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Learning in the Classroom



SPEAKING

Directions

Look at the picture. Listen to the question about the picture. Then answer the question.

These students are working together on a project. Today, they are presenting their work to the class.



1. What is on the girl's poster?

1 Learning in the Classroom



Directions

Look at the picture. Listen to the question about the picture. Then answer the question.

Some projects require students to do research. There are different types of research.



2. How is this student doing research?

**Directions**

You will hear a passage read to you. Then you will hear questions about the passage. Fill in the correct circle for each question.

Dana's Tale of Terror

Do not turn the page until you are told to do so.



1. What does Dana mean when she says, “That homework assignment turned you into a burglar, Smoky”?
 - (A) She means that the cat was stealing food from the kitchen.
 - (B) She means that she got scared easily because she was anxious.
 - (C) She means that Smoky gave her the idea to write about a burglar.
 - (D) She means that it was scary to be alone in the house with her brother.

2. Which phrase shows when Dana went upstairs?
 - (A) As the antique clock in the hall chimed ten o'clock
 - (B) After she quickly cleaned up the mess
 - (C) As she made her way toward the kitchen
 - (D) At eight o'clock

3. Which sentence shows that Dana was scared?
 - (A) She heard a light tapping sound that seemed to grow louder and louder.
 - (B) Suddenly, Dana heard a crash.
 - (C) Dana hurried back to her room and sat down in front of her computer.
 - (D) Dana's heart felt like it was going to thump out of her chest, and her legs were shaking.

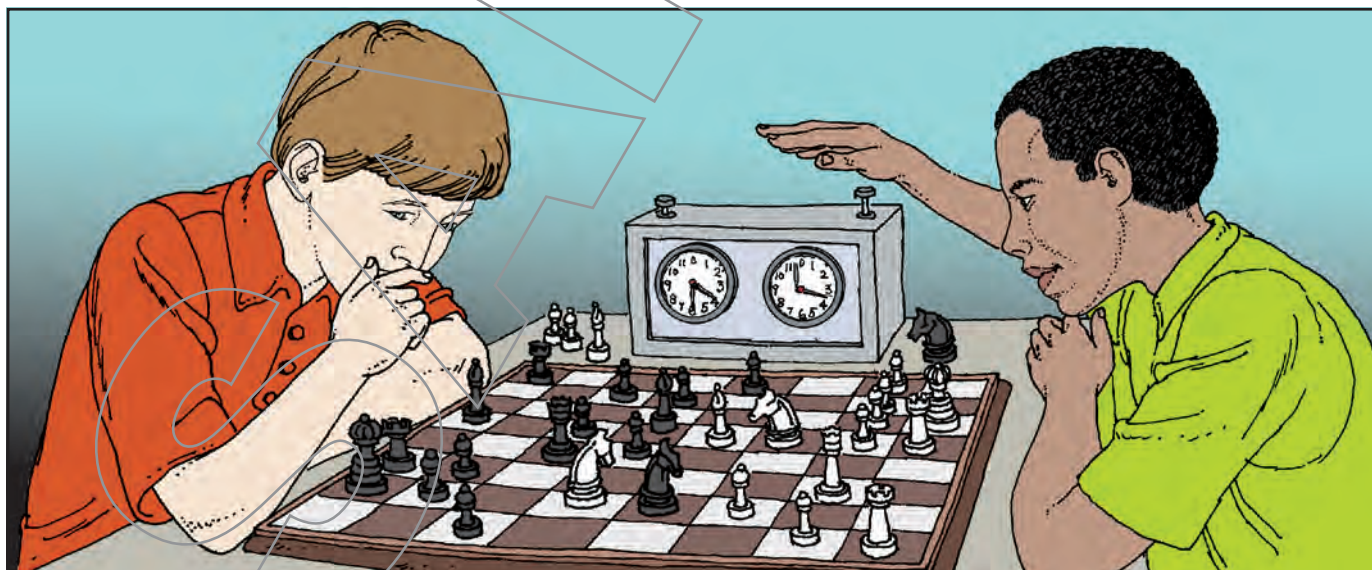
**Directions**

Read the passage. Then answer the questions that follow.
Fill in the correct circle.

