

# Spring Break

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

Thomas was freaked out! It was nearly Spring Break, and he had no idea what to do. Where would he go? Who would he see? What would he do? Everything was up in the air.

He didn't have a lot of money, so he couldn't do a lot. Should he go to an amusement park? Should he try to get a cheap plane ticket to visit a friend or some family? It was so hard to decide, and the wrong choice would mean a wasted week.

He sat down and made a list of the things he could do. Then he made a list of the pros and cons, the *goods* and *bads* of each idea. After that, he tried to calculate the price of each option.

## **Amusement park:**

GOOD: fun, exciting, good for pictures, not far away

BAD: only one day, not cheap, hot out

COST: \$75-100



## **Fly to see Grandma:**

GOOD: grandma's cooking, fun time, they buy me stuff, lasts several days

BAD: not very exciting, plane ride can be long, plane ticket price

COST: \$200-\$300



## **Hang out with friends:**

GOOD: fun to see friends, can be cheap, every day is different

BAD: not going anywhere, I can do that anytime, waste of a chance?

COST: \$0-50



When he finished his list, the choice was clear. He'd go to the amusement park, being careful about his money while he was there. Then, he'd call grandma and see if he could visit her in the summer. After that, he'd hang out with his friends for a couple days. It was going to be a great spring break.

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Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What is Thomas' problem?
  - A. He doesn't know what to do for Winter Vacation.
  - B. He has no plans for summer.
  - C. He is too busy to have fun on Spring Break.
  - D. He needs to figure out what to do for Spring Break.
  
2. What was his first idea?
  - A. Go to the zoo.
  - B. Go to the amusement park.
  - C. Visit family.
  - D. Hang out with friends.
  
3. How does he try to decide on a plan?
  - A. He asks mom for advice.
  - B. He checks the good and bad points of each idea.
  - C. He consults the internet.
  - D. He flips a coin.
  
4. Which idea seemed the most expensive?
  - A. Visit grandma
  - B. Hang out with friends
  - C. Amusement Park
  - D. They're all the same.
  
5. In the end, which choice does he make?
  - A. He sort of does all three ideas in a different way.
  - B. He does none of the ideas and sits home.
  - C. He does none of the ideas and tries a fourth idea.
  - D. He got sick, so he didn't have to make a choice.

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