

My grandmother lives in Phoenix. It has been ten years since she moved there. I was only 2 years old when she left Chicago because she had to move to a warmer climate. She had difficulty living here because the winters in Chicago were too cold. Her doctor advised that she could not stay in such a cold climate. She was sorry to leave because she had her family and her friends here. But soon she made more friends in Phoenix.

My mother goes to visit her in winter. I can't go because I have to be in school, but last summer I went for a long visit. I went all by myself, and it was a wonderful trip because I love my grandmother and I got to fly for the first time.

I traveled by plane to Phoenix. Since I had never been on an airplane before, I was very excited. When we landed, the pilot said it was 110 degrees. I thought I had not heard him clearly. It had never been that hot in Chicago. I asked the passenger next to me, "Did he say 10 degrees?" She said, "No, 110. That's Phoenix weather."

I got off the plane and saw my grandmother. We were both so happy I was there, and she gave me a big long hug. Then we went to get my suitcase. It took about 10 minutes to get it. I was worried that they had lost it, but there it was.

Then we went outside, and I was so surprised. I felt like I was like in a heater. It was hotter than I had ever felt. It was 110 degrees.

We went to the bus stop. The bus came right away, and I got on and was so glad it came so quickly. It was air-conditioned just like the buses in Chicago. But in Phoenix you really need that air conditioning. It took about 30 minutes for us to get to her block. I didn't mind the long ride because it was interesting to look outside the window. People had brown grass; it was all dried out. They didn't have trees, but they had really big cactus plants. I had never seen such big cactus plants. The only ones I had seen before had been small ones at the Conservatory.

When we got off the bus, we had to walk three blocks to her apartment. I was so hot again, and I asked my grandmother, "How can you live in such a hot place?"

"Oh, you get used to it," she said. She was right, because it took a few weeks, but I got used to the heat. It was hottest in the middle of the day, and stayed inside when it was hottest. We went out in the morning when it was cooler, and at night it even felt cold.

I went home at the end of summer. My mother came to meet me at the airport. She hugged me and picked up my suitcase. Then we got on the bus. She asked about my trip, and I told her, "You're lucky you don't go in summer. But it is always great to be with grandma." My mother said, "I miss her a lot, so next time I'll go with you."

## Identify/Classify Sequence – Fiction

Questions developed by Center for Urban Education for use by Chicago Public Schools 2008-2007.

*Choose the best answer for each question.*

1. What is the first thing that happens in the story?

- a. The grandmother goes to the doctor.
- b. The grandmother moves to Phoenix.
- c. The mother visits the grandmother.
- d. The grandmother visits Chicago.

3. What happens after the grandmother comes to the airport?

- a. They get on the bus.
- b. She hugs her granddaughter.
- c. They get the suitcase.
- d. She feels hot.

2. What happens after the grandmother moves to Phoenix?

- a. She buys a house.
- b. She comes back to visit.
- c. She makes new friends.
- d. She is too hot.

4. What happens at the end of the story?

- a. The mother goes to visit Phoenix.
- b. The mother meets her daughter.
- c. The grandmother comes to visit.
- d. The daughter makes another trip.

5. *Write your own answer to this question. What happens after they get off the bus in Phoenix?*

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### 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	a	c	b	b

Question 5 is open-ended. Here is a suggested response.  
They had to walk to the apartment.