

**D**irections  
Read this story. Then answer questions 22 through 28.

## Mrs. Majeska and the Lost Gloves

by Ethel Pochocki

- 1 One crisp fall morning, Mrs. Majeska woke up with a craving for sauerkraut. It was so strong, she could smell it, she could taste it, and she knew she must have it for supper. So she put on her walking shoes, picked up her tub with a lid and a handle, and went into town to buy some.

sauerkraut = chopped, pickled cabbage
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- 2 She walked briskly, enjoying the wind messing up her hair and the parade of dried leaves dancing ahead of her. It was a glorious day, and the thought of sauerkraut for supper, with a bit of apple and onion and sausage, made her want to dance along with the leaves.
- 3 But suddenly she stopped. In the road there was a glove, a small black glove, the fingers still plump, as if it had just left its owner's hand. It was out of place in the middle of the road.
- 4 Poor thing, thought Mrs. Majeska. I cannot leave it there. She picked it up quickly—a logging truck was coming—and laid it on the grass. She felt sorry for its owner, who now had only one glove. What good was one glove?
- 5 On the way home from the store, she walked on the other side of the road, the sauerkraut sloshing inside the tub. A cluster of children came toward her, laughing and shouting to one another as they took turns kicking something in the dust. Finally they tired of it and ran off past Mrs. Majeska.
- 6 She looked down at the sorry thing they had been kicking. It was another black glove, of the same size and shape as the one she had rescued. She examined it—yes, it was the mate to the other!
- 7 Mrs. Majeska hesitated, then continued walking. It was only a glove, after all, not a child or a kitten or a wallet. Suddenly she stopped, turned around, and walked back to the crumpled bit of cloth. She picked it up, shook it out, and brushed off the dirt. It looked almost as good as new.

**GO ON**

- 8 With the glove in one hand and the tub of sauerkraut in the other, she strode down the road to where the other glove still lay in the grass. She placed its mate beside it, satisfied that they were now together. For what good was one glove without the other?
- 9 A boy whizzed by on a bike and looked at her. Two old ladies, arm in arm, marched toward her on their way to the post office. Mrs. Majeska bent down and pretended to tie her shoelaces, for she felt foolish to be caught in the act of reuniting a pair of gloves.
- 10 That night, after a supper as delicious as she had imagined it, Mrs. Majeska sat in her rocker and thought about the gloves. She wished she had brought them home to use for herself. Their owner had probably already given them up for lost. The next morning, after she had her coffee and read the newspaper, she decided to go back and get the gloves. But they were gone.
- 11 Mrs. Majeska was mystified. Who—beside herself—would want a pair of gloves lying by the side of the road? Perhaps the owner had retraced her steps and rejoiced in finding them? Or maybe a housewife on a cleaning binge had used them to polish the stove? Or maybe a puppy needed something to chew on? Or a squirrel, to line its nest for winter?
- 12 Mrs. Majeska would never know, but as long as she did not know, she would believe in a happy ending. No matter what their fate, the gloves were together, and that was all that mattered.

**22** In paragraph 2, what does the phrase “made her want to dance along with the leaves” **most** suggest about Mrs. Majeska?

- A** She is ready to move along quickly to get home.
- B** She remembers the words to a song in her head.
- C** She likes the fall weather because it causes change.
- D** She is happy because she is enjoying her day.

**23** How do paragraphs 3 and 4 foreshadow the ending of the story?

- A** by emphasizing that a single glove is of little use
- B** by emphasizing that nobody cares about a lost glove
- C** by showing that Mrs. Majeska is careful when picking up the glove
- D** by showing that Mrs. Majeska is worried about the owner of the glove

**24** Based on paragraphs 5 and 6, which sentence **best** contrasts Mrs. Majeska and the children?

- A** Mrs. Majeska wants to clean the glove but the children do not.
- B** Mrs. Majeska is sorry for the glove owner but the children are not.
- C** Mrs. Majeska is happy to see the glove while the children are not.
- D** Mrs. Majeska understands the value of the glove while the children do not.

**GO ON**

**25** Mrs. Majeska's actions in paragraphs 7 and 8 **most** contribute to the development of the central idea by showing that she

- A** is content that the gloves are back together
- B** considers taking the gloves home for herself
- C** thinks she is silly for worrying about the gloves
- D** cleans off the gloves to make them easy to find

**26** What can the reader infer about Mrs. Majeska in paragraph 9?

- A** She is nervous that the gloves will not be found by their owner.
- B** She is concerned about what the boy and the two ladies think of her.
- C** She is scared by the boy who is riding on the bike.
- D** She is upset by the old ladies who walk past her.

**27** Which word **best** describes Mrs. Majeska in paragraph 10?

- A** proud
- B** restless
- C** stubborn
- D** regretful

**28**

What does the point of view in paragraph 11 help the reader to understand?

- A** an owner's joy in finding the gloves
- B** Mrs. Majeska's concern that a puppy might chew the gloves
- C** a housewife's eagerness to put the gloves to use
- D** Mrs. Majeska's surprise that someone took the gloves