

Name _____ Date _____

Instructions: Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

1. What is the author's purpose for writing this book?
 - Ⓐ to inform readers about carving jack-o'-lanterns
 - Ⓑ to persuade readers to eat pumpkins
 - Ⓒ to inform readers about growing giant pumpkins
 - Ⓓ to entertain readers with pumpkin jokes
2. Which detail supports the main idea of the "World's Biggest Pumpkin" section?
 - Ⓐ Tim Mathison's pumpkins have gotten bigger every year, and he now shares his seeds.
 - Ⓑ Carvers use power tools and other instruments to carve giant pumpkins into jack-o'-lanterns.
 - Ⓒ After the contests are over, growers have creative ways of using their pumpkins.
 - Ⓓ Some giant pumpkin growers hollow out their pumpkins so they can be used as boats.
3. Read the following sentence: *Growers hope to break the **record** for the world's biggest pumpkin. A **record** is _____ that has never been exceeded.*
 - Ⓐ a disc of music
 - Ⓑ an accident
 - Ⓒ a permanent account
 - Ⓓ an achievement
4. What is the effect of cutting off all but the best pumpkins from the vine?
 - Ⓐ The pumpkin vines grow longer and produce even more pumpkins.
 - Ⓑ Growers need to use less plant food to grow their giant pumpkins.
 - Ⓒ Plant food reaches the most perfect pumpkins so they can grow bigger.
 - Ⓓ The pumpkins left on the vine automatically grow into a gigantic size.

Quick Check continued on following page

Name _____ Date _____

5. What is the main idea of the "Gigantic Jack-o'-Lanterns" section?
 - Ⓐ Some giant pumpkins are used to make huge pies.
 - Ⓑ Giant pumpkins can be carved into jack-o'-lanterns.
 - Ⓒ Some growers hollow out giant pumpkins to turn into boats.
 - Ⓓ Tim Mathison uses the best seeds, soil, and plant food.
6. How is a giant pumpkin different from a regular pumpkin?
 - Ⓐ size
 - Ⓑ color
 - Ⓒ shape
 - Ⓓ smell
7. In which section would you expect to read about the giant pumpkin competitions?
 - Ⓐ "There Can Be Only One!"
 - Ⓑ "Pumpkin Boats"
 - Ⓒ "Glossary"
 - Ⓓ "Giant Pumpkin Pie!"
8. Why are some words in boldface print?
 - Ⓐ to help readers find main ideas
 - Ⓑ to guide readers to the sections of the book
 - Ⓒ to help readers find vocabulary words
 - Ⓓ to define important words from the text
9. Which detail from the book is an opinion?
 - Ⓐ Growers need soil that is rich with nutrients for healthy pumpkins.
 - Ⓑ Tim has the record for the first-, third-, and fourth-largest pumpkins.
 - Ⓒ In October, growers meet at weigh-offs around the world.
 - Ⓓ Growing giant pumpkins is a fun way to spend time in the garden.

Quick Check continued on following page

Name _____ Date _____

10. Which of the following fruits is a *large orange fruit with thick flesh*?

- Ⓐ peach
- Ⓑ pumpkin
- Ⓒ pear
- Ⓓ pineapple

11. Extended Response: What is the author's point of view on growing giant pumpkins? Explain how the author feels, and then describe two details from the book that support this perspective. Then, write your own opinion on growing giant pumpkins.

Quick Check Answer Sheet

Giant Pumpkins

Main Comprehension Skill: Author's Purpose

1. Ⓒ Author's Purpose
2. Ⓐ Main Idea and Details
3. Ⓓ Vocabulary
4. Ⓒ Cause and Effect
5. Ⓑ Main Idea and Details
6. Ⓐ Compare and Contrast
7. Ⓐ Main Idea and Details
8. Ⓒ Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions
9. Ⓓ Fact or Opinion
10. Ⓑ Vocabulary
11. Answers will vary. Example: *The author feels that growing giant pumpkins is a fun and fascinating hobby. One detail from the book that showed the author's point of view is the conclusion, where the author directly expresses that growing giant pumpkins can be a fun way to spend time. The other detail confirming this viewpoint is when the author gives Tim's opinion that anyone can grow giant pumpkins. Sharing that information encourages readers to try the hobby, which shows that the author thinks it is fascinating. In my opinion, growing giant pumpkins sounds as if it would be hard work but also an interesting hobby that would be very rewarding when the pumpkins become huge.*