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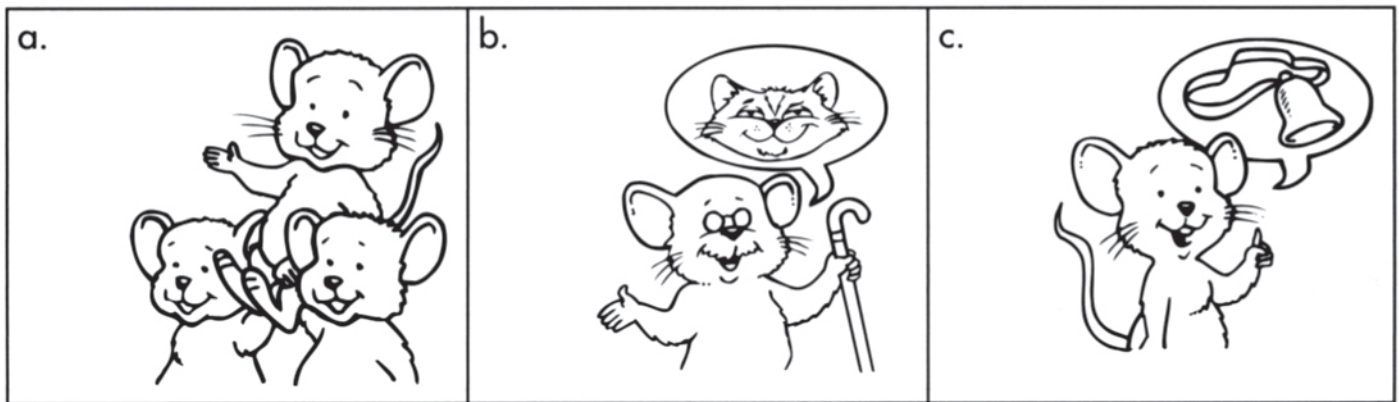
## Story Elements

Read the story. Then, answer the questions.

### The Cat's Bell

There was once a group of mice who had decided to solve the problem of the cat chasing them. Young Mouse said, "Let's put a bell around the cat's neck. Then, we will always hear him coming." The other mice stood and clapped their hands. They put Young Mouse up on their shoulders because they thought it was such a good idea!

Then, Old Mouse stood and asked, "Which one of you will put the bell around the cat's neck?" The other mice looked at one another. They put Young Mouse down and began to think of a new idea.



1. Which picture shows the beginning of the story?

a      b      c

2. Which picture shows the middle of the story?

a      b      c

3. Which picture shows the end of the story?

a      b      c

4. Write four words that could be used to describe the mice.

a. \_\_\_\_\_ b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_ d. \_\_\_\_\_

## Author's Purpose

Read the story. Then, circle the correct answer to each question.

## Charades

Have you ever played charades? Charades is a fun game to play with a large group of friends. All you need to play is a pencil and paper.

Split the group into two teams. Each team writes down book, movie, and song titles on little pieces of paper. The pieces of paper are then put into two bowls. One person takes a piece of paper from the other team's bowl. That person must act out the title. Her team has to guess what the title is.

First, the player shows the team whether it is a movie, song, or book. The player cannot talk or make sounds. Only hand and body motions are allowed. The player shows how many words are in the title. Then, the team watches the player act out the words. They guess and shout out their answers.

Everyone gets a turn. Both teams play. The winner is the team that guesses the most titles.

1. What is the reason this article was written?  
to make you laugh                      to teach you                      to get you to buy something
2. What do you need to play charades?  
a game board                      money                      paper and a pencil
3. How many people can play the game?  
two                      three                      a crowd
4. What do players write on their papers?  
their names                      funny stories                      titles
5. What can't you use when you play charades?  
your pencil                      your voice                      your hands

## Contractions

A **contraction** is two words that are put together to make one word. Some of the letters drop out of the second word when the words are joined. An apostrophe takes the place of the dropped letters.

Example: *did + not = didn't*

Draw lines to match the word pairs with their contractions.

are not  
 were not  
 could not  
 did not  
 do not  
 have not  
 is not  
 was not

couldn't  
 isn't  
 aren't  
 haven't  
 wasn't  
 don't  
 didn't  
 weren't

Write a contraction on the line to finish each sentence.

- We \_\_\_\_\_ going to the circus tonight.  
are not
- Gerard \_\_\_\_\_ play basketball today.  
did not
- It \_\_\_\_\_ raining outside now.  
is not
- You \_\_\_\_\_ need a jacket.  
do not

