

Select Readings, Second Edition
Elementary, Chapter 6 Test

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

A Letter to My Family

Yasuko Ishiyama is a student in Japan. She completed junior high school a few months ago. She goes to a special school now to prepare for studying in the United States. In just a few weeks, Yasuko will leave Japan, her home, and her family to attend a private boarding school¹ for four years in the U.S. It will be the first time she will live away from her family.

In class last week, Yasuko's teacher asked her class to do an interesting project. He told them to write a letter that their families can read after they leave for the United States. This is what Yasuko wrote to her family:

Dear Mom, Dad, Grandma, and Bella,
When you read this, I will already be on a plane, going to the United States. I am happy and excited, and a little scared, too. I am not sure if I can do a good job in boarding school, but I am very happy to follow my dream to study in the U.S.

Mom and Dad, it is because of you that I am able to go to the U.S., and I want to say thank you for all your help. Even when I didn't do well in school, you never got angry at me or criticized me. As a result, I wanted to study more and do better.

Grandma, thank you for always listening to me. Whenever I had a problem, you were a shoulder to cry on.² I will work hard in the U.S. to make you proud of me.

Bella, I know you can't read this. After all, you are only a dog. But in some ways, I will miss you most of all. Your happy face always makes me smile.

I know I might get homesick³ sometimes while I am away, but I will always do my best because I know I have the best family in the world.

Thanks for everything.
Yasuko

1. Which of these happened FIRST?
 - A. Yasuko's teacher gave her an interesting project.
 - B. Yasuko got on a plane to the U.S.
 - C. Yasuko completed junior high school.
 - D. Yasuko wrote a letter to her family.

¹ **boarding school** a school where students live on campus

² **a shoulder to cry on** someone who listens to your problems

³ **homesick** missing home and family

2. Which of these happened LAST?
 - A. Yasuko's teacher gave her an interesting project.
 - B. Yasuko got on a plane to go to the U.S.
 - C. Yasuko completed junior high school.
 - D. Yasuko wrote a letter to her family.

3. The special school is part of Yasuko's _____ for going to the U.S.
 - A. prepare
 - B. prepares
 - C. prepared
 - D. preparation

4. How long will Yasuko stay in the U.S.?
 - A. a few weeks
 - B. a few months
 - C. a year
 - D. four years

5. Why does Yasuko thank her parents?
 - A. They helped her to work harder at school.
 - B. They told her to go study in the U.S.
 - C. They criticized her work.
 - D. They told her that her school work was not good.

6. Yasuko says she feels all of these EXCEPT _____.
 - A. scared
 - B. sad
 - C. happy
 - D. excited

7. Yasuko wants her grandmother to _____ her.
 - A. cry on her shoulder
 - B. feel proud of
 - C. always listen
 - D. talk to

8. Who does Yasuko say she will miss the most?
 - A. her mother
 - B. her father
 - C. her grandmother
 - D. her dog

9. Yasuko knows that she might feel _____ while she is away from home.
 - A. happy
 - B. sad
 - C. homesick
 - D. best

10. When Yasuko writes this letter, she is probably _____.
 - A. in school in Japan
 - B. in school in the U.S.
 - C. in junior high school
 - D. on a plane