



Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

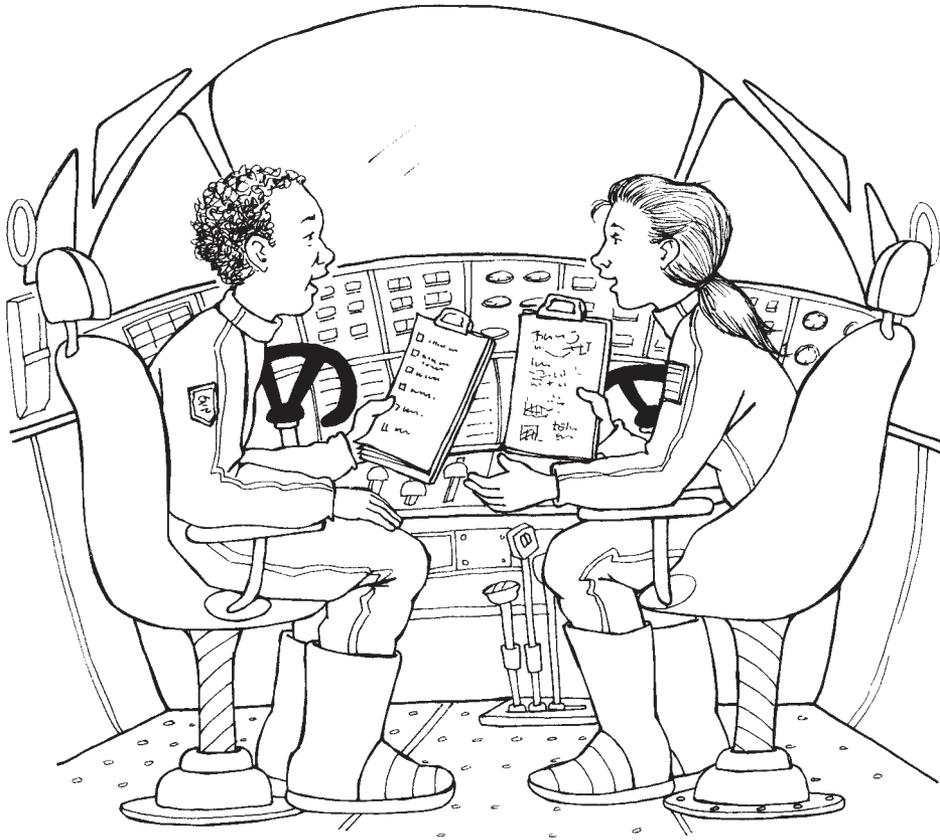
Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Weekly Assessment

## TESTED SKILLS AND STRATEGIES

- Reading Comprehension
- Vocabulary Strategies
- Spelling
- Grammar, Mechanics, and Usage

## Stopped in Space



① They were three weeks into their mission when it happened. A loud crash shook the spaceship. Then the entire ship went dark as it lost power. Minutes before, they had been gliding smoothly forward. Now their speed was getting slower and slower. Soon the sleek spaceship was little more than a hulk of metal floating in endless space.

Parker called a meeting to talk about their situation. “We’ve been hit by a meteor,” he told Haley.

“It punched a hole in our main fuel tank. We’ve lost all the fuel from that tank. We cannot operate the ship. We’re paralyzed.”

“That’s not our only problem,” Haley reported. “We also have an electrical short. That’s why we lost power. I’ve restored power, but we have no communications. We can’t call for help.”

④ “We haven’t lost the fuel in our spare tank,” said Parker. “Let’s try to get to the nearest base. The spare

tank doesn't have a lot of fuel, but I think we have enough to make it."

⑤ "I don't think we should do that," protested Haley. She knew Parker might be unhappy if she complained, but this seemed too important not to say. "The electrical short might have affected the spare tank. If there's still a short, turning on the engine could cause an explosion."

"I'm not sure we have much choice," Parker answered. "We can't just sit here."

⑦ "No, we can't," Haley agreed. "But we need to think first and be sensible about this. Starting the engine is risky. When we don't report in, they'll send a rescue ship. Let's wait."

"We do have to be sensible," replied Parker. "But we also need to be realistic. We're floating in space.

We're off course. Let's say they do send a rescue ship. By the time it gets to our last location, we could be halfway to the end of the universe. We'll test for an electrical short before we turn on the engine."

"What if we don't find the short because our equipment isn't working?" said Haley. "We'll think it's safe to turn on the engine. If it isn't, we'll have a much bigger problem than being off course."

Parker thought it over and then said, "I've made my decision. We're going to use the spare tank."

An hour later, each astronaut waited anxiously as Parker turned on the engine. There was a loud hum and a crackle . . . then fuel started flowing from the spare tank. They turned the ship and headed for the base.

