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FOR THE TEACHER



Book 8 is designed for a Year 8 level of comprehension

What is *Comprehensive Assessment of Reading Strategies II (CARS II)*?

Comprehensive Assessment of Reading Strategies II is a reading series that assesses student proficiency in 12 reading strategies (8 strategies in Book 1), the same strategies that are practised in the *Comprehensive Assessment of Reading Strategies (CARS)* diagnostic reading series.

CARS II allows teachers to identify and assess a student's level of mastery with each of the reading strategies. This eight-level program is designed for students in years 1 through 8. *CARS II* is for use after students have been diagnosed with

Comprehensive Assessment of Reading Strategies (CARS) and have been instructed with *Strategies to Achieve Reading Success (STARS)*, or with any other remediation materials.

In *Comprehensive Assessment of Reading Strategies II, Book 8*, students receive follow-up assessment for the following 12 reading strategies:

- finding main idea
- recalling facts and details
- understanding sequence
- recognising cause and effect
- comparing and contrasting
- making predictions
- finding word meaning in context
- drawing conclusions and making inferences
- distinguishing between fact and opinion
- identifying author's purpose
- interpreting figurative language
- summarising

What is in the book?

The book contains

- suggestions and instructions for using *Comprehensive Assessment of Reading Strategies II* effectively in the classroom.
- Understanding the Strategies, an instructional reproducible for use with students in the classroom.

- four lessons; each lesson is based on a three-page reading passage and includes 12 selected-response questions (two-page reading passage and 8 selected-response questions in Book 1).
- a self-assessment form for students, which they complete (with teacher assistance) after Lesson 4.
- two assessment forms for teachers, to be completed after Lesson 4 has been completed and corrected.
- an Answer Form on which students record their answers.
- a Class Performance Chart for recording class results.
- a completed Answer Form.

Where do students record their answers?

Students record their answers on the Answer Form on page 21. Ask students to fill in the personal information section. Make sure students are filling in their answer choices in the correct area of the Answer Form.

Next to each item number on the Answer Form is an abbreviation that identifies the strategy. Once you have a student's complete Answer Form, total the number of correct responses for each strategy. Then transfer these totals to Teacher Assessment 1 to begin the assessment process.

What is the correction procedure?

For the best results, correct each lesson orally with students immediately following its completion. Explain concepts that students may not fully understand. Discuss why correct answer choices are correct and why the remaining choices are not correct. If possible, elicit from students their reasoning for choosing an incorrect answer.

Incorrect answer choices often include a variety of misunderstandings about the question. Discussing why choices are correct and incorrect will help students review and clarify how they approached a particular strategy.



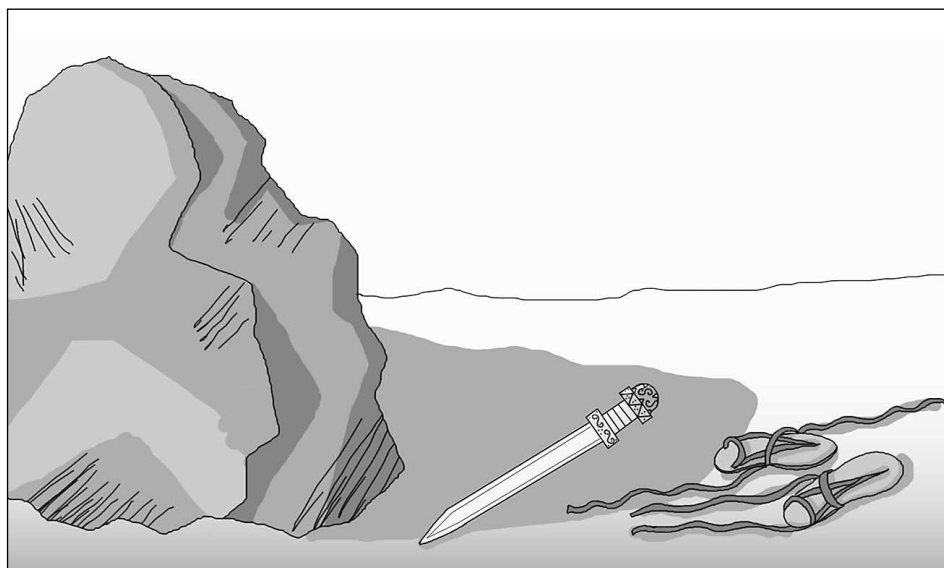
Here is a myth from ancient Greece. Read the myth.
Then do Numbers 1 through 12.

Aegeus, the much beloved and respected king of Athens, often went travelling about the countryside. One year he journeyed far to the south where he met a woman named Aethra. Aegeus and Aethra fell in love, married and eventually had a child whom they named Theseus.

Aegeus took great pride in spending time with his wife and son. But soon his responsibilities of king weighed heavy. Aegeus's first duties were to the people under his rule. Aegeus knew that his return to Athens was imminent and that he would have to leave his family behind.

'Perhaps our eyes will never again meet,' Aegeus said to his wife, 'but I hope one day to be reunited with my son. I shall leave my sandals and my sword here, under the heaviest of stones. If, when the boy grows up, he is strong enough to lift the stone, then he should take the sword and the sandals and bring them to me in Athens. Then I shall know that the young man is Theseus and that he is worthy to inherit my throne.'

Aegeus tried to console his wife, but there was no comfort to be found in their parting. Aegeus returned to his palace in Athens, leaving Aethra to raise young Theseus alone, which Aethra did with much dedication and love. In time, Theseus grew to be a fine young man with all the might of a mountain. When he was ready, his mother brought him to the stone and explained what his father had done years before. Theseus easily raised the stone and removed the sandals and sword from underneath. He then put on his father's sandals and secured his father's sword around his waist.





‘We both know that it is time for me to leave, mother,’ said Theseus, sadly. ‘I must go to my father in Athens and show him that I am worthy to inherit his rule.’

Aethra fought to control her grief, a sadness she had never known before. She knew there was nothing she could do to alter her son’s fate. She could only issue one warning: ‘Stay on the main road to Athens, Theseus. In this way, you will meet as few troubles as possible on your journey.’

Theseus was not one to ordinarily disobey his mother. However, the thought of a long journey with little adventure was like imagining a sky without stars. So rather than traverse the main road to Athens, Theseus travelled instead through the countryside. Each traveller he met offered grave warnings, imploring Theseus to turn back and avoid the monsters that lay waiting in the forest and among the cliffs. But Theseus was not deterred. ‘Then I shall slay them with my father’s sword,’ Theseus would respond. ‘The news of my deeds will precede my arrival in Athens. I will make my father proud before I even arrive!’

The first monster Theseus encountered was Sciron. Sciron would first rob his victims of all they owned and then throw them off a cliff into the sea where they were devoured by a giant turtle. Theseus slew Sciron and delivered to him the same fate that Sciron delivered to his victims.

