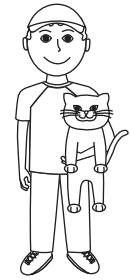


Name: _____

Date: _____

Answers

The Day I Saved the World!



A **hyperbole** is an exaggeration so dramatic that it is obviously not true. Read the story and underline the hyperboles. Then answer the questions that follow.

When I woke up on Thursday morning, I had no idea that the world was in danger. The morning started off as usual, but when I walked outside, I could tell something was horribly wrong. Across the street I saw my neighbor, old Miss Henderson, standing in her front yard crying a river of tears. In between sobs, she was calling, "Buttons! Buttons come down!" I looked up and saw her orange tabby sitting high up in the tree, hissing and meowing.

Miss Henderson's cat is the meanest cat on the planet, but I knew I had to do something to help. So I ran across the street, faster than a speeding bullet. When I got to Miss Henderson's side, she fell to her knees and cried, "My poor, sweet Buttons! She is my whole world. I can't live without her! Please, save her!" I looked around and saw a ladder leaning against the house. I dragged it over to the tree and propped it up. Without thinking, I started climbing towards Buttons, but as I climbed I realized how high the tree was. It stretched up for miles and disappeared into the clouds above. I took a deep breath and tried not to look down.

As I got closer to Buttons, I noticed how big she was—nearly the size of a full-grown lion. She hissed at me as I approached and then yowled so loudly, I'm sure people could hear her from the other side of town. "Is everything okay?" Miss Henderson called up. I assured her that Buttons was safe, but secretly, I was a little nervous about grabbing that terrifying beast of a cat. I decided to wait until Buttons stopped hissing.

It must have been hours, maybe even days, but Buttons finally calmed down. I pulled her gently from the tree and started climbing back down. I was still hundreds of feet above the ground, but I hurried down the ladder in a flash, holding Buttons tightly in one arm. When I reached the bottom, I handed Miss Henderson her cat. "You're a hero! A god among men!" Miss Henderson exclaimed, patting my back. "You're bravery is unmatched," she continued as I smiled.

Miss Henderson has been alive since the dinosaurs roamed the earth, so she's seen a lot. But even so, she had never seen someone as brave as me. I really was a hero! It felt good to save the world. But now, it was time for me to go to school.



1. Choose one of the hyperboles you underlined. **Sample Answers**

a) What does it say? Miss Henderson was crying a river of tears.

b) What does the narrator really mean? She was crying a lot.

2. How does the use of hyperbole help you understand what the narrator is feeling throughout the story? The hyperboles help me understand how the narrator perceived the world and the events that occurred; I could picture how big the tree seemed or how old Miss Henderson appeared.