Read the fable. Then answer the questions that follow.

The Fox and the Crow

a fable by Aesop

retold by Hilary Dumitrescu

1 “My goodness, but I am hungry!” said Crow, who was sitting on a fence near the market. Just then, she noticed a farmer drop some cheese out of his bag. Crow saw her chance. She swooped down and grabbed the large chunk of cheese in her beak. Taking her prize to a high tree branch, she settled down to have her snack.

2 Just at that moment, Fox strolled by. Suddenly, a delicious smell reached his nose. He sniffed high and low to find where the smell was coming from. Finally, he spied the crow on her perch. He spotted the huge chunk of cheese she had, and wished to have it for himself.

3 Now, like most foxes, Fox was not a good tree climber. But he was very clever. He quickly crafted a plan.

4 “Heavens, is there any bird lovelier than Crow?” said Fox, in a voice loud enough for Crow to hear. She paused her cheese nibbling and peered down at Fox. He pretended not to see her.

5 “I mean, those beautiful feathers—they are as black as the darkest night. The light sparkles off of them like stars. Her eyes are like two pieces of shining onyx. Truly, she is the Queen of the Birds.” Fox sighed loudly and leaned against the tree. He put his paw over his heart.

6 Now Fox had Crow’s full attention. She shifted herself on the branch, nearly dropping her cheese. She grabbed it again. Holding tightly to her snack, she continued to listen.

7 “I wonder,” said Fox, stealing a quick glance up at Crow, “if Crow’s voice is as beautiful as her feathers?” Crow’s eyes widened. Of course I can sing, she thought. Why, I have a lovely voice. She cleared her throat as best she could with the huge chunk of cheese in her beak.

8 Fox yawned. He pretended he was going to take a nap. He curled up under the tree. He tucked his long bushy tail up around his front paws. “Surely not. It wouldn’t be fair to have such beautiful feathers, beautiful eyes, and a beautiful voice, would it?” Fox tempted. He settled his head onto his tail. “I doubt she can sing at all.”
9 Hearing this, Crow sat up straight, ruffled her feathers, spat out the piece of cheese, and began to squawk loudly. The cheese sailed down out of the tree and dropped right in front of Fox. Chuckling to himself, Fox picked up the piece of cheese and gobbled it up.

10 “Ah, poor Crow, I see I was right,” laughed Fox with a full mouth. Crow stopped her singing and stared sadly down, thinking of her lost cheese. “Your voice is not quite as lovely as your feathers!”

11 Fox got up and had a good long stretch. He started to walk away. Before leaving, he stopped and looked up once more at Crow. “But you are better at singing, Crow, than you are at being clever!”

12 And with that, he scampered off into the forest, flashing his bright red tail behind him.

13 [Moral: Only fools fall for fake compliments.]

1 What is the main problem in the beginning scenes of the story?

A Fox wants the cheese that Crow has.

B A farmer drops food from his bag.

C Fox is not good at climbing trees.

D Crow wants to show off for Fox.

2 Read this sentence from the story.

Just at that moment, Fox strolled by.

What does the word “strolled” mean?

A hid, trying not to be seen

B tried to take something away

C walked in an unhurried way

D ran quickly, as if being chased
3 Which phrase from paragraph 1 helps you understand the meaning of “noticed”?

A “sitting on a fence”
B “near the market”
C “saw her chance”
D “swooped down”

4 Read these sentences from paragraph 5.

Fox sighed loudly and leaned against the tree. He put his paw over his heart.

Why does Fox act this way?

A He is mad that he can’t climb the tree.
B He wants Crow to know he likes her.
C He is tired from trying to get the cheese.
D He wants Crow to believe what he says.

5 Which sentence from the story shows that Crow finally believes the things Fox says about her?

A “Taking her prize to a high tree branch, she settled down to have her snack.”
B “Holding tightly to her snack, she continued to listen.”
C “Hearing this, Crow sat up straight, ruffled her feathers, spat out the piece of cheese, and began to squawk loudly.”
D “Crow stopped her singing and stared sadly down, thinking of her lost cheese.”
6. Why is Fox looking away from Crow while he talks to her in the picture?
   A. He cannot see that Crow is sitting in the tree with the cheese.
   B. He wants Crow to think that he does not know she is in the tree.
   C. He knows Crow is about to drop the cheese and wants to be ready.
   D. He wants Crow to fly down to the ground to talk to him.

