Increasing Achievement for Schools, Teachers, & Students
Read the following selection. Then answer questions 1 through 6.

Barn Owls

Barn Owls do not usually live in barns. That’s right. They are called Barn Owls, but they do not often live in barns. Barn Owls can live almost anywhere. They can live anywhere from cornfields to cliffs. They make burrows in holes in the ground. They also use empty bird nests. They do not really make nests like other birds, either. They like to use leaves and grass and even bits of cloth as nests for laying their eggs.

Barn Owls eat a lot of things. For example, they eat rats and mice and frogs. They eat fish and lizards, too. They even eat bats and other birds.

The Barn Owl does not look like other owls. Some Barn Owls are light colored, and some are dark. The female Barn Owls are darker than the males, but they all have white faces shaped like a heart. They all have dark eyes. Barn Owls have longer legs than other owls, too. Some owls have ears that stick-up, but the Barn Owl’s ears are flat.

1. What is the first paragraph about?
   A. where Barn Owls live
   B. what Barn Owls eat
   C. Barn Owl babies
   D. living in barns

2. Which detail tells you about a Barn Owl’s face?
   A. It is dark brown.
   B. It is hard to tell the color.
   C. It is white.
   D. It is pointed.

3. Why would a Barn Owl live on a cliff?
   A. because Barn Owls only live in high places
   B. because Barn Owls eat fish.
   C. because Barn Owls can live almost anywhere
   D. because Barn Owls do not look like other owls
4. How are male and female Barn Owls **DIFFERENT**?
   A. One is light in color, and the other is dark.
   B. One has dark eyes, and the other does not.
   C. One has long legs, and the other has short legs.
   D. One lives in barns, and the other lives on cliffs.

5. What is another word for **cliff**?
   A. a bluff
   B. a lake
   C. a hole
   D. a plant

6. Where would be the best place to look to find the definition of the word **“cliff”**?
   A. in the “C” encyclopedia book
   B. in a calendar of events
   C. in a dictionary
   D. in a book about rabbits

Pictures give you clues. Use the pictures below to help you choose the right answer for the question below.

![Picture 1](image1)

7. Based on the pictures, what season is it?
   A. winter
   B. fall
   C. autumn
   D. summer

3
8. Look at the two words in the box. Select the word that BEST tells how the words are alike.
   A. yellow
   B. tart
   C. spicy
   D. fruit

Look at the picture below. Joe fell while playing.

9. Choose the sentence that BEST describes the picture of Joe.
   A. He is happy.
   B. He is telling a joke.
   C. He is cheerful.
   D. He is hurt.

10. Which word has almost the same meaning as “near?”
    A. when
    B. far
    C. where
    D. close
11. Complete the sentence in the paragraph below.

Sarah, the cat, runs away from people. She hides from them under the porch. She only comes out to eat her food. Sarah must be ________ when people are close by.

A. afraid  
B. hungry  
C. friendly  
D. mad

---

Read the following selection. Then answer questions 12 through 13.

Wintertime Fun

I enjoy spending time with my family in the wintertime. We go sledding and make snow angels. My family always builds a snowman. I am sad when the snow is gone.

12. What was the writer’s main purpose in writing the story above?
   A. to entertain with a funny story  
   B. to explain why they enjoy wintertime  
   C. to describe snow angels  
   D. to describe snowmen

13. What is the BEST summary of the story above?
   A. The writer enjoys doing things in the winter with her family.  
   B. The writer loves baking cookies.  
   C. The writer does not like winter.  
   D. The writer likes summertime the best.
Trip to the Zoo

Billie and Kristin went to the zoo with the rest of their class on a field trip. Since the girls went with the entire class, the admission price for the zoo was only $3.00. The normal admission price is $5.00 per person.

The girls first stopped to see the lions, Billie’s favorite animal. Next, they visited the bears that were sleeping in the shade. They also watched the monkeys playing in the trees.

After getting their lunch and an ice cream cone for a snack, the girls went to the reptile house and saw the snakes. They thought they would be afraid, but they felt very safe in the reptile house.

The entire class had a great time at the zoo. Billie and Kristin could go to the zoo everyday because they love to be near the animals!

