

Predicting Skills Worksheet

What Is Predicting?

Predicting is using evidence from a text to say what you think might happen next. It prompts you to use details and clues from the text to anticipate what might happen. Really, you are thinking ahead as you read when correctly predicting and using your prior knowledge.

How Do We Use Prediction?

- We look at what has already happened in the text and we think, discuss and predict what could happen next.
- As you read, you look for evidence within the text for your prediction.
- Ask yourself questions about the text.
- Re-read information in the text to find evidence that supports your prediction.

Question 1

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

Mahé had been worried about this all week. He knew it might not be pleasant, maybe it could even be painful. As he lay there, staring up at the bright white light he thought of the lollies, soft drinks and chocolates he had eaten. 'Why? It is just not fair', he thought. When his mum told him he was going to the dentist, he had tried to argue, get out of it, do something, anything. But it was all hopeless. His mum had too much power.

From that day, he brushed his teeth eight times more than normal each day, hoping for the best. Too little too late? We will see. The door opens...

- a. Predict what could happen next in the story.

b. What evidence do you have to support your prediction?

c. Replace the word 'anxious' with another word which has a similar meaning?

d. Why do you think Mahé feels that going to the dentist is unfair?

e. Why has Mahé brushed his teeth 'eight times more than normal' each day?

f. What does the phrase 'too little too late' mean?

Question 2

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

There once lived a wealthy, hardworking and honest family. They owned a castle next to a village by the river. The family cared deeply for their castle, the land and the nearby village, respecting the locals who lived there. The villagers in turn, appreciated the family and together they lived side-by-side in harmony. Sadly, the family decided to travel and leave their castle in the hands of a caretaker. Selecting the caretaker became a challenging and time-consuming job, with applicants coming from far and wide to interview for the important position. Eventually, the family decided to challenge the applicants to write what

they believed to be the five best qualities a caretaker should have. The applicant who writes the best qualities (and reasons) will get the job.

a. Using the text, make a prediction on what the five qualities (including reasons for selecting these) the family are looking for in a caretaker?

Quality 1 - _____

Reason 1 - _____

Quality 2 - _____

Reason 2 - _____

Quality 3 - _____

Reason 3 - _____

Quality 4 - _____

Reason 4 - _____

Quality 5 - _____

Reason 5 - _____

b. What are five qualities the family would not want to see in their caretaker?

Quality 1 - _____

Quality 2 - _____

Quality 3 - _____

Quality 4 - _____

Quality 5 - _____

c. Predict what might happen if the family selected the wrong person for the job.

Predicting Skills Worksheet Answers

Question 1

a. Predict what could happen next in the story.

Answers will vary - the dentist comes in and checks the teeth and all is fine or there might need to be a bit of work done on Mahé's teeth. Mahé changes his junk food eating habits after this experience and is a little more relaxed about going to the dentist in the future.

b. What evidence do you have to support your prediction?

Answers will vary and should link to their prediction. For example, Mahé needs some work done on his teeth because he has eaten quite a lot of junk food. Or, his teeth were okay because he decided to brush them eight times more than usual per day before the appointment (we do not recommend doing this, twice a day is fine).

c. Replace the word 'anxious' with another word which has a similar meaning?

Anxious could be replaced with any of the following: worried, concerned, fearful, distressed, upset, apprehensive, scared.

d. Why do you think Mahé feels that going to the dentist is unfair?

Answers might vary but should be based around the idea of Mahé being worried and his reaction is then to feel the situation is unfair.

e. Why has Mahe brushed his teeth eight more times each day?

Answers might vary but should link to Mahe being concerned about his junk food eating and he believes that by brushing his teeth a lot now it might make them okay before going to the dentist.

f. What does the phrase 'too little too late' mean?.

Along the lines of - not doing enough and not doing enough early to stop a problem from happening.

Question 2

a. Using the text, make a prediction on what the five qualities (including reasons for selecting these) the family are looking for in a caretaker?

Answers might vary but need to be supported by a good reason. For example:

1. Trustworthy - caretakers need to have the trust of the family and the village.

2. Honesty - caretakers must be honest so they will tell the truth and keep the family up to date with what is happening.

3. Reliable - able to be there and complete the job/s which need to happen to maintain the castle.

4. Hardworking - the family is hardworking and there would be lots to do at a castle, the caretaker needs to be able to complete all of those tasks/jobs.

5. Fit - being able to maintain the hard work involved in the job that needs to be completed.

6. A good communicator - so they can be clear with what the family needs to know about their castle and the surrounding area. Also to be able to talk to the locals in the village and represent the family well.

7. Organised - the caretaker should be able to pick up the routines of what happens in and around the castle and village.

b. What are five qualities the family would not want to see in their caretaker?

Answers might vary but any of the following: dishonest, impatient, untrustworthy, unreliable, lazy, sloppy, selfish, greedy, arrogant, self-centred, inconsiderate.

c. Predict what might happen if the family selected the wrong person for the job.

Answers might vary but could include - their castle could be run down or ruined. The relationship between the family and village could turn into a negative one. The caretaker could not complete some of their tasks correctly (paying for things such as repairs, keeping the house tidy, keeping the outside areas respectable, etc). The caretaker could steal things from the family.