

Florida



Standards Assessments Practice Test Answer Key

Grade 3

FSA ELA Reading

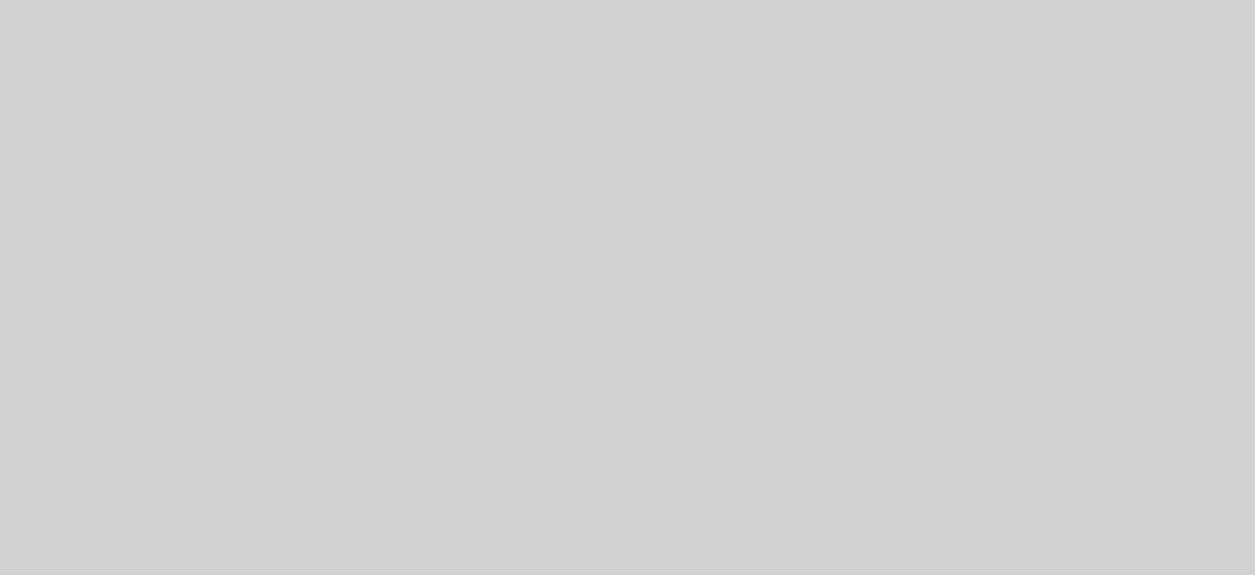
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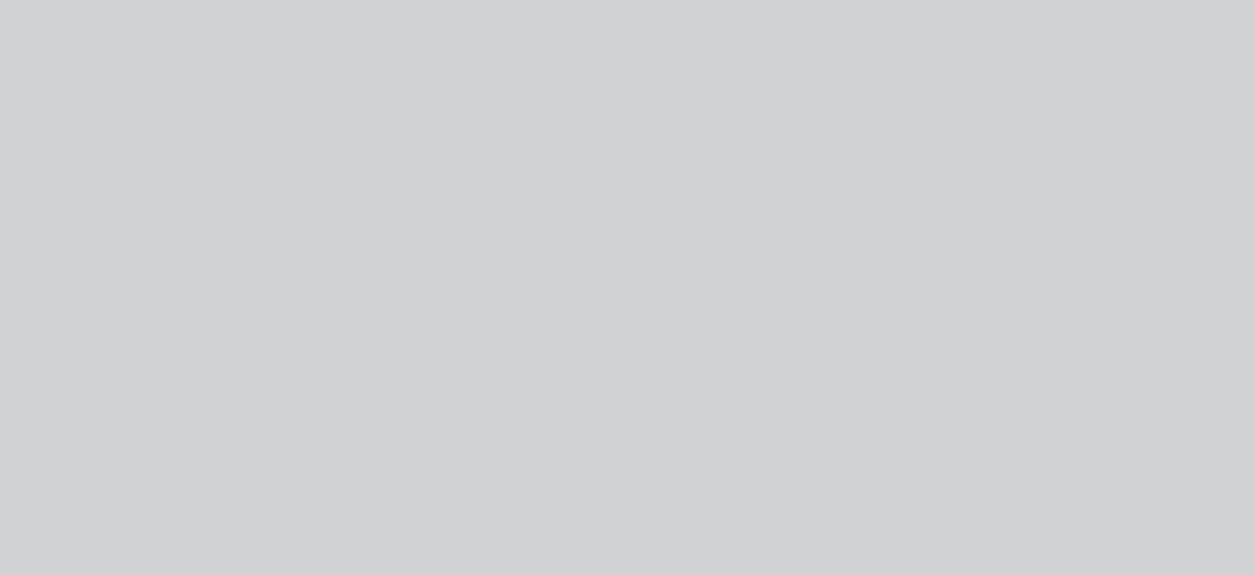
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Session 1



