



Assessment Date: ____ / ____ / ____ Student: _____ Examiner: _____

Words Read Correctly (WRC): ____ Errors: ____ Notes: _____

Down in the ditch...

Room 24

“Now Josh, never wander off alone in the forest,” my father warned me in a stern voice as he left for work each morning. “ You’ll end up in a deep, dark, dangerous ditch somewhere and no one will know.” Like all young boys, telling me not to do something only encouraged me more to do it. Several times I had tried to venture amongst the forest, which glittered green like emeralds, but, like a ninja, dad always sprung out of nowhere and caught me.	16 33 47 63 75 87
The forest stood at the back of our farm, just behind our tired old barn. It was filled with the sounds of creaking branches and squawking birds. In the distance, towering above all the other trees stood a venerable pine that glowed majestically green, blue and red depending on the light. Legend had it, the old pine was home to a great treasure that many had searched for but never found. Every day, the desire to find the lost treasure gnawed at my stomach until it became unbearable.	104 116 129 143 157 171 175
One bright sunny day in spring, I finally got my chance. Dad had been called away on a business trip at the last minute and Grandma was watching me. Now, Grandma was old...very old and liked to take a nap every morning after her cup of tea. I waited what felt like a million years, but was actually only a few minutes, to make sure she was fast asleep and then I took my chance.	190 204 218 236 250



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