

<b>Name:</b> _____		<b>Section:</b> _____	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Grade Homework September 7-11</b>
<b>Everyday</b>	<b>Read 30 minutes!</b>		<b>NOTES:</b> *Each homework assignment must be completed on the night it is given, if it is not completed for the following morning points will be taken off for late homework. This applies for ALL homework unless otherwise stated a due date.
<b>Monday</b>	<b>No Homework Tonight!!!</b>		
<b>Parent Initials:</b> _____			
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Reading:</b> Read the story "Siblings" and answer the questions that follow. You must annotate as you read (use your journal to help). You MUST underline to prove ALL answers and write in COMPLETE sentences.		
<b>Parent Initials:</b> _____	<b>Language Arts:</b> Complete the "Fourth Grade Editing" page. You must <b>correct</b> the sentences by writing them properly on the line given.		
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Language Arts:</b> Read the prompt on the top of page 7, and then complete the "understanding the prompt" chart.		<b><u>No Vocabulary Words this week</u></b>
<b>Parent Initials:</b> _____	<b>Reading:</b> Read Article 1: "Why Cats Make Better Pets than Dogs". Make sure to annotate as you read (think about your prompt as you read).		
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Reading:</b> Read Article 2: "Why Dogs Make Good Pets". Make sure to annotate as you read (think about your prompt as you read).		
<b>Parent Initials:</b> _____	<b>Language Arts:</b> Complete the "Gathering Evidence Chart" on page 10 with what you have learned from both articles. You MUST underline to prove ALL answers.		
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Reading:</b> Read the story "Solve it!" and answer the questions that follow. You must annotate as you read (use your journal to help). You MUST underline to prove ALL answers and write in COMPLETE sentences.		
<b>Parent Initials:</b> _____			

# Siblings

By ReadWorks



Mikey was eating breakfast on a Saturday morning when her mom came into the kitchen to ask where her older brother was.

"I don't know," she said. "He's probably playing video games." She slurped another mouthful of cereal off her spoon and heard her mom calling to Henry to get out of the basement for once. She turned the page of the book she was reading.

Henry had turned 16 a few weeks before, and since then, he had spent most of his weekends in the basement—there was an old TV set up with his video game console, a mini-fridge filled with sodas, and a beat-up, old futon their dad had in college. The washing machine and dryer were also located down there, and Mikey knew her mom hated it when Henry wouldn't leave the basement long enough for her to do the laundry in peace.

Their mom walked back into the kitchen and sat down across the table from Mikey.

"I just don't understand that boy anymore," she said. "Does he talk to you?"

"He stopped talking to me in the third grade, when he started coming home late on school days," Mikey said. She shrugged and put her book down.

They used to be best friends, Mikey and Henry. They took their golden retriever Scout on long walks through the undeveloped forest area behind their house every day after school. They would pretend to be in Middle Earth, like the characters from the *Lord of the Rings* series (which Henry used to read obsessively). Mikey was basically interested in anything Henry was and happy to be Gollum or an orc or whatever evil creature Henry felt like vanquishing that day. (Scout was always on Mikey's side, because she had a disadvantage, being younger than Henry and the evil

character.) When it got dark, they would make their way back through the trees to the wide lawn in the backyard of their house, and then in through the sliding glass doors to the kitchen for a snack. Henry liked to eat peanut butter sandwiches and would make three: two for him and one for Mikey. Their mom would come home a little while later, and they would pretend to be starving for dinner.

But at some point in the last year, everything changed. Henry started making plans with his friends after school, and the house would be empty—except for Scout—when Mikey was dropped off from carpool after school. Sometimes Henry didn't come home until after Mikey and her parents were already sitting down to eat dinner. It soon became Mikey's job to take Scout on a walk by herself, but it was becoming winter, and the sun was setting early, and Mikey was nervous to go into the undeveloped woods by herself.

"Really, Mom, the person it bothers the *most* is Scout. She absolutely hates having to walk on the streets in the neighborhood. Dogs were made for running around trees, not for walking on asphalt." Mikey shrugged again.

