Wilson Reading System®

Step Four Passages Student Packet



FOURTH EDITION

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Given the unique situation due to COVID-19 related closures, and our hope that teachers can continue with their students, Wilson Language Training will allow sharing of these passage pages directly to their own students. Please do not post to the Internet.

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A Cake for Mrs. Blake

The clock strikes six and Devin jumps out of bed. It's time to get going. He is off to work at the bake shop.

Devin's big task for the day is to bake a fantastic cake for Mrs. Blake. She plans to come into the shop at two o'clock to pick up the custom-made cake.

Devin's first step is to mix the contents to make a cake batter. Then, it's time to bake the cake in a pan. When the cake is done, it will have to sit out until it is not hot.

Mrs. Blake does not want a cake with lumps or one that tips to one side. So, Devin has to start with a great cake base. He uses the level-and-split method and makes sure to remove the top of the cake so that it is flat. Next, Devin uses the frosting like a paste and wipes it onto a cake board. This way the cake sticks to the board when Devin sets it down.

Using a knife, Devin then cuts around the sides of the cake with care. He keeps going until the cake is split in two. Then, he removes the top half. Using a stiff frosting, Devin pipes a dam in the shape of a circle onto the cake. Then, he fills the middle with a rich lime jam.

To finish things off, Devin puts the top of the cake back and frosts it. Mrs. Blake is sure to be glad when she takes a taste of this cake!

The Costume Ball

Kate put on her homemade costume for the fifth- grade fall ball. She was dressing as a dragon and her classmate, Mike, was going as a cat. Kate was quick to get ready. Her mom had to help so her dragon makeup would look good. She told Mike to get a move on because she did not want to miss the ball. It would be bedtime soon, and that was no fun to think about.

When Kate and Mike both had their costumes on, they knew they should get going. Kate's mom gave them a ride to the ball. On the way, Kate and Mike could not stop talking about how Eve, the host, almost had to postpone the ball. There was no way to foretell that the band would quit on the very day of the ball! However, Eve went on to hire a DJ, and she hosted the ball just the same.

When Kate and Mike got to the ball, there was a spine-chilling pumpkin at the front gatepost. The two pals went inside, and Eve handed them homemade milkshakes and kingsize cupcakes. Kate and Mike had a blast! This was the best fall ball yet!

A Japanese Lunch

Ren is from Japan, but as of last year, her home is in Dallas, Texas. Ren likes to share things from her Japanese life with her friends.

Ren invites her pal, Filip, to come over and have lunch one day. Ren tells Filip that she will make him a Japanese dish for lunch. Filip is pleased that Ren would think to do this for him. Ren must recognize that he has not had a Japanese lunch before.

Once Filip is at Ren's home, he is quick to contribute. The two work together to finish the job of making lunch. Filip takes a look in the pan and sees a dish like nothing he's ever seen before. It looks like a pancake, but it has shrimp, fish, and crisp vegetables. Ren's home smells fantastic! Filip wants to dig in right away!

Ren demonstrates to Filip how to grill the pancake so that it is not left incomplete. The pancakes get put on plates. Then, the two friends sit and snack on Japanese pancakes and sip on some lemonade.

No Olives for Me!

Do not be sad, but I say there is nothing in the world that tastes as bad as an olive. I sound like a critic, but I do not like them on my salads. I never did. I do not like them with my fish, and please do not put them in my chicken salad!

I know you are going to say, "Just taste one. They are very good." However, I used to try to like these black and green things. Once, I had to rinse the taste away with a gallon of water after just one bite!

One day, my friend Melvin found a new store and bought a jug of fresh olives. He went home and made fresh club sandwiches, then he called to invite me to have lunch with him. Melvin thought it would be a good joke to place the olives inside the sandwiches without telling me. I should recognize that Melvin would do something like this because he is always up to some kind of nonsense. I bit the sandwich and could tell right away. Olives! Yuck!

I know that I should think about more constructive and important things. I should not be so tense about my dislike for this small food with pits, but I am against them, I tell you that!