Once a Week Comprehension Book 3 Answers

Test 1

A  
1  When the gates were opened, the magic bulls leaped out.
2  There were two bulls.
3  As the bulls breathed they sent out sheets of flame, but their breath didn't singe even a hair of Jason's head.
4  When they saw Jason, the bulls rushed at him with their heads lowered.
5  'He flinched never a step.'
6  Jason wrestled with the nearest bull.
7  Jason forced the bulls to plough the sacred field.
8  He used his lance instead of a whip.
9  Jason sowed the serpents' teeth in the ground.
10 a - singed  b - goaded  c - sacred  d - befall
11 extraordinary. magical, remarkable, notable, eventful, impressive, fantastic

B  
1  c - As brave as a lion
2  b - As cunning as a fox
3  a - As stubborn as a mule
4  b - As timid as a mouse

C  
highlight  collarbone  seafood
quarter-deck  flowerpot  toothbrush

D  
1  spectators
2  audience
3  congregation
4  rioters or protestors

E  
1  I saw the banjos or banjoes on the tables.
2  The babies opened the boxes.
3  The girls chased the thieves.
4  The hunters fired on the wolves.
5  The salmon and the trout swam safely away.

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Once a Week Comprehension Book 3 Answers

Test 2

A 1 The ruffians had been searching for the chart.
2 The mud had come from the marshes round their camp.
3 They had been painted clear white and were decorated round the edge with gilt beads.
4 They were soiled with a pattern of dirty hands.
5 The pages had been used for lighting the ruffians’ pipes.
6 We can tell this because the lamp was still glowing dimly.
7 Barrels and bottles were usually stored in the cellar.
8 The rolling of the ship made the bottles clink together.
9 a - lockfast places b - ruffians c - in quest of d - consult e - gutted out
10 slimy, unkempt, foul, offensive, confused, beastly, unattractive
11 People who take part in a mutiny are called mutineers.
12 sober - drunk dirty - clean open - closed or shut began - ended or finished

B 1 He and I are going to the football match.
2 Who is the cleverer now, Tom or Harry?
3 It is a pity that the footballer has broken his leg.
4 Give him those books to read.

C 1 The ship sank, leaving much flotsam.
2 The rescuers found few survivors.
3 Then he climbed to the summit of the hill.
4 From here he could see the panorama.
5 He decided to cross to the other side of the island.

D 1 The car was moving, but the lorry was stationary.
2 Glass is transparent, but brick is opaque.
3 The balloon expands when warm, but contracts when cold.
4 You seem to want the maximum pay for the minimum work.

E Adams, Andrews, Atkins, Brown, Browning, Bruce, Chivers, Clark, Clarke, Davies, Davis, Duncan

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Test 3

A 1 We know the queen was fond of Gulliver because she could not dine without him.
2 Gulliver’s table was placed at the queen’s left elbow on the table at which she ate.
3 He had an entire set of tiny silver dishes, plates and other necessary things for his own use.
4 The dishes were kept in a silver box in the nurse’s pocket when they were not in use.
5 It was the nurse’s duty to keep these things clean.
6 The queen’s daughters were sixteen and thirteen (and a month) at the time of the story.
7 a - entire b - necessaries c - in proportion to d - save
8 The queen: gigantic, enormous, tremendous, large, vast, towering, mountainous, lofty, huge
Gulliver: dwarfish, tiny, diminutive, little, miniscule, small
9 a - The queen was a vegetarian ... cannot be proved
B - Gulliver was the queen’s favourite ... true
c - Glumdalclitch was a female ... cannot be proved
d - Many people were present at dinner ... untrue
e - The queen had two children only ... true
f - Gulliver had never been to London ... untrue

B 1 BBC - British Broadcasting Corporation TV - television
2 MW - Medium Wave
3 Mr - Mister BA - British Airways AA - American Airlines
4 DI - Detective Inspector FBI - Federal Bureau of Investigation
5 PM - Prime Minister

C 1 The thief was soon under lock and key.
2 They fought like cat and dog.
3 It was touch and go.
4 They were caught fair and square.

D 3 - Alan groped his way, trying to find the switch.
4 - He was almost ready to weep in the darkness.
2 - At last he found it and pressed it down.
5 - The room was instantly flooded with light.
1 - Only then could he see the way out.

E 1 She gave her the fox (or the vixen) for a present.
2 The huntress chased the doe.
3 The shepherdess rode after her flock on a mare.
4 My mother-in-law is an actress.
Test 4

A 1 We know they were not upright because the passage tells us they 'leaned forward'.
2 'crept closer and closer' and 'to shake tops with their neighbours'
3 The only noise was the monotonous chug-chug of the launch.
4 It was monotonous because it made the same sound over and over again.
5 The party got their first sight of the falls as they rounded the bend in the river.
6 The huge cascade of water falling into the river made the booming sound.
7 The sun shining on the spray from the waterfall made it seem as if they were looking at a rainbow.
8 The force of the water in the fall made the air cloudy with spray.
9 a - impenetrable b - cascade c - neighbours d - vegetation
10 a - fascinated b - hypnotised c - astonished d - amazed e - astounded f - stupefied
g - petrified h - dumbfounded
11 a - After a time, the river became much narrower.
   c - A most beautiful sight met their eyes.

B 1 The rocket, red in colour, soared into the air.
2 “There is a ship on the reef!” exclaimed Paul.
3 “Is she in great danger?” the stranger asked.
4 “She’ll hold, but don’t be too long,” was the reply.

C 1 beautiful (This is the only adjective, and the others are all people.)
2 beech (It is the only tree.)
3 nowhere (It is the only word without some kind of location)
4 waiting (The other words refer to senses.)
5 hasty (The other words can describe people’s appearance.)
6 wise (The other words indicate stature.)

