

Unit 5 Assessment



Outer Space

What Will the Moon Do Next?

By Laura W. Somers • Illustrated by Cathy Beylon

This trick will help you to find out.

As you look up at the moon, you can use a simple trick to find out if it's *waxing* or *waning*. We say the moon is waxing when it's on its way to becoming full. We say the moon is waning when it's losing a sliver each night.

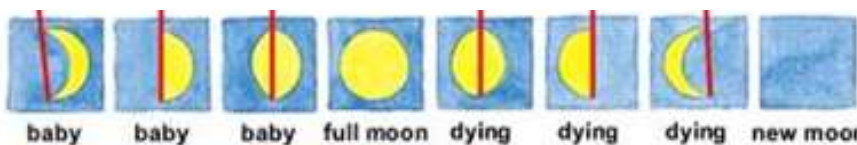


Here's the trick. Look at the moon, and draw an imaginary line where the center would be if the moon were full. Start at the bottom, and draw the line up the middle and past the top of the moon. The line and the lit side of the moon will form either a lowercase *b* or *d*.

The *b* stands for "baby." The baby moon is on its way to the full-moon phase. It will appear to grow each night until it is perfectly round.

The *d* stands for "dying." The dying moon is headed toward the new-moon phase. It will seem to become smaller each night until it can no longer be seen in the sky.

As the moon travels around the earth, the moon appears to change shape. But, in fact, the sun is simply lighting up different parts of the moon.



The red lines show how to tell whether a *b* or *d* is formed.

Directions: Answer the questions; you may look back at the selection as often as needed.

1. Where would you most likely find this text?
 - (a) Fairy Tales Book
 - (b) Poetry Book
 - (c) Diary
 - (d) Science Book

2. What phase of the moon comes just before full moon?
 - (a) baby
 - (b) dying
 - (c) new moon
 - (d) old moon

3. Which of the following would be true if there is a new moon?
 - (a) The night will be dark.
 - (b) You can only see the moon during the day.
 - (c) The night sky will have light from the moon.
 - (d) The full moon is about to come out.

4. What does it mean once the letter "d" is formed when you draw a line on the moon?
 - (a) That the moon is new.
 - (b) That the moon is full.
 - (c) That it is a new moon.
 - (d) That the moon is dying.

5. What explanation is given for the change in the moon's shape?
- (a) The moon plays a trick on people.
 - (b) The sun lights up different parts of the moon.
 - (c) The moon grows and dies each month.
 - (d) The sun moves the moon around.



Shadow on the Moon

One Sunday, Maria heard on the radio that there was soon going to be a total eclipse of the moon. It would be the first total eclipse of the moon in three years. Earth would block all of the sun's light from reaching the moon. The moon might turn brown, deep red, or even orange. Maria told her family about the eclipse. But no one remembered to write down when it would take place.

One night some weeks later, a full moon was rising. Maria's twelve-year-old sister, Dina, said, "I'm sure this is the night of the eclipse! This will be a once in a blue moon experience. I'll watch for it."

All during dinner, Dina kept getting up to look out the window. She knew that these things were few and far between. Just as dinner finished, she called out, "Look! It's starting."

Everyone rushed to the window. Outside, the full moon looked like a small slice had been cut away from it.

Mom ran out of the room to get the camera. Everyone else put on coats and hats.

An hour later, they all stood in the yard. "It's a good thing you looked out the window, Dina," said Mom. By then the moon had turned dark red.

Dina was over the moon. "The minute I saw the moon, I knew the eclipse had to be today," she said excitedly. "We learned about eclipses in school last year."

"If not for you, we would have missed it," said Maria. "Then we would have had to wait a few more years to see one with our own eyes."

6. What does the word eclipse mean in the reading selection?

- (a) The Moon is full so it has plenty of light.
- (b) The Earth blocks the sun's light from reaching the moon.
- (c) The moon and the sun light up the Earth.
- (d) The sun makes the Earth smaller.

7. What type of figurative language is used in the following sentence?

The moon was a white saucer in the sky.

- (a) alliteration
- (b) metaphor
- (c) personification
- (d) simile

8. What type of figurative language is used in the following sentence?

The boy ran like the wind to see the sunset.

- (a) alliteration
- (b) metaphor
- (c) personification
- (d) simile

9. Read the selection that follows. What word can be used in the selection instead of the word *total*?

*It would be the first **total** eclipse of the moon in three years. Earth would block all of the sun's light from reaching the moon.*

- (a) complete
- (b) small
- (c) incomplete
- (d) part

10. In the selection, Maria says, "*The eclipse happens once in a blue moon.*" What does she mean?

- (a) That the eclipse happens every day.
- (b) The eclipse rarely happens.
- (c) She sees the eclipse all the time.
- (d) The eclipse happens often.

11. What did Dina mean when she said, "*These things were few and far between,*"?

- (a) That they happened all the time.
- (b) That they are very difficult.
- (c) That they are funny.
- (d) That they don't happen often.

Directions: Choose the best answer for each of the following.

12. What is the meaning of the underlined phrase in the selection below?

*Jim didn't want to admit that his friend was stealing his money. He was happy **burying his head in the sand** and ignoring the problem.*

- (a) not admitting the obvious
- (b) putting his face in the sand
- (c) forgiving his friend
- (d) making excuses for his friend

13. What is the meaning of the underlined phrase in the selection below?

*The closer Jwan got to the front of the line, the more scared he became. He had never ridden a rollercoaster before and he had **butterflies in his stomach**.*

- (a) insects were in his lunch
- (b) a nervous feeling
- (c) a sick feeling
- (d) wanting to stop

14. What is the meaning of the underlined word in the selection below?

*The students were mad at the **injustice** of losing their recess because one student made a bad choice.*

- (a) pain
- (b) justice
- (c) silliness
- (d) unfairness

15. What is the meaning of the underlined phrase in the selection below?

*Brea knew the dress looked bad on Sally but she **beat around the bush** when Sally asked her opinion. After all, she didn't want to hurt her friend's feelings.*

- (a) refusing to talk
- (b) told her friend about a new bush she'd planted
- (c) told her friend the truth
- (d) avoided telling the truth

16. What is the meaning of the underlined word in the selection below?

*The coach refused to let the students sit **inactive** on the sidelines. She made everyone exercise.*

- (a) involved in activity
- (b) not active
- (c) playing
- (d) actively running

17. What is the meaning of the underlined phrase in the selection below?

*Bes invited all of her friends to her Birthday party. Then as an **afterthought**, she invited her little sister, too.*

- (a) idea after the fact
- (b) way not to be mean.
- (c) forced to ask
- (d) a decision

Assessment Breakdown

	Answer	CCSS	Skill
1	D	RI.3.7	Infer
2	A	RI.3.1 & RI.3.7	Retell
3	A	RI.3.1	Interpret
4	D	RI.3.7	Retell
5	B	RI.3.1	Retell
6	B	RL.3.4 & L.3.4a	Use Context Clues
7	B	RL.3.4 & L.3.5	Identify
8	D	RL.3.4 & L.3.5	Identify
9	A	RL.3.4 & L.3.4	Define
10	B	RL.3.4 & L.3.4a	Infer
11	D	RL.3.4 & L.3.4	Infer
12	A	L.3.4a & L.3.5a	Use Context Clues (Idiom)
13	B	L.3.4a & L.3.5a	Use Context Clues (Idiom)
14	D	L.3.4b	Infer (Prefix)
15	D	L.3.4a & L.3.5a	Use Context CLues (Idiom)
16	B	L.3.4b	Infer (Prefix)
17	A	L.3.4b	Infer (Prefix)