Author's Purpose and Text Structure

Grade 3 Reading Worksheet

Name _____ Date _____

Circle the answer.

READ THIS FIRST

A Letter About Recess

Dear Principal Ortiz,

My name is Amara, and I am in Mr. Bell's third-grade class. I am writing about a problem at recess. I hope you will help us fix it.

Right now, our playground has only two balls and one jump rope. There are more than one hundred students at recess. Many kids stand around with nothing to do. Some kids argue over who gets the ball next. The teachers on duty say they hear these arguments every day. Yesterday, three friends missed the whole recess waiting in line.

I have an idea that could solve this problem. Our class could start a recess cart. Families could donate old balls, hula hoops, and jump ropes. We could keep the cart in the hallway near the gym. Two student helpers would roll the cart out each day. At the end of recess, they would check that everything came back.

This plan would help everyone. More students would play and move. There would be fewer arguments. Our class would also learn to take care of shared things.

I think a recess cart is the best idea our school could try this year. Please let our class start one next month. We would be happy to make posters asking for donations.

Thank you for reading my letter.

Sincerely,
Amara Lopez

1. What is Amara's main purpose for writing this letter?
   - to persuade the principal to allow a recess cart
   - to describe what Mr. Bell's classroom looks like
   - to inform readers about the rules of jump rope
   - to entertain readers with a funny recess story

2. Which text structure does Amara mostly use?
   compare and contrast description problem and solution sequence of events

3. What problem does Amara describe?
   - Recess is too short for students.
   - Students may not go outside.
   - The playground needs new swings.
   - There is not enough recess equipment.

4. Which sentence begins the solution part of the letter?
   - I have an idea that could solve this problem.
   - Right now, our playground has only two balls and one jump rope.
   - This plan would help everyone.
   - Thank you for reading my letter.

5. Which detail shows that the problem is real?
Three friends missed recess waiting in line.
Two helpers would roll the cart out.
Families could donate hula hoops.
Our class would make posters.

6. In 'I think a recess cart is the best idea,' which words show Amara's point of view?
Yesterday Right now At the end I think

7. Families could donate old balls. What does donate mean?
sell for money give as a gift throw away borrow for a day

8. Why does Amara offer to make posters?
to show her class is ready to help
to explain how to play with hula hoops
to tell the principal about Mr. Bell
to sell posters to families for money

9. A parent worries the balls will get lost. Which part of Amara's plan answers that worry?
Helpers would check that everything came back.
Families could donate old balls.
More students would play and move.
There would be fewer arguments.

10. Who is Amara trying to convince?
Mr. Bell Principal Ortiz the families her classmates

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Answer Key - Grade 3 Reading Worksheet

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