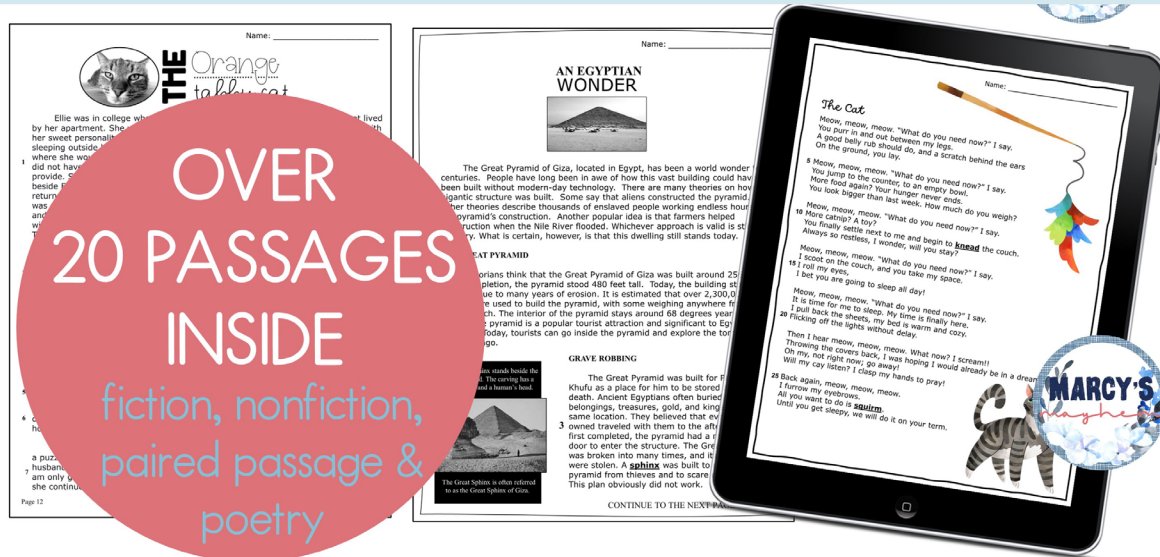


# READING

comprehension passages

GREAT FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL



OVER  
20 PASSAGES  
INSIDE

fiction, nonfiction,  
paired passage &  
poetry

PRINTABLE & DIGITAL USING GOOGLE FORMS

This reading comprehension bundle includes 21 passages that are perfect to use with middle school students. This resource has high-interest topics that kids love to read about. Also, this resource is no-prep work for the teacher.

## What's included?

- 7 Fiction reading passages
- 6 Nonfiction reading passages
- 8 Poetry reading passage
- 1 Paired passage
- Printable – uses multiple choice & short answer (same questions)
- Digital – uses Google forms (self-grading)
- Writing reflection pages (after each passage)
- Answer keys

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### KOMODO Dragon

The Komodo Dragon (*Varanus komodoensis*) is by far the coolest in the lizard family. The Komodo Dragon's ancient relatives dated back over 100,000 years ago, but scientists in the early 1900's only discovered the giant dragon lizard. This animal has many unique features that have made it a popular animal for others to want to view. However, the Komodo Dragons are on the endangered species list and are protected by law. It is estimated that 3,000 to 6,000 lizards are left on the planet. Being the **apex** animal in the food chain, we must protect these reptiles. Komodo Dragons help control the population in their environment and scavenge animals that have recently died.



The Komodo Dragon has sharp teeth and a long tongue.

### KOMODO DRAGON CHARACTERISTICS

The Komodo Dragon is the most giant Komodo Dragon has an average weight of 500 lbs and 9 ft. However, the male can reach up to 1300 lbs and 10 ft. Komodo Dragons are generally around 6 feet in length. Komodo Dragons are generally blue, orange, grey, and black colors, including blue, orange, grey, and black. They have durable bony plates on their backs and muscular tail help them to hunt. Komodo Dragons use their tongues to smell, which is the primary way they capture their prey.

Komodo Dragons are venomous. There are about 5,000 species of lizards, very few of which are Komodo Dragons. Komodo Dragons constantly flicking their tongues in and out helps the Komodo Dragon to spot its prey up to 2.5 miles away. It is good that Komodo Dragons have good hearing because their hearing is not the best. Komodo Dragons are clumsy. These lizards have rounded snouts, and mighty muscles.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



THE COLOSSEUM

For fun, many of us watch sports such as football, basketball, and soccer. To name a few. Currently, sports fans go to stadiums/arenas to root for their favorite team and players. Early Romans had a similar pastime. They would cheer for their favorite players or games. Over 16 centuries ago, it was a much different kind of competition than we see today.

