

Reading Exercises

Set 8

Informational Texts

Instructions

Read each passage. Complete the exercise under each passage.

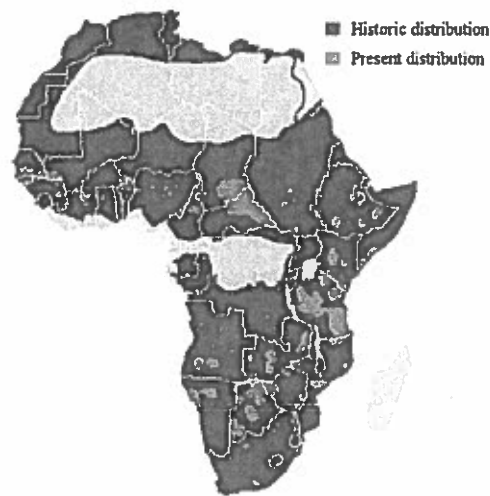
Then complete the questions following each passage. For each multiple-choice question, fill in the circle for the correct answer. For other types of questions, follow the instructions given. Some of the questions require a written answer.

Write your answer on the lines provided.

King of the Jungle

The lion is a member of the Felidae family. The Felidae family includes all cats which even includes common house cats. The lion is one of the four big cats of the Panthera genus. The other big cats are the tiger, the jaguar, and the leopard. Exceptionally large male lions can weigh over 550 pounds, making them the second largest living cat after the tiger.

Lions can be found in Africa and in northwest India. In the wild, lions usually live for between 10 and 14 years. Lions in captivity have been known to live for over 20 years. The lion is a vulnerable species. It has seen a steady population decline over the last two decades.



Lions were once found all over Africa. They are now only found in scattered smaller regions.

KEY SKILLS PRACTICE

Describe **one** similarity between lions and tigers and **one** difference between lions and tigers.

- 1 As it is used in the caption, what does the word scattered show?
- (A) The regions are away from people.
 - (B) The regions have become smaller.
 - (C) The regions are far apart.
 - (D) The regions have high rainfall.
- 2 What is the overall tone of the passage?
- (A) Serious
 - (B) Humorous
 - (C) Regretful
 - (D) Informal
- 3 Which conclusion is best supported by the passage?
- (A) There are more lions in captivity than in the wild.
 - (B) Lions tend to live longer in captivity than in the wild.
 - (C) Lions living in captivity lose some of their key skills.
 - (D) Breeding lions in captivity is one way they can be saved.
- 4 Which idea from the passage does the map best support?
- (A) Lions are only one of the four big cats.
 - (B) Lions live for between 10 and 14 years.
 - (C) Lions in captivity often live longer.
 - (D) Lion populations have decreased over the years.

Be Prepared

The Scouts is a worldwide youth movement aimed at supporting the physical and mental development of young males. The Scouts was started in 1907 by Robert Baden-Powell, who was a Lieutenant General in the British Army.

During the 1900s, the movement grew to include three different age groups of boys. The Cub Scouts is for boys aged from 7 to 11. The Scouts is for boys aged 11 to 18. The Rover Scouts is for boys aged over 18. In 1910, a similar organization was created for girls. It is known as the Girl Guides. The motto of the Scouts is "Be Prepared." The aim of the Scouts is not just to promote fitness but to build character. By taking part in a range of activities, members learn important personal skills.

One of the key features of the Scouts is that members earn merit badges as they develop new skills. Some of the badges that can be earned are bird study, rowing, first aid, camping, and public speaking. Once each badge is earned, the patch for the badge can be added to the uniform. It is like a mark that shows what each member has achieved.



KEY SKILLS PRACTICE

Do you think the merit badge system would help motivate members? Explain

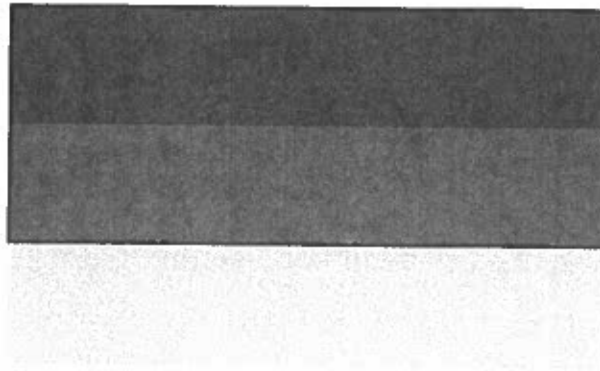
- 1 Complete the table below using information from the passage.

