

The Train

I had never been on a train before. It was my first trip to see my grandmother. I was so happy. We were going to visit her for the summer.

My mother and I left in the morning. We went downtown. We went to a big train station. There were so many people there. I said, "How do we know where our train is?"

"It's the one going to New Orleans. See the sign. It says New Orleans. And it says Track 22. So we will go to Track 22."

Just then I heard a big noise. "Screech! Screech!"

"What's that noise?" I asked.

It's the brakes of the train. Just like our car, a train has brakes. When the train comes into the station they slow it down. They use the brakes.

We found the train and got on it. Then we sat down and waited for it to start. I was looking out the window. I saw the train on the next track. There were people in it. I waved at them. They waved back. This was fun.

Just when I was about to ask when we would start, I felt the train move. It was so smooth. It was like riding on a sled. I thought the train ride would be bumpy, like riding in a car. I was surprised.

I turned to tell my mother what I thought. But she had fallen asleep. The train was so smooth it was easy to sleep. I slept, too. When I woke up, it was nighttime. We were in New Orleans.

"This is going to be a great summer," I said. "I'm so glad we made this trip."

CCSS Anchor Reading Standard 1. **Read closely** to determine what the text says **explicitly** and to **make logical inferences** from it; **cite specific textual evidence** when writing or speaking to **support conclusions** drawn from the text.

1. Sequence: Which event happened first? Which happened last?
2. Character Traits: Name one character. What is one trait you infer that character has? Explain why you think that.
3. Motive: What is something that person does? Why do you think that person does that?
4. Summarize: Summarize the story in four sentences. Tell about the characters and what they do.
5. Main Idea: What do you think is the main idea of the story? Why?