

N2K Week 5 Lesson 1

Directions: Read the following passage. Think about corrections and improvements that this student could make to their paper about a popular winter holiday. Then answer the multiple-choice questions that follow.

Groundhog Day

(1) Every year on February 2, the citizens of Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania gather to see if a groundhog named Punxsutawney Phil will see his shadow. (2) It is an exciting day, full of polka music, crowds, and festivities. (3) Why does an ordinary groundhog get so much attention? (4) Punxsutawney Phil is the star of the annual Groundhog Day, a day that will supposedly predict whether or not spring is coming.

(5) Every year on Groundhog Day, people gather around Punxsutawney Phil's hole to watch for him. (6) The groundhog comes out of his hole and people look to see if the groundhog's shadow is seen. (7) Traditionally, if the day is sunny, and Phil's shadow appears, winter will continue for another six weeks. (8) But, if the day is cloudy, and Phil casts no shadow, then winter will end soon.

(9) This event may seem a little strange for modern America, but there is a long history that led to its adoption here. (10) In Europe, people used to celebrate a holiday called Candlemas on February 2. (11) People believe that if Candlemas fell on a sunny day, then winter would last for another six weeks. (12) Over time, German folklore added the idea that a badger or hedgehog coming out of hibernation on Candlemas would look for its shadow. (13) If it was frightened by its shadow because the day was sunny, then winter would continue for another six weeks.

(14) German immigrants to America brought the Candlemas tradition with them. (15) The Germans settled in Pennsylvania during the 18th century. (16) They substituted groundhogs, which were plentiful in America, for hedgehogs or badgers to make the Candlemas prediction. (17) Then, in the late 1800s, newspaper editor Clymer H. Freas and Congressman W. Smith decided to start a winter festival. (18)

They built the festival around the tradition of the groundhogs weather prediction in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. (19) Punxsutawney had been settled mostly by Germans. (20) Freas and Smith named a groundhog “Punxsutawney Phil,” made his prediction the star attraction of the festival.

(21) Groundhog Day is still celebrated in Punxsutawney. (22) There are other communities across the country that use their own groundhogs to predict the weather on Groundhog Day. (23) Some of the groundhogs include Dunkirk Dave in Dunkirk, New York and Jimmy the Groundhog of Sun Prairie, Wisconsin. (24) But even with other groundhogs around, Punxsutawney Phil is still the most popular and most famous of all of them.



1. What change, if any, should be made to sentence 1?
 - A. Delete the comma after 2
 - B. Delete the comma after *Punxsutawney*
 - C. Insert a comma after *Pennsylvania*
 - D. Make no change

2. What is the most effective way to revise sentence 4?
 - A. Punxsutawney Phil stars on Groundhog Day, predicting the end of winter.
 - B. Punxsutawney Phil, the star of annual Groundhog Day, the day on which he predicts winter's end.
 - C. Punxsutawney Phil is the star of the annual Groundhog Day, the day on which he supposedly predicts when winter will end.
 - D. Punxsutawney Phil is the star of the annual Groundhog Day that will supposedly predict whether or not spring is coming.

3. What is the most effective way to revise sentence 6?
 - A. The groundhog comes out of his hole, and people look to see if the groundhog's shadow is seen.
 - B. When Phil comes out of his hole, people look to see if he casts a shadow.
 - C. Coming out of his hole, people look to see if his shadow is seen.
 - D. People watch Phil to see if he sees his shadow.

