

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Inference: 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

Remember that you **inference** when you use details from a text to draw a conclusion that the author has not written down.

**Read Aesop's "The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse" and answer the questions that follow.**

Once upon a time, a Town Mouse went to visit his cousin in the country. The Country Mouse lived a simple life, but he loved his cousin and welcomed him. All he had to offer his cousin were beans and bacon, cheese and bread, but he offered them freely. The Town Mouse turned up his nose at this country food. "I cannot understand, Cousin, how you can put up with such poor food as this. But, I guess you cannot expect anything better in the country. Come with me, and I will show you how to live! When you have been in town a week, you will wonder how you could have ever stood this country life."

So, the two mice set off for town and arrived at the Town Mouse's home late at night. "You will want some refreshment after our long journey," said the Town Mouse. He took his country cousin into the grand dining room. There they found the remains of a fine feast, and soon the two mice were eating jellies and cakes and many nice things. Suddenly they heard growling and barking. "What is that?" said the Country Mouse. "It is only the dogs of the house," answered the Town Mouse. "Only!" said the Country Mouse. "I do not like that noise during my dinner!"

Just at that moment, the door of the dining room opened, and in came two huge dogs. The two mice had to run for their lives. "Good-bye, Cousin," said the Country Mouse. "What! Going so soon?" said the Town Mouse.

"Yes," replied the Country Mouse.

Why is the Country Mouse leaving and where is he going? Include at least one detail from the passage to support your answer.

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Why does the Town Mouse turn up his nose at the Country Mouse's food? Why does the Country Mouse prefer his own food to the "fine feast" in town? Include at least one detail from the story to support your answer.

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## Answers--Inference: 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

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*Answers may vary. Students should be able to support answers with details when asked.*

Why is the Country Mouse leaving and where is he going? Include at least one detail from the passage to support your answer.

Country Mouse is going home because he does not want to eat in a place where his life is in danger. Country Mouse does not like "noise" during dinner & he has to run from the dogs.

Why does the Town Mouse turn up his nose at the Country Mouse's food? Why does the Country Mouse prefer his own food to the "fine feast" in town? Include at least one detail from the story to support your answer.

Town Mouse is used to "jellies and cakes" and "fine feasts". Country Mouse is used to eating in a place where he does not have to hear "growling and barking" or "run" for his life. Country Mouse leaves the city immediately, showing that he prefers his country life.