

Reading

First Name

Last Name

School Name

Room Number / Class

Choose a circle to show how much each sentence is like you

Very Unlike Me 1	Unlike Me 2	Like Me 3	Very Like Me 4
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01. I like reading at school.

<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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02. I am good at reading.

<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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03. My teacher thinks I am good at reading.

<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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04. My family/whānau think I am good at reading.

<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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05. I enjoy reading in my own time (not at school).

<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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06. I like going to the library to get something to read.

<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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Read the information and answer practice questions P01 to P08

BIRDS NESTS

Some birds build their nests on the ground; others build them in trees or bushes. Nests keep birds safe and provide them with shelter, a place to lay their eggs and a place to raise their young. Some nests are made from twigs and feathers, which are woven together with strands from a spider's web. Some are made from mud, grass or leaves.



P01. Why do birds build nests?

- To keep themselves safe.
- Because they like mud.
- To help them find food.
- Because they like to eat spiders.

P02. Correctly spell the underlined words in the space provided.

Baby birds are calld chicks. _____

Bird's nests are high in the trea. _____

P03. What materials would you **MOST LIKELY** find from the following sources?

	Source Location	Materials
<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Ground	a. Feathers
<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Birds	b. Grass
<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Trees	c. Mud
		d. Leaves

P04. Choose the circle (radio button) beside the option you believe to be correct.

- | | TRUE | FALSE |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Birds only build their nests in trees | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Birds use feathers to build nests | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

P05. What do birds use to build their nests?

- Mud
- Eggs
- Twigs
- Spiders

P06. Write the numbers 1, 2 and 3 in the boxes to show the correct order for building a nest.

- Weave the grass and twigs together
- Find a good place to build nest
- Collect grass and twigs

P07. Places where birds build their nests

- (i) On the Ground
- (ii) _____
- (iii) _____

P08. Shade the bubbles to show which words should have capital letters.

different types of birds build their nest in different ways.

Use the following information to answer questions 01 to 05.

DIRECTIONS

Read each passage. You will see two parts in bold. Choose the answer that shows the best way to write each bold part. If a bold part should not be rewritten, choose "No mistake." (*Remember to check for spelling, capitalisation and punctuation mistakes.*)

People often believe that bigger is better. **However, computers became much better when we learned. To make them smaller.** The first computers were very large because they were made of so many big parts. One computer was 100 feet long! **Then, about 25 years ago, several Americans invented a computer chip. The chip was small.** One microchip soon did the work of a room-sized computer.

My little brother loves spiders I decided to help him learn more about them. At the library we found a stack of books about spiders. **We were surprised to find out how many different kinds of spiders there are and how many different ways they hunt.** Then we decided to look for a video about spiders. The librarian helped us find a great video of spiders in action.

Have you ever looked closely at a dollar bill? **In addition to numbers and pictures, every bill includes the name. It is the name of the U.S. treasurer.** The name Romana Acosta Bañuelos appeared on all dollar bills made between 1971 and 1974. **Bañuelos was the first Mexican American woman. To serve as U.S. treasurer.** She wrote cheques for money spent by the government. She also made sure that worn-out bills were destroyed.



My favourite school activity is tutoring time. **Twice a week Mr. Garza takes us to Ms. Nelson's classroom we work with her students.** We tutor them in different subjects. **I help a student named David. David is learning to use the computer.** He gets very excited when he learns something new. I feel great when I see him succeed.



In 1840 Daniel and his family left Vermont. They travelled to Missouri. There they joined a wagon train headed for California. During the journey Daniel took care of the oxen that pulled their wagon. Whenever they crossed a river or travelled through a snowstorm, Daniel guided the oxen. **Many families losing their oxen on the way to California.** Daniel's oxen, however, made it all the way.



01. However, computers became much better when we learned. To make them smaller.

Which is the best way to rewrite this?

