Reading Grade 4 — Practice Paper 1 — Answers & Explanations

Answers to the 16 questions in the free preview.

The Night of the Storm Birds

1. C. The storm was unusually strong
The text says hearing the sea from her bedroom "only happened before the worst storms", so it is a sign of how strong this storm was.

2. A. They are confused by the lights of the town
The text says the young birds "became confused by the lights of the town and landed on roads and footpaths".

3. D. They are going outside into the storm
The grandmother arrives with a torch and a blanket and says the birds will come down tonight, so the boots are for going out into the rain to help them.

4. B. She folds its wings gently against its body
The text says she "folded its wings gently against its body the way her grandmother had shown her".

5. B. The wind was blowing very strongly
Rain only falls sideways when it is being driven by strong wind, so the word tells the reader how fierce the storm was without saying so directly.

6. D. Experienced
She knows the birds will come down, knows what to bring, and has already taught Mia how to hold a bird, all of which show she has done this many times before.

7. A. She felt the hard work had been worth it
The sentence places the discomfort and the pride side by side, which shows that the effort was part of why she felt proud rather than a reason to regret it.

8. C. To tell a story about a girl helping wildlife
The text follows one character through one night and focuses on what she does and how she feels, which makes it a narrative rather than an information report.

Why Ants Are Great Builders

9. D. Two metres
The first sentence says a colony "can build a nest that reaches two metres underground".

10. B. No ant is in charge
The text says directly that "no ant is in charge" and that each worker simply follows simple rules.

11. C. They are the spaces left between piles of dropped soil
The text explains that piles of dropped soil become walls, and "the spaces between them become tunnels".

12. A. It keeps the deepest chambers cool
The text says air flows through the widest tunnels, "which keeps the deepest chambers cool even on hot days".

13. A. They carry the rain away from the nursery
The text says rain "runs down the outer tunnels and away from the nursery, where the eggs are kept".

14. C. To show that people have learned from ant nests
The engineers are introduced as an example of humans copying the ants' design, which supports the writer's point that ants are great builders.

15. B. rooms or spaces inside the nest
The text describes the deepest chambers being kept cool, which shows they are spaces inside the nest rather than ants or soil.

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16. D. To emphasise how surprising it is that something so small can teach us

By setting the tiny brain against the useful lesson, the writer makes the contrast the reader is meant to notice, which is the point of the whole article.

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PREVIEW

That’s the end of the preview answers

These are the answers to the 16 preview questions. The full answer key covers all 38 questions in Reading Grade 4 — Practice Paper 1, with the working behind every mark.

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How to Make a Rain Gauge	8	8
Our School Needs a Buddy Bench	8	8
Short texts	6	6

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- Every question, printed exactly like the ones in this preview
- The complete answer key, with the working behind every mark
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