

Hannah Berg Grade 5

1

There was a creek that ran through the bottom of Susan's family's pasture. The creek was filled with frogs, fish, and flowers. It was shallow, shady and very inviting on hot summer days with the weeping willows growing along the edge of it, hanging their branches down over the water.

Susan and her sisters spent a lot of time down at the creek during the summer. They would pack picnic lunches and eat them on the banks of the creek as they watched the cows in the pasture and their father on his tractor.

When they got hot, they would roll up their pant legs and wade in the water. They looked for pretty rocks and snail shells. They made fishing poles out of fallen branches and safety pins. They also hunted for frogs with their bare hands. They snickered at the cows when they waded in for a drink, and they splashed each other every chance they got.

"This creek is the most beautiful place in the world," Susan declared to her sisters one afternoon as they soaked their feet. "The water is clean and clear, the rocks are smooth and tiny, and the frogs are quick and clever. The pasture is green, and the cows don't bother us much. I want to stay here forever and not go back to school."

"The creek freezes in the winter, Susan," her youngest sister reminded her. "You can't stay here year round."

Susan sighed. "Yeah, but I wish I could."

"No, you don't," said Susan's other sister. "If you were here all the time, you wouldn't have time for anything else. It's not as if you don't get to spend plenty of time here. We know you love to skate on the creek in the wintertime, look at the pretty leaves floating on it in autumn, and see the lily pads and the willows bud in the spring, but there are other things you would miss doing."

"You're right, both of you," Susan agreed. "Sometimes I get carried away."

Just then a fish took the bait on the end of her line, and Susan jumped up. She spent the rest of the day laughing with her sisters.

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Two months later, while Jim and his friends were playing games, the doorbell rang. Jim's mother answered the door, and there stood two men in uniforms. They were from NASA, and they wanted to speak to Jim. "Jimmy, come here," said his mother. Jim stopped playing and ran to the door. He was surprised to see men from NASA standing there.

The men explained to Jim that they had seen the picture of his high score in Space Ace and wanted to know if he would help them. There had been an accident in space, and some astronauts were in trouble. The only hope of reaching them was to send a remote controlled rocket into space. There was no time to test the remote controlled rocket. NASA needed Jim to fly the rocket for them right away.

Jim was more surprised than before. "Yes! I'll help if I can," said Jim. Jim and his mother flew to NASA in Florida. There was no time to waste. Jim sat in the pilot seat. The rocket took off. Jim controlled the rocket's flight through space. It was just like the computer game! He flew the rocket around planets and moons. He saw many small asteroids ahead of him. He fired the guns to destroy space rocks and flew quickly to reach the space station. Finally, Jim saw the space station in the distance and flew at super speed. He docked perfectly with the space station. Jim had saved the astronauts, and NASA was very thankful. Jim's picture was in newspapers around the world.

Jessica stared at the new black-rimmed glasses on her nightstand. As she lay in bed, many questions ran through her head. "Are these frames too ugly? Are kids going to laugh at me when I get on the bus? Should mom have bought me the rectangular ones?"

Suddenly, Jessica saw 7:13 on the clock. She didn't feel like eating breakfast and quickly got ready. She packed her backpack and said goodbye. "I'm sure things will be just fine," her mom said as Jessica left the house. She ran down the driveway and saw her friends waiting for the school bus. Today, of all days, Jonathan was already there.

Jonathan was the meanest kid at the bus stop. He was always bossing people around and teasing them. "Hey, here comes Four Eyes," he shouted.

"Be quiet, Jonathan. I think Jessica looks awesome!" said Vanessa. Vanessa was in Jessica's math class. Jessica liked her because she wasn't afraid to stand up to anyone.

She thought kids might stare when she got on the bus. To Jessica's surprise, no one laughed at her. Later at school, she remembered the note she needed to leave in the office. For the first time, she noticed that the secretary, Mrs. Green, wore glasses. Then the health aide, Leslie, came to make a copy. She had glasses on too.

Jessica couldn't help but notice that lots of teachers wore glasses. That made her feel a little less nervous. Her teacher, Mrs. Hadwick, was not wearing her contact lenses today. She was wearing new glasses!

"Good morning, Jessica," she said, "I love your new glasses. You remind me of that teenage star who sings 'Don't Be Scared.'" Jessica loved that song and had a poster of the famous singer in her locker.

All day long she noticed the difference her glasses made. Letters were sharper, and she could see the board better. She thought it was easier to see exactly how many minutes were left until recess.

"This day wasn't so bad after all," Jessica thought.

Passage 1: **54/5**

Passage 2: **69/2**

Passage 3: **48/1**

Calculate Median Score:

1. Cross out the **HIGHEST** and **LOWEST** "words-read-correct (wrc)" scores above.
2. Cross out the **HIGHEST** and **LOWEST** "errors" scores above.
3. Enter **MEDIAN WRC/min** score: _____

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MEDIAN WRC/ERRORS IS:

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Maya Cloud Grade 5

2

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When they got hot, they would roll up their pant legs and wade in the water. They looked for pretty rocks and snail shells. They made fishing poles out of fallen branches and safety pins. They also hunted for frogs with their bare hands. They snickered at the cows when they waded in for a drink, and they splashed each other every chance they got.

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"The creek freezes in the winter, Susan," her youngest sister reminded her. "You can't stay here year round."

Susan sighed. "Yeah, but I wish I could."

"No, you don't," said Susan's other sister. "If you were here all the time, you wouldn't have time for anything else. It's not as if you don't get to spend plenty of time here. We know you love to skate on the creek in the wintertime, look at the pretty leaves floating on it in autumn, and see the lily pads and the willows bud in the spring, but there are other things you would miss doing."

"You're right, both of you," Susan agreed. "Sometimes I get carried away."

Just then a fish took the bait on the end of her line, and Susan jumped up. She spent the rest of the day laughing with her sisters.

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Suddenly, Jessica saw 7:13 on the clock. She didn't feel like eating breakfast and quickly got ready. She packed her backpack and said goodbye. "I'm sure things will be just fine," her mom said as Jessica left the house. She ran down the driveway and saw her friends waiting for the school bus. Today, of all days, Jonathan was already there.

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"Be quiet, Jonathan. I think Jessica looks awesome!" said Vanessa. Vanessa was in Jessica's math class. Jessica liked her because she wasn't afraid to stand up to anyone.

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Passage 1: 101/9

Passage 2: 95/7

Passage 3: 98/11

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MEDIAN WRC/ERRORS IS:

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Travis Davis Grade 5

3

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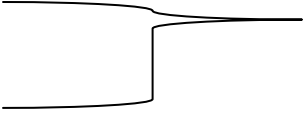
Passage 1: **75/10**

Passage 2: **79/14**

Passage 3: **88/12**

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Michael Martin Grade 5

4

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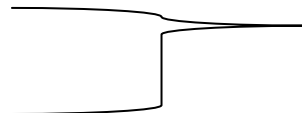
Passage 1: 35/10

Passage 2: 48/14

Passage 3: 51/12

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MEDIAN WRC/ERRORS IS:

_____ / _____