Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I CAN USE DETAILS AND EXAMPLES FROM ATEXT TO

SUPPORT INFERENCES I MAKE.

**Naming Our Puppy **

*by Mark Merfeld*

1. “This is a lot harder than I thought it would be,” I said. “We’ve been

trying to find a name for *No-name* for a week now.”

2 “Why is it so hard, Brian?” asked Mom. “You and Tanya have probably

suggested a hundred names.”

3 “It has to be the right name,” said my little sister, Tanya. “We don’t want

*No-name* stuck with a bad name his whole life.”

4 “All I know is you can’t keep calling him *No-name*,” Mom said. “So

today’s the day. You have to agree on a name for the puppy today. Now

let’s go outside and play with him. Maybe he’ll name himself.”

5 As we stepped outside, Tanya screamed, “Look out!” The small, black

puppy dashed across the wooden deck and slid into my feet. He stood on his

back legs and scratched excitedly at my shins. As soon as I reached down to

pet him, he gave me a dozen quick licks with his tongue. Then he was off to

jump on my mom.

6 “Boy, you sure are a little bundle of energy,” Mom said. “Maybe we

should call you *Tornado*.”

7 “How about *Hurricane*?” Tanya asked. “We could call him *Hurry* for

short.”

8 The puppy’s timing was perfect. As soon as Tanya finished her

sentence, he hurried off the deck into the tall grass in the back yard.

Suddenly, he stopped. Something had caught his eye. He charged into the

flowerbed and pounced on some purple pansies. A butterfly escaped and

fluttered above his nose. The puppy chased after it, yapping as he made

clumsy little leaps into the air. As he scrambled up the steps, he tripped on

the last one and landed on his chin. He shook his head and continued his

chase across the deck. When the butterfly flew off to the side, the puppy

tried to turn. His furry, oversized feet slid out from under him. He skidded

and flipped over on his side.

9 “This deck is like a “wooden ice rink” to *No-Name*,” said mom

laughing.

10 We were all laughing so hard that we couldn’t grab him as he got up

and ran into the yard again.“There he goes again,” Tanya said with a giggle.

*No-name* was hopping through the tall grass after two more butterflies. “He

sure likes those butterflies.”

11 “That’s it!” I shouted. I ran into the house to get the book I had been

reading for school. It was about the Hopi, a Native American tribe in

Arizona. In the back of the book was a list of Hopi names and their

meanings.

12 “Look, Mom,” I said, pointing at the list. “We’ve got to call him

*Nova*.”

13 “Why? What does it mean?” she asked.

14 “It means *chases butterflies*,” I laughed. “Isn’t that perfect?”

15 Mom and Tanya both looked at each other and smiled, just as *Nova*

made another leap into the flowerbed.

1. In paragraph 9, why does mom describe the deck as a “wooden ice rink?”

**A.** It is covered with ice.

**B.** It is large like a rink.

**C.** The puppy skates on it.

**D.** The puppy slips on it.

1. In paragraph 15, what does Mom and Tanya’s reaction to the narrator’s question suggest?

**A.** They both think that the puppy is having a lot of fun.

**B.** They both think that the name *Nova* is a funny name.

**C.** They both think it is a good idea to name the puppy *Nova*.

**D.** They both think that the puppy loves the chase butterflies.

**SHORT ANSWER QUESTION**

1. Describe what you think Tanya and Brian will most likely do the next time they need to name a pet. Use details or examples from the text to support your answer.

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