



CRCT Prep Grade 3 Reading Comprehension

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“THE WALRUS AND THE CARPENTER” – Part II

by Lewis Carroll



“O Oysters, come and walk with us!”
The Walrus did beseech.
“A pleasant walk, a pleasant talk,
Along the briny beach;
We cannot do with more than four,
To give a hand to each.”

The eldest Oyster looked at him,
But never a word he said;
The eldest Oyster winked his eye,
And shook his heavy head—
Meaning to say he did not choose
To leave the Oyster bed.

But four young Oysters hurried up,
All eager for the treat;
Their coats were brushed, their
faces washed,
Their shoes were clean and neat—
And this was odd, because, you know,
They hadn't any feet.

Four other Oysters followed them,
And yet another four;
And thick and fast they came at last,
And more, and more, and more—
All hopping through the frothy waves,
And scrambling to the shore.

The Walrus and the Carpenter
Walked on a mile or so,
And then they rested on a rock
Conveniently low—
And all the little Oysters stood
And waited in a row.

“The time has come,” the Walrus said,
“To talk of many things:
Of shoes—and ships—and sealing wax—
Of cabbages—and kings—
And why the sea is boiling hot—
And whether pigs have wings.”

“But wait a bit,” the Oysters cried,
“Before we have our chat;
For some of us are out of breath,
And all of us are fat!”
“No hurry!” said the Carpenter.
They thanked him much for that.

“A loaf of bread,” the Walrus said,
“Is what we chiefly need;
Pepper and vinegar besides
Are very good indeed—
Now if you're ready, Oysters dear,
We can begin to feed.”

“But not on us!” the Oysters cried,
Turning a little blue.
“After such kindness, that would be
A dismal thing to do!”
“The night is fine!” the Walrus said.
“Do you admire the view?”

“It was so kind of you to come!
And you are very nice!”
The Carpenter said nothing but,
“Cut us another slice.
I wish you were not quite so deaf—
I’ve had to ask you twice!”

“It seems a shame,” the Walrus said.
“To play them such a trick,
After we’ve brought them out so far,
And made them trot so quick!”
The Carpenter said nothing but,
“The butter’s spread too thick!”

“I weep for you,” the Walrus said;
“I deeply sympathize.”
With sobs and tears he sorted out
Those of the largest size,
Holding his pocket handkerchief
Before his streaming eyes.

“O Oysters”, said the Carpenter,
“You’ve had a pleasant run!
Shall we be trotting home again?”
But answer came there none—
And this was scarcely odd, because
they’d eaten every one.

* * *



1. The eldest Oyster did NOT want to go for the walk because he
 - A did not trust the Walrus and the Carpenter.
 - B knew he had no feet and could not walk fast.
 - C was too heavy to move out of his bed.
 - D did not want to leave the young Oysters behind.

2. What problem does the Carpenter have at the end of the passage?
 - A He cannot hear the Walrus when he speaks.
 - B He had been fooled by the Walrus' tricks.
 - C He feels sorry for the Oysters he had eaten.
 - D He forgets that there are no more Oysters.

3. Which part of the passage shows that this passage is make-believe?
 - A Friends talk about silly things.
 - B A carpenter eats some oysters.
 - C Animals speak to each other.
 - D A view is beautiful at night.

4. Why do the Oysters go "hopping through the frothy waves"?
 - A They want to get away from the Walrus.
 - B They wanted to go for a walk.
 - C The elder Oyster told them to.
 - D The Carpenter said they were in danger.

5. Which prefix can you add to *planned* to make it mean *not planned*?
 - A re-
 - B im-
 - C post-
 - D un-

THE WOLF AND THE PIG

Finding that he could not, with all his huffing and puffing, blow the pig's brick house down, the wolf said, "Little pig, I know where there is a nice field of turnips."

"Where?" said the little pig.

"Oh, in Mr. Smith's field. If you will be ready tomorrow morning, we will go together and get some for dinner."

"Very well," said the little pig. "What time do you mean to go?"



"Oh, at six o'clock."

So the little pig got up at five o'clock and got the turnips before the wolf came crying, "Little pig, are you ready?"

The little pig said, "Ready! I have been and come back again, and got a nice potful for dinner."

The wolf felt very angry when he heard this, but thought that he would be a match for the little pig somehow or other, so he said, "Little pig, I know where there is a nice apple tree."

"Where?" asked the pig.

"Down at Merry-garden," replied the wolf. "If you will not deceive me, I will come for you at five o'clock tomorrow. We can get some apples."

The little pig got up next morning at four o'clock. He went off for the apples. He hoped to get back before the wolf came, but it took a long time to climb the tree.

Just as he was coming down from it, he saw the wolf coming. When the wolf came up he said, "Little pig, what! are you here before me? Are they nice apples?"

"Yes, very," said the little pig. "I will throw you down one."

And he threw it far. While the wolf went to pick it up, the little pig jumped down and ran home.

The next day the wolf came again and said to the little pig, "Little pig, there is a fair in town this afternoon; will you go?"



“Oh yes,” said the pig, “I will go; what time?”

“At three o’clock,” said the wolf.

As usual, the little pig went off beforehand. He got to the fair and bought a butter churn. He was rolling it home when he saw the wolf coming. He got into the churn to hide. In so doing, he knocked it over. It rolled down the hill with the pig in it. That frightened the wolf so much that he ran home without going to the fair. He went to the little pig’s house. The wolf told the pig how frightened he had been by a great round thing that came past him down the hill. Then the little pig said,

“Ha! ha! I frightened you then!”

Then the wolf was very angry indeed. He tried to get down the chimney in order to eat up the little pig. When the little pig saw what he was about, he put a pot full of water on the blazing fire. Just as the wolf was coming down, he took off the cover. In fell the wolf. Quickly, the little pig clapped on the cover. When the wolf was boiled, the pig ate him for supper.

1. Why does the wolf tell the pig about the turnips?
 - A because he wants the pig to get him turnips
 - B because he wants the pig to go with him
 - C because he wants the pig to leave his house
 - D because he wants the pig to get up early

2. How did the pig escape from the wolf at the apple tree?
 - A He hid in the butter churn he had bought.
 - B He rolled down the hill toward him.
 - C He went to the fair before the wolf.
 - D He made the wolf chase an apple.

If you will not deceive me, I will come for you at five o'clock tomorrow

3. The word *deceive* means

- A trick.
- B calm.
- C hurt.
- D touch.

4. Why did the wolf try to get down the chimney?

- A because he was hungry for the pig's dinner
- B because the pig had frightened him
- C because he wanted to feed the pig
- D because the butter churn was chasing him

5. Do you like how this story ended? Why or why not?
