

Name _____
Date _____

Cody Likes to Run

Cody likes to run. So does his mother, April. Sometimes, Cody and April like to run together. But they like it for different reasons.

Cody is very good at running. He is very fast. He loves competition. On the playground, he participates in races. He almost always wins in the 50-yard dash! One day, a new student came to the school. Everyone thought he looked very fast. But when he raced, Cody beat him. Cody enjoys winning and being good. This is the main reason he likes running. He is so good at it!

Cody likes being good at running. But April likes running for different reasons. April likes the benefits of running. Running helps her stay healthy. It also makes her heart strong. And it helps her feel happy. This is why April likes running. It makes her feel good!



Cody likes to sprint. He likes to run very fast. He likes how exciting it is. He becomes excited when the starter yells, “On your marks, get set, go!” He is good at starting at the right moment.

April enjoys distance running. This means that she does not try to run fast. She tries to run far. Usually, she runs more than a mile. Sometimes, she runs five or six miles! She runs them nice and slow.

One Saturday the school held a race. It was a 3-mile race. Students and parents were both invited to run. Cody really wanted to race his mother. “Please, can we go race?” Cody boasted he would beat his mother! But April just smiled.

So they went to the race. The starter yelled, “On your marks!” Cody was ready. The race began! Cody started out running fast. He ran the first mile. He looked back to see his mother. He was way ahead of her! During the second mile, Cody slowed down. His mother was catching up! Now, she was passing him! “Come on, slow-poke,” she teased. Cody dug in and ran really hard. But he could not keep it up! He was getting a cramp! Soon, April crossed the finish line. She looked back to see Cody. He was coming along slowly. “You can do it!” she shouted. Cody heard her and smiled. He headed for the finish line. He was breathing heavy. Finally, he made it!

“Not too bad for an old lady?” said April.

Cody hugged her. “Hey mom,” Cody said. “Will you teach me to run like you?” April smiled and said, “Of course.”

1) The main purpose of paragraph 3 is to

- A. talk about how to make your heart strong
- B. explain why April likes running
- C. tell the reader Cody’s mother’s name
- D. show that April and Cody have the same attitude toward running

- 2) In paragraph 3, we learn that "April likes the benefits of running." Using this information as a guide, we can understand that **benefits**
- A. scare you
 - B. hurt you
 - C. anger you
 - D. help you
- 3) According to the passage, how long is the school race?
- A. 1 mile
 - B. 2 miles
 - C. 3 miles
 - D. 4 miles
- 4) In paragraph 6, why does April most likely smile when Cody boasts that he will beat her?
- A. She knows he is right.
 - B. She is planning to let him win.
 - C. She feels proud because Cody has been practicing for this race.
 - D. She knows she is better at distance running than Cody is.
- 5) How does Cody run in the race?
- A. He starts out running very fast, then gets tired and finishes slow.
 - B. He gets a cramp right away, but runs the last mile very fast.
 - C. He is careful not to run too fast too soon.
 - D. He stays near his mother for the first two miles, and then falls behind.

Answers and Explanations

1) B

Core Standard: **Integration of Knowledge**

In paragraph 3, we learn that while Cody likes running because he is good at it, his mother, April, likes running for “different reasons.” We then learn some of the different reasons that April likes to run, all of which can be considered as health benefits. For example, running helps her to stay thin, to maintain a strong heart, and generally to feel good. After the first sentence, Cody is not mentioned at all, and the focus is on April and the reasons that she likes to run. From this, we can understand that the main purpose of paragraph 3 must be to explain why April likes running. Therefore **(B)** is correct.

In paragraph 3, we learn about several reasons that April likes to run. One of them is that running helps to strengthen your heart. We do not learn about why exactly running is good for your heart. And we do not learn about any other ways to strengthen your heart. But we do learn about several other reasons that April likes to run. From this we can understand that the main purpose of paragraph 3 cannot be to talk about how to make your heart strong. This eliminates **(A)**.

Although paragraph 3 uses Cody’s mother’s name, April, this is not where we first learn her name, which was in the first paragraph. From this we can understand that the main purpose of paragraph 3 cannot be to tell the reader Cody’s mother’s name, which we knew before. This eliminates **(C)**.

In paragraph 2, we learn that Cody likes to run because he is good at it and because he enjoys competition. In paragraph 3, we learn that April likes running because of its health benefits. This lets us know that April’s attitude toward running is different from Cody’s, and that the main purpose of paragraph 3 cannot be to show that April and Cody have the same attitude toward running. This eliminates **(D)**.

