

**A.W. James Elementary
School**

English Language Arts

Independent Learning
Packets

Grade 3

Student Name _____

Understanding Characters

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: It is important for readers to understand what characters do, say, and think in a story. Readers can use evidence in the text and what they already know to form opinions of characters. Read the story. Answer the questions and then take the challenge!

What Could it Hurt?

Brayden never liked going to the grocery store, but his dad always dragged him along. "Why do I have to come with? It takes forever and it's so boring," he whined.

"I'll be quick," his dad promised.

During this Wednesday afternoon trip Brayden was starving. He'd just finished baseball practice and had not eaten since lunch. Going to the grocery store hungry was torture. 'All that food and I can't eat nothing?' Brayden mumbled to himself. 'This ain't fair.'

Then he got an idea. 'I'll just sneak a few bars of chocolate in the cart. Dad will never see them buried in all the frozen bags of peas. He'll buy them for me without even noticing!'

So Brayden waited for the perfect moment when his dad was busy reading the ingredients on the back of some can of beans and he quickly snuck the bars between the peas.

When they got to the checkout Brayden waited nervously. He pretended to be on his phone when his dad spotted the bars.

"Brayden!" his dad yelled. "Put these back! You're eating extra peas tonight for this stunt!"

Brayden rolled his eyes and stomped his foot as he put the bars back. He couldn't get away with anything!



Write About It: What are your opinions of Brayden? Use what you already know and evidence from the text to support your answer.

Multiple Choice:

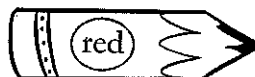
Answer the following questions after reading:

- 1a. What character trait best describes Brayden?
 - (a) patient
 - (b) sneaky
 - (c) calm
 - (d) kind
- 1b. What evidence from the passage best supports the character trait you chose?
 - (a) "Brayden mumbled to himself?"
 - (b) "Brayden waited nervously"
 - (c) "he quickly snuck the bars between the peas."
 - (d) "Brayden rolled his eyes"
- 2a. How is Brayden feeling about going to the grocery store?
 - (a) annoyed
 - (b) excited
 - (c) worried
 - (d) eager
- 2b. What does Brayden say, do, or think to support your answer to 2a?
 - (a) "He pretended to be on his phone."
 - (b) "Brayden waited for the perfect moment"
 - (c) "Brayden waited nervously"
 - (d) "Why do I have to come with?"
3. Which character trait best describes Brayden's dad?
 - (a) easy-going
 - (b) clueless
 - (c) worried
 - (d) strict

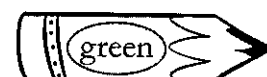
Challenge: Use the code to identify parts in the text.



Brayden's
Actions



What Brayden
Said



What Brayden
Thought

SHELTER DOG

Name _____

My family and I sadly walked out of the shelter. As we went out the door, Charles stopped us. He said, "Hey! We need volunteers here! Layla, if you have one hour a week, we could use your help."

My parents both nodded. I didn't need any more encouragement. I said, "Okay, sir! I'll be here tomorrow!"

Once a week, my mom took me to the shelter to work. It was much more fun than work, though. I got to play with the puppies and feed them. I even got to train Millie to sit and come to me when I called her. Charles said that I had a great way with the dogs.

Then one day, I came into the shelter and saw that Millie was gone! She had been adopted. I was happy for her... but I still fought back tears. I missed the cute puppy. Charles showed me a curly haired dog that had just come to the shelter. It was about four months old. It was blonde and had big, black, shiny eyes. "This is Oliver," Charles said. I got on my knees to pet him. He seemed playful. He went to the corner of his cage and brought me a toy. He was just as cute as Millie, and seemed to be a little bit smarter!

Then, Charles said, "Let's go outside. I have a surprise for you." Charles put a leash on Oliver and we walked outside together. Waiting for us was my whole family, including Mia!

Charlie said, "Mia, meet Oliver. He's a different breed of dog. He won't make you sneeze. He's allergy-free."