Her mom smiled at her sadly and reached across the table to take Mikey's cheek in her hand, but Mikey brushed it off quickly. She always did that when she felt sorry for Mikey.

"I'm sorry, sweetie," she said. "Do you want me and Dad to talk to Henry about Scout's predicament?"

Mikey shook her head emphatically. "He would just resent Scout," she said.

Her mom nodded. "Maybe. I'm sure he'll grow out of this phase soon."

Mikey picked her book up again. "I doubt it," she said.

Her mom stood up and left the kitchen. Sunlight was streaming in through the big windows that surrounded the room, and Scout was lying in a patch of warmth under Mikey's chair. She supposed this was how it would always be: her and Scout, hanging out and growing old together as if Henry had never existed.

Suddenly, the whirring sound of the washing machine rose up from the basement. Henry walked into the kitchen and sat down where their mom was sitting before.

"Hey, Mikey," he said. "Want to take Scout on a walk?"

Mikey put her book down and smiled. "Sure," she said.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. According to Mikey, where has Henry spent most of his weekends since he turned 16?
  - A) in the woods
  - B) with his sister
  - C) in his room
  - D) in the basement
  
2. What main problem does Mikey face?
  - A) Her brother Henry does not spend much time with her anymore.
  - B) Her brother Henry no longer makes her sandwiches after school.
  - C) Her dog Scout does not want to go on walks on the streets in the neighborhood.
  - D) She always has to pretend to be the bad guy when she plays with her brother.
  
3. Mikey looks up to her older brother Henry and likes being with him. What evidence from the passage best supports this conclusion?
  - A) "They took their golden retriever Scout on long walks through the undeveloped forest area behind their house every day after school."
  - B) "Scout was always on Mikey's side, because she had a disadvantage, being younger than Henry and the evil one."
  - C) "Mikey was basically interested in anything Henry was and happy to be Gollum or an orc or whatever evil creature Henry felt like vanquishing that day."
  - D) "They would pretend to be in Middle Earth, like the characters from the *Lord of the Rings* series (which Henry used to read obsessively)."
  
4. Why does Mikey tell her mom that Scout is most bothered by Henry not spending time with them?
  - A) because Mikey thinks this will get Henry to spend time with her again
  - B) because Mikey does not want to tell her mom how much she misses Henry
  - C) because Mikey is worried about Scout's emotional well-being
  - D) because Mikey wants her mom to tell Henry to take Scout on walks again

5. What is this story mostly about?

- A) a brother and sister who stay close friends as they grow up
- B) a girl who likes taking walks in the woods with her dog
- C) a boy grows up and develops new interests
- D) a girl who misses spending time with her brother

6. Read the following sentences:

“Really, Mom, the person it bothers the *most* is Scout. She absolutely hates having to walk on the streets in the neighborhood. Dogs were made for running around trees, not for walking on asphalt.” Mikey shrugged again.

“I’m sorry, sweetie,” she said. “Do you want me and Dad to talk to Henry about Scout’s **predicament**?”

As used in this sentence, what does the word “**predicament**” mean?

- A) a difficult or unpleasant situation
- B) an argument with someone
- C) a question that is easy to answer
- D) a pleasant and enjoyable situation

7. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence below.

\_\_\_\_\_, Mikey and Henry spent a lot of time together, but now Henry spends most of his weekends alone in the basement.

- A) Specifically
- B) Previously
- C) Although
- D) Finally

8. Why does Mikey have to take Scout on walks by herself now?

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**9.** How has Mikey and Henry’s relationship changed since Henry turned 16?

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**10.** How has the change in Mikey and Henry’s relationship affected Mikey? Identify and explain an example from the passage that shows how Mikey feels about her relationship with Henry.

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## Fourth Grade Editing

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Rewrite each sentence correctly.