4. What change, if any, should be made to sentence 9?
 - A. Change *adoption* to *adopted*
 - B. Delete *there is*
 - C. Change *it* to *its*
 - D. Make no change

5. What change, if any, should be made to sentence 11?
- A. Change *believe* to *believed*
 - B. Change *fell* to *falls*
 - C. Delete the comma after *day*
 - D. Make no change
6. What is the most effective way to combine sentences 14 and 15?
- A. German immigrants to America brought the Candlemas tradition with them and settled in Pennsylvania during the 18th century.
 - B. Coming to America during the 18th century, German immigrants settled in Pennsylvania, bringing Candlemas with them.
 - C. Coming to America and settling in Pennsylvania during the 18th century, German immigrants brought the Candlemas tradition with them.
 - D. When German immigrants settled in Pennsylvania during the 18th century, they brought the Candlemas tradition with them.
7. What change, if any, should be made to sentence 18?
- A. Change *festival* to *festival*
 - B. Change *Pennsylvania* to *PA*
 - C. Change *groundhogs* to *groundhog's*
 - D. Make no change
8. What change, if any should be made to sentence 22?
- A. Insert a comma after *country*
 - B. Delete *there are*
 - C. Change *weather* to *whether*
 - D. Make no change

N2K Week 5 Lesson 2

Remember that **MOOD** refers to the overall emotional impact or atmosphere created by the story. The feelings of the characters affect the mood of the story. Mood answers the question: *How does this story make us feel?*

It is important to tell the difference between meanings that are literal and those that are inferred.

Literal means “the exact words of the original.” Literal meaning is the meaning the author gives the reader by direct statement or by the characters’ dialogue.

Inferred means “derived by reasoning; implied.” Inferred meaning is the meaning that the reader gets from word clues provided by the author rather than by direct statement. The reader must figure out the meaning that the author intends. This process is called making an inference.

The mood of a story or play can be inferred.

Directions: Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

The Astronaut

The astronaut sat stiffly in her seat. She was the sole survivor, and she had to get back to Earth. Her hands shook as she reached for the controls of the space shuttle. She was not sure there was enough fuel in the small craft, but she had no choice now. The parent ship had been destroyed by alien lasers. Perspiration dotted her forehead, but her throat was dry. She pulled the lever toward her, and the shuttle shot forward toward home.

Inference Clues...

1. How was she sitting? _____
2. She was the sole _____.
3. Why might she be sitting stiffly?
4. Her hands _____.
5. _____ dotted her forehead.
6. Her throat was _____.
7. These clues should support your inference that the mood of the story is one of _____.

In the box below, put it together to and answer the question in short answer format with text evidence.

What details are given which allow the reader to infer the mood of the story?

[illegible]

N2K Week 5 Lesson 3

Directions: Each of the following sentences contains one or more errors. Find the errors and correct the sentences.

1. Paragraphs in a story or a essay has the same purpose.

2. The main purpose of paragraphs are to form units of thought.

3. Vivid details in a paragraph makes the writing come alive for the reader.

N2K Week 5 Lesson 4

Remember that the **TONE** of a passage *reveals the author's attitude towards a subject*.

Read the following passage by Mark Twain and answer the questions that follow.

It will probably come as a mild shock to no one that there are four hundred different kinds of mushrooms. What are mushrooms? Nothing more or less than toadstools, but why they call them toadstools is beyond me. I have yet to see a toad sitting on a stool. It seems a strange name to give an innocent mushroom, doesn't it? It was probably made up by someone who hated mushrooms and thought he could get even. But why should anyone hate mushrooms? The little fellows go about their business quietly. Once in a while one of them kills a family of twenty or thirty people, but then, what right has anyone to have a family numbering twenty or thirty people?

1. The tone of the paragraph is
 - A. sad
 - B. formal
 - C. serious
 - D. humorous
2. How does the author feel about mushrooms?
 - A. The author has a deep hatred for them.
 - B. The author is angry with families for eating them.
 - C. The author believes they are potentially dangerous and should not be sold.
 - D. The author is amused by them.

3. The author expects that the reader will be
 - A. mildly entertained
 - B. deeply insulted
 - C. scientifically instructed
 - D. aroused to action
4. Underline the sentence that proves that exaggeration may be used to create a humorous tone.

N2K Week 5 Lesson 5

Directions: Each of the following sentences contains one or more errors. Find the errors and correct the sentences.

1. Details may be organized according to spatial order order of importance or cause-and-effect order.
2. Architects scientists historians and novelists might all describe the same thing in different ways.