The Case of the Dancing Cowboy

How well did you read?

1. Who is the narrator of the story?
   A. Slim
   B. Loper
   C. Hank the Cowdog
   D. Drover

2. Which dog started chasing ashes first?
   A. Hank
   B. Drover
   C. Loper
   D. Slim

3. Why does Slim say he can’t go to the dance?
   A. He can’t dance and doesn’t want to learn
   B. He doesn’t have a date and couldn’t get one
   C. His hair is singed from the fire
   D. All of the above

4. Drover distracts Hank from yelling at him by talking about what animal?
   A. Dogs
   B. Elephants
   C. Goats
   D. Cats

5. What distracted Hank from licking the oil out of the sardine can?
   A. A mouse running across the floor
   B. A knock at the door
   C. Drover barking at something out the window
   D. Slim calling his name

6. What did Slim offer Viola when she came in?
   A. A book he’d borrowed from her
   B. A jacket
   C. A cup of coffee
   D. That day’s newspaper

7. Why did Viola show up at Slim’s house?
   A. Her car broke down
   B. She wanted to ask Slim out to dinner
   C. She wanted to hire Slim to fix her roof
   D. Slim had taken Hank and she wanted him back

8. What made Slim hit his head on the hood of the car?
   A. Hank bit him on the leg
   B. He was shocked by a loose wire
   C. Viola startled him by tapping his shoulder
   D. He suddenly remembered he’d left the stove on
9. What did Hank dream about while Viola was cutting Slim’s hair?
   A. Chasing and catching mice
   B. Eating more sardines
   C. Taking a car ride with Slim and Drover
   D. He and Viola went to the dance together

10. What did Hank figure out Viola had done to get Slim’s attention?
    A. She ran over his mailbox
    B. She cut her hair shorter
    C. She’d pulled off the spark plug wire herself
    D. She wore a dress that was his favorite color

11. Who appeared at Viola’s car door?
    A. Loper
    B. Slim
    C. Sally May
    D. Drover

12. Where did Hank throw up the sardines?
    A. Under Slim’s bed
    B. In the pile of trash in Slim’s house
    C. In Viola’s car
    D. In the back of Slim’s truck during the dance

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**Working with Words**

Match each word with its definition.

A. valuable  
B. extremities  
C. absurd  
D. ridiculed  
E. ventures  
F. muttering  
G. treacherous  
H. scapegoat  
I. nourishment  
J. lollygagged  
K. lopsided  
L. scorched  
M. malady  
N. barrage  
O. bodacious

1. Burned on the surface
2. Risky or daring journeys or acts
3. Spent time aimlessly; moved without purpose
4. The furthest point or limit of something
5. A great number of complaints or criticisms suddenly directed at someone
6. Speaking in a low tone, often talking to oneself, usually to express a complaint
7. Desirable, has a high value (of money, usefulness, etc.)
8. The food or nutrients necessary for growth and health
9. Guilty of betrayal or deception
10. Leaning to one side; lacking balance
11. Excellent, admirable, or attractive
12. Wildly unreasonable, illogical, or inappropriate
13. A disease or ailment; an undesirable condition
14. To make fun of, usually unkindly with the intention of humiliating
15. Someone who is blamed for the mistakes or faults of others
The Case of the Dancing Cowboy
Working with Words

Using what you learned, use each word in a new sentence.

1. Valuable ____________________________
2. Extremities __________________________
3. Absurd ______________________________
4. Ridiculed ____________________________
5. Ventures _____________________________
6. Muttering ____________________________
7. Treacherous __________________________
8. Scapegoat ____________________________
9. Nourishment __________________________
10. Lollygagged __________________________
11. Lopsided ____________________________
12. Scorched _____________________________
13. Malady ______________________________
14. Barrage _____________________________
15. Bodacious ___________________________
# The Case of the Dancing Cowboy

Puzzle Through It

Unscramble the words, then find them in the word search puzzle.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HKAN</th>
<th>YLSLS YMA</th>
<th>SESRINAD</th>
<th>UNBSBTR</th>
<th>CWGODO</th>
<th>RRDOVE</th>
<th>ENADC</th>
<th>RNEGE NEBA</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>LSMI</td>
<td>HRACN</td>
<td>ECFFOE</td>
<td>GAGAEBR</td>
<td>IVAOL</td>
<td>SATGO</td>
<td>KSARP LPGU</td>
<td>LBRRAE</td>
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<tr>
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<td>CHTIRAU</td>
<td>OMRTQ</td>
<td>CBYWOO</td>
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Word Search:

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S V C D Q M C K P G N G D O D B I S N T
N P E R K O O L W R K R B A A E A V N U
C H A F G T F J J E L H O R N L J I W C
H P A R Y O F U F E F O R B L C O Y C R
P N C Z K R E H M N A E X Y B H E I O I
M I L S Z P E Y Y B L K M W C U I C V A
G O A T S B L P H E R A D N C M T C N H
Y O B W O C G U H A Y V A R U G B S N A
X H J E Q Y G E G N X R E R O O N P H K
X R P I Z I E G N V O G P E H V K L I C
E U R C I E Z D T M A Q T P N T E H O A
X J S W R K X P L B G Z R O L P A R Z S
L M W S E N I D R A S Y T L E N R P P J
C O W D O G E A B O X Q S P K Y K C N C
J G P Q O I G M S K U I Y W I D G X P N
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The Case of the Dancing Cowboy
Let’s Get Colorful
Write a caption for each photo to describe the part of the story it illustrates, then color it in.

1. 

2. 

3. 