Passage 1: The Kettle That Would Not Walk

by Clifton Johnson

- 1 ONE day a man was getting ready to go to market, and his wife said to him, "Husband, we need a new iron kettle for the fireplace. Don't fail to buy one."
- 2 So the man bought a kettle at Nottingham and started for home. But the kettle was heavy, and his arm grew tired with carrying it and he set it down. While he was resting, he noticed that the kettle had three legs. "What a pity I did not see those legs before!" cried the man. "Here you have three legs and I have but two, and yet I have been carrying you. 'Twere fairer [It seems more fair] that you had carried me. Well, you shall take me the rest of the way, at least."
- 3 Then he seated himself in the kettle and said, "Now, go on," but the kettle stood still and would not move.
- 4 "Ah!" said the man, "you are stubborn, are you? You want me to keep on carrying you, but I shall not. I will tell you the way and you can stay where you are until you get ready to follow me."
- 5 So he told the kettle where he lived and how to get there, and off the man went. When he reached home, his wife asked him where the kettle was.
- 6 "Oh, it will be along," he replied.
- 7 "What do you mean by that?" said she.
- 8 "Why," said he, "the kettle I bought has three legs and was better able to walk here than I who have but two legs. Yet I never noticed it had legs until I was nearly here. Then I told it to walk the rest of the way itself, for I would carry it no farther."
- 9 "Where did you leave it?" asked the wife.
- 10 "You need not be anxious," responded the man. "I told it the way, and it will be along in good time, as I said before."
- 11 "And where did you leave it?" again asked the wife.
- 12 "At Gotham bridge," he replied.

- 13 She was not as sure as he was about its coming, and she hurried off to get it. When she brought it home, the man said, "I am glad you have it safe, Wife. I have been thinking while you were gone that it might have taken a notion to walk back to Nottingham if we had left it alone there in the road much longer."

"The Kettle That Would Not Walk" by Clifton Johnson. In the public domain.

Passage 2: The Cheeses That Ran Away

by Clifton Johnson

- 14 THERE was a man of Gotham who filled a sack with cheeses and started off for Nottingham market to sell them. He carried the sack on his back, and when he became tired he sat down by the wayside to rest. Thus he went on until he reached the summit of the last hill he had to climb before he came to Nottingham bridge.
- 15 There he rested, and when he rose to continue his journey a cheese slipped out of the sack and rolled down the hill toward the bridge.
- 16 "Ah! Mr. Cheese," said the man, "so you can run to market alone, can you? I wish I had known that before. It would have saved me the trouble of carrying you. Well, then, if you can go to market alone, so can the other cheeses, and I will send them along after you."
- 17 So he laid down his sack, took out the cheeses, and one by one rolled them down the hill. As the last one spun down the road he shouted, "I charge you all to meet me at the market-place."
- 18 Some of the cheeses went into one bush, and some went into another bush, but the man did not notice that, and he trudged on cheerfully to the market expecting the cheeses would meet him there. All day long he loitered about the market, and as evening approached he began to inquire among his friends and neighbors and other men if they had seen his cheeses come to the market.
- 19 "Who should bring them?" asked one of the market-men.
- 20 "Nobody," replied the man of Gotham. "They would bring themselves. They know the way well enough."

"The Cheeses That Ran Away" by Clifton Johnson. In the public domain.