D 1 Monday is to Tuesday as Friday is to Saturday.
2 Fact is to fiction as true is to imaginary or untrue.
3 Ball is to hockey as puck is to ice-hockey.
4 Chick is to egg as butterfly is to chrysalis.
5 Palace is to king as ranch is to cowboy or rancher.

E 1 CEILING
2 FIELD
3 PENCIL
4 CEREAL
5 CURRANT
6 GRATEFUL

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Once a Week Comprehension Book 3 Answers

Test 5

A  1 The singer was an apprentice for over seven years.
   2 c - he was learning a job
   3 ‘Full well’
   4 b - taking rabbits from someone else’s land
   5 The men were setting a snare when the gamekeeper appeared.
   6 They are the chorus in the song.
   7 They were able to wrestle, fight and jump over anywhere.
   8 I have; it is; it was; over
   9 A shiny night means a moonlit night.
   10 bold, fearless, unbounded, unheeding, confident, unflinching, n-spirited, bold as brass
   11 c - they saw him coming, but did not worry much about him.

B  1 I would expect to find golf clubs with a caddy.
   2 An artist would be likely to use a palette.
   3 A place where a number of beehives are kept is called an apiary.
   4 If I heard the cry of “Fifteen - love!” a game of tennis would be in progress.
   5 A joiner puts together the wooden parts of a building, such as the roof joists.
   6 The person who designs a building is called an architect.

C  1 c - to be taking a risk that may lead to trouble
   2 b - to be ready to face the worst that can happen
   3 c - to rain very heavily

D  In the jungle the explorers heard the chattering of a monkey and the hiss of the serpents. In the distance an elephant trumpeted and a hyena laughed. They crept through the crackling leaves, to the bank of a babbling stream, while the temple bells pealed loudly.
   N.B. Other sound words could be used.

E  1 One good turn deserves another.
   2 The early bird catches the worm.
   3 When the cat’s away, the mice will play.
   4 Every cloud has a silver lining.

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Once a Week Comprehension Book 3 Answers

Test 6

A 1 The event took place at Christmas time.
2 Jo felt disappointed for a moment because there were no stockings hung at the fireplace on Christmas morning.
3 Her mother had promised that there would be a present under her pillow.
4 Jo’s book was crimson.
5 Meg had the green book.
6 The presents must have been small as they were slipped under the pillow at night without the girls feeling them.
7 Meg’s book was very precious because her mother had written a few words in it.
8 “Merry Christmas”
9 serious, thoughtful, grave, pensive
10 ‘the East grew rosy with the coming day’
11 a - Each had a solitary present
   d - The presents were most highly thought of.
12 a - rummage
   b - bade her see
   c - precious

B 1 faithful companion scientific experiment mountainous region
   shallow mere famous victory mischievous elf
2 imaginative painting savage attack fertile oasis noisy performance
   bitter taste careful examination

C 1 The new king ascended to the throne.
2 The belt was too tight for his waist.
3 The new principal of the college was very stern.
4 The man who could see into the future was a prophet.

D queue - new Delhi - jelly cow - bough
   dark - lark merry - bury blow - though

E 1 skill - cleverness
2 curious - unusual
3 active - nimble
4 cheerful - merry
5 wise - intelligent
6 belief - trust

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Test 7

A 1. Noah waited forty days before first sending out the dove.
2. He wanted to find out if the water had receded and land had appeared.
3. b - there was nowhere she could rest
4. Noah waited a week the second time.
5. The dove returned with an olive leaf.
6. This told Noah that there was land not too far away.
7. He waited another week.
8. The dove did not return because it had probably found food, shelter and a nesting site.
9. It told Noah that the floods had gone down and it was safe to land the boat.
10. Noah released the dove from the window.
11. a - abated  b - lo  c - it came to pass  d - put forth his hand
12. disappointing, unrewarding, fruitless

B 1. quadruped - four-legged
2. chain - linked
3. plant - rooted
4. beverage - liquid
5. mountains - high

C 1. The boy lost the book in the playground or In the playground the boy lost the book.
2. All will be well when the Spring comes or When the Spring comes, all will be well.
3. We shall speak to her kindly when she comes or When she comes, we shall speak to her kindly.
4. The flash of lightning was followed by the peal of thunder.

D 1. TARPAULIN
2. TARRY
3. TARGET
4. TARTAN
5. TARANTULA

E 1. The ships sailed safely over the reefs.
2. They told us the stories.
3. The boys kept the birds in the cages.
4. There were the babies in the cradles.
5. The cities were destroyed by the aeroplanes.
6. The boys did not play the pianos well.
Test 8

A
1 The fishing trip began in the evening.
2 The fishers reached the starting place by car.
3 There were three boats.
4 b - the people were divided into groups
5 A twist of frayed twine was used instead of bait.
6 It was unnecessary because, to the fish, the twist of twine looked liked real bait.
7 The fish were said to be stupid because they rushed and fought with each other to swallow the string and be caught.
8 deep, dark
9 The crofters normally farmed for a living, but for this evening they took on the role of fishermen.
10 a - semi-circle b - stupid c - gradually d - aboard
e - propelled
11 stupid - wise aboard - ashore evening - morning
stern - bow behind - before covered - bare, uncovered

B
1 fawn
2 grave
3 mint
4 reel
5 plane

C
1 impatient
2 talent
3 hunting
4 monarch
5 self-government
6 comprehension

D
1 He travelled through an African jungle in search of an orchid.
2 Mary took an hour and a half to do the job.
3 Which do you prefer, an excellent report or a prize?
4 Pick me an orange, but not an unripe one.

