The House Without a Christmas Tree

Fluency Practice (Chapter 6)

Carla Mae stayed after school with me to help remove the decorations from the tree before taking it home. **12 19**

"You sure were lucky," she said, as we worked. **28**

"It wasn't luck. I know how to play the odds. Dad taught me." **41**

"How?" **42**

"If you go first, you always choose 5 or 6, so you get at least half the numbers on the high side or low side. If you go second, you choose the number right next to the other player's, so at least you get all the numbers higher or lower than his, whichever gives you the most numbers. Get it?" **59 74 89 102**

"No," said Carla Mae, annoyed. **108**

"Look, Gloria guessed 8, so all I have to do was guess 7, and that meant I had all the numbers from 1 to 7 and she only had 8, 9, and 10. So my odds were 7 to 3." **126 145 149**

"But you could have guessed 9, then she would have won!" **160**

"I just explained why I didn't guess 9!" **168**

"You mean you were lucky?" **173**

"Oh, no," I groaned, and started to write it all down for her on the blackboard. "You're just no good at gambling." **188 195**

We finally got the tree undecorated, and Carla Mae helped me drag it home through the snow. We struggled up the porch steps and through the door with it, and strained to lift it upright on its wooden base. When we had it up, we collapsed on the sofa and sat there admiring it. My heart was pounding. **208 221 238 252 253**

"Doesn't it look nice?" Carla Mae asked. **260**

"Looks OK," I said, sounding bored. "I didn't really care whether I won it... **275**

PREVIEW

Write the number of words you read in the box below for the appropriate day.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday