

PSSA Grade 2 Reading Practice Test 2

SESSION 1

Directions

Read the following paired passages. Then do Numbers 1 through 12.

Autumn Colors



As you probably know, in many places, trees' leaves change color in the fall. Instead of staying green, the leaves turn many beautiful colors. Some trees turn bright yellow. Others turn gold or orange. The color the leaves turn depends on the type of tree. White oak trees turn red. Some types of maple trees turn bright red, too. Other kinds of maple trees turn yellow. When there are a lot of trees, they look like a group of flowers.

But why do the trees' leaves change color? They change color because of the weather and the light. In the fall, the days grow shorter and shorter. There is not as much light. The days often stay sunny but the nights are cold. This tells the trees that winter is coming. It tells them that soon they will go to sleep.

When the trees prepare for winter they stop making chlorophyll. Chlorophyll is what makes plants and leaves green. When a tree doesn't make chlorophyll its leaves change from green to another color. Each year leaves change, but they may not be exactly the same color they were before. There are many reasons for this.

After the fall is over, the trees rest and wait for spring. They put out new leaves and start to make chlorophyll again as well.



An Autumn Greeting

The leaves were orange, red, and gold.
The sky was blue as ever it can be,
The sun shone down upon the world,
Then the wind began to sweetly blow.

“Come,” said the Wind to the Leaves one day.
“Come over the meadow and we will play.
Put on your dresses of red and gold.
For summer is gone and the days grow cold.”

The Leaves were pleased to hear the Wind.
“We will play with you all day long.
We will have you blow our gowns around.”
“All right, then, come out before it begins to snow.”



1 What is “Autumn Colors” mainly about?

- A how hard it is to make chlorophyll
- B which colors leaves turn
- C why leaves turn colors in the fall
- D what happens during the winter

2 Why does the author of “Autumn Colors” begin the passage by saying “As you probably know”?

- A He thinks everyone does know.
- B So the reader has a connection to the passage.
- C To make the sentence sound better.
- D It is the most common way to begin.

3 Read this sentence from the passage “Autumn Colors.”

When the trees prepare for winter they stop making chlorophyll.

As used in the passage, what does the word prepare most likely mean?

- A make
- B provide
- C worry about
- D get ready

4 In “Autumn Colors ,” what color do white oak trees turn?

- A gold
- B orange
- C red
- D yellow

5 Why did the author write “Autumn Colors”?

- A to tell why leaves change color
- B to teach the reader a lesson
- C to amuse the reader
- D to tell the reader how to get ready for the autumn

6 Which of these is an opinion (not a fact)?

- A White oak trees turn red.
- B Chlorophyll is what makes plants and leaves green.
- C In the fall, the days grow shorter and shorter.
- D Instead of being green, the leaves turn many beautiful colors.



- 7** Read the following line from the poem “An Autumn Greeting.”

For summer is gone and the days grow cold.

A word that means the opposite of the word cold is

- A long
- B pretty
- C freezing
- D warm

- 8** Which line from “An Autumn Greeting” is an example of personification?

- A The sky was blue as ever it can be
- B The Leaves were pleased to hear the Wind
- C The sun shone down upon the world
- D The leaves were orange, red, and gold.

- 9** In “An Autumn Greeting” phrases such as “orange, red, and gold” and “dresses of red and gold” give the reader a sense of

- A what the leaves look like
- B what the wind is like
- C where the wind is blowing
- D when the leaves can play

- 10** The author of the poem “An Autumn Greeting” probably wants to

- A teach the reader a lesson
- B explain why leaves change color
- C amuse the reader
- D warn the reader about the wind

Questions 11 and 12 refer to BOTH passages.

- 11** Which statement describes one difference between the passage “Autumn Colors” and the poem “An Autumn Greeting”?

- A The passage has more facts than the poem.
- B The passage has fewer words than the poem.
- C The passage talks about playing with leaves, but the poem doesn't.
- D The passage talks about chlorophyll and the poem does not.



