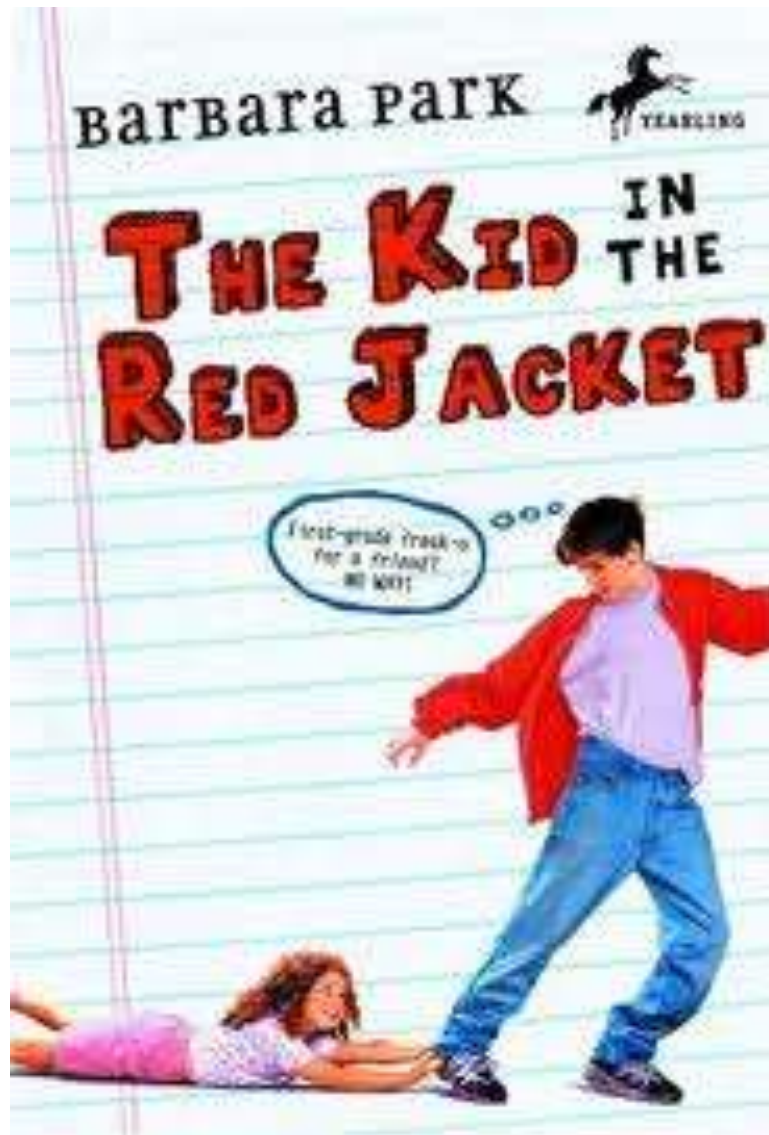


The Kid in the Red Jacket

By Barbara Park



Question Booklet

Name _____

Vocabulary:

blubbing: crying noisily
dismally: unhappily

1. Who is telling this story? _____

2. How old is Howard? _____

3. Why is Howard's family moving to Massachusetts?

4. Write **four** descriptive words that show Howard's feelings about moving.
Write the **page number** where you found each word.

5. At the top of page 6, Howard says he was "muffling my blubbing sounds with my pillow." In this sentence, muffle means which of these dictionary definitions?

- a. definition 1
- b. definition 2
- c. definition 3

muf·fle
1. <i>verb</i> , to wrap or cover for warmth
2. <i>verb</i> , to wrap or cover up to deaden sound
3. <i>verb</i> , to hide or conceal an emotion

6. What question is answered on page 9?
- a. Why did Howard's grandmother give him pajamas?
 - b. Why did Howard lock the door to his room?
 - c. How many boxes did the movers pack in Howard's room?
 - d. How long did the movers spend packing Howard's games?

Vocabulary:

CB radio: a radio similar to a walkie talkie, often used by truckers

heartless: completely lacking feeling

sauntered: walked in a slow, relaxed manner

Bozo: a clown character



1. On pages 16 and 17, Bill the basset hound is described in every way EXCEPT:
- a. sleepy
 - b. smelly
 - c. limp
 - d. dirty

2. Why did Howard think that Gaylord should have been named Bob?

3. Why did Howard think that the little girl was weird? Give **two** examples.

4. What question is answered on page 27?

- a. Why was Molly in the dog crate?
- b. How did the cat's fur catch fire?
- c. How did Molly lose her teeth?
- d. What did Molly call her grandma?

