

Name _____

Read the selection. Then answer the questions that follow.**Racing with Turtle**

In the famous race between Rabbit and Turtle, Rabbit felt sure he would win. That's why he stopped to rest during the race. Turtle was a slow and steady runner, and he won.

Turtle was astonished that he had beaten Rabbit. He knew the reason he had won was not that he ran fast, but that he hadn't stopped once. However, when reporters asked Turtle to explain his win, he replied, "I practiced a lot."

The following day, articles about Turtle appeared in the newspapers. By now he felt extremely important. Rabbit, on the other hand, felt terrible because he knew he was quicker than Turtle. Rabbit's friends tried to cheer him up by saying, "Good things never happen to people who are too proud to do the right thing. Maybe you'll feel better if you call Turtle."

Rabbit called, but Turtle rudely said, "I don't have time to talk."

A month later, Snail invited Turtle to race him. Turtle thought, "Losing is impossible."

Rabbit watched the race, in which Snail was a steadier runner. Rabbit waved to both of them, but only Snail waved back.

Of course, Snail won the race.

Turn the page.

Answer the questions below.

1 Which of these is *not* important to the plot of the story?

- Rabbit watched the race between Snail and Turtle.
- Snail won the race against Turtle.
- The newspapers had articles about Turtle’s win.
- Turtle beat Rabbit in their race.

2 Which of these is true about the setting of this story?

- The story recently happened at a well-known zoo.
- The story occurred during the winter.
- The story happened in a make-believe time and place.
- The story took place all in one day.

3 Which of these *best* describes the way Snail raced?

- carelessly
- steadily
- proudly
- speedily

4 How were Rabbit and Turtle *alike* before the races?

5 Describe the changes in Turtle’s feelings about himself from the beginning to the end of the story.

Common Core State Standards

Questions 1–3: Literature 1. Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.
Questions 4, 5: Literature 3. Describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events.