Read the passage “Through the Desert” and then answer Numbers 1 through 3.

1. For thousands of years, trade took place between China in the East and Europe and India in the West. This trade took place along the Silk Road. This route was the only way to transport goods by land. The Silk Road went over tall mountains. It also went through huge deserts.

2. Crossing the Silk Road from Europe to China was always a long and hard journey. The most challenging part of the trip was the large Taklamakan Desert. This desert is located in western China. The Silk Road ran hundreds of miles in length. It passed through some of the emptiest places on Earth. The Taklamakan Desert is bleak. Its sand dunes stretch as far as the eye can see. Travelers along this part of the road would find very little water. And terrible sandstorms could blow up at any time.

3. Fortunately, several oasis towns could be found along the route. These oases were places to find water and food.
Turpan was one such oasis. It was located in the middle of the Taklamakan Desert. Turpan was a popular stop for traders. In the Turpan oasis, farmers grew fat green grapes and sweet melons. Water rushed through the oasis in a system of human-made streams that flowed from underground springs.

The desert was inhospitable for humans. Travelers crossing the desert did, however, see a few animals that made their homes there. The Bactrian camel used to be a common sight in the desert. This kind of camel can live for a long time without food and water because of the fat that it stores in two large humps on its back. Although few in number, the Bactrian camel can still be seen in the desert. Wild donkeys and a few kinds of birds and insects can also be seen there.

Today, there are faster ways of travel. Because of this, the Silk Road is no longer a major route. Travelers still go there, however. The area’s history and unusual setting have made it a popular place to visit. The desert is still barren. Visitors to the oasis towns can still rest in the quiet tree-filled areas. They can see the beauty of this unusual climate without having to risk going into the sands.
1. Read these sentences from the passage.

It passed through some of the emptiest places on Earth. The Taklamakan Desert is bleak.

Based on information in paragraph 2, the word **bleak** means

A. cold and rainy.
B. bare and empty.
C. warm and small.
D. bright and colorful.

2. Paragraph 4 is **mostly** about

A. an oasis in the desert.
B. animals in the desert.
C. ways to cross the desert.
D. the history of the Silk Road.

3. The passage “Through the Desert” was **mainly** about

A. desert animals.
B. an interesting place in the world.
C. the western part of China.
D. desert adventurers.
A Giant Star

1. Did you know that the sun is really a star? It is a giant star at the center of our solar system. The sun is a large ball made of many kinds of gases. It gives light and heat to the planets that make up our solar system and spin around it.

2. The sun rises in the eastern sky each morning. It swallows up the eerie darkness from the night before. The stars lurk and hide in the night sky until the sun comes up. The shimmer and sparkle of sunlight mark the beginning of a new day. At the end of the day, the sun sets in the western sky. Then, night returns and the stars can be seen in the dark sky overhead.

3. Without the sun there would be no life on Earth as we know it. We would lose our human habitat! There would be no spiders spinning their silken webs. There would be no elephants lumbering across vast stretches of land.

4. All living things need the sun to survive. Plants use sunlight to make food. While doing this, they give off oxygen. Animals and people eat plants and breathe in oxygen. They breathe out carbon dioxide, require energy from sunlight, and need water to make more food.
People, animals, and plants are not the only things that depend on the sun. Earth’s climate and temperature depend on the sun, too.

The temperature of a place on Earth depends on the position of the sun. It is cooler in the morning, when the sun is lower in the sky. As the sun rises, it becomes hotter. Then it cools down as the sun sets. Places near the equator are hot because the sun shines almost directly overhead at noon. Places near the North Pole and South Pole are cold because the sun does not rise high in the sky there.

Every 365 days, Earth makes a trip around the sun. For six months, the northern half of Earth faces the sun. This causes spring and summer in that part of the world. For six months, the northern half of Earth points away from the sun. This causes fall and winter in that part of the world.

The sun controls many things on Earth. It controls the food that we eat and the air that we breathe. Without the sun, nothing would be able to stay alive.
4 Read this sentence from the passage.

The stars lurk and hide in the night sky until the sun comes up.

What word helps you figure out what lurk means?

