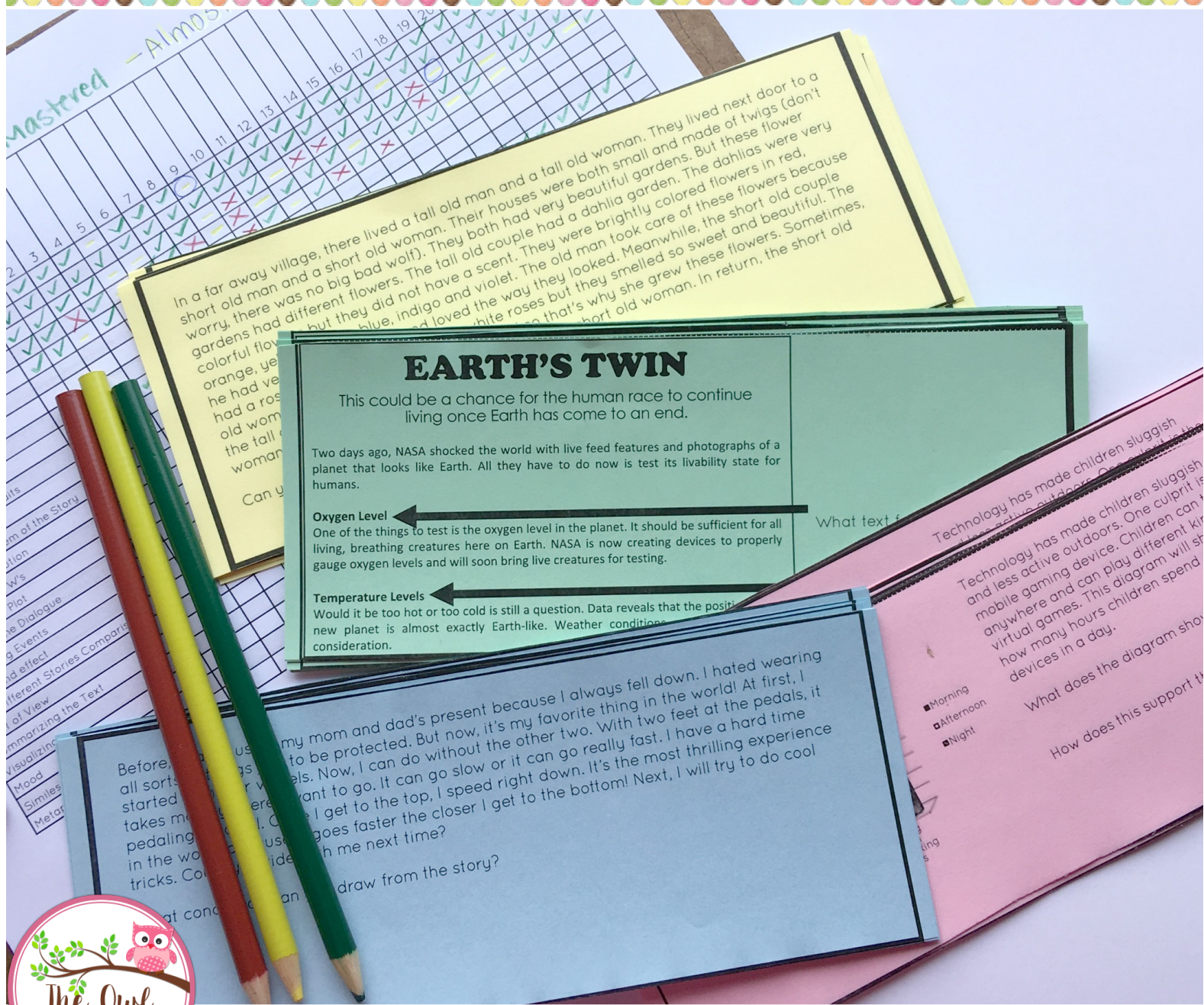


# READING

## Quick Checks

Evaluate Reading Skills and Strategies for  
Common Core and More



Created By The Owl Teacher

## Comparing and Contrasting within a story

In a far away village, there lived a tall old man and a tall old woman. They lived next door to a short old man and a short old woman. Their houses were both small and made of twigs (don't worry, there was no big bad wolf). They both had very beautiful gardens. But these flower gardens had different flowers. The tall old couple had a dahlia garden. The dahlias were very colorful flowers but they did not have a scent. They were brightly colored flowers in red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet. The old man took care of these flowers because he had very good eyesight and loved the way they looked. Meanwhile, the short old couple had a rose garden. They only grew white roses but they smelled so sweet and beautiful. The old woman had a very good sense of smell so that's why she grew these flowers. Sometimes, the tall old man gave some colorful dahlias to the short old woman. In return, the short old woman shared her sweet white roses with the tall old man.

Can you tell the similarities and differences in the story?

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Can you tell the similarities and differences in the story?



## Author's Purpose

"To see is to believe", that's what I always say. I cannot agree or believe in something you say, if you don't show me. I need proof. I need evidence. It's more important to see something before you say it's true. Experiencing is believing. If you cannot see it, then it's absolutely false, made up or a lie. Would you believe that there is wind if you didn't feel it? Would you believe ice cream is delicious if you couldn't taste it? Would you believe the sun is blue if you couldn't see the blue color? You should believe me when I say, if you don't see it, it's not true.

