

“Vet Emergency!”

Reading Comprehension – Short Stories

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



It is 10:00 on a Saturday night. The doors to the animal emergency room fly open.

Cyrus carries a tiny black lab puppy into the building.

"Save him. Please!" cries Cyrus. "He ran out into the street and got hit by a car."

The puppy is whining. There is a lot of blood.

Dr. Williams comes from behind the desk. She reads the puppy's name tag.

"Here, let me take Lobo from you," Dr. Williams tells Cyrus gently. "I will take him in the back for x-rays and see what needs to be done."

When Dr. Williams gets to the back, she takes a closer look at Lobo. Her face looks **grim**. She can see the dog's leg is broken badly. She fears there is other damage she cannot see.

The assistants in the room are silent. Everyone knows that Lobo may not survive. If he does survive, his leg injury may be so **severe** that walking will be hard for him to do.

The x-rays show that Lobo's front leg has been broken in three places. He is also bleeding inside.

Dr. Williams gets to work. She knows she must stop the bleeding quickly.

The surgery takes two hours. Dr. Williams fixes the damage to Lobo's leg. She stops the bleeding inside his chest.

"I will go tell Lobo's owner that this little pup is going to make it," Dr. Williams says. "We'll see in a few weeks how well he will walk again."

Questions:

1) Where does this story take place?

- A. in a police station
- B. in a waiting room
- C. in a doctor's office
- D. in an animal hospital

2) What does the mood in the room seem to be?

- A. angry
- B. joyful
- C. relaxed
- D. tense

Questions (continued):

3) When does Dr. Williams know just how badly Lobo has been hurt?

- A. when Cyrus asks for help
- B. when she takes a closer look
- C. when she sees Lobo is a lab puppy
- D. when the doors to the emergency room fly open

4) Around what time did Lobo's surgery end?

- A. 10:00 at night
- B. 10:00 in the morning
- C. noon
- D. midnight

5) Which is the best synonym for **grim**?

- A. calm
- B. serious
- C. hopeful
- D. beautiful

6) How long is Lobo in surgery?

- A. _____

7) What kind of doctor is Dr. Williams?

- A. a pediatrician
- B. a dentist
- C. an internist
- D. a veterinarian

8) What does it mean to have a **severe** injury?

- A. to have a mild injury
- B. to not be able to run
- C. to not be able to walk
- D. to have a very bad injury

9) In how many places was Lobo's leg broken?

- A. _____

10) What does the reader know about Lobo by the end of the story?

▼ Check all that are correct.

- A. He will survive.
- B. He will walk fine.
- C. He is a black lab.
- D. He got hit by a car.