



Student/Classroom: _____ Examiner: _____ Assessment Date: _____
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### Roadrunners: Full Speed Ahead! 503

Sopris West Six Minute Solutions

Roadrunners are members of the cuckoo family. Their home is in the desert. **(Roadrunners)** are black and white in color. **(They)** have a distinct crest on the **(crowns)** of their heads. They also have **(long)** bills and very long tails. Their **(legs)** are extremely powerful. Strong legs enable **(roadrunners)** to run up to seventeen miles **(per)** hour. These birds can easily outrun **(a)** horse.

Roadrunners need to be fast **(so)** they can catch their prey. They **(feed)** almost entirely on other animals. These **(include)** insects, scorpions, lizards, rodents, snakes, and **(other)** birds. They also chase grasshoppers. If **(a)** grasshopper tries to escape, the roadrunner **(can)** jump three or four feet into **(the)** air. The western roadrunner is famous **(for)** its ability to kill rattlesnakes. It **(is)** one of the few animals that **(is)** able to do so. Because of **(its)** lightning speed, the roadrunner can grab **(a)** rattlesnake by its tail. The roadrunner **(swings)** the rattlesnake around like a whip. **(It)** slams the rattlesnake's head into the **(ground)** until it is dead. The roadrunner **(then)** proceeds to eat the snake. It **(is)** not able to swallow the whole **(snake)** at one time though. So the **(roadrunner)** often keeps the snake dangling from **(its)** mouth, eating an inch or two **(at)** a time.

Roadrunners rarely fly although **(they)** are able to do so. If **(it)** senses danger, the roadrunner may take **(to)** its wings. However, it is hard **(to)** keep its large body in the **(air)** for more than a few seconds. **(Consequently)**, the roadrunner prefers to walk or **(run)**.



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Roadrunners are members of the cuckoo family. Their home is in the desert. **(Black, Roadrunners, So)** are black and white in color. **(More, They, Four)** have a distinct crest on the **(tails, miles, crowns)** of their heads. They also have **(because, fly, long)** bills and very long tails. Their **(famous, legs, cuckoo)** are extremely powerful. Strong legs enable **(dead, distinct, roadrunners)** to run up to seventeen miles **(rarely, grasshoppers, per)** hour. These birds can easily outrun **(their, a, roadrunners)** horse.

Roadrunners need to be fast **(fast, rodents, so)** they can catch their prey. They **(that, feed, snake)** almost entirely on other animals. These **(snakes, include, powerful)** insects, scorpions, lizards, rodents, snakes, and **(few, other, its)** birds. They also chase grasshoppers. If **(a, very, roadrunners)** grasshopper tries to escape, the roadrunner **(the, until, can)** jump three or four feet into **(from, consequently, the)** air. The western roadrunner is famous **(insects, swallow, for)** its ability to kill rattlesnakes. It **(is, ability, however)** one of the few animals that **(is, run, grasshopper)** able to do so. Because of **(often, its, then)** lightning speed, the roadrunner can grab **(a, home, around)** rattlesnake by its tail. The roadrunner **(swings, white, do)** the rattlesnake around like a whip. **(It, They, For)** slams the rattlesnake's head into the **(roadrunner, like, ground)** until it is dead. The roadrunner **(rattlesnake's, then, keeps)** proceeds to eat the snake. It **(a, is, one)** not able to swallow the whole **(prefers, snake, feet)** at one time though. So the **(roadrunner, senses, although)** often keeps the snake dangling from **(its, members, it)** mouth, eating an inch or two **(escape, air, at)** a time. Roadrunners rarely fly although **(western, they, danger)** are able to do so. If **(catch, almost, it)** senses danger, the roadrunner may take **(up, three, to)** its wings. However, it is hard **(to, wings, color)** keep its large body in the **(not, air, lightning)** for more than a few seconds. **(Dangling, Need, Consequently)**, the roadrunner prefers to walk or **(they, run, extremely)**.