Vocabulary:

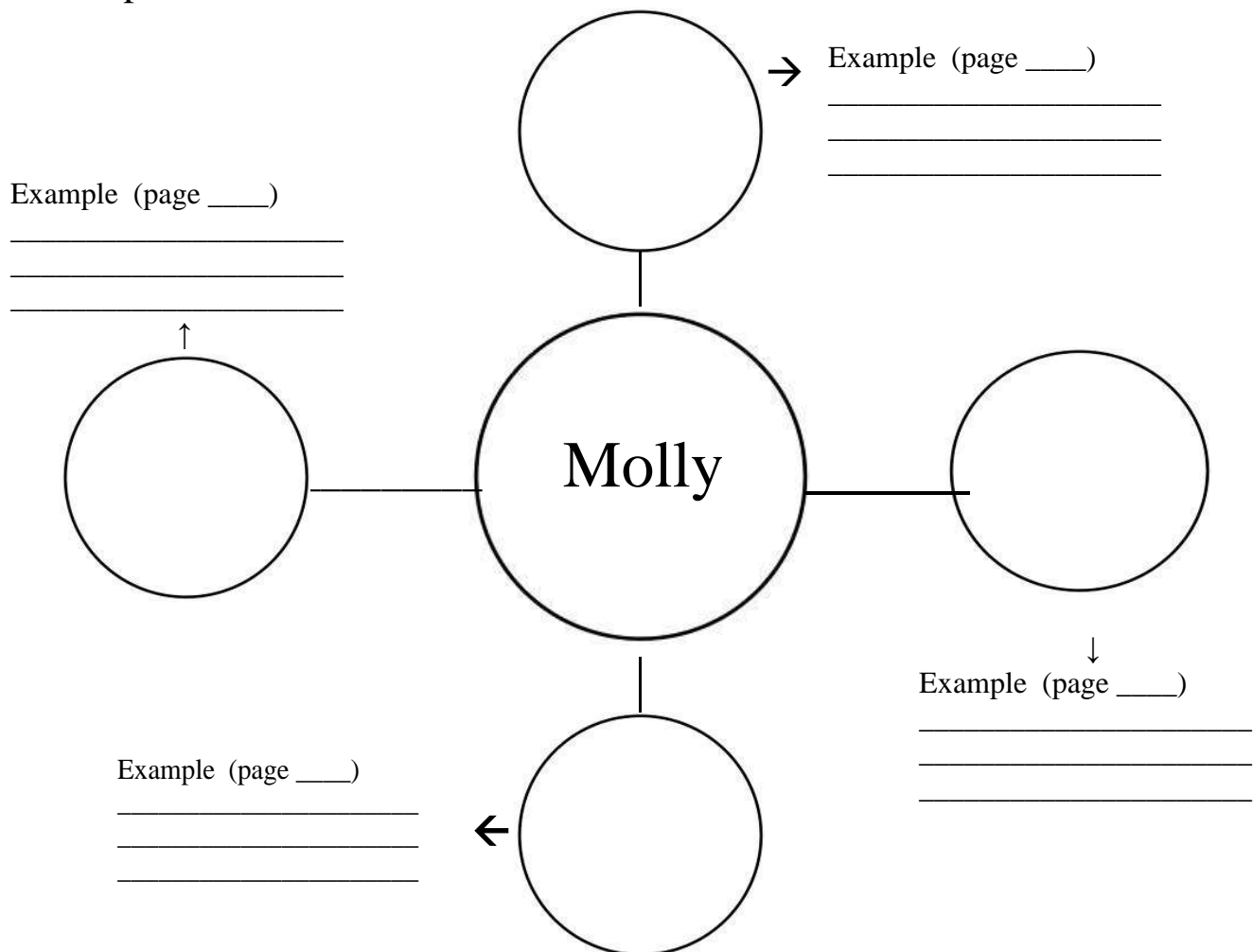
Smurfs: blue cartoon characters

persisted: continued, kept going



1. How does Howard feel about Molly? _____
2. On page 30, what does Howard's mother say about Howard playing with Molly? _____
3. On page 36, how does Molly react when Howard says he hears her mother calling? _____
Why? _____

4. Use the Bubble Thinking Map below to list Molly's character traits. Include a specific example for each character trait and the page number where you found the example.