What is the author's purpose: to inform, to entertain, to persuade or to express? How do you know?

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What is the author's purpose: to inform, to entertain, to persuade or to express? How do you know?

## Personification

It was camping day and I was so excited to put up my own tent. So as night time came, I started to line up all the things I would need. I never knew setting up a tent could be so hard. The tent poles complained when I put them in place. The tarp jumped from my hand as I was tying it to the pegs. The pegs dodged my hammer over and over again. After the tent was up, it rained that night. The tent decided to take a drink of water, leaving us floating inside.

What are the personifications in the story?

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What are the personifications in the story?

## Inferencing word meaning

“Are we there yet?” Emily inquired for the millionth time on the road trip. Father and Mother tried to ignore the question, but Emily wouldn’t let it go.

“Are we there yet?”

Mother finally answered, “Like I said last time, we’re only half way there. Maybe you could read a book to help the time go by faster.”

Emily contemplated this idea. She thought to herself that maybe Mother is right, but it’s vacation and I don’t want to read. She continued to ponder what to do to make the time go by. Her brother was in a dormant state like a bear in their cave for the winter. She wished she could sleep but was far too excited to get to the amusement park.

She inquired again, “Are we there yet?”

What do the underlined words mean? How do you know?

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## Identify How Facts Support an Author's Claim

Living in the countryside is better than living in the city. My vacation to the countryside proved it. The air is cooler and fresher than the city. This is because the countryside is full of trees while cities are full of cars and factories. You will also see wild animals running around freely, unlike the animals in the zoos in cities. The people are friendlier, too! I made so many friends and played many fun games outdoors. In the city, people are too busy and kids play with their gadgets instead of with humans. The countryside is truly better than the city for a kid like me.

How did the facts support the author's claim about the topic?

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### Identifying Character Traits

A superhero is no superhero without his superpowers. That's why Super Mini-Man was as strong as a gorilla that can lift up to a thousand tons of weight! He was as speedy as a cheetah that can run at the speed of light! He could fly high up in the sky like an eagle soaring through the clouds! Superpowers aren't the only thing that makes a person a superhero. Super Mini-Man also was very kind to others. He was brave enough to face any troubles, evil super villains and spiders. He also was caring toward children, animals, old people, and to everyone else. A superhero is not good enough with just superpowers and Super Mini-Man knew that. His good heart is also what made him super.

What are the character's traits?

### Identifying the Theme

Jarly is a unique child. He was born with a medical condition called tetra-amelia. This means a person is born without arms and legs. This medical condition did not stop Jarly from dreaming. His dream was to become an Olympic swimmer. With the help of his parents, Jarly had special training to swim with his chest and hips. He pushed his chest and hips to move up and down like a dolphin, except without the tail or fins. He trained every day. One day, an Olympic coach saw Jarly and offered him to join the Special Olympics team. The Special Olympics is a sports competition for people who are special like Jarly. Jarly told his parents about it and they were delighted.

What is the theme of the story?

### Identifying the Problem of a Story

"Fio! Get down from there!" Mother shouted at her son. He was a very playful kid who liked to climb and play outside. Mother and Father always got tired of playing with him. They wanted to find something that could help Fio behave and play quietly in one place. So mother bought Fio a box full of puzzles thinking he would stay in one place. Instead of putting the puzzles together, Fio threw it in the air like confetti. Mother didn't think puzzles were such a good idea anymore. So father tried giving Fio a box full of pipe cleaners. Instead of playing quietly twisting and turning the fuzzy wires, he hid them around the house. Father was finding them for weeks. Finally, Mother and Father decided to make Fio a bottle of magical dust. It was a bottle filled with glitter, water and plastic animals. When they gave it to Fio, he just sat down and shook the bottle. He liked how the dust and the shapes slowly went up and down in the bottle. Mother and Father were able to sit and relax for a while, until Fio got up and running once more.

What is the problem in the story?

### Paraphrasing Nonfiction Text

My father is a very kind man who helps everyone in need. He taught us to be generous and giving to anyone who asks for our help. I remembered him saying “my children, open your doors to whoever knocks, give to whoever asks, and share to whoever sits beside you. You’ll never know how much you can do with a simple act of kindness.” I pass this message to my own children. I tell them to be as helpful and as generous as they can. These lessons I teach will help them live a life full of kindness.

Paraphrase the quote.

### Main Idea & Supporting Details

A dictionary is a list of words in ABC order. It shows how to spell and pronounce a word, tell a word’s meaning, origin and parts of speech. You can get a list of related words (synonyms and antonym). There are sometimes idioms listed and sample sentences of a word. There are also dictionaries with the translation of words in different languages from around the world.

What is the main idea of the text?

Can you give three supporting details about it?

### Sequencing Nonfiction

The water cycle begins when water on the Earth’s surface is warmed by the sun. This causes water to change into a gas. This process is called evaporation. After the water evaporates, it begins to accumulate in the sky into clouds. The clouds gather together and begin to cool. This stage is known as condensation. Afterwards, the water falls to the ground in the form of rain, snow or hail. This is called precipitation. Lastly, the water collects on the ground and flows into bodies of water like ponds, lakes, rivers and the ocean. The cycle starts all over again.

What happened first, second, and last?