- However, computers became much better. When we learned to make them smaller.
- However, computers became much better when we learned to make them smaller.
- However, computers became much better we learned to make them smaller.
- No mistake.

02. Then, about 25 years ago, several Americans invented a computer chip. The chip was small.

Which is the best way to rewrite this?

- Then, about 25 years ago, several Americans invented a computer chip, but it was small.
- Then, about 25 years ago, several small Americans invented a computer chip.
- Then, about 25 years ago, several Americans invented a computer chip that was invented to be small.
- Then, about 25 years ago, several Americans invented a small computer chip.

03. In 1840 Daniel and his family left Vermont. They travelled to Missouri.

Which is the best way to rewrite this?

- In 1840 Daniel and his family left Vermont or travelled to Missouri.
- In 1840 Daniel and his family left and travelled to Vermont and Missouri.
- In 1840 Daniel and his family left Vermont and travelled to Missouri.
- In 1840 Daniel and his family left Vermont, and Daniel's family travelled to Missouri.

04. *Bañuelos was the first Mexican American woman. To serve as U.S. treasurer.*

Which is the best way to rewrite this?

- Bañuelos was the first Mexican American woman to serve as U.S treasurer.
- Bañuelos the first Mexican American woman to serve as U.S treasurer.
- Bañuelos was the first Mexican American woman, she served as U.S treasurer.
- No mistake.

05. *In addition to numbers and pictures, every bill includes the name. It is the name of the U.S. treasurer.*

Which is the best way to rewrite this?

- In addition to numbers and pictures, every bill includes the name, but it is the name of the U.S treasurer.
- In addition to numbers and pictures, every bill includes the name, and the name on the bill is the name of the U.S treasurer.
- In addition to numbers and pictures, every bill includes the name of the U.S treasurer.
- In addition to numbers, pictures, and the name of the U.S treasurer, every bill includes the name.

End of Section

Use the following information to answer questions 06 to 09

The Challenger

- 1 Angela checked her skates and peered out at the ice. Its smooth, mirror-like surface reflected the flood of lights inside the auditorium. "Soon it'll all be over," she thought. The judges would tabulate the scores, and the skater with the most points would be the city figure-skating champion. She glanced at Sandra Collins standing confidently next to the ice. Sandra had been champion for the last two years. "It'll probably be three after today," Angela thought glumly.
- 2 "Don't worry about Sandra," Coach Lewis said, noticing Angela's concerned expression. "Show the judges what you can do."
- 3 Angela nodded as the announcer called her name. She skated out on shaky legs, going through her routine one last time in her mind. One part in particular worried her: the double axel, a jump in which she spun two and a half times and landed backwards. It had taken her months to learn, and she still sometimes missed it.
- 4 "I probably can't even do a single jump right now," she thought as the lights dimmed and the crowd grew silent. Angela's eyes met Sandra's icy blue stare, and a chill crept up Angela's spine. She realised that Sandra wasn't nervous at all. "She's probably never missed a jump in her life," Angela thought.
- 5 For one horrible moment as her music began, Angela felt frozen, locked in the cold grip of fear. Then she pushed her arms back, slid one skate forward, and began racing over the ice. Suddenly her mind went blank; what was she supposed to do first? Then, as if by magic, she glided gracefully into a spin. Her body had remembered what her mind had forgotten.
- 6 Angela made it through several small spins and jumps, but as the double axel approached, she felt more and more anxious. Her heart raced as she prepared to jump. What if she missed? She took a deep breath and leapt into the air, feeling an incredible sense of freedom as the crowd rushed past her eyes in a dizzying swirl. Then, arms out, she landed and - slipped. Her skate slid sideways ever so slightly and her balance wavered momentarily. It had been the tiniest of errors. Had the judges seen it? How much would they deduct from her score?
- 7 Angela didn't even notice the crowd's loud ovation when she finished. She skated off the ice right past Sandra. As defending champion, Sandra would compete last. As they passed, Angela saw a flicker of a smile cross Sandra's lips, as if to say, "Too bad."
- 8 Angela watched carefully as Sandra skated. She was extremely confident and very good, but not perfect. Angela noticed a couple of small mistakes. "Will the judges notice?" Angela wondered. Were they as bad as her own mistakes?
- 9 "Well, second is pretty good," Angela thought as Sandra skated off to the roar of the crowd.