Vocabulary:

- lurking: hiding and waiting
- lunkhead: a dull or dumb person
- gawk: stare openly and rudely at someone
- bawl: sob, cry loudly
- retorted: responded sharply, talked back

1. On page 41, what does Howard mean when he says that he has an “overactive imagination” ? _____

2. What are **two** examples of Howard’s overactive imagination?

3. “Even in a lunchroom crowded with kids, you can feel lonely. Loneliness can strike anywhere – just like the stomach flu.” Write about **two** things that happen on his first day of school explain Howard’s thinking.

4. On page 46, Howard says that he was “meekly dropping my garbage inside.” What does meekly mean?

- a. happily
- b. quickly
- c. roughly
- d. quietly

Vocabulary:

foster home: a family that temporarily takes care of children who are unable to stay with their parents

1. How does Howard feel when he returns home from school? _____

2. What does his family do when Howard tells them about his day? _____

3. On page 53, what happened **immediately before** Howard's mom brought in the plate of cookies?

- a. Gaylord was taken out of the room
- b. Molly tried to tickle Gaylord
- c. Molly tried to pick up the baby
- d. Molly came inside without knocking

3. **Describe** Howard's behavior towards Molly. Is he being kind? _____

4. Do you think Howard should be forced to play with Molly? _____

5. On pages 56 and 57, Howard's mom shares all of the following information about Molly EXCEPT:

- a. She likes the name "Howard Jeeper."
- b. She has lived in a foster home.
- c. She flew without an adult on an airplane.
- d. She has had a difficult year.

6. **Who** gave Madeline to Molly? _____

7. **Why** did Molly share Madeline with Howard? _____



Vocabulary:

- megaphone: a cone used to increase the volume of a speaker's voice
- lay-up: a one-handed basketball shot
- lavatories: bathrooms

1. What is Howard's definition of "scouting"? _____

2. Where is Howard scouting? _____
3. Explain the title of the book. _____

4. How does Howard feel about this name?

5. Using context clues from the book and explanations from characters, define the following expressions.
 - "Cat got your tongue" _____
 - "Horn in" _____
 - "Beat a path to your door" _____
 - "Take the bull by the horns" _____
6. On page 76, what did Howard do immediately after his mom "shook her head disgustedly" and told him he didn't have to play with Molly?
 - a. He let Molly in.
 - b. He rolled his eyes.
 - c. He colored with Molly.
 - d. He kicked the front door.
7. Why is Howard excited about the phone call? _____

8. Why is Molly excited about the phone call? _____

Vocabulary:

- frantic: wild with fear or frustration
- mockingly: in a teasing, disrespectful manner
- berserk: out of control with anger or excitement

1. What are the **five** stages of friendship that Howard describes on page 83?

2. Howard says that “keep-away’s always mean” but he still throws Molly’s doll back and forth with Ollie. Why? _____

3. How did Pete react to the keep-away game? _____

4. On page 95, what did Howard do as soon as he entered his house?

- a. He went to talk to Gaylord.
- b. He tiptoed into the nursery.
- c. He sat down next to the crib.
- d. He let out a sigh of relief.

5. After the football game, **why** does Howard think about Ronald Dumont?

6. What new ideas does Howard have about Ronald? _____

7. Why has Howard changed his mind? _____

Vocabulary:

