

Unit (1) Lesson (2) Worksheet (2) CS. (6.8 6.9 7.3
7.5)

Name: Class: (12 -)

The Best Thing in the World

- 1) Once upon a time, there were four brothers who lived in a faraway land. Their father was an old king. One day he said, "I will not live long now. Today you must start out into the world. In a year, bring back the best thing you have found. The one who can pick the best thing shall be the new king."
- 2) The first brother said, "I will look in every city or town. I will buy the best thing I can for my father." The next two brothers said, "We will both go on fast ships over the sea. We will find something better." The last brother said, "I am going to ask the people here in our own land to tell me the best thing." The other three brothers began to laugh. "Then you will never be king!" They said. The last brother started off.
- 3) When he had gone about six miles, he met a man. "What do you carry in those big bags?" he asked. "The best thing in the world," said the man. "These are full of the good nuts which fall from my five nut trees." "I don't think that would work," said the brother to himself, "I must try again." The brother went on another seven miles. He found a small brown bird. It had been hurt, so he put it in his coat where it could keep warm. As he went on, he saw a little girl crying. He ran to meet her. "Why are you crying?" he asked.
- 4) "I want to get some water from the well," she said. "We use so much. We drink cold water. We wash the clothes clean with hot water. But I do not know how to pull it up. Please show me." The brother said, "Hold this bird and I will help you. It does not fly around anymore because it got its wing hurt." "Thank you. What a pretty bird!" she said. "I wish you would give it to me. If you will let me keep it, I will always be very kind to it. I will take care of it myself. I will make it grow well again." "Yes, you may have it," said the brother. So he gave her the bird and went on.
- 5) At night, he went to sleep under a round yellow haystack. When it was light again he walked on. Every day he would walk eight or ten miles. He asked the people

about the best thing in the world. Some said it was best to sing. Some said it was best to run and jump and play. Some said the green grass was best. Some liked the red and blue and white flowers best. One man said the best thing was to ride a black horse.

6) He always stopped to help people who needed it. Soon he made many friends. All the people began to like him. They would say, "See there goes the king's son. He would be just the right kind of king for us." Every door was open to him. The people would call to him to stop. They would ask him to come and eat with them. After he ate, he would sit down and read to the children. After he read, he showed them how to draw and write. Months went by. He still had no beautiful thing to take to his father. Just before the year was done, he went home again. The time came when the king called his sons together.

7) "What did you bring?" He asked them all. The other brothers had many beautiful things. "And what did you bring?" said the king to the last brother. "This is too funny!" said the other brothers. "He has nothing!" But the king was kind to the last brother. "What did you bring me?" the king asked again. "I bring only the friendship of your people," said the last brother. "That is the best thing!" cried his father. "You shall be the new king."

1. What is the main purpose of this passage?

- A. to persuade the reader to become a king at a young age
- B. to show the reader how to become a king
- C. to inspire the reader with the true meaning of ambition
- D. to show the reader how to find the best thing

2. How does the third person point of view help the story?

- A. It adds to the king's noble appearance.
- B. It reveals more about all the characters' actions and sayings.
- C. It creates sense of humor to the story.
- D. It makes the story less fictional.

3. Why did the three brothers say to their fourth brother, "Then you will never be a king"?
- A. because they believed that valuable things must be material
 - B. because they knew what their father wanted
 - C. because they had to end the youngest brother's ambition
 - D. because they wanted to ridicule the youngest brother
4. What could the writer have done to create more suspense?
- A. used the first person instead of the third person point of view
 - B. changed the setting to a large, busy city
 - C. add more characters to the story
 - D. include the incidents that happened to the other three brothers
5. What was the king's motive for asking his sons to bring the best thing in the world?
- A. He wanted to quit his throne.
 - B. He wanted to choose the best king.
 - C. He wanted his sons to explore new lands.
 - D. He wanted his sons to discover their abilities.
6. Which of the following best describes the king's attitude toward the last brother's idea of the best thing in the world?
- A. surprised
 - B. disappointed
 - C. sympathetic
 - D. anxious
7. Why did the people think that the last brother would make the best king?
- A. because he used to ask the people about the best thing
 - B. because he taught the children how to draw and write
 - C. because he was the son of the king
 - D. because he helped people who needed him