A sun
B sky
C hide
D night

5 Plants make food by

A making trips around the sun.
B saving oxygen that people breathe.
C turning the sun’s energy into light and heat.
D using carbon dioxide, energy from sunlight, and water.

6 What is the main idea of “A Giant Star”?

A Plants change carbon dioxide into oxygen.
B The sun has control over things on Earth.
C Without the sun there would be no spiders.
D Humans survive in hot and cold temperatures.
Colin wrote this story. It contains errors. Read the story and then answer Numbers 7 through 9.

**The Busy, Hungry Man**

(1) The hungry man quickly ate the food at the restaurant. 
(2) Then he purchased a large drink and put it on his tray cluttered. (3) After he finished eating, he said, to a friend “That meal was good. (4) Let’s go to the batting range.” 
(5) He practiced hitting balls the rest of the afternoon.
7 Read this sentence from the story.

The hungry man quickly ate the food at the restaurant.

Which underlined word in the sentence is an adjective?
A hungry  
B quickly  
C ate  
D restaurant

8 Read this sentence from the story.

Then he purchased a large drink and put it on his tray cluttered.

What is the correct way to write the sentence?
A Then he purchased a drink large and put it on his tray cluttered.  
B Then he purchased a large drink and put it on his cluttered tray.  
C Then he purchased a large drink and put it on cluttered his tray.  
D Then he purchased a drink large and put it on his cluttered tray.

9 Read these sentences from the story.

After he finished eating, he said, to a friend “That meal was good. Let’s go to the batting range.”

What is the correct way to punctuate the sentences?
A After he finished eating, he said to a friend “That meal was good. Let’s go to the batting range.”  
B After he finished eating he said, to a friend “That meal was good. Let’s go to the batting range.”  
C After he finished eating, he said, to a friend “That meal, was good. Let’s go to the batting range.”  
D After he finished, eating, he said, to a friend, “That meal was good. Let’s go to the batting range.”
The following questions are not about a passage. Read and answer each question.

10 Which word is not spelled correctly?
   A nodded
   B thriller
   C ticket
   D witniss

11 Read this sentence.
   When summer comes, we welcome the chance to spread a blankit on the grass and eat dinner in the park.

Which underlined word from the sentence is not spelled correctly?
   A summer
   B welcome
   C blankit
   D dinner

12 Which word is not spelled correctly?
   A foggy
   B planner
   C blossom
   D memmber
# Unit 5 • Week 1

**Student Evaluation Chart**

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**Next Steps**

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Read the passage “The Amazing Monarch” and then answer Numbers 1 through 3.

The Amazing Monarch

1. Pismo Beach, California, is a wonderful place to visit. It is even more wonderful on warm winter days. One special place can be found just outside of Pismo Beach. It is the winter home of the monarch butterfly. Each winter, these bright orange butterflies make their appearance. People of all ages smile as they look in wonder at the butterflies. Many, many butterflies fly from tree to tree. Others chase each other in the bright sun. Still others look for water in nearby ponds.

2. This area outside Pismo Beach is one of many spots west where the monarchs go in winter. Around 50,000 to 60,000 butterflies cluster like bright flowers on the high branches of trees. There are about 200 such “wintering places” in California. One of the largest is the place near Pismo Beach.

3. Thousands of people flock near Pismo Beach in the winter. Many are children. They come from the surrounding schools. These boys and girls are fascinated by what they see.

4. Back in their classrooms, many of these children raise butterflies. They later release the butterflies when they are ready to fly. The butterflies always seem to find their way back to their winter home. Something tells them it is the place to go!

5. Monarch butterflies are amazing. They migrate and then spend the winter at one of the groves along the coast. In the spring and summer, they fly as far north as Canada. Here they raise their young. In the fall, the young butterflies return to the places in which their parents lived. These fascinating butterflies are truly amazing creatures!
1. Use this thesaurus entry to answer the next question.

**spot**: noun 1. mark, speck
2. locality, space

**spot**: verb 1. mark
2. place, pick

Read this sentence from the passage.

This area outside Pismo Beach is one of many spots out west where the monarchs go in winter.

Based on the thesaurus entry, which word has the same meaning as the word _spots_?