- 10 At last the scores came up. Angela stared in disbelief. She had done it! She was the city champion! Her eyes filled with tears as people hugged and congratulated her. Sandra came over and shook Angela's hand. Angela noticed tears in Sandra's eyes, too. "Congratulations," Sandra said. "You skated very well."
- 11 "Thank you," Angela said. "So did you." Watching Sandra walk away, Angela couldn't help but wonder how she felt.



The Champion

- 1 Sandra stood nervously near the ice, watching Angela Martin from the corner of her eye. It was Angela's first time competing in the city championships, but if she was nervous, it wasn't showing. She sat next to her coach, calmly checking her skates. Sandra remembered her own first city championship. She had been so nervous she had wondered whether she would even be able to stand. She was still in high school, but suddenly she felt old. Most of the other skaters were two or three years younger than she was. This would be her last competition. Skating took hours of practice, and Sandra needed to concentrate more on her schoolwork. She was determined to get into a good college.
- 2 "Now skating: Angela Martin," the announcer's voice boomed, filling the arena. Sandra watched as Angela skated coolly out to the centre of the ice. The music started, and Angela began her programme. She looked graceful and fearless as she landed jump after jump perfectly. "How can she be so confident in her first championship?" Sandra wondered. When Angela finally spun to a stop back at the centre of the ice, the crowd erupted in cheers.
- 3 Sandra was next. The announcer called her name, and she skated onto the ice just as Angela was skating off. For a moment their eyes met. Angela seemed almost arrogant. Her expression seemed to say, "Try to top that." Sandra half-smiled back. She had to admit that Angela would be hard to beat.

- 4 Sandra was still thinking about Angela when the lights lowered and the music began. She had to skate perfectly. She had noticed only one small slip on Angela's double axel. The slip had been so minor that Sandra doubted whether the judges even noticed it. Besides, on a double axel they would probably not deduct many points even if they had noticed. Sandra floated through her spins and jumps easily. She didn't make any major mistakes, but she was distracted by her thoughts of Angela's performance. When Sandra finished, she knew she had made some small errors. As she skated off the ice, she knew she had lost her title. She fought back tears as she stood waiting for the scores.
- 5 Finally the scoreboard flashed the final results. Sandra had finished second. Angela Martin was the new city figure-skating champion. Angela's friends and coach let out a loud cheer and began hugging and congratulating her. Sandra slowly approached. "Congratulations. You skated very well," she said, shaking Angela's hand. Seeing Angela's tears of joy, Sandra couldn't help feeling a little jealous. Better than anyone, she knew what Angela was feeling.

Photo © Roger Ressmeyer/CORBIS.

06. In *The Champion*, why is Sandra distracted while skating her programme?

- She is thinking about which college she wants to attend.
- She is angry about what Angela told her as they passed each other.
- She is worried about how well Angela skated.
- She is sorry that she did not treat Angela more nicely.

07. In paragraph 5 of *The Challenger* why does Angela forget what she is supposed to do first?

- She has recently made a change to her programme.
- She gets upset after she makes a mistake.
- She decides to try a jump she has never done before.
- She is nervous about competing in the championship.

08. In paragraph 4 of *The Champion*, why does Sandra feel as if she has to skate perfectly?

- She wants to skate her best in her last competition.
- She thinks that Angela is a much better skater than she is.
- She needs to make up for the mistakes she has already made.
- She knows that Angela skated very well during her programme.