E
1 GAZELLE  3 JAGUAR  5 HYENA
2 LLAMA  4 GORILLA  6 BISON

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Once a Week Comprehension Book 3 Answers

Test 9

A  1  The operation was an attempt to de-activate a dangerous floating mine.
  2  The danger that threatened was an explosion which would wreck months of the
     treasure seekers’ hard work and would prevent the task from finishing.
  3  The top of the wall was made of concrete.
  4  c - he cut through the air like a swallow
  5  b - he swam towards it, straight and calmly
  6  It was called a black menace because the device that was drifting towards him was
     black, very threatening and dangerous.
  7  c - fifty feet
  8  “It’s now or never.”
  9  a - vainly b - broke surface c - projections d - treading water
 10  A Hazardous Undertaking

B  1  Jones and Smith took part in a stand of two hundred runs for the school against
    Peatborough. The visiting captain, Drake, tried seven bowlers, of whom Jorkins
    was the most successful. The River Severn flowed past the ground on its way to the
    Bristol Channel, and all Loamshire was peaceful on this fine June day. It was a
    field day for the pupils of Meadowcroft Grammar School. Jones was their hero.

C  1  mouse, rabbit, tiger, dromedary, elephant
  2  cherry, plum, lemon, grapefruit, melon
  3  breeze, wind, gale, storm, hurricane
  4  minnow, sprat, herring, cod, shark

D  1  opponent - antagonist
  2  climb - ascend
  3  soothing - tranquillizing
  4  courage - bravery

E  1  adverbs
  2  jewels or minerals
  3  shellfish
  4  religions or faiths

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Test 10

A  1  We know this because the poem begins ‘But the wind had swept on.’ This shows that it was not the beginning of the journey.

           2  begrimed, bespattered, untidy, dishevelled, in disorder, confused

           3  a - It hit the big ships and made them stagger.
               b - It made the little boats dart to and fro.

           4  It finally settled down to rest on a sea-birds’ rock in the sunny west.

           5  The sea was billowy means the sea had huge rolling waves.

           6  a - the sea-birds’ rock shows that the rock belonged to a lot of seabirds.
               b - the sea-bird’s rock shows that the rock belonged to just one sea-bird.

           7  playful, jocular, light-hearted, playful as a kitten, frolicsome

B  1  In winter, when the fields are white,

       I sing this song for your delight.

       In spring, when woods are getting green,

       I’ll try and tell you what I mean.

           2  A man of words and not of deeds,

               Is like a garden full of weeds;

               And when the weeds begin to grow,

               It’s like a garden full of snow.

C  1  Denmark  Danes  Danish

           2  Spain  Spaniards  Spanish

           3  Norway  Norwegians  Norwegian

           4  Germany  Germans  German

D  1  CROWN  2  ROVER

       CROON  ROWER  CROOK

E  At the corner of Wood Street, when daylight appears,

       Hangs a thrush that sings loud, it has sung for three years.

       Poor Susan has passed by the spot and has heard,

       In the silence of the morning, the song of that bird.
Test 11

A 1 The Chibchas lived in Colombia.
2 The Aztecs lived in Mexico.
3 The Chibcha god was called the Gilded Man.
4 The god was thought to be living at the bottom of a lake.
5 They tried to please their god with valuable offerings.
6 They made their offerings at every full moon.
7 Before making their offerings, they repeated many prayers.
8 It was easy for them because gold was very plentiful in the Chibcha race.
9 They made the ornaments more valuable by decorating them with precious stones.
10 a - valuable, precious   b - similar   c - cast   d - numerous and frequent   e - accustomed
11 It would mean that it is a traditional story, not definitely true, passed on from one generation to the next.
12 ‘scarce and infrequent’ or ‘few and seldom’ (or something similar)

B 1 Russia   roubles   4 Japan   yen
2 USA   dollars   5 South Africa   rand
3 Switzerland   francs   6 India, Mauritius   rupees

C 1 Long John Silver
2 Harry Potter
3 Sleeping Beauty
4 King Midas
5 Paris

D 1 a grain of sand   a ray of light   a breath of air
   a pinch of snuff   a morsel of food   a drop of water

E 1 This is the boy whose coat was stolen.
2 I should like to know who threw the stone.
3 Do you know to whom you are speaking?
4 Can you see what I see?
5 Whom do you wish to meet?
6 Whose ball is that?
Once a Week Comprehension Book 3 Answers

Test 12

A

1. Tom had travelled to Rugby by coach and horses.
2. Tom tried to understand immediately all the new things he could see.
3. The flagstaff was on the school-house.
4. We know it was large because the passage calls it a ‘great’ field and says that several games of football were taking place.
5. The chapel was the first building and the school-house was the last.
6. The headmaster lived in the school-house.
7. a - great, long (line of), grey  b - old  c - great  d - highest, round
8. We can tell because the boys nodded at the coachman ‘in a familiar way’.
9. c - to give warning of the approach of the coach
10. The two people in charge of the coach were the old guard and the coachman.
11. It seemed to have been a long journey because the old guard said they had arrived ‘at last’.
12. proud, happy, interested, attentive, delighted, observant, enthusiastic, absorbed
13. a - the school-house  b - Tom’s heart beat quickly  c - shook up his horses  d - carried them along the side of  e - the school close

B

1. The train was standing still. It was **stationary**.
2. He rode across the desert on a **dromedary**.
3. Remember to oil the **machinery**.
4. The shop sold **tobacco** and **confectionery**.
5. I am suspicious. There has been some **roguey**.

C

1. I **forgot** my address.
2. I **wrote** a letter.
3. He **knew** his part.
4. They **sat** in class.
5. We **shook** hands.
6. He **chose** the red one.

D

1. The book fell off the teacher’s desk.
2. The boy knocked at the door of the teachers’ room.
3. A man’s hat blew off.
4. The pensioners’ club was closed for decoration.
5. The babies’ bottles were washed.
6. The baby’s mother was taken ill.

