Gorilla

Review Key Words
- monsters: large, dangerous animals or things
- shy: feeling afraid around others; bashful
- mean: not nice; cruel
- pound: to hit hard

Write a Prediction

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Read the Story

Gorilla! The very word terrifies people. They think gorillas are monsters who would like to tear them limb from limb. And, to be sure, gorillas look frightening. Their faces look mean, and they are big and strong. But the truth is, gorillas are very shy. They don't want to eat people. They eat only grass and leaves. When they pound their chests, it is only to frighten an enemy. If that doesn't work, the gorilla will just run away.

The most famous gorilla was Gargantua the Great. He was in the circus. Circus posters called him "The World's Most Terrifying Living Creature." They showed pictures of him looking terrible. Before he was in the circus, Gargantua belonged to a woman in New York. She raised him from a baby. And she thought he was very sweet. One night it was stormy out. Gargantua was afraid. So he broke out of his cage and crawled like a frightened child into bed with the woman! That was when she decided to give him to the circus.

Cold Timing Score: _______ Final Timing Score: _______
Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
   a. Gorillas do not eat people.
   b. Gorillas are terrifying animals.
   c. Gorillas look mean but are shy.

2. Why do gorillas pound their chests?
   a. to hurt themselves
   b. to exercise their arms
   c. to scare away enemies

3. What does limb mean in this story?
   a. a bar of a cage
   b. the branch of a tree
   c. an arm or a leg

4. How do we know gorillas are shy?
   a. They run from their enemies.
   b. They break out of cages.
   c. They pound their chests.

5. Why did the woman give the gorilla to the circus?

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Number Correct: _________

Write a Retell of "Gorilla"

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Number of Words Written: _________