As I read, I will pay attention to expression and phrasing.

Robomation was Gregory and Anthony’s favorite magazine. It had articles about space exploration, science experiments kids could do at home, and stories about traveling to other planets. Plus, winners of the contests got out-of-this-world prizes. Or so Gregory heard. He had yet to win a single contest despite many, many tries.

“Gregory! Anthony!” That was Gregory’s mom calling them from the kitchen. From her tone, Gregory could tell there was something she wanted him to do, and he dreaded it.

“Yes, Mom,” he answered right away. “What is it?”

“Why don’t you go outside?” she called out. “It’s such a beautiful day. Go get some fresh air and exercise. A bunch of kids are shooting baskets across the street.”

Gregory knew his mother was talking about Jordan Veras and the “cool” gang. Gregory didn’t fit in with their group, though he had tried often. Maybe, if he were someone else. . . .

“Okay, Mom,” Gregory sighed. He knew his mom was right about the exercise.

Comprehension Check

1. Why was Robomation Gregory and Anthony’s favorite magazine? Details

2. Why isn’t Gregory excited about going outside? Plot

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