Mia hesitated, but Mom told her to go ahead and touch Oliver. She did, and Oliver wagged his tail and licked her face. Mia hugged Oliver and waited. Nothing happened!

That's how we got a dog. He's half miniature poodle and half Labrador retriever, and neither half makes Mia sick!

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5. Re-read this part of the story.

Mia wanted a turn to hold her too, so I passed Millie over to Mia. Mia rubbed her face into the dog's comfy fur, and lovingly stroked the fur with her hands.

The word lovingly has the root word love. What does the word lovingly mean?

- a) with a warm feeling
- b) with sadness
- c) with courage
- d) with an angry feeling

6. Number these sentences from 1 to 3 to put them in the correct order.

- ___ Mia starts to sneeze.
- ___ Mia, Layla, and their parents leave the shelter.
- ___ Charles asks Layla if she wants to volunteer at the shelter.

7. Find the word "encouragement" in the story. Underline the sentence. Then, write the sentence on the line.

What is the root word of encouragement?

- a) ment
- b) courage
- c) rage
- d) enabled

4. Re-read this part of the story.

Mia hesitated, but Mom told her to go ahead and touch Oliver.

Which word has the SAME root word as hesitated?

- a) heated
- b) hesitation
- c) sit
- d) waited

8. Why does Layla cry when she learns Mia is allergic to dogs?

THE RIDDLE

1. Re-read this part of the story.

You may ask friends and family to help us. Tell them they can come and make a donation to the school.

Donation has the root word donate, which means "to give to." What does donation mean?

- a) an adventure
- b) a gift
- c) a problem
- d) an idea

JOKE: How do you get straight A's?

2. Re-read this part of the story.

One day, their third-grade teacher, Miss Andrews, made an important announcement.

The root word announce means "to state or declare." What is an announcement?

- a) a place
- b) a person
- c) a thought
- d) a message

3. Write "T" or "F" on the line to tell if the sentence is true or false.

___ The lesson of this story is to always ask an adult for help.

___ The lesson of this story is that winning is not the most important thing.

___ The lesson of this story is that you should practice to improve your skills.

Write the names of the characters from the story in this box.

Name _____

Mason Brown always tried his very best, no matter what he was doing. He liked winning. He liked trying his hardest. He told himself he had to win first place in the spelling bee. He told himself he had to shoot the most baskets in gym class. He told himself he had to sing the loudest in music class. He told himself he had to create the best paintings in art class. However, Mason's biggest wish was to be better than his classmate, Liam Williams. It was not always easy for Mason to win, because Liam also liked winning.

One day, their third-grade teacher, Miss Andrews, made an important announcement. "Sycamore Elementary School wants to purchase six new computers for the library," she said excitedly. "We are going to hold a race and raise money there. You may ask friends and family to help us. Tell them they can come to the race and make a donation to our school. I hope many of you can sign up to be in the race!"

Mason knew that he was not the swiftest runner, but all he could think about was winning the race. He immediately decided to sign up to run in the race.

As Mason walked to school the next day, he saw Liam passing out papers to his neighbors and friends. Liam was telling them all about the school computers. Mason thought this was a waste of time. Mason wanted to win so he could finally beat Liam.

Later that night, Mason asked his dad, Ricky, to make a donation. "You are running for the wrong reason," his dad said. "Winning is not always a good reason for doing something."

"So?" responded Mason.

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Underline three proper nouns in the story. Then, write them in this box.



At the beginning of the story, Mason's dad says that he wants to win for all of the wrong reasons. Circle words that describe how Mason might be feeling when his dad says this.

- unhappy gracious irritated jolly
jealous angry annoyed satisfied

THE RIDDLE

4. Which statement by a character BEST describes the lesson of the story?

- a) "Well of course I would be the winner!" said Mason proudly.
- b) "We are going to hold a race and raise money there."
- c) "I hope many of you can sign up to be in the race!"
- d) "Winning is not always a good reason for doing something."

Name _____

"Here is a riddle," replied his dad. "If you run the race without collecting any money, but pass the person in first place, who would be the real winner?"

