



DOQ 6.10

Subject: English Language Arts

State: New Jersey

Student Name: _____

Teacher Name: _____

School Name: _____

Read this passage about a girl trying out for a soccer team. Then answer the questions that follow.

Soccer Cinderella

by Monica A. Harris

1. Cindi sometimes felt different from her friends. She liked sports, baseball caps, and chewing gum, all things that her friends were definitely not interested in.
2. In early spring, a flyer arrived in the mail. *City Co-Ed Soccer Team Tryouts! Saturday only*. This was it! A chance to be herself.
3. Saturday seemed to take forever to arrive. “Soccer shoes, water bottle, sweatpants, and, oh, can’t forget my lucky cap,” Cindi said, packing her bag.
4. As she parked her bike at the field, her heart sank. Her eyes searched from one end of the field to the other. “Please . . . oh please . . . let there be just one,” she thought. How could her luck be so bad? Of the 50 kids there, not one was a girl! Cindi felt as though she stuck out like a sore thumb.
5. “Time for Plan B,” she sighed, and darted behind the concession stand. She pulled on the sweatpants and tucked her hair up into her cap. Her heart raced as she tied her shoes. “Calm down,” she thought, “just try to blend in.” Keeping her head down, she walked over to the field.
6. The coach’s assistant handed out numbers to wear. “13, just perfect,” Cindi sighed.
7. The first tryout drills divulged Cindi’s many talents. Cindi dribbled the ball with ease, ran the fastest through the footwork obstacle course, and made passes that were always on target. “Nice work, 13,” the assistant said. Cindi was thrilled.
8. For the final tryout, the kids were to kick the ball past the goalie. He was the star of last year’s team and was tough to beat. When Cindi faked to the left, the goalie moved in for the block, but she wheeled around and shot to the right. Goal! The coach jotted something on his clipboard.

9. Each player made several attempts. A few of the boys got the ball past him, but Cindi scored every time. On the final round of shots, Cindi decided to try a direct kick over his head. Unknown to her, someone had stepped on her shoelace, and it was now untied. As she made the final kick, not only did the ball go flying into the net, but it was followed by her shoe! All the kids laughed and pointed. The assistant let out a cheer, "Double goal!"
10. Cindi was horrified! As she felt the tears begin to pool in her eyes, she ran to her bike. She rode home as fast as she could. Her tears blurred her vision, and her heart felt like stone. Cindi ran through the front door and scrambled up the stairs to her room. She threw herself on the bed.
11. A few hours had passed when there was a knock at the door. Her mother called her to come downstairs. "What now?" she wondered. As she rounded the corner, she came face to face with the soccer coach and his assistant. Her heart skipped a beat.
12. "Hi Cindi. I believe I have something that belongs to you," the coach said, slowly pulling her shoe from behind his back.
13. "Sorry, I've never seen that shoe before," Cindi lied.
14. "That's funny. It has 'C. Rella' written in it. You are Cindi, aren't you?"
15. "Yeah," she answered, "but that's not my shoe."
16. "Well, then it won't hurt to try it on," the assistant said.
17. Cindi rolled her eyes and sat down on the chair. She arched her foot as they tried it on, but luck wasn't on her side. The shoe slipped on with ease and seemed to hug her foot perfectly.
18. "Okay, it's mine," she said while taking it off. "I'm sorry. I guess I shouldn't have been there today."

19. "First of all," the coach said, "you had every right to be at the tryouts. The team is co-ed, which means it's open to boys and girls. Unfortunately, we haven't had any girls show up . . . until now."
20. The coach knelt down so that he could see Cindi's face. "We came by to ask you if you'd like to play on the team. You have a lot of talent, and we could use your help getting to the championship this year."
21. Cindi was shocked. This was it! A chance to be herself. "I'd be honored," she answered with a bow.

1 Why is Cindi disappointed when she arrives at the soccer field?

- (A) None of her friends are there.
- (B) There are only boys trying out.
- (C) The players are bigger than she is.
- (D) There are too many kids trying out.

2 Read this sentence from the passage.

Cindi felt as though she stuck out like a sore thumb.

Which phrase **best** explains how Cindi felt?

- (A) concerned about playing with an injury
- (B) unsure that she could play well enough
- (C) confused as to how to change her clothes quickly
- (D) uneasy about being different from the other players

3 Read these sentences from the passage.

The first tryout drills divulged Cindi's many talents. Cindi dribbled the ball with ease, ran the fastest through the footwork obstacle course, and made passes that were always on target.

In the first sentence, what does "divulged" mean?

- (A) exhausted
- (B) limited
- (C) repaired
- (D) revealed