1. The highlighted sentence shows the correct answer for this question.

Select the sentence from Passage 2 that shows why the man believes that his cheeses can bring themselves to the market.

14 **THERE** was a man of Gotham who filled a sack with cheeses and started off for Nottingham market to sell them. He carried the sack on his back, and when he became tired he sat down by the wayside to rest. Thus he went on until he reached the summit of the last hill he had to climb before he came to Nottingham bridge.

15 There he rested, and when he rose to continue his journey a cheese slipped out of the sack and rolled down the hill toward the bridge.

2. The chart below shows the correct answers for this question.

Place the events from Passage 1 in the table according to the order in which they happen in the story.

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
The man stops to rest on the way home.
The man leaves the kettle on the road.
The man's wife carries the kettle home.
The man goes to the market to buy a kettle.
The man tells the kettle to walk home on its own.

Place the events from Passage 1 in the table according to the order in which they happen in the story.

1. The man goes to the market to buy a kettle.
2. The man stops to rest on the way home.
3. The man tells the kettle to walk home on its own.
4. The man leaves the kettle on the road.
5. The man's wife carries the kettle home.

3. This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

Which sentence describes the man's feelings at the end of Passage 2?

- A He is pleased with his decision.
- B He is excited to be traveling for his work.
- C He is angry that he has to go to the market.
- D He is unhappy about his choices in the story.

Part B

What happens in the passage because of the man's feelings in Part A?

- A The man has nothing to sell at the market.
- B The man arrives at the market well-rested.
- C The man's cheeses get to the market on time.
- D The man's cheeses become famous in the town.

Part A

Option A: **This answer is correct.** *The man is pleased with his cleverness, as he "trudged on cheerfully to the market expecting the cheeses would meet him there."*

Part B

Option A: **This answer is correct.** *As the day went on the man "began to inquire among his friends and neighbors and other men if they had seen his cheeses come to the market." Thus, the man had nothing to sell because of his decision to let the cheeses roll to the market.*

4. What is the meaning of anxious as it is used in Passage 1?

10 “You need not be anxious,” responded the man. “I told it the way, and it will be along in good time, as I said before.”

- Ⓐ angry
- Ⓑ excited
- Ⓒ sad
- Ⓓ worried

Option D: This answer is correct. The man's wife is feeling worried because "she was not as sure as he was about its coming" to their home.

5. What does paragraph 16 add to Passage 2?
- A It tells where the story takes place.
 - B It tells information about the main character's past.
 - C It shows the lesson that can be learned from the story.
 - D It shows the beginning of the main character's problem.

Option D: This answer is correct. Paragraph 16 is the first indication that the man does not understand what is happening with his cheese, and that is what leads to his problem of not having cheeses to sell at the market.

6. The chart below shows the correct answers for this question.

1. How does the man in Passage 1 feel when he comes home without the kettle? Place your answer in the box below.

--

2. How does the man’s wife feel when he comes home without the kettle? Place your answer in the box below.

--

sure that the kettle will follow soon
angry that the kettle is lost
happy that a new kettle was needed
concerned that the kettle was left

1. How does the man in Passage 1 feel when he comes home without the kettle? Place your answer in the box below.

sure that the kettle will follow soon

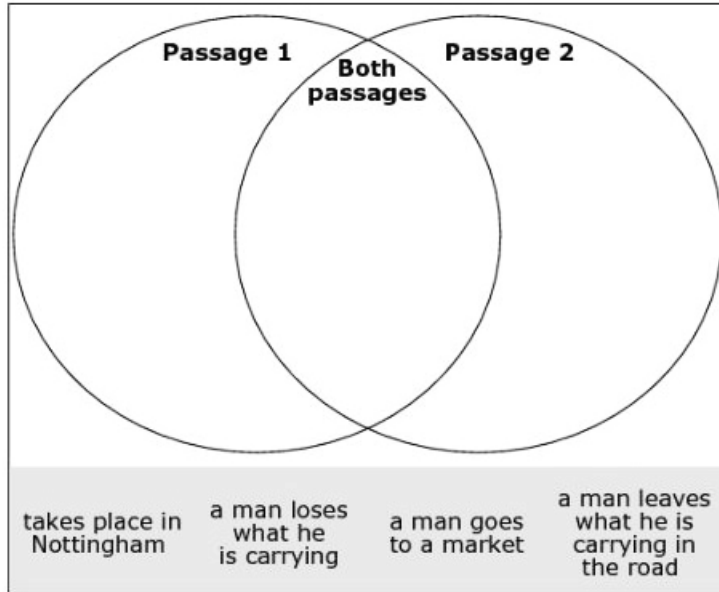
2. How does the man’s wife feel when he comes home without the kettle? Place your answer in the box below.