09. Paragraph 2 of *The Champion* is mainly about

- Sandra's feelings as she watches Angela skate.
- the crowd's reaction when Angela finishes skating.
- Angela's first experience in the championship.
- the music that Angela skates to during her programme.

End of Section

Use the following information to answer questions 10 to 12

Brent is in Year 5. He wrote a story about a time when something turned out better than he expected. He wants you to help him revise and edit the story. Read Brent's paper and think about the changes you would make. Then answer the questions that follow.

Brent's Holiday

(1) It was a hot day in June. (2) School was out for the summer, and most of the students were excited. (3) Some children were taking swimming lessons, and others were going to camp. (4) A few were going to visit their grandparents. (5) Summer holidays are fun because the days are so long. (6) However, Brent Peterson wasn't excited. (7) He was going to be stuck in a cabin all summer. (8) While his father worked in the mountains.

(9) "This is going to be the most boringest summer of my life," Brent said, but his parents just continued packing. (10) Mum filled up the grocery bags and chilly bins. (11) Dad loaded the boot of the car. (12) Soon the Petersons were on their way.

(13) All afternoon the family drove through the mountains. (14) They finally arrived at Echo Lake. (15) Then they had to load their junk into a boat and row across the lake to a log cabin in the woods.

(16) Later that evening Brent and his parents caught fish for supper. (17) They went for a walk. (18) They wanted to find wood for the fire. (19) A deer came to the lake to drink, and an owl hooted in the distance. (20) Some baby rabbits hopped past the cabin. (21) Brent was surprised. (22) Staying in the woods might actually turn out to be fun. (23) For the first time Brent began to look forward to his summer in the mountains.

10. What is the **BEST** way to combine sentence 17 and 18?

- To find wood, they went for a walk for the fire.
- They went for a walk, they wanted to find wood for the fire.
- If they went for a walk, they wanted to find wood for the fire.
- They went for a walk to find wood for the fire.

11. What change, if any, should be made in sentence 15?

- Change *had* to *have*.
- Change *junk* to *food, clothes, and supplies*.
- Change *row* to *rowing*.
- Make no change.

12. Which of the following is **NOT** a complete sentence?

- Sentence 2
- Sentence 7
- Sentence 8
- Sentence 12

End of Section

Use the following information to answer questions 13 to 15

19 November 2006
Supermart
11324 E. Maple Street
Peoria, AZ 85307

Dear Mr. King

Your grocery store is outstanding in many ways. I enjoy the selection of produce and fresh bakery items. I have been a long time Supermart shopper and hope to continue for many years. I have found, however, that I must make a separate shopping trip to one of your competitors because there are many items your store does not carry. This becomes inconvenient for me, as my time is valuable, and I do not like to make two trips. Your low prices and excellent customer service keep me coming back to Supermart, but I would be a more satisfied customer if I could find all the items I need in one place. Specifically, I have never been able to purchase nacho cheese soup at your store. I can find other flavours of soup, but your store does not carry nacho cheese soup, a common ingredient in many of my casserole recipes. In addition, I can only find large wonton wrappers, while many other stores carry both large and small and offer a more varied selection for their customers. Another example is Regent Brand Chilli Seasoning. Though it is not a leading brand, it is still common on the shelves of other grocery stores in this area and is superior in flavour to its peers.

I sincerely hope to continue a relationship with your store, and I hope that you will consider the possibility of expanding your inventory to be more competitive.

