

Inferences - Activity 2

Inferences From What the Author Tells You

She trudged up the stairs to the fourth floor, unlocked the door to her apartment, staggered in, and collapsed into a chair. As she kicked off her shoes, she fanned herself with a newspaper and thought, "Why does the elevator always break down in this weather?"

Certain facts about the person and situation above are directly stated (explicit) in the paragraph. How much more information can you guess (infer) from what is indirectly stated (implied) in this paragraph?

The following eight sentences are inferences made from the information given in the paragraph. Some are correct inferences. Others are incorrect. By reading the sentences carefully and using the information given in the paragraph, you should be able to recognize the correct inferences. Don't make wild guesses. Be sure that you have enough proof to support the inference.

Put a check in front of each correct inference, then list supporting details that explain why each inference is correct or incorrect.

- ____ 1. It is five o'clock in the afternoon. _____
- ____ 2. It is raining. _____
- ____ 3. It is a very warm day. _____
- ____ 4. This is not the first time the elevator has broken. _____
- ____ 5. She is old. _____
- ____ 6. She lives on the fourth floor. _____
- ____ 7. She lives in Waipahu. _____
- ____ 8. She is tired. _____

Now read the following paragraph.

The first rays of the rising sun streak across the gym floor. The only sounds are the whir of the rope cutting the air and the light rhythmic thump of his feet. "Fifty-five, fifty-six, fifty-seven," he counts each time the rope passes before his eyes. He's determined to be in shape when he steps into the ring this time.

The following sentences are inferences made from the information given in the above paragraph. Put a check in front of each correct inference, then give supporting details explaining why the inference is correct or incorrect.

- _____ 1. The gym is crowded. _____
- _____ 2. It's early in the morning. _____
- _____ 3. He's a trapeze artist. _____
- _____ 4. He's a boxer. _____
- _____ 5. He's jumping rope. _____
- _____ 6. He's swinging from a rope. _____
- _____ 7. If he's not in good shape this time, he won't go into the ring at all.

- _____ 8. He lost the last event. _____