concerned that the kettle was left

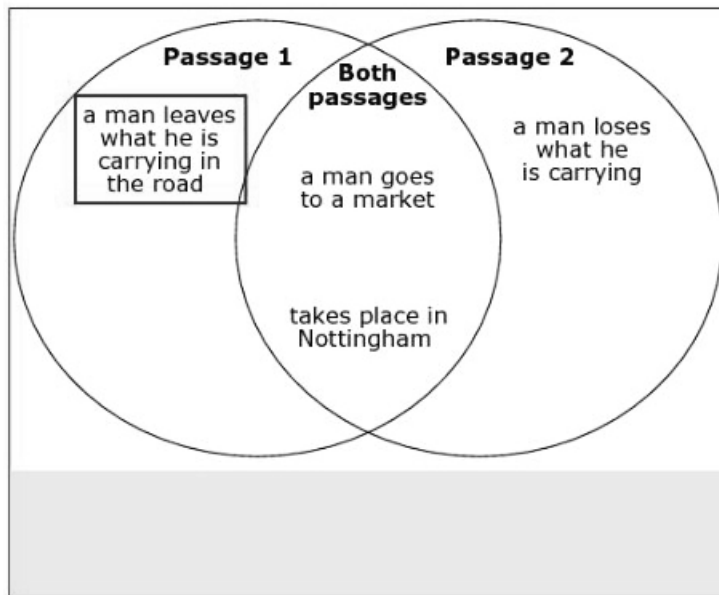
angry that the kettle is lost
happy that a new kettle was needed

7. The chart below shows the correct answers for this question.

Place the statements in the correct sections of the Venn diagram based on which passage or passages they describe.

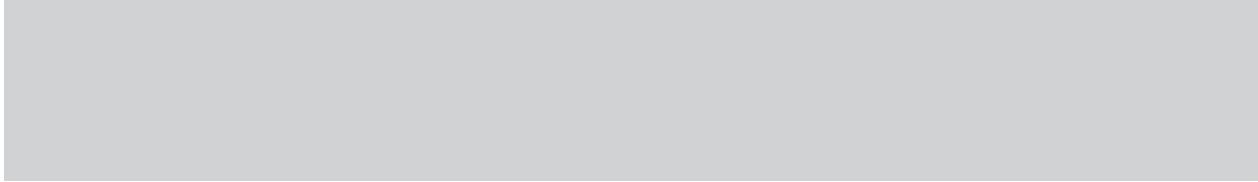


Place the statements in the correct sections of the Venn diagram based on which passage or passages they describe.