2) D

Core Standard: **Craft and Structure**

benefit (*noun*): an advantage or a profit gained from something; something that helps you.

In paragraph 3, the author writes: “April likes the benefits of running.” We can use context clues—hints from known words and phrases around the unknown word or phrase—to help us figure out what a benefit is. In the next several sentences, we learn that the health benefits of running include helping you stay healthy, strengthening your heart, and helping you feel happy. From this we can understand that benefits help you. Therefore **(D)** is correct.

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

3) C

Core Standard: **Key Ideas and Details**

To answer this question correctly, we need to find out where in the passage the author discusses or mentions the distance of the school race. A good way to do this is to scan the topic sentence of each paragraph, since this sentence will likely give us a clue about what information can be found in the rest of the paragraph. The topic sentence of paragraph 6 reads: "One Saturday the school held a race." This lets us know that the information we are looking for may possibly be found in paragraph 6, since the topic sentence announces that the school race will be the subject of the paragraph. In the next sentence, we read that "It was a 3-mile race." This lets us know that the school race was 3 miles long. Therefore **(C)** is correct.

The passage does not give any information to support answers **(A)**, **(B)**, or **(D)**, therefore they are incorrect.

4) D

Core Standard: **Key Ideas and Details**

In order to answer this question, we must bring together a number of pieces of information from different places in the passage and then draw a conclusion from them. In paragraph 2, we learn that Cody likes to race, and that he is especially known for his success in the 50-yard dash. In paragraph 4, we learn that he especially likes sprinting and the excitement of running for speed. The passage does not tell us anything about Cody running for distance. In paragraph 5, we learn that April especially enjoys distance running, and usually runs more than a mile. In paragraph 1, we learn that April is Cody's mother, which means she would know what kind of running Cody is good at. All of this lets us know that April probably knows that she is a better distance runner than Cody is, and that she smiles because she knows Cody is probably claiming too much for himself by boasting that he will win. From this we can understand that the most likely reason April just smiles when Cody boasts he will beat her in the race is that she knows she is a better distance runner than he is. Therefore **(D)** is correct.

In paragraph 2, we learn that Cody likes to race, and that he is especially known for his success in the 50-yard dash. In paragraph 4, we learn that he especially likes sprinting and the excitement of running for speed. The passage does not tell us anything about Cody running for distance. In paragraph 5, we learn that April especially enjoys distance running, and usually runs more than a mile. In paragraph 1, we learn that April is Cody's mother, which means she would know what kind of running Cody is good at. All of this lets us know that April probably knows that she is a better distance runner than Cody is. From this we can understand that the most likely reason April just smiles when Cody boasts he will beat her in the race cannot be that she knows he is right. This eliminates **(A)**.

In paragraph 7, we learn that, during the first mile of the race, April was behind Cody, but that she eventually caught up to him and passed him before she finished the race ahead of him. The passage does not say anything about her at any time thinking about letting Cody win. From this we can understand that the most likely reason April just smiles when Cody boasts that he will beat her in the race cannot be that she is planning to let him win. This eliminates **(B)**.

In paragraph 2, we learn that Cody likes to race, and that he is especially known for his success in the 50-yard dash. In paragraph 4, we learn that he especially likes sprinting and the excitement of running for speed. The passage does not tell us anything about Cody running for distance. This lets us know that Cody has not been specifically practicing for this race. From this we can understand that the most likely reason April just smiles when Cody boasts he will beat her in the race cannot be that she feels proud because Cody has been practicing for the race. This eliminates **(C)**.

5) A

Core Standard: **Key Ideas and Details**

In order to answer this question, we need to bring together several different pieces of information from the passage. In paragraph 7, we read that “Cody started out running fast.” Later in the paragraph, we read that “During the second mile, Cody slowed down.” Near the end of the paragraph, we read that, towards the end of the race, Cody was “coming along slowly” and was breathing heavily. This lets us know that Cody started out running fast, and then got tired and finished slow. Therefore **(A)** is correct.

Although paragraph 7 tells us that Cody got a cramp during the race, it tells us that he got the cramp during the second mile, after he had started out running fast. It also tells us that Cody finished the race slow. From this we can understand that Cody did not get a cramp right away or run the last mile very fast. This eliminates **(B)**.

Paragraph 7 lets us know that Cody started the race running fast, but then became tired and slowed down. From this we can understand that Cody was not careful not to run too fast too soon. This eliminates **(C)**.

In paragraph 7 we read that after the first mile Cody was way ahead of his mother, but that he became tired and she passed him during the second mile. From this we can understand that Cody did not run the race by staying near his mother for the first two miles and then falling behind. This eliminates **(D)**.