Reading Level : _____

Name : _____ Grade & Section _____
Speed : _____ Minutes Score : _____
Level : _____ Level : _____

GRADE LEVEL PASSAGE RATING SHEET

Direction: Read the selection silently. Record your reading time as soon as you finish reading. Read the questions and encircle the letter of your answer.

Magician Invents Special Effects

George M'elies, a French movie maker and a former magician happened to invent special effects in movies by accident. He was filming a street scene in Paris when his camera suddenly jammed as a bus was passing by. He stopped, fixed his camera, then went back to filming the same street scene again. When the film was developed, he was surprised to see a carriage in the place where the bus had been! He discovered that the bus had changed into a carriage! From that day on, Mr. M'elies invented many amazing techniques using his camera. He became known as "the magician of movies."

A common special effect he invented is called *projections*. In this effect, a moviemaker projects a picture or a movie on a screen behind the actors. The actors act in front of the screen. Then the camera films the actors and the picture or the movie at the same time. This effect makes it possible for actors to look like they are in imaginary places.

Other special effects Mr. M'elies created are: *animation* which makes lifeless models or objects come to life when they are shown on screen; *matte shots* enabling the moviemaker to cover or matte out part of a film that he doesn't want; and *optical printer* and *computer-age* special effects.

Grade VI
No. of words: 217

Questions:

1. Who became known as the Magician of Movies?

   a. George Bush
   b. George Clooney
   c. George M'elies
   d. George Smith

2. Which of the following was not invented by M'elies?

   a. Animation
   b. Projection
   c. Matte Shots
   d. Still Life

3. What special effect makes it possible for actors to look like they are in imaginary places?

   a. Projection
   b. Optical Printer
   c. Computer-age special effect
   d. Matte Shots

4. What kind of special effect would be used to bring a dinosaur back to life?

   a. Matte Shots
   b. Animation
   c. Projection
   d. Optical Printer

5. What will happen to a movie without special effects?

   a. It will draw a lot of moviegoers.
   b. It will be rich in cinematic appeal.
   c. It will not be appealing.
   d. It will not earn popularity.

6. Why do you think George M'elies was called "the magician of movies"?

   a. He played the role of a magician in movies several times.
   b. His inventions were made into a movie.
   c. He studied magic before he became a moviemaker.
   d. He accidentally invented special effects in movies.

7. What special effect will you use to cover an unwanted part of a film?

   a. matte shots
   b. projections
   c. animations
   d. optical printer

8. If you were a moviemaker, when would you use animation?

   a. When the story is full of adventure
   b. When the story is a fantasy
   c. When the story is about the life of a famous president of a country
   d. When the story is about new inventions