

“The Brenners”

Reading Comprehension – Short Stories

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

The Brenner family has a mom, a dad, three boys, two dogs, a hamster and four frogs.

They are very happy.

Their house is very small.

Mom and Dad share one bedroom.

The three boys share one bedroom. Their names are Billy, Bobby and Brad.

All the pets sleep in the living room.

Mr. and Mrs. Brenner came home today from the doctor with news. It is very **big news** .

“There are going to be two more of us,” Mrs. Brenner says with a smile.
“I am pregnant.”

Billy, Bobby and Brad cheer. “We will have a basketball team,” Billy says.

“And do you know what Dad and I have decided we need?” asks Mrs. Brenner?

“A coach?” asks Bobby.

“A bigger house,” Mr. Brenner says with a laugh.

Over the next week, the Brenner family starts looking for a new house.

On Monday, they see a brick house with a big front porch. It has three bedrooms. Mr. Brenner likes this one.

On Thursday, they see a wooden house with a big backyard. It has four bedrooms. Mrs. Brenner thinks this house is great.

On Saturday, they see a house with four bedrooms and a pool. The boys like this house a lot. They dream of having their friends over for a swim.

“But it’s smaller than the house we live in now!” Mrs. Brenner says.

All of the houses cost a lot of money.

“I think we need to save more money before we buy a bigger house,” says Mr. Brenner. Mrs. Brenner agrees.

Soon, two new babies arrive in their very small house. Their names are Beth and Brooke.

The two baby girls sleep in a crib by their parent’s bed.

Mr. Brenner buys a basketball hoop and puts it in the driveway.



Questions:

1) What is the Brenner house like?

▼ Check all that are correct.

- A. crowded
- B. dirty
- C. small
- D. empty

2) Who shares a bedroom?

- A. Dad and Bobby
- B. everyone
- C. Mom, Dad and Brad
- D. Billy, Bobby, and Brad

3) What pets do the Brenners have?

▼ Check all that are correct.

- A. three dogs
- B. a hamster
- C. four frogs
- D. a cat

4) How many dogs do the Brenners have?

- A. _____

5) What can be said about all the kids' names?

- A. They are all boy names.
- B. They all start with the letter "B."
- C. They are all long.
- D. They all end in "Y."

6) What is the **big news** ?

- A. Mrs. Brenner is pregnant with twins.
- B. The Brenners are moving to a new house.
- C. The Brenners are starting a basketball team.
- D. The Brenners are getting some new pets.

7) Why does Bobby say the Brenners need a coach?

- A. because Mr. Brenner is too busy to coach
- B. because they need help buying a house
- C. because they will soon have enough kids for a basketball team
- D. because Mrs. Brenner will not be able to coach while she is pregnant

8) Which house does Mr. Brenner like?

- A. the one with a pool
 - B. the one with a big backyard
 - C. the one with a big front porch
 - D. the one with four bedrooms
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Questions (continued):

9) What house does Mrs. Brenner like?

▼ Check all that are correct.

- A. the brick house
- B. the one with a big backyard
- C. the one with a big front porch
- D. the one with four bedrooms

10) Why do the boys like the house with the pool?

- A. It has the biggest yard.
- B. It is the biggest house.
- C. They are on the swim team.
- D. They want to have their friends over to swim.

11) How are all the houses they see alike?

- A. They are all very pretty.
- B. They are all very big.
- C. They each have four bedrooms.
- D. They all cost a lot of money.

12) What must Mr. and Mrs. Brenner do before buying a new house?

- A. get new jobs
- B. have the babies
- C. save more money
- D. move to a new city

13) What does Mr. Brenner put in the driveway?

- A. _____

How big is your family? Do you like this size? Why or why not?