Yours truly,

Bob Watson

13. What does the author want the reader to do?

- Stock the items he finds at other stores
- Match his competitors' prices
- Increase the selection in the bakery
- Sell fresher produce

14. According to the letter, which of the following will the writer **MOST** likely do?

- Wait for a response
- Find another place to shop
- Shop for bakery items only
- Recommend the store to friends

15. In this passage, which of the following is **NOT** an example of the letter writer's purpose for writing the letter?

- To ask for a special seasoning
- To request a price reduction
- To identify concerns
- To compliment the store

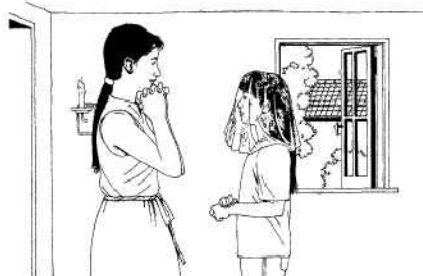
End of Section

Use the following information to answer questions 16 to 19

Tía Lidia Weaves a Story

Ñanduti is a type of thin lace handmade by women in Paraguay. Ñanduti can be made into many things, such as a scarf, tablecloth, or blanket. A mantilla is often made of this fine lace. It is worn by some women like a veil over their head and shoulders.

- 1 As Celina walked along the main road in the town of Itaugua, Paraguay, she smiled at all the wonderful sights and smells. Along the side of the road, men and women sold goods from their street shops. Some were selling beans and peanuts, while others sold hats, mats, and many other things. Celina paused at one of the many shops where women were selling *mantillas*. She admired the delicate lace *mantillas* that many women in Paraguay both sell and wear. Most of the lace *mantillas* were white, but some were more colourful. At last Celina hurried on to Tía Lidia's house. Celina liked to visit her aunt every day.
- 2 Like the women Celina had seen at the street shops, Tía Lidia made lace. Celina had always been fascinated by the wooden frame that stood in the corner of the house. She loved to watch her aunt stand at the frame, working the delicate strands of linen or silk. Most of all, she loved the pretty lace pieces called *ñanduti* that Tía Lidia created. Tía Lidia made everything from small lace collars to long, flowing dresses.
- 3 This morning, when Celina arrived at her aunt's house, Tía Lidia was working on an elegant lace tablecloth. She had been working on the tablecloth for several weeks. First Tía Lidia had placed a sheet of linen on the wooden frame. Then she had drawn a pattern of circles and fancy designs on the material. Finally she had begun carefully removing some of the threads from the material and weaving other threads across the open spaces. It was a difficult process that would produce a thin, detailed lace.
- 4 As Tía Lidia worked, Celina walked around the room and admired some of the lovely pieces her aunt had made. She smiled when she saw one rectangular piece of lace that lay over a bench. Celina carefully lifted it and settled it over her head like a veil. She peered out from behind the finely woven patterns. She thought that this must be how the world looked to new brides. "This looks like a spider's web," she said.



- 5 "That's because that's what it is," Tía Lidia said, winking. "In Guaraní, the old language of Paraguay, *ñanduti* means 'web.'" Tía Lidia paused as she carefully wove a thread into the tablecloth. "Have I ever told you the story of the white spider?" she asked at last.

- 6 "No, Tía Lidia. Tell me!"
- 7 The dark-haired woman stepped away from the frame and smoothed her colourful skirt. "Every young girl in Paraguay should know this story. But this story needs a nice cup of *yerba mate*." As Tía Lidia prepared the hot drink, she told Celina about the lace Tía Lidia's mother had woven. "My mother told me this story when I was learning to make *ñanduti*."
- 8 "A very long time ago," Tía Lidia began, "when a young man named Juan was fetching water for his mother to make tea with, he saw a white spider struggling in the stream. Quickly he scooped the spider and placed it gently on the leaves of a yerba tree."
- 9 "Isn't this *yerba mate* made from the leaves of a yerba tree?" Celina asked.
- 10 "That's right," Tía Lidia said with a smile. "Every day, when Juan went to fill up the water jugs, he saw the white spider waiting for him. He began to think of the spider as a friend to whom he could tell all his troubles. One day he told the spider about a lovely woman with whom he had fallen in love. However, in those days, it was the custom in Paraguay for a woman's father to choose her husband. This woman's father had said, 'I want to make sure my daughter is well cared for. Whoever brings forth the most wonderful and original gift shall win her hand.' Juan was very sad. He knew he could never afford such a gift. The next day, however, when he returned to the spring, he saw that his friend was almost finished spinning a fragile silk cloth. Juan could see that it was the most exquisite lace *mantilla* he had ever seen. Juan knew the *mantilla* would look lovely draped around the shoulders of the woman he adored."
- 11 "The patterns of the *mantilla* were of all the native flowers of the area. Leaves and vines and drops of dew then surrounded the flowers. Instantly Juan understood what the spider had done. He ran off to present his gift. When he reached the village and placed the *mantilla* upon the woman, her face immediately lit up. She was radiant. Everyone around her gasped. They all knew at once that this *mantilla* was the most wonderful gift a woman could receive. Juan and the woman were married right away."
- 12 "From then on," finished Tía Lidia, "the women of Paraguay have tried to duplicate the delicate lace. We have woven the lace for years, but no one has been able to equal that made by the white spider. Still, our lace is famous for its splendour."
- 13 Celina smiled at the wonderful tale she had just heard. "Now that I know the story of the white spider, perhaps it is time I learned to make lace."

