Name: _____

Friday the 13th

By Kelly Hashway

Maxine walked to the bus stop, dreading the math test she had today. She'd studied and studied, but she was still worried.

"Whoa!" Adam said. "You stepped on a crack."

Max looked down. "So what?"

"It's Friday the 13th. That's bad luck already and you just added to it by

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super… out Friday the 13th, right?"

Max thought about that all morning and was careful not to step on any more cracks before her math test.

"Hey, look out!" Adam yelled.

Max looked up from her math book, which she was glancing at one more time before the test. She almost bumped right into the leg of a tall metal ladder.

"You walked under a ladder!" Adam said. "Are you trying to get all the bad luck you can before this test?"

Oh no! Max lowered her head as she walked into the classroom and slumped into her seat. This test was going to be a nightmare with all the bad luck she had.

Max's hand shook as she wrote her name on the test paper. Mr. Saunders told everyone to begin. She scanned the problems, and to her surprise, they didn't look too hard. She took her time and worked out each problem. When she finished, she brought her paper up to Mr. Saunders's desk.

Max gulped when Mr. Saunders started grading it right away. Max sat down and stared out the window. She'd

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breath as she walked up to Mr. Saunders's desk. She peeked at her paper, expecting to see a lot of red marks on her incorrect answers. Instead she saw a big letter A.

"I got an A?"

"Yes," Mr. Saunders said. "I'm very impressed with your improvement. I thought you should see this right away."

Max smiled for the rest of the day, and when a black cat walked in front of her on the way home from the bus stop, she just smiled wider. Friday the 13th certainly wasn't bad luck for her.

Name: _____

Friday the 13th

By Kelly Hashway

1. Throughout most of this story, Maxine believes...
   - **a.** that Friday the 13th brings good luck.
   - **b.** that she needs good luck to pass her math test.
   - **c.** that she will have good luck if she steps on cracks.
   - **d.** that Adam is not being honest with her.

2. Max probably got an A on her test because...

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_____

_____

_____

4. Reread the sentence below from the story and choose the best definition for the underlined word.

   There has to be a reason so many people are superstitious about Friday the 13th, right?

   The underlined word means...
   - **a.** becoming worried about things
   - **b.** believing in working hard
   - **c.** believing in things that cause good and bad luck
   - **d.** feeling very sad on a certain day

Name: _____

Friday the 13th

By Kelly Hashway

The incomplete words below are from the story. Add vowels to the blank spaces and re-write each word on the line. Check back in the story to make sure each word is spelled correctly.

1. d r ____ ____ d ____ n g
   clue: being afraid of something
   1. _____

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3. g l ____ ____ n g
   clue: *looking quickly*
   3. _____

4. **l ____ d d ____ r**
   clue: *tall metal or wooden tool for climbing*
   4. _____

5. **p ____ ____ k ____ d**
   clue: *looked*
   5. _____

6. **____ n c ____ r r ____ c t**
   clue: *wrong*
   6. _____

Name: _____

Friday the 13th

By Kelly Hashway

In the story, "Friday the 13th," Maxine is superstitious. She believes that stepping on cracks and walking under a ladder will bring her bad luck, and cause her to fail her math test.

According to people who are superstitious, certain things can bring good luck or bad luck. Are you a superstitious person? Explain why or why not.

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ANSWER KEY

Friday the 13th

By Kelly Hashway

1. Throughout most of this story, Maxine believes...
   - **a.** that Friday the 13th brings good luck.
   - **b. that she needs good luck to pass her math test.**
   - **c.** that she will have good luck if she steps on cracks.
   - **d.** that Adam is not being honest with her.

2. Max probably got an A on her test because...

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...probably does not usually do well on math tests because her teacher says she is improving. That means her grades probably weren't very high before.

4. Reread the sentence below from the story and choose the best definition for the underlined word.

   There has to be a reason so many people are superstitious about Friday the 13th, right?

   The underlined word means...
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ANSWER KEY

Friday the 13th

By Kelly Hashway

The incomplete words below are from the story. Add vowels to the blank spaces and re-write each word on the line. Check back in the story to make sure each word is spelled correctly.

1. d r _e_ _a_ d _i_ n g
   clue: being afraid of something
   1. dreading

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3. g l _a_ _n_ _c_ _i_ n g
   clue: *looking quickly*
   3. glancing

4. l _a_ d d _e_ r
   clue: *tall metal or wooden tool for climbing*
   4. ladder

5. p _e_ _e_ k _e_ d
   clue: *looked*
   5. peeked

6. _i_ n c _o_ r r _e_ c t
   clue: *wrong*
   6. incorrect