7. Which of these best retells what happens in the story?
   A. A farmer drops a chunk of cheese, and Crow picks it up. Fox wants the cheese. He tricks Crow into dropping the cheese and then eats it.
   B. Fox sees Crow with a big piece of cheese. He tells Crow that she has beautiful eyes and feathers. Then he wonders if her voice is also beautiful.
   C. Crow is hungry. She sees a farmer drop a piece of cheese. She takes the cheese high into a tree. Fox praises her, so she gives him the cheese.
   D. Fox smells a tasty piece of cheese. He asks Crow for some of the cheese, but she is selfish. When Crow drops the cheese, Fox runs away with it.
Read the passage. Then answer the questions that follow.

The Mounds of Cahokia

by E. D. Mayor, Appleseeds

1 The year was 1150. The chief stepped out of his huge thatched house into the chilly
dawn air. His 50-foot-tall house was built atop a terraced, flat-topped mound, 100 feet high.
The mound covered 14 acres. The chief looked down upon his city of 20,000 people.

2 Small thatch-roofed houses were in neat rows near the chief’s mound and a large central
plaza. Pathways connected neighborhoods, markets, and other, smaller plazas. Grain-storage
buildings, sweat lodges, and other ceremonial huts were used by different people. Around the
center of the city was a two-mile-long wall, 15 feet high, made of nearly 20,000 log poles. Every
70 feet there was a watchtower. Other, smaller mounds were scattered around the city.

3 Beyond the houses were fields. There, the people grew corn, squash, pumpkins,
sunflowers, and other crops.

4 The chief saw fires being lit in front of the houses as the villagers began their day. A
mother boiled chunks of pumpkin and spices for breakfast. Days earlier, she had sliced the
pumpkin into rings, using a knife made of obsidian (volcanic glass). Since then, the pumpkin
rings had been hanging on a stick, drying in the sun. Now she mixed water and ground corn
together in a clay pot and began to make flat corn cakes.

5 From his high platform, the chief could see the sun calendar, made of 48 log poles
standing in a ring. At the center of the ring stood another pole. From their calendar, the
people could tell the seasons and important ceremonial dates. The time was drawing near for
the ceremony of the fall equinox, when day and night are the same length.

6 Today, we call this place Cahokia (ka-HOE-key-ah). Cahokia lies across the Mississippi
River from St. Louis, Missouri. Today, we call the high chief’s mound Monks Mound. It is the
largest Indian mound north of Mexico, and the largest ancient earth construction on this
continent. More than 22 million cubic feet of earth was moved for the mound construction.
The soil was carried one basketful at a time on people’s backs.

7 Smaller mounds—120 of them—dot Cahokia. These
smaller mounds were used for religious worship, burials, and
homes for the wealthy. In one mound, the body of an
important ruler was laid on a blanket decorated with more
than 20,000 seashells. From the shells, scientists learned that
the people of Cahokia traded with other Indians who lived
near the ocean.

abandoned: left suddenly
ceremony: formal celebration
terraced: carved into steps
thatch: dried grasses
Scientists have been studying Cahokia for many years, and they have learned a lot. But some mysteries remain. After being alive and well for nearly 700 years, why was the great city abandoned? What did the Indians call themselves? Will you be the one to find the answers?

8 What was made of 48 poles standing in a ring?
   A the watchtower
   B the sun calendar
   C Monks Mound
   D the central plaza

9 What information does the sidebar give you?
   A types of foods grown
   B directions to Mississippi
   C sizes of the mounds
   D meanings of words

10 Read this sentence from the passage.
   More than 22 million cubic feet of earth was moved for the mound construction.
   In this sentence, what does the word “construction” most likely mean?
   A choosing
   B planning
   C changing
   D building
11 With which idea would the author agree?
A There’s someone alive who knows where the Cahokia went.
B The Cahokia probably used machines to build the mounds.
C Some people still want to know what happened to the Cahokia.
D The Cahokia could not really tell the date just by watching the sun.

