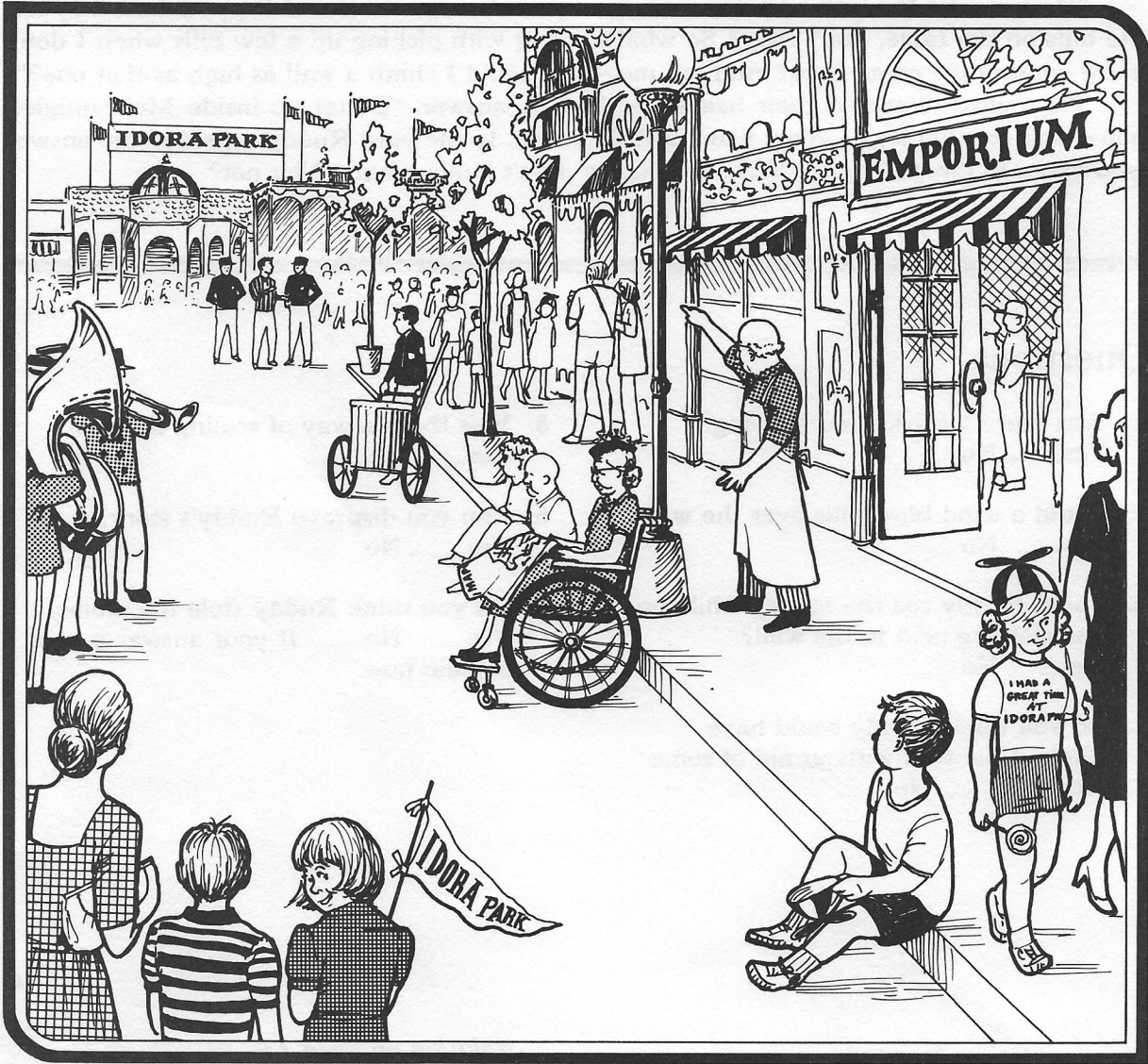


IDORA PARK



One day early in the spring the McGonnigles went to Idora Amusement Park. The senior McGonnigles wisely turned Whiz and Martha loose. "Meet us at the flagpole in two hours," they were told, "and enjoy yourselves."

The young McGonnigles did, but at the very beginning of their morning they had an adventure. They were walking on Main Street and had just passed The Emporium when they saw a man in a green-striped shirt run out of the store and yell something that no one understood. About five seconds later (time it, see how long five seconds is and how far you can run in that time) a guard came rushing out of the The Emporium and pointed at the man in the green-striped shirt. "Stop him!" the guard called out. "He's a thief—he stole some watches—stop him!"

Another guard further up the street did stop him. The man in the green-striped shirt said, "It's all a mistake—I didn't take anything—search me." Which the second guard did, and found nothing.

Meanwhile the first guard questioned several witnesses. They all agreed that the thief had had a small package and had disposed of it somewhere.

"He dropped it in the street-cleaner's can," the first witness said. "*I saw him!*"

"He dropped it in the mouth of that tuba," the second witness said. "*I saw him!*"

"He dropped it in the wheelchair lady's lap," the third witness said. "*I saw him!*"

The guard scratched his head and frowned, because all he found in the tuba and can and wheelchair were little packages filled with shredded newspapers. Neither Whiz nor Martha did any scratching. They didn't have to, because they agreed on where the watches were and who had them. Do you know?

Questions

1. Do you think that the three witnesses lied? Yes _____ No _____
2. Are the three places mentioned by the witnesses reasonable ways of getting rid of the loot? Yes _____ No _____
3. Do you think that the thief had an accomplice? Yes _____ No _____ Probably _____
4. Do you think that the thief deliberately brought attention to himself? Yes _____ No _____
5. Do you think that the "drops" were parts of a scheme to confuse people? Yes _____ No _____
6. Can you find any place other than the can, the tuba, or the lady's lap where the thief could have disposed of his loot? Yes _____ No _____
7. Who had the loot? _____

Solution on page 74