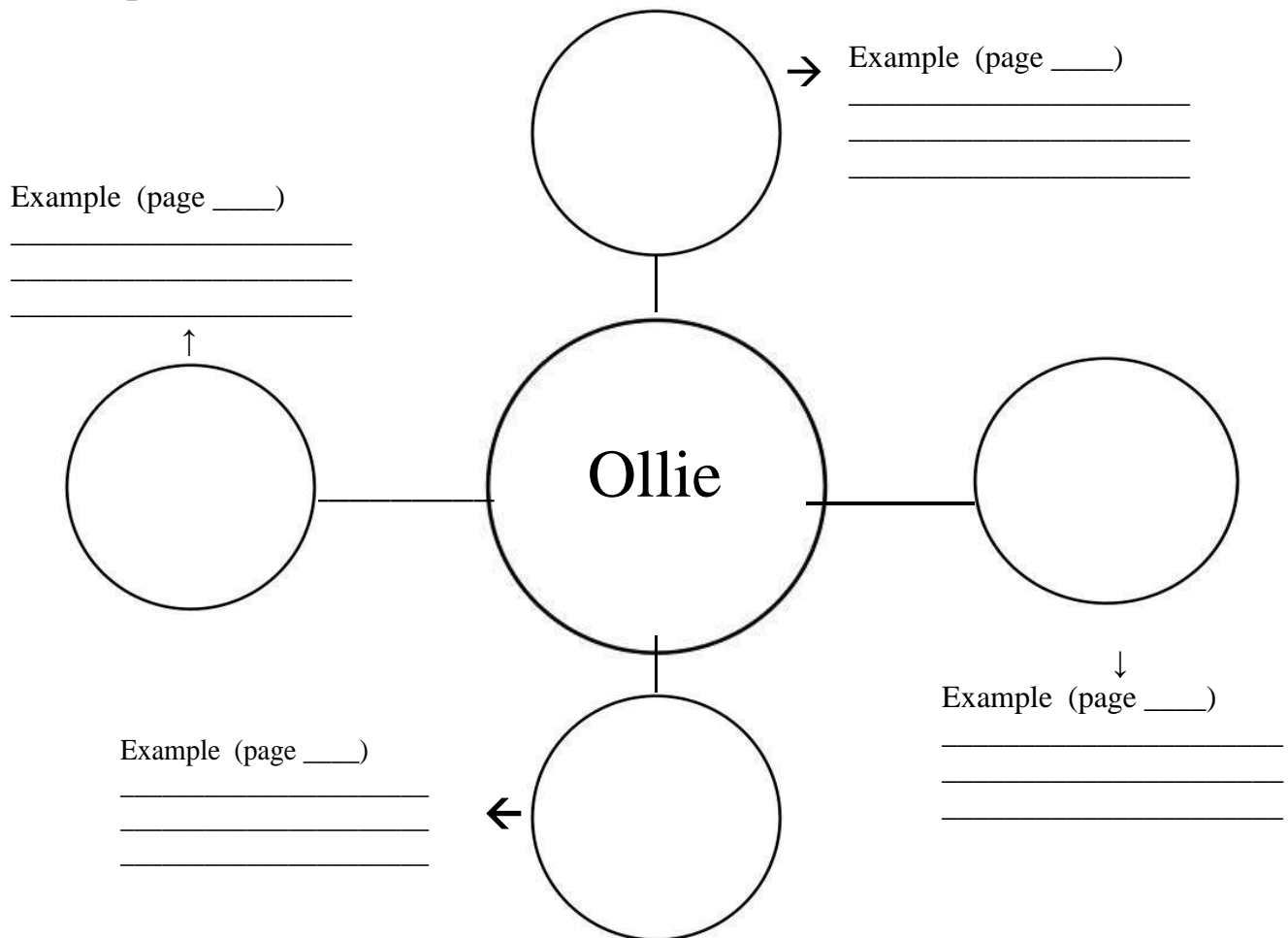
exasperated: very angry and impatient

1. On page 100, what does Howard mean when he says “ ‘I’m sorry’ is a pretty “lightweight apology”? _____

2. What do you think of Howard’s new behavior towards Molly? Why is he behaving this way? Is he being kind? _____

3. What did Molly promise to do if Howard didn’t get divorced from her? _____

4. Use the Bubble Thinking Map below to list Ollie’s character traits. Include a specific example for each character trait and the page number where you found the example.



5. Why does Howard tell Ollie that Gaylord is taking a nap? _____

6. Howard says “when you write to a friend, you don’t have to make up a bunch of lies.” How does Howard describe Molly in his letter to Thornsberry?

Your Thoughts:

Due: _____

1. What was your favorite part of “The Kid in the Red Jacket”? Explain why.

2. What did you like the least about “The Kid in the Red Jacket”? Explain why.

3. To whom would you recommend this book? Why? _____

Take the AR test for “The Kid in the Red Jacket” and report it here.

AR Test Grade_____