

Tree Ag Mag - Vocabulary

Directions: Read each item. Choose the word that best fits in the blank.

1

The _____(s) of a tree are the tree structures that grow into the soil and help anchor the tree.

- A Leaf
- B Trunk
- C Root
- D Bark

2

A _____ tree loses its leaves once a year, like the Oak tree.

- A Pine
- B Tropical
- C Coniferous
- D Deciduous

3

The top of the tree that contains all the leaves and branches is called the _____.

- A Crown
- B Trunk
- C Leaf
- D Bark

4

Photosynthesis takes place in what part of the tree?

- A Trunk
- B Leaf
- C Bark
- D Root

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Directions: Read each item. Choose the word that best fits in the blank.

5

A tree that has cones and needles instead of leaves is a _____ tree.

- A Coniferous
- B Deciduous
- C Oak
- D Hardwood

6

The _____ is the center of the tree under the bark where tree rings are found.

- A Hardwood
- B Softwood
- C Heartwood
- D Centerwood

7

The main stem of the tree is the _____.

- A Bark
- B Leaf
- C Trunk
- D Crown

8

The _____ protects the inside of the tree from weather and animals by covering the outside of the tree.

- A Bark
- B Leaf
- C Trunk
- D Crown

Tree Ag Mag - Math

The functions machine uses rules to change numbers. Look for a pattern in the IN and OUT numbers in each table. Fill in the table. Write the rule using variables (e.g. $IN + 2 = OUT$).

1.

IN	6	13	21	15	62		52
OUT	15	22	30			58	

RULE: _____

2.

IN	62	20	70	36	42		70
OUT	31	10			21	16	

RULE: _____

3.

IN	13	10	15	22	33		
OUT	39	30		66		54	60

RULE: _____

4.

IN	13	39	93	64	42		
OUT	0	26	80			46	70

RULE: _____

Tree Ag Mag - Reading Passage

The Tree Farmer

By Chuck Leavell and Nicholas Cravotta

“Grandfather!” says the boy. “I thought you lived on a farm. You don’t have very many chickens. And where are the cows and pigs?”

Grandfather says slowly, “We grow trees.”

“Wow! Apples and oranges? I hope they’re not figs. Can I help you pick them?”

Grandfather smiles. “Come. Take my hand. Let me introduce you to the Pines. Look how gracefully they race each other towards the sky. These over here are the Oaks. I think of them as the old men of the farm. And here are the Maples, whose leaves shower the earth with the most splendid colors.”

“They are so beautiful,” says the boy.

“Trees offer more than beauty,” says Grandfather, watching the boy. “These trees clean the air we breathe and the water we drink. Without the forests of the world, we would not be able to live. Look! There’s a deer passing on its way to a hidden lake. There are many animals here who call the forest their home.”

“I must tell you, there is much for me to do as I take care of the trees. I plant them as young seedlings. To make sure they grow strong, I trim their branches and protect them from insects and wild fire. I am also responsible for helping keep nature in balance so that all the other plants and animals in the forest are safe and healthy. There is much to consider. That is why I am so careful as to when and how I cut a tree down.”

“You cut them down?” asks the boy. “But why? How could you?”

Grandfather reaches out for the nearest tree. “This tree,” he says as he runs his old fingers over its rough bark, “I planted 37 years ago. It touches my soul to stand in its shadow. After today, it will touch souls in a completely different way. Part of this tree will be made into a crib to protect a baby and gently carry her as she dreams.”

“This tree,” continues Grandfather, moving to another, “will become a home for a family. It will safely house them and their memories, in joy and sadness, and shelter them at night through storms. This tree will become many things: a baseball bat, a school book, a wooden puzzle, a chair, a paper airplane, a chest of drawers, wrapping paper, a photograph, wallpaper, an artist’s sketchbook, a painting easel, newspaper, paper bags, fuel for a campfire, and even,” he pauses, “the handle of an ax that will be used to harvest other trees.

“The life of this tree will pass to the piano to be made from its wood. It will join its many cousins, the violin and cello, the guitar and clarinet, the marimba and drum. It will live on in the sweetness of music, reflecting the rhythm, harmony and melody of life.”

“This tree will become paper upon which many people will share their ideas, thoughts, and dreams. It will be a source of inspiration and knowledge.”

Grandfather smiles sweetly. “Can you see them? Newspapers, photos, books. Even a love letter and its envelope, written with passion and sealed with endless hope to be forever treasured by she who receives it.”

Trees Ag Mag - Reading Passage

1

In this story, a metaphor is used to compare the Oaks to _____.
Why?

2

Grandpa says, "The Pines race each other towards the sky." What does he mean?

3

When Grandpa says the tree will "live on in the sweetness of music, reflecting the rhythm, harmony and melody of life," what does he mean?

Trees Ag Mag - Reading Passage

4

Why is the boy shocked that Grandpa would cut down his trees?

5

How is Grandfather's job on the tree farm similar to that of any other farmer?



Extended Response

Why is it important to protect our forests? How do trees impact animals, plants, soil and water? How do they impact humans? Be sure to include information from the Trees Ag Mag along with your own experiences and knowledge.