

Bob, Jim, and Kathy pedaled slowly up the hill. They could see the schoolhouse just at the crest of the hill. The sight seemed to make them pedal even slower. On the way, they passed many students. Some they played with every day, but others they had not seen since the last day of school.

Finally, Bob, Jim, and Kathy got to the schoolyard. They parked their bikes and locked them. They didn't have any books to carry into school yet. But, they would be bringing books home. Teachers always give out the books right away. A mean teacher might even give you homework immediately. Ugh!

**It is likely that:**

- a) It is the first day of school.
- b) It is a Friday.
- c) It is the day after a long holiday.

Ms. Petke tapped the lectern with a long stick and said, "That was better, but still not perfect. We've got to practice so that two weeks from now, when the show goes on, you'll all sound perfect. Absolutely perfect." She tapped the stick again.

"Now, let's try it one more time," she said. "I want those bass notes to be really bass, boys. I want those soprano notes to be crystal clear, girls. Tenors, I expect you to come through full and clear. Now you sound like a bunch of birds with sore throats!"

The students laughed, then shuffled their feet and cleared their throats. They were ready to try again.

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**It is likely that:**

- a) The students are studying birds.
- b) Ms. Petke is teaching the students how to play the piano.
- c) Ms. Petke is leading a singing class.

Mr. Rodriguez walked into the classroom. "Good morning, class," he said in English. They replied in English. But English was not their normal language. Their normal language was Spanish.

The students sat, perfectly still, with their hands folded on their desks. They wondered why Mr. Rodriguez had spoken in English. They waited to hear what he would say.

"Today, children, we will begin with our social studies lesson. We will study the country to the north of us. It is not the biggest country in the world. It is probably the most powerful country. As you know, the people of that country speak English. In some sections, however, the people speak Spanish, just like we do. This is especially true in parts of New York City, Florida, and the Southwest. Miguel, what is the name of the country we are studying?"

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**It is likely that:**

- a) Miguel will not know the answer.
- b) The country they are studying is the U.S.A.
- c) The country they are studying is Mexico.

## **Inference Reading Comprehension**

**Practice Cards** provide an easy way to help students develop a critical reading skill. Each card in this set has been leveled for a 3.5–5.0 reading level.

Inference cards consist of a leveled reading passage and a multiple choice question that asks students to infer something from the text.

You may want to introduce the set of cards to the students by making an overhead transparency of a few cards to work through as a class. Once students become familiar with the cards, they can use them independently as take-home practice, in a reading center, or as reading and responding practice in small groups. Each card features the answer on the reverse side for easy self-checking.

Continual practice with Inference cards reinforces a reading comprehension skill essential for all areas of study.