The Waiting Room

Use text details to explain facts and support inferences.

4.P.3.1.A "Use information accurately from a text when explaining the text explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two facts the passage states directly, then circle two different clues that could help you infer how someone felt while waiting for inspection.

A Stop at Ellis Island

1 In the early 1900s, many immigrants arrived at Ellis Island in New York Harbor. After a long ocean trip, passengers traveling in the cheapest sections of ships were taken there for inspection. They carried bags, coats, and sometimes small bundles. From the island, they could see New York City, but they could not continue their trips until inspectors finished checking their health and papers.

2 Inside the main building, people climbed stairs to a large inspection room. Doctors watched them as they walked, looking for signs of illness or difficulty moving. Inspectors also asked questions and checked names against ship records. The room held rows of wooden benches where people waited. The checks usually took only a few hours, but a person who needed more examination might stay longer.

3 Most people who passed inspection left the island by ferry. Some met relatives in the city, while others took trains to places farther away. Being allowed to leave did not mean every problem was over. A new arrival might need to find work, learn unfamiliar streets, or speak a language they were still learning. Ellis Island was one stop in a much longer journey.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does the passage show that reaching New York Harbor was not the end of an immigrant's trip? Give two details from different paragraphs.

2. A visitor says doctors only examined people who said they felt sick. What detail from the text shows this claim is wrong?

3. Why might one person have waited longer than another at Ellis Island? Use a detail from the passage.

4. What can you infer about why some newcomers might have needed help after leaving Ellis Island? Use two details from the last paragraph.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine a museum displays one of the wooden benches from the inspection room. Write a three-sentence label explaining what sitting there might have felt like to a person waiting for inspection, and support your inference with two different details from the passage.

ANSWER KEY

The Waiting Room

GRADE 4 · 4.P.3.1.A

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two facts the passage states directly, then circle two different clues that could help you infer how someone felt while waiting for inspection. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the passage show that reaching New York Harbor was not the end of an immigrant's trip? Give two details from different paragraphs.	**Immigrants had to complete inspection before continuing their trips. After leaving the island, some took trains to places farther away.**
2	A visitor says doctors only examined people who said they felt sick. What detail from the text shows this claim is wrong?	**Doctors watched people as they walked, looking for signs of illness or difficulty moving.**
3	Why might one person have waited longer than another at Ellis Island? Use a detail from the passage.	**A person who needed more examination might have stayed longer.**
4	What can you infer about why some newcomers might have needed help after leaving Ellis Island? Use two details from the last paragraph.	**They might have needed help finding work or getting around unfamiliar streets. Some were also still learning a language.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A person sitting on this bench might have felt unsure about what would happen next. Inspectors checked names against ship records, and doctors looked for signs of illness. Someone who needed more examination might have to stay on the island longer.

Accept different reasonable feelings in the museum label if the student supports the inference with two accurate passage details. For question 4, accept any two needs named in the final paragraph.