"Well of course I would be the winner!" said Mason proudly. He was sure that he had the correct answer.

His dad just sighed, looked down at the ground, and shook his head.

On the day of the race, it was extremely hot outside. Mason couldn't wait to get started. He wanted to win. The sand blew up from the track as the runners made their last-minute preparations. The gym teacher told the runners to take their places. Then the gym teacher yelled, "On your mark, get set, go." The whistle blew loudly. All the runners ran forward.

Mason ran as fast as he could, but he got sand in his eyes. He tried to run faster. He knew that the finish line was a long way away. He gasped for a breath of air. His legs started to ache. He kept running though. Then he saw Liam, and his determination to win made Mason forget his pain. Mason sped up, and he quickly passed Liam, who had been in first place. The next day at school, Mason expected everyone to congratulate him. Instead, Miss Andrews said she had some bad news. The race had not raised enough money to buy the computers for the school.

Suddenly, Mason understood the answer to his father's riddle. He had come in first place, but because he did not help to raise money, there was no real winner.

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5. How does Jeremy change in the story?

- a) He learns to think about others.
- b) He learns to get along with Liam.
- c) He learns how to win at everything he does.
- d) He learns how to apologize for his mistakes.

6. Re-read this part of the story.

"Sycamore Elementary School wants to purchase six new computers for the library," she said excitedly. "We are going to hold a race and raise money there. You may ask friends and family to help us. Tell them they can come to the race and make a donation to our school."

What do the sentences help to explain?

- a) The school needs a new library.
- b) Running is the best sport.
- c) The reason for the race is to raise money.
- d) Mason should not want to run in the race.

→ Find these words in the story, and circle them. Then, write the root word of each word.

	ROOT WORD
preparations	
announcement	
determination	

→ Circle the word that is a homophone for the word "wait".

delay mate waiter late
 bait patience weight waiting

Which one of these is true about Mason at the end of the story? Circle one box.

- | | |
|---|---|
| Mason realizes there is no real winner. | Mason wants to win for the wrong reasons. |
|---|---|

WEATHER SURPRISE

Name _____

Anthony glanced out of the classroom window. The weather was warm and sunny. It was perfect weather for tomorrow's Walk-a-Thon. Anthony, his friends Sasha and Tony, and their parents were going to walk to raise money for the town's animal shelter. Sasha's older sister and Tony's big brother were walking with them, too.

Still, Anthony knew how fast the weather could change.

"Sasha," Andy said, "there is a slim chance that it will rain. Cold air might swoop in tomorrow. Maybe we should take our rain coats with us to the Walk-a-Thon."

While smiling, Sasha said, "I think I will leave my rain coat at home tomorrow."

"Tony," Anthony said, "what if we wear shorts tomorrow, and suddenly the temperature starts dropping? They will not cancel the Walk-a-Thon. It will still happen, rain or shine."

Tony smiled and looked out the window. "I am not worried."

Anthony was worried. What if it poured? They would all get soaked to the skin. He thought it would be sensible to take his umbrella.

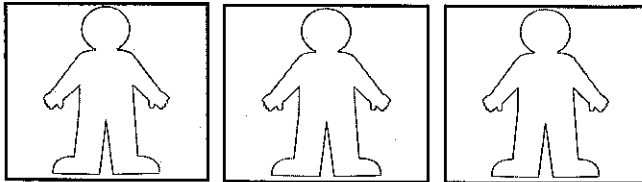
Sasha and Tony were not planning ahead, so they would just get wet!

The next morning, Anthony was still sleeping when he heard a loud rumble of thunder. He tried to look out his window, but it was raining so hard that he could not even see his back yard! This means one thing: They would have to do the Walk-a-Thon in a rainstorm!

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Draw the main characters: Anthony, Sasha, and Tony.



Where is the setting of the story at the beginning of the story? Circle the word that describes the setting.

gym class lunch room classroom zoo
stage bus airplane desert

1. Re-read this part of the story.

"Sasha," Andy said, "there is a slim chance that it will rain.

