Year 6 reading comprehension: Opening Hour at the Fete

English · Reading comprehension
Level: Easy

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.





Opening Hour at the Fete

By nine o’clock the school oval was a patchwork of stalls, flags and flapping banners. Parents carried trestle tables across the grass, and the Year 6 students pinned prizes to the noticeboard. The sausages sizzled on the barbecue, and the smell drifted over the oval, tugging at everyone’s noses. Mrs Alvarez, who runs the cake stall, had baked enough cupcakes to feed an army. Stuart’s face was as red as a beetroot after his third miss at the coconut shy. Boing! went the bouncy castle as the first children piled in. Beside it, a line of parents waited with cameras and cold drinks. The queue for face-painting was a long, wriggling snake. The principal said that the fete had raised enough money to buy every book in Australia.

1. What does ‘tugging at everyone’s noses’ help us to feel about the smell?

Circle one answer.

○ **A** It was so unpleasant that people hurried away.

○ **B** It was so tempting that it pulled people towards the barbecue.

○ **C** It was so faint that nobody noticed it.

2. Why does the writer call the queue ‘a long, wriggling snake’?

Circle one answer.

○ **A** To show the children in the queue were scared of the face-painters.

○ **B** To show the line was long and kept twisting and moving.

○ **C** To show the queue was short and moved quickly.

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3. Which technique does the writer use in ‘enough cupcakes to feed an army’?

Circle one answer.

○ **A** personification ○ **B** a simile ○ **C** hyperbole

Answer key

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1. B — It was so tempting that it pulled people towards the barbecue.
‘Tugging’ gives the smell a pulling force. It suggests the smell was inviting.

2. B — To show the line was long and kept twisting and moving.
The writer compares the queue to a snake so we can see its shape and movement.

3. C — hyperbole
No one needs to feed a whole army with cupcakes. The writer exaggerates to show there were very many.