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Connecting Two Texts

3.B.1.2.1

Sometimes you will need to connect two different stories or passages. You may need to compare the information in them. You may be asked to contrast the characters, or people, in one with the characters in another. Or you may be asked to draw conclusions or make inferences based on two texts.

The good news is, you already know how to do this! Connecting two texts really means just applying the same reading skills you've been practicing to two stories at once. In particular, when you read two passages at once and connect them, you will probably be:

- comparing and contrasting characters, events, or ideas
- making inferences and drawing conclusions

Let's practice doing this with two stories you've read already. You will answer questions about both of them at the same time.

Example**Luciana's Hair**

Luciana loved her long hair. It was bright red. She liked to brush it. One day Luciana went swimming. Her hair was all wet. She forgot to comb it. After it dried, there was a big knot in it.

Luciana could not get her comb through her hair. The knot was so big that her mother had to cut it out. Then Luciana's hair looked silly. One side was long. One side was short. So her mother cut both sides short. Luciana felt sad. She missed her long hair.

After a while, Luciana's hair started to grow long again. Luciana always took care not to get another knot. She combed her hair whenever it was wet.

Lorel's Shells

Lorel liked to collect seashells on the beach. She liked to look at her shells. They were all so different. Some were yellow, some were black, and some were rose-colored. She planned to make a necklace with them.

Lorel’s younger sister Donna also liked shells. She was not supposed to touch Lorel’s shells. But one day she did. She took them outside to play. She threw them in the air. Some of them were delicate. They broke. Lorel saw what Donna had done. She was angry.

Donna was very sad. She told her sister she made a mistake. She promised she would not touch the shells again. But Lorel did not believe her.

1 What is the main difference between Luciana and Lorel?

- (A) Luciana and Lorel both like things you can do at the beach.
- (B) Lorel has a sister, but Luciana doesn’t have any sisters.
- (C) Luciana has longer hair than Lorel.
- (D) Luciana is upset because of something she did, while Lorel is mad at her sister.

D I S C U S S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (A) This is true, but it is something that is the <i>same</i> about the girls. (B) The passage “Luciana’s Hair” doesn’t tell us whether or not Luciana has a sister, so this can’t be the answer. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (C) We know that Luciana had long hair, but we aren’t told anything about Lorel’s hair. (D) Luciana forgot to comb her own hair. But it was Lorel’s sister who broke her shells.
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Practice It -----

2 How are the passages “Luciana’s Hair” and “Lorel’s Shells” similar?



Hint—Look for something you could write about *both* passages.