

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Tornado!

Aria and her family are gathered around the television. They are watching a movie about a tornado.

A tornado is a big funnel of wind. Tornadoes travel over the ground and can move very fast. They can be very destructive, and they damage almost everything they touch.

In the movie Aria and her family are watching, a big tornado comes through a small town. The tornado uproots trees, destroys houses, and harms animals. It even drains a lake! (This part was a little hard to believe.) Anyway, the tornado causes lots of destruction. It is pretty scary, and no one can stop it. It just keeps going and going.

A little girl lives in the small town. The tornado hasn't come near her yet, but it is on its way. The little girl and her family are in danger. The tornado looks like it is going to hit their house. The girl is scared, but she knows she can't let this happen. She must do something to prevent it. She tries to think, but she doesn't know how to stop it.

Then something amazing happens. The little girl builds a kite using tent poles and the sheets from her bed. The kite she makes is giant—it is bigger than her house! She flies the kite into the tornado. The kite is so big that it steals all the wind from the tornado. The tornado dies, and the little girl saves the town.

Then the movie ends.

"Time to brush your teeth," says Aria's dad. "Then it's off to bed, kiddo."

"Dad," Aria says. She is still thinking about the movie. "Can a kite really stop a tornado?" "No," he says. "But little girls really can do amazing things."



1) In this passage, the author mostly

- A. defines a tornado
- B. summarizes a movie
- C. describes a girl
- D. answers a question

2) The tornado in the movie does each of the following things EXCEPT

- A. drain a lake
- B. destroy houses
- C. harm animals
- D. wreck cars

3) As used in paragraph 4, the word **prevent** most nearly means

- A. stop
- B. delay
- C. allow
- D. help

4) What category does the movie described in this passage belong to?

- A. mystery
- B. romance
- C. action
- D. comedy

5) As used in paragraph 5, which word is OPPOSITE in meaning to **giant**?

- A. serious
- B. funny
- C. ugly
- D. tiny

6) Which detail about the movie is probably NOT true?

- A. The tornado uproots trees.
- B. The tornado destroys houses.
- C. The tornado harms animals.
- D. The tornado drains a lake.

7) Do you think you would like the movie described in the passage? Why or why not?

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## Answers and Explanations

1) B

Core Standard: **Key Ideas and Details**

In paragraph 1, we learn that "Aria and her family are gathered around the television. They are watching a movie about a tornado." In paragraphs 3-5, the author continues to summarize the plot of, or action, that happens in the movie. This takes up most of the passage. Using this information, we can understand that in this passage, the author mostly summarizes a movie. This makes choice **(B)** correct.

In paragraph 2, the author writes, "A tornado is a big funnel of wind. Tornadoes travel over the ground and can move very fast. They can be very destructive, and they damage almost everything they touch." This only comprises 1 of 9 paragraphs in this passage. This lets us know that the author does not mostly define a tornado in this passage. Choice **(A)** is incorrect.

The author never actually gives a description of the girl in the movie (aside from telling us that she is "little") or of Aria, the girl in the passage. This lets us know that choice **(C)** is incorrect.

In paragraph 8, Aria asks her dad a question. She says, "Can a kite really stop a tornado?" Her dad answers her in the next paragraph. But this only comprises 1 of 9 paragraphs in this passage. This lets us know that the author does not mostly answer a question in this passage. Choice **(D)** is incorrect.

2) D

Core Standard: **Key Ideas and Details**

In paragraph 3, we learn that "The tornado uproots trees, destroys houses, and harms animals. It even drains a lake!" This allows us to eliminate choices **(A)**, **(B)**, and **(C)**, as they present things the tornado really did. The passage **DOES NOT** say that the tornado wrecks cars. Since we are looking for the exception, choice **(D)** is correct.

3) A

Core Standard: **Craft and Structure**

**prevent** (*verb*): to stop something from happening.

In paragraph 4, the author writes, "The tornado looks like it is going to hit their house. The girl is scared, but she knows she can't let this happen. She must do something to prevent it." The tornado looks like it is going to hit the little girl's house. But, according to the passage, the little girl "can't let this happen. She must do something to prevent it." If the little girl can't let this happen, then we know that prevent means to stop. Therefore choice **(A)** is correct.

If you delay something, you put it off till a later time. The girl does not want to simply delay the tornado from hitting her house, she want to stop it. This let us know choice **(B)** is incorrect.

Choices **(C)** and **(D)** both contain words that mean the opposite of prevent. Therefore they are incorrect.

4) C

Core Standard: **Integration of Knowledge**

The movie in the passage involves lots of action. The description of the movie contains lots of verbs. Look at this sentence from paragraph 3, and notice all the verbs we've underlined: "The tornado uproots trees, destroys houses, and harms animals." Verbs are action words—they are used to describe action. Given the large amount of action that takes place in the movie, we can understand that it would most likely be found in the action section. Therefore choice **(C)** is correct.

The passage does not provide information to support choices **(A)**, **(B)**, and **(D)**. Therefore they are incorrect.

5) D

Core Standard: **Craft and Structure**

**giant** (*adjective*): very large; huge; enormous.

In paragraph 5, we learn that the girl's kite is "giant—it is bigger than her house!" Here, the author describes the kite as being "giant." The author continues to describe the kite as being bigger than a house. This lets us know that the word "giant" must mean very large because a house is very large. The opposite of very large is tiny. Since we are looking for the opposite, we know that **(D)** is correct.

The passage does not provide information to support choices **(A)**, **(B)**, and **(C)**. Therefore they are incorrect.

6) D

Core Standard: **Integration of Knowledge**

In paragraph 2, we are told what a tornado is: "Tornados travel over the ground and can move very fast. They can be very destructive, and they damage almost everything they touch." In paragraph 3, we are given a description of what the tornado does. It says, "The tornado uproots trees, destroys houses, and harms animals. It even drains a lake! (This part was a little hard to believe.)" Using the information in paragraph 2, we can understand that a tornado can probably uproot trees, destroy houses, and harm animals. This is in line with the idea that tornados can cause lots of damage.

However, a tornado probably CANNOT drain a lake. This is hard to believe, as the passage itself mentions in parenthesis. Therefore choice **(D)** is correct.

The passage does not provide evidence to support choices **(A)**, **(B)**, and **(C)**. Therefore they are incorrect.