

FACT AND OPINION

INSTRUCTIONS

Read the story and answer the questions that follow.

Ari's Secret

Ari had a secret life. Everyone at school knew he loved soccer and pizza. They knew he earned a certificate for perfect attendance last year and that his sister Rachel was in the eighth grade. They knew he liked English and could do more chin-ups than anyone else during recess. They knew he was kind.

They didn't know what he did after school every Monday and Wednesday. They didn't know that he volunteered two hours of his time twice a week. They didn't know that he helped someone who really needed his help.

On those two days, he went to Ms. Song's house down the street. She was 93 and had trouble seeing. She couldn't stand up for more than a few minutes without her cane, but she was fun to be around. She was funny and thoughtful. She had a sweet voice and wore a flower in her hair every day. She always asked interesting questions.

Ari read her mail and parts of the newspaper to her. Sometimes he

made some phone calls for her. One time, he canceled a magazine subscription for her. Another time, he confirmed a doctor's appointment for her. He even fixed the clock on her stove after the electricity went out. Ari helped Ms. Song with very interesting things.

Most importantly, Ari gave her some company. He asked her how she was, and he told her what was going on at his school. She loved hearing what Mr. Kulik, his teacher, had said. They talked about television shows. They both watched American Idol and rooted for the same contestants. They had a good time together.

Ari never told anyone at school about Ms. Song because he liked having a secret. He knew that his teacher would make a big deal about it and tell everyone that he was doing a very good deed. Ari didn't care about that. He wanted to help Ms. Song. He knew that she appreciated him, and that was enough.

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1. Which of these statements is a fact?
 - a. Ms. Song asked interesting questions.
 - b. Ms. Song had a sweet voice.
 - c. Ms. Song was 93.
 - d. Ms. Song was funny.

2. Which of these statements is an opinion?
 - a. Ari confirmed a doctor's appointment for Ms. Song.
 - b. Ari helped Ms. Song with very interesting things.
 - c. Ari read Ms. Song's mail to her.
 - d. Ari canceled a magazine subscription for Ms. Song.

3. In the first paragraph, the passage states that Ari was kind. Is this a fact or an opinion? Explain your answer.

4. In the last paragraph, the passage states that Ari never told anyone at school about Ms. Song. Is this a fact or an opinion? Explain your answer.
