Imply or Infer

When a speaker suggests or hints that something is true, he **implies** it is true.

When a listener draws a conclusion, he **infers**.

Read the stories and then answer the questions. Be sure to use complete sentences.

What Are You Saying Exactly?

Evan had his skateboard and was heading outside. His mother was sitting in the living room. She was feeling blue because she had just found out she did not get the new job for which she applied. As he got to the door, he said, "It's really nice outside, Mom. I'll bet a nice, brisk walk would really do you good."

His mother smiled to herself as he closed the door and thought, "I think my son is telling me how to improve my mood through exercise."

Evan told his mother a walk would really do her good. What was he implying?

 His mother inferred Evan meant it would help her. What did she say that tells you that?

to Jamie and me, and when we counted it, he and I discovered there was enough money left to buy some popcorn. He and I had a great

Cindy and I could hear the bell ringing before we got to the school. She and I were late! When we walked into the classroom, the teacher looked at her and me and pointed at the door. We knew what the teacher was telling us. She and I had to go to the office to get tardy slips before the teacher would let us

My friend, Sam, and I go to the library every week, except when it's raining. That's because he and I ride our bikes and we don't want to get the books wet. Sam always rides faster than I on the way to the library, and I go faster on the way home, because he checks out more

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2. here		counted it, he and I discovered
3. here		there was enough money left to
4. hear		some popcorn. He and I had a gi
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7. me		2. infer
8. I		3. imply
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Page 205 1. I		5. imply
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6. I		10. infer
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	-	12. imply
Page 206 My brother, Jamie, and I were		
going to the movies. Our mother	Page 210	1. Answers will vary but should
gave the money for the tickets to		indicate that exercise is know
him and me. She told us to be sure		to improve mood.
not to lose the money. When we		
got there, they gave the change		
you there, they gave the change	I	

- 2. She thought, "I think my son is telling me how to improve my mood through exercise."
- Page 211 1. Answers will vary but should indicate that the gravy was very hot.
 - 2. She likely inferred that he thought the gravy was too hot.
 - 1. Answers will vary but should indicate that Jake's father was telling him that he needs to use a watch to make sure he's on time.
 - 2. Jake inferred that his father wants him to use the watch so he won't be late all the time.
- Page 212 Sarah Lincoln, Abe Lincoln's stepmother, implied many times that young Lincoln was like one of her own children. Years later, people inferred she was implying that Lincoln was superior to her own son when she said, "Both were good boys, but I must say that Abe was the best boy I ever saw or ever expected to see."

For years, politicians have debated, making implications about their opponents' characters. Most voters would be happy to see debates without such implications. But, it's difficult not to keep implying that your opponent is not as good a candidate as you are.

Page 213 Sheila made a yummy fruitcake and implied she was unable to give me the recipe. She implied she had lost it. Well, she could have given it to me if she wanted to, I inferred. I just happened to see her hide the recipe card when I visited her recently.

> I just read an article that implied that walruses are dying because of global warming. Many scientists believe this is due to global warming, and imply we're polluting the atmosphere. They implied that all the auto emissions are causing the deaths.

My teacher implied I was going to receive a "D" in writing unless I improved. My dad implied that her teaching was the problem. When my mom talked to me, she implied that a better reason was that I hadn't turned in assignments.

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- 12. Set, sit
- Page 217 My grandfather asked me to help him plant his garden. He told me to set the shovel and rake where I could reach them. First, I used the shovel to dig the hole. I got so tired I had to sit down and rest. I set the shovel down on the ground and then looked around for a place to sit. Grandpa told me I couldn't sit around all day, but I was so tired I