A. marks  
B. specks  
C. localities  
D. picks

2. Which statement _best_ summarizes paragraph 4?

A. Students release butterflies.  
B. Many classrooms raise butterflies.  
C. Butterflies go to their winter homes.  
D. Butterflies know where to go for the winter.

3. The author’s purpose for writing “The Amazing Monarch” was _mainly_ to

A. inform readers about a monarch butterfly habitat.  
B. persuade readers to start a monarch butterfly habitat.  
C. describe places to which monarch butterflies migrate.  
D. entertain readers with a humorous story about monarch butterflies.
It was finally Monday morning. Meg and Juan were really excited about going to school. Their class was going to plant a special garden just outside their classroom. It would be a butterfly garden!

“Juan, are you as excited as I am about the garden?” Meg asked gleefully.

“I sure am,” said Juan. “I like monarch butterflies. When Ms. Alvarez said we were going to plant a special garden just for the butterflies, I was really excited.”

“I can’t wait,” answered Meg.

As they approached school, they saw Ms. Alvarez near the site of the garden. She had all the tools and seeds ready for her class.
“Okay, children,” said Ms. Alvarez, “it’s time to begin. I’ve got the list that you signed last Friday. It has all the jobs listed. Now let’s go over the directions.”

The class discussed all the things they would do. After getting answers to a few questions, the work began. They started digging into the ground to make it ready for the seeds.

“Here are the milkweed seeds, Juan,” said Ms. Alvarez. “Does anyone remember why we’re planting milkweed?”

“I do!” shouted Rhonda. “Monarchs need milkweed. They eat and munch a lot of milkweed leaves as protection against birds. The monarch’s milkweed diet is poisonous to birds, so birds avoid eating monarchs.”

“That’s right, Rhonda,” said Ms. Alvarez. “What else are we going to plant?”

“I know!” cried Kim. “We’re going to plant lots and lots of bright, colorful flowers.”

“Yes, look at all the seed packets. We have zinnias and petunias and daisies and . . .” said Ms. Alvarez.

“And sunflowers and black-eyed Susans,” added Jerome.

“That’s right! Monarchs love bright flowers,” Ms. Alvarez replied. She was really happy that her students remembered last week’s discussion on butterfly habitats.

The class continued working most of the morning in the new butterfly garden. By lunchtime, they all stood admiring their work.

“You’ve done a fantastic job, class!” Ms. Alvarez exclaimed.
They knew they had to wait a while for the seeds to become plants and for the plants to produce flowers. They knew it would be worth the wait when they saw all the butterflies flocking to their garden.

“Oh, look,” said Juan. “There’s a little butterfly now. Hey, butterfly, you’re a little early for lunch!”

Everyone knew Juan was joking. They knew they’d have to wait a few months until the monarchs swarmed all over their garden.

Then Meg piped up, “But I’m ready for lunch. Let’s go.”

They all laughed and headed for the lunchroom.
4 Read this sentence from the story.

As they approached school, they saw Ms. Alvarez near the site of the garden.

What word means about the same as site?

A soil  
B border  
C location  
D opening

5 Which statement best summarizes paragraph 7?

A The class plants seeds.  
B The class has a discussion.  
C The class digs into the soil.  
D The class begins work on the garden.

6 The author’s purpose for writing “The Butterfly Garden” was mainly to

A inform readers on how to start a butterfly garden.  
B persuade readers to plant a butterfly garden.  
C entertain readers with a story about a butterfly garden.  
D describe tools and seeds needed for a butterfly garden.
Libby wrote this story. It contains errors. Read the story and then answer Numbers 7 through 9.

**Museum Poster**

1. I bought a poster at the museum. 2. The poster has a picture of a large, beautiful tree. 3. The tree has brightly colored leaves and a thick trunk. 4. It stands tall above a river that flows next to it. 5. There’s a sunset in the background of picture. 6. The sunset is red, orange, and yellow. 7. It reminds me of apple and pear floating in the sky.
Read this sentence from the story.

It stands tall above a river that flows next to it.

Which of the underlined words is an article?
A It
B a
C that
D to

Read this sentence from the story.

There's a sunset in the background of picture.

