

Today, you will read a story titled “Jamaica’s Find” and poem titled “Polliwogs.” As you read, think about the actions of the characters, events, and language of the writing. Answer the questions to help you write an essay.

Read the story titled “Jamaica’s Find” by Juanita Havill. Then answer Questions 1 through 4.

Jamaica's Find

By Juanita Havill

① When Jamaica arrived at the park, there was no one there. It was almost supper time, but she still had a few minutes to play.

② She sat in a swing, pushed off with her toes, and began pumping. It was fun not to have to watch out for the little ones who always ran in front of the swings.

③ Then she climbed up the slide. There was a red sock hat on the ladder step. Jamaica took it for a ride. She slid down the slide so fast that she fell in the sand and lay flat on her back.

④ When she rolled over to get up, she saw a stuffed dog beside her. It was a cuddly gray dog, worn from hugging. All over it were faded food and grass stains. Its button nose must have fallen off. There was a round white spot in its place. Two black ears hung from its head.

⑤ Jamaica put the dog in her bicycle basket.

⑥ She took the hat into the park house and gave it to the young man at the counter.

⑦ The first thing her mother said when Jamaica came in the door was: "Where did that dog come from?"

⑧ "The park. I stopped to play on the way home," Jamaica said. "I found someone's red hat and took it to the Lost and Found."

⑨ "But, Jamaica, you should have returned the dog, too," said her mother. Then she said, "I'm glad you returned the hat."

"It didn't fit me," Jamaica said.

(10)

"Maybe the dog doesn't fit you either," her mother said.

"I like the dog," said Jamaica.

(11)

"Don't put that silly dog on the table!" Jamaica's brother said.

"You don't know where it came from. It isn't very clean, you know," her father said.

(12)

"Not in the kitchen, Jamaica," her mother said. Jamaica took the dog to her room. She could hear her mother say, "It probably belongs to a girl just like Jamaica."

(13)

After dessert, Jamaica went to her room very quietly. She held the dog and looked at it closely. Then she tossed it on a chair.

"Jamaica," her mother called from the kitchen. "Have you forgotten? It's your turn to dry the dishes."

(14)

"Do I have to, Mother? I don't feel good," Jamaica answered.

Jamaica heard the pots rattle. Then she heard her mother's steps.

(15)

Her mother came in quietly, sat down by Jamaica, and looked at the stuffed dog, which lay alone on the chair. She didn't say anything. After a while she put her arms around Jamaica and squeezed for a long time.

"Mother, I want to take the dog back to the park," Jamaica said.

"We'll go first thing in the morning." Her mother smiled.

(16)

Jamaica ran to the park house and plopped the stuffed dog on the counter.

"I found this by the slide," she told the young man.

17 "Oh, hi. Aren't you the girl who gave me the hat last night?"

18 "Yes," said Jamaica, feeling hot around her ears.

19 "You sure do find a lot of things. I'll put it on the Lost and Found shelf."

20 Jamaica stood watching him.

21 "Is that all?" he asked. "You didn't find anything else, did you?"

22 "No. That's all." She stayed to watch him put the dog on a shelf behind him.

23 "I'm sure some little girl or boy will come in after it today, a nice little dog like that," the young man said.

24 Jamaica ran outside. She didn't feel like playing alone. There was no one else at the park but her mother, who sat on a bench. Then Jamaica saw a girl and her mother cross the street to the park.

25 "Hi. I'm Jamaica. What's your name?" she said to the girl.

The girl let go of her mother's hand.

26 "Kristin," she said.

"Do you want to climb the jungle gym with me, Kristin?" Jamaica said.

27 Kristin ran toward Jamaica. "Yes, but I have to find something first."

28 "What?" asked Jamaica. Kristin was bending under the slide.

29 "What did you lose?" said Jamaica.

"Edgar dog. I brought him with me yesterday and now I can't find him," Kristin answered.

30 "Was he kind of gray with black ears?" Jamaica couldn't keep from shouting. "Come along with me."

31 The young man in the park house looked over the counter at the two girls.

"Now what have you found?" he asked Jamaica.

32 "But this time Jamaica didn't drop anything onto the counter. Instead, she smiled her biggest smile. "I found the girl who belongs to that stuffed dog."

33 Jamaica was almost as happy as Kristin, who took Edgar dog in her arms and gave him a big welcome-back hug.

1. Part A

What does **pumping** mean as it is used in Paragraph 2 of “Jamaica’s Find?”

