Scott and his dad were on their way to the movies. They had been planning to see this exciting film all week. Mr. Banes parked the car and the two went in to the movie theater. Mr. Banes reached into his pocket, looked at Scott and laughed, “Scott, I don’t think we’ll get to see this movie tonight.”

Can you figure out why Scott and his father would not see the movie that night?

When you figure something out, even though the author does not come right out and give you the answer, you are reasoning.

Did you reason that Mr. Banes forgot his wallet?

The author gave you an important clue when he told you Mr. Banes reached into his pocket and then said they would not see the movie that night.

In the paragraphs below, the rabbit uses reasoning so he can continue to be king. Are you able to figure out the rabbit’s plan? See if the clues help you.

At last the rabbit found just the field he wanted. It was the right size and in the middle there was a clump of bushes. The bushes were so thick that no one could see through them.

After he found the right field, the rabbit went into the woods. He picked some thick vines and tied them together to make a strong rope.

The next day he started by saying, “Will the cow and her friends please follow me? He came down from his stump and took the cow and her friends to one side of the field he had picked out.

"Now," he said to the cow, "you take one end of this rope. I will take the other end across the field and then I will pull you over to me! But wait for me to call out before you pull.

Then he did the same with the horse on the other side of the field.

The rabbit ran across the field to the bushes in the middle. He hid in the bushes. He was glad now for his size.

None of the animals could see him.

“Ready?” he called. The horse and the cow each took up one end of the rope.

“Pull!”

Now use reasoning to tell what will happen.

The horse and the cow pulled as hard as they could. They thought the rabbit was at the other end of the rope.

Go back and reread all the underlined clues. Did they help you figure out what the rabbit planned for the animals?

Reasoning, or figuring out what or why from the clues the author gives, will help you better understand what you read.
Read each paragraph. Then use reasoning to answer the questions on the lines below.

1. Angela loved to see the flower wagon coming. The flower man always had time for a wave and a hello. Sometimes he even stopped his wagon and Angela would walk away with a sweet-smelling flower. Angela turned her head. Along the street came the flower wagon.

   “Hello,” called Angela. “Your flowers smell so good.”
   “Thank you, Angela,” and the man stopped his wagon.

   a. What will happen?

   b. Underline the sentence with the clue that helped you figure out what happened.

2. Jack and I went right over to the Millers’ yard and started to work. The grass was so tall that the mower got caught every foot or two. We were not really strong enough to push through it. It was hard work. The grass did not look very good after it was cut. I could not help but know how Mr. Miller would feel when he saw his yard.

   a. How will Mr. Miller feel when he sees his yard?

   b. Underline the sentence that gives the best clue about how Mr. Miller would feel.

3. It was dark. Ellizabeth could not find her father. She was alone in the dark cave.

   “Clomp.” She heard a sound. Then she heard it again, “Clomp, clomp.” Then she heard, “Ellizabeth, Ellizabeth.” She was more afraid than ever. She knew that bats and cats cannot say “Ellizabeth.” She did not want to see what could go “Clomp.” She did not want to see what was saying, “Ellizabeth.”

   The clomping got nearer. “Clomp, CLOMP, CLOMP!” The calling got nearer.

   Suddenly, there, right in front of her, she saw...........

   a. What did Elizabeth see in front of her?

   b. Underline the sentences that give clues that tell what Elizabeth saw.