Reading text

1 At Mile Zero, the western starting point of Canada's Number 1 Highway in Victoria, British Columbia, there stands a life-size bronze statue of a young, curly-headed long-distance runner. He is wearing a **prosthetic** limb where his right leg had been, and the expression on his face is a mixture of pain, exhaustion, and sheer **determination**. He has cancer and he is running against time. The young man's name is Terry Fox.

2 Terry Stanley Fox was born on July 28, 1958, and grew up in Port Coquitlam, British Columbia. Throughout his school years, he was active in sports. He loved basketball, and although he was too short to qualify for the school team in Grade 8, hard work and **persistence** earned him a place in the following year. In Grade 12, he and his best friend received their high school's **Athlete** of the Year award. Terry wanted to become a Physical Education teacher, and after graduating from high school in 1977, he began studying kinesiology¹ at Simon Fraser University in Burnaby.

3 In December 1976, Terry experienced sharp pain in his right knee. By March of the following year, the pain had become so severe that he went to the hospital, where he was **diagnosed** with osteosarcoma. This **aggressive** form of bone **cancer** is the sixth most common cancer among children; it particularly afflicts teenage boys. Terry's right leg was **amputated** 15 centimeters above the knee, and he underwent chemotherapy. Doctors gave him a 50 percent chance of **survival**.

4 After treatment, Terry made rapid progress as a result of his positive thinking and the same determination that had served him in school. Three weeks after the amputation, he was walking with a prosthetic limb and playing golf with his father. His experiences during the 16 months at the British Columbia Cancer Control Agency facility, however, left their mark on Terry. Watching other young cancer patients suffer and die awakened a deep **compassion** in him, and he made it his personal mission to raise **awareness** and funds for cancer research.

5 **Inspired** by the story of an amputee who ran in the New York City Marathon, Terry decided to undertake his own cross-Canada marathon. His goal was to raise \$24 million, one dollar for every Canadian. He trained for 15 months—in itself, no small feat. To adjust to his artificial leg, he developed a hop-step gait that was to become his trademark. The **strain** on both his good leg and the stump of his right leg caused bruises, blisters, and intense pain, which he was able to overcome after 20 minutes or so of running. In August 1979, Terry ran his first marathon in Prince George, British Columbia; he came in last, but his spirit was undefeated.

6 In October 1979, Terry appealed to the Canadian Cancer Society for their support in his cross-country quest. In his letter, he wrote the following.

We need your help. The people in cancer clinics all over the world need people who believe in miracles. I am not a dreamer, and I am not saying that this [marathon] will initiate any kind of definitive answer or cure to cancer. I believe in miracles. I have to.²

In addition to writing to corporations for **donations** to cover his expenses, vehicle costs, and gear, Terry requested government grants to pay for an artificial limb that he could run on. With financial support in place and a go-ahead from his doctors, Terry set out on April 12, 1980, from the east coast at St. Johns, Newfoundland. He began by dipping his leg in the Atlantic Ocean and filling two bottles with ocean water. When he reached Vancouver on the west coast, he

planned to dip his leg again and pour one of the bottles into the Pacific Ocean. The cards seemed stacked against Terry. In the first days of his run, he encountered gale-force winds, heavy rain, and snowstorms. Later, in the peak of summer, he ran in extreme heat and humidity. His course followed the Trans-Canada highway, where drivers were not always respectful of Terry and his team. Running 42 kilometers a day took an immense toll on his body, but despite shin splints, an inflamed knee, cysts on his stump, dizzy spells, and tendonitis, Terry continued.

