

Name: _____



Classroom Cereal

Date: _____

Story 7

Part 1 of 5

“The Skills Test”

Part 1 of 5: A Forbidden Message

The Skills Test was back. Each March, the students of Fairview Middle School took a test that supposedly measured their skills. The test in total silence was taken and throughout many long sessions over several days. This year, the Skills Test, or TST would be taken online.

Malina gazed through the paragraph on her screen (which asked her to calculate the number of blades of grass in her neighborhood) when a strange message popped up.

I'm organizing a rebellion. I need you're help.

Malina looked around. No one else seemed to have just received a mysterious instant message. Another appeared.

At the stroke of noon tomorrow, we shall walk out of this test. We shall inspire the others and they shall join us.

Malina saw a blinking line below the message and realized she could respond. She spun around cautiously, looking for the teacher in charge. TST was strictly controlled and this type of messaging, however it was happening, was forbidden. As soon as Malina started typing, a third message arrived.

Mark Twain, the great American humorist, said, “I have never let my schooling interfere with my education.” This test is irrelevant and we must rebel.

“Time’s up!” the teacher announced. Everyone closed their computers, and Malina was left wondering. Who is this rebel messenger? And how many middle schoolers can quote Mark Twain from memory?

Directions

1. Read the story
2. Find the five errors
3. Mark the errors using the key

Key

- Spelling error
- Add punctuation
- Capitalize letter
- Remove word
- Wrong word
- Move word
- Make letter lower case

Checklist

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

Question

How has the Mark Twain quote inspired the mysterious rebel messenger?