READING
Paws to Read

This is an informational selection about a reading program called Paws to Read. Children can go to a public library and read to a dog. A handler, the person responsible for the dog, sits nearby as the child reads aloud. Read this selection to find out how this program encourages children to become better readers.
It’s no surprise to see stacks of books when you visit a public library. You might also see chairs to sit in to read a favorite book. But what a surprise it is to see a real live dog waiting to listen to you read!

Yes, that’s right. Dogs are listening to children read at libraries as part of the program Paws to Read. Children sign up to read to a dog. When it is their turn, the children sit with a dog and its handler for about 15 minutes and read aloud.
The author includes paragraph 2 most likely to —

A  tell readers about the public library

B  describe what happens in the Paws to Read program

C  tell librarians about the Paws to Read program
3  The children don’t mind waiting their turn. Even beginning readers are eager to read to a dog. Learning to read can be trying for some children. For those who struggle, learning to read seems even harder when other people are around to hear them stumble over words they don’t know. In the Paws to Read program, children read to friendly dogs who just sit and listen.

4  Reading to a dog helps children feel good about themselves as they become better readers. The children are given a chance to read without any criticism from the listener. The dogs never say unkind words or make fun of the readers. One mother put her seven-year-old son in the Paws to Read program. She hoped his reading would improve and he would enjoy it more. Now her son even reads to his own dog at home.

2  What does the word trying mean in paragraph 3?

   F  Difficult

   G  Boring

   H  Interesting
3 The mother put her son in a Paws to Read program because —

A he did not have anyone else to listen to him read

B he did not like going to the library

C she wanted him to feel better about himself as a reader

4 Which words from paragraph 4 best help the reader understand what the word criticism means?

F would improve

G chance to read

H make fun of
The Paws to Read program has many children excited about books. They get to practice reading aloud to a dog that seems happy to listen. One young girl enjoyed the program so much that she waited an hour to read to another dog.

The children are encouraged to read as many books as possible to the dogs. This makes children want to check out more books and keep reading.

Is there a Paws to Read program near you? Visit your public library to find out!
5 In paragraph 5, the author includes the information about the young girl most likely to —

A  give an example of someone who is eager to read to dogs
B  describe what Paws to Read dogs do at the library
C  explain why dogs seem to enjoy having children read to them

6 In paragraph 7, the author suggests that readers —

F  tell their parents about the many dogs in the program
G  start a Paws to Read program in their neighborhoods
H  check to see if their public library has a Paws to Read program
Use the whole selection “Paws to Read” on pages 6–10 to answer question 7.

7  What is the main idea of this selection?

   A  People should visit a public library.

   B  Children who read to dogs get excited about reading.

   C  Dogs are allowed in some libraries.
Paintings from Space

This article is about Alan Bean. He worked as an astronaut with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) for many years. When he retired from his job as an astronaut, Bean began painting. Read the article to learn about the unusual art Bean creates.
Paintings from Space

1 When Alan Bean was a child, he dreamed of being an astronaut. He wanted to fly through space in a rocket and see unusual places. His dream came true.

2 Bean became a pilot as an adult. Then he applied to NASA and was chosen to become an astronaut. He trained six years for his first trip into space.

3 Bean became the fourth person to walk on the moon. On another trip he spent 59 days in space.

4 After Bean finished his space travels, he did not have to train as much anymore. Bean spent his extra time doing things he enjoyed. He really liked to paint. Bean became an artist when he retired from NASA.
8 Read the following diagram about Alan Bean.

Became a pilot  ➔  Chosen by NASA  ➔  [ ] ➔  Walked on the moon

Which of these belongs in the empty box?

F  Retired as an astronaut

G  Trained to be an astronaut

H  Became an artist

9 Bean became an astronaut most likely because —

A  he thought it would make him a better artist

B  he dreamed of flying when he was a child

C  he needed something to do to keep busy
Bean creates unusual art. He likes to paint what he saw on his trips into space. In one painting he tried to show what the **rough** surface of the moon looks like. He used a lot of paint to make the painting bumpy. Then he stuck the bottom of an astronaut’s boot in the paint. When he picked up the boot, it made a footprint. Then he painted an astronaut exploring the moon’s surface.

Bean uses real things from his space trips in his paintings. He sprinkles moon dust on them. He uses small pieces of metal that came from a spacecraft. Sometimes he adds small pieces from the space suit he wore while walking on the moon. Bean feels that adding **authentic** objects to his art makes it more interesting.

Bean thinks that he is a successful artist because he was an astronaut. “It was after I’d been to the moon that I found out I was given a gift with my art,” said Bean.
10 Read this dictionary entry.

rough \( \text{\textipa{r}}\text{\textipa{f}} \) adjective
1. having a rocky surface
2. challenging or difficult
3. unfinished surface

Which meaning fits the use of rough in paragraph 5?

F  Meaning 1
G  Meaning 2
H  Meaning 3
11 Which words from paragraph 6 help the reader understand the meaning of authentic?

A  the moon  
B  his paintings  
C  real things

12 Which of these sentences best shows how Bean feels about his artwork?

F  Then he stuck the bottom of an astronaut’s boot in the paint.  
G  He sprinkles moon dust on them.  
H  “It was after I’d been to the moon that I found out I was given a gift with my art,” said Bean.
13 Which of these might make a good title for one of Bean’s paintings?

A Reasons for Changing Jobs
B Footprints on the Moon
C The Dangers of Exploring Space

14 Read the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cause</th>
<th>Effect</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bean wants to share his experiences as an astronaut.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Which sentence completes the table?

F He creates art that shows what he saw while in space.
G He tells others about his childhood dream of flying.
H He speaks to others about the amount of time he spent training.
15 Why does the author include the photograph of Bean?

A To show Bean training at NASA

B To show a picture Bean painted

C To show Bean working as an astronaut