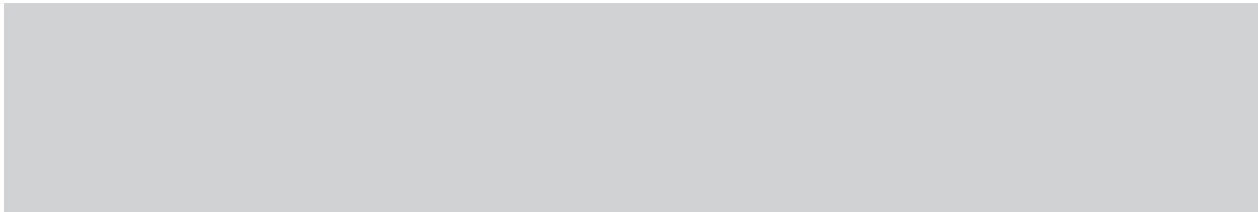


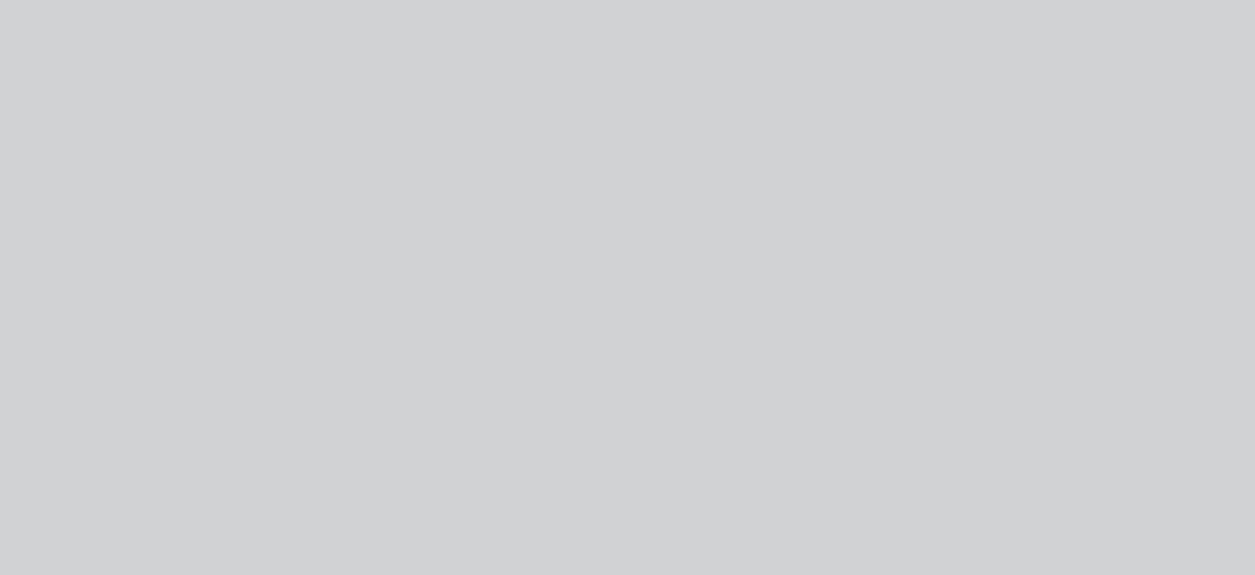
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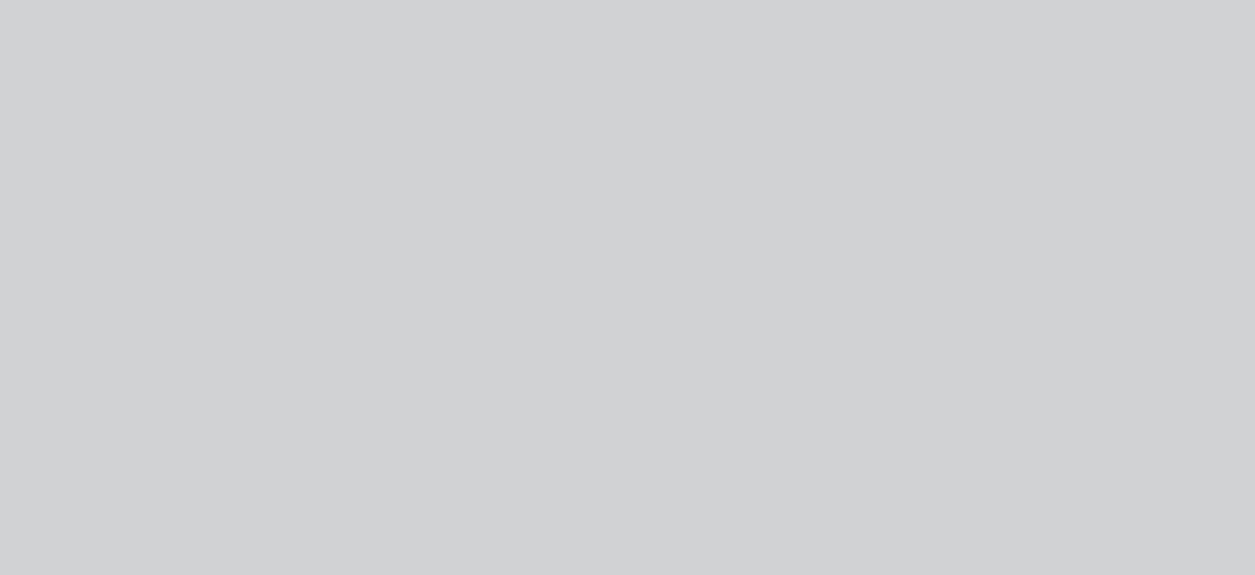


