

CFMS



5th Grade

BLIZZARD BAG #2

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Directions: Read the selection.

The Noblest Deed

by Grant Lyons



Once there was an old man who wanted to leave a diamond to one of his three sons. But he could not decide which one. He called the three sons into his room, and this is what he told them.

“My sons, I am not a rich man. The only thing I have that is worth much is this diamond. It has been in our family for generations, and I would not want it sold. Because it cannot be sold or divided, I can give it to only one of you. The diamond will go to whichever of you accomplishes the noblest deed in a week’s time. Go now. Return in a week to tell me what you have done.”

A week passed, and the sons returned. They found their father weak and unable to leave his bed. He asked each in turn to tell his story.

"My father," said the first son, "I thought and thought of a deed that would be worthy. Finally, this is what I did. I gathered together all of my property, divided it in half, and gave one half to the poor people of the city."

The old man shook his head, "Ah, that is a good deed," he said, "but not truly noble. After all, it is our duty to be as generous as we can to the poor."

"When I was returning home from work one day," said the second son, "I saw a little girl caught in the swift current of the river. Though I can hardly swim myself, I jumped into the river and pulled her out. The current was so swift, I almost drowned."

"That, too, is a good deed, and yet not noble," said the father. "All should be willing to risk their lives for the sake of a child."

Then the third son told his story.

"Father, a wonderful thing happened to me. I was walking high up in the mountains early one morning. There I saw a man sleeping at the very edge of a cliff! I could hardly believe my eyes. For if he turned in his sleep, the man would be certain to fall over the cliff! I crept closer, as quietly as I could, for I didn't want to startle him. And guess who the man was? Sancho, my bitterest enemy! Many times he had threatened to hurt me if he got the chance.

"I moved as close to this man as I could. Gently I put my arms around him. Suddenly his eyes opened, and I saw he was afraid. 'Do not fear,' I said. With that I pulled him toward me and rolled with him, away from the cliff.

R

Reading

"We both stood up, and he said, 'I came this way last night. It was so dark that I could not see my own feet! I was too tired to go on, so I stepped off the path to sleep. I had no idea where I was! I see now that if I had walked a little farther, or turned in my sleep, I would have become food for the vultures. You have saved my life—I, who have threatened to hurt you!'

"We threw ourselves into each other's arms and swore to be friends forever. Each of us found a friend, where before there had been an enemy!"

"Ah, my son!" exclaimed the old man. "That is a beautiful story, and a truly noble deed. It is a rare person who will risk his life for the sake of his enemy. A *noble* person. The diamond is yours!"

Directions: Use the selection to answer questions 37 – 43.

37. What does the third son do to help Sancho?
- A. He gives Sancho half of his land.
 - B. He gives Sancho half of his money.
 - C. He rolls Sancho away from the edge of the cliff.
 - D. He saves Sancho from drowning in the current.

38. What are the two reasons the father does not want his diamond sold? Write your answer in the **Answer Booklet**. (2 points)
39. The diamond will go to whichever of you **accomplishes** the noblest deed in a week's time. Go now. Return in a week to tell me what you have done.

What words or phrases from the selection help define the word **accomplishes**?

- A. Go now.
- B. Return in a week
- C. noblest deed
- D. what you have done
40. Why does the third son tell his father that his experience was wonderful?
- A. He has made an enemy into a friend.
- B. He has risked his life and lived to tell the tale.
- C. He has made his father proud of him.
- D. He has earned his father's only diamond.

R

Reading

41. What are two lessons the sons learn from their father? Write your answer in the **Answer Booklet**. (2 points)

42. How does Sancho react when he first sees the third son?

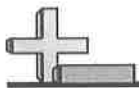
- A. fearfully
- B. angrily
- C. joyfully
- D. shamefully

43. "Ah, that is a good deed," he said, "but not truly noble. After all, it is our duty to be as **generous** as we can to the poor."

Which word is a synonym for **generous**?

- A. wealthy
- B. brave
- C. giving
- D. concerned





Determine the number that correctly fills in the blank in the function machine.

32	70	56	7	34	40
56	54	30	4	99	3

Answers

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____

1)

Input	Output
84	104
	76
97	117
7	27
22	42

2)

Input	Output
81	71
70	60
40	
73	63
95	85

3)

Input	Output
8	32
10	
9	36
7	28
6	24

4)

Input	Output
6	3
	2
8	4
20	10
16	8

5)

Input	Output
78	93
	18
72	87
7	22
71	86

6)

Input	Output
44	
74	64
94	84
90	80
95	85

7)

In	5	6	4	2	3
Out	40	48		16	24

8)

In	90	20	60		100
Out	9	2	6	7	10

9)

In	61	42	40	56	97
Out	77	58		72	113

10)

In	21	75	105	15	52
Out	15	69		9	46

11)

In	5	4	3		10
Out	35	28	21	49	70

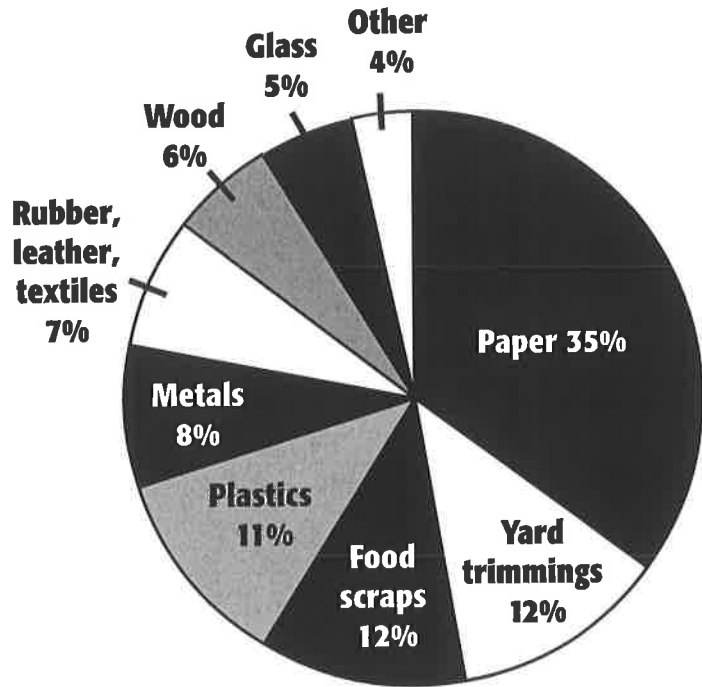
12)

In	42	30	18	36	
Out	7	5	3	6	9

TOO MUCH TRASH!

Each year, Americans produce more than 236 million tons of garbage. About 72 million tons of that garbage get recycled. What are we tossing into the trash? Find out by reading the pie graph.* Then use the graph to answer the questions.

* Figures in the graph are rounded.



SOURCE: U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

- Which kind of item do Americans throw away the most? _____
- Which two categories together make up 24% of our trash? _____

- Plastics, wood and glass make up what percentage of our trash? _____

- True or false: Paper and yard trimmings make up more than 50% of our trash. _____
- What percentage of our trash is NOT made up of paper? _____
- What is one way that you could reduce the amount of trash that you create in school?
Give two examples.



Share this page with a family member. Then, together, come up with one way that you could reduce the amount of garbage that you create at home. Write your idea on the back of this page.