E

1. The teacher asked, “Who came late for class?”
2. The umpire said, “The batsman is out.”
3. The judge wrote, “I think the prisoner is guilty.”
4. The announcer said, “Heavy falls of rain are expected.”
Once a Week Comprehension Book 3 Answers

Test 13

A 1 ‘decided to go out hunting’
   2 a - stag hounds
   3 He rode through the night.
   4 d - He came to a wood.
   c - He let loose his own dogs.
   a - He sounded the horn.
   b - He heard another pack of hounds.
   5 He knew because he heard a cry different from his own hounds coming in the opposite direction.
   6 The stranger’s pack reached the animal first.
   7 The stranger rode the light grey steed.
   8 a - glade     b - beheld     c - steed
   9 ‘Was minded to go’, ‘he set forth’, and ‘he beheld’ tell us this story was written a long time ago. (Also ‘early on the morrow’, and ‘And lo’.)
   10 The first bay is a verb meaning to howl or bark. The hounds would howl as they got nearer to the stag.
      The second bay means close quarters. It indicates that the stag was cornered by, and could not escape from, the hounds.
   11 b - A Strange Meeting in the Wood

B 1 Guest and host or landlord  4 Parent and child
   2 Leader and follower  5 Town and country
   3 Teacher and pupil or student  6 Hill and dale or valley

N.B. There are other possible answers.

C 1 photograph
   2 phosphorus
   3 physician
   4 Philadelphia or Phoenix
   5 philatelist
   6 pheasant

D 1 badger - sett  3 beaver - lodge  5 squirrel - drey
   2 eagle - eyrie  4 fox - den  6 otter - holt

E I shall never forget the first train that I saw. I was feeding quietly near the palings that separated the meadow from the railway, when I heard a strange sound at a distance, and before I knew whence it came, with a rush, clatter, and a puffing out of smoke, a long black train of something flew by and was gone almost before I could draw breath.
Test 14

A 1 They are asleep because a spell was placed on them hundreds of years ago.
2 They will awaken when Scotland needs them.
3 The horn must be blown three times.
4 Another word for hundreds of years is **centuries**.
5 a - The men woke up and raised themselves on to their elbows.
   b - The horses shook their harnesses and champed on their bits.
6 The blower was so terrified that he fled.
7 No one has gone to arouse the sleepers because nobody knows where the cavern is.
8 ‘A great crisis arose’ means a dangerous or difficult situation, such as an invasion, occurred.
9 a - they moved their mouthpieces with their teeth and made a rattling sound.
10 frightened, alarmed, panic-stricken, white as a sheet, with hair on end, terror-stricken

B 1 elephant - calf  3 gander - goslingstag - fawn
2 swan - cygnet  4 hare - leveret frog - tadpole

C 1 Jim could run fast, Jane could run **faster**, but Joe could run the **fastest**.
2 John is ignorant, David is **more ignorant**, but Bill is the **most ignorant**.
3 Mary had many sums right, Jane had **more**, but Susan had **most**.
4 Cherries are juicy, plums are **juicier**, but oranges are **juiciest** of all.

D 1 He showed some **anxiety** over the result of the test.
2 The film star was renowned for her great **beauty**.
3 There was an **abundance** of food on the table.
4 There was **prosperity** throughout the land.
5 You must have **faith** in what I am doing.

E There were bird sounds everywhere. The parrot was **squawking**, the owl was **hoot**ing, and the eagle was **crying** (or **mewing**). Added to this, a hound **bay**ed outside, and a mouse **squeaked** in the wainscot. Mark rattled (or jingled) the coins in his pocket; then with a **thunder** of hoofs, and a **squeal** of brakes, the coach came to a standstill.

N.B. There are other sound words that could be used.
Test 15

A  
1 b - a windmill  
2 The granite jaws were the two grinding stones.  
3 corn or grain  
4 c - consume  
5 Granite is a very hard stone that will grind the corn well and will not crumble.  
6 He was able to look over the farms and fields because he was much taller than everything around him.  
7 The arms were the sails of the windmill.  
8 c - He knew there would be plenty of work for him to do.  
9 enormous, gigantic, tremendous, huge  
10 c - A Rural Scene

B  
1 Martin was of an adventurous nature.  
2 It was a sorrowful time for all.  
3 The ship sailed in a southerly direction.  
4 You are planning a gigantic enterprise.  
5 Your diagram should be circular, not square.

C  
1 I shall write to the editor.  
2 She takes pride in her work.  
3 I cannot agree with John’s answer.  
4 Your reason is different from mine.  
5 He is jealous of my success.

D  
1 at a grocer  
2 at a fishmonger  
3 at a stationer  
4 at a greengrocer  
5 at a sweetshop or confectioner  
6 at an ironmonger or a hardware store  
N.B. ‘Supermarket’ is also acceptable as an answer for 1 to 5 of the above questions.