This is the end of Session 1.





Session 2



Passage 1: A Raft of Ants

by Dan Risch

- 1 Fire ants live deep underground. But what happens when heavy rains flood their cozy homes? The fiery red insects go marching out of the nest and onto the water. There, they make a raft of their own bodies.
- 2 Floating on the surface, the first ants that come out build the raft. A layer of ants spreads across the water. They hold on to one another, using their claws and jaws and sticky feet.
- 3 What a tangle of ants! But it's just what the ants need to save their colony from drowning. As the ants weave themselves together, they don't even get their antennae wet.
- 4 Once the raft is in place, one by one and two by two, more ants march out of the nest and onto the ant raft. They carry ant eggs, ant babies, and, of course, the queen. (Some ants may even pack a bit of food for the trip.)
- 5 Up and out the ants march until the entire nest of ants is on the raft. An average-sized nest is made up of 100,000 fire ants.
- 6 The floodwaters carry the raft away. Every once in a while, the bottom ants change places with the ants on top. Finally, the raft touches higher ground, where the colony can make a new nest. The ants have survived by sharing all of the work. Now that's teamwork!
- 7 One ant uses its jaws to hold on to another ant's leg.
- 8 They use claws and jaws and sticky feet!



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Passage 2: Insect Farmers

by Paula Cushing

- 9 The farmer stepped back and surveyed her garden. It looked fine and healthy. A little more fertilizer here and there and her day's work would be done.
- 10 Her sisters were busy in another part of the garden gathering some of the crop to feed to the youngsters. Yes, nothing beats a good garden of young mushrooms.
- 11 You see, this is no ordinary farmer. She is a leaf-cutting ant.
- 12 I first saw leaf-cutting ants on a six-month visit to Panama. I had plenty of time to watch the ants because I lived and worked at a tropical research station on Barro Colorado Island in the Panama Canal area.
- 13 Barro Colorado became a biological reserve in 1923. Since then scientists from all over the world have gone there to study tropical plants and animals.

Jungle Walks

- 14 There are no roads on the island, just nature trails cutting through the jungle. Nearly every time I walked out on the trails, I had to step over a marching column of leaf-cutting ants—they seemed to be everywhere!
- 15 At first, the marching columns looked like little pieces of leaves moving by themselves. But when I looked more closely, I saw that each piece of leaf was being carried by a reddish ant many times smaller than the leaf. The ants had cut the leaves with their scissorlike jaws and were carrying them back to their nests.
- 16 Leaf cutters don't eat the leaves. Rather, they use the leaves to raise their most important food, which is a particular kind of fungus. The ants take the leaves to special rooms in their underground nests. They cut the leaves into smaller pieces, chew the pieces until they are wet and spongy, and deposit them in their garden.
- 17 Then the ants transplant some fungus onto their fresh "leaf-soil." Sometimes they add fertilizer that they excrete from their abdomens.
- 18 Adult ants feed on this fungus as well as on sap. The fungus is also eaten by the larvae, which are the baby ants.
- 19 The fungus they grow is a type of mushroom. But the ants have been farming it for so long that it doesn't grow into anything that looks like regular mushrooms. Instead, it looks more like a mass of tiny double-headed lollipops.

