Cause and Effect

Grade 2 Reading Worksheet - Challenge Me

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

2. What would happen to the river if more rain fell?
   - The water would slow and drop its sand.
   - The rocks would stop wearing down at all.
   - The water would flow faster and carry more.

3. How can a river help make new land?
   - Sand settles at its mouth and piles up over time.
   - Its waves push rocks up into tall hills.
   - Pebbles stack up high in the mountains each year.

4. The text says the slow wearing away of rock is called erosion. Which of these is erosion?
   - a rock slowly rubbed down into sand
   - rain and snow running downhill
   - water spreading out wide at the sea

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Answer Key - Grade 2 Reading Worksheet - Challenge Me

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