

Fasten Your Seatbelts

3A

You'd think I'd be excited. After all, my parents recently revealed that we're going on holiday to Happy Time theme park. But there's a catch: to get to the park, which is in France, we have to drive for *nine* hours. This holiday is a dream come true. But is it worth nine hours of cramped **quarters**, with my twin brothers bickering, my dad's oldies music, and nothing to do but read road signs?

Luckily, my parents changed their minds and announced that we're going to fly to France! Apparently they agreed that nine hours in a car would not be the best start to a fun-filled family holiday.

On **departure** day we arrived at the airport with heavy suitcases and smiling faces. I had never flown before, and even though I was a bit nervous, I would never admit it. We checked in and found our gate,

and soon it was time to board the plane.

Not long after we took our seats, the pilot started the engines. We **taxied** slowly until we reached the runway. Suddenly, the engines roared to life. They were loud and powerful, and I felt my little brother's hand dig into my arm. I closed my eyes as we **accelerated**. When I finally opened them again, we were **airborne**!



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Comprehension Questions

3B

1. What is this story about?
 - a. the narrator's hatred of long car rides
 - b. the narrator's first plane ride
 - c. fun-filled holidays
2. How did the narrator's feelings about the trip change after learning they would be flying?
 - a. The narrator was looking forward to the trip more.
 - b. The narrator was looking forward to the trip less.
 - c. The narrator was looking forward to the trip the same amount.
3. In this story, the word **quarters** means
 - a. an area where one is housed.
 - b. twenty five percent of nine hours.
 - c. three-month periods of time.
4. Why did the narrator's little brother grip the narrator's arm?
 - a. He was afraid he was going to fall out of his seat.
 - b. He was trying to get the narrator's attention.
 - c. He was nervous because the plane was taking off.
5. Based on the story, you can tell that the narrator has probably never
 - a. gone on holiday before.
 - b. travelled very far from home.
 - c. had fun on other family holidays.