12 Read this sentence from the passage.

In one mound, the body of an important ruler was laid on a blanket decorated with more than 20,000 seashells.

What does the word “decorated” mean in this sentence?
A made beautiful
B set out to sea
C kept safe
D carried off

13 What is the meaning of the word “ceremony” in the passage?
A formal celebration
B dried grasses
C carved into steps
D left suddenly
Read the stories. Then answer the questions that follow.

Jake and Robert View the Eclipse

by Krista O’Connell

1 “Hey, did you ever hear of a solar eclipse? I overheard my dad say this morning one is going to happen next week,” Jake said. He and his best friend, Robert, were doing homework together.


3 Jake looked at the computer. “You think we could look it up on the Internet?” Solar eclipses seemed a lot more interesting than multiplication problems.

4 Robert laughed, rolling his eyes at Jake’s idea. “Probably. Why not, right? But then we have to get these done!”

5 The two closed their books and sat down at the computer, and Jake began to tap at the keyboard. A quick search for “solar eclipse” gave them a list of websites. “This one’s called ‘Solar Eclipse Myths and Legends.’ Let’s try it,” Jake said cheerily. But the cheer soon began to disappear as the boys read further down the screen, their mouths opening a little wider with each word. “It says here the sky will get dark in the middle of the day. That sounds freaky!” Jake said.

6 “And some people think they happen because ‘an unseen dragon eats the sun,’” Robert added.

7 “Oh man, check this out, Robert. It says you can go blind if you look at the eclipse!” Jake pointed to the words on the screen, shivering a little at the thought. Both boys shook their heads, as if to shake out the creepy thoughts. “I don’t think I want to read any more about this. Let’s go do our homework,” Jake suggested.

8 Jake and Robert didn’t talk about the eclipse again that evening. They didn’t mention it the following day, or the next, or the day after that, but they both looked up into the sky more than usual. When the day of the eclipse arrived, the two friends walked to school as fast as possible, eager to get inside the building.

9 Ms. Kwan stood in front of the class, wearing a calm smile. Maybe she doesn’t know about the eclipse, Jake thought as he took his seat.

10 “Something very exciting is going to happen in the sky today. Does anyone know what it is?” Ms. Kwan asked.

Go On
“The sun is going to disappear because a dragon is going to eat it!” Robert blurted out.

“And if we look at it, we’ll go blind!” Jake said anxiously. The whole class buzzed with excitement. Some people giggled, but others looked worried. Could what Robert and Jake said be true?

“Calm down, class. The sun is going to disappear for a few minutes, that’s true. But there is no reason to be scared. An eclipse happens when the moon passes in between the earth and the sun.” She turned to the board and showed them a model of the sun, moon, and earth, all lined up in a row.

Ms. Kwan turned to the class. “It’s true, looking directly at an eclipse can harm your eyes,” she said. “So we’re going to make special pinhole viewers.” Ms. Kwan passed around sheets of cardboard. Everyone got two pieces. “Punch a small hole in one sheet of cardboard. When the eclipse happens, you’ll point that sheet at the sun. Then you’ll watch the eclipse in the shadow it makes on the second sheet.”

At precisely 10:05, the class headed outside with their pinhole viewers, forming a line with their backs to the sun. Then they held the sheet with the hole in it up to cast a shadow on the sheet on the ground and waited. Suddenly, the sky began to darken and birds stopped chirping. Jake and Robert watched as the image of the sun on their viewers started to shrink!

“I told you there was nothing to worry about,” Jake smiled over at his friend.

“No way! I told you!” Robert laughed. It was a pretty cool eclipse, after all.
“Wait up!” Robert said, hurrying along the forest path.

Jake stopped for a moment, letting his eyes adjust to the semi-darkness around him. Thankfully, there was plenty of moonlight. “You’re too slow,” he called. “Hurry up!”

“No, you’re too fast,” Robert replied with a smile. “Slow down!” This was a regular joke between the two boys. They had been friends for as long as either could remember. And they were as different as they could be.