Knight of the Square Table

1 Burnt Mountain High was one of those low, modern schools far out in the suburbs. It looked like a shopping mall surrounded by athletic fields. As Sancia's mom turned the van into the parking lot, everyone fell silent. I was sure we were all thinking the same thing. Even little Alex, the first-grade rep, must have noticed how far this place was from Essex Avenue and 23rd Street. I thought about how the *Observer* and the TV news talked about us. Not "the Knasty Knights" of Banneker School, but the "inner-city chess team that can compete with the best of," blah, blah, blah.

2 Mr. Tennyson turned around and gave us the usual pep talk. Stay focused. Play well. Have fun. You have as good a chance to win as anyone. This was true, even if it was a surprise to that lady from Channel 6. Last year, Banneker had placed seventh in the state. This year, amazingly, I had beaten Celeste Waters, who'd been our grade champion the last three years. I figured if I could checkmate her, I could beat any fifth grader in the state.





3 We were led into the cafeteria under a banner. It read “Welcome Northeast Region Elementary School Chess Tournament” and had pictures of chess pieces on it. Chess mats, plastic pieces, and pairs of clocks covered a couple dozen long tables. A bunch of kids were scanning a printout taped to a wall, which listed pairings for the first round. I found my name, Dylan Grant. That was how I discovered my opponent would be Ilya Kolodny.

4 I hadn’t seen Ilya since second grade. His family lived in our neighborhood for a few months when they came here from Russia. He had a lot of trouble in school. He could hardly speak English, which meant he hardly spoke at all. But he could play chess. In Russia, kids are born playing chess.

5 Ilya taught me the game at a table in the Banneker lunchroom. I taught him English, and he taught me chess. There’s a defensive move, “castling,” where you move your rook to the king and the king to the other side. For a long time I called it “kesseling,” because that was the way Ilya pronounced it. Then his mom learned enough English to get a job in a science lab. They moved away, and I never heard from Ilya again.

6 I was ready to throw in the towel. If there was any fifth grader I couldn’t beat, it was Ilya. Even in the second grade, he could think three, four, five moves ahead. He would give me “odds,” taking bishop or rook, even his queen, off the board to give me a sporting chance. He still beat me.

7 I wouldn’t be getting those odds today.

8 I spotted him right away. He was sitting in his place, staring at the board in the starting position as if he already could see the end game. He was bigger, but otherwise he looked just the same.

9 “Hey, Ilya!”

10 He looked up at me with a smile. “Yes?” he said, reaching out to shake hands. “Dylan?”



11 “Yeah,” I said. “Looks like I’m playing you. You been doing okay?”

