

Name _____

Comprehension QUEST #1

Read & Comprehend

The Winter Lanterns

In the heart of winter, when the sun set early and the air turned crisp, the small town of Maplewood prepared for its annual Winter Lanterns event. It wasn't about snowball fights or ice skating. Instead, the town's streets filled with soft, warm light as families came together to celebrate the season in their own unique way.

Every year, the townspeople worked together to craft delicate lanterns made from paper, twine, and glowing candles. The lanterns came in all shapes and sizes—some looked like glowing flowers, others like shimmering stars. The children would spend weeks decorating their lanterns, carefully painting them with bright colors like red, gold, and green. Each one was a work of art, representing something special to the child who made it.

As the night of the event approached, the whole town buzzed with excitement. People lined the streets with lanterns, creating a winding path of light that led through the town square. The air smelled of pine and cinnamon, and the twinkling lights reflected off the windows of the old brick buildings, giving the town an almost magical glow.

When the big night arrived, families gathered at the town square, carrying their lanterns with pride. The mayor, a kind woman with silver hair, stood on the steps of the town hall. She welcomed everyone and invited the children to bring their lanterns forward. As they placed their glowing creations on the long wooden tables, the town square filled with a soft, flickering light. It was like the stars had come down from the sky to dance among them.

As the evening went on, people sang songs around the fire, their voices carrying across the square. The lanterns illuminated their faces, casting warm, gentle light on their smiling faces. There was no need for snow, for the light itself created a feeling of joy and togetherness. Maplewood's Winter Lanterns event wasn't about the weather; it was about the warmth people shared with each other, lighting up the cold, dark winter night with love and laughter.

And in the soft glow of the lanterns, everyone felt a little bit closer, a little bit brighter, as they wished each other a peaceful holiday season.



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 **Short Answer QUEST #1** 
Read & Comprehend

Directions: Answer the questions to show comprehension after reading the passage.

1. What were the lanterns made from, and what were some of their different shapes?

2. How does the author describe the atmosphere in the town square during the Winter Lanterns event?

3. What does the phrase “the lanterns illuminated their faces” mean in the context of the passage?

4. What is the significance of the lanterns being described as “a winding path of light” in the passage?

5. Why is the Winter Lanterns event important to the people of Maplewood?

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Multiple Choice QUEST #1

Read & Comprehend

Directions: Choose the best answer for each comprehension question after reading.

1. What is the main purpose of the Winter Lanterns event in Maplewood?

- A. To celebrate winter sports
- B. To create a festive atmosphere through lanterns and community gathering
- C. To raise money for the town
- D. To sell handmade crafts and decorations

2. Which of the following best describes the lanterns made by the children?

- A. They were all the same shape and size.
- B. They were decorated with snowflakes and icicles.
- C. They were decorated with bright colors and different shapes.
- D. They were made out of wood and stone.

3. What does the author mean by “the lanterns illuminated their faces”?

- A. The lanterns created a shadow on people’s faces.
- B. The lanterns reflected off people’s faces, making them glow.
- C. The lanterns were so bright that they made people’s faces disappear.
- D. The lanterns made people’s faces look sad.

4. Why does the author mention the smells of pine and cinnamon in the passage?

- A. To show the coldness of the winter air
- B. To describe the taste of the food during the event
- C. To create a festive and warm atmosphere for the event
- D. To explain why the lanterns are so colorful

5. What does the town of Maplewood do at the Winter Lanterns event?

- A. The mayor makes speeches about the town’s history.
- B. Children decorate their lanterns, which are then displayed for everyone to see.
- C. Families compete to make the largest lantern.
- D. The lanterns are sold to visitors from other towns.



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