16. The white spider makes the mantilla for Juan because

- the spider wants everyone to see the wonderful lace it weaves.
- Juan tells the spider that his aunt can make better lace.
- the spider wants to thank Juan for saving its life.
- Juan promises to pay the spider a lot of money.

17. In paragraph 10, why is Juan sad?

- Juan thinks the woman will marry someone else.
- Juan has promised the spider he will never give the lace away.
- Juan thinks the woman doesn't want to marry him.
- Juan doesn't want to give his fine lace mantilla away.

18. Which of these is the **BEST** summary of this story?

- Celina walks to her aunt's house. She sees many things along the way, including beautiful lace called ñanduti. Her aunt also makes the lace.
- Celina goes to her aunt's house, where she learns to make ñanduti. She and her aunt make ñanduti to sell at local markets.
- Celina hears a story about a boy named Juan who is trying to find a gift for his girlfriend. He gives the woman some lace.
- Celina visits her aunt who makes lace. Her aunt tells her a story about how ñanduti came to be. Celina decides she wants to learn how to make the lace.

19. The reader can tell that Tia Lidia

- makes the finest lace in Paraguay.
- thinks that women should not sell their lace.
- learned to make lace from her mother.
- weaves lace that is better than the white spider's.

End of Section

Use the following information to answer questions 20 to 23

The Charro

- 1 "I have bad news," announced Mrs. Carrillo, the Spanish club's sponsor. "We're nearly \$1,000 short of the amount we need to take our trip to Mexico City next month."
- 2 The club members groaned. Since the idea of going to Mexico had been brought up back in September, it had been an incentive to raise as much money as possible. They had hoped that their last fund-raiser, a dinner featuring enchiladas and other traditional Mexican dishes, would provide the rest of the funds they needed. However, it had not brought in as much money as they had expected.
- 3 "How depressing," Adrian said gloomily. "All year we've practised our Spanish, and now there's no way we'll get to Mexico City."
- 4 Marisol refused to give up so easily. "Look at us! We're already thinking it's hopeless. Don't be so pessimistic! There has to be a way to raise the money!" she said. "Everybody go home and think. Ask your parents, friends, and neighbours. Let's meet again in two days to see whether anyone has a suggestion."
- 5 After school Marisol decided to visit Grandpa Delgado at his ranch. Talking with him always made her problems seem smaller. Just being at the ranch made her feel better, so she went whenever she was agitated about something. She knew she could rely on the land's unchanging beauty.
- 6 Marisol found her grandfather in his old barn. "I guess we'll need to pull this shabby old barn down pretty soon," he said when he saw her. "It's falling apart. It seems as if it deteriorated overnight. Now that we've built a new barn, it's just taking up space around here - like me, I suppose." He sighed and looked around. "I built it right after I came to this country. It looks as though we've both just about outlived our usefulness."
- 7 As Marisol watched him looking around the barn, she got an idea. "Grandpa, wasn't there a theatre group near here that used to perform in a barn?"
- 8 "Why, yes," Grandpa Delgado said. "The Red Barn Players. They're not around anymore. It was a good idea, performing in a barn. We don't have fancy theatres around here like those you would find in a big city."
- 9 "How many folding chairs do you think could fit in this barn?" Marisol asked.
- 10 He wrinkled his brow and thought a moment. "Probably a hundred or so. Why?"
- 11 Marisol's words came out in a rush. "I have an idea for how to earn money for my Spanish club. We could put on a play right here in your barn! If we gave two performances and if a hundred people came to each one and if tickets cost five dollars each . . ." She tapped her feet as she did the maths in her head. "That's \$1,000!" she said triumphantly.