What does slim chance mean?

- a) Something will, for sure, happen.
- b) Something might happen.
- c) Something will not happen.
- d) Something already happened.

JOKE: What falls but never hits the ground? _____

2. Re-read this part of the story.

"They will not cancel the Walk-a-Thon. It will still happen, rain or shine."

What does rain or shine mean?

- a) They will not cancel the Walk-a-Thon if the sun shines.
- b) It will most likely be sunny during the Walk-a-Thon.
- c) No one knows what the weather will be.
- d) The weather will not affect the event.

3. Re-read this part of the story.

He thought it would be sensible to take his umbrella.

What does sensible mean?

- a) careless
- b) foolish
- c) special
- d) wise

4. What is the root word of "sensible"?

- a) sense c) smart
- b) ible d) wise

WEATHER SURPRISE

Name _____

Anthony pulled on sweatpants and a shirt, walked down to the kitchen, and grabbed his raincoat and umbrella out of the closet. Yet when he opened the front door, the sun was shining brightly! His mouth fell open. How could the weather change so fast? He headed back inside and stuffed his rain gear back into the closet.

"How's the weather?" his dad called from the dining room.

"Uh, good, I guess," Anthony told him, heading back upstairs to change into his shorts.

As he walked into his bedroom, Anthony glanced out the window again. Now it was snowing—a real blizzard! He raced downstairs and yanked open the front door, but it was still as sunny as ever. Then Anthony heard a quiet giggle from the backyard. He tiptoed around the side of the house.

Tony and his brother and Sasha and her sister were tossing bits of white paper into a big fan. The fan was blowing the bits of paper against his bedroom window. It looked just like snow! A water hose was sitting nearby, along with a metal trash can to make thunder. It was all a trick!

"Boo!" he yelled. His friends jumped up in surprise and then fell on the grass laughing. At first, Anthony felt like blowing his top, but soon he was laughing too. He was not surprised when his parents came outside with big grins on their faces. "It was just a little joke, Anthony."

Anthony smiled as he said, "I am beginning to think that the weather is not my biggest problem!" The Walk-a-Thon ended up being a big success. The weather stayed warm and sunny!

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Circle the word that does not belong.

	toe	go
snow		
	blow	hello
below		flow
	know	slow
		grew
	dough	crow

Why? _____

5. What does the story tell you about teasing?

- a) You should make sure your friends are ready for the weather.
- b) It is okay to tell your friends they are being silly.
- c) Friends play jokes just to have fun.
- d) It is okay to make fun of people.

6. Number these sentences from 1 to 3 to put them in the correct order.

- ___ Anthony puts on sweatpants and a shirt.
- ___ Anthony's friends surprised him outside.
- ___ Anthony grabbed his raincoat out of the closet.

7. Circle the clouds if they are antonyms. Example:

8. What lesson do you learn from this story?

- a) There is a difference between teasing and being mean.
- b) The weather will be good if you try to help animals.
- c) No one should worry about the weather.
- d) People should help nearby animal shelters.

GIVE THANKS

Name _____

Gabe was happy to go to school today. It was his last day of school before Thanksgiving weekend, and he was looking forward to having a few extra days off. He grabbed his lunch box from the kitchen table and got on the bus to go to school. At lunch time, Gabe went to the lunchroom, and Anika, a new classmate from India, sat next to him.

"Are you excited for the long weekend?" he asked Anika. Gabe was smiling. He was so excited to have school days off.

"Yes, of course," she said. "But I'm not really sure why we have all of these extra days off."

"Thanksgiving, of course!" Gabe said. "Do you know what Thanksgiving is?"

"No, I just moved to this country," she said. "We don't celebrate Thanksgiving where I am from."

"Oh, Thanksgiving is so much fun," Gabe said. "We get to spend precious time with our family. First, we come together and have a big feast with turkey and mashed potatoes. Then, we have pumpkin pie. After we eat, I go outside and play football with my dad and my cousins."