What is the correct way to write the sentence?
A There’s sunset in the background of picture.
B There’s sunset in the background of the picture.
C There’s a sunset in the background of the picture.
D There’s sunset in the background of a picture.

Read this sentence from the story.

It reminds me of apple and pear floating in the sky.

What is the correct way to write the sentence?
A It reminds me of a apple and a pear floating in the sky.
B It reminds me of a apple and a pear floating in the sky.
C It reminds me of a apple and an pear floating in the sky.
D It reminds me of an apple and an pear floating in the sky.
The following questions are not about a passage. Read and answer each question.

10. Read this sentence.

The divor pushed her talent to the limit when she explored the dangerous river.

Which underlined word from the sentence is not spelled correctly?

A. divor
B. talent
C. limit
D. river

11. Which word is not spelled correctly?

A. cabin
B. famus
C. finish
D. spoken

12. Which word is not spelled correctly?

A. habit
B. never
C. razor
D. stowlen
### Student Evaluation Chart

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**Next Steps**

1. 
2. 
3. 

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Read the story “Visitors in the Woods” and then answer Numbers 1 through 3.

1. Maria and her father were spending the day in the big state park located a few miles from their house. Each time they saw an animal, her father would stop and lower his voice while they watched it. Now, as they rounded a curve in the trail, they heard a scuffling sound in the woods. Then, about 100 feet ahead, a deer and her baby cautiously stepped onto the trail.

2. Maria’s father immediately put his hand on her shoulder to prevent her from taking another step. “Look!” her father whispered.

3. “They are beautiful,” Maria said softly.

   The mother deer froze in her tracks and stared at them, almost as if she were eavesdropping and following their conversation. She also was paying close attention to her baby.
Maria took a step toward the deer, but her father’s voice halted her in her tracks. “Keep your distance, Maria.” He continued speaking softly. “If you get too close, you’ll scare them and they will run away.”

Maria knew that her father’s warning was sensible and logical, but she still wanted a better look at the deer. Would it really make a difference if she went a little closer? She was thinking of taking just one more step when she noticed that she was about to walk right on top of a jumble of twigs. The noise from that would surely frighten the deer. Maria stayed right where she was.

Just then, Russell Jackson and his son Kenneth appeared on the trail. Russell was an acquaintance of Maria’s father. Mr. Jackson and Kenneth were talking loudly. The mother deer watched them carefully and moved closer to her baby.

“Shhh,” Maria’s father warned. “You’ll frighten the deer.”

“So what?” Mr. Jackson answered scornfully. “There are a lot of people in the park today. It’s better to scare the deer away than have them on the trail while we’re hiking.” He talked so loudly that Maria thought he was deliberately trying to frighten the deer.

Sure enough, the mother bounded into the dense woods, with her baby at her heels. With her eyes full of longing, Maria gazed after them wistfully. They had been so much fun to watch.

Mr. Jackson and his son were completely unaffected by the departure of the deer. “They should be more careful when people are on the trail,” Russell said.

“No,” replied Maria’s father. “It’s the other way around. The animals live here. We are the visitors.”
1. Read this sentence from the story.

Maria and her father were spending the day in the big state park located a few miles from their house.

The word located comes from a Latin root meaning “place.” In this sentence, located means

A. made.
B. found.
C. grown.
D. swept.

2. Which details from paragraph 9 help you figure out the meaning of wistfully?

A. at her heels
B. bounded into
C. dense woods
D. full of longing

3. What did Maria learn from her visit to the park?

A. It is not important to spend time in nature.
B. People can make as much noise as they can.
C. People should respect the animals that live there.
D. It is not important to stay on trails or obey park rules.
Read the passage “Snap! Venus Flytrap!” and then answer Numbers 4 through 6.

Snap! Venus Flytrap!

1 Imagine that you are a fly, zipping happily here and there through the forest. Then suddenly, snap! You are caught in the jaws of a blood-thirsty plant. You wiggle and kick. You try to escape, but the strong plant leaves squeeze closed. You are now a delicious meal for a plant. Most plants are harmless to animals. They need only water and light from the sun to live. Some plants, however, also like to eat flies and other insects. The Venus flytrap is one such plant.