Gladiators were men who fought wild animals used to battle each other with swords, and sometimes fight wild animals for entertainment. These fights would occur in the Colosseum, located in Rome, Italy, and is still standing.

DID YOU KNOW?

Below the Colosseum was a coil of underground passages called the hypogeum. These passages allowed for animals, actors, and gladiators to suddenly appear in the middle of the arena. They would use trap doors to add in special effects such as scenery.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Caffeinate me

Coffee, please; I need it, stat!  
I am not awake yet; DON'T TALK to me!  
I do not want to chat.

5 Cappuccino, latte, black or creamed.  
I need you quickly and with lots of steam!

My mind is foggy; I can not think.  
Coffee, coffee, I love to drink.  
Your **aroma** fills the air early in the day.

10 Give me coffee, or to me, you do not want to talk!  
Coffee, Coffee right after my alarm clock.  
I crawl to the kitchen for a cup and pour.  
Sipping, smiling, give me more!

15 I must have coffee to help wake me.  
It makes me feel awake and ready to start my day!  
I quickly get ready to head out the door without delay.  
Iced coffee, macchiatos, and even an espresso would be fine.  
Coffee, give me coffee each and every time.

20 I arrive at work and get ready to begin.  
Spotting the pot freshly brewed. Maybe one more cup, should I give in?  
One more cup, and that is all.  
Or I will be bouncing off the walls.



CONTINUE READING

Each passage is 2-3 pages in length.

The exception is that poetry passages are one page.

Kids can practice critical thinking while reading.

It can build readers' stamina & fluency.

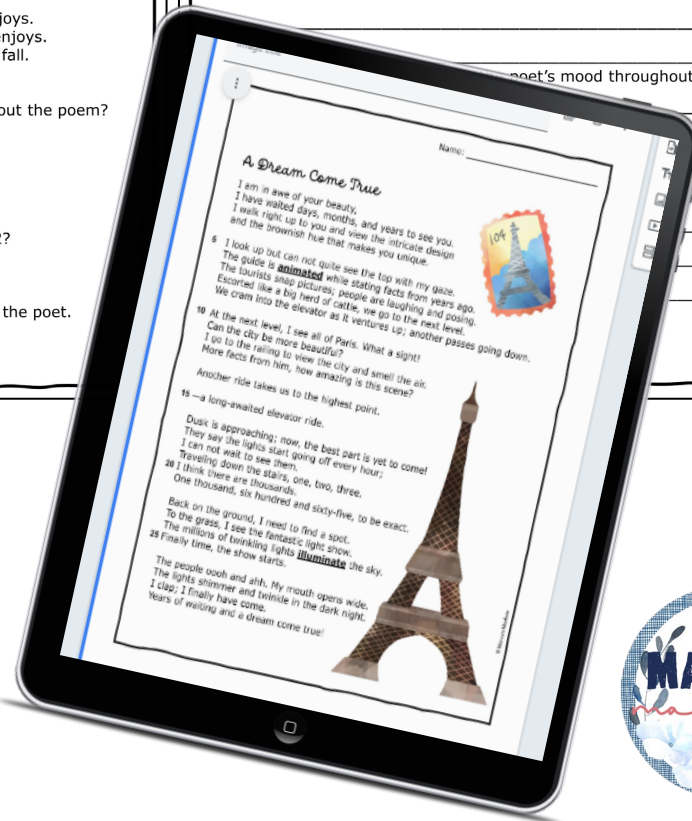
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

1. "The Fall" is considered which of the poetry style below?  
A. Free verse  
B. Lyrical  
C. Concrete  
D. Acrostic
2. What does over the moon mean in stanza 1? Choose the BEST answer below.  
A. The narrator feels that it gets dark too early.  
B. The narrator thinks that the fall season is good.  
C. The narrator is overjoyed that the fall is coming.  
D. The narrator knows that there are many changes that come with the fall.
3. What word below could replace the word **savage** in stanza 2?  
A. Civilized  
B. Kind  
C. Wild  
D. Funny
4. How does the poet organize each stanza in "The Fall"?  
A. Each stanza is unique and lists things that the narrator enjoys.  
B. Each stanza describes a different event that the narrator enjoys.  
C. Each stanza compares and contrasts different parts of the fall.  
D. Each stanza explains what makes fall the best season.
5. Based on what you read, what is the poet's mood throughout the poem?  
A. Fear  
B. Content  
C. Fury  
D. Boredom
6. What can the reader infer while reading lines 8 through 12?  
A. The poet enjoys going to football games.  
B. The poet would rather play football than go to a game.  
C. The return of football is the favorite part of the season for the poet.  
D. The poet enjoys all aspects of football.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

