Inferencing  
03/19/2012

**Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Class: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Instructions: Read each question carefully and select the correct answer.**

"Ugh," thought Sylvia, "I can't do it, the work is just too hard!"  
 "Sylvia, time for dinner," her mother called.  
 Sylvia slowly got up from her desk and carefully turned to pick up her crutches. As she hobbled tentatively across the room she watched for her cat, Rumpus, who was always running between her feet. "If he runs under my feet now we'll both end up in a heap on the floor," she thought. As she continued slowly down the stairs, she thought about the last few weeks. It had been really tough for her to go back to school today, having spent three weeks in the hospital after the accident and six more weeks recovering at home. Not to mention, with the tons of medical appointments to keep, physical therapy exercises to do, and classes to take, how was she ever supposed to get caught up on all her schoolwork?  
 That night, Sylvia ate dinner, did her exercises, and decided the algebra would have to wait as she slipped into bed and fell asleep. In class the next morning, Jackie slid into the seat beside Sylvia, "Hi, Sylvia, how are you feeling today?"  
 "A little better, thanks Jackie," Sylvia replied, surprised at Jackie's sudden interest in her. Then again, Sylvia realized, she had never paid much attention to Jackie. She was new and Sylvia and her friends hadn't really been interested in getting to know her. Sylvia shook her head, thinking that her friends hadn't seemed too interested in Sylvia these past few weeks, either.  
 Jackie interrupted Sylvia's thoughts. "Were you able to get the homework done last night? It was a really long assignment, wasn't it?"  
 "It was long," Sylvia replied, "and I have missed so much. I really don't know how I will be able to catch up." Sylvia was surprised at herself as she wasn't usually so open with people.  
 "It must be so hard," Jackie said. "I had knee surgery two years ago, and I could hardly keep up with all the physical therapy and the doctor visits. Keeping up with school was impossible— I ended up going to summer school so I could stay with my class. If you would like I can come over a couple of nights a week, and we can work on our homework together. I can even help you with your exercises, because I bet I had to do some of the same ones you do."  
 "Jackie, that would be great." It sounded too good to be true, that someone might actually understand what she was feeling and want to help. "Did you really have to go to a lot of physical therapy and do all those awful exercises?" asked Sylvia.  
 "Oh yes, for months," nodded Jackie solemnly, "but they get much easier as you heal. Hey, we can show each other our scars, too!"  
 "Ewwww," Sylvia pretended to grimace and then smiled playfully. She didn't even realize that it was the first time she had really smiled in weeks.  
 Jackie noticed and returned the smile, "Will you draw me a map to your house? I know we live close to each other, but I still haven't figured out the neighborhood. What time can I come over?"  
 "Oh, it's really easy, let me show you." As Sylvia pulled out a piece of paper and began to draw, Jackie leaned over to watch. Both girls smiled to themselves, thinking how great it would be to have a friend.

**1.** How might Jackie have known that Sylvia had to go to physical therapy and do exercises?

**A.** Jackie knew a physical therapist.

**B.** Jackie had been to physical therapy and had done exercises after her surgery.

**C.** Sylvia had been doing her exercises at school.

**D.** Jackie's father was a physical therapist and taught Jackie the exercises.

**2.** What happened to Sylvia before the story began?

**A.** She had surgery on her knees.

**B.** She tripped over her cat and landed in a heap on the floor.

**C.** She was in an accident that injured her legs.

**D.** She fell down and hurt her legs.

**3.** Choose the answer that best describes Jackie.

**A.** a longtime friend of Sylvia's who knows a lot about physical therapy

**B.** a new student who is eager to help a new friend

**C.** one of Sylvia's friends who has not paid much attention to her since the accident

**D.** a new student in Sylvia's algebra class who skipped a grade

**4.** Which of the following genres best describes this passage?

**A.** fiction

**B.** autobiography

**C.** biography

**D.** nonfiction