2 This plant cannot move to hunt for its food. It must wait quietly in the woods with its jaw-like leaves open. On the inside of the leaves are small “trigger hairs.” If an insect flies too close and touches these trigger hairs, snap! The leaves will shut in less than a second. The leaves shut fast. If you were to blink, you wouldn’t see them move.

3 The cilia, or “teeth” of the plant, keep large insects inside. The teeth let smaller, less nutritious bugs escape. The plant then squeezes even more tightly shut over its prey, sealing it inside.

4 The Venus flytrap shuts tightly over a bug. Then the plant takes its time to make sure it sucks all the juices out of the bug. After about a week or more, the plant opens up. The leftover, dried-up bits of insect blow away. Then the trap is set for the next unsuspecting victim. The biggest mystery about a Venus flytrap is how it can shut its trap so fast. No one knows for sure.
Venus flytraps are interesting to examine. They are hard to find in nature, however. They live mostly in North and South Carolina. If you want to experience a Venus flytrap firsthand, you can try growing one at home.

For humans, the Venus flytrap is an interesting part of the plant kingdom to learn about. But if you’re a fly, watch out! Don’t let the Venus flytrap trap you!
4. Read this sentence from the passage.

The teeth let smaller, less nutritious bugs escape.

What word means about the same as nutritious?
A healthful
B clean
C powerful
D poisonous

5. What part of the Venus flytrap keeps insects inside?
A the stem
B the cilia
C the leaves
D the trigger hairs

6. The author’s purpose for writing “Snap! Venus Flytrap!” was mainly to

A inform readers about Venus flytraps.
B entertain readers with stories about plants.
C persuade readers to stay away from Venus flytraps.
D describe to readers how to grow Venus flytraps at home.
Leona wrote this story. It contains errors. Read the story and then answer Numbers 7 through 9.

Two Books

(1) Rob read two books for school. (2) The first book was more long than the second book. (3) It included a lot of details. (4) He said he wished it had a different ending.

(5) “Oh I can’t wait to write about the second book!” Rob said as he began to jot notes. (6) The second book was shorter. (7) It didn’t have as many details. (8) It did have a happy ending than the first book, though.
7. Read this sentence from the story.

The first book was more long than the second book.

What is the correct way to write the underlined words in the sentence?
A. long
B. longer
C. more longer
D. most longest

8. Read this sentence from the story.

“Oh I can’t wait to write about the second book!” Rob said as he began to jot notes.

What is the correct way to write the underlined words in the sentence?
A. “Oh I, can’t wait
B. “Oh I can’t, wait
C. “Oh I can’t wait,
D. “Oh, I can’t wait

9. Read this sentence from the story.

It did have a happy ending than the first book, though.

What is the correct way to write the sentence?
A. It did have a happier ending than the first book, though.
B. It did have a more happy ending than the first book, though.
C. It did have a most happy ending than the first book, though.
D. It did have a happiest ending than the first book, though.
The following questions are not about a passage. Read and answer each question.

10 Which word is not spelled correctly?
A bread
B hoarse
C juice
D onyon

11 Read this sentence.
The guest was jelous when he saw the leather vest and the wool sweater.

Which underlined word from the sentence is not spelled correctly?
A guest
B jelous
C leather
D sweater

12 Which word is not spelled correctly?
A dreadful
B overhead
C plesant
D steady
# Unit 5 • Week 3

## Student Evaluation Chart

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Next Steps

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Read the passage “The Coral Reef” and then answer Numbers 1 through 3.

**The Coral Reef**

1. Some people think a coral reef is a large rock under the surface of the water. That is just not true! Unlike a rock, coral is a living thing. It also is brittle. Many people are not aware of just how easy it is to break coral. Many people also are not aware that when they break a piece of live coral, they kill it. If many pieces of coral are broken off a reef, the entire reef eventually might die.

2. Many coral reefs have fish near them. The fish and the reef form a partnership. They work together as a team. Fish get a great deal from living near a reef. Plants growing on the reef are food for the fish. The reef, in turn, provides the fish with a home.

