

Today, you will read a passage titled “Remya Jose’s Great Idea.” As you read, think about the actions of the character, events and language of the writing. Answer the questions to help you write an essay.

Read the story titled “Remya Jose’s Great Idea” by Sunita Apte. Then answer Questions 1 through 6.

Read the abridged version of the nonfiction book *Remya Jose's Great Idea*. Then answer questions 1 through 15.



Abridged version of
Remya Jose's Great Idea

by Sunita Apte

- 1 Remya Jose wished for a washing machine. She knew it was impossible. Washing machines were expensive. Her family couldn't afford one. Besides, washing machines needed electricity to run. In Remya's village in India, often the power was out.
- 2 Remya and her twin sister rode two hours to school on the bus. Then, they rode two hours home. After that, they had to work. The girls cooked dinner and cleaned the house. Their parents were ill, so the girls did it all themselves. They were age fourteen.
- 3 Laundry was the biggest chore. The girls washed clothes by hand. This took hours. Remya knew there must be a better way. Then, she had a great idea. Remya loved solving problems and designing things. She thought, "Could I design a washing machine that doesn't need electricity? Then, anyone in any village could use it!"

continued on next page

How an Electric Washing Machine Works

1. Clothes and soap are put into a drum.
2. Hoses fill the drum with water.
3. Electricity turns the agitator. The clothes move around in the soapy water, and the dirt is forced out.
4. A hose drains the soapy water.
5. Hoses refill the drum with water. Electricity turns the agitator again, and the clothes are rinsed.
6. A hose drains the water.
7. The drum spins the clothes to force out most of the water.

4 Remya thought about how washing machines work. She knew that she must
find a way to turn the drum without electric power. She thought about using a
pedal to turn the drum. A person could sit on a chair to pedal. It was like riding a
bike.

5 At first, her parents and friends were doubtful. But Remya would not give up.
Her determination paid off. Her father agreed to help her. During Remya's school
vacation, he paid workers at an auto workshop to build this new machine.

6 When the machine was ready, Remya tried it out. First, she filled the drum
with soap and water. Then, she added dirty clothes. She let them sit in the soapy
water for ten minutes. Next, she pedaled for three or four minutes. This turned the
drum and agitated the clothes. Then, Remya drained the soapy water. Next, she
rinsed the clothes with clean water. Finally, she drained the rinse water. She
pedaled one last time to push out more water. The whole process took twenty
minutes. It was much faster than washing clothes by hand. Her invention worked!

7 Remya's washing machine changed her life. Her design won an important
prize. The Discovery Channel India made a video about her.

8 Now, she is an adult. Remya Jose still loves to invent ways to solve everyday
problems. She still has great ideas and works hard to turn them into reality.

1. Part A

What does **determination** mean as it is used in Paragraph 5 of “Remya Jose’s Great Idea?”

- a. Persistence
- b. Support
- c. Not possible
- d. Construct

Part B

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

- a. “But Remya would not give up.”
- b. “Her father agreed to help her.”
- c. “At first, her parents and friends were doubtful.”
- d. “...he paid workers at an auto workshop to build this new machine.”

2. Part A

In Paragraph 2, Remya and her sister had very long days. What word **best** describes Remya and her sister.

- a. Hard-working
- b. Nice
- c. Impatient
- d. Immature

Part B

Which detail from “Remya Jose’s Great Idea” supports the answer to Part A?

- a. “They were age fourteen.”
- b. “The girls cooked dinner and cleaned the house.”
- c. “Their parents were ill, so the girls did it all themselves.”
- d. “Then, they rode two hours home.”

3. Part A

What is the central message of the story?

- a. Children must always respect their parents.
- b. Hard work is good for children.
- c. Solving problems takes imagination and hard work.
- d. Washing clothes is done best without using electricity.

Part B

Which detail from “Remya Jose’s Great Idea” supports the answer to Part A?

- a. “The girls cooked dinner and cleaned the house.”
- b. “Their parents were ill, so the children did it all themselves.”
- c. “Remya Jose still loves to invent ways to solve everyday problems. She still has great ideas and works hard to turn them into reality.”
- d. Washing machines were expensive.”

4. Part A

Remya's feelings change from the beginning of the story to the end of the story. How do they change?

- a. She was scared her invention would not work.
- b. Remya was frustrated about washing clothes, but now is proud she made the job easier.
- c. She was nervous about trying out the machine.
- d. Remya felt thankful for her family's support.

Part B

Which detail from "Remya Jose's Great Idea" supports the answer to Part A?

- a. "Remya's washing machine changed her life. Her design won an important prize."
- b. "At first her parents and friends were doubtful."
- c. "Her father agreed to help her."
- d. "When the machine was ready, Remya tried it out."

5. Fill in the table.

- a. "Remya and her twin sister rode two hours to school on the bus."
(Paragraph 2)
- b. "Laundry was the biggest chore." (Paragraph 3)
- c. "She knew that she must find a way to turn the drum without electric power. (Paragraph 4)
- d. "Her design won an important prize." (Paragraph 7)

<u>Line from the text</u>	<u>What the line makes the reader think.</u>
	Remya felt committed to inventing a more efficient way to complete the task of laundry.
	Laundry was time consuming & attended to on a daily basis.
	The ride was very long & took a lot time.
	Remya felt proud of her accomplishment and happy for the improvement to the washing machine.

