Year 2 reading comprehension: The Heron and the Last Pool

English · Reading comprehension
Level: Hard

Student: _____ Date: _____

Instructions
- Read the text first. There are 3 questions. Read each one carefully.
- Circle the best answer. Look back at the text to find the words that tell you.
- A grown-up can read the text aloud — that's fine.
- The answers are at the end. Check them together when you have finished.

Questions

Read this, then answer questions 1–3.

The Heron and the Last Pool

Long ago, in a dry summer, only one pool still held water. Heron stood in the middle of it, and she would not move. When the frogs and ducks came to drink, she flapped her wings and snapped, "This pool is mine!" She ate every small fish, and then she ate more. Heron grew so fat that she could hardly lift her feet. At last a storm broke over the hills. Water poured down the creek and raced into the pool. The others ran for high ground, but Heron was too heavy to fly. She flapped and flapped, and the water rose to her neck. The frogs and ducks pulled her out onto a log. Heron sat there, shaking, and for the first time she said thank you.

1. What is Heron like at the start?

Circle one answer.

○ **A** cruel to every animal in the whole world

○ **B** greedy and selfish

○ **C** brave, because she stood in the middle of the pool

2. How does Heron feel at the end?

Circle one answer.

- ○ **A** proud and pleased with herself
- ○ **B** hungry
- ○ **C** thankful and shaken

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3. What does this story teach?

Circle one answer.

- ○ **A** Storms always come after a dry summer.
- ○ **B** Herons should stay away from pools.
- ○ **C** It is better to share than to keep everything.

Answer key

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1. B — greedy and selfish

The text says: “When the frogs and ducks came to drink, she flapped her wings and snapped, "This pool is mine!" She ate every small fish, and then she ate more.” She drives everyone away and eats more than she needs. Heron is greedy and selfish.

2. C — thankful and shaken

The text says: “Heron sat there, shaking, and for the first time she said thank you.” She says thank you for the first time. Heron feels thankful and shaken.

3. C — It is better to share than to keep everything.

The text says: “When the frogs and ducks came to drink, she flapped her wings and snapped, "This pool is mine!" The frogs and ducks pulled her out onto a log. Heron sat there, shaking, and for the first time she said thank you.” The selfish one needed help from those she had pushed away. The story teaches that sharing is better than keeping everything.