

4. An Old-Fashioned Saturday by Margaret Hockett

A ¹I hear a whistle and then a whinny. ²Prancer is off! ³I nearly fall off the edge of the sled. ⁴I grab the tank for balance. ⁵The sap sloshes around as we bump over rocks and glide around muddy corners. ⁶The sled slows, and I jump off. ⁷I trudge through ankle-deep snow.

B ⁸I'll be soaked to the skin, but what can Ma say? ⁹She's the one who wanted me to get outside. ¹⁰I didn't want to come to the woods at first. ¹¹Now I think it's fun!

C ¹²I take a bucket off the maple tree and carry it to the tank. ¹³I pour the bucket into the tank without spilling any sap. ¹⁴I'm just tall enough. ¹⁵Then I hang the pail back on that tree and walk to the next tree. ¹⁶When the tank is full, Prancer pulls us to the sugar shack. ¹⁷We drain the sap into the pans. ¹⁸It will be boiled and made into syrup. ¹⁹Then we go back and collect sap until all the buckets have been emptied. ²⁰Finally, I go home for a cup of hot chocolate.



DIRECTIONS: Circle the letter next to the correct answer or write the answer on the lines given. When asked, write the number of the sentence or the letter of the paragraph that is the best evidence.

1. The sled is powered by

A. motor
 B. pedals
 C. animal
 D. the sun

Which 2 sentences from paragraph A are the best evidence? _____, _____

2. When does the story action take place?

A. weekend
 B. holiday
 C. school day
 D. not known

3. What does the narrator mean by “what can Ma say?” in sentence 8?

A. He wonders what she could say.
 B. She can’t complain that he’s wet.
 C. She wants him to come home.
 D. He thinks she wants him soaked.

4. What kind of liquid is in the bucket?

Which sentence from paragraph C is the best evidence? _____

5. What kind of syrup will they have after the sap is boiled?

A. apple
 B. corn
 C. pine
 D. maple

Which sentence is the best evidence? _____

6. Read sentence 16. What must happen before the sled goes to the sugar shack?

A. All buckets must be gathered.
 B. Sap must be gathered until the tank is filled.
 C. One more bucket must be poured.
 D. The sled must be pulled to the sugar shack.

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Reading Level: 3.1

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1. The sled is powered by
 - A. motor
 - B. pedals
 - C. animal**
 - D. the sun

2 best evidence sentences from paragraph A: **1, 2**

A whinny is a noise made by a horse.

2. When does the story action take place?
 - A. weekend**
 - B. holiday
 - C. school day
 - D. not known

See the story title. Saturday falls on the weekend.

3. What does the narrator mean by "what can Ma say?" in sentence 8?
 - A. He wonders what she could say.

- B. She can't complain that he's wet.**
- C. She wants him to come home.
- D. He thinks she wants him soaked.

The narrator is contrasting the statement with the fact that he gets soaked. He suggests that she can't complain because she's the one who wanted him to go out in the first place (9).

4. What kind of liquid is in the bucket?
 - sap**

Best evidence sentence from paragraph C: **13**

In sentence 13, pouring "without spilling any sap" suggests that the bucket contains sap.

5. What kind of syrup will they have after the sap is boiled?
 - A. apple
 - B. corn
 - C. pine
 - D. maple**

Best evidence sentence: **12**

We can tell from sentence 12 that they are gathering *maple* sap, so it must turn into maple syrup.

6. Read sentence 16. What must happen before the sled goes to the sugar shack?
 - A. All buckets must be gathered.
 - B. Sap must be gathered until the tank is filled.**
 - C. One more bucket must be poured.
 - D. The sled must be pulled to the sugar shack.

The narrator has been gathering and pouring buckets of sap into the tank. Sentence 16 implies that the tank must be full before going to the sugar shack. Therefore, sap must be gathered until the tank is filled.