But this evening, Jake wasn’t in the mood for joking. They were completing the final test for their summer nature camp. They had to find the North Star and follow it until they came to an open field. The counselors would be waiting for them beside a toasty warm campfire. Each of the boys wore a whistle. If either blew the whistle, it would be a signal they were lost.
Robert was calm. He had spent lots of time hiking, even at night. But his friend was in a rush and getting worried. This was Jake’s first time out of the city. He wanted to get to the safety of the campfire as quickly as he could. “I’m going to blow my whistle. What were they thinking letting us wander around the woods alone at night?” Jake griped, standing close to Robert.

“Take it easy!” Robert patted Jake on the back. “We just have to use what we learned. Let’s break it down into steps. We can do this!”

Jake took a deep breath. “Okay, okay. I guess we’re not in any danger yet. First things first, find the Big Dipper,” Jake said. The two boys stood still and looked up. For a moment, they forgot about their task and stood in awe of the sight. Away from the lights of the city, the black sky was bursting with stars.

But soon the boys remembered their job and began searching for the stars that formed the Big Dipper. “There!” Robert shouted, pointing his finger at a patch of stars.

Jake looked up to where Robert was pointing. He smiled when he saw a familiar shape among the tangle of stars. “Okay, let’s go,” Jake said, and started walking quickly away from their spot in the forest.

Robert grabbed his shoulder. “Wait, let’s take our time. We want to be sure we get it right,” Robert said, shaking his head. Jake was always jumping into things too fast. “What’s the next step?”

Jake sighed. “I guess you’re right. Okay, the next thing is to find the two stars at the end of the Big Dipper, on the side of the cup across from the handle,” Robert said.

“There they are,” Jake said. He pointed to the picture, and then up into the sky.

“Now, we just have to imagine a line connecting the stars. The end of the line should point to the North Star,” Robert recalled. They soon saw the star that shone brighter than many of the others around it. They began walking toward it, hoping their decision was the right one.

They didn’t have to travel far. Within minutes, they could see the warm glow of a campfire through the trees. When they proceeded into the clearing, everyone clapped and cheered. “Told you we wouldn’t need the whistle,” Robert told Jake with a grin and a friendly whack on the back.

“I guess you were right…for once,” Jake said, smiling. He was proud that he hadn’t given up and blown the whistle. As the friends walked toward the fire, they knew they would remember how those stars had helped them find their way, long after they returned home.
14 In “Jake and Robert View the Eclipse,” how do Jake and Robert feel about the eclipse before seeing it?

A angry
B worried
C sad
D bored

15 Why do readers know both Jake and Robert’s feelings in “Jake and Robert View the Eclipse”?

A because a classmate tells Jake and Robert’s story
B because the reader is a character in the story
C because a storyteller, not a character, tells the story
D because Jake and Robert take turns telling the story

16 Read the sentence from “Jake and Robert View the Eclipse.”

The sun is going to disappear for a few minutes, that’s true.

What does the word “disappear” suggest about what will happen to the sun?

A It will pass out of sight.
B It will come back into sight.
C It will stay within sight.
D It will always be in sight.
17 In “Jake and Robert View the Eclipse,” what does Ms. Kwan tell the class about what actually happens during a solar eclipse?

A  The earth passes between the moon and the sun.
B  The sun is at its highest point in the sky.
C  The sun is at its lowest point in the sky.
D  The moon passes in between the earth and the sun.

18 Read this sentence from “Jake and Robert View the Eclipse.”

Suddenly, the sky began to darken and birds stopped chirping.

What does the word “suddenly” tell you about the events in the sentence?

A  They happened outside.
B  They happened at night.
C  They happened slowly.
D  They happened quickly.

19 Read this retelling of “Jake and Robert View the Eclipse.”

Jake and Robert read about solar eclipses on the Internet. At school, the boys build pinhole viewers.

Which of these best completes the retelling?

A  They badly hurt their eyes.
B  They safely enjoy watching the eclipse.
C  They easily pass a quiz on eclipses.
D  They fall asleep and miss the eclipse.
20 How does the picture in “Following the Stars” help readers better understand the story?

