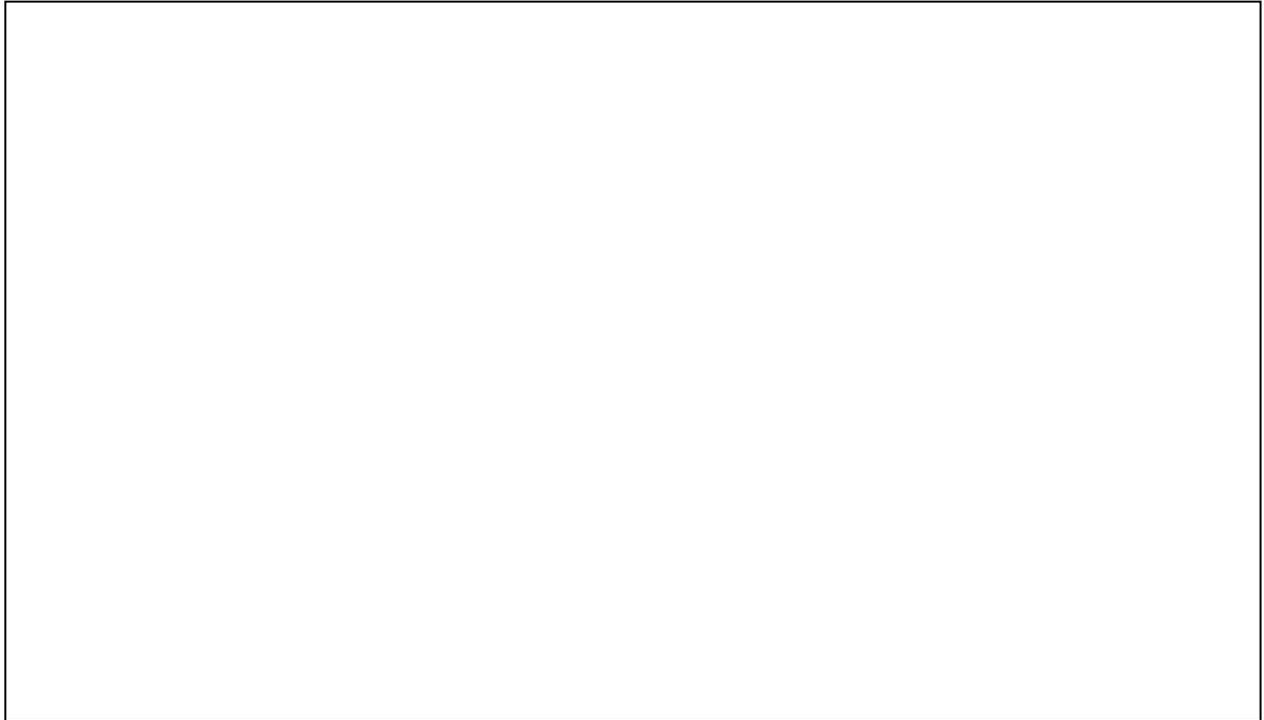
2. What is one thing you do NOT know about Simon? _____

3. Simon is waiting for someone. What is that person doing and how do you know? _____

4. Who could Simon be waiting for? _____

5. What is a clue that makes you think this? _____

6. In the box below, draw and color a picture of this short story. Be sure to add as much detail as you can to your picture.

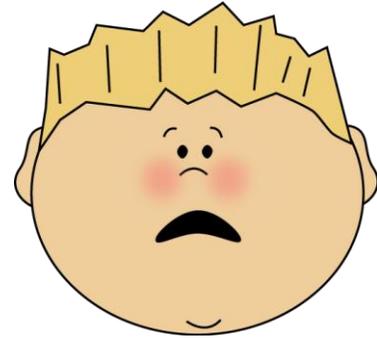


Name: _____

Date: _____

Directions:

1. Read the short story below.
2. Read it again, but this time do a close read.
3. Answer the questions below the story.



The Scream

When I saw it, I screamed! Had it come out of the closet? Had it come through the window? It didn't matter where it came from, it didn't belong here! My dad came into the room to see what was the matter. When he saw it, he laughed. "You're afraid of THAT?" He calmly walked over to it and stepped on it. I smiled sheepishly. I did feel a little silly for being so afraid of something so small.

Questions:

1. What did the main character in this story see? _____

2. What clues from the story help you know? _____

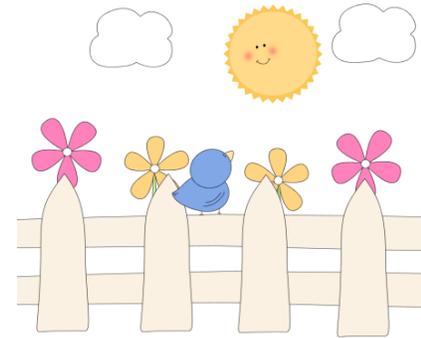
3. Why did the main character feel silly? _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

Directions:

1. Read the short story below.
2. Read it again, but this time do a close read.
3. Answer the questions below the story.



The Walk

Mandy tugged on the rope, but it didn't matter. She wasn't strong enough! She felt herself being dragged down the sidewalk, and she was afraid she wouldn't be able to hold on any longer! "Stop!" Mandy called out. "Slow down!" It was no use. He was just too strong and too excited to be out in the neighborhood. Mandy knew she had better figure out something soon or else he would get away and she would be in big trouble!

Questions:

1. What is Mandy doing? _____

2. What are some clues in the story that help you know? _____

3. How does the title help you better understand what is happening in the story? _____
