Name:



by Neal Levin

amlin emptied his piggy bank and wanted a snack. Luckily, Boris had set up a pickle stand.

"How much are the pickles?" Hamlin asked.

"Five cents a piece or ten for a dollar," Boris told him.

"Ten for a dollar? That sounds like a good deal," Hamlin said.

"It's a very good deal," Boris said.

"I'll take ten." Hamlin counted out twenty nickels to make one dollar.

Boris gave him ten pickles. "Here you go. Ten for a dollar."

"Wait a minute." Hamlin thought something seemed odd. "If pickles are five cents apiece,

I should get twenty pickles for a dollar. You only gave me ten for a dollar, and you said that was a very good deal."

"It was a very good deal," Boris said. "A very good deal for me." Then he put up a sign. "Now they're on sale, though. Two for one."

Hamlin thought about that. Two



dollar. They were back to five cents apiece.



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Hamlin grunted. "You said two for one."

"Two nickels for one pickle," Boris said. "Four nickels for two pickles. Or ten for a dollar." He put up another sign. "But now everything's half off."

Hamlin thought that sounded good. Half off meant half price. Even if they'd been ten for a dollar, now they'd be twenty for a "What's this?"

"It's a pickle with half off," Boris said.

"Pickles are supposed to be five cents apiece," Hamlin squealed. "I gave you five cents, but you only gave me part of a pickle."

"That's a piece," Boris said. "Pickles are five cents a piece or ten for a dollar. You should buy some. It's a very good deal."

Pickles for Nickels

by Neal Levin

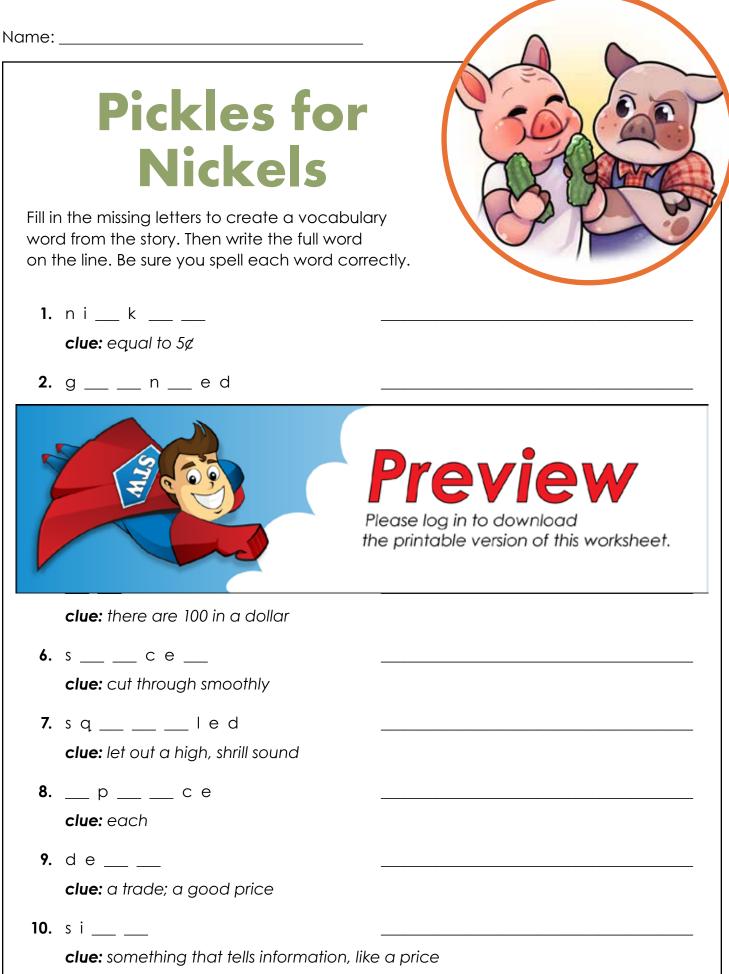
- 1. What is the lesson the author teaches?
 - **a.** Always bring more money than you need.
 - **b.** Pickles should only cost 5¢ each.
 - c. You should try to buy food on sale.
 - d. Words can have different meanings.
- 2. Reread the following sentences from the article. Then say how Hamlin feels based on the underlined words



Preview

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What Boris says	What Hamlin thinks he means	What Boris means
a nickel a piece	"apiece," or one nickel for each pickle	"a piece," or one nickel for a piece of a pickle
a very good deal	a good deal for Hamlin	
two for one		two nickels for one pickle
half off		