1. Who is Parker?
  - A the mechanic in charge of the engines
  - B the commander of the nearest base
  - C the officer in charge of the spaceship
  - D the crew leader back on Earth
  
2. What causes the ship to lose power?
  - A an order from the base
  - B a strike from a meteor
  - C an explosion in the main fuel tank
  - D a collision with another rocket
  
3. Which sentence *best* describes Parker?
  - A He is easily frightened.
  - B He finds it hard to make decisions.
  - C He doesn't think before he acts.
  - D He has confidence in himself.
  
4. Which dictionary definition *best* fits the way the word *endless* is used in paragraph 1?
  - A going on forever
  - B just before the end
  - C no longer existing
  - D a person who stops something
  
5. Which dictionary definition *best* fits the way the word *spare* is used in paragraph 4?
  - A not the main one; extra
  - B thin or lean
  - C having no work or duties
  - D lacking; not enough
  
6. Which word from the story means the opposite of the word *protested* in paragraph 5?
  - A complained
  - B waited
  - C thought
  - D agreed

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7. Why do Parker and Haley wait an hour before using the spare tank?
- A They continue to argue about what to do.
  - B They don't know how to use the spare fuel tank.
  - C They run tests to see if there is still an electrical short.
  - D They decide to wait for the rescue ship to come and get them.

8. Which word means the same as the word *sensible* in paragraph 7?
- A smart
  - B quick
  - C brave
  - D helpful

9. What kind of person is Haley? Support your answer with details from the story.

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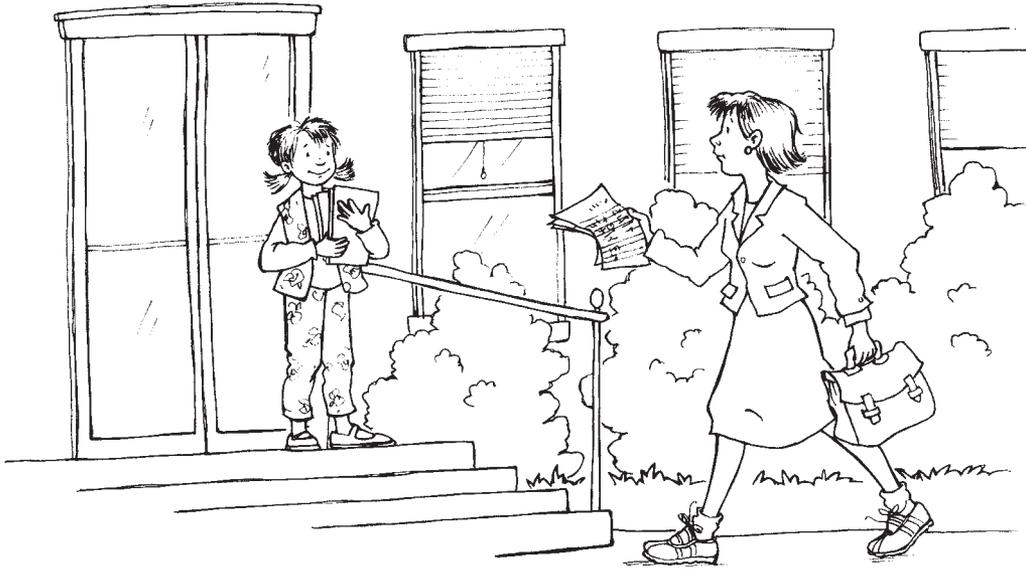
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Read this student rough draft and answer the questions that follow.

## Running Late



(1) Ava overslept today. (2) She caught the bus on time. (3) Because she was running late she climbed onto the bus without homework. (4) After the bus dropped her off at school, she called her mother. (5) Ava's mother had to drive to the school and drop off Ava's report. (6) Ava thanked her mother. (7) Then she gave a sigh of relief and hurried off to class. (8) After she thought about what had happened Ava decided that she would not oversleep again.

10. What is the *best* way to combine sentences 1 and 2?
- A Although, Ava overslept today she caught the bus on time.
  - B Although Ava overslept today she caught the bus on time.
  - C Although Ava overslept today she, caught the bus on time.
  - D Although Ava overslept today, she caught the bus on time.
11. Which change should be made to correct sentence 3?
- A change *Because* to *Because*,
  - B change *late* to *late*,
  - C change *climbed* to *climed*
  - D change *homework.* to *homework?*

12. Which change should be made to correct sentence 5?
- A change *mother* to *mother*,
  - B change *dryve* to *drive*
  - C change *school* to *school*,
  - D change *report* to *riport*
13. Which change should be made to correct sentence 7?
- A change *she* to *her*
  - B change *sye* to *sigh*
  - C change *relief* to *relief*,
  - D change *class.* to *class?*
14. Which change should be made to correct sentence 8?
- A change *what* to *which*
  - B change *happened* to *happened*,
  - C change *decided* to *decides*
  - D change *oversleep* to *oversleep*,



**End of Weekly  
Assessment**