

# The Important Test

Read this story to see if Tom passes his driver's test.

1 Muttering to himself, Tom took another English muffin and gulped down a glass of orange juice.

2 "Are you talking to me?" asked Mrs. Ellis.

3 "Huh? Oh!" Then, pouring a glass of milk, he said, "I must have been talking to myself, Mom. I'm kind of worried about a math test I have this morning. And this afternoon, I've got to pass my driver's test. Meanwhile, I've got to finish my story about our shut-out football game. The problem is that I have an eight o'clock deadline."

4 "Tom, how many times have I spoken to you about leaving things until the last minute?"

5 "Don't say it, Mom, please. I know it's my own fault." With that, he hurried out of the house to catch his bus. His good-bye was muffled by the sound of the screen door slamming shut.

6 The day moved quickly for Tom, and finally it was time to meet Mrs. Hopple, his driver-education teacher.

7 "Are you ready to take the driving test?" asked Mrs. Hopple.

8 "As ready as I'll ever be," answered Tom. "The only thing that worries me is driving around those markers without hitting them."

9 "Just don't turn the wheel too sharply

and you'll be OK. Most important of all, relax," advised his teacher.

10 "You make it sound so easy."

11 "Have confidence in yourself, Tom, and stop worrying. Just do what has to be done," said Mrs. Hopple encouragingly as she drove Tom downtown.

12 After Tom signed various forms, an examiner slid into the passenger seat. Getting behind the wheel, Tom felt nervous at the prospect of not passing the test.

13 "All right, Tom. Let's begin. Drive straight along this roadway until you come to the stop sign," instructed the examiner.

14 Tom went anxiously through the driving part of the test. The last thing he had to do was move the car into and out of a small space. His hands felt clammy as he drove between four markers that represented a narrow street. Then the examiner said, "Turn right," so Tom pulled up on the right side of a fifth marker.

15 "Did I do it OK?" Tom asked the examiner.

16 "Just continue," said the examiner, so Tom took a deep breath and put the car into reverse. His heart was pounding as he eased the car backward. He had to back around the fifth marker and between the four markers, ending up where he had started.

17 After stopping the car, Tom tried to catch his breath. Then the examiner congratulated him for passing the test!



## Knowing the Words

Write the words from the story that have the meanings below.

1. possibility

\_\_\_\_\_

(Par. 12)

2. with an uneasy feeling

\_\_\_\_\_

(Par. 14)

3. stood for

\_\_\_\_\_

(Par. 14)

4. damp

\_\_\_\_\_

(Par. 14)

In each row below, circle the three words that belong together.

5. car gasoline truck backpack

6. test exam football study

7. driver muffin pilot guide

## Working with Words

An ending that is added to a word to change its meaning or part of speech is called a **suffix**. The suffix **-ist** means "someone who does something." For example, the word *geologist* is "someone who studies geology." Add **-ist** to each word below. Then use the new word in a sentence.

1. organ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. cartoon \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

The suffix **-ly** can be added to some words. For example, a person who talks in a loud way talks **loudly**. Find the word in paragraph 14 of the story that means "in an anxious way."

3. \_\_\_\_\_

## Reading and Thinking

1. Check the main idea of the story.

\_\_\_ waking up late

\_\_\_ playing football

\_\_\_ Tom's driving test

Write the word that best completes each sentence.

2. Tom poured the \_\_\_\_\_ into the glass that was sitting on the counter.

bread milk ocean

3. We \_\_\_\_\_ that fifty people attended last week's football game.

confided released estimated

4. Why is Tom worried about passing

his diving test? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Find one sentence the author wrote to show how busy Tom's day was.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Learning to Study

Look at the chart and answer the questions.

<u>Deadlines</u>	<u>Reporter</u>	<u>Department</u>
May 4	Jenny	News
May 10	Christy	Art
May 12	Tom	Sports

1. Each deadline is in the month

of \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Who is the reporter for the sports

page? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Which reporter has the last deadline?

\_\_\_\_\_