

## “The Singing Bird”

### Reading Comprehension – Short Stories

Directions: Read the story. Then answer the questions below.



Max is black.  
Max has green eyes.  
Max is black with green eyes.

Ben has two cats.  
Their names are Max and Tito.



Tito is brown.  
Tito has blue eyes.  
Tito is brown with blue eyes.

They are fast. They are beautiful. They are fast and beautiful.

Ben also has a bird. Her name is Lilly. Lilly likes to sing. Lilly sings every day.  
Sometimes she sings very loud.



Max and Tito try to discover who is singing.  
They look everywhere!  
Finally, they see who is singing.  
It is Lilly!  
They sit and watch her sing.



### Questions:

1) How many cats does Ben have?

- A. Ben has one cat.
- B. Ben has two cats.
- C. Ben has three cats.
- D. Ben has four cats.

2) What are Max and Tito like?

- I. big
  - II. beautiful
- A. I only
  - B. II only
  - C. I and II

3) Tito's eyes are

- A. blue
- B. red
- C. green

4) What is the name of the bird?

- A. Tito
- B. Max
- C. Lilly

5) What color is Max?

- A. Max is orange.
- B. Max is brown.
- C. Max is black.

6) Who is singing?

- A. Tito
- B. Max
- C. Lilly

## Answers and Explanations

- 1) **B**  
The first line of the story says, “Ben has two cats.” Therefore **(B)** is correct. The story does not provide information to support answer choices **(A)**, **(C)**, and **(D)**. Therefore they are incorrect.
- 2) **B**  
The story does not say whether the cats are big or not. This eliminates **option (I)**. In the middle of the story, it says that the cats “are beautiful.” This supports **option (II)**. Therefore **(B)** is correct.
- 3) **A**  
At the beginning of the story it says, “Tito has blue eyes.” Therefore **(A)** is correct. No animal in the story has red eyes. Therefore **(B)** is incorrect. According to the story, “Max has green eyes,” not Tito. Therefore **(C)** is incorrect.
- 4) **C**  
In the middle of the story we learn that Ben has a bird. The story says, “Her name is Lilly.” Therefore **(C)** is correct. At the beginning of the story we learn that Max and Tito are the names of Ben’s cats, not his bird. Therefore **(A)** and **(B)** are incorrect.
- 5) **C**  
At the beginning of the story we learn that “Max is black.” Therefore **(C)** is correct. No animal in the story is orange. Therefore **(A)** is incorrect. The story says that Tito is brown, not Max. Therefore **(B)** is incorrect.
- 6) **C**  
At the end of the story, it says that Max and Tito “see who is singing. It is Lilly!” From this we can understand it is Lilly who is singing. Therefore **(C)** is correct. The story says, “Max and Tito try to discover who is singing.” If they are trying to find out who is singing, then neither of them can be the one who is singing. Therefore **(A)** and **(B)** are incorrect.