

Name _____

Date _____

Roller Coaster

Whoosh! The roller coaster screams down the track, flies through the loops, and then pulls into the station. Sam and Jonah watch it from the ground. Their hair blows back and forth when it passes by.

"That looks fun," Sam says.

"I don't know," Jonah says. "It looks pretty scary."

"Oh come on," Sam says. "It's not scary. It looks fun! We should ride it."

"I don't know." Jonah says. He looks away from the roller coaster. He sees the water slide, the train, the bumper cars. "I have an idea," he says. "How about we go ride the water slide?"

"No, that's for kids," Sam says.

"Okay then. How about we go ride the train?" Jonah says. "No, that's also for kids," Sam says.

"Okay then. How about we go ride the bumper cars?" Jonah says. This was his last idea.

"Okay. I get it, Jonah," Sam says. "You're trying to avoid the roller coaster. You don't want to ride it. You are afraid."

"What?!" Jonah says, "I'm not afraid." The two boys stand there. Neither one of them says anything for a while. Finally Jonah stands up. "Let's go," he says. "Let's go ride the roller coaster."

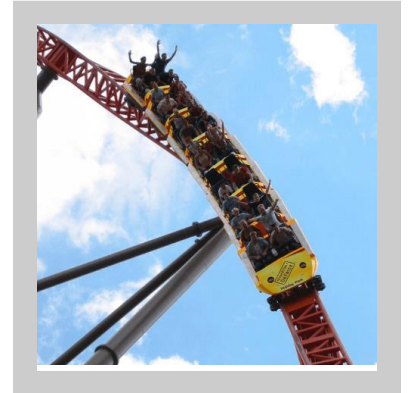
"Cool!" Sam says.

The boys walk over to the roller coaster. They get in line. The line is short so they get right on. "This is going to be so much fun," Sam says excitedly.

Jonah nods. "Yeah," he says. "I hope so."

The roller coaster leaves the station. It goes higher and higher. Then it screams down the track and flies through the loops. Finally, it pulls back into the station.

"Wow! That was great!" Jonah says. He has a big smile on his face. "Let's ride it again!" "Oh, I don't know," Sam says. He looks a little scared. "Let's go ride the train."



- 1) Which word best describes the roller coaster in this passage?
- A. old
 - B. fast
 - C. boring
 - D. dangerous
- 2) Before the boys ride the roller coaster, Jonah suggests that they should ride the
- I. water slide
 - II. bumper cars
 - III. Ferris wheel
- A. I only
 - B. I and II only
 - C. II and III only
 - D. I, II, and III
- 3) As used in the middle of the passage, the word **avoid** most nearly means
- A. stay away from
 - B. change
 - C. get closer to
 - D. remove
- 4) During this passage, Jonah changes from
- A. frightened to nervous
 - B. serious to funny
 - C. afraid to excited
 - D. worried to scared
- 5) At the end of the passage, Sam says, "Let's go ride the train." Sam most likely says this because
- A. he wants to go home
 - B. he wants to ride the train
 - C. he doesn't want to ride the bumper cars
 - D. he doesn't want to ride the roller coaster again

6) After reading this passage, what can we conclude?

- A. Roller coasters can be scary.
- B. Bumper cars are dangerous.
- C. Theme parks close at 8:00.
- D. Nobody likes to wait in line.

7) At different points in this passage, both Sam and Jonah feel scared. Yet, they are both afraid to admit it. Have you ever felt this way? Describe a situation in which you were scared yet afraid to show it in the space below.