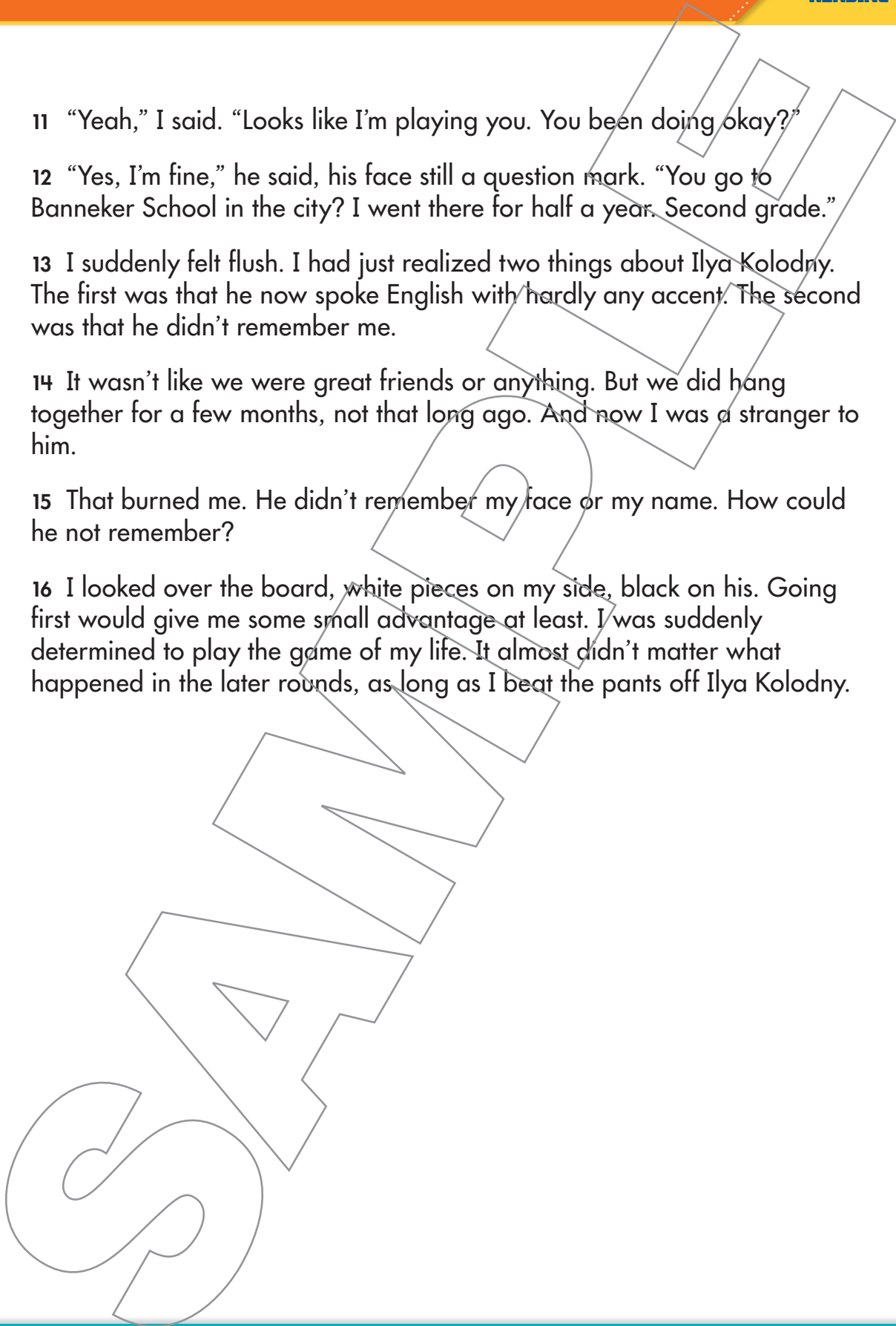
12 “Yes, I’m fine,” he said, his face still a question mark. “You go to Banneker School in the city? I went there for half a year. Second grade.”

13 I suddenly felt flush. I had just realized two things about Ilya Kolodny. The first was that he now spoke English with hardly any accent. The second was that he didn’t remember me.

14 It wasn’t like we were great friends or anything. But we did hang together for a few months, not that long ago. And now I was a stranger to him.

15 That burned me. He didn’t remember my face or my name. How could he not remember?

16 I looked over the board, white pieces on my side, black on his. Going first would give me some small advantage at least. I was suddenly determined to play the game of my life. It almost didn’t matter what happened in the later rounds, as long as I beat the pants off Ilya Kolodny.





1. What is the main thing that happens in this passage?
 - (A) The reader learns an important character trait of Dylan.
 - (B) Dylan describes the setting of the tournament.
 - (C) Dylan decides that he has to beat Ilya.
 - (D) Dylan tells us about Ilya's character.

2. Which phrase from the passage best shows how Ilya feels about Dylan's greeting?
 - (A) Taught me the game
 - (B) Looked up at me with a smile
 - (C) Face still a question mark
 - (D) Suddenly felt flush

3. From the details in the passage, what can you tell about Burnt Mountain High School?
 - (A) It is close to Dylan's house.
 - (B) It is very different from Banneker School.
 - (C) It is very similar to Banneker School.
 - (D) It is a central location for the chess teams to meet.



Now read the directions below.

In the passage “Knight of the Square Table,” Dylan is faced with a big challenge. When have you faced a challenge? How did you handle the situation? Write at least two paragraphs to tell about the challenge and how you handled it. Use information from the passage and your own ideas to help you write.

Plan Your Answer

Use the space below to plan your writing and organize your thoughts. Do NOT write your final answer on this page. Your writing on this page will NOT be scored.

Write your final answer on the next two pages.

SAVED

GO ON 



Handwriting practice lines with a large, faint watermark reading 'SAMPLE' diagonally across the page.

Check Your Work

- Write about the topic.
- Plan your writing from beginning to end.
- Use your own ideas and ideas from the passage.
- Support your answer with details.
- Write complete sentences.
- Use correct grammar, punctuation, and spelling.



GO ON 