Year 5 reading comprehension: The Torch in the Dunes

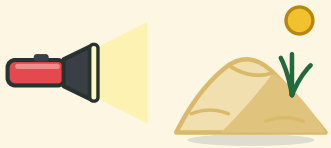
English · Reading comprehension
Level: Medium

Student: _____ Date: _____

Instructions
- Read the text first. There are 2 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 1–2.



The Torch in the Dunes

Ben and his cousin Priya had been told to stay close to the camp, but a flash of light drew them over the sand dunes. The light blinked three times, paused, and blinked again. “It could be a signal,” said Priya, and she zipped her jacket to the chin. They crept up the last dune on their hands and knees. At the top, they found an old torch lying in a hollow, and its glass was catching the setting sun. Ben gave a nervous laugh, because there was no one there at all. “It was only the sun on the glass,” he said. Priya picked up the torch and read the letters scratched on its handle: J. Lowe, 1962. “Somebody lost this a long time ago,” she said, “so we should hand it in to the ranger.” They walked back down the dune, and they were careful to follow their own footprints.

1. What caused the flashing light?

Circle one answer.

- ○ **A** a signal, said Priya
- ○ **B** the sun shining on the glass of an old torch
- ○ **C** a person sending a signal

2. How are Ben and Priya related?

Circle one answer.

○ **A** They are brother and sister.

○ **B** They are classmates.

○ **C** They are cousins.

Answer key

Year 5 reading comprehension: The Torch in the Dunes · Sheet 500002

1. B — the sun shining on the glass of an old torch

The text says: “At the top, they found an old torch lying in a hollow, and its glass was catching the setting sun. “It was only the sun on the glass,” he said.” The words because and so point to the reason.

2. C — They are cousins.

The text says: “Ben and his cousin Priya had been told to stay close to the camp, but a flash of light drew them over the sand dunes.” Read the whole sentence, not only the key word.