

Grade 5

Unit 7

Assessment Guide: Unit Assessment

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Reading

Please answer short-answer questions in complete sentences and use evidence from the text to back up your answer.

1. What assignment does Mr. Neely give the class at the beginning of the year?
 - a. The class must write a story about their personal lives.
 - b. The class must enter an egg drop competition.
 - c. The class must apply the scientific process to answer a “capital-Q Question.”
 - d. The class must find a way to save the endangered Cobalt Blue Orchid.
2. What is Natalie’s mom’s job? What does she say makes her job similar to Natalie’s dad’s job as a therapist?

3. Why does Natalie join the egg drop competition?
 - a. She loves science and wants to impress Mr. Neely.
 - b. Her mother wants her to join the competition like she did.
 - c. Twig wants her to win the prize money so she can bring her mother to Paris.
 - d. She wants to win the prize money so she can bring her mother to New Mexico.

4. Compare and contrast Natalie and her mother. How are they alike? How are they different?

5. Describe the structure of the novel. What is the significance of the way the eight sections of the novel are named?

6. Why do Natalie, Twig, and Dari sneak into the school during the volleyball game?

- a. They are passionate about sports.
- b. They want to visit Mr. Neely.
- c. They want to test their egg drop design.
- d. They want to support Mikayla.

7. How do the visuals, or illustrations, in the novel contribute to the text?

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8. What happens as a result of Natalie and her friends breaking into the lab?
- a. Natalie, Twig, and Dari are arrested.
 - b. Mrs. Menzer sues the three of them.
 - c. Mrs. Menzer catches them and Natalie learns her mother was not fired.
 - d. Dari decides not to be friends with Natalie and Twig.

9. How does Natalie's relationship with Mikayla Menzer change from the beginning to the end of the novel?

10. What does Natalie's mother do in the greenhouse at the end of the novel, and why does she do it?

11. What is the transitional phrase in the following sentence? "A few months earlier, we had exchanged our old car for a new one."

12. What does the word *naive* mean in the following sentence from the novel?

"She told Dad once that she sounded young and naive."

- a. crushed to form creases and wrinkles
- b. messy in appearance
- c. having a lack of experience, wisdom, or judgment
- d. a deep blue

13. The following sentence is from the scene where Natalie and her father run into Mikayla Menzer and her mother at the mall. What type of figurative language is the sentence using, and what might its meaning be?

"...their words felt like tiny droplets of rain, like the drizzle that says, *Watch out. It's going to pour.*"

Figurative language: _____

Meaning: _____

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14. Which definition is used in the following sentence?

Definition 1: **impact, n.** a collision; the action of one object crashing into another

Definition 2: **impact, n.** a significant effect

The boy cried wolf so many times that it lost its impact on his neighbors.

15. If Natalie's mom were to tell her that one of their plants is "wilted," what would she mean?

- a. The plant is joyful or silly.
- b. The plant is drooped, limp, or weak.
- c. The plant is enlarged.
- d. The plant is impossible to understand.

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Writing

Respond to the following prompt, writing in complete sentences and including dialogue, transitional words and phrases, and concrete words and sensory details.

Compose a new scene for the book. You might write a scene showing Natalie and Mikayla's friendship before Twig came to their school, one depicting Mr. Neely in his job before teaching, or one showing Natalie's family doing something together before her mom's depression returned.

[illegible]

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Answer Key

ACTIVITY BOOK ANSWER KEY

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Reading

Please answer short-answer questions in complete sentences and use evidence from the text to back up your answer.

- What assignment does Mr. Neely give the class at the beginning of the year?
 - The class must write a story about their personal lives.
 - The class must enter an egg drop competition.
 - ☒ The class must apply the scientific process to answer a "capital-Q Question."
 - The class must find a way to save the endangered Cobalt Blue Orchid.
- What is Natalie's mom's job? What does she say makes her job similar to Natalie's dad's job as a therapist?
Her mom is a botanist, and she says she and Natalie's dad both work to analyze how things think and feel.
- Why does Natalie join the egg drop competition?
 - She loves science and wants to impress Mr. Neely.
 - Her mother wants her to join the competition like she did.
 - Twig wants her to win the prize money so she can bring her mother to Paris.
 - ☒ She wants to win the prize money so she can bring her mother to New Mexico.

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- Compare and contrast Natalie and her mother. How are they alike? How are they different?

Answers may vary, but may include that Natalie and her mother both love plants, they are both interested in learning more about Korean culture, and they both value their family. Differences may include that Natalie does not enjoy school or projects the way her mother does.

- Describe the structure of the novel. What is the significance of the way the eight sections of the novel are named?

Answers may vary, but could include that the book is structured as though it is Natalie's lab notebook; the eight sections are named after the steps in the scientific process.

- Why do Natalie, Twig, and Dari sneak into the school during the volleyball game?

- They are passionate about sports.
- They want to visit Mr. Neely.
- ☒ They want to test their egg drop design.
- They want to support Mikayla.

- How do the visuals, or illustrations, in the novel contribute to the text?

Answers may vary, but could include that the visuals help add a deeper layer of understanding and help to better flesh out the characters' personalities.

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- What happens as a result of Natalie and her friends breaking into the lab?
 - Natalie, Twig, and Dari are arrested.
 - Mrs. Menzer sues the three of them.
 - ☒ Mrs. Menzer catches them and Natalie learns her mother was not fired.
 - Dari decides not to be friends with Natalie and Twig.
- How does Natalie's relationship with Mikayla Menzer change from the beginning to the end of the novel?
Answers may vary, but could include that even though they do not rekindle their childhood friendship by the end of the novel, the two characters reach a better level of understanding about each other.
- What does Natalie's mother do in the greenhouse at the end of the novel, and why does she do it?
Answers may vary, but could include that Natalie's mom plants the Korean Fire flower and the Blue Iris seed in their greenhouse (or that she and Natalie both plant many iris and orchid seeds) because she wanted her and Natalie to have a second chance.
- What is the transitional phrase in the following sentence? "A few months earlier, we had exchanged our old car for a new one."
"a few months earlier"

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- What does the word *naïve* mean in the following sentence from the novel?

"She told Dad once that she sounded young and naïve."

- crushed to form creases and wrinkles
- messy in appearance
- ☒ having a lack of experience, wisdom, or judgment
- a deep blue

- The following sentence is from the scene where Natalie and her father run into Mikayla Menzer and her mother at the mall. What type of figurative language is the sentence using, and what might its meaning be?

"...their words felt like tiny droplets of rain, like the drizzle that says, Watch out. It's going to pour."

Figurative language: simile

Meaning: answers may vary, but could include that Natalie is anticipating that the small talk (the rain drizzling) is just a portent of the topic of her mother (the rain pouring).

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14. Which definition is used in the following sentence?

Definition 1: **impact, n.** a collision; the action of one object crashing into another
Definition 2: **impact, n.** a significant effect

The boy cried wolf so many times that it lost its impact on his neighbors.

definition 2

15. If Natalie's mom were to tell her that one of their plants is "wilted," what would she mean?

- a. The plant is joyful or silly.
- ☒ b. The plant is drooped, limp, or weak.
- c. The plant is enlarged.
- d. The plant is impossible to understand.

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