# Inference Exercises

## Action (*what*) Questions

The following exercises are an introduction to inference and action.

**Age Range:** 8 – 10

1) Sam carefully threaded the hook through the piece of bait and then threw the line out into the water. He sat and waited for a bite.

    Question:     What is Sam doing?

    Answer:     _____

2) The wolf lay flat on its stomach in the snow, not making a sound. A herd of deer ate grass just downwind of it. The wolf shuffled forward inch by inch, its mouth salivating.

    Question:     What is the wolf doing?

    Answer:     _____

3) Large grey clouds hovered menacingly above the court. The boys, dressed only in their shorts and t-shirts, sheltered under a tree when the first drops fell.

    Question:     What is about to happen?

    Answer:     _____

4) The magician conjured up dark energies and released them. Bolts of light arced out noisily from his hands and destroyed the monster.

   Question:     What type of story is this?
   Answer:       _____

5) The earth shifted and heaved. Suddenly, with a tremendous roar, the top of the mountain literally exploded. Large plumes of ash, smoke, and super heated gases soared high into the sky.

   Question:     What is happening?
   Answer:       _____

6) The man dialled the number and placed one end of the object to his ear. He waited while the dial tone chirped rhythmically in his ear.

   Question:     What is the man doing?
   Answer:       _____

7) The girls quickly raced across the long platform and jumped, giggling, onto the passenger compartment structure before the self-closing doors closed.

   Question:     What are the girls doing?
   Answer:       _____

8) The children scraped large amounts of the white stuff with their mittened hands. Their breath plumed in the icy air as they fashioned the creature. They placed a beanie on its head and used a carrot as its nose.

Question:     What are the children doing?

Answer:       _____


9) The lady held a comb in one hand and scissors in the other. She skilfully lifted a large section of hair with the comb and trimmed the ends with her scissors.

Question:     What is the lady doing?

Answer:       _____


10) It ran for its life! Behind it the predator closed the distance. With a flying leap the cotton tailed animal sailed through the air and found the safety of it burrow. The red furred predator crashed noisily into the burrows narrow entrance.

Question:     What is happening here?

Answer:       _____