E  
1 nephew (They are all male.)  
2 radish (They are all root vegetables.)  
3 apricot (They all contain fruit stones.)  
4 evil (They are all adjectives indicating unpleasant qualities.)  
5 yellow (They are all colours in a rainbow.)
Test 16
A 1 Alan and David slept in a cave.
   a - They used heather bushes for a bed.
   b - They lit a fire to keep themselves warm.
   3 They were able to light the fire without being seen because they had chosen a place that was low and concealed.
   4 The fire was used to keep them warm, cook their porridge, and grill little trout.
   5 A ‘burn’ is a little stream.
   6 They wished they had a little salt.
   7 appetising, palatable, undersized, inconsiderable
   8 c - the oats from which the porridge was made.
   9 a - pleasure
   b - business
   10 a - glen
   b - when the clouds set in
   c - broiled
   11 b - with bare hands
B 1 What knowledge have you of the subject?
   2 You have neglected your education.
   3 The lady was full of grief at the loss of her bag.
   4 The house showed signs of neglect.
   5 That stone is not real, but is an imitation.
C 1 The sheep browsed alongside the houses.
   2 My sons-in-law fired the cannons.
   3 They seized the glowing splinters with the tongs.
   4 They stalked the deer through the mountain passes.
   5 The sheath knives gradually cut through the thongs.
   6 The cartons contained tasty cheeses.
D 1 Peter Pan
   2 Little John
   3 Oliver Twist
   4 Sherlock Holmes
   5 The Owl and the Pussy Cat
E 1 Belgium  Belgians  Flemish (also French, Dutch and German)
   2 Finland  Finns  Finnish
   3 Turkey  Turks  Turkish
   4 Mexico  Mexicans  Spanish (and many others)

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Test 17

A 1. They made some garments out of coconut cloth.

2. It was necessary because their clothes had become very ragged.

3. He soaked the leather to make it more pliable and easier to sew.

4. The holes were made so that string could be threaded through them.

5. ‘a piece of hide’

6. d - they were more comfortable and easier to use

7. a - employed ourselves in making    b - various    c - hog     d - puckers e - succeeded in making

8. imperfect, passable, serviceable, nothing to boast of, useable, tolerable

9. active, busy, go-ahead, resourceful (and possibly bustling)

B 1. c - As hot as a fire

2. b - As flat as a pancake

3. a - as smooth as velvet

4. a - as thin as a rake

C horseback    newspaper    waistcoat    sandbank    honeymoon    railway

D 1. He has lost all his possessions.

2. He swam in the river yesterday.

3. Yesterday, you clung to the rope’s end.

4. You caught that cold after bathing on Tuesday.

5. As it was very cold, the water froze quite soon.

6. He dived to the man’s rescue, and saved him.

E 1. You have done an admirable thing.

2. Your behaviour has been most deceptive.

3. This is an imaginative drawing.

4. You are a pitiable specimen

5. This is the most talkative class in the school.
Test 18

A 1 ‘fowling-piece’ and ‘firelock’
2 He thought Wolf might have strayed away, hunting a squirrel or a partridge.
3 He tried to get Wolf to return by whistling to him and shouting his name.
4 ‘in vain’
5 flying playfully around a tall tree
6 c - He was not able to move around as easily as before.
7 His whistles were repeated by the echoes. (Other endings are possible.)
8 a - precipice b - encrusted with rust
   c - turned his steps homeward
9 Mentioned in the story are worms, Wolf (a dog), squirrel, partridge and crows.
10 Please make sure you lock the door.
    She had a good stock of firewood in the shed.
    A barrel of oil is quite expensive these days.
    (Other sentences are acceptable, if they make sense.)
11 entirely (or completely)

B 1 A herd of cattle
2 A pack of wolves
3 A litter of puppies
4 A troop or tribe of monkeys

C 1 The glasses lay in the boxes.
2 The armies cheered the chiefs.
3 The knights wore the coats-of-mail.
4 The potatoes were cut in halves.
5 The geese chased the mice.
6 The oxen drew the ploughs.

D 1 Where will you reside when you reach London?
2 Teasing the dog merely excites him.
3 When you see the queen, kneel before her.
4 You will certainly have to prove your point.
5 The craftsman gilds or gilded the model of a saint.

E 1 A blacksmith works at an anvil.
2 A bus or tram conductor might use a ticket punch.
3 A miner carries a safety lamp.
4 A doctor or surgeon uses a lancet.
5 A conductor in an orchestra uses a baton.
6 A sailor might use a sextant.
Test 19

A 1 A starting-button was pressed to launch the rocket.
   2 The rocket would travel to Mars, Mercury and Jupiter.
   3 Mars, Mercury and Jupiter are all planets.
   4 medication or medicaments
      ammunition
   5 b - they were fearless
   6 a - shiny b - transparent c - venture d - voyagers
      e - provisions f - necessities
   7 c - They had given up much of their time and pleasure.
   8 An Important Experiment
   9 new, novel, recent, fresh, modern, up-to-date, brand new, supersonic

B 1 Have you begun your homework?
   2 They taught him nothing at school.
   3 “Your share is the bigger of the two,” said Jo to Meg.
   4 His pen is different from mine.

C 1 The aroma or perfume of the flowers was wafted on the breeze.
   2 John asked the advice of the librarian.
   3 The whale was struck by a number of harpoons.
   4 The oak and the ash are deciduous.
   5 The centre-forward decided to burst through alone.

D 1 Nansen sailed to the Arctic, Scott to the Antarctic.
   2 The rocket moved off horizontally instead of vertically.
   3 “Neither a borrower nor a lender be,” said Shakespeare.
   4 Your work is inferior: Sally’s is much superior.
   5 The mansion was a permanent home, but the caravan was a temporary one.

