

Name _____
 Date _____

• Reading Comprehension Assessment

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

Making a Shopping List

It is a good idea to make a list before you go food shopping. Some people do not like to make a shopping list because it can take time to write down all of the things that you need. However, there are many reasons why you should think about making one the next time you go shopping.

The first reason is that a shopping list helps you to save time. When you write the list, you should keep it **organized**. For example, you could write down all of the fruits and vegetables you need in one column. In the next column, you could list all of the meats you need. In another column, you could write down all of the frozen foods you need. Keeping your list in order will help you get your shopping done faster. By having an organized list, you will not need to go back and forth through the store to get all of the items on your list. This will help you save time in the store.



Another good reason to make a shopping list is that it helps you not to forget anything. You would not want to get home from the store and discover that you forgot to buy the bag of rice that you needed to make dinner that night. If you make a shopping list, you will be less likely to forget important items. This way you will never have to waste time by going back to the store to get the one thing you forgot to buy.

A shopping list can also help keep you from buying things you do not need. Without a list, you might not remember if you already have enough milk at home. You might buy the milk just in case you do not have any. Then, when you get home, you will see that you already had a full gallon of milk. The extra milk that you bought might go to waste. Other unnecessary items may be things like cookies or candy. If you make a list and stick to it, you will be less likely to buy junk food that you do not really need. This will save you money and might help you buy healthier food.

Although it can take you a few minutes to write out a shopping list before you go to the store, it is worth your time. As you can see, making a shopping list not only saves you time and money, it can also help you choose healthier food.

- 1) As it is used in paragraph 2, which word or phrase means the same as **organized**?
 - A. in order
 - B. short
 - C. close by
 - D. correct

- 2) The author says that a shopping list can keep you from buying unnecessary (not needed) items. The two examples of unnecessary items in the passage are
 - A. junk food and frozen foods
 - B. junk food and food you already have at home
 - C. a bag of rice and food you already have at home
 - D. a bag of rice and frozen foods

3) The author says that shopping lists can save you time by helping you

- I. stop yourself from buying junk food
- II. not have to go back to the store to get something you forgot
- III. spend less time in the store

- A. I only
- B. I and II only
- C. II and III only
- D. I, II, and III

4) Joe does not like to make shopping lists. According to the author, he most likely does not make shopping lists because he

- A. can remember what to buy without writing it down
- B. thinks that writing shopping lists takes too much time
- C. does not know how to write a good shopping list
- D. does not care about saving money

5) The author’s main purpose in writing this passage is to

- A. describe what shopping lists are
- B. help readers to write good shopping lists
- C. explain why some people do not like shopping lists
- D. show readers why shopping lists are helpful

6) Based on the information in the passage, summarize the author’s arguments in your own words. Why is it a good idea to write a shopping list?

7) Which one of the author’s arguments do you think is the strongest or most convincing? Which one do you think is the least convincing? Why?

- 8) The author of the passage only mentions one main reason why some people choose not to write shopping lists. What are some other reasons why people might not use shopping lists? Are any of these reasons actually more common or important than the reason that the author focuses on? Brainstorm and explain below.

- 9) Does your family use shopping lists? Why or why not? How does the passage influence the way you think about shopping lists? Will you start using them (or continue using them) after having read the passage? Why or why not?

1) A

Question Type: Vocabulary

organized (*adjective*): in order; arranged in a logical or orderly way; structured or planned.

In paragraph 2, the author writes: "When you write the list, you should keep it organized." We can use context clues—hints from known words or phrases around the unknown word or phrase—to help us figure out what the word organized most nearly means. Paragraph 2 explains how a shopping list helps you to save time. The author says that your list should be organized. He or she then says: "for example, you could write down all of the fruits and vegetables you need in one column. In the next column, you could list all of the meats you need. In another column, you could write down all of the frozen foods you need." Putting food items into different columns is a way to keep the list organized. Columns keep a list in a logical order—in other words, an order that makes sense. The author then says: "keeping your list in order will help you get your shopping done faster." We can see that organizing a list means putting it in order. Organized means in order. Therefore (A) is correct. Based on the above information, we can see that organized means in order. Short does not mean in order. Therefore (B) is incorrect. Based on the above information, we can see that organized means in order. Close by does not mean in order. Therefore (C) is incorrect. Based on the above information, we can see that organized means in order. Correct does not mean in order. Therefore (D) is incorrect.

