

molasses	enormous
craving	rivets
clattered	rumbling
cobblestones	chaos

Fill in the blanks.

1. This was the problem: our dog was just too fat. In fact, he was _____
(*huge*)!
2. We had gotten him when he was just a puppy. He was always busily digging around in our backyard, so we named him Beaver. It was only later that we realized that he was digging for food! His stomach always seemed to be _____ (*making a deep low noise*).
3. He loved all food, but he especially had a _____ (*desire*) for sweets.
4. We had a metal box, held together with _____ (*metal pins*) in which we locked up any open jar or box of sweets.
5. One time, my mother was baking cookies, and she had a jar of _____
(*a thick brown syrup*) in a bag on the counter.
6. When she left the kitchen for a moment, Beaver quickly climbed onto the counter, grabbed the bag in his mouth, and dragged it out onto our street, which is paved with old-fashioned _____ (*stones used for paving streets*).
7. I heard the jar as it _____ (*made a loud sound*) on the stones, but it was too late!
8. The jar broke, the molasses ran all over the street, and cars, trying to swerve around the broken glass and fat little dog, created confusion and _____
(*confusion*).

Name _____

Is/Are ...?

Circle the correct answer.

1. Is **molasses**

a. a type of fish

or

b. a kind of syrup?

2. Are **cobblestones** used

a. to build houses

or

b. to pave roads?

3. Is **rumbling**

a. a deep, low sound

or

b. a high screechy sound?

4. Is **chaos**

a. very confusing

or

b. very orderly?

5. Are **rivets** used

a. to hold hair in place

or

b. to hold metal together?

6. Is a **craving**

a. a strong desire for a certain thing

or

b. a strong fear of a certain thing?

7. Is something **enormous**

a. very small

or

b. very big?

8. Is something that **clatters**

a. full of rattling sounds

or

b. a tool that cuts metal?

Name _____

Visualizing

Do you know what the most powerful part of you is? No, it's not your arm or your leg. It's your imagination! When we read or hear stories, we use our imaginations to **visualize** what is being described. The better the story, the easier it is for us to picture what is happening in the story.

Match the pictures to the words that describe them.

- _____ The lion stood at the peak of the hill and roared.

- _____ When we woke up, the entire world seemed to be covered with snow, like a huge, frosted cake.

- _____ Just as we turned the corner, another car bumped into ours. Crash! Luckily, both cars were going slowly, so only the fenders got dented.

- _____ There goes old Mr. Murtell, walking down the street. He always stands so straight and walks so quickly, you would think he was a young man of twenty.

- _____ We stood outside my favorite place, the library. It was an old building, with ivy climbing up the dark stone walls.



4



1



5



3



2

**PATRICK AND THE GREAT
MOLASSES EXPLOSION**
Graphic Organizer

Every story has a beginning, a middle, and an end. In the beginning, the background is given. In the middle, the main action takes place. In the end, the problems are solved and the action is completed.

The following exercise teaches you to outline a story by summarizing the beginning, middle, and end of *Patrick and the Great Molasses Explosion*. Complete each statement by writing the answer on the line. You may look at the list of scrambled answers and choose the correct one.

The Beginning

1. This story is about a boy named _____.
2. Patrick loved to eat _____.
3. Patrick and his family lived in the city of _____.
4. Every Sunday Patrick and Papa took a walk along the _____.

The Middle

1. One day, Mama sent Patrick to the corner store to buy _____.
2. The store was out of molasses, so Patrick decided to go to another _____.
3. Just as he arrived at the second store, Patrick heard a loud _____!
4. Rushing to the corner, Patrick saw a towering _____ of molasses coming down the street.

The End

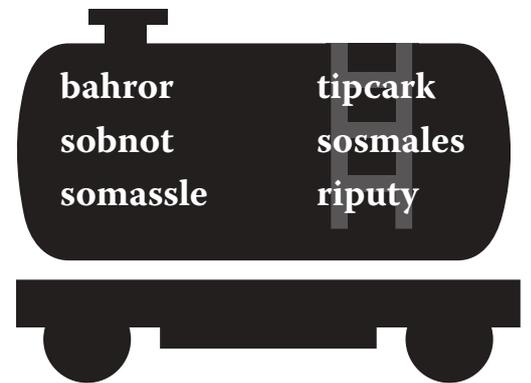
1. When Patrick told his mother what had happened, she did not _____ him.
2. Because he was so sticky, she made him take a _____.
3. Then, because she thought he was lying, she made him go to _____.
4. When he woke up, Patrick tried to tell his mother the _____, but she still did not believe him.

Name _____

Outlining a Story

5. Patrick's favorite sight at the harbor was a huge tank with the following words painted on it:
_____ Distilling Company.

6. The tank was full of _____.



5. Patrick grabbed his pail, filled it with molasses, and _____.

6. When he fell, a man came and _____ him up.

7. Patrick walked slowly home, _____ molasses along the way.



5. Mama finally heard the story when _____ came home.

6. Mama felt so bad that she offered Patrick a lot of _____.

7. For the first time, Patrick _____.