E 1 William the Conqueror landed in 1066. Was that Anno Domini or Before Christ?
   2 At Number 10 Downing Street the Prime Minister spoke to a Member of Parliament.
   3 The Heavy Goods Vehicle took the letters to Euston Station for Federal Express to move.
   4 Colonel Grant sailed to the United States of America from the United Kingdom.
A 1 tropical, sultry, sunny, baking
2 The lonely boat-builder had cockatoos and goats as companions.
3 a - bazaar  b - mosque  c - minaret  d - rich goods
4 The words 'miles about' tell us the cities were large.
5 The gardens were likely to be sandy because they were hot and dry, and maybe surrounded by deserts.
6 Imaginative Journeyings
7 a - near and far  b - Eastern and Western
 c - rich and poor  d - buying and selling  e - coming and going
B 1 Things are going to rack and ruin at the castle.
2 There and then the ship disappeared from view.
3 We must work body and soul to avoid disaster.
4 Things are too free and easy at the camp.
C 2 Tom dribbled swiftly from his own half of the field, and shot.
5 The goal keeper dived in an effort to save.
4 The ball curved past his clutching fingers.
1 Would it enter the net?
3 Alas! The ball struck the upright and rebounded.
D 1 The waitress was my sister's daughter.
2 The mistress of the house became the duchess.
3 “You are a heroine,” said the queen.
4 The hostess called the maidservant.
E 1 Do you prefer apples, oranges or peaches?
2 “May I have an orange?” asked Ann.
3 “Don’t throw the peel on the floor!” her uncle exclaimed.
4 “I’m not likely,” said Ann, “to do that.”
Once a Week Comprehension Book 3 Answers

Test 21

A 1  The writer says he had ‘determined’, in other words ‘already decided’, to spend the night there.
   2  ‘admired’
   3  c - a large number of times
   4  Eatables named in the passage are hams, tongues, flitches of bacon, a cold round of beef and other viands.
   5  b - chatting in a friendly manner
   6  active, brisk, alert, prompt, spry, enterprising
   7  a - determined  b – spacious  c – polished  d - entered  e - well-scoured  f – other viands  g - suspended
   8  b - Travellers were well cared for.
      c - There was plenty of meat available.
      e - It was a pleasure to enter.

B 1  stone (The others are all used to provide energy.)
   2  big (The others are all prepositions of location.)
   3  shout (All the others are contractions, the shortened form of two words.)
   4  Anna (The only female.)
   5  nail (All the others are tools.)

C 1  Soldier is to army as pupil is to school.
   2  I is to we as my is to our.
   3  Peel is to orange as skin is to banana.
   4  Doctor is to patient as teacher is to pupil.
   5  Knife is to sheath as sword is to scabbard.

D 1  RHUBARB
   2  SAUCER
   3  TONGUE
   4  DECEIVE
   5  GAOL
   6  PETROL

E  Bradford, Chelmsford, Chester, Chesterfield, Durham, Newhaven, Newport, Poole, Pudsey, Wellington, Wells, Yeovil

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Test 22

A  
1  b - fairly soon
2  The young men had their shirt-sleeves elaborately tied with ribbons, and hats decorated with green leaves. One of them had on his head a fox's skin, the tail of which hung down his back.
3  Their visit was a peaceful one.
4  A large number of villagers and peasants were following the young men.
5  They struck their clubs together as they danced, keeping in time with the music.
6  The dancing took place in front of the Hall door.
7  After it was over, the party was entertained to a meal of brawn, beef and home-brewed. The squire mixed with the country folk.
8  Ale or beer
9  The squire was the most important man in the village.
10 villagers, peasants, rustics
11  a - skirts of the dance  b - peculiar  c - concluded
12  The events took place at Christmas.

B  
Mary wandered through the farmyard. The bull bellowed in the field, and the cow mooed or lowed in answer. Her favourite horse whinnied or neighed. A bee went humming or buzzing homewards. Over the stable a clock chimed or ticked, and the clanking or jingling of chains showed that work was beginning. Rain began to patter as Mary went inside.

N.B. Other sound words could be used.

C  
1  active volcano  ear-splitting explosion  sharp razor
2  blood-thirsty pirate  well-trained athlete  magnificent palace
3  exciting adventure  well-worn path  intelligent pupil
4  aching tooth  tremendous excitement  screeching brakes

D  
1  I would expect to find fish in a creel.
2  The pharmacist or doctor would deal with a prescription.
3  Chickens are hatched artificially in an incubator.
4  If I heard someone say, “Fasten your seat belts please”, I would probably be on an aeroplane.
5  A plumber installs or repairs pipes and fittings that supply water to taps, toilets or heating equipment.
6  A person who studies the stars is called an astronomer.

E  
1  b - to be very boastful
2  a - to have a quick nap
3  c - to tell something that was a secret
Once a Week Comprehension Book 3 Answers

Test 23

A 1 Robinson Crusoe’s garments were made out of goat’s skin.
   2 It had a flap to keep the sun off him and to stop the rain running down his neck.
   3 He used thongs made of goat’s skin instead of a buckle.
   4 Instead of a sword or dagger, he had a little saw and a hatchet.
   5 The pouches on the second belt contained powder and shot.
   6 The belt round his waist was the broader one.
   7 It probably hung over his right shoulder, hanging diagonally across his body.
   8 He wasn’t wearing stockings and shoes.
   9 unusual, quaint, odd, ill-dressed
   10 a – open-kneed breeches          b – jacket
   11 We know he had firearms because he was carrying ammunition.
   12 c – His cap was of no particular shape.
          d – He wore two belts.

B 1 The scent of the pines was pleasant.
   2 A log fire burned in the grate.
   3 The searchers found the hoard of gold.
   4 The runner strained a muscle.

C clerk – dark  Braille – pail  tongue – swung
         suite – meet  gnome – home  cheque - peck

D 1 edge – margin
   2 moisture – dampness
   3 wonderful – marvellous
   4 exertion – labour
   5 innocent – blameless
   6 knowing – understanding

E Fair stood the wind for France,
   When we our sails advance,
   Nor now to prove our chance,
      Longer will tarry;
   But putting to the main,
   At Caux, the mouth of Seine,
   With all his martial train
         Landed King Harry.