3. Swimming near a coral reef is fun. It is exciting to explore the reef. It is also very interesting to study the coral. Some coral is very pretty. Some coral looks like it might be something from another planet. When some people swim near a reef, they like to just drift with the current and enjoy the colorful fish. Sometimes it can be hard to decide what to look at first. The coral and the fish both are spectacular and beautiful.

4. Different types of people visit coral reefs. The first group is made up of people who do not know the proper behavior when they arrive at a reef. They think it is all right to break off pieces of the reef so they can take home some coral. They think it is all right to stand on the reef, too. They do not know that standing on a reef can hurt the coral. It also can hurt the person who stands on it. A person standing on or touching a reef can get cut or scratched on the coral. Because coral is alive, sometimes these cuts and scratches can be very serious.
The second group is made up of people who take the time to learn how to behave near the reef. These people learn what they can do on the reef. They also learn what they should not do. They make sure that both they and the coral will stay safe. It would be wonderful if everyone took the time to do this. It would help us all be able to enjoy coral reefs for a long time to come.

There are many ways to enjoy a coral reef.
1 Read these sentences from the passage.

Unlike a rock, coral is a living thing. It also is brittle.

Based on information from paragraph 1, brittle means

A living.
B strange.
C like a rock.
D easy to break.

2 How are coral reefs and fish alike?

A They both swim.
B They both are brittle.
C They both are beautiful to see.
D They both need air to survive.

3 How are coral reefs and people alike?

A They both work together as a team.
B They both need to eat fish to survive.
C They both bruise easily in very rough water.
D They both can get hurt if people stand on the reef.
Read the passage “Animals and Sleep” and then answer Numbers 4 through 6.

1. None of us feel our best when we don’t get enough sleep. Most adults need seven or eight hours of sleep each night. Most boys and girls need at least nine hours of sleep per night. If we do not get enough sleep, many things happen. We feel groggy. We make mistakes. We may even get sick.

2. Sleep is important for animals, too. Every animal on Earth needs sleep, from cows and horses to snakes and fish, to bats, dogs and even flies.

3. Animals need to sleep for the same reasons that humans need to sleep. They need to rest and conserve energy. Different animals sleep for different amounts of time depending on how much rest and food they need. Huge African elephants sleep only around three hours a day. Giraffes sleep only two hours a day. Horses and cows sleep for only three or four hours a day. Cats, on the other hand, sleep much longer. A pet cat might sleep up to 12 hours a day. Wild cats sleep for a long time, too. Tigers can sleep 16 hours a day. Dogs like to sleep too, curling up and snoozing for 10 to 14 hours a day.

4. Bats and opossums are among the longest sleepers. Bats hang
upside down and sleep for a good 20 hours at a time. Opossums also like to hang upside down but don’t always sleep that way. They doze for about 18 to 20 hours per day.

**5 Why are there such differences in how long animals sleep?** 
In general, animals that eat meat sleep the most. Animals that eat vegetables sleep the least. Animals that hunt, like tigers, need to save energy as much as possible when they are not on the prowl for food. Bats and snakes spend a lot of energy hunting for food. They need to stay still and sleep before they can hunt again.

**6 Animals that only eat plants can’t sleep much.** They need to eat and eat all day long in order to get enough food. Cows, horses, and of course giraffes need to graze for 20 or more hours to have enough time to eat and digest all their food. These animals eat leisurely and take their time. They do not need to sleep as much as animals that eat meat.

**7 Here’s something to think about:** Most humans eat both plants and meat, so our need for sleep ranges between those of the animals that eat meat and the animals that eat plants.
4. Read these sentences from the passage.

Animals need to sleep for the same reasons that humans need to sleep. They need to rest and conserve energy.

What word means about the same as conserve?
A. eat
B. use
C. save
D. find

5. What is different about how humans sleep and how giraffes sleep?
A. Giraffes sleep longer than humans.
B. Humans sleep longer than giraffes.
C. Giraffes can sleep while they are eating.
D. Humans need to sleep in order to function.

6. This passage is mostly about
A. how many hours all animals sleep.
B. why bats sleep hanging upside down.
C. why different animals sleep different amounts.
D. how important it is that we all get enough sleep.
Yasmin wrote this story. It contains errors. Read the story and then answer Numbers 7 through 9.

