# Year 3 reading comprehension: The Missing Medal

English · Reading comprehension
Level: Hard

Student: _____ Date: _____

**Instructions**
- Read the text first. There are 4 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 1–4.

### The Missing Medal

When the swimming medal vanished from the classroom shelf, Kirra's eyes went straight to Dev. He was the new boy, after all, and he had been the last one inside at lunch.

“Turn out your bag,” she ordered, loudly enough for the whole class to hear. “Go on. Unless you've got something to hide.”

Dev's cheeks burned. Without a word, he tipped his bag onto the desk: a squashed sandwich, two pencils and a library book about turtles. No medal.

At that moment Ms Tran walked in, polishing something gold on her sleeve. “Whoever left this by the sink nearly lost it down the drain,” she said, holding the medal up by its ribbon. “It's yours, isn't it, Kirra?”

Kirra's mouth fell open. She remembered now: she had taken it off to wash the paint from her hands.

The class was very quiet. Dev began, slowly, to put his things back into his bag. Kirra looked at him, then at the floor, then at him again.

**1.** The class is very quiet at the end mainly because

Circle one answer.

- ○ **A** they are still waiting for the medal to be found.
- ○ **B** they are looking at Dev's library book about turtles.
- ○ **C** Ms Tran has told them to stop talking.
- ○ **D** everyone realises Kirra blamed Dev for nothing.

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**2.** Dev's cheeks burned mainly because he

Circle one answer.

- ○ **A** was embarrassed at being accused in front of the class.
- ○ **B** had eaten something spicy at lunch.
- ○ **C** was the new boy and didn't know anyone yet.
- ○ **D** had taken the medal and was afraid of being caught.

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**3.** Kirra's treatment of Dev can best be described as

Circle one answer.

- ○ **A** brave, because she spoke up in front of everyone.
- ○ **B** fair, because she gave him a chance to explain.
- ○ **C** unjust, because she blamed him without any proof.
- ○ **D** sensible, because he was the last one inside at lunch.

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**4.** At the end of the passage, Kirra seems to be

Circle one answer.

- ○ **A** still certain that Dev is a thief.
- ○ **B** only pleased to have her medal back.
- ○ **C** ashamed, and unsure how to say sorry.
- ○ **D** angry with Ms Tran for finding it.

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# Answer key

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**1.** D — everyone realises Kirra blamed Dev for nothing.

The medal was Kirra's own, left by the sink. Her ‘mouth fell open’, and Dev ‘slowly’ packs up his things. Everyone knows he was blamed for nothing, so it feels awkward. The medal has already been found.

**2.** A — was embarrassed at being accused in front of the class.

Kirra accuses him ‘loudly enough for the whole class to hear’, and right then ‘Dev's cheeks burned’. He is embarrassed. He hadn't taken the medal: there was ‘No medal’ in his bag.

**3.** C — unjust, because she blamed him without any proof.

Kirra suspects Dev because he is ‘the new boy’ and was ‘the last one inside at lunch’. Neither of those is proof. She ‘ordered’ him in front of everyone and there was ‘No medal’. She didn't let him explain.

**4.** C — ashamed, and unsure how to say sorry.

Kirra ‘looked at him, then at the floor, then at him again’. She feels ashamed and is working up to saying sorry. She now knows Dev didn't take it.