7 The strenuous days through Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Quebec, and Ontario were not without their highlights. Terry was disappointed with poor public reception at first, but his courage and doggedness eventually attracted the attention of celebrities and the media. Upon learning about Terry, the founder of the Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts, whose son had died of melanoma, provided the team with accommodation and food, pledged two dollars for every mile run, and rallied other corporations to Terry's cause. By the time Terry reached Montreal on June 22, he had collected \$200,000. On July 1, he arrived in Ottawa for the Canada Day celebrations and performed the ceremonial kickoff at a Canadian Football League game to a standing ovation. Along the way, he was joined by National Hockey League heroes who presented him with checks. Tireless and undaunted, Terry spoke at functions and events arranged by the Canadian Cancer Society. His name soon became a household word in Canada.

8 On September 1, 1980—143 days after he began his run—a coughing fit, chest pains, and shortness of breath forced Terry to stop outside Thunder Bay, Ontario; he entered the hospital. The cancer, he announced at a press conference, had spread to his lungs. A few days after he was **hospitalized**, television broadcaster CTV held a five-hour nationwide telethon with Canadian and international celebrities, adding \$10 million to the \$1.7 million Terry had already raised. With 5,373 kilometers behind him and 3,108 to go, Terry hoped to beat the cancer and continue his run. On June 28, 1981, one month before his twenty-third birthday, Terry Fox lost his battle with cancer. In the eyes of Canadians, Terry died a hero.

9 To this day, Terry Fox has not been forgotten. Organizations and events all over the world have raised more than \$600 million in his honor. Launched in 1981, the Terry Fox Run takes place every September on the second Sunday after Labor Day in communities large and small, all across Canada. Supported by the Terry Fox Foundation, the event is organized and run by volunteers and is open to everyone. Terry Fox lives on as a symbol of courage and as an inspiration to do good in the world. The many statutes and monuments, buildings and organizations that bear Terry's name are enduring reminders of what one person can achieve when he puts his heart and mind to a task.

1. Read the following from paragraph (3).

Terry's right leg was amputated 15 centimeters above the knee.

Which of the following is CLOSEST in meaning to the underlined word?

- cut off
- cut out
- treated
- healed

2. Which of the following techniques is used to sequence events in paragraph (2)?

- time order
- spatial order
- cause and effect
- comparison and contrast

3. Which of the following BEST describes terry's attitude in paragraph (4)?

- determined
- indifferent
- generous
- pessimist

4. Read the following from paragraph (8).

Terry Fox lost his battle with cancer.

Which figure of speech is used above?

- simile
- metaphor
- personification
- Onomatopoeia

5. Read the following from paragraph (4).

His experiences during the 16 months at the British Columbia Cancer Control Agency facility, however, left their mark on Terry.

What does the underlined word refer to?

- his experiences
- his sufferings
- his agonies
- donations

6. Read the following from paragraph (9).

Supported by the Terry Fox Foundation, the event is organized and run by volunteers and is open to everyone.

Which of the following is CLOSEST in meaning to the underlined word?

- Donate
- Escalate
- Aggravate
- Participate

7. In paragraph (6), why does the writer use the underlined phrase “**In addition to**”?

- to give a reason
- to conclude the topic
- to add some information
- to contrast a previous idea

8. How does the author use language efficiently to describe Terry’s character?

Support your answer with an example from the paragraph.

technique:	
example:	

9. Read the following from paragraph (9).

Inspired by the story of an amputee who ran in the New York City Marathon, Terry decided to undertake his own cross-Canada marathon. His goal was to raise \$24 million, one dollar for every Canadian. He trained for 15 months—in itself, no small feat.

Imagine that you are Terry and rewrite the above sentences using first person point of view showing your feeling.

Rewrite	
Feelings	

10. What lesson did Terry Fox teach us in the story? Support your answer with a detail from the text.

lesson:	
detail:	