

Science Fair Fiasco Answer Key

1. Because his experiment involved jars with smelly substances.
2. B ("He sneezed so badly that his chart flew off the table.")
3. He kept testing smelly jars that filled the room with a strong odor.
4. The story exaggerates the smell and Liam's reaction, creating a silly situation.
5. "The teacher looked bad," "Liam felt bad," "the gym smelled bad."
6. The judges didn't look bad impressed after that. (or "The judges didn't seem impressed.")
7. He learned to test smells more carefully and that mistakes can be funny learning moments.

Teacher's Guide

Skill Focus:

- Reinforces correct usage of **bad** (adjective) and **badly** (adverb) through reading comprehension.
- Builds contextual understanding by connecting grammar accuracy to story meaning.

Differentiation Tips:

- Read the story aloud, emphasizing tone changes when using **bad** vs. **badly**.
- For struggling learners, provide a list of linking and action verbs before reading.
- Encourage advanced students to rewrite two sentences in the story, intentionally switching **bad** and **badly** to show how meaning changes.

Engagement Ideas:

- Have students act out parts of the story to show how "feeling bad" vs. "sneezing badly" changes the action.
- Create "grammar smell jars" labeled with sentences-students "sniff out" whether each one uses the correct form.

Extension Activities:

- Ask students to write their own short science fair disaster story using **bad** and **badly** correctly at least three times.
- Connect to science vocabulary by discussing how adjectives and adverbs describe **observations** and **experiments** differently.