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Best Foot Forward

Though Jessica Cox was born without arms, she still dreamed about flying an airplane. As a teen, Jessica shunned her heavy prosthetic arms and used her agile feet to do everything. She brushed her hair, typed on a keyboard, and drove a car with her nimble toes. Jessica then trained her feet to flip switches and press buttons on a huge control panel as she steered a plane through the sky! Now she flies all over the world to tell her story to large crowds.



Sentence by Sentence

Date: _____

Vocabulary to Visualize:

shunned: ignored or rejected

prosthetic: an artificial body part like a foot or a hand

agile: quick and skillful in moving

nimble: able to move easily and quickly

control panel: a screen that operates a device or vehicle

1 First Sentence: Though Jessica Cox was born without arms, she still dreamed about flying an airplane.

What did those words make you picture? _____

What did you picture for...

1. Jessica Cox? _____

2. her without arms? _____

3. her dreaming? _____

4. an airplane? _____

2 Second Sentence: As a teen, Jessica shunned her heavy prosthetic arms, and used her agile feet to do everything.

What did those words make you picture? _____

What did you picture for...

1. her prosthetic arms? _____

2. her using her feet? _____

3. her feet being agile? _____

4. her doing everything? _____

18 One Tough Kitty

Sentence by Sentence

Date: _____

A carefree four-year-old named Jeremy peddled his bike around his sunny front yard. All of a sudden, a mean stray dog ran up behind Jeremy and dragged him off the bike. When the panicked boy yelled for help, a black and gray blur streaked toward the growling dog. Jeremy's fearless cat Tara latched her sharp claws onto the large dog's face. Little Tara hissed and scratched until the attacker whimpered and ran away for good.



Vocabulary to Visualize:

streaked: moved or ran very fast

latched: grabbed and held

whimpered: gave a soft cry of sadness or pain

1 First Sentence: A carefree four-year-old named Jeremy peddled his bike around his sunny front yard.

What did those words make you picture? _____

What did you picture for...

1. Jeremy? _____

2. Jeremy peddling? _____

3. the yard? _____

4. Jeremy's mood? _____

2 Second Sentence: All of a sudden, a mean stray dog ran up behind Jeremy and dragged him off the bike.

What did those words make you picture? _____

What did you picture for...

1. the dog? _____

2. the dog running? _____

3. the dog dragging? _____

4. Jeremy's mood now? _____

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Tragedy to Victory

In 2011 a deadly earthquake and crashing tsunami toppled buildings along Japan's coast. Afterwards, the women's soccer team still practiced on their ravaged field. Mere months later, the resilient women flew halfway around the globe and laced up their cleats for the World Cup tournament. They won a spot in the final game and worked together, passing and shooting hard. Then the final whistle sounded, and the Japanese players jumped up in sweet triumph.



Sentence by Sentence

Date: _____

Vocabulary to Visualize:

tsunami: a huge sea wave

ravaged: ruined and destroyed in a violent way

resilient: able to withstand shock, or to recover quickly

cleats: shoes with studs on the bottom that aid grip, used for soccer

World Cup: an international soccer tournament that happens every four years

1 First Sentence: In 2011 a deadly earthquake and crashing tsunami toppled buildings along Japan's coast.

What did those words make you picture? _____

What did you picture for...

1. Japan's coast? _____

2. the earthquake? _____

3. the tsunami? _____

4. buildings toppling? _____

2 Second Sentence: Afterwards, the women's soccer team still practiced on their ravaged field.

What did those words make you picture? _____

What did you picture for...

1. the team? _____

2. the team practicing? _____

3. the field? _____

4. how the women feel? _____
