



Paper Dragon Fairy Tale

Once upon a time, on a wall in a little house in a country far away, there hung a beautiful paper dragon. It was carefully folded and looked almost lifelike. The dragon was painted the colors of the rainbow, and its tail was spread wide like the tail of a peacock.

Many years went by, and the people who lived in the house enjoyed the picture of the colorful dragon. People who came to visit the house stopped to see the brightly-colored dragon, but no one ever asked about where it had come from. A couple of times, someone took it down from the wall, only to put it on another wall in the little house, and arrange the tail slightly differently. Doing this, they felt a feeling of energy and of life. Something about holding the paper dragon made them feel free. Once, a stranger on his journey passed by the house and happened to see the beautiful dragon hanging on the wall. Struck by its beauty, he stared closely at the dragon. Without asking permission, he lifted down the dragon from the wall. He hung it over his arm and went out into the yard. With skilled fingers he tied a string around the dragon's body and quickly went to an open place. As a breeze began, the stranger carefully let out the string and ran into the wind. Up the dragon lifted into the air and it soared high above like a kite. The dragon seemed to be pulling higher and higher into the air, almost as though it was flying.

The people who lived in the house came outside to watch the man with the dragon. They were surprised to see their beautiful paper dragon flying above them, brightly colored and with its long tail flowing behind it. They began to think that, maybe, there was something about

this dragon that they had not noticed before. As the wind blew, the dragon happily danced in the air above. Without warning, the string broke, and the dragon flew higher and further away from them. The people below squinted as they looked up at the brightly colored dragon. Suddenly the little paper dragon began growing; its paper wings stretched wide and long. Its paper body began to change and the small creature flew higher and higher. The people below looked in amazement as the dragon came to life and flew away.

Turning to them, the stranger said, "Some things are just meant to be free."

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - (a) People love paper dragons.
 - (b) Dragons and people get along.
 - (c) Dragons and people are meant to be free.
 - (d) People should keep dragons in their houses.

2. How is the dragon described in the story?
 - (a) colorful and beautiful
 - (b) strange and boring
 - (c) angry and sad
 - (d) free and funny

3. How did the owners of the dragon feel when they saw it flying outside.
- (a) They were angry that it had left the house.
 - (b) They were sad that it flying away and going.
 - (c) They were surprised and interested to see it fly.
 - (d) They didn't see it fly away.
4. What did the stranger mean when he said, "Some things are just meant to be free."?
- (a) Being free is like flying in the sky.
 - (b) You should keep paper dragons in the house.
 - (c) Paper dragons can't be free.
 - (d) This paper dragon should be free.
5. What clues are given early in the story that the dragon is special?
- (a) When people touched the dragon they felt free.
 - (b) The dragon was painted the colors of the rainbow.
 - (c) The dragon was careful folded.
 - (d) No one ever asked where the dragon came from.
6. What do you think the author wants the reader to feel about the stranger who took the dragon?
- (a) Hurt that the stranger took the dragon from the house.
 - (b) Sad because the owners missed their dragon.
 - (c) Grateful that the stranger set the dragon free.
 - (d) Angry that the stranger took the dragon.

7. What is the message from this story?
- (a) It's not important to be free.
 - (b) Freedom is important.
 - (c) Being free is not that great.
 - (d) Not everything should be free.
8. Which of the following would make the best title for this story?
- (a) Why Dragons Breathe Fire
 - (b) Paper Dragons Are The Best Decorations
 - (c) Fly to Freedom
 - (d) The History of Dragons
9. Which detail in the passage clearly states the lesson of the story?
- (a) Some things are just meant to be free.
 - (b) The dragon came to life and flew away.
 - (c) No one ever asked where it came from.
 - (d) Struck by its beauty, the stranger stared at the dragon.

The Ancient and Modern Olympics



Ancient Olympics

1. In 776 B.C., a cook named Koroibos ran a 600-foot race called the *stadion* in Olympia, Greece. In this race, he beat male opponents from other city-states in Greece, as well as runners from nearby Turkey and Spain. This event was part of a religious festival designed to honor Zeus, the father of all Greek gods and goddesses. Since this event took place in Olympia, ancient Greeks called these Games the Olympics. In ancient times, the period between Olympic Games was known as an Olympiad. An Olympiad is a classical span of four years.

Modern Olympics

2. The first Modern Olympic Games took place in Athens in 1896. An estimated 241 men from 14 countries competed in the 1896 Olympic Games. These athletes participated in several events including tennis, cycling, wrestling, track and field, gymnastics, and fencing. Although Athens wanted to be a permanent host of the Games, de Coubertin stressed the importance of moving the games to different countries around the world. The Games were held in Paris in 1900, which marked the first time that women competed.

Recent Developments in The Olympics

3. In 1908, there was a push toward having a winter version of the Olympics. De Coubertin disagreed with this idea. The IOC went forward and established an “International Winter Sports Week” in Chamonix, France, in 1924. This event marked the beginning of the Winter Olympics. The Winter Olympics took place during the same year as the Summer Olympics for 70 years. The 1994 Games in Lillehammer, Norway, ended this schedule. Now, the Winter and Summer Games alternate at four-year intervals.

4. Currently, the Modern Olympics are the most well-known sporting event in the world. Billions of viewers watch the Olympics on television. The 2006 Winter Olympics in Torino, Italy, featured 84 events in 7 sports. Over two thousand athletes from 80 nations went to Italy to compete. The 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing, China, featured 302 events in 28 sports. More than ten thousand participants from 203 countries participated. Although many things have changed over the course of the Modern Olympics, the motto “*faster, higher, stronger*” has remained the same. Participants see these words and remember the grand history of the games.

10. What is the main difference between the Ancient Olympic Games and the Modern Olympic Games?

- (a) The Ancient Olympic Games involved all the countries of the world.
- (b) The Modern Olympic Games include more sports.
- (c) The Ancient Olympic Games were watched by billions of people.
- (d) The Modern Olympic Games only take place in Greece.

11. Which three countries took part in the first Ancient Olympics?

- (a) China, Italy, Canada.
- (b) Italy, China, France
- (c) Greece, China, Canada
- (d) Greece, Turkey, Spain

12. Which statement from the reading selection shows that Olympics are now important all over the world?

- (a) The Games were held in Paris in 1900.
- (b) The First modern Olympic Games took place in Athens in 1896.
- (c) The Winter and Summer Games alternate at four-year intervals.
- (d) More than ten thousand participants from 203 countries participated.

13. What do Modern Olympic Games have in common with Ancient Olympic Games?

- (a) Both involved more than one country.
- (b) Both have Winter and Summer Olympics.
- (c) Both have the same number of events.

(d) Both had women competing.

Assessment Breakdown

	Answer	CCSS	DOK Level	Skill
1	C	RL.3.2	3	Draw Conclusions
2	A	RL.3.1	1	Retell
3	C	RL.3.1	1	Retell
4	D	RL.3.3	2	Infer
5	A	RL.3.1	1	Retell
6	C	RL.3.2	3	Draw Conclusions
7	B	RL.3.2	3	Draw Conclusions
8	C	RL.3.2	2	Compare
9	A	RL.3.2	3	Assess
10	B	RI.3.3	1	Retell
11	D	RI.3.1	1	Retell
12	D	RI.3.8	3	Supporting Opinion
13	A	RI.3.3	1	Retell