1. have you ever seen a circus

\_\_\_\_\_

2. my cousin and i went to one near myrtle beach

\_\_\_\_\_

3. on monday uncle george and aunt fran took me to the circus my counsin dan met us

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. how interesting the circus was

\_\_\_\_\_

5. I would like to go to the circus again will you join me next time

\_\_\_\_\_

6. dogs cats and fish are three different types of pets

\_\_\_\_\_

7. cats are my favorite pets states joe

\_\_\_\_\_

8. we ain't got no pets

\_\_\_\_\_

9. i seen the most beatifullest bird on the fence

\_\_\_\_\_

10. can't noboby have too many pets

\_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Complete the “Understanding the Prompt” chart below using the prompt above it.

**Prompt:**

There are many reasons why people own pets. A pet can entertain you, keep you company or even protect you! Dogs and cats are the most popular pets in America today.

Some people prefer an energetic dog and others, a cuddly kitten. As you read the articles below think about, in your opinion, which pet would be best for you. Which kind of pet is best, a cat or a dog?

### Understanding the Prompt

<b>Prompt:</b>	
What topic am I going to be reading about?	
What type of essay am I going to be writing?	<input type="checkbox"/> Opinion Essay <input type="checkbox"/> Informative Essay
Based on my choice above, what am I expected to do in this type of essay?	<input type="checkbox"/> State my opinion about the topic that I read about.  <input type="checkbox"/> Identify my controlling idea about the topic that I read about.
Is this a one part or a two part prompt?	<input type="checkbox"/> One Part <input type="checkbox"/> Two Part
If the prompt is a one part prompt, what is it asking me to do?	
If the prompt is a two-part prompt, what is each part asking me to do?	First Part:
	Second Part:
Paraphrase the Prompt (Write in your own words what the prompt is asking you to do.)	

## **Article 1:**

### **Why Cats Make Better Pets than Dogs**

Should you get that cute little puppy or a cuddly kitten? Deciding between a cat and a dog can be difficult. However, cats as pets do have some advantages.

#### **Grooming**

Cats bathe themselves. Most do not even need brushing. Dogs are more likely to need help from their owners in keeping clean.

#### **Companionship**

Cats enjoy being alone. You can leave them home alone for the day while you go to school.

Dogs, however, need company. A dog needs much more of your time.

#### **Exercise**

Cats and dogs both need daily exercise. However, a cat needs much less exercise than a dog. Most dogs need to be taken for walk at least twice a day, even in the rain. Your cat will probably be happy to chase a ball in your living room.

#### **Noise**

Dogs can bark at all hours of the day or night. Cats sleep most of the day and are much quieter. They are unlikely to disturb your neighbors.

#### **Training**

Dogs need training to live with people. They need to be taught not to jump on people, how to sit and stay, and many other things. You may even need to teach your dog to lie down so you can have some quiet time. Cats can be trained to fetch a ball or walk on a leash, but these lessons are just for fun. You don't need to train your cat to have a good pet.

Both cats and dogs can be wonderful family pets. Each can be affectionate and playful, but cats are much easier to care for. Maybe a cat is the right pet for you!

## **Article 2:**

### **Why Dogs Make Good Pets**

*Thinking about getting a new pet? One of the most popular pets is a dog. Dogs make great pets for many reasons.*

#### ***Companions***

*Dogs are patient and make great listeners. Many people tell dogs things they can't tell anyone else. Dogs are great for someone who lives alone or needs company.*

#### ***Friends***

*Most dogs are curious. They want to meet other people and animals. Owners are likely to meet others while out walking their dogs. Dogs are good conversation starters. They make it easy to meet new people.*

#### ***Health***

*Dogs can make you healthier. Studies show that dog owners are less likely to get sick.*

*When they do get sick, they get well quicker.*

#### ***Safety***

*Most dogs will bark if there is danger. Dogs can scare off intruders or warn their owners of fire. Specially trained dogs can also find missing people, sniff out bombs and drugs and help disabled people.*

#### ***Exercise***

*A dog needs daily exercise. The owner who walks his dog also benefits from this. Daily exercise can help keep you at a healthy weight. It gives you energy. It also strengthens your muscles and bones. Walking and playing with your dog can make you both healthier!*

*Is a dog the right pet for you? Owning a dog is a big responsibility, but there are many benefits. A dog might just be the perfect pet for you!*

# Gathering Evidence Chart

What is the prompt?	<u>Reasons</u>	<u>Evidence</u>	<u>Elaboration</u>
What is your Opinion about the topic?	What are your reasons for this opinion?	What evidence from the sources support your opinion?	Why is this evidence important to your opinion? How can you relate to the evidence?

