The Bundle of Sticks

A dying old man called his sons around him to give them some last advice. He ordered them to bring in a bundle of sticks. He said to his oldest son, "Break it." The son strained and strained, but was unable to break the bundle. The other sons also tried. None of them could do it. "Untie the bundle," said the father, "and each of you take a stick." When they had done so, he called out to them, "Now, break them." Each stick was easily broken. "You see my meaning?" said their father.

Adapted from Aesop's Fables, Public Domain

1. **TEACHER READS:**
   Read the question to yourself and select the best answer.

   **What happened to the sticks after the bundle was untied?**
   A. The sons easily broke each stick apart.
   B. The sons strained to break them, but could not.
   C. The sons quickly tied them back together.
   D. The sons gave the sticks to their father.

   Master ID: 18365 Revision: 1
   Correct: A
   Standards: CCSS.LA.3.RL.3.2

2. **TEACHER READS:**
   Read the question to yourself and select the best answer.

   **What lesson did the father want his sons to learn?**
   A. You have to be really strong to break a bundle of wood.
   B. By sharing the work, you can get the job done.
   C. The father was dying.
   D. They should gather lots of twigs.

   Master ID: 17388 Revision: 1
   Correct: B
   Standards: CCSS.LA.3.RL.3.2

3. **TEACHER READS:**
   Read the question to yourself and select the best answer.

   **Why could the sons not break the bundle of sticks?**
   A. They did not try hard enough.
   B. They did not listen to their father.
   C. The sticks were unbreakable.
   D. The sticks were tied together.

   Master ID: 41673 Revision: 1
   Correct: D
   Standards: CCSS.LA.3.RL.3.2
The Big Game

As Timmy got to the baseball field, he couldn't help but smile. Today was the first baseball game of the season. Timmy and the Royals were going to play the Tornadoes. They were the best team in town.

"Timmy, don't forget your glove and bat," shouted his mother. "I know you're excited, but you need to be ready."

Timmy frowned. His mom was always bothering him.

He ran back to the car, grabbed his glove and bat and ran back to the field. His huge smile returned as he imagined the Royals winning the game. Timmy would hit the ball out of the park to end the game!

"Timmy!" shouted his mother again. "The coach is waiting for you. Hurry up!"

"Okay, Mom," answered Timmy. "Why does she always get in the way?" thought Timmy.

As Timmy continued to daydream, he went and joined his team. Unfortunately, nobody liked Timmy. Last season, he struck out every time he was up at bat. Timmy also was terrible at catching the ball. As soon as the team saw him, their excitement was gone. Now that Timmy was here, there was no way they were going to win.

As the game began, the Royals began to cheer for each other. Of course, they always ignored Timmy. Each time Timmy got up to bat, his mother was the only one to cheer for him. Every time he heard his mother's voice, he was embarrassed.

In the eighth inning, things did not look good. The Tornadoes were up by two runs. Of course, the Royals blamed it all on Timmy. He struck out twice, and he missed a fly ball.

Timmy was still hopeful. He was up next after the all–star player, Richard. Richard had a perfect swing, and he had a good eye for the ball. With two men on base and one out, Richard was confident that he could win the game.

"Come on Richard," shouted the team. "Let's beat those Tornadoes!"

Richard kept his eye on the ball during each pitch, but he just couldn't hit the ball. When Richard struck out, the team was speechless.

"Oh no!" the coach whispered. "There's no way we're going to win. Timmy is up next."

Timmy grabbed his bat and walked confidently up to the plate. He had a good grip on the bat, and his eye was glued to the ball. His first two swings were pretty bad. He didn't even come close to hitting the ball.

"You can do it, Timmy!" shouted his mother. "I'm counting on you!"

This time Timmy listened to his mother. Maybe he could hit the ball and win the game. As the pitcher prepared for his final pitch, Timmy thought positively. When the ball left the pitcher's glove, Timmy was ready. Surprisingly, he hit the ball, and it sailed over the fence.