Ants, Big and Small

- 20 A leaf-cutter colony is made up of ants of different sizes. Large ants go out and gather the leaves. Smaller ants guard the big ants, cut up the leaves, tend the garden, and care for the eggs and larvae.
- 21 The biggest ant is the queen. Her main job is to lay eggs. All of the other ants in the colony are her daughters. They have many jobs, which they do by instinct, communicating with one another and their queen when necessary.
- 22 Of course, ants can't talk the way we can. Instead, the ants communicate through a chemical language. They pass around their chemical messages when they feed one another. Workers pass droplets of food to other workers (their sisters). They also feed larvae. Larvae sometimes feed their nurses. The queen feeds her daughters. And

workers feed their mom, the queen. An ant colony's chemical communication network is more complicated than our telephone lines.

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8.

What is one way fire ants use their claws and jaws during a flood? Use information from Passage 1 to support your answer.

Type your answer in the space provided.

A correct response includes at least one of the following:

- *to hold on to one another*
- *to hold on to other ants*
- *to hold on to other ants' legs*
- *to build a raft*

9. What is the main idea of Passage 2?
- A Leaf-cutting ants grow mushrooms using leaves as soil.
 - B Leaf-cutting ants work together to grow food for the entire colony.
 - C Leaf-cutting ants have scissorlike jaws that are used to cut leaves.
 - D Leaf-cutting ants have a queen who is the biggest ant in the colony.

Option B: This answer is correct. This is the main idea of Passage 2. The other options are details that support this main idea.

10. The chart below shows the correct answers for this question.

Based on the information in Passage 2, place the sentences into the correct box.

Cause	Effect
Leaf cutter ants chew leaves until they are soft and wet.	
Leaf cutter ants have been growing fungus for a long time.	

Leaf cutter ants grow fungus that doesn't look like mushrooms.
Leaf cutter ants create soil for the fungus to grow.

Based on the information in Passage 2, place the sentences into the correct box.

Cause	Effect
Leaf cutter ants chew leaves until they are soft and wet.	Leaf cutter ants create soil for the fungus to grow.
Leaf cutter ants have been growing fungus for a long time.	Leaf cutter ants grow fungus that doesn't look like mushrooms.

11. What does the word weave mean as it is used in this sentence from Passage 1?

"As the ants weave themselves together, they don't even get their antennae wet." (paragraph 3)

- A crowd
- B float
- C gather
- D join

Option D: This answer is correct. The ants weave, or join, their bodies together to form a raft.

12. Which information can be found under the heading **Jungle Walks** in Passage 2?

- A why the ants gather leaves
- B when the author first visited Panama
- C how the ants communicate with the queen
- D where the Barro Colorado reserve can be found

Option A: **This answer is correct.** *This information is found under the **Jungle Walks** heading.*

- 13.** This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

Based on the information in Passage 1, with which statement would the author agree?

- Ⓐ Rafts are too small to fit all of the ants from a colony.
- Ⓑ Smaller colonies may not live through a flood.
- Ⓒ The ants may not survive the journey without food.
- Ⓓ Building a raft is a clever way for the ants to survive.

Part B

Which piece of evidence from Passage 1 supports your answer in Part A?

- Ⓐ "What a tangle of ants! But it's just what the ants need to save their colony from drowning." (paragraph 3)
- Ⓑ "Once the raft is in place, one by one and two by two, more ants march out of the nest and onto the ant raft." (paragraph 4)
- Ⓒ "They carry ant eggs, ant babies, and, of course, the queen. (Some ants may even pack a bit of food for the trip.)" (paragraph 4)
- Ⓓ "An average-sized nest is made up of 100,000 fire ants." (paragraph 5)

Part A

Option D: This answer is correct. The author uses exclamations to convey enthusiasm and wonder concerning how impressive and clever the ants are for forming a raft.

Part B

Option A: This answer is correct. This statement shows the author's excitement about the ants' clever actions.

14. What does the reader understand using the information from Passage 1 and the illustration?

- Ⓐ how large an ant raft can be
- Ⓑ how many eggs can fit on the raft
- Ⓒ how the ant raft floats on top of the water
- Ⓓ how many ants are needed to make a raft

Option C: This answer is correct. The illustration and passage suggest that the ants weave themselves together in order to create a raft that floats above the waters.

