

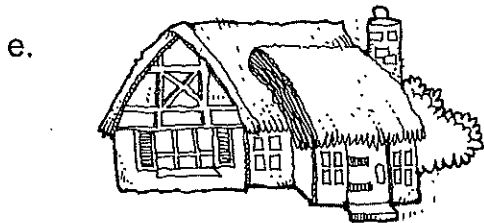
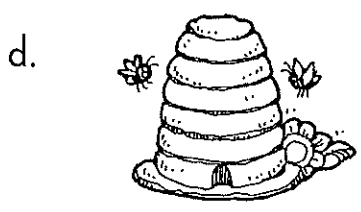
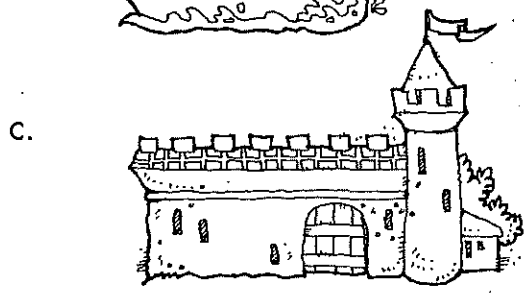
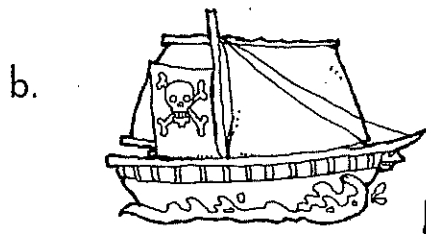
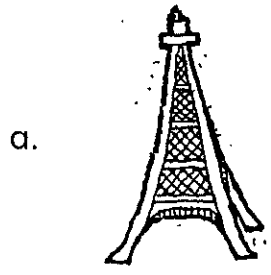
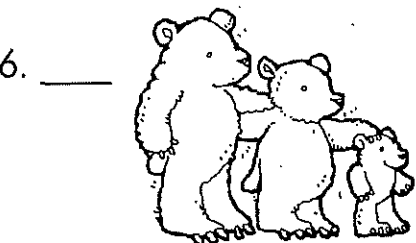
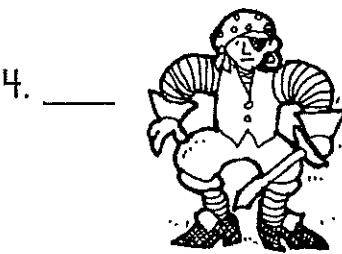
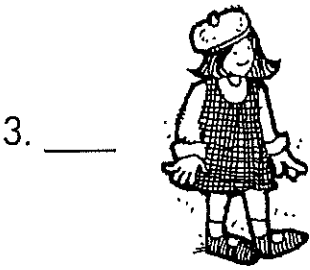
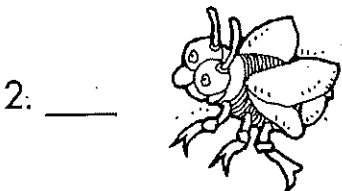
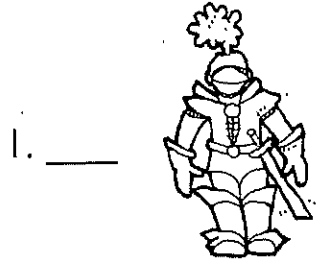


Name _____

setting

Setting Search

Match the story characters to the settings, or places, where they belong.



Name: _____

Expert Pet Sitters

Sophia, Isabella, Michael, Ricardo, and Kayla sat inside a small, plain wooden shed in Ricardo's backyard. There were no windows, so the little light there was filtered through the cracked door, making the shed dim. They sat on rugs, cushions, and crates because there were no chairs, and the floor was rough and splintery.

"We have to make this shed, I mean our clubhouse, better," said Kayla. "And to do that, we need to buy things to make it more comfortable. It feels sad in here."

"Tell me about it!" exclaimed Ricardo. "Look around! We have bare walls, the floor is cold, and we don't have any games or books. Boring!"

"It's uncomfortable," agreed Sophia. "I wouldn't mind getting some beanbag chairs or some furniture to sit on. I suggest that we start a babysitting service to earn money."

