Cause and Effect

Grade 2 Reading Worksheet - Challenge Me

PencilGo

Name _____ Date _____

Read the text. Circle the best answer.

READ THIS FIRST

How a River Carries Sand

A river may look calm, but it is always moving rock and sand.

Rain and melting snow run down the mountainsides into small streams. The water flows downhill, because gravity pulls it toward lower ground.

As water rushes along, it rubs against rocks on the riverbed. Rocks bump into each other too. Over many years, this wears big rocks down into pebbles, and pebbles into grains of sand. This slow wearing away is called erosion.

Fast water can lift sand and carry it along. That is why rivers often look muddy after a big storm. More rain makes the water flow faster, so it can carry more.

When the river reaches flat land, it slows down. Slow water cannot hold as much, so some sand drops to the bottom. Heavy pebbles drop first, and fine mud travels the farthest.

At last, the river flows into the sea. There, the water spreads out and slows even more. The rest of the sand settles near the river's mouth. Over a very long time, the sand piles up and can form new land.

1. What happens when the river reaches flat land?
   - It speeds up and carries more sand along.
   - It slows, and some sand drops to the bottom.
   - It lifts more sand from the riverbed again.

2. Which sentence uses because the right way?
   - Because the river slows down, some sand drops to the bottom.
   - Because the water flows faster, it carries less sand.
   - Because some sand drops to the bottom, the river slows down.

3. Why does fine mud travel farther than heavy pebbles?
   - Mud floats on top of the waves all day long.
   - Mud is heavier, so it sinks more slowly.
   - Mud is light, so slower water can still carry it.

4. What happens right after the river flows into the sea?
   - The small streams join together up high.
   - The water spreads out and slows even more.
   - The water speeds up and lifts even more sand.

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Answer Key - Grade 2 Reading Worksheet - Challenge Me

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