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Once a Week Comprehension Book 3 Answers

Test 24

A 1 The incident took place in the High Street of the little town of Dunford in the County of Loamshire.
2 We know this because there were farm wagons loaded with produce going to the market-place.
3 The policeman was on point duty, trying to direct the traffic.
4 There were farm wagons, lorries, cars, motorcycles and bicycles.
5 They were better off than the others because they could edge their way towards the front of the traffic jam.
6 The atmosphere became unpleasant because drivers were honking their horns and shouting, and petrol fumes polluted the air.
7 The drivers were impatient because there was such a long line of stationary vehicles, and it would be a long time before they could reach their destination.
8 The sheep were ‘bleating sorrowfully’.
9 c - He decided to take some definite action.
10 They had been able to escape because the tail-board of the lorry had collapsed.
11 ‘the streams of traffic’ and ‘line of waiting vehicles’
12 honking, shouts, louder and louder, bleating

B 1 boat - floating
2 footballer - athletic
3 breakfast - morning
4 doctor - qualified
5 diamond - valuable

C 1 Summer days are very pleasant.
2 One undresses before going to bed or Before going to bed, one undresses.
3 New brooms sweep clean.
4 On Monday remember to bring dinner or Remember to bring dinner on Monday.

D 1 PRAIRIE
2 PRAWN
3 PRANCE
4 PRANK
5 PRAISE
6 PRACTISE

E 1 rifle
2 trap
3 pool
4 port
5 page

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## Test 25

**A**

1. He was at Florés in the Azores.
2. It brought the message that fifty-three Spanish warships had been sighted at sea.
3. The other admiral is Lord Thomas Howard.
4. There were only six English ships and fifty-three Spanish.
5. The other admiral made up his mind to escape or get out of the way.
6. Sir Richard decided to stay so that he could care for and protect more than ninety sick men.
7. It probably means moored or anchored his ship and his depleted fleet for a while.
8. ‘To those Inquisition dogs and the devildoms of Spain.’
9. pinnace, barque, galley
10. a - Just Before a Great Sea-Battle
11. a - flying  b - fly  c - lying sick
12. He advised that Lord Thomas Howard should go into hiding for a while before returning to attack.

**B**

1. originate
2. part
3. boiling
4. direct
5. lengthy
6. agreeable

**C**

1. Have you a sunshade? No, I have an umbrella.
2. Give an egg, a fresh egg, an emu’s egg in exchange.
3. What an exciting tale, an heir to the throne has been found!
4. I want an apple and a pear, not an orange.

**D**

1. A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.
2. An apple a day keeps the doctor away.
3. Listeners hear no good of themselves.
4. Empty vessels make the most noise.

**E**

1. hut, cottage, house, mansion, castle
2. mouth-organ, bugle, trumpet, trombone, double-bass
3. streamlet, stream, river, sea, ocean
4. second, minute, hour, day, week

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Once a Week Comprehension Book 3 Answers

Test 26

A  
1  b - rather carelessly  
2  c - where they had been sent, but were asleep  
3  It sounded like a pistol shot, which started an echo among the hills and cliffs.  
4  a - keep concealed  b - by sundown  c - had need of a hundred eyes  
   d - was still plainly in our view  e - from their neighbourhood  
5  arduous, difficult, laborious, awkward, uphill work, troublesome, beset with difficulties, wearying  
6  b - there was hardly a breath of air  
7  c - Fleeing through the Mountains  
8  a - escape, evade, retreat, elude, get clear, fugitives, dodge, to run for one’s life  
   b - follow, pursue, chase, hunt, to slip through one’s fingers, hound, trackers  

B  
1  wrathful - angry  
2  valuable - precious  
3  friendly - cordial  
4  summit - top  

C  
If we walk down Piccadilly we see shops selling goods from many countries. There are jewels from India and Africa, furs from Alaska, foodstuffs from America and Australia. The Dutch, the French, the Italians all send us produce. Great vessels carry goods across the Atlantic and the Pacific, and unloading goes on night and day at London, Liverpool, Hull and other ports.

D  
1  citrus fruits  
2  crockery  
3  females  
4  prepositions (of location)  

E  
1  SNIPE  3  PUFFIN  5  CANARY  
2  VULTURE  4  FALCON  6  THRUSH  

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Test 27
A  1  The precious cargo was labelled as ‘ordinary merchandise’ to reduce the risk of it being stolen.
   2  As the steamer came nearer to the coast, England would become increasingly visible and would seem to rise gradually out of the sea.
   3  It had to end at The Pool because the engines were shut down there. The ship may have been too tall to pass under London Bridge.
   4  The treasure was placed in the hold of the steamer.
   5  He had come aboard at Dungeness to guide the steamer safely up the River Thames.
   6  ‘Old Father Thames’ has inverted commas because it is the title of a well-known song and saying.
   7  a - merchandise  b - It ended when  c - passage
   8  exciting, perilous, hazardous, fraught with danger
   9  a - The vessel was in the pool: Here pool is a common noun and indicates the vessel was in an un-named pool.
      b - The vessel was in The Pool: Here Pool is a proper noun showing the vessel was in a special area on the river.
   10 a:  precious - worthless  b: homeward bound - outward bound
       (Other words or phrases are possible.)
   11 Vault as a noun means a room, usually in a bank, where valuable items can be safely stored.
      Vault as a verb means to jump, using the arms or a pole to push oneself further or higher.
B  Of all the pleasant ways to spend an afternoon,
   Is in a pony chaise one sultry day in June,
   To drive between the trees in Hyde Park round and round,
   It brings a pleasant sense of ease in spinning o’er the ground.
C  1  DREAD  2  SWEAT
   BREAD  SWEET
   BROAD  SLEET
D  1  The boy who was absent from school was ill.
   2  Martin fell off the wall, which was not very high.
   3  This is the man whose coat was torn.
   4  Here comes the soldier about whom we have been speaking.
   5  Can you see what I can see?
E  1  LABORATORY
   2  DICTIONARY
   3  NECESSARY
   4  DORMITORY
   5  DEPOSITORY

