

How is your memory? Read this poem about memory and answer the questions that follow.

Memory

by Mary O'Neill

Memory is a tape recorder
And there's one in every head
Storing everything we've ever seen,
Or felt, or heard, or said.

5 The word, *remember*, simply means
We're playing back a part
Of all that's been recorded there
And lives close to our heart.

10 Sad thing, sweet thing,
Whatever it be.
The calling it back is a
Memory.

1. Why does the author compare memory to a tape recorder?
 - A because they do something similar
 - B because they are so different
 - C because they look alike
 - D because they both involve sound
2. How does the author *most likely* feel about her memories?
 - A She wishes they could be erased like a tape recording.
 - B She treasures memories, both good and bad.
 - C She is afraid she does not remember enough.
 - D She likes only the good memories.
3. In this poem, which word means the same as "playing back"?
 - A hearing
 - B recording
 - C remembering
 - D storing

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4. In line 8, what might the author mean when she says that something “lives close to our heart”?
- A It is something important to us.
 - B It is something we are likely to forget.
 - C It is something that is not important.
 - D It is something that makes us nervous.

End of Set

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*Answers to
Grade 4 Reading Comprehension Sample Items*

Passage Title	Question Number	Correct Answer	Category	Thinking Skill	Objective Number
Memory	1	A	Critical Stance	Evaluating	3.01
Memory	2	B	Critical Stance	Generating	3.01
Memory	3	C	Cognition	Analyzing	1.03
Memory	4	A	Interpretation	Generating	2.04