

**READING CHECK**

Circle the letter of the correct answer.

1. Why are the children excited?
  - A. They are going to visit Earth.
  - B. Today is the day the sun will shine.
  - C. There is a new student coming from Mars.
2. Who is Margot?
  - A. a girl from Mars
  - B. a girl born on Earth
  - C. a girl who likes Venus
3. Why do the students lock Margot in the closet?
  - A. She seems weak.
  - B. She threatens them.
  - C. She is afraid of sunlight.
4. What do the students do when they're outside?
  - A. They hide from the sun.
  - B. They remember Margot is inside.
  - C. They wander around the wet jungle.
5. Why are the children so upset?
  - A. They realize they forgot about Margot.
  - B. They all missed their chance to see the sun.
  - C. They think Margot will tell the teacher.

**VOCABULARY CHECK**

Circle the letter of the correct answer.

1. The *concussion* of rain against windows was faint. What is a *concussion*?
  - A. a sound
  - B. a raindrop
  - C. a collision
2. When something *slackens*, it
  - A. eases up.
  - B. gets harder.
  - C. becomes tight.
3. The *apparatus* was set up around the room. The room was full of
  - A. posters.
  - B. machines.
  - C. Experiments.
4. The forest spread out *tumultuously*, or
  - A. without order.
  - B. high and wide.
  - C. in patches all over.
5. They bought *resilient* clothes for their trip. Their clothes would not
  - A. get wet at all.
  - B. wear out or tear.
  - C. weigh them down.

**ANALYZE LITERATURE: Setting**

1. Describe the setting of this story. How is the setting similar to Earth? How is it different?

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2. How does the setting affect the events in the story?

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## PREVIEW VOCABULARY

<p><b>Key Words and Phrases</b></p> <p>Read each key word and rate it using this scale:</p> <p>① I don't know it at all. ② I've seen it before. ③ I know it and use it.</p>	<p><b>Words and Phrases in Context</b></p> <p>Read to see how the key word or phrase can be used in a sentence.</p>	<p><b>Definition</b></p> <p>Write down what you think the word or phrase means. Then use a dictionary to check your definition.</p>	<p><b>Practice</b></p> <p>Practice using the key words and phrases by completing the following sentences.</p>
<p><b>concussion</b> con • cus • sion (kən kə' shən) <i>noun</i></p> <p>①   ②   ③</p>	<p>The <b>concussion</b> of hail against the windows drowned out our teacher's words.</p>		<p>The <b>concussion</b> of books slammed on the desk might sound...</p>
<p><b>slacken</b> slack • en (slə' kən) <i>verb</i></p> <p>①   ②   ③</p>	<p>He <b>slackened</b> his grip on the reins as the horse slowed to a walk.</p>		<p>If you <b>slacken</b> in your studies, you might...</p>
<p><b>apparatus</b> ap • pa • ra • tus (ə' pə rə' təs) <i>noun</i></p> <p>①   ②   ③</p>	<p>It took us an hour to set up the <b>apparatus</b> for our chemistry lab.</p>		<p>The <b>apparatus</b> you might use on a hike could include...</p>
<p><b>tumultuously</b> tu • mul • tu • ous • ly (tū məl' chəw əs lē) <i>adverb</i></p> <p>①   ②   ③</p>	<p>The puppies <b>tumultuously</b> ran in circles around their sleeping mother.</p>		<p>If your room looks <b>tumultuously</b> scattered...</p>
<p><b>resilient</b> re • sil • ient (ri zil' yənt) <i>adjective</i></p> <p>①   ②   ③</p>	<p>After Fred kneaded the dough, it was elastic and <b>resilient</b>.</p>		<p>A <b>resilient</b> mattress feels...</p>