- 12 At their next meeting, Marisol's fellow club members liked the idea. Mrs. Carrillo said, "Marisol, why don't you and Carlota find a play for us to perform. We need to decide on the play right away so we'll have time to rehearse, build sets, make costumes, and advertise. In the meantime we can work on turning the barn into a temporary theatre."
- 13 Marisol and Carlota spent hours at the library looking for a play, but nothing seemed right. "Here's one about a zookeeper who discovers his gorilla can talk," Carlota said.
- 14 Marisol shook her head. "None of these will work. They're too short, and none of them has more than three roles," she said.
- 15 "Besides," added Carlota, "we should do a play that has something to do with Mexican culture."
- 16 Marisol paused for a moment as an idea came to her. "I wrote a play for English class a few months ago about my grandpa when he was a young *charro*, a Mexican cowboy. Would you like to see it?"
- 17 Carlota went home with Marisol and read the play. When Carlota finished reading, she turned to Marisol and said, "It's perfect!"
- 18 The other club members liked it, too. Parts were assigned, and rehearsals began. Marisol didn't have a part, but she helped with sets and costumes. Her whole family got involved to make sure the play was a success because they were proud of her. Marisol's father put up posters on every telephone pole for miles around. Her older brother Ray, who attended college in a nearby town, promised to bring a group of friends on opening night.
- 19 Before the play Mrs. Carrillo explained the purpose of the event and thanked the audience for attending. Then the performance began. Marisol watched nervously from backstage. At one point Adrian, who was playing Marisol's grandfather, had to sing an old Mexican folk song. He had a good voice, but he must have forgotten the words. Marisol listened in horror as his voice faded away, and the barn went silent.
- 20 Then another voice, deep and rich, took up the song. Marisol peeked out at the audience and saw Grandpa Delgado. He had risen to his feet and was singing the song as she had heard him sing it many times. He turned to the rest of the crowd. "Sing along," he invited them. "You know the words." To Marisol's amazement many of the older men and women joined in. Their voices swelled, reaching into every corner of the dark, dusty barn and transforming it into a place of wonder.
- 21 After the play was over, Marisol helped count the profits. They had made more than \$500. She felt sure that they would be able to reach their goal after the next day's performance.
- 22 Grandpa Delgado came over to congratulate her. "I guess this old thing still has some life in it after all," he said with a wink.

23 "I always knew that it did, Grandpa," Marisol said, winking back. The trip to Mexico City would be great, but nothing could ever replace Marisol's happiness when she heard her grandfather's strong voice ringing throughout the barn.

20. Marisol's grandfather began singing during the play because

- he wants the play to be a success.
- the actor is singing a popular song.
- people in the audience have asked him to join in.
- he has a much better voice than the actor.

21. Paragraph 6 is important because it

- explains why Grandpa Delgado wants a new barn.
- describes Grandpa Delgado's life as a cowboy.
- relates how Grandpa Delgado feels about getting older.
- tells about Grandpa Delgado's journey from Mexico.

