

- Read the paragraph. Circle the letter of the best answer to each question.

To win the speed-skating medal, Kari needs racing skates, but her father can't afford to buy them. Her father sells large blocks of ice cut from Copenhagen's lakes and ponds. The winter temperature has been so mild, however, that even the ponds haven't frozen. As a result, the family has no money for skates. Although Kari's aunt lends her a pair of ice skates, Kari can find nowhere to practice. The ponds aren't safe and the ice rink is too expensive. Kari enters the race but comes in fifth.

- 1 What element of the setting most influences the action in this paragraph?

A Kari's aunt lends her skates
 B the city of Copenhagen
 C the mild temperature
 D Kari's father's anger



Tip

Think about what happens in the paragraph, and choose the answer that has the greatest effect on the action.

- 2 Once Kari has racing skates, what conflict does she face?

F Kari's aunt expects a thank-you note.
 G Kari dislikes the skates' color.
 H Kari's father disapproves of the time Kari spends practicing.
 J She is not able to find a suitable place to practice.



Tip

Find the place in the paragraph where Kari gets the ice skates. What difficulty does she face after?

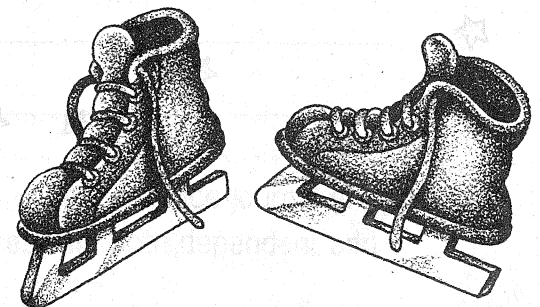
- 3 How does the setting influence what happens at the end?

A Because the parks are full, Kari can't practice.
 B Because of the warm weather, Kari misses her chance for a medal.
 C Because her family lives in Copenhagen, Kari is a good skater.
 D Because Kari catches a cold, she can't race.



Tip

Which answer choice shows the closest connection between the setting and the end of the story?



SCHOOL-HOME CONNECTION With your child, look for a television or newspaper story in which setting is important. Have your child explain how the outcome might be different if the story had occurred in a different time or place.