15. Select **two** reasons the author included paragraph 11 in Passage 2.

- to compare leaf-cutting ants to human farmers
- to describe how leaf-cutting ants grow their food
- to explain how leaf-cutting ants solve farming problems
- to show that the topic of the passage is leaf-cutting ants
- to describe the effect that leaf-cutting ants have on ordinary farms

Part A

Option A: This answer is correct. In paragraphs 9 and 10, the author describes what seems like an "ordinary farmer" but in paragraph 11, the author makes it clear that this is a comparison showing how leaf-cutting ants are similar to human farmers.

Part B

Option D: This answer is correct. Paragraphs 9 and 10 describe a farmer, but paragraph 11 is when the reader learns that this is an ant farmer.

16. How are Passages 1 and 2 alike?

- A They describe how ants communicate.
- B They describe how ants work as a team.
- C They describe why ants have sticky feet.
- D They describe why ants carry large leaves.

Option B: This answer is correct. Both passages describe how ants work together to accomplish tasks and survive.

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TO THE
NEXT PAGE.



The highlighted phrases show correct answers for numbers 17–20.

For each highlight select the word or phrase that is correct.

17.

There are three highlights in the essay to show which word or phrase may be incorrect. For each highlight, click the word or phrase that is correct.

Tomorrow was the spelling bee. Sam was nervous, so he asked his mom to help him practice. If he worked hard, he knew he could learn all of the ~~words~~ words.

18.

There are three highlights in the essay to show which word or phrase may be incorrect. For each highlight, click the word or phrase that is correct.

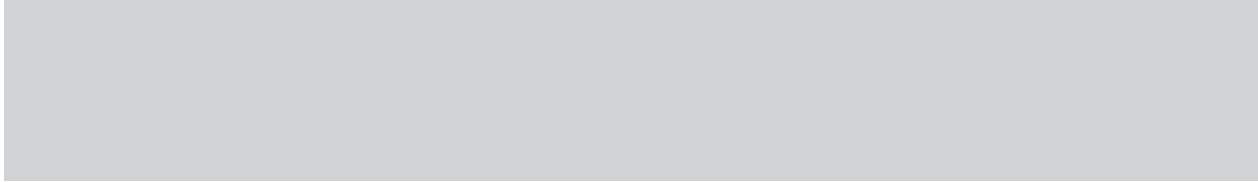
After school, Sam and his mom began to practice spelling. Sam ~~frowning~~ frowned when he heard the first word: "muscle." He tried to sound it out. He carefully wrote down "mussel." His mom smiled but shook her head. Sam had gotten it wrong.

19. There are three highlights in the essay to show which word or phrase may be incorrect. For each highlight, click the word or phrase that is correct.

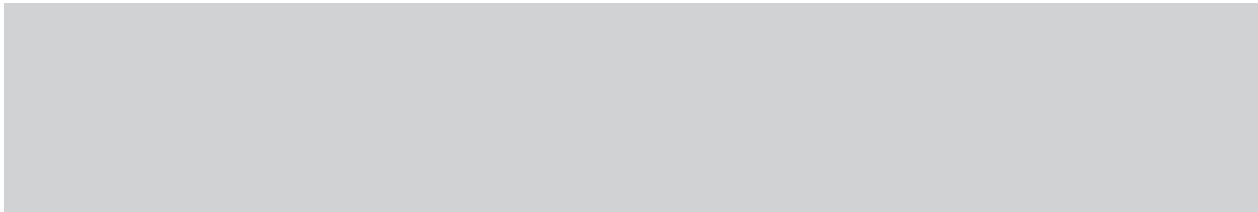
His mom explained the error, but Sam was upset. He didn't want to practice anymore. But then his mom did something strange. She made a silly, funny face. Sam was surprised, and ~~we~~ he started to laugh.

20. There are two highlights in the paragraph below to show which word or phrase may be incorrect. For each highlight, type in the correction.

~~Sams~~ Sam's mom was sneaky. She knew that if he laughed, he would cheer up. Then she explained that it was important for her to correct him. She was doing it ~~becuase~~ because she wanted to help him become a better speller. Sam thought that made a lot of sense. He realized that he and his mom made a pretty good team.



This is the end of Session 2.



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