



Drawing conclusions and making inferences

Reading Comprehension Worksheet

Practice

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**Drawing conclusions** means figuring something out for yourself. To draw conclusions, you need to think about what *makes the most sense*.

**Making Inferences** is using what you *already know* in addition to what *the story says*.

**Drawing conclusions and making inferences** helps you understand a story better.

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As you read the story, think about what you *already know* in addition to what the story says. Try to figure out what the story means by thinking about what *makes the most sense*.

The Traveler

A man who had traveled far and wide came home to his small village. He gathered the villagers together to tell them of all the wonderful things he had done in all the places he had visited.

In Russia, he had cut bricks of ice and built a palace. In China, he had flown the best dragon kite anyone had ever seen. In Africa, he had chased a lion. In Australia, he had jumped farther than the kangaroos. He had jumped farther than any man alive.

The villagers listened with interest at first, and then began to smile. They turned to walk away, but the traveler said that there were many people in Australia who had seen his jump. They would be happy to be his witnesses.

One of the villagers turned back to the traveler. "My good man," he said. You need no witnesses. "Just pretend this is Australia, and show us."

Use what you *already know* and what the *story says* to **make inferences**:

1. Why did the traveler gather the villagers together to tell about his travels?
 - A. He wanted them to admire him.
 - B. He wanted to make them laugh.
 - C. They thought the traveler was a famous man.

2. Why were the villagers interested in the travelers' stories at first?
 - A. They thought the stories were true.
 - B. They thought the traveler was just bragging.
 - C. They thought the traveler was a famous man.

3. Why did the villagers start to smile and walk away?
 - A. They thought the traveler was joking.
 - B. They were jealous of the traveler.
 - C. They decided the traveler was just bragging.

4. Why did the traveler say that there were people in Australia who would be his witnesses?
 - A. He knew the villagers believed him.
 - B. He wanted the villagers to believe him.
 - C. He wanted to go back to Australia.

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Think about *what makes the most sense*, to **draw a conclusion**:

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| One of the villagers turned back to the traveler. "My good man," he said. You need no witnesses. Just pretend this is Australia, and show us." |
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5. This is probably because:
  - A. The villager knew that the traveler could not jump as far as he said.
  - B. The villager was excited to see such a jump.
  - C. The villager felt sorry for the traveler.

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6. Draw another conclusion: What lesson is this story meant to teach?

Answer Key

1. A
2. A
3. C
4. B
5. A
6. Accept any reasonable response, such as, it's not a good idea to brag about things you can't really do.