"But why do you have this tradition?" Anika asked.

"It's to remind everyone to give thanks for everything from the past year, including our food," he said. "I learned in Ms. Baker's class that the first Thanksgiving was way back in 1621 between the English Colonists and Native Americans."

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Write 5 adjectives to describe Thanksgiving.

JOKE: What smells the best at Thanksgiving? _____

The word "weekend" has two e's. Use the clues to figure out the double e words.

- 1) a food that is full of sugar is sometimes called a... _____
- 2) another word for crying is... _____
- 3) not a king but a... _____
- 4) a black and yellow flying insect is called a... _____
- 5) a road in a city or town with houses or buildings is called a... _____

1. What are the 3 things Gabe says he does on Thanksgiving?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

2. Find these words in the story. Circle them. Then use each word in a sentence.

classmate: _____

precious: _____

3. Find the word "grabbed" in the story. Underline the sentence. Then, write the sentence on the line.

What is the root word of grabbed?

- a) ed
- b) bed
- c) grab
- d) grabbing

4. What did Gabe tell Anika about Thanksgiving?

- a) He learned in Ms. Baker's class that the first Thanksgiving was way back in 1621 between the English Colonists and Native Americans.
- b) He learned in Ms. Baker's class about how his teacher celebrates Thanksgiving.
- c) He always eats sweet potatoes on Thanksgiving.
- d) His family is taking a vacation during Thanksgiving this year.

GIVE THANKS

Name _____

"Wow, that sounds really great," said Anika. "In my country we also give thanks, but we do it in a different way."

"Really?" Gabe said. He was interested to know more about it. "How?" he asked.

"Well, I am from a place in southern India called Tamil Nadu," Anika said. "In January we get to celebrate something called Pongal."

"Pongal? What does that mean?" Gabe asked her. He was confused.

"It is an Indian dish," she said. "During the Pongal festival, food is cooked in pots until it boils and spills over. It is a symbol of good times for us."

"Wow," Gabe said. "How do you celebrate?"

"First, we give thanks to the rain, the sun, and even the cattle for helping with farming," said Anika.

"Then we clean and throw away old things, wear new clothes, eat food, and spend time with family."

"That sounds like fun," said Gabe. "I thought that the United States was the only country that had a holiday like Thanksgiving, but I guess I was wrong."

"Yes, there are many types of harvest festivals all over the world where people give thanks for food and crops," she said.

"I guess we all have a lot to be thankful for," he said. They both agreed.

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► Re-write this sentence correctly.

in january we gett to selebrate something called pangal

► Circle "T" if the sentence is true. Circle "F" if the sentence is false.

Pongal is an Indian dish.	T	F
Chris is one of the main characters.	T	F
The first Thanksgiving was in 2019.	T	F

5. What does Gabe realize at the end of the passage?

6. What is your favorite holiday or tradition to celebrate? Why? Write one paragraph explaining why it's your favorite.

7. Choose the synonym for the underlined word.

It is a symbol of good times for us.

- a) sign
- b) good
- c) thought
- d) day

8. How was Gabe feeling when Anika told him that she gives thanks in a different way than him?

- a) nervous
- b) mad
- c) interested
- d) excited

How do you know? _____

THE CAMPING TRIP

Name _____

Dad and Jake went on a backpacking trip. For Dad, lugging stuff up a hill was fun. He climbed up the path easily. However, Jake lagged in back, dragging his bag on the ground. Jake stopped a few times to fix his hat. His skin was burning. Jake wished he had a wagon with him to get his stuff up to the camping spot. He didn't want to carry it by himself.

"Are we stopping?" asked Jake. He was worn out. He took a few heavy breaths.

"You can not be getting tired. I just got going!" Dad said as he grinned. Dad kept going up the hill.

Jake jogged to keep up. Then, he huffed and puffed. "I am hot," Jake gasped. He really wanted to quit, but his dad wasn't going to stop. He dreamed of his comfortable bed and a cold pillow on his head. He also pictured drinking a cold cup of iced lemonade.