2) B

Question Type: Detail

In paragraph 3, the author explains that a shopping list "can help keep you from buying things you do not need." The author then gives two examples. For the first example, he/she writes: "without a list, you might not remember if you already have enough milk at home. You might buy the milk just in case you do not have any. Then, when you get home, you will see that you already had a full gallon of milk. The extra milk that you bought might go to waste." In this example, milk is unnecessary (not needed) because it is a food that you already have at home. The author then gives the second example: "other unnecessary items may be things like cookies or candy. If you make a list and stick to it, you will be less likely to buy things like junk food that you do not really need." The second example of unnecessary food is junk food. The two examples of unnecessary food in the passage are junk food and food you already have at home. Therefore (B) is correct. The passage does not provide information to support choices (A), (C), or (D). Therefore they are incorrect.

3) C

Question Type: Global

In paragraph 4 the author explains how shopping lists can save you money. He or she says that shopping lists can keep you from buying things you do not need, like junk food. This is a way that shopping lists can help you save money and buy healthier food. It is not a way that shopping lists can save you time. This eliminates **option (I)**. In paragraph 3, the author says that a shopping list "helps you not to forget anything." If you never forget an important item, "you will never have to waste time by going back to the store to get the one thing you forgot to buy." Therefore, shopping lists save you time by helping you not have to go back to the store to get something you forgot. This supports **option (II)**. In paragraph 2, the author explains that a shopping list will save you time. He or she says that you should write an organized list. An organized list will "help you get your shopping done faster" because you "will not need to go back and forth through the store to get all of the items on your list. This will help you save time in the store." In other words, a shopping list will help you spend less time in the store. This supports **option (III)**. Therefore (C) is correct.

4) B

Question Type: Inference

Both the first and the final paragraphs explain why some people do not like shopping lists. In the first paragraph, the author writes: "some people do not like to make a shopping list because it can take time to write down all of the things that you need." In the final paragraph, the author writes: "it can take you a few minutes to write out a shopping list before you go to the store." These quotations show that the author thinks some people do not like to make shopping lists because they take too much time. This means that the author would likely think that Joe does not want to make a shopping list because he thinks that it would take too much time. Therefore (B) is correct. The passage does not provide information to support choices (A), (C), or (D). Therefore they are incorrect.

5) D

Question Type: Global

In the first paragraph, the author writes: "It is a good idea to make a list before you go food shopping." He or she then adds: "there are many reasons why you should think about making one the next time you go shopping." Throughout the passage, the author gives reasons why it is a good idea to make a shopping list before you go to the store. In the final paragraph, the author sums up all of the reasons: "making a shopping list not only saves you time and money, it can also help you choose healthier food." According to the author, shopping lists are helpful because they save time and money and they keep you from buying junk food. Based on this information, we can see that the author's purpose is most likely to show readers why shopping lists are helpful. Therefore (D) is correct. The author never explains what a shopping list is in this passage. He or she talks about shopping lists without telling readers what they are. The author likely thinks that readers already know what a shopping list is. Based on the above information, we can see that the author's purpose is most likely to show readers why shopping lists are helpful. Therefore (A) is incorrect. In paragraph 2, the author does give readers an idea about how to write a good shopping list. He or she tells readers to keep a list organized, then gives an example: "you could write down all of the fruits and vegetables you need in one column. In the next column, you could list all of the meats you need." Although this paragraph does tell readers how to write a good shopping list, it is the only part of the passage that does this. The passage as a whole shows readers why shopping lists are helpful. Therefore (B) is incorrect. Both the first and the final paragraphs explain why some people do not like shopping lists. In the first paragraph, the author writes: "some people do not like to make a shopping list because it can take time to write down all of the things that you need." In the final paragraph, the author writes: "it can take you a few minutes to write out a shopping list before you go to the store." Although these paragraphs do explain why some people do not like shopping lists, they are the only parts of the passage that do this. The passage as a whole shows readers why shopping lists are helpful. Therefore (C) is incorrect.