14. Which paragraph tells what Billie and Kristin had for a snack?
   A. paragraph 1
   B. paragraph 2
   C. paragraph 3
   D. paragraph 4

15. What did Billie and Kristin see last at the zoo?
   A. rabbits
   B. lions
   C. monkeys
   D. reptiles

16. A zoo is:
   A. a place for only children
   B. a place to see animals
   C. a place for only birds
   D. a place for only snakes
17. If Billie and Kristin want to find more information about a zoo, where should they look?
   A. a roadmap
   B. the newspaper
   C. a book entitled *Zoo Animals*
   D. a book entitled *Farm Animals*

---

*Read the following selection. Then answer the following questions.*

**The Many Colors of Clouds**

Clouds can be **different** colors. Some clouds look darker than other clouds. Sunlight passes easily through thin clouds, so they appear very white. Light cannot easily pass through thick clouds. These clouds look gray or dark. Clouds can be other colors, too. Dust in the air can make the clouds look red.

18. The story above was written to:
   A. explain the different colors of clouds
   B. explain how lightning happens
   C. describe thunderstorms
   D. explain how clouds create rain

19. Which would be the **BEST** summary of the story above?
   A. Clouds can be many different colors.
   B. Some clouds look darker than other clouds.
   C. Dust in the air can make the clouds look red.
   D. Light passes through thick clouds.

20. Which word means the **OPPOSITE** of the word “**different**?”
   A. unequal
   B. alike
   C. strange
   D. unlike
Read the following selection. Then answer questions 21 through 27.

Rick and His Grandfather

Rick had been waiting for two weeks, and today was finally the day! Rick and his grandfather went fishing. They had a great time! They went to a small lake near Rick’s home, and they fished in the boat all day.

Rick’s mom had packed a lunch for Rick and his grandfather. They ate lunch in the boat. Rick’s mom had packed hotdogs, chips, and sodas.

Rick caught three fish, and his grandfather caught six fish. When they got home, the whole family had fish for dinner. After a long day in the boat, Rick and his grandfather were ready for a good night of rest.

21. What did Rick and his grandfather eat for lunch?
   A. sandwiches, chips, and sodas
   B. cookies, hotdogs, and fries
   C. hamburgers, fries, and sodas
   D. hotdogs, chips, and sodas

22. How are Rick and his grandfather alike?
   A. They are about the same age.
   B. They both like to fish.
   C. They both dislike baseball.
   D. They are not alike.

23. How many fish did Rick’s grandfather catch?
   A. two
   B. six
   C. four
   D. none

24. How did Rick and his grandfather feel after going fishing?
   A. mad
   B. sad
   C. tired
   D. hungry
25. Rick will probably:
   A. never go fishing again
   B. go fishing again with his grandfather
   C. want to fish alone
   D. be afraid of fish

26. Based on the story, what do you think is Rick’s favorite thing to do?
   A. read books
   B. watch TV
   C. fish
   D. ride his bike

27. Why did Rick’s family have fish for dinner?
   A. Dad wanted to eat fish sticks.
   B. They wanted to cook the fish that was caught by Rick and his grandfather.
   C. Mom purchased fish from the fish market.
   D. Rick’s brother really loves fish.

28. How are Picture A and Picture B alike?
   A. They are both pictures of food.
   B. They are both pictures of hotdogs.
   C. They are both pictures of forks.
   D. The pictures are not alike.
Read the following selection. Then answer questions 29 through 31.

Teddy is Missing

Chloe lost her favorite stuffed animal. When she woke up Wednesday morning, it was nowhere to be found. She looked everywhere, but she could not find it.

Chloe thought that maybe one of her twin sisters had taken “Teddy.” She looked in their room, but she still could not find it.

Chloe’s room was a mess, so her mother asked her to clean it. As Chloe was cleaning on Saturday morning, she found her stuffed animal under the bed. She was so happy!

29. In which paragraph do we learn that Chloe has twin sisters?
A. paragraph 1
B. paragraph 2
C. paragraph 3
D. Chloe does not have twin sisters.

30. What happened when Chloe cleaned her room?
A. She found Teddy.
B. She did not find Teddy.
C. She made her mother happy.
D. Her mother gave her some money.

31. Why did the writer write this story?
A. to inform you
B. to entertain you
C. to teach you
D. to make you sad
Read the following selection. Then answer questions 32 through 34.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnson

Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are my neighbors. They moved from Michigan a few years ago. Mr. Johnson is a manager with a large company that makes cars in a neighboring town.

