

“By the Water”

Reading Comprehension – Short Stories

Directions: Read the story. Then answer the questions below.

I live in a house by the water.
I sit by the water each day.

I take my bag there with me.
In it, I pack a book, a blanket, a chair, and a basket of food.

I walk down my back steps and sit in the same spot along the grass.

When I go out to the water in the morning, I am alone.

I hear the water.
I see the boats.
I feel calm.

It is the part of the day I like best.

Later, some children come to play by the water.
It is afternoon.
I hear them laughing.
I see them play ball.

“Nestor, Nestor!” the children yell when they see me on the beach.
I wave and smile.
“Play ball with us, Nestor!” the children shout.
“No, thanks,” I say. “I am too old to play ball. I walk with a cane and my hands are no longer good at catching.”

I try to read my book, but it is hard with all the noise.

I watch mothers and fathers fish along the shore. I am happy.
I hear the water.
I see the boats.
I eat my lunch.

Later, the **sky gets dark**.
I gather all of my things and go back to the house.
I get in bed. I hear the water through my open window.
The sound puts me to sleep.



Questions:

1) Where does Nestor live?

- A. on a farm
- B. on a mountain top
- C. in a boat on the water
- D. in a house by the water

2) What does Nestor do each day?

- A. sit by the water
- B. play by the water
- C. run by the water
- D. swim in the water

3) What does Nestor bring with him to the water?

▼ Check all that are correct.

- A. a newspaper
- B. a blanket
- C. food
- D. his fishing pole

4) Who is with Nestor in the morning?

A. _____

5) What do the children do by the water?

▼ Check all that are correct.

- A. boat
- B. fish
- C. laugh
- D. play ball

6) When do children come to the water?

A. _____

7) What kind of person does Nestor seem to be?

- A. calm
- B. sad
- C. loud
- D. young

8) What does the children's noise make it hard for Nestor to do?

- A. eat
 - B. catch fish
 - C. read
 - D. sleep
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Questions (continued):

9) Who fishes?

- A. _____

10) Why doesn't Nestor play with the children?

▼ Check all that are correct.

- A. He feels he is too old.
B. He cannot catch.
C. He is very hungry.
D. He is very sleepy.

11) How do Nestor's feelings change during the story?

- A. from calm to sleepy to happy
B. from sleepy to calm to happy
C. from calm to happy to sleepy
D. from happy to sleepy to calm

12) What does Nestor mean when he says that the **sky gets dark** ?

- A. that it is night
B. that it is raining
C. that the wind is blowing
D. that the sky is angry

13) What is Nestor's favorite part of the day?

- A. the morning
B. when he is watching the children
C. the afternoon
D. the night

14) When does Nestor hear the water?

- A. only in the morning
B. only in the afternoon
C. only in the night
D. all the time

15) What is another way to say ***It is the part of the day I like best*** ?

- A. I do not like this part of the day.
B. I love this part of the day.
C. It is my favorite part of the day.
D. I like all parts of the day.

What is your favorite part of the day? Why?