# Solve It!

By Josh Adler



Taking time to understand a problem before trying to solve it is key. One thing all problems share is they give a chance to learn; and while not every problem has a simple solution, following these steps will make things clearer.

## Ask questions.

What is the problem you're trying to solve? How do you get started? What are the most important parts of your problem? Who could be helpful? These are just a few questions that can get your brain thinking.

Questions can come from anywhere. Be sure to write them down as they come to you so you can remember them. Also, let one question lead to the next and follow your curiosity.

By asking as many questions as possible from the beginning, you can start to get a sense of what you know or don't know about the problem you're trying to solve. Some people call this step *brainstorming*, since once you start letting your curiosity lead the way, it can feel like there's a storm of things to try and understand.

As you start to feel like you've thought of every question you can imagine, look over your list. Do you have a clearer sense of what you need to know to solve your problem?

**Look around you.**

Observing means watching something closely. While watching living things you can also collect information that can help you answer your questions. Observing the way animals, plants, or people behave has led to many famous inventions.

Be sure to keep a specific question in mind when making observations. Write down what you notice for each question. Keep track of all your observations in one place, like a notebook or drawing pad.

**Collect facts.**

As you begin to better understand your problem you'll want to put together everything that you know is absolutely true. Once you've collected as many *facts*, or truths, related to your problem you'll begin to get ideas about how to take action.

Compare the information you've collected. Look it over carefully and think about everything you've learned about your problem. Now, solve it!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. According to the passage, what do all problems share?

- A They have a simple solution.
- B They are confusing and hard to solve.
- C They create new inventions.
- D They give a chance to learn.

2. Which of the following shows the sequence of steps described in the passage in the correct order?

- A ask questions about the problem; make observations and write down what you notice; collect facts related to the problem; think about what you have learned; solve the problem
- B think about what you have learned; collect facts related to the problem; make observations and write down what you notice; ask questions about the problem; solve problem
- C collect facts related to the problem; make observations and write down what you notice; ask questions about the problem; think about what you have learned; solve the problem
- D make observations and write down what you notice; ask questions about the problem; think about what you have learned; collect facts related to the problem; solve the problem

3. Observing the things around you can help you solve a problem. What evidence from the passage best supports this conclusion?

- A Writing questions down can help you remember them.
- B While observing things you can collect information that can help you answer your questions.
- C You should keep track of all your observations in one place, like a notebook or drawing pad.
- D Keep a specific question in mind when making observations and write down what you notice.

4. Based on the passage, why is brainstorming a useful step in solving a problem?

- A because it creates a storm in your brain of confusing questions and ideas
- B because it can help you become a more curious and interesting person
- C because it helps your discover questions related to the problem
- D because it will show you that you don't know much about your problem

5. What is this passage mostly about?

- A steps you should follow when solving a problem
- B how observing things can help you answer questions
- C the activity of brainstorming and why it is useful
- D why you should ask questions when you have a problem

6. Read the following sentences: "Questions can come from anywhere. Be sure to write them down as they come to you so you can remember them. Also, let one question lead to the next and follow your **curiosity**."

As used in this sentence, what does the word "**curiosity**" mean?

- A disinterest in a topic or question
- B work that involves finding facts
- C state of being tired or bored
- D desire to know about something

7. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence below.

There are three main steps to solving a problem, \_\_\_\_\_ ask questions, look around you, and collect facts.

- A although
- B namely
- C finally
- D obviously

8. What does it mean to *observe* something?

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9. According to the passage, what can you start to get a sense of by asking as many questions as possible?

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10. Explain how asking questions is helpful when trying to solve a problem.

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