**Beth, Reyna, and Marta**

(1) Beth has more homework than Reyna. (2) Marta has the most homework of all. (3) Reyna’s teacher gives the most math homework than all of the other teachers. (4) Marta gets the more reading homework than her friends in other classes.
7 Read these sentences from the story.

Beth has more homework than Reyna. Marta has the most homework of all.

How can these sentences best be joined without changing the meaning?

A Beth, who has more homework, than Reyna and Marta, who has the most homework of all.

B Marta has the most homework of all, but Reyna has more homework than Beth.

C Marta has more homework than Reyna, and Beth has the most homework of all.

D Beth has more homework than Reyna, but Marta has the most homework of all.

8 Read this sentence from the story.

Reyna’s teacher gives the most math homework than all of the other teachers.

What is the correct way to write the underlined words in the sentence?

A most

B more

C the more

D the mostest

9 Read this sentence from the story.

Marta gets the more reading homework than her friends in other classes.

What is the correct way to write the underlined words in the sentence?

A more

B most

C the most

D the mostest
The following questions are not about a passage. Read and answer each question.

10 Which word is *not* spelled correctly?
   A anchor
   B danger
   C harbour
   D polar

11 Read this sentence.

   The grosser asked his daughter to bring him a bag of pepper and a box of baking powder.

Which underlined word from the sentence is *not* spelled correctly?

A grosser
B daughter
C pepper
D powder

12 Which word is *not* spelled correctly?
A elevator
B enter
C odor
D popular
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### A Whale of a Creature

1. Did you know that whales are not fish? Many people are surprised when they hear this. Whales are mammals, like dogs, apes, and people. This is true even though they live in water.

2. The blue whale is the largest mammal that has ever lived. This massive creature is often 100 feet long. It can weigh more than 150 tons.

3. Whales that lived millions of years ago lived on land. Like many other mammals, they had four legs. In fact, these whales looked like small dogs. Then, for some reason, they started going into the ocean. Perhaps they were looking for food. Perhaps they were trying to escape enemies. Over time they dove into the ocean and stayed there. After they moved into the sea, their bodies slowly changed. Over the years their front legs became flippers. Their back legs vanished.

4. The whales we know today are unusual sea creatures. They are different from other sea animals in many ways. Whales do not lay eggs in the water. Instead, they give birth to live young. Mothers feed their babies with milk from their bodies. Babies stay with their mothers for several months before they go off on their own. Whales are warm-blooded. Their body temperature is always about the same. Most sea creatures are cold-blooded. Their body temperature changes as the temperature of the water around them changes. Whales have lungs and breathe air. They can stay underwater for a long time. They still must come to the surface to breathe.

5. People have hunted whales since early times. Whale oil was used for cooking. It was also used as a fuel for lamps. Until the 1970s, whale oil and parts of whales were used to make
products such as glue, soap, cosmetics, and medicines. Huge numbers of whales were killed during the 1900s. Finally, in the second half of the twentieth century, steps were taken to save the whales. Whaling countries now forbid the hunting of whales for commercial purposes.

Even so, whales still face danger from people. They often become tangled in fishing nets meant for other sea creatures. Also, in some places, whales still are hunted illegally. This is a serious problem. Many people are acting to help save whales. Many more people, however, need to do the same.

The blue whale is the largest mammal the world has ever seen.
1. Read this dictionary entry to answer the next question.

**dove** noun 1. a small bird
2. a gentle person
**dove** verb 3. jumped into water
4. began with energy

Read this sentence from the passage.

Over time they dove into the ocean and stayed there.

Which definition gives the meaning of **dove** as it is used in this sentence?

A. definition 1
B. definition 2
C. definition 3
D. definition 4

2. Which took place *before* whales’ bodies adapted to water?

A. Whales walked on four legs.
B. Whales moved to warmer water.
C. Whales were hunted in many countries.
D. Whales had babies that hatched from eggs.

3. Which statement gives the correct sequence of events?

A. Whale hunting started; people tried to save whales; products were made from whales.
B. Whale hunting started; products were made from whales; people tried to save whales.
C. People tried to save whales; whale hunting started; products were made from whales.
D. Products were made from whales; people tried to save whales; whale hunting started.
1. Have you ever heard of the tiger swallowtail? It is a very pretty caterpillar. It is green all over, darker on top, and lighter near its legs. It has two spots of yellow outlined in black called “eye spots.” Inside each spot is a small purple dot.