Group	Age
Cub Scouts	7 to 11

- 2 What do the examples of the badges that can be earned best show about being a Scout?
- Ⓐ You will need to be fit and healthy.
 - Ⓑ You will mainly learn how to help others.
 - Ⓒ You will get to *do a range of different things*.
 - Ⓓ You will have to work hard to earn each badge.
- 3 Which word could best replace worldwide in the first sentence?
- Ⓐ Noteworthy
 - Ⓑ Relevant
 - Ⓒ International
 - Ⓓ Established
- 4 What is the author's main purpose in the passage?
- Ⓐ To encourage people to join the Scouts
 - Ⓑ To describe the history of the Scouts
 - Ⓒ To show the importance of fitness to the Scouts
 - Ⓓ To help people choose the right Scouts group to join

Black, Red, and Gold

The modern flag of Germany is a tricolor flag consisting of three horizontal bands of equal size colored black, red, and gold. The flag first appeared in the early nineteenth century. It was originally used by the Frankfurt Parliament and achieved prominence during the 1848 revolution of the German states. During Nazi Germany, the flag's colors were changed to black, white, and red. The flag was restored after World War II. It has been Germany's national flag since 1949.



The modern German flag is made up of three horizontal stripes colored black, red, and gold.

KEY SKILLS PRACTICE

The word *tricolor* contains the Latin root *tri*, which means "three." The word *tricolor* means "having three colors." Complete the table by listing three words that contain the root *tri* and the meaning of each word.

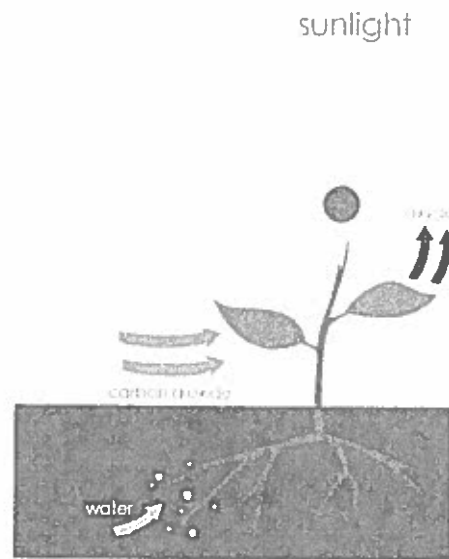
Word	Meaning

-
- 1 As it is used in the passage, what does “achieved prominence” mean?
- Ⓐ Achieved a win
 - Ⓑ Became well-known
 - Ⓒ Won an election
 - Ⓓ Completed a goal
- 2 How was the flag changed during Nazi Germany?
- Ⓐ The gold was removed from the flag.
 - Ⓑ The stripes were made smaller.
 - Ⓒ The number of stripes increased to four.
 - Ⓓ The direction of the stripes was altered.
- 3 How is the passage mainly organized?
- Ⓐ A solution to a problem is described.
 - Ⓑ Events are described in the order they occurred.
 - Ⓒ Facts are given to support an argument.
 - Ⓓ An event in the past is compared to an event today.
- 4 Which other title would best help a reader understand the main idea?
- Ⓐ Modern Life in Germany
 - Ⓑ Changing Times
 - Ⓒ The History of the German Flag
 - Ⓓ Flags of the World

Photosynthesis

The process of turning light energy into chemical energy is called photosynthesis. The process of photosynthesis is how plants get their energy.

Plant leaves and stems have a high amount of a green pigment named chlorophyll contained in them. Light energy from the Sun is absorbed by the chlorophyll. This energy is used to power a reaction between water and carbon dioxide. This reaction produces glucose and oxygen. The plant stores the glucose and uses it for energy. The oxygen is released into the air.



