

# Inference Skills Worksheet

## What Is It?

Inference is a skill we use when reading to help us understand a text further. Being able to infer means we can come to a decision or conclusion about the text.

## How Do We Use It?

- We support our answers with clues from the text.
- We use our prior knowledge.
- We understand that there could be more than one answer.

## Question 1

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

The family waited patiently at the light. Beep, beep! A loud noise came from up the road. It startled the children, who had been waiting patiently at their routine road crossing. The journey to school was not far but it criss-crossed a few roads. Dad just turned his children's attention to the piece of blue sky, fighting its way against the grey. "Could be a bright day today," he reported.

a. What do you think the recent weather has been like where the children live?

---

b. How do you think the children are getting to school?

---

c. What is the meaning of 'a bright day?'

---

## Question 2

Look at the illustration and answer the questions that follow.



a. What does the weather seem like this evening? What makes you think that?

---

b. What do you think they are cooking on the fire?

---

c. Where do you think they will get their water from?

---

d. How do you think they got to the camping spot?

---

## Question 3

Read the sentences and answer the multi-choice questions using your inferring skills.

It was a dark and stormy night. Suddenly, there was a loud and slow knock on the door, which startled Gemma. She did not rush to the door and, when she arrived, opened it very slowly.

Why did Gemma open the door slowly? Select the correct answer from the following options.

- The door was just so heavy she struggled to open it.
- She was quite nervous and did not want to open the door quickly.
- Gemma was in the middle of watching something gripping on TV, and she was upset to have to leave it to answer the door.

**Question 4**

Read the sentences and answer the multi-choice questions using your inferring skills.

Yolanda sat at the table and spooned a little bit of the soup into her mouth. She then started to push the soup around with her spoon and looked at the empty chair. Her parents sat there quietly, waiting for her to say something.

Why did Yolanda push the soup around with her spoon? Select the correct answer from the following options.

- a. She did not like the soup.
- b. Her soup was very hot, and she wanted it to cool down.
- c. She missed her younger brother, who was away at school camp.

# Inference Skills Worksheet Answers

## Question 1

a. What do you think the recent weather has been like where the children live?

**The passage refers to a patch of blue sky fighting the grey. Answers should be based around the weather not being very good, wet, rainy, etc.**

b. How do you think the children are getting to school?

**Answers may vary and include - walking or biking to school with their dad.**

c. What is the meaning of 'a bright day?'

**A sunny day, lots of sun and sunshine. Sun makes people's moods feel bright or happy.**

## Question 2

a. What does the weather seem like this evening?

**Answers may vary but should be based on the weather being fine, clear or warm (the sky is clear, stars are evident and short-sleeved clothing is worn).**

b. What do you think they are cooking on the fire?

**Answers may vary, and past experiences may influence answers. Some ideas may include marshmallows, sausages, hotdogs, smores or other foods that could be cooked on a stick over an open fire.**

c. Where do you think they will get their water from?

**They may have hiked in with it, or water may come from a river or stream nearby.**

d. How did they get to the camping spot?

**Answers will vary but may include driving to a certain point and then hiking to the campsite.**

## Question 3

Answer **B** - **She was quite nervous and did not want to open the door quickly.**

## Question 4

Answer **C** - **She missed her younger brother, who was away at school camp.**