My family and I live in the country. Mr. Johnson said he moved to the neighborhood to get away from the city.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnson travel about once a month. When they are away, I water and feed their pet dogs. In addition to paying me for taking care of the pets, the Johnson’s always bring me back a gift from their travels. They have brought me gifts from as far away as Hawaii and Africa.

I like Mr. and Mrs. Johnson a lot, and I am glad they are my neighbors!

32. What would be another good title for this story?
   A. My Neighbors
   B. A Car Making Company
   C. They Moved From Michigan
   D. My Job Feeding the Dogs

33. What state did Mr. and Mrs. Johnson live in before they moved to the country?
   A. Memphis
   B. Indianapolis
   C. Michigan
   D. Florida

34. Why does the author feed and water the Johnson’s pets?
   A. The Johnson’s travel a lot.
   B. The Johnson’s don’t like to feed their animals.
   C. The Johnson’s moved from Michigan.
   D. The Johnson’s work in another town.
35. Which line has the correct alphabetical order?
   A. fish, gold, happy, item
   B. fold, fish, finger, forest
   C. forest, fold, fish, finger
   D. fish, happy, gold, item

36. Between which two words would you find marble in the dictionary?
   A. mall – mail
   B. may – muddy
   C. me – mile
   D. made – marine

37. John’s teacher, Ms. Willis, was voted Teacher of the Year last year. John is excited about being in Ms. Willis’ class this year.

Why do you think John is excited about being in Ms. Willis’ class?

   A. Ms. Willis taught John’s brother.
   B. Ms. Willis is a good teacher.
   C. Ms. Willis’ tests are easy.
   D. Ms. Willis has a pleasant smile.

38. As soon as Chris turns on the TV, he flips through the channels looking for a baseball game. He also has a large collection of autographs from professional athletes.

   Chris must be a _______ fan.

   A. TV
   B. sports
   C. sitcom
   D. baseball player
The Emerald Necklace

Joan slipped into her Aunt Wilma’s room. She walked over to the dresser. She looked around the room and then quickly opened the jewelry box. She pulled out a beautiful emerald necklace.

She closed her eyes and dreamed of wearing the necklace. She imagined herself at a party in a fancy dress. She could almost hear the music and the laughter from the guests at the party.

Aunt Wilma was now standing in her bedroom doorway. She could remember being Joan’s age and doing the same thing when the necklace belonged to her Aunt Rose.

“Someday, Joan, that necklace will belong to you,” said Aunt Wilma. Joan opened her eyes and was surprised to see Aunt Wilma watching her.

39. Which paragraph explains that Joan was surprised to see her Aunt Wilma watching her?
   A. paragraph 2
   B. paragraph 3
   C. paragraph 1
   D. paragraph 4

40. What happened right after Joan walked over to the dresser?
   A. She looked around the room.
   B. She went into Aunt Wilma’s room.
   C. She looked at the emerald necklace.
   D. She closed her eyes.

41. What is the BEST summary of this story?
   A. Aunt Rose loved her emerald necklace.
   B. Joan loves the emerald necklace.
   C. Aunt Wilma is Joan’s grandmother.
   D. Joan goes to a party.
Making a Birthday Cake

Lisa wants to make a birthday cake for her mother. First, she gets out the flour, sugar, eggs, and milk. Next, she preheats the oven to 350°. Then, she greases the cake pan. Next, she mixes the flour, sugar, eggs, and milk and pours the batter into her pan. Finally, she puts the cake in the oven to bake for 30 minutes.

42. What is the BEST summary for this story?
   A. Lisa plans a birthday party.
   B. Lisa loves her mom.
   C. Lisa bakes a birthday cake.
   D. Lisa buys her mom a birthday present.

43. What does Lisa do right after she gets out the flour, sugar, eggs, and milk?
   A. She preheats the oven.
   B. She greases the pan.
   C. She mixes the batter.
   D. She bakes the cake.

44. What does Lisa do after she greases the cake pan?
   A. She mixes the flour, sugar, eggs, and milk together.
   B. She preheats the oven.
   C. She bakes the cake.
   D. She dusts the pan with flour.