

STUDENT BOOK E

FOCUS on

DRAWING CONCLUSIONS
AND MAKING INFERENCES

HAWKER BROWNLOW
EDUCATION

NAME _____

To the Student

In *FOCUS on Drawing Conclusions and Making Inferences, Book E*, you will read passages and answer questions. You will practise using the reading strategy called Drawing Conclusions and Making Inferences. You will learn about the strategy on the Learn About pages. You will see a sample passage, sample questions and sample answer choices on the Lesson Preview pages. Then you will practise using the strategy in twenty lessons.

Each lesson has a passage and five questions. After you finish reading the passage, answer the five questions. For the first four questions, fill in the correct answers on the Answer Form on page 53. Or, you may fill in the correct answers directly on the page. For the fifth question, write the answer on the lines provided on the page. Fill in the circle on the Answer Form to show that you have completed the fifth question.

Use the Tracking Chart on page 47 to show when you have finished each lesson and to show the number of questions that you answered correctly. After each group of five lessons, you will complete a self-assessment to see how you are doing.

So . . . FOCUS and enjoy!

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Learn About

Drawing Conclusions and Making Inferences

Not all information is directly stated in a reading passage. Some information may merely be suggested or hinted at. But you can figure out information that is not directly stated. To do this, think about the *information that is directly stated*. Also think about what *you already know*. Then you can figure out information that is not directly stated.

Figuring out information that is not directly stated is called **drawing conclusions and making inferences**.

Read this passage about Richard. As you read, think about the information that is directly stated. Also think about what you already know.

Richard didn't have the nerve to look, so his fingertips reached cautiously for the back of his neck. "Oh no," he groaned. It felt unfamiliar and strangely cold, no doubt because it wasn't used to being so exposed.

When the suspense finally became too much for him, Richard took a deep breath and peered at the mirror sideways.

"No-o-o-o-o!" he shrieked, for it was much, much worse than he had imagined. The person staring back at him was a hideous stranger – seemingly with no hair! Richard was horrified!

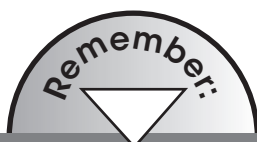
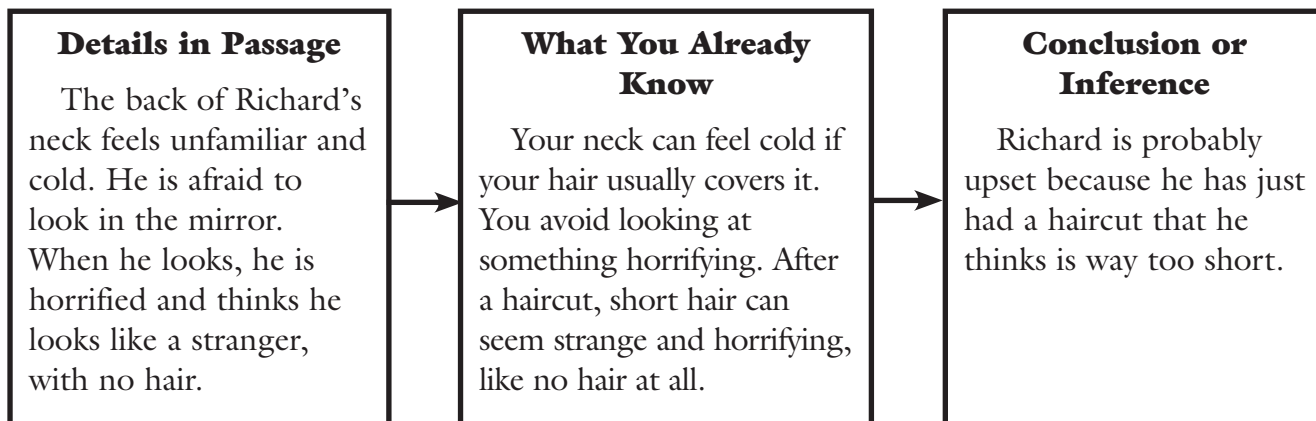


The passage tells you directly that Richard was horrified. But one thing the passage does *not* tell you directly is just what made Richard feel so upset. How can you figure this out? What are the hints?

To figure out information that is not directly stated, think about the information that is directly stated. The passage tells you that Richard touched the back of his neck and that it felt unfamiliar and strangely cold because his neck was not used to being so exposed. It also tells you that Richard didn't have the nerve to look in the mirror. When he did look, he was horrified. He thought that he looked like a stranger, with no hair.

Then think about what you already know. You probably know that the back of your neck might feel unfamiliar and cold if your hair was usually long enough to cover your neck, but now it wasn't. You probably also know that people sometimes hesitate to look at something if they are afraid they won't like it. People often think their hair is too short right after a haircut and they don't like it. They can feel horrified and think that they look like someone else. Their short hair can seem like no hair at all. From this, you can figure out that Richard is upset because he has just had a haircut that he thinks is much too short.

From what the paragraph tells you and from what you already know, you can figure out why Richard is upset.



Figuring out information that is not directly stated is called drawing conclusions and making inferences.

Lesson

Preview

Read this sample passage, which is from a story set in Brazil. As you read, think about the information that is directly stated. Also think about what you already know. This will help you figure out information that is not directly stated.

Brandon and Bella in Brazil

Dusk was swirling the sky with streaks of pink and gold as the truck travelled the corrugated country road at a crawl. Then, suddenly, there they were, up ahead. Bella and Brandon stared, speechless with amazement. Silhouetted against the vivid horizon were strange, slender towers, like a field of earthen figures. Some looked three metres tall, and some looked taller still.

“How about *that!*” Brandon exclaimed, slamming on the brakes and flinging the truck door open. There was no need to explain to Bella. She knew what he meant and she was too amazed to answer.

The light was dimming fast, but the spectacle was plain enough: these had to be the anthills they had heard about, read about and come all this way to find. Cameras in hand, Brandon and Bella sprang from the truck and began snapping shots to send back to the magazine.



1. Details in the passage suggest that the place in Brazil where the characters were travelling was

- (A) on a river.
- (B) in the country.
- (C) at the coast.
- (D) in a big city.

2. From the passage, you can figure out that Bella and Brandon both worked for a magazine as

- (A) writers.
- (B) reporters.
- (C) photographers.
- (D) editors.

*Look at the answer choices for each question.
Read why each answer choice is correct or
not correct.*

1. Details in the passage suggest that the place in Brazil where the characters were travelling was

(A) on a river.

This answer is not correct because the characters were travelling in a truck.

(B) in the country.

This answer is correct because the characters were travelling on a country road that was corrugated, not sealed. There were only natural sights around them.

(C) at the coast

This answer is not correct because the passage doesn't mention the sea or the coast at all.

(D) in a big city.

This answer is not correct because the characters were travelling on a corrugated country road, not on a road in a city.

2. From the passage, you can figure out that Bella and Brandon both worked for a magazine as

(A) writers.

This answer is not correct because there is nothing in the passage that suggests that they were writers.

(B) reporters.

This answer is not correct because there is nothing in the passage that suggests that they were reporters.

(C) photographers.

This answer is correct because Bella and Brandon jumped out of the truck and began snapping shots or taking pictures, to send to the magazine. Photographers take pictures.

(D) editors.

This answer is not correct because there is nothing in the passage that suggests that they were editors.