

I was flying home from New York. I was looking forward to seeing my family. I had been away for a week. I missed my children.

The plane took off on a bright morning. Then after three minutes there was big trouble. I saw a fire outside. One of the engines was on fire.

I said to the woman next to me, "We have to go back. We're going to crash." The woman was so worried she could not talk.

Then the stewardess came and told us we need to land. "It will be hard. So brace yourselves. Put your head down. Hold tight." She sounded brave. But her face was so worried. Still, she was doing her job, taking care of us.

I looked at the woman next to me. I said, "I hope we're ok. Let's pray for the best. I believe people should help each other. So I will pray for you, too."

I was praying to be saved when there was a big thud. The plane had hit something. Later I found it was the river.

When I got out of my seat, there was another passenger just standing there. He was dazed. "Take my hand," I said. "Let's go."

So I pulled him along as I went to the emergency exit. Then we were on the wing of the plane. We were standing in the river. I was too surprised to think about anything.

Then we got on a rescue boat. I hugged the fireman on the boat. "Thank you for saving my life," I said. "Thank yourselves," he said. "And your captain. He's my hero today."

I found my cell phone was in my pocket. I took it out and called my family. When they answered the phone I said, "Don't worry, I'm fine, but there was problem. I will see you later. I will be so glad to be home with you."

Identify, analyze, and infer relationships – Fiction

Questions developed by Center for Urban Education for use by Chicago Public Schools 2008-2009.

Choose the best answer for each question.

1. Why did the passenger hold the other person's hand?

- a. She was afraid.
- b. She had many friends.
- c. She did not know what to do.
- d. She helped other people..

3. How did the passenger feel about her family?

- a. She loved them.
- b. She worried about them.
- c. She was going home to them.
- d. She would not be home soon.

2. Why did the fireman say the captain was a hero?

- a. He was smart.
- b. He admired him.
- c. He had put out the fire.
- d. He had gotten off the plane.

4. How did the stewardess feel about the passengers?

- a. worried
- b. sad
- c. responsible
- d. careful

5. *Write your own answer to this question. Who is another hero in this story, besides the captain? Why?*

TEACHER NOTES: Develop Students' Skills: Exercise Thinking

These questions have not been validated, so decisions about student's achievement should not be made based on their responses. They are intended to exercise skills. Recommended activities include: students work in pairs to choose the best response; give students the questions without the responses so they generate their own answers; students make up additional questions; students make up questions like these for another passage.

Answers: *You can remove this answer key and then give it to students and ask them to figure out the basis for the correct response.*

Item	1	2	3	4
Answer	d	b	a	c

Question 5 is open-ended. Here is a suggested response.

The stewardess; she helped even though she was afraid. The passenger; she helped others.