

"A Call to the Pool"

Reading Comprehension – Short Stories

Directions: Read the story. Then answer the questions below.



My name is Sam. Today is very hot. The sun is very strong. I am hot. I want to be cool. How can I get cool?

Wait...I know!

I can go to the pool. The pool is cool. I can swim in the pool.

Is the pool open? Or is the pool closed?

Where is the phone? I need to call the pool. I need to find out if the pool is open or closed.



— Ring! Ring! —

"Hello. My name is Andrea. I am at the pool. Can I help you?"

"Hi, Andrea. Is the pool open?"

"Yes. The pool is open."

"Okay. Thank you!"

"You are welcome. Bye!"

Great! The pool is open! Now I can cool down!

Questions:

- 1) What is the weather like today?
 - A. It is cold.
 - B. It is cool.
 - C. It is warm.
 - D. It is hot.
- 2) Sam is hot, but Sam wants to be
 - A. cold
 - B. cool
 - C. warm
 - D. hot
- 3) How can Sam get cool?
 - A. He can go to the library.
 - B. He can go to the pool.
 - C. He can go to school.
 - D. He can go to work.
- 4) Why does Sam talk to Andrea?
 - A. because she is his friend
 - B. because she knows his sister
 - C. because Sam needs to know what time it is
 - D. because Sam wants to know if the pool is open
- 5) Is the pool open?
 - A. Yes, the pool is open.
 - B. No, the pool is not open. The pool is closed.

Answers and Explanations

1) **D**

At the beginning of the story, Sam says, "Today is very hot." We can understand from this that the weather is hot. Therefore **(D)** is correct. Sam wants to get cool because the weather is hot. Therefore **(B)** is incorrect. The story does not provide information to support choices **(A)** and **(C)**, so they are incorrect.

2) **B**

At the beginning of the story, Sam says, "I want to be cool." Therefore **(B)** is correct. The story does not provide information to support choices **(A)** and **(C)**. Therefore they are incorrect. Sam is hot, but Sam wants to become cool. Therefore **(D)** is incorrect.

3) **B**

Sam wants to be cool. Sam asks, "How can I get cool?" Then Sam says, "Wait...I know! I can go to the pool. The pool is cool." We can understand from this that since the pool is cool, Sam thinks that he can become cool by going in the pool. Therefore **(B)** is correct.

The library **(A)**, school **(C)** and work **(D)** may all be places that are cool, but in the story Sam thinks that the pool is the place to cool off. The story does not mention any of those places. Therefore answer choices **(A)**, **(C)**, and **(D)** are incorrect.

4) **D**

In the middle of the story, Sam wants to find out if the pool is open. Sam asks, "Where is the phone?" Then Sam says, "I need to call the pool. I need to find out if the pool is open or closed." The phone rings. "Hello. My name is Andrea. I am at the pool. Can I help you?" Sam asks Andrea if the pool is open and Andrea says yes. We can understand from this that Sam has called Andrea to find out if the pool is open. Therefore **(D)** is correct.

The story does not provide information to support choices **(A)**, **(B)**, and **(C)**. Therefore they are incorrect.

5) **A**

When Sam calls Andrea, he asks, "Is the pool open?" Andrea replies, "Yes. The pool is open." Therefore **(A)** is correct. The pool is open, so it is not closed. Therefore **(B)** is incorrect.