22. What can the reader conclude about Marisol's family?

- Grandpa Delgado was a member of the Red Barn players.
- Marisol's father was also a charro when he was young.
- Grandpa Delgado was originally from Mexico.
- Marisol's brother was also in the Spanish club.

23. In this selection, in what way does Grandpa Delgado feel connected to the old barn?

- He doesn't want to live on the ranch anymore.
- It is just like the barn his family had when he was a small boy.
- He doesn't think anyone needs either of them anymore.
- It is one of his favourite places on the ranch.

BOOK REVIEWS ON THE WEB

Internet zone Adapted from <http://www.nzbooks.com>

Book Title: **The House That Jack Built** Author: **Gavin Bishop** Publisher: **Scholastic, NZ**

1. Would you recommend this book? 2. How many stars do you give this title?

Yes No

3. Please enter a one-line summary of your review:

4. Type your review in the space below: Maximum of 1,000 words.

I liked this book. It is based on the retelling of a traditional rhyme, set in New Zealand at the turn of the 19th century. But it's different because it seems both new and old at the same time. The pictures in the book are fascinating and the use of imagery is amazing. I read in another review that the pictures included in the book are a **metaphor** for what happened when European traders, sealers, whalers and settlers arrived in Aotearoa/New Zealand during the early 19th century. The illustrations are certainly full of meaning. The story begins when Jack Bull arrives in Aotearoa in 1798 to find a land strong in spirit and tradition. The Maori, the people of the land, want his iron pots, nails and blankets to enhance their daily lives. They trade and Jack builds a house but problems arise as a steady flood of European settlers follow him and things start to change in the Maori world.

To the Maori, the land is their Earth Mother, Papatuanuku, who gives life to all things. But, the settlers pressure the Maori to give up their land to build farms and towns. The loss of tribal land and the failure of the Treaty of Waitangi in 1840 to bind the two peoples together, leads to conflict. Tumatauenga, the Maori god of war, calls the Maori people to fight for Papatuanuku. As he grows strong on the land, the Earth Mother's presence fills the page and the remains of the house that Jack built smoulder in the foreground as a **symbol of the conflict**.

The illustrations on each page seem to tell as much of the story as the words. At the beginning, we see the land, sea and sky dominated by the Earth Mother, Papatuanuku, the Sky Father, Ranginui, and the eyes of their children. They are drawn in a style that reflects traditional Maori art forms. As the story unfolds, the spirit of the Earth Mother **diminishes** and fades. In contrast, the pictures showing events through the eyes of the Europeans are naturalistic in style. On the last pages the conflict is recorded for future generations on the wall of a meeting house in a folk art style blending traditional Maori and European art forms. This final blending seems to me to be like the intertwining of cultures in the rich history of Aotearoa.

I enjoyed this book enormously. I liked the multilayered illustrations because they are integral to the telling of this story.

5. Include some related titles you also enjoyed and say why.

Taniwha, a great picture book by Robyn Kahukiwa. I liked it for its use of Maori images in the illustrations.

Dead Man's Head by Jack Lazenby is another great New Zealand book full of descriptive language and rich in imagery, some spectacular characterisations are present. A New Zealand prize winner by Maurice Gee, The Fat Man, is a fantastic read. Watch out for a twisting plot. It is scary at times and very descriptive. You can almost "see" the story unfold as you read the words.

6. Enter your email address

24. What is the **MAIN** purpose of this review?

- To give detailed information about European settlement
- To retell a traditional rhyme
- To describe the illustrations in the book
- To express an opinion about a book the writer has read

25. What do the books that have been chosen as related titles have in common?

- They have all been written by the same author.
- They rely heavily on imagery.
- They have strong characterisations.
- They have a sharp twist in the plot.

26. Why did Katy write the last paragraph of the review?

- To repeat and summarise the reviewer's opinion
- To inform readers about the hardships of life in New Zealand at that time
- To provide background information on the Land Wars
- To describe the styles of art used in the book