**Inferences Activities**

**What is an inference?**

 You make an inference when you use clues from the story to figure out something that the author does not tell you.

**Examples:**

* Turner almost wished that he hadn’t listened to the radio. He went to the closet and grabbed his umbrella. He would feel silly carrying it to the bus stop on such a sunny morning.

**1. Which probably happened?**

a. Turner realized that he had an unnatural fear of falling radio parts.

b. Turner had promised himself to do something silly that morning.

c. Turner had heard a weather forecast that predicted rain.

d. Turner planned to trade his umbrella for a bus ride.

* “Larry, as your boss, I must say that it’s been very interesting working with you,” Miss Valdez said. “However, it seems that our company’s needs and your performance style are not well matched. Therefore, it makes me very sad to have to ask you to resign your position effective today.”

**2. What was Miss Valdez telling Larry?**

a. She would feel really bad if he decided to quit.

b. He was being fired.

c. He was getting a raise in pay.

d. She really enjoyed having him in the office.

* Bill and Jessica were almost done taking turns choosing players for their teams. It was Jessica’s turn to choose, and only Kurt was left. Jessica said, “Kurt.”

**3. We can infer that**

a. Kurt is not a very good player.

b. Jessica was pleased to have Kurt on her team.

c. Kurt was the best player on either team.

d. Jessica was inconsiderate of Kurt’s feelings.

* [Sally Ann was over 80 years old. She lived in a small house with a very small fenced-in yard. She had just lost her 16-year-old dog and decided to get another dog right away. Sally Ann went to the animal shelter, and after looking at all the dogs, she narrowed her choice down to two. The first was a large, black, one-year-old retriever. He had a lot of energy and was used to running on acres of land. The second dog was a small, three-year-old mix. The people who had owned him said he stayed home alone all day and knew how to use a doggy door to go out to the yard.

**4.** **Which dog do you think Sally Ann chose?**](http://www.helpteaching.com/questions/121210/sally-ann-was-over-80-years-old--she-lived-in-a-small-house-;jsessionid=21779AC5221CE544797419E66C71B7AB)

a. Sally Ann chose the black one-year-old retriever.

b. Sally Ann chose the small three-year-old mix

c. Sally Ann did not chose either one of the dogs.

d. Sally Ann chose both dogs.

* “Mama, is it time to go?" I hadn't planned to cry, but the tears came suddenly, and I wiped them away with the back of my hand. I didn't want my older sister to see me crying. “It’s almost time, Ruri," my mother said gently. Her face was filled with a kind of sadness I had never seen before. I looked around at my empty room. The clothes that Mama always told me to hang up in the closet, the junk piled on my dresser, the old rag doll I could never bear to part with--they were all gone. There was nothing left in the rest of the house. The rugs and furniture were gone, the pictures and drapes were down, and the closets and cupboards were empty. The house was like a gift box after the nice thing inside was gone; just a lot of nothingness.

*from "The Bracelet" by Yoshiko Uchida* [**5. What conclusion can the reader draw after reading this passage?**](http://www.helpteaching.com/questions/23098/mama-is-it-time-to-go-----i-hadnt-planned-to-cry-but-the-tea;jsessionid=21779AC5221CE544797419E66C71B7AB)

a. Ruri is getting married and leaving her childhood home.

b. Ruri is going off to college.

c. Ruri's family is moving to another place.

d. Ruri's parents are divorcing.

**Answers:**

1. **C**
2. **B**
3. **A**
4. **B**
5. C