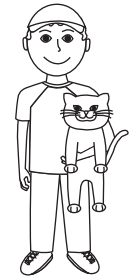


Name: _____

Date: _____

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. "Your 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.

a) What does it say? _____

b) What does the narrator really mean? _____

2. How does the use of hyperbole help you understand what the narrator is feeling throughout the story? _____