Did he just do what he thought he did? He sure did! All he could hear was the cheering crowd. Timmy's big play cheered up the team, and they ended up winning the game.

"I'm so proud of you," said Timmy's mom. "I knew you could do it."

"Thanks, Mom," he answered. "Oh, and Mom?"

"Yes, Son?"
"I am very sorry. I've always been embarrassed whenever you cheer for me. But I realized when I was up there that you have always believed in me."

"Of course, Timmy," she said.

That afternoon, Timmy went home feeling very proud. That day he realized that it was okay that his mom was his biggest cheerleader. He was happy that his mom would always cheer him on.

4 TEACHER READS:
Read the question to yourself and select the best answer.

Read these sentences from the passage.

In the eighth inning, things did not look good. The Tornadoes were up by two runs. Of course, the Royals blamed it all on Timmy. He struck out twice, and he missed a fly ball.

What does the underlined part mean?
A. The Royals gave thanks to Timmy.
B. The Royals were proud of Timmy.
C. The Royals thought that Timmy was doing a great job.
D. The Royals thought it was Timmy's fault they were losing.

Master ID: 211142 Revision: 1
Correct: D
Standards:
CCSS.LA.3.RL.3.4

5 TEACHER READS:
Read and complete the task that follows.

Write a paragraph describing what lesson Timmy learned by the end of the story. Include important details from the story to support your answer.

Master ID: 185294 Revision: 1
Standards:
CCSS.LA.3.RL.3.2
6. TEACHER READS:
Read the question to yourself and select the best answer.

Yesterday, ______ jogged three miles around the lake.

Choose the correct way to write the missing part of the sentence.
A. me and Jack
B. Jack and me
C. Jack and I
D. I and Jack

Master ID: 278106 Revision: 1
Correct: C
Standards:
CCSS.LA.3.L.3.1.a

7. TEACHER READS:
Read the question to yourself and select the best answer.

Read this sentence.
The big dog jumped on me.

In this sentence, which underlined word is a NOUN?
A. The
B. big
C. dog
D. jumped

Master ID: 41414 Revision: 1
Correct: C
Standards:
CCSS.LA.3.L.3.1.a

8. TEACHER READS:
Read the question to yourself and select the best answer.

Read these sentences.
The cat ran into the kitchen. It slid into the refrigerator.

What is the BEST way to combine these two sentences?
A. The cat ran into the kitchen: it slid into the refrigerator.
B. The cat running into the kitchen and sliding into the refrigerator.
C. After the cat ran into the kitchen, and it slid into the refrigerator.
D. The cat ran into the kitchen, and it slid into the refrigerator.

Master ID: 42346 Revision: 1
Correct: D
Standards:
CCSS.LA.3.L.3.1.i

9. TEACHER READS:
Read the question to yourself and select the best answer.

Read these sentences.
I like school. I also like the park.

What is the BEST way to combine these two sentences to form a compound sentence?
A. I like school I also like the park.
B. I like school, and I also like the park.
C. I like school, also the park.
D. I like also school and the park.

Master ID: 41977 Revision: 1
Correct: B
Standards:
CCSS.LA.3.L.3.1.i
TEACHER READS:
Read the question to yourself and select the best answer.

Combine the sentences together to make one COMPOUND sentence.

The job of a good babysitter is to entertain the children. A good babysitter should clean up after the children too.

A. The job of a good babysitter is to entertain the children and clean up after them too.
B. The job of a good babysitter is to entertain the children, a good babysitter should clean up after the children too.
C. The job of a good babysitter is to entertain the children and they should clean up after the children.
D. The job of a good babysitter is to entertain the children, and they should clean up after the children too.

Master ID: 31647 Revision: 1
Correct: D
Standards: CCSS.LA.3.L.3.1.i

TEACHER READS:
Read the question to yourself and select the best answer.

Read this sentence.

The children played for two hours.

In this sentence, which underlined word is a verb?

A. children  
B. played  
C. two  
D. hours

Master ID: 41517 Revision: 1
Correct: B
Standards: CCSS.LA.3.L.3.1.a