**Menese International Schools**

**Language Arts Grade 6**

**Reading Comprehension**

**Maxx the Funniest Kid in America**

**What is a fiction?**

Fiction is a story that is not true. It is written to entertain readers.

**What is a realistic fiction?**

It’s is a story that has characters and events that are like real characters and real events.

**What does Maxx want?**

Maxx wants to be the funniest kid in America.

**How can he get what he wants?**

He needs to be in Chicago in time for the audition.

**What is the setting at the beginning of the story?**

The characters are in a car on the high way 240 miles from Chicago.

**Why is the setting important?**

The setting is important because they are trying to get to Maxx’s audition in Chicago on time.

**Why does the author have Dr. Carmody mention how long it will take a mechanic to fix the car?**

The author has Dr. Carmody mention how long it will take a mechanic to fix the car so the reader figures out that Maxx will be late for his audition in Chicago.

**What happens that hurts Maxx’s chances of getting what he wants?**

Maxx’s father’s Volvo broke down, the radiator overheated. His step father Mario picked them up in his big rig which was very slow on the bumpy road. When he finally got to the audition, the contest was over.

**Why was Maxx embarrassed after he cheered for Mario?**

Maxx felt embarrassed after he cheered for Mario because he was afraid his father feelings would be hurt when he called his step father Mario ‘my man’.

**Why does Maxx have reason to feel helpful instead of discouraged?**

Maxx thinks that Mario’s 18- wheeler may get him to Chicago in time for the contest.

**Why do Maxx and Maude ride in the back of the big rig?**

There is not enough room for Maxx and Maude in the front cab, so the ride in the trailer.

**Why is Maxx impatient in the back of the big rig?**

Maxx is nervous about getting to his audition in Chicago on time. Also the trailer is cold and uncomfortable. Maud’s shuffling around annoys Maxx.

**How do you expect Maud’s allergic reaction to affect Maxx’s problem?**

Maud’s allergy will probably force Mario to stop the truck and delay the group, which means that Maxx will most likely not make it to the audition in time.

**Why does Mario need to know if the refrigerator fails?**

Mario is carrying perishable cherries that might spoil if the refrigerator fails during the trip.

**Why is Mario so sure that the cherries will not spoil?**

A cold front means that the temperature will be cold. The cherries will probably stay cool enough to spoil.

**Why does Maxx feel conflicted as soon as he arrives at the Balsam Auditorium?**

Maxx has seconds to get inside the auditorium, but he also wants to show Mario his appreciation.

**Has Maxx’s conflict been solved? Why?**

No, Maxx’s conflict has not been solved because he still wants to be the funniest kid in America.

**Why is Maxx frustrated with Maude?**

Maude thinks that her problems are worse than Maxx’s problems. Maxx is too upset to listen to Maude complain.

**After Maxx’s video is announced on TV how would you think his conflict might be resolved?**

Although Maxx didn’t win the contest, there is still a chance that he might be recognised by some people as the funniest kid in America.

**Why does Maxx feel that people are laughing at him not with him?**

Maxx doesn’t realize that people think he used the mooing in his video on purpose.

**How is Maxx conflict resolved?**

Maxx tape has been seen on TV all over the country and many people thinks that Maxx is the funniest kid in America. Maxx will also have a chance to perform at the Giggle Factory.

**What is a personal narrative?**

A personal narrative is a short piece of writing. It tells about the writer’s thoughts, feeling, actions, and reactions to something about his life.

**How does Michael Witzer get ideas for his comedy acts?**

Michael Witzer pays attention to the things around him and finds the humour in them.

**Why does Michael Witzer suggest involving the audience and starting jokes with something believable?**

Michael Witzer wants to draw people in with something everybody can relate to.

**What does Michael Witzer mean when he says “as long as he has a microphone in his hand and hears laughs, it feels like home”?**

Michael Witzer feels comfortable when he hears the audience laughing at his jokes.

**Why does Michael Witzer compare stand-up comedy to taking a test?**

Michael Witzer says that both, stand-up comedy and taking a test are really easy if you are prepared.

**How would you think Maxx Carmody and Michael Witzer would get along? Why?**

I think Maxx Carmody and Michael Witzer would possibly get along very well because they are both comedians.

**How might Maxx’s experiences help you see the bright side of a difficult situation in your own life?**

Maxx’s experiences show me that you can’t always control everything. Also good things sometimes happen even when you don’t expect them.

**Are You Laughing at me?**

**How is Michael Witzer like Maxx Carmody?**

Both, Michael Witzer and Maxx Carmody are young comedians. They get enjoyment out of making other people laugh.

**What advice would you give to people who face setbacks on the path to reaching their dreams?**

Almost everyone faces setbacks when following their dreams. Learn from your mistakes and do not give up.