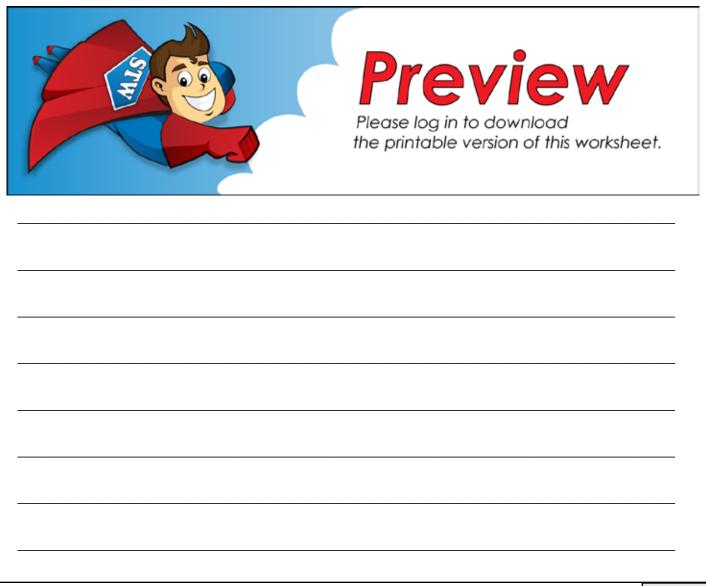


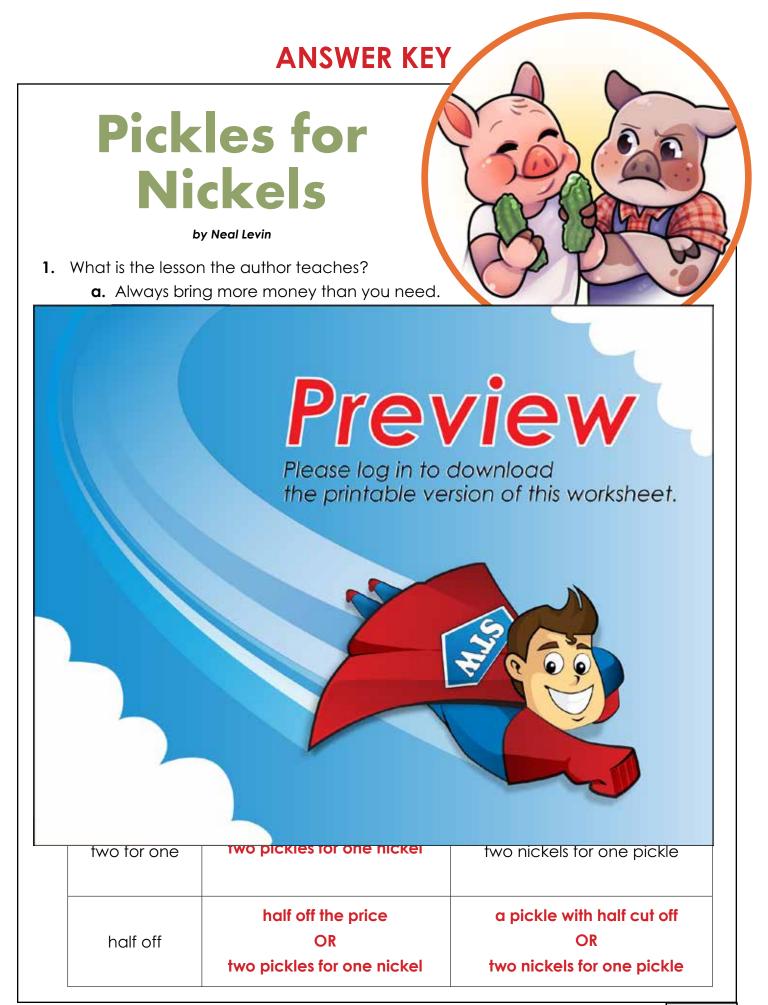
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Pickles for Nickels

In the story, "Pickles for Nickels," you read about the pigs Hamlin and Boris. Hamlin thought Boris meant things that he didn't mean.

Think of a time when you didn't understand something, or when someone didn't understand you. What was it about? How did it make you feel? What would have helped to make things more clear?



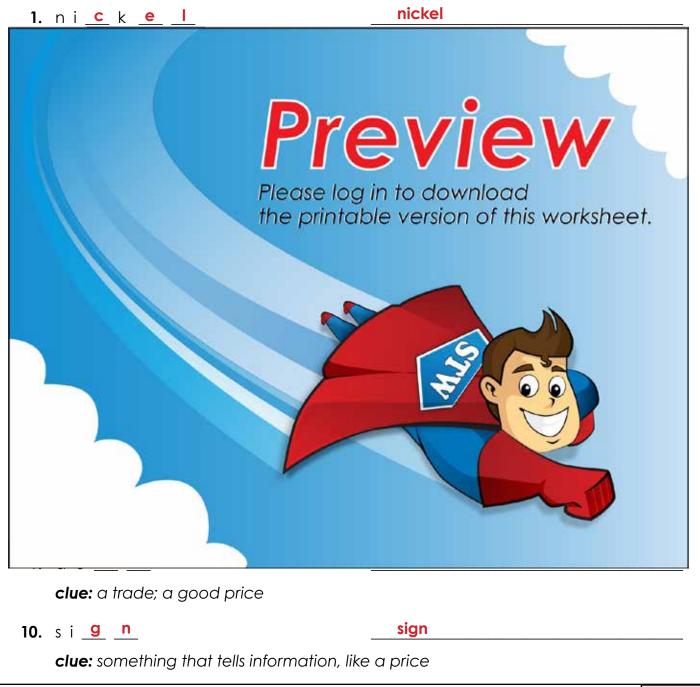


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ANSWER KEY

Pickles for Nickels

Fill in the missing letters to create a vocabulary word from the story. Then write the full word on the line. Be sure you spell each word correctly.



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