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KEY SKILLS PRACTICE

Describe the importance of the diagram in the passage. Explain why a diagram benefits this type of passage.

- 1 Which two words from the passage have the opposite meaning?
- (A) *light, chemical*
 - (B) *leaves, stems*
 - (C) *absorbed, released*
 - (D) *energy, power*
- 2 What is the main purpose of the passage?
- (A) To instruct
 - (B) To entertain
 - (C) To persuade
 - (D) To inform
- 3 According to the passage, what does the photosynthesis reaction produce?
- (A) Water
 - (B) Carbon dioxide
 - (C) Glucose
 - (D) Light energy
- 4 The first sentence of the passage is best described as –
- (A) a comparison
 - (B) a definition
 - (C) an exaggeration
 - (D) an assumption

Reading Exercises

Set 9

Literary and Informational Texts

Instructions

Read each passage. *Complete the exercise under each passage.*

Then complete the questions following each passage. For each multiple-choice question, fill in the circle for the correct answer. For other types of questions, follow the instructions given. Some of the questions require a written answer.

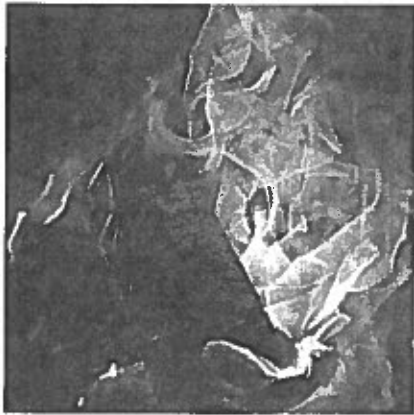
Write your answer on the lines provided.

Around the Campfire

Gazing into the flickering flames,
staring into the endless sky.

The night sky so empty and yet
so full of dreams and possibilities.

As I stare into nothingness,
my mind drifts to future plans.



The fire dances with the joy
of all that might be.

A spark that can become a roar,
a tiny flame becoming so much more.

Alone with my thoughts,
my hopes call to me.

I hear them and I see them,
and I know that I will reach the

KEY SKILLS PRACTICE

The speaker states that "my hopes call to me." Why does the author personify her hopes? What effect does this have on the meaning of the poem?

-
- 1 How is the image of the empty sky relevant in the poem?
- Ⓐ It shows that the speaker wants guidance.
 - Ⓑ It highlights how overwhelming the future can seem.
 - Ⓒ It represents that anything is possible.
 - Ⓓ It symbolizes the need to make something out of nothing.
- 2 In the first line, the word gazing suggests that the speaker is looking at the fire –
- Ⓐ thoughtfully
 - Ⓑ fearfully
 - Ⓒ awkwardly
 - Ⓓ sneakily
- 3 Which line from the poem shows that the fire represents hope for the future?
- Ⓐ *Gazing into the flickering flames,*
 - Ⓑ *so full of dreams and possibilities.*
 - Ⓒ *my mind drifts to future plans.*
 - Ⓓ *A spark that can become a roar,*
- 4 The speaker's tone in the last stanza communicates her –
- Ⓐ curiosity
 - Ⓑ determination
 - Ⓒ uncertainty
 - Ⓓ impatience
-

Artistic Creativity

Every day I enjoy being creative. Some days you will find me painting a portrait. Other days I may be writing a short fiction novel. I even find enjoyment out of sculpting something strange and bizarre into life.

Being artistic is important to me. Every artistic work is a chance to show my own unique style and create something that only I could have created. It is true that a lot of my work is not especially amazing. However, I always have fun challenging myself and experimenting with new ideas.



KEY SKILLS PRACTICE

Think about what the narrator says about being creative. Then think about how you are creative. Write a few paragraphs that argue that it is important to be creative. Include the main benefits of being creative in your argument.

Blank writing lines for student response.

