

## Comprehension – Sample Questions

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow. Circle your answers.

### *The Flight of Betsey Lane* by Sarah Orne Jewett

One windy morning in May, three old women sat together near an open window in the shed chamber of Byfleet Poor-house. The wind was from the northwest, but their window faced the southeast, and they were only visited by an occasional pleasant waft of fresh air. They were close together, knee to knee, picking over a bushel of beans, and commanding a view of the dandelion-starred, green yard below, and of the winding, sandy road that led to the village, two miles away. Some captive bees were scolding among the cobwebs of the rafters overhead, or thumping against the upper panes of glass; two calves were bawling from the barnyard, where some of the men were at work loading a dump-cart and shouting as if everyone were deaf.

#### Example:

What type of text is this?

- A. non-fiction
- B. newspaper report
- C. a story
- D. a letter

The answer is C.

1. What month is the story set in?
  - A. March
  - B. October
  - C. May
  - D. June
  - E. November
2. From which direction is the wind blowing?
  - A. southeast
  - B. northwest
  - C. northeast
  - D. southwest
  - E. north
3. Why are the bees described as 'captive'?
  - A. they were stuck in the shed
  - B. they were imprisoned in their hives
  - C. they were irritated
  - D. they were caught in spiders' webs
  - E. they were telling the spiders off
4. What can the women see from the shed window?
  - A. the yard
  - B. men loading a cart
  - C. the garden pond
  - D. the village
  - E. calves
5. What does the phrase 'shouting as if everyone were deaf' suggest the narrator thinks about the men loading the dump-cart?
  - A. they cannot see what they are doing
  - B. they are being unnecessarily noisy
  - C. they are not good at their job
  - D. nobody can hear them
  - E. they are all deaf

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### Answers:

1. C
2. B
3. A
4. A
5. B