"I don't know much about babysitting, but I wouldn't mind doing gardening," said Ricardo.

"Gardening seems difficult," said Isabella. "I've never gardened."

"Well, we really need the money," said Isabella, shivering. "This shed stays damp after it rains and smells like wet old wood! Some nice new things would make it a lot more pleasant."



The friends sat quietly in thought. Suddenly, Kayla exclaimed, "I know—we could be pet sitters!"

"I like that idea," said Isabella. "We all have pets, so we all know how to take care of animals."

Everyone nodded in agreement. "Let's make a list of the pets we have so that we know what kinds of animals we can take care of," said Michael. "I'll get a pen."

The friends put together a long list. They were surprised to see that they had a lot of animal care experience. They decided to call their business "Expert Pet Sitters." They spent the remainder of their Saturday making colorful posters and hanging them on lampposts around the neighborhood. The posters listed all of their phone numbers.

"Now remember," began Kayla, "we all have to pull our weight and work as hard as we can. Say 'yes' to all customers unless you absolutely

cannot help with their pets. Any time you feel lazy or tired, just picture this clubhouse with a new paint job instead of this dull brown color. That should motivate us to make money!"

During the next week, the friends received seven requests for services. And they were able to help everyone except for one person, Mrs. Alonso. But she hadn't been requesting pet sitting. She kept requesting help with her garden. She had called all of the club members during the week, and they all told her that their business was pet sitting. The following Saturday, Kayla requested that the five friends meet at the clubhouse.

"Our first week as expert pet sitters went well," said Kayla. "We've already made some money for our clubhouse. But what's the deal with Mrs. Alonso?"

"I told her several times that we are expert pet sitters, *not* gardeners," said Ricardo.

"Me too," said Isabella. "Anyway, I am scheduled to meet Ms. Lipson's dog, Millionaire, this afternoon. That should give us some more money for our clubhouse!"

"I'll go with you," said Michael.

Later, Ms. Lipson invited Michael and Isabella into her home. "This is Millionaire," Ms. Lipson said. "He's big, but he just had his

first obedience class this week. He understands one command: "Sit!" And he's learning how to behave on a leash. But he still has much to learn."

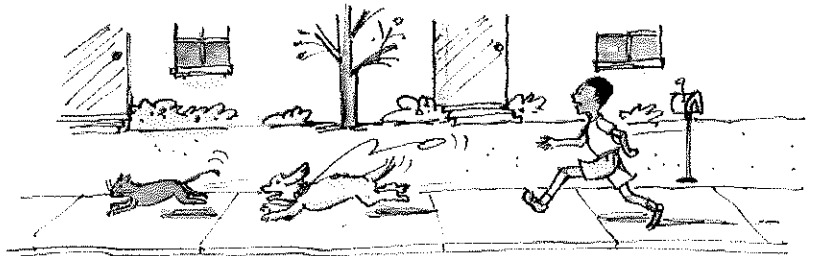
Isabella and Michael offered to take Millionaire for a walk, but Ms. Lipson warned them that he was strong and didn't always obey. "It's okay, we're experts," said Michael.

The walk went well until Millionaire saw a cat, barked, and tore the leash from Michael's hands. "Millionaire, stop!" Michael and Isabella yelled simultaneously. Millionaire was headed straight for Mrs. Alonso and her garden.

"If we don't catch Millionaire in time, people will think we're amateurs!" complained Isabella.

Suddenly, Michael remembered what Ms. Lipson said. "Sit, Millionaire!" he yelled. Millionaire immediately stopped and sat.

"I was sure my garden was going to be destroyed," called out Mrs. Alonso, laughing. "This is what I needed your help with all week, keeping pets out of my garden!"



Name: _____

Literary Analysis: Setting

The **setting** is the time and place of a story. A story may happen in different places over time. The setting can make a story seem real.

- Are there clues in the story that tell when the story happened?
- How does the setting affect the characters' actions?
- What adjectives describe how characters feel in the setting?

Refer to the story as you answer the questions below.

1. What words in the story describe the clubhouse?

2. Was the setting part of the problem in the story?

3. Did the setting affect the characters' actions?

4. How would a change in the setting have made the story different?