A  It shows that Jake is walking much faster than Robert.
B  It shows how far the boys had to walk to find the camp.
C  It shows what Jake and Robert saw in the sky that night.
D  It shows how Jake and Robert feel during the test.

21 Which sentence from “Following the Stars” tells what Jake and Robert must do for their final test at camp?

A  “Jake stopped for a moment, letting his eyes adjust to the semi-darkness around him.”
B  “They were completing the final test for their summer nature camp.”
C  “They had to find the North Star and follow it until they came to an open field.”
D  “Within minutes, they could see the warm glow of a campfire through the trees.”

22 Why does Robert grab Jake’s shoulder in paragraph 10 of “Following the Stars”?

A  to stop Jake from walking into a clump of poison ivy
B  to slow down and carefully find the North Star
C  to blow the whistle to let everyone know they are lost
D  to make Jake leave him alone in the woods
23 Read the sentence from “Following the Stars.”

When they proceeded into the clearing, everyone clapped and cheered.

The root word “clear” means “free” or “open.” What is a clearing?
A a place with lots of trees
B a place where people can hike
C a place that has no trees
D a place that is lit by moonlight

24 Which sentence best begins a retelling of “Following the Stars”?
A Jake and Robert are taking their final test at summer nature camp.
B Jake and Robert find the Big Dipper and the North Star.
C Jake and Robert proudly walk into the clearing following the stars.
D Robert is calm, but Jake is worried about passing the final test.

25 How are the events in the two stories different?
A In one story, the main characters learn about science from their teacher. In the other story, the main characters enjoy science alone together.
B In one story, the main characters ask their parents for help with their school work. In the other story, they ask their teacher for help.
C In one story, the main characters get excited when they learn about science. In the other story, they get bored when they learn about science.
D In one story, the main characters have to hide from a dragon. In the other story, they get lost in the woods during a camping trip.
26 What is **different** about the settings in the two stories?
A One takes place in Jake’s room, and the other takes place at school.
B One takes place during the day, and the other takes place at night.
C One takes place in a forest, and the other takes place in a big city.
D One takes place in winter, and the other takes place in summer.

27 What message do both stories share?
A Never go hiking in the forest alone at night.
B Don’t believe everything you read on the Internet.
C Knowing about stars and eclipses can save your life.
D Learning about science can be fun and useful.
This is a rough draft of a report. It has some mistakes. Read the report. Then answer the questions that follow.

Hilda Conkling

Born in 1910, Hilda Conkling was a child poet. She was just four years old when she made up her first poems. Hilda was too young to write, her mother wrote down Hilda’s words. The young poet came up with most of her poems between the ages of four and ten.

When Hilda was eight years old, her mother sent her poems to magazines. The poems were printed in 1919. Hilda’s first book of poems was *Poems By A Little Girl*. It was published in 1920 when Hilda was ten years old.

The girl had real talent. Everyone who read the book was amazed by the poems. One famous poet of the time said The oldest poet in the world could not improve upon them.”

When Hilda became a teenager, her mother stop writing down poems for her. Then Hilda wrote fewer and fewer poems. She no longer wrote any poems at all by the time she started high school.
28 Read this sentence from the report.

She was just four years old when she make up her first poems.

Which word should replace the underlined verb to make the sentence correct?
A maked
B mades
C made
D making

29 Read this sentence from the report.

Hilda was too young to write, her mother wrote down Hilda’s words.

How can the underlined part of the sentence be changed to create a compound sentence?
A write her
B write, so her
C write. Her
D correct as is

30 Read this sentence from the report.

Her first book of poems was Poems By A Little Girl.

How should the title be written?
A Poems by a Little Girl
B Poems By A little Girl
C Poems by a Little girl
D poems by a little girl
31 Read this sentence from the report.

The girl had real talent.

Which word best replaces the underlined noun?
A  pride
B  beauty
C  courage
D  skill

32 Read this sentence from the report.

One famous poet of the time said The oldest poet in the world could not improve upon them.”

