PRACTICE

MAKING INFERENCES

Practice 1. What can we infer from each of the sentences below?

1. Sally arrived at home at 4:30. When she pushed the doorbell, nobody answered the door. She peeked inside the house and she saw the lights were still off.
2. Sherry's two-year old son is in bed upstairs. She hears a bang and a loud cry.
3. John hears a smoke alarm and smells burnt bacon.
4. Jennifer hears her mailbox close and her dog is barking.
5. Susannah's co-worker took off the day before and comes in with a sunburn.
6. Norman sees cookie crumbs on the floor and chocolate around his son's mouth.
7. The floor is covered in shreds of newspaper and Susan's dog has newsprint on his paws.
8. Sarah left a Shoes bag on the floor and is wearing shiny red heels.
9. A woman walks into a store soaking wet and it is raining.
10. Julia works at a pet store and owns four cats, a lizard, a dog and a rabbit.
11. John's house smells of soy sauce and used chopsticks are on the table.
12. Bob eats salad for lunch each day and is a PETA member.
13. Karen bought six lottery tickets the previous day and quit work the next day.
14. When the phone rang and Liz picked it up, she was all smiles.
15. A child tries a new fruit and makes a disgusted face.
16. After feeding her dog Dolly crunchy food for years, Beth put wet food in Dolly's dish. Dolly would not touch it.
17. At 5 o'clock Jill saw her assistant's office light out and did not hear the sound of typing.
18. Mary served chocolate cake to her guests. All of her guests went back for second helpings of the cake.
19. A woman at the airport ran toward the arriving flight area.
20. With the storm raging outside and the rain pouring down, Billy looked out of the window. He dropped his kite and began sobbing.
21. Ted played games, had cake and ice cream, then watched as his friend opened his gifts.
22. A boy is wearing a Led Zeppelin T-shirt, glasses, and his shoes have mud on them.
23. The kids went swimming and then built a sand castle.
24. Two cars are stopped at a traffic light. The person in the second is honking and waving.
25. Nancy comes home from her date, runs to her bedroom and slams the door.

(adapted from: http://examples.yourdictionary.com/examples/examples-of-inference.html)

**Practice 2.**

Guess the riddles below.

1. I begin in the morning at sunrise and last until sunset. There are 365 ‘me’ in a year. ‘Night’ is my opposite. Who am I?
2. I am a season. When I come, it’s very cold outside. Birds usually fly South to avoid me. Who am I?
3. You can plant me and pick me. You can eat me on the cob or you can eat flakes of me for breakfast. You can also eat the pop-up version of me. Who am I?
4. I am an animal. I sleep with my eyes open. I have fins and can breath underwater. Who am I?
5. You can consume me. I can be white or brown, powdery or cubes. I taste like honey or candy. You can use me in your tea or coffee. Who am I?

**Practice 3.**

Write some clues or riddles leading to an inference. Let your friend make the inference.

Number 26.

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| Clues: |

Number 27.

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| Clues: |