

Name _____ Date _____

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

1. Which sentence best tells the main idea of this book?
 - Ⓐ The elephant backpack cost thirty dollars.
 - Ⓑ Taxes help pay for the roads we drive on.
 - Ⓒ Molly learns about taxes while saving to buy a backpack.
 - Ⓓ Molly wants her tax money to help build a park.
2. Read this sentence: *You'll need more money to **purchase** the backpack.* Which word means the same as **purchase**?
 - Ⓐ buy
 - Ⓑ look at
 - Ⓒ give
 - Ⓓ see
3. Which sentence helps readers know that Molly is upset that she can't buy the backpack?
 - Ⓐ Each Saturday morning, Molly's mother paid her an allowance for completing her chores: five dollars.
 - Ⓑ "What? That's not fair!" cried Molly.
 - Ⓒ The movie was hilarious, but Molly barely even noticed.
 - Ⓓ "So we pay a tax when we buy things?" Molly asked.
4. In what way are Molly and her mom the same?
 - Ⓐ They both want a new backpack.
 - Ⓑ They both pay taxes when they buy something.
 - Ⓒ They both pay income taxes.
 - Ⓓ All of the above

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5. Which answer helps readers know that Molly's parents know a lot about money and taxes?
 - Ⓐ "Every time we buy something, we pay a little bit extra for the sales tax," Dad explained.
 - Ⓑ "People have different ideas about how the money collected from taxes should be spent."
 - Ⓒ "You'll also have to pay sales tax on top of that price," said Mom. "The sales tax adds six cents for every dollar something costs."
 - Ⓓ All of the above
6. One of the following sentences is the main idea, and the rest are supporting details of that idea. Which sentence is the main idea?
 - Ⓐ Taxes pay for parks and swimming pools.
 - Ⓑ Taxes pay for roads and lots of other things.
 - Ⓒ Taxes pay for things that help the people who live in a community.
 - Ⓓ Taxes pay for public libraries and schools.
7. What happened just before Molly cried out, "What? That's not fair!"
 - Ⓐ Her mom told her that she needed more money to pay the sales tax.
 - Ⓑ Her parents explained what a sales tax was.
 - Ⓒ Molly put the backpack back on the shelf.
 - Ⓓ Molly saw that the elephant backpack was gone.
8. Which of the following tells what a **tax** is?
 - Ⓐ a fixed amount of money received for work, usually calculated per year
 - Ⓑ a group of people who live in the same place or who have similar qualities or interests
 - Ⓒ a sum of money given out on a regular basis
 - Ⓓ a fee collected by a government to pay for its services, functions, and operations

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9. Which of the following sentences is a detail about the elephant backpack?

- Ⓐ It had a delightful design of an elephant on the back.
- Ⓑ It had big gray ears that stuck out on the sides.
- Ⓒ It had a long trunk that hung from its face.
- Ⓓ All of the above

10. Which sentence tells a fact?

- Ⓐ The elephant backpack is amazing.
- Ⓑ Molly's dad is mean for not buying the backpack.
- Ⓒ Molly must pay sales tax when she buys the backpack.
- Ⓓ Having to pay taxes is not fair.

11. **Extended Response:** How would the story have been different if Molly's parents had simply bought the backpack for her?

Quick Check Answer Sheet

The Backpack Tax

Main Comprehension Skill: Main Idea and Details

1. Ⓒ *Main Idea and Details*
2. Ⓐ *Vocabulary*
3. Ⓑ *Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions*
4. Ⓑ *Compare and Contrast*
5. Ⓓ *Analyze Character*
6. Ⓒ *Main Idea and Details*
7. Ⓐ *Sequence Events*
8. Ⓓ *Vocabulary*
9. Ⓓ *Main Idea and Details*
10. Ⓒ *Fact or Opinion*
11. Answers will vary but should include ideas such as the following: *Molly wouldn't have learned about how taxes are collected and the types of community projects that benefit from taxes paid, such as schools, teachers' salaries, libraries, roads, parks, and swimming pools.*