

Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question. Then fill in the answer on your answer document.

Mrs. Baird and a Lifetime of Fresh Bread

1 Many people agree that there is nothing better than the smell of fresh-baked bread. People have enjoyed eating bread for thousands of years, but bread has not always been easy to get. It was only during the past 100 years that bread has been sold at grocery stores. Before that time people made their own bread or bought it from people they knew. In the early 1900s a woman in Fort Worth, Texas, named Ninia Lilla Baird was one of those people. Mrs. Baird enjoyed baking cakes and pies to give to her neighbors and friends. Most of all, she loved to bake bread.

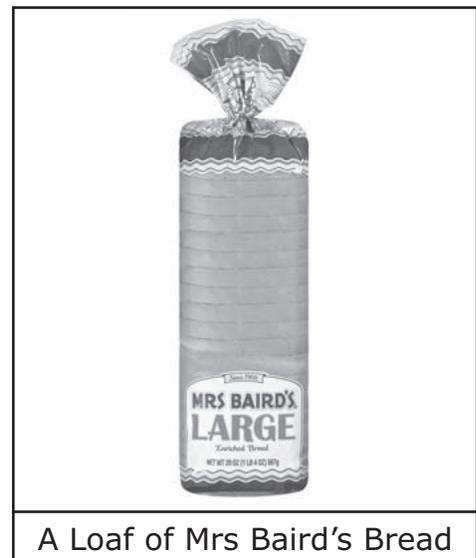


© Bimbo Bakeries

- 2 Mrs. Baird's husband owned a restaurant in Fort Worth. Since so many people loved Mrs. Baird's baked goods, the restaurant began selling them to customers. Mrs. Baird worked hard each day to make sure there was enough bread for everyone who wanted some.
- 3 While baking bread for the restaurant, Mrs. Baird also took care of her eight children. When her husband fell ill and could not work anymore, Mrs. Baird continued to sell her baked goods so that she could provide for her family. She started a business and called it Mrs Baird's Bread®.

A Family Affair

4 As Mrs. Baird's children grew older, they helped with the business. Mrs. Baird did the baking. She baked all day because she could fit only a few loaves of bread at a time in her wood-burning stove. Her oldest sons walked to the homes of the customers and delivered the baked goods.



© Bimbo Bakeries

- 5 Soon Mrs. Baird's baked goods were so popular that her sons needed a faster way to deliver them. They began to use their bicycles. Even more people ordered from Mrs. Baird. She had to find a way to bake more products at one time.

Expanding the Business

- 6 In 1915, Mrs. Baird purchased a used oven from a hotel. The oven cost \$75, but Mrs. Baird was able to pay only \$25 in cash. Luckily, she was permitted to pay the rest of the amount she owed by providing bread and rolls to the hotel.
- 7 Mrs. Baird kept her new oven in a small building in her backyard. This oven could bake up to 40 loaves at one time. The more bread Mrs. Baird made, the more bread she sold. This meant that more bread also had to be delivered. Delivering goods by bicycle was no longer practical. So the brothers began using the family wagon, which could hold many loaves of bread. The family horse pulled the wagon right up to the customers' homes. This faster delivery method allowed the family to earn more money.
- 8 In 1917, Mrs. Baird bought a car. The family removed the seats from the back and filled the space with baked goods. They painted a sign on the side of the car that read Eat More Mrs Baird's Bread. Delivering by car meant that even more people could enjoy Mrs. Baird's bread.

A Century Later

- 9 Today the people who work at Mrs Baird's Bakeries are just as proud of their bread as Mrs. Baird was. Mrs Baird's Bakeries operates four factories across the state of Texas. These large bakeries are located in Fort Worth, Houston, San Antonio, and Lubbock. Hundreds of schoolchildren visit the Fort Worth and Houston bakeries on field trips each year. At the end of the tour, everyone receives a warm slice of fresh bread. Yum!



Loaves of bread pass by as some children tour the Mrs Baird's Bakery in Fort Worth.

Courtesy of Ricky Moon

Third party trademark Mrs Baird's® was used in these testing materials.

16 In paragraph 6, the word permitted means —

- F** allowed
 - G** begged
 - H** forced
 - J** needed
-

17 How did Mrs. Baird begin selling baked goods?

- A** She went to work for a bakery.
 - B** She agreed to bake rolls for a hotel.
 - C** Her neighbors paid her for her bread.
 - D** Her husband sold them in his restaurant.
-

18 The subheadings in the selection support the main idea that Mrs. Baird —

- F** turned a small business into a large one
- G** was proud of the baked goods she made
- H** was pleased that her family helped her
- J** wanted everyone to have enough bread

19 Mrs. Baird purchased an oven because the wood-burning stove she was using —

- A** was not hers
 - B** was too small
 - C** burned the bread
 - D** cooked too slowly
-

20 Which statement describes one of Mrs. Baird’s business challenges?

- F** She had trouble teaching her children how to help with the business.
 - G** She needed to find new ways to deliver her baked goods as sales increased.
 - H** She was not able to remember the type of baked goods her customers ordered.
 - J** She was not able to make enough money to purchase supplies.
-

21 What is the theme of the selection?

- A** Hard work often leads to success.
- B** Some people work more than others.
- C** Popular items often change through the years.
- D** No one knows what to expect in the future.

22 The author included the section titled "A Family Affair" to describe how Mrs. Baird's children —

- F** liked the bread she baked
- G** helped her in the bread business
- H** learned how to bake bread
- J** encouraged people to buy her bread

23 Read this dictionary entry.

sign \ˈsɪn\ *noun*

- 1.** a movement that shows a thought or command
- 2.** in math, language, or music, a mark that stands for a certain idea
- 3.** evidence that a fact or idea is true
- 4.** a display that advertises or gives the name of a business

Which meaning of the word sign is used in paragraph 8?

- A** Meaning 1
- B** Meaning 2
- C** Meaning 3
- D** Meaning 4

24 At first, Mrs. Baird’s sons delivered her bread —

- F** on foot
 - G** in a car
 - H** on their bicycles
 - J** in a delivery wagon
-

25 One likely reason Mrs. Baird became a successful business owner is that —

- A** her business allowed her to spend time with her children
- B** she did not want people to have to make their own bread
- C** she did not want to work in a restaurant like her husband
- D** her business involved something that she enjoyed doing