"We have reached the top!" said Dad.

Dad had stopped. Jake stepped up next to him. The forest looked very grand.

"So, son, what are you thinking?" asked Dad.

"Wow, Dad... I am glad I am camping with you," said Jake.

▶ Write about a trip you took recently. Did you enjoy the trip? Tell why or why not.

JOKE: What do bears call campers in their sleeping bags? _____

▶ Fill in the blanks with the correct verb tense.

dragged **dragging**

My friend _____ the heavy bag on the ground behind him.

The three of us are _____ the boat to the beach.

1. Re-read this part of the story.

Dad had stopped. Jake stepped up next to him. The forest looked very grand.

What does the word "grand" mean?

- a) very big
- b) ugly
- c) very scary
- d) small

2. Complete the chart by adding suffixes to the words. Write the final word in the box. Check spelling.

Root Word	Add Suffix	Word
drag	+ing	
gasp	+ed	
drink	+ing	
step	+ed	

3. Choose the synonym for the underlined word.

He dreamed of his comfortable bed and a cold pillow on his head.

- a) warm
- b) pleasant
- c) rough
- d) faraway

4. Make this compound sentence into two simple sentences.

He really wanted to quit, but his dad wasn't going to stop.

THE SUN

Name _____

Scientists have studied numerous things about the Sun. For example, they learned about how old it is. The Sun is more than 4½ billion years old. Scientists also know about the Sun's size. The Sun may seem small from where we are on Earth, but that is because it is far away from us. The Sun is about 93 million miles (or 150 million kilometers) away from the Earth. The Sun is so large that the diameter of the Sun is 109 times the Earth's diameter. The Sun weighs as much as 333,000 Earths put together.

The Sun is made up of two main gases. It is 75% hydrogen and 25% helium. Hydrogen is the simplest and lightest of all of the known elements. When you combine hydrogen with oxygen, you get water. You probably know what helium is. It is the gas that can be put into balloons to make them stay in the air and float in the air.

Scientists also studied the temperature of the Sun. The surface of the Sun is about 10,000 degrees Fahrenheit (or 5,600 degrees Celsius). That might sound hot, but the Sun's core is even hotter than that. The core is the central region where the temperature reaches about 27 million degrees Fahrenheit (or 15 million Celsius).

The Sun is very important. Without it, there would be only darkness. Additionally, our planet would be very cold. We would not have liquid water. Our planet would also not have any people, animals, and plants. That is because these things need sunlight and water in order to live.

JOKE: Why did the sun go to school? _____

Fill in the blanks and spell the words from the passage.

s _ n _ i _ h _ t _____
 l i _ u _ d _____
 p _ a _ _ _ s _____
 S _ n _____
 s c _ e n _ i _ t _ _____

Circle "T" if the sentence is true. Circle "F" if the sentence is false.

The surface of the Sun is about 10,000 degrees Fahrenheit	T	F
Without the Sun, there would be only darkness.	T	F

1. How old is the Sun?
 a) 93 million miles old
 b) 333,000 years old
 c) 4½ billion years old
 d) 3½ million years old

2. What is the main idea of this text?
 a) The Sun is fun to look at.
 b) The Sun is far away.
 c) The Sun is larger than you think.
 d) The Sun is described so you can learn more about it.

3. Why does the Sun look small, but it is really large?

4. About how many miles is the Sun away from the Earth?
 a) 93 million miles
 b) 333,000 miles
 c) 109 miles
 d) 5,600 miles

5. Make this compound sentence into two simple sentences.
 The Sun may seem small from where we are on Earth, but that is because it is far away from us.

ALL ABOUT CHOCOLATE

Name _____

Did you know that people from all over the world like the taste of chocolate? Chocolate is a refreshment that many people enjoy as a dessert or as a snack. Have you ever grabbed a chocolate bar when you were at the grocery store with your mom or dad? What kind of chocolate bar did you grab? Some people like dark chocolate and some people like milk chocolate. Some people like their chocolate plain, and others like nuts or filling inside. There are many different ways to enjoy chocolate.

In 1903, in Pennsylvania, Milton Hershey began making chocolate for Hershey's candy. The name "Hershey" is now known throughout the world. Although Milton Hershey died in 1945, the Hershey's chocolate factory continues to be running to this day.

Here is the story of Milton Hershey. Milton's mom thought it would be a good idea for Milton to learn a business from someone who was a great businessman. So when Milton finished fourth grade, she wanted Milton to become a printer's apprentice. This means he would learn how to print newspapers and books. However, Milton did not like this kind of work. Instead, he went to work with his father, who made candy in a candy factory. After a few years, Milton knew that he was a good candy maker. He wanted to start his own candy business. Milton worked hard and built several businesses in many different cities, and he did not give up. His candy business was a success. It is still made today.

1. The word "apprentice" is described in the passage. Who is most likely an apprentice?

- a) A parent who cooks you dinner at your house.
- b) A friend who rides their bike with you in the park.
- c) A teacher who teaches you how to read at school.
- d) Someone who learns a trade from someone who is skilled.

2. Number these sentences from 1 to 3 to put them in the correct order.

- ___ Milton Hershey died in 1945.
- ___ Milton finished fourth grade.
- ___ Milton started his own candy business.

3. Write 5 adjectives that describe chocolate.

JOKE: What do you call a sheep that's covered in chocolate? _____

4. Fill in the blanks with the correct verb tense.

wanted wanting

I had really _____ to wear a jacket because it was cold.

This is not exactly what I was _____ to hear from my teacher.

Fill in the blanks and spell the words from the passage.

c _ o c o _ a _ e _____
 c _ n _ y _____
 n _ w s p _ p _ r _ _____
 M _ _ t _ n _____
 b _ _ i _ e _ _ _____

Circle "T" if the sentence is true. Circle "F" if the sentence is false.

Milton started to make chocolate when he was in high school. T F
 Milton Hershey died in 1945. T F

LOCATIONS

Name _____

Did you know that the world's population lives in many different countries, and they are not divided evenly between all the countries? There are some countries that are very overcrowded. There are other countries that seem like they have very few people living in them. Why are people spread out all around the world so unevenly? There are advantages, or good things, about living in a certain place. However, there are also disadvantages, or bad things, about the living in a certain place.

The two main factors that people think about when they decide where to live are climate and resources. Climate is the usual weather conditions in a region. Areas that have extreme weather are not very popular places to live. For example, not many people want to live at the North Pole or the South Pole. Even though they may look beautiful, the disadvantage of the cold and windy weather conditions usually keeps people away.

Resources, like natural resources, are things that we get from nature that help us survive. Every region offers different resources. Every region attracts different groups of people. People who enjoy the beach can make their living from the ocean. They can catch and sell fish and other sea creatures. Some people prefer to farm. They can take advantage of rich soil in valleys near rivers. Sometimes, people may be willing to put up with the disadvantages of an area if the advantages are good.

Fill in the blanks and spell the words from the passage.

r e _ i o _ _____
 c l _ m _ t _ _____
 w _ a _ h _ r _____
 p _ _ c e _____
 n _ t _ r e _____

First, circle 4 nouns in the passage. Then, write them in the boxes.

JOKE: What's the wettest animal at the North Pole?

1. What is the difference between an advantage and a disadvantage?

2. What is a natural resource?

3. Which of the following is true?

- a) Every country has the exact same number of people living in it.
- b) The South Pole is the most popular place in the world to live.
- c) Every region offers different resources.
- d) Every region in the United States is like a farm.

4. Fill in the blanks. Use the following words:

beach climate
 farm resources
 advantage

_____ describes the usual weather conditions of a region.

Today, I really want to go to the _____ and enjoy the sunshine on my face and sand on my toes.

_____ are things that we get from nature that help us survive.

My mom told me to take _____ of the long weekend and go on a hike.

I have chickens on my _____.