1. "The Fall" is considered which of the poetry style below?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What does over the moon mean in stanza 1? Choose the BEST answer below.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What word below could replace the word **savage** in stanza 2?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. How does the poet organize each stanza in "The Fall"?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ poet's mood throughout the poem?



## MULTIPLE CHOICE

Practice the process of elimination & choosing the best answer

## SHORT ANSWER

Get a more detailed response.  
Great to see students' understanding.

## DIGITAL VERSION

Great for test prep, homework, tutorials & use of technology

# PRACTICE THESE SKILLS:

Drawing Conclusions

Context Clues & Vocabulary

Point of View

Making Inferences

Main Message

Theme

Text Evidence

Figurative Language


Theme

Author's Purpose

Critical Thinking & more!



Name: \_\_\_\_\_



## READING RODENT

Mrs. Braman, Mrs. Frilly, and Mrs. Spelling were all teaching partners in the fifth grade. Mrs. Braman taught reading. Mrs. Frilly taught science. Mrs. Spelling taught math. One afternoon, Mrs. Braman had just concluded teaching the reading lesson and instructed her students to return to their desks and begin their texts within a few minutes.

Mrs. Braman walked around the room, talking with her readers one on one about their books. She noticed that one of her students had her hand in the air and a puzzled look on her face. Mrs. Braman walked up to Jada and asked her what was wrong. "Mrs. Braman, there is a mouse in the bookshelf," stated Jada. Mrs. Braman quickly turned to alarm her students, she motioned Jada to keep quiet by putting her finger over her lips. Mrs. Braman quickly walked out of the classroom and into Mrs. Spelling's room. "Mrs. Spelling," said Mrs. Braman, "I need you in my classroom. Grab a bucket." The two teachers met in front of the classroom while Mrs. Braman filled her in on the situation. Mrs. Frilly noticed them talking and inquired about what was going on. They decided that all students would evacuate and spend some time in Mrs. Frilly's classroom. Mrs. Braman and Mrs. Spelling would get the reading rodent out of the room.

Mrs. Braman walked into her classroom and exclaimed, "Okay, students, there's been a change of plans. We are going to Mrs. Frilly's classroom for an extra science lesson!" The kids looked confused, but they shut their books to wait for further instructions. As she ushered her class into the other room, Mrs. Spelling walked in with a substantial, clear container to help trap the mouse.

Once the students were settled in the other classroom, the two teachers removed books from the shelf to find the animal. They were trying to be as quiet as possible, as they did not want the students to know what was occurring. After taking all the books off the shelf, they could not locate the mouse.

The teachers were unsure of what to do next. Mrs. Braman did not want the

CONTINUE TO THE NEXT PAGE →

...whined Dalton. He had been begging ... summer camp. This was his last effort to ... instead of going to the stinky, bug-infested camp. ... sat beside him and told him that she felt the same way when she was ... age. Her mom had forced her to go to Fun Springs Camp, and she did not want to go. As an adult, she realized that some of her best summer memories were from camp.

7 "Just give it a chance," Mom pleaded.

8 During the car ride, Dalton watched the landscape change from highways, weeds, and billboards to lush trees, mountains, and wildflowers. He had to admit that the scenery was at least lovely, but he had already missed his phone. Dalton and his mother pulled up to the parking lot. Beside them, another car quickly pulled into the parking space. Dalton darted out of the vehicle. At the same time, a boy with blonde hair and a similar style as Dalton stepped out of the other car. He looked to be the same age as Dalton as well.

9 "Hey," Dalton waved to the other boy.

10 "Hey," the boy beside him responded.

11 They exchanged names, and Dalton found out that his name was Charlie. Charlie was from New York and had been traveling for two hours. Dalton told Charlie



# IDEAS FOR USE:

Weekly checkpoint

Review after unit completion

Homework

Extra practice

Tutoring practice

Summer practice

Test-prep practice

Early finishers

Sub binder or to use when absent