Which of the following should replace the underlined part to make the sentence correct?
A  said, “The
B  said “The
C  said, The
D  said the

33 Read this sentence from the report.

When Hilda became a teenager, her mother stop writing down poems for her.

What is the correct spelling of the underlined verb combined with the suffix-ed?
A  stoped
B  stopped
C  stopied
D  stoppied
Read the passage. Then answer the questions that follow.

The Monarch Butterfly

by Luis Mendoza

1. Monarch butterflies start out as eggs. A female butterfly lays about 400 eggs. She lays each egg on the leaf of a milkweed plant. In about four days, the eggs hatch. They become tiny caterpillars. They are yellow, black, and white striped.

2. The caterpillars eat milkweed leaves. Milkweed is poisonous to most animals. It is not poisonous to the caterpillars. By eating milkweed, the caterpillars become poisonous. Birds do not eat the caterpillars. The birds would get sick if they did.

3. Caterpillars eat constantly. They double their weight in one day. They grow and grow. Their weight increases about 2,700 times. When the caterpillar is about two inches long, it stops eating.

4. The caterpillar has lived all its life on milkweed plants. Now it leaves the plants. It finds a safe branch. It hangs from the branch. It looks like the letter J. Soon, it molts, or loses its skin. It now looks like a green pod. The new skin dries and hardens. It gets gold spots. The caterpillar is now called a chrysalis. Its body is changing. In about 12 days, a damp butterfly comes out.

5. The new butterfly rests in the sun. It takes hours for its wings to dry. Finally, it flies. It does not grow anymore. It eats only liquids, called nectar, from flowers. The adult monarch has bright orange wings. The wings have black lines and edges. It’s easy to tell a male from a female. The male has two dark spots on its wings. The black lines in the female are thicker.

6. Like some birds, monarch butterflies fly south for the winter. They are the only butterflies to migrate. Some travel 2,000 miles in three months. In the fall, cool weather tells them to go south. Monarch butterflies from all over the United States and Canada fly through Texas. They go to Mexico. They arrive there in November. They stay in Mexico all winter.

7. The butterflies rest on fir trees. Each butterfly hangs upside down. Its wings cover another upside-down butterfly. In this way, the butterflies stack themselves. Imagine stacking upside-down V’s into a tower. This is how the monarchs live all winter.
In March, the butterflies go north. Millions of butterflies leave the trees and darken the skies. Flying close together, they form huge butterfly clouds. The butterflies fly at speeds of up to 30 miles per hour! They want to get north where there is milkweed. There they can lay their eggs.

Monarch butterflies travel through Texas twice a year. They arrive in the fall and spring. The butterflies use two routes. One route is a central route. The other is along the coast. The butterflies that use the central route are from states between the Rocky Mountains and the Mississippi River. The butterflies that take the route along the coast are from states that are east of the Mississippi River.

34 In paragraph 2, what does the word “poisonous” mean?
A. leafy and green
B. causes sickness
C. helps with growth
D. bad tasting

35 What do readers learn about the chrysalis from the passage and the illustration?
A. that it is eaten by caterpillars
B. that it is larger than a butterfly
C. that it can climb onto a branch
D. that it looks like a small pod

36 What do adult monarch butterflies eat?
A. green pods
B. fir trees
C. milkweed
D. flower nectar
37 How do Monarch butterflies know it is time to fly south?
A  They follow flocks of birds that fly south, too.
B  All of the milkweed plants begin to die.
C  Cool fall weather tells them when to go.
D  They fly south with other kinds of butterflies.

38 The diagram below shows some of the stages of the life of a butterfly.

The Life of a Monarch Butterfly

A monarch butterfly begins as a tiny egg.  It becomes a hungry caterpillar.  Next, it turns into a chrysalis.

Which of these belongs in the empty box?
A  The female butterfly lays hundreds of eggs.
B  The chrysalis looks like a green pod.
C  Finally, it becomes an adult butterfly.
D  The new butterfly waits for its wings to dry.
39. How are the paragraphs in this passage **mainly** organized?
   A. They show the order of events in the lives of monarch butterflies.
   B. They show the reader how interesting monarch butterflies are.
   C. They explain the effects of the actions of monarch butterflies.
   D. They explain how fast and how far monarch butterflies can fly.