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Test 28

A 1 They got their water from a clear stream that bubbled from a well on the slopes of Ben Venue.
2 Katrine’s special duty was to watch the sluice gates of the torrent so that it didn’t cause flooding in the valley below.
3 She should have been very careful because, if the stream flowed too swiftly, it would flood the valley below and harm the villagers.
4 We know this because the mountain overlooks a lake where the ruins of cottages, farms and churches can be seen.
5 The lake was named after Katrine, the beautiful young maiden.
6 No, the ruins can only be seen at a certain spot in the lake.
7 tragic, calamitous, disastrous
8 a - bubbling, tranquil, gentle, placid
   b - turbulent, overwhelming, torrential, furious, cascading
9 b - Katrine neglected her duties.

B 1 An ostrich’s egg is bigger than a hen’s.
2 The brooch’s pin pierced the woman’s hand.
3 The actor’s disguise puzzled the ladies’ companions.
4 The mongoose’s enemies hid amongst the tree’s leaves.
5 It was all a midsummer night’s dream.
6 The knives’ blades cut my cousin’s coat.

C 1 The pilot shouted, “The plane is on fire, and there is great danger!”
2 He asked, “How far is it to the railway station?”
3 The headmaster told him, “Bring your library book without fail.”
4 Mr Jones asked Mr Smith, “Is Mr Evans coming to the concert?”

D 1 Strawberries and cream  4 Sausage and bacon
2 Poached egg and toast  5 Liver and onions or bacon
3 Sage and onion  6 Roast beef and Yorkshire pudding
(There are other alternatives)

E 1 catastrophe
2 physical
3 geography
4 camphor
5 sylph
Test 29
A 1 We know this because the passage tells us the galley was ‘making chase.’
2 It was two miles away.
3 The watchers were on the first ship, the one being chased.
4 There were about forty oars, and between two hundred and two hundred and forty rowers altogether.
5 The slave-masters could reach the slaves on either side because they walked up and down a central gangway.
6 They were chained to their oars so that they couldn’t stop rowing or escape.
7 The masters were cursing the rowers, probably because they weren’t rowing fast or well enough.
8 Amyas was very angry because of the cruel treatment of the half-naked, starving slaves chained like wild animals to the oars. He realised that there could well be Englishmen among them.
9 The word ‘half-naked’ tells us they had few clothes on.
10 The galley was armed with cannons.
11 The ‘great shock’ that was about to come was probably the galley’s cannons opening fire.
12 The second meaning of ‘galley’ is the narrow kitchen of a ship.
13 a - starving  b - ugly-looking  c - snouts
B 1 Native American - formerly a wigwam
2 traveller - caravan 3 monk - monastery
4 Swiss farmer - wooden chalet or a log cabin
5 Inuit - formerly an igloo 6 nun - convent or nunnery
C I found the tavern in question. It was a bright enough little place of entertainment. The sign was newly painted, the windows had neat, red curtains, the floor was cleanly sanded. There was a street on either side, and an open door on both, which made the large, low room pretty clear to see in, in spite of clouds of tobacco smoke. The customers were mostly seafaring men.
D The braying of an ass woke Mary. Her pet lamb began to bleat in return. It was before cock-crow, but already a turkey was gobbling. In the smithy, the clanging or ringing of the anvil, the splashing of water, and the squeaking of a hinge showed that Ben was working.
N.B. Other sound-words are possible.
E 1 Sheila is delicate, Pauline is more delicate, but John is the most delicate.
2 Tom went far, Jim went farther, and Jack went the farthest.
3 He is cautious, his brother is more cautious, but his mother is the most cautious.
4 Jack is heavy, Jill is heavier and Joan is the heaviest.
Once a Week Comprehension Book 3 Answers

Test 30

A 1 He had been a king in his own land.
2 He should have harvested the rice crop with a sickle.
3 His native land meant the land where he was born.
4 c - wide, long and superior to many other rivers
5 We know it was a warm land because his breast was bare, also rice grows only in warm climates.
6 b - merchants and pilgrims travelling together for safety
7 a - matted b - landscape of his dreams c - bare
8 visionary, imaginary, fanciful, dreamlike, shadowy
9 serf, slave, bondsman, vassal, captive

B 1 All too quickly our youth passes.
2 The entry of the pirates caused complete confusion.
3 I cannot study science; I shall take up painting.
4 In many places such a hat would be a curiosity.
5 He sought fame and fortune overseas.

C 1 I shall be angry with you if you go home.
2 Share this money with Jane, Susan and Ann.
3 I shall fight against this decision.
4 He dived from the pier each day.
5 Share this between Brian and Mary.

D 1 An airline pilot, technician in a space station, and people controlling the movements of aircraft, trains or machinery would sit behind controls.
2 A king or queen wears a crown.
3 Someone working with nuts and bolts, such as a joiner, carpenter, fitter or plumber would make use of a spanner.
4 An astronomer, or someone wanting to see something far away, would use a telescope.

E 1 biannual - happening twice a year
bivalve - a shellfish that has a shell with two parts, like a mussel.
bisect - to cut into two parts
2 Vice-Captain - someone who acts in place of, or is second in command to, the Captain of a ship.
Vice-Chairman - an alternative Chairman who can act in place of the Chairman of a meeting.
Vice-Admiral - someone second in command to, and able to act in place of, the Admiral of a fleet.
3 pre-war - before the war
prehistoric - referring to the period before there were written records of events.
predict - to foretell what will happen in the future.
4 postscript - an extra note added at the end of a letter or a book
post-war - after the war
post mortem - the examination of a dead body to find out why someone has died.