2. The tiger swallowtail loves to eat. When hatched from an egg, it eats its own eggshell. It also eats the plant on which it was hatched. Most of the time, this caterpillar does nothing but eat. It is a real eating machine! It munches on leaves all day long. Like all caterpillars, the tiger swallowtail grows faster than any other animal in the world.

3. The tiger swallowtail munches on basswood, ash, and willow trees. It also eats cherry, magnolia, and apple leaves. These trees do not appreciate the appetite of the tiger swallowtail.

4. When the skin of the caterpillar feels tight, it knows it has grown larger. The caterpillar will soon shed its skin. In fact, it will shed its skin over and over, five times in all.
The body of the caterpillar has ten parts, called segments. It has six legs in the middle of its body. The body is soft, but its mouth is tough and sharp. The caterpillar uses its mouth to chew hard leaves.

Like all insects, caterpillars do not breathe through their mouths. Air enters the body through a series of small tubes along the sides of the stomach. The caterpillar does not have very good eyesight. To see clearly, it must move its head from side to side. All caterpillars move this way.

At one point, the caterpillar feels very sleepy. It spins itself a cocoon of silken threads. Then it naps for a long, long time. The cocoon is brown and green and blends into the forest for safety.

Then the caterpillar wakes up. The caterpillar tries to break out of its cocoon. A change has taken place. Its soft body has hardened. The caterpillar now has wings. The caterpillar has turned into a butterfly! Now it is ready to fly to a pretty flower for a drink of nectar.

This interesting little creature is very beautiful. Its yellow and black wings are very attractive. The caterpillar has gone through a wonderful and important change in its life!
4 Read this sentence from the passage.

Its yellow and black wings are very attractive.

What word means about the same as attractive?
A large  
B plain  
C pretty  
D fancy

5 How are all caterpillars alike?
A They all grow a lot in a short period of time.  
B They all think they are the most attractive of all creatures.  
C They all breathe through their mouth and have six little legs.  
D They all have excellent eyesight.

6 What purpose is served by the cocoon?
A It causes the caterpillar to change into a butterfly.  
B It gives food to the caterpillar while it sleeps through the winter.  
C It shelters and protects the caterpillar while it changes into a butterfly.  
D It allows the trees to regrow all the leaves that the caterpillar has eaten.
Team Tryout

(1) The coach tried out two new players for the town soccer team. (2) Denise seemed to be a good athlete. (3) She was new in town. (4) Jessie was even gooder. (5) That made the coach happy, because last year the team had its worse season in five years. (6) At the tryout, Denise ran very fast, but Jessie ran faster. (7) Afterward, the coach realized that Jessie would be the fastest player on the team. (8) The next day, she asked both girls to join the soccer team.
7 Read these sentences from the story.

Denise seemed to be a good athlete. She was new in town.

How can these sentences best be joined without changing the meaning?
A Denise was in town and seemed to be a new, good athlete.
B Denise was new and a good athlete, but seemed to be in town.
C Denise seemed to be new in town, but she was a good athlete.
D Denise, who was new in town, seemed to be a good athlete.

8 Read this sentence from the story.

Jessie was even gooder.

What is the correct way to write the underlined word in the sentence?
A goodest
B better
C more good
D more better

9 Read this sentence from the story.

That made the coach happy, because last year the team had its worse season in five years.

What is the correct way to write the underlined word in the sentence?
A worst
B worster
C worstest
D most worse
The following questions are not about a passage. Read and answer each question.

10 Which word is not spelled correctly?
   A channel  
   B local  
   C settil  
   D symbol

11 Read this sentence.

The music teacher was proud when his pupil won a special medle in the bugle contest.

Which underlined word from the sentence is not spelled correctly?
   A pupil  
   B special  
   C medle  
   D bugle

12 Which word is not spelled correctly?
   A pencil  
   B total  
   C turtle  
   D vesel
## Student Evaluation Chart

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