-
- 1 Which word means the opposite of bizarre?
- Ⓐ Ordinary
 - Ⓑ Weird
 - Ⓒ Rare
 - Ⓓ Special
- 2 Which creative activity is NOT described in the passage?
- Ⓐ Writing
 - Ⓑ Sculpting
 - Ⓒ Dancing
 - Ⓓ Painting
- 3 What is the point of view in the passage?
- Ⓐ First person
 - Ⓑ Second person
 - Ⓒ Third person limited
 - Ⓓ Third person omniscient
- 4 Which statement would the author of the passage most likely agree with?
- Ⓐ It takes intense training to develop a talent.
 - Ⓑ It is important to be an individual.
 - Ⓒ Creative tasks should be taken seriously.
 - Ⓓ Sharing your work with other people takes courage.

The Stanley Cup



The Stanley Cup is the most appreciated ice hockey trophy the world. It is awarded every year to the winner of the National Hockey League (NHL) championships.

Unlike most other sports, a new Stanley Cup is not made each year. Instead, the winning team keeps the trophy until new champions are crowned the next year. This ability to take possession of the trophy makes players appreciate the award even more. Each winning team also has the names of players, coaches, and other team staff engraved on the trophy. This is considered a great honor by all.

The Stanley Cup is the oldest professional sports trophy in North America. It was donated by the Governor General of Canada, Lord Stanley of Preston, in 1892.

KEY SKILLS PRACTICE

What makes the Stanley Cup special? Use at least **two** details from the passage in your answer.

-
- 1 In the first sentence, which word could best replace appreciated?
- Ⓐ Valued
 - Ⓑ Awarded
 - Ⓒ Ancient
 - Ⓓ Curious
- 2 Why is the last paragraph important to the passage?
- Ⓐ It shows that ice hockey has been played for a long time.
 - Ⓑ It shows that ice hockey is a national sport.
 - Ⓒ It shows the long history of the trophy.
 - Ⓓ It shows that the trophy is most important to Canadians.
- 3 Which sentence from the passage is an opinion?
- Ⓐ *It is awarded every year to the winner of the National Hockey League (NHL) championships.*
 - Ⓑ *This ability to take possession of the trophy makes players appreciate the award even more.*
 - Ⓒ *The Stanley Cup is the oldest professional sports trophy in North America.*
 - Ⓓ *It was donated by the Governor General of Canada, Lord Stanley of Preston, in 1892.*
- 4 The way that the trophy is engraved with names supports which idea?
- Ⓐ Learning from those that came before you
 - Ⓑ Always trying to perform better
 - Ⓒ Striving for greatness rather than money or fame
 - Ⓓ Remembering and respecting past achievements
-

A Special Student

June enjoyed being in school. She enjoyed watching the children play and sometimes sharing their lunches. June enjoyed seeing her friends play skip ro and liked having a nap in the afternoons. June sometimes got to enjoy eating grass on the football field. June wasn't any ordinary student. June was the sch mascot.

Every week, June would enjoy having a class of students milk her. Then she would be let out into the paddock for a graze. If it was warm outside, June wo stay in the shelter of a tree or stay in her barn. What June liked best of all, is when the students petted her. There were always plenty of students happy to her, so June was a very happy school mascot. The students loved June just as much as she loved them. They enjoyed spending time with her and looking af her.

KEY SKILLS PRACTICE

Why do you think the author does not reveal that June is a cow right away? your answer, explain the effect this has on the reader.

- 1 What is the point of view in the passage?
- Ⓐ First person
 - Ⓑ Second person
 - Ⓒ Third person limited
 - Ⓓ Third person omniscient
- 2 What happens right after June is milked?
- Ⓐ The children pat her.
 - Ⓑ She has a nap.
 - Ⓒ She is let out to graze.
 - Ⓓ She is given a bath.
- 3 What is the first clue in the passage that June is a cow?
- Ⓐ She watches the children play.
 - Ⓑ She shares the student's lunches.
 - Ⓒ She has a nap in the afternoon.
 - Ⓓ She eats the grass on the football field.
- 4 Which meaning of the word class is used in the second paragraph?
- Ⓐ A group of students
 - Ⓑ A set of objects with common qualities
 - Ⓒ Elegance in appearance, actions, or style
 - Ⓓ Excellence in some skill or ability