40. How does the illustration of the egg, caterpillar, chrysalis, and adult butterfly help readers better understand the passage?
   A. It shows how big adult butterflies can get.
   B. It shows how a butterfly changes during its life.
   C. It shows how long it takes for an egg to become a butterfly.
   D. It shows how many eggs each adult butterfly lays.
Read the poem. Then answer the questions that follow.

The Cow

from A Child’s Garden of Verses by Robert Louis Stevenson,
published by Charles Scribner’s Sons, 1885

The friendly cow all red and white,
I love with all my heart:
She gives me cream with all her might,
To eat with apple-tart.

5 She wanders lowing here and there,
And yet she cannot stray,
All in the pleasant open air,
The pleasant light of day;
And blown by all the winds that pass

10 And wet with all the showers,
She walks among the meadow grass
And eats the meadow flowers.
41 Based on the poem, who will eat the apple tart?
A the cow
B the reader
C the flowers
D the speaker

42 Read these lines from the poem.

She wanders lowing here and there,
And yet she cannot stray

What is the meaning of the word “stray” as it is used in these lines?
A become wild
B fall down
C run away
D eat too much

43 Which words from the poem help you know that the cow lives outside?
A “The friendly cow all red and white”
B “She gives me cream with all her might”
C “She wanders lowing here and there”
D “And blown by all the winds that pass”
44 What does the cow do in the third stanza of the poem?
A The cow runs away from her home in the meadow.
B The cow feels the wind and rain, and eats flowers.
C The cow runs out of cream, and begins to eat a tart.
D The cow comes inside out of the wind and the rain.

45 What is the main message of “The Cow”?
A People can care deeply for animals.
B Animals such as cows belong outside.
C It’s good to take care of yourself.
D The best things in life are free.
Read the passages. Then answer the questions that follow.

This Tiny House
by Alexis Morton

1. Gregory Johnson lives in a house so tiny that he can pull it from place to place with a pickup truck. It looks like a regular two-story house made of wood. But it’s much, much smaller.

2. Gregory takes two steps inside the front door. This is his kitchen. This is also his dining room, living room, and study—all in one small area.

3. On one side, he has a sink and a small cooking surface. There is also a small refrigerator. When Gregory turns around, without taking a step, he is in the “main room.”

4. Gregory pulls out a board to create a table and opens a folding chair. Here, he eats his meals or uses his laptop computer. When he is finished, he slides the board into a slot and tucks the chair away. That’s important, because when the table and chair are set up, he has no room to walk.
5 When Gregory wants to sleep, he climbs a ladder to the loft above. The loft has just enough room for a mattress and a few clothes.

6 “I don’t spend much time here, so I don’t need a lot of things. I use the services in my community. I borrow books from the library. I go to the gym to exercise. I watch movies on my laptop. And I spend time with my friends outdoors.”

7 Living in a small house saves money. Gregory’s house uses very little energy for heating or cooling. This is just one way that Gregory practices energy conservation. And when he goes shopping, he never buys more than he needs. There is no room for clutter.

8 But one thing is missing. There is no bathroom! Lucky for Gregory, his house sits in his parents’ driveway. They let him use their bathroom and shower.

9 Why would someone build a house without a bathroom?

10 Gregory says, “People who build tiny houses often park them together in a community. They share a bathhouse, where they use the bathrooms and take showers. They wash their clothes in a shared laundry. They exercise in a shared gym. And they meet, talk, and eat together in a shared community room. By sharing, they save money and get to know their neighbors.”

11 Gregory thinks a tiny house community would be a wonderful place to live. What do you think?

First Steps for Building a Tiny House

1. Choose a house plan, or map for building, for the kind of house you want.
2. Clear the space on which you will build, and make sure the ground is even.
3. Buy all the building materials, and bring them to the building site.
4. Begin building the floor by nailing together a wooden frame and nailing wood beams inside the frame.
5. Then nail a sheet of plywood (thin layers of wood glued together) over the beams to make a floor.
6. Put together the frames for the walls, leaving open spaces for the door and windows.
7. For a flat roof, build a frame and cover it just as you did for the floor.
8. Cover the wall frames with plywood, and nail tarpaper (a very heavy, waterproof paper) over the outside of the plywood to seal it.
9. Nail tarpaper over the roof board to seal it.