- a. Filling something with air
- b. Feeling hungry
- c. Pushing something back and forth
- d. Running

Part B

Which statement **best** supports the answer to Part A?

- a. “...always ran in front of the swings.”
- b. “Then she climbed up the slide.”
- c. “She sat in a swing, pushed off with her toes...”
- d. “It was almost suppertime.”

2. Part A

In Paragraph 16, Jamaica returns the stuffed dog to the park house. How does she feel about doing this?

- a. Proud
- b. Unhappy
- c. Embarrassed
- d. Afraid

Part B

Which detail from “Jamaica’s Find” supports the answer to Part A?

- a. “...feeling hot around her ears.”
- b. ““You sure do find a lot of things.””
- c. “She didn’t feel like playing alone.”
- d. “Now what have you found?””

3. Part A

At first, Jamaica doesn’t want to return the stuffed dog, but she changes her mind. What good thing happens **to Jamaica** because she returned the stuffed dog?

- a. She made a new friend.
- b. The man at the park house was very proud of her.
- c. Kristin had Edgar dog again.
- d. She got to keep the dog after all.

Part B

Which detail from the story **best** supports the answer to Part A?

- a. ““Now what have you found?””
- b. “Kristin...took Edgar dog in her arms and gave him a big welcome-back hug.”
- c. “She smiled her biggest smile.”
- d. ““Do you want to climb the jungle gym with me, Kristin?’ Jamaica said. Kristin ran toward Jamaica.”

4. Fill in the table.

- a. "“Maybe the dog doesn’t fit you either...”” (Paragraph 10)
- b. "“Don’t put that silly dog on the table!”” (Paragraph 11)
- c. "“It was a cuddly gray dog, worn from hugging.”” (Paragraph 4)
- d. "“Instead, she smiled her biggest smile.”” (Paragraph 32)

<u>Line from the text</u>	<u>What the line makes the reader think</u>
	The dog was very special to someone.
	People in Jamaica’s family didn’t want her to keep the dog, because it was messy.
	People in Jamaica’s family didn’t want her to keep the dog, because it belonged to someone else.
	Jamaica felt very proud of her actions, and happy that she had made a new friend.

Read the poem titled "Polliwogs" by Kristine O'Connell George. Then answer questions 5 through 8.

Polliwogs

Kristine O'Connell George

1) Come see
2) What I found!
3) Chubby commas,
4) Mouths round,
5) Plump babies,
6) Stubby as toes.
7) Polliwogs!
8) Tadpoles!

9) Come see
10) What I found!
11) Frogs-in-waiting—
12) Huddled in puddles,
13) Snuggled in mud.

5. Part A

What does the poet show about polliwogs in the poem?

- a. Their shape
- b. Their size
- c. How they hide
- d. Their color

Part B

Which detail from the poem **best** supports the answer to Part A?

- a. "chubby commas / mouths round / plump babies / stubby as toes."
- b. "huddled in puddles / snuggled in mud."
- c. "Come see / what I found."
- d. "Frogs-in-waiting."

6. Part A

What literary device does the poet use?

- a. alliteration
- b. simile
- c. white space
- d. rhythm

Part B

Which detail **best** supports the answer to Part A?

- a. "Come see / what I found."
- b. "chubby commas"
- c. "stubby as toes"
- d. "huddled in puddles"

7. Part A

The narrator seems excited to find polliwogs. What is so exciting about this?

- a. They are round and fat.
- b. They will be frogs one day.
- c. They are the same as tadpoles.
- d. They live in the mud.

Part B

Which statement **best** supports the answer to Part A?

- a. "Frogs-in-waiting"
- b. "Mouths round, plump babies"
- c. "Snuggled in mud"
- d. "Come see / what I found...Come see / what I found!"

8. Part A

Fill in the table.

- a. Metaphor
- b. Repetition
- c. Internal Rhyme
- d. Assonance

<u>Line from Poem</u>	<u>Literary Device</u>
“Come see / what I found!” (Lines 1-2 and 9-10)	
“Mouths round” (Line 4)	
“Chubby commas” (Line 3)	
“Huddled in puddles / snuggled in mud.” (Lines 12-13)	

A blank sheet of white paper with a black border. The page contains 21 horizontal black lines, evenly spaced, running across the width of the page. These lines are intended for writing or drawing.

A blank sheet of lined paper with 20 horizontal lines for writing. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page.