

"I Fly"

Reading Comprehension – Short Stories

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

I fly airplanes for a living.
I am a pilot.

Sometimes I take my little girl with me.
Her name is Bristol.
Bristol likes to look out the window of the airplane.
She likes to look at the clouds.
She thinks the clouds look like animals.
She points at one with her finger.
"I see a giraffe!" she says.



I also have a little boy.
My little boy does not like to be up high.
He does not come with me on the airplane.
He likes to play airplane with me.
We play airplane when I get home.
We run around the yard. We wave our arms in the air. We make airplane noises.

Questions:

- 1) Who is telling this story?
 - A. Bristol
 - B. a little boy
 - C. a pilot
 - D. a friend
- 2) What does Bristol like to do in the airplane?
 - A. look out the window
 - B. run in the yard
 - C. sit in the back
 - D. be the pilot
- 3) Bristol points at something outside the window. What does she point at?
 - A. a giraffe
 - B. her dad
 - C. a cloud
 - D. a tree
- 4) Why doesn't the little boy like to fly?
 - A. because he is very young
 - B. because he is very little
 - C. because he doesn't like airplanes
 - D. because he is afraid to be up high

Answers and Explanations

1) **C**

A pilot is telling this story. At the beginning of the story, the narrator (the person who tells the story) says, "I fly airplanes for a living. I am a pilot." The narrator is the same person throughout the story. Therefore **(C)** is correct. The story does not contain information to support answer choices **(A)**, **(B)**, and **(D)**. Therefore they are incorrect.

2) **A**

In paragraph 2, the narrator talks about being in the airplane. He says that Bristol, his daughter, "likes to look out the window of the airplane." Therefore **(A)** is the correct answer. The story does not contain information to support answer choices **(B)**, **(C)**, and **(D)**. Therefore they are incorrect.

3) **C**

In paragraph 2, Bristol looks at the clouds outside the airplane. According to the narrator, she "thinks the clouds look like animals," and points at "one" of them. Here, it is important to understand that, although the cloud *looks* like an animal (a giraffe), is it not *actually* an animal. The cloud is still a cloud.

Therefore, when the narrator says that Bristol points at "one" of them, she is not pointing at an animal, but rather, she is pointing at a cloud. Therefore **(C)** is the correct answer.

In paragraph 2, Bristol points at a cloud and says, "I see a giraffe!" Here she means that the cloud looks like a giraffe. It is not really a giraffe. Therefore **(A)** is incorrect. The story does not contain information to support answer choices **(B)** and **(D)**. Therefore they are incorrect.

4) **D**

In paragraph 3, the narrator talks about his "little boy." He tells us that his little boy "does not like to be up high." For this reason, the little boy does not like to come with his father (the pilot and narrator) in the airplane. Therefore **(D)** is correct.

We do not know if the boy is "very young." We also do not know if this is the reason he does not like to fly. Therefore **(A)** is incorrect. Although the narrator says, "I also have a little boy," we do not know if he is "very little." We also do not know if this is the reason why he does not like to fly or not. Therefore **(B)** is incorrect. We do not know if the boy likes airplanes or not; the narrator does not talk about this. All we know is that the boy "does not like to be up high." Therefore **(C)** is incorrect.