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# FOR THE STUDENT

*Comprehensive Assessment of Reading Strategies (CARS Series)* is a reading series that gives you practice with 12 reading strategies. In *Comprehensive Assessment of Reading Strategies, Book G*, you will complete ten reading lessons. Each lesson has a passage and questions about the passage. Each passage is a different writing form. Some of the writing forms are an article, a journal entry, a myth and a letter. After you read each passage, you will answer 12 questions. Each question helps you practise a particular reading strategy.

After you have finished the first five lessons, you will complete a self-assessment. This self-assessment will help you determine how well you are doing and what goals you need to set to improve your reading skills. After you finish the last five lessons, you will complete another self-assessment. This self-assessment will help you determine how well you met your goals.

*Comprehensive Assessment of Reading Strategies, Book G* will help you become a better reader. You will understand what important information to look for as you read. This will help you get the most from your reading.

## **Acknowledgments**

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## **Books in the Reading Program**

- Comprehensive Assessment of Reading Strategies (CARS Series)
- Strategies to Achieve Reading Success (STARS Series)
- Comprehensive Assessment of Reading Strategies II (CARS Series II)

# LESSON 1

Here is a science article about space. Read the article. Then do questions 1 to 12.

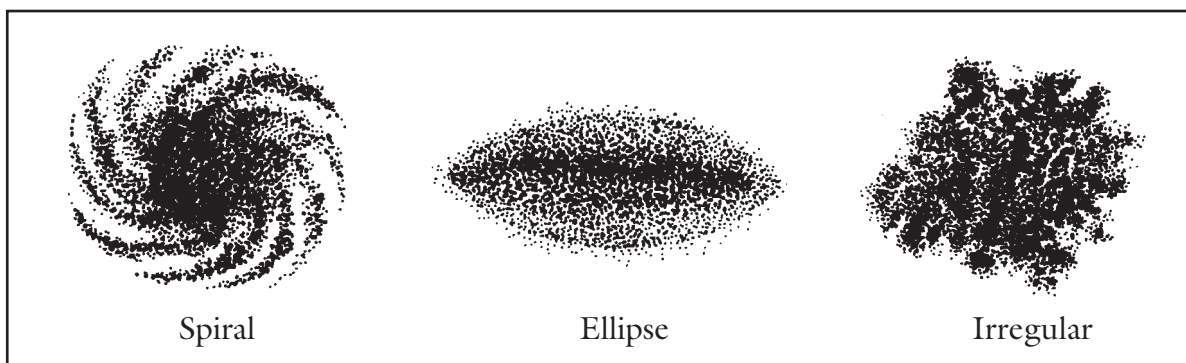
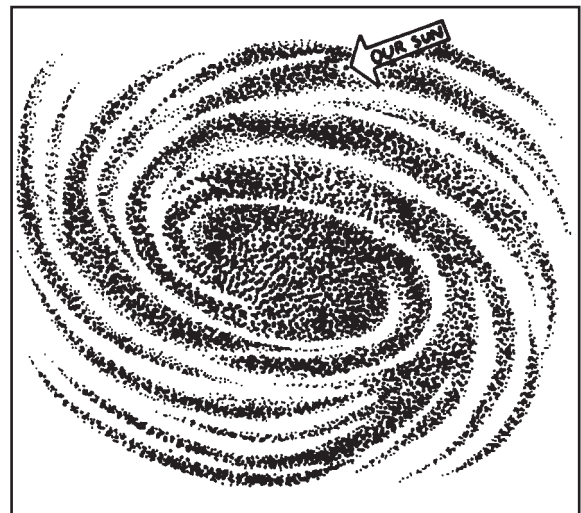
A galaxy is a gigantic mass of stars and other heavenly bodies. They are bound together by gravity and whirl through space at tremendous speeds. The galaxy we live in is called the Milky Way but there are billions of other galaxies in space.

Galaxies have different shapes. Many are spiral shaped. They look like slowly turning giant pinwheels. Other galaxies are shaped like a football. The scientific name for this shape is 'ellipse'. The stars in the centre of an ellipse are packed closely together. Still other galaxies have irregular shapes with random groupings of stars.

The Milky Way is the galaxy in which we live. It contains billions of stars and is shaped like a spiral. The Milky Way is not standing still. We are moving in space at the speed of almost a million kilometres per hour!

Since we are a part of the Milky Way we can only see a section of it. On clear nights it looks like a giant white band of light stretching across the sky. The stars in the Milky Way appear to be close together but they are really separated by billions of kilometres. The Milky Way is so huge it would take the light shining from a star on one side of it 100,000 years to reach the other side.

When we look in the sky a star looks like a tiny dot of light but it is really a giant ball of glowing gas. Some stars are as small as the Earth. Others are hundreds of times larger than our Sun. On a clear night you can see about 3000 stars but millions more can be seen through a telescope. When we look at stars in the sky they appear to be twinkling. This is because the atmosphere around Earth is moving. This disturbs the rays of light and makes them appear to flicker, or 'twinkle'. Stars may live for billions of years. Our Sun has already lived for 5 billion years and it will live for around another five billion.



<p><b>Finding Main Idea</b></p> <p>1. What is the main topic of paragraph four?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ⓐ How large the Milky Way Galaxy is</li> <li>Ⓑ The fact that we are a part of the Milky Way Galaxy</li> <li>Ⓒ How many stars there are in the Milky Way Galaxy</li> <li>Ⓓ The Milky Way as it appears to viewers on Earth</li> </ul>	<p><b>Recognising Cause and Effect</b></p> <p>4. What gives the stars their ‘flickering’ appearance?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ⓐ their distance from Earth</li> <li>Ⓑ movement in the Earth’s atmosphere</li> <li>Ⓒ changes in the temperature of the star</li> <li>Ⓓ the rotation of the Earth</li> </ul>
<p><b>Recalling Facts and Details</b></p> <p>2. How many stars can you see on a clear night?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ⓐ billions</li> <li>Ⓑ 3000</li> <li>Ⓒ 100,000</li> <li>Ⓓ trillions</li> </ul>	<p><b>Comparing and Contrasting</b></p> <p>5. How does our Sun compare to other stars?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ⓐ It is bigger than most.</li> <li>Ⓑ It is medium sized.</li> <li>Ⓒ It is smaller than most.</li> <li>Ⓓ It is the biggest in the Milky Way.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Understanding Sequence</b></p> <p>3. Which of the following is mentioned first in the article?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ⓐ stars</li> <li>Ⓑ the Milky Way</li> <li>Ⓒ galaxies</li> <li>Ⓓ our Sun</li> </ul>	<p><b>Making Predictions</b></p> <p>6. Predict what the article would most probably have discussed next.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ⓐ planets</li> <li>Ⓑ mountains</li> <li>Ⓒ oceans</li> <li>Ⓓ animals</li> </ul>

# SELF-ASSESSMENT 1

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Complete this page after you have completed Lessons 1–5.**

1. You have completed Lessons 1–5. Explain how well you think you did.

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2. Did any part of the reading passages or questions give you trouble? \_\_\_\_\_

If so, what kind of trouble did you have? \_\_\_\_\_

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3. Complete this sentence: I could have done an even better job on Lessons 1–5 if

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4. What is your goal for Lessons 6–10?

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5. How would you rate your work in Lessons 1–5? Circle your answer.

successful      somewhat successful      needs improvement