

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Good Old Days

by Nikki Aksamit

“What year were you born, Grandma?” Patrick asked.

Patrick was in second grade and his homework assignment was to interview someone born before 1950 to see what their childhood was like. He had chosen to talk to his Grandma after dinner on Sunday.



“I was born in 1943, during World War 2.” Patrick's Grandma answered.

“Did you go to school?” Patrick asked.

“Yes, I went to school in Mayville.” Grandma said.



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Patrick's Grandma laughed. “Of course not. We didn't have video games back then. My family didn't even get a TV until I was twelve.”

“No TV?” Patrick said with a gasp.

Grandma smiled and said, “Those were the good old days.”

Patrick tried to imagine what life would be like without TV, video games, cell phones, and computers. He wondered why grandma called her past “the good old days.”

Patrick looked confused, and he asked, “What did you do for fun?”

"Well, I read a lot of books. After dinner and homework, sometimes we would listen to the radio while we colored pictures or played card games. On the weekends we mostly rode our bikes and played outside with our friends,"

Just then Patrick's mom called out from the kitchen. It was time for dessert.



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1. When was Patrick's grandma born?
  - a. in 1950
  - b. after 1950
  - c. about 40 years ago
  - d. about 70 years ago
2. When did Patrick's grandmother get her first television?
  - a. in 1943
  - b. in 1950
  - c. in 1955
  - d. in 1963



Explain how you figured out the answer to the question above.

3.



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4. Why didn't Patrick's grandma take the bus to school when she was a child?
  - a. She could not afford to take the bus.
  - b. She lived too close to the school.
  - c. She didn't like taking the bus to school.
  - d. Buses had not been invented yet.
5. Why did Patrick's teacher assign the interview project?
  - a. She wanted her students to learn when television was invented.
  - b. She wanted her students to learn about science.
  - c. She wanted to persuade her students to visit their grandparents.
  - d. She wanted her students to learn about life long ago.

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Fill in the missing letters to make a vocabulary word from the story.  
Then re-write the complete word on the line.

1. ch \_\_\_ l \_\_\_ h o o \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_  
clue: the time when a person was young

2. \_\_\_ n t e \_\_\_ i e w \_\_\_\_\_  
clue: to ask questions

3. \_\_\_\_\_  
4. \_\_\_\_\_



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5. g \_\_\_ i \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_  
clue: a broad smile

6. f \_\_\_ o w \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_  
clue: sad face

7. s \_\_\_ e l \_\_\_ y \_\_\_\_\_  
clue: stinky

8. g \_\_\_ \_\_\_ p \_\_\_\_\_  
clue: inhale with a mouth open

# ANSWER KEY

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1. When was Patrick's grandma born? **d**
  - a. in 1950
  - b. after 1950
  - c. about 40 years ago
  - d. **about 70 years ago**
2. When did Patrick's grandmother get her first television? **c**
  - a. in 1943
  - b. in 1950
  - c. **in 1955**
  - d. in 1963



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- c. She wanted to persuade her students to visit their grandparents.
- d. **She wanted her students to learn about life long ago.**

# ANSWER KEY

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Fill in the missing letters to make a vocabulary word from the story.  
Then re-write the complete word on the line.

1. childhood

clue: the time when a person was young

childhood



2. interview

clue: to ask questions

interview

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