Now you’re ready to add windows and a door and make all the finishing touches to your new house!
A Farmhouse on the Prairie

by Lucille Pipho Kramer

1 In the early 1900s, my family bought a farm in Iowa. Eight of us—six children, Mom, and Dad—lived in a big farmhouse. There were three bedrooms upstairs: one for our parents, one for the boys, and one for the girls. Our neighbors were a long way down the road, and the nearest town was a mile away.

Electricity!

2 We were luckier than many families, because we had electricity. The electric water pump and the well were in a small building north of the house. Instead of pumping water by hand, all we had to do was flip on a switch. Since we didn’t have a refrigerator, we kept our butter and milk cold in a small cellar below the pump.

3 Experiments with electricity go back at least to Benjamin Franklin in the mid 1700s. But using electricity was not common. In the early 1900s, electric lights were usually found only in factories and businesses. Homes that had electricity were mostly in cities.

Heating and Cooking

4 Our main source of heat was a huge, wood-burning cook stove in the kitchen. On top was a warming oven where Mom would let bread dough rise. She used the main oven to cook and bake. But we also opened the door to dry mittens and boots or to warm baby pigs or sheep that had gotten chilled.

5 We also had a round stove in the dining room that burned wood and coal. On a cold day, we’d stand next to the stove to soak up the heat. If we faced the stove, we would be warm on the front, but our backsides would be freezing!

Personal Care

6 We washed all of our clothes by hand in water that Mom heated on the stove. To dry our clothes, we hung them on a line outside. In the winter, they would freeze almost instantly, and so would our hands.
When we had to use the bathroom, we went outside to the outhouse. The outhouse was a little wood building that sat over a deep pit in the ground.

Every Saturday night was bath night. Our bathtub was a large, round washtub that sat on the floor in the kitchen. My mother would heat water on the stove in a large metal pail. After each pail of water was nice and warm, she would pour the water into the tub. She had to heat about five pails of water to fill the tub. The little kids got bathed first, then the bigger kids, and finally the adults. When everyone had had a bath, we dumped the water outside.

School

I started school in an old wooden schoolhouse in 1924. There were eight grades all in one room. When the weather was nice, my sisters and I walked a mile to get to school. There was a crossroad where we often would meet others coming from the north or south. We often walked barefoot in the nice, soft dirt. In the winter, I’d ride my horse, Nellie, to school. After school, I could just put the reins over her head, and she would take me straight home.

46 Which sentence from the passage best shows that Gregory is wise about how he uses his space?

A “This is also his dining room, living room, and study—all in one small area.”
B “Gregory pulls out a board to create a table and opens a folding chair.”
C “When Gregory wants to sleep, he climbs a ladder to the loft above.”
D “Lucky for Gregory, his house sits in his parents’ driveway.”

47 How does the photograph with “This Tiny House” help you understand the main idea of the passage?

A You can see how uncomfortable the house is.
B You can see how easily the house can be picked up.
C You can see that the house has no bathroom.
D You can see how small the house is.
48. In “This Tiny House,” how does Gregory do his shopping?
   A. He shops for everything he needs for a month at a time.
   B. He shops every day and stores food at his parents’ house.
   C. He buys only what he needs each time he shops.
   D. He buys large numbers of items to save money.

49. This chart is based on information in “This Tiny House.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cause</th>
<th>Effect</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gregory’s house uses very little energy for heating and cooling</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Which of the following belongs in the empty box?
   A. Gregory saves money.
   B. Gregory’s house gets cold.
   C. Gregory house is always dark.
   D. Gregory uses community services.

50. Based on information in the sidebar “First Steps to Building a Tiny House,” which should you do first?
   A. Make sure the ground is even.
   B. Begin building the floor.
   C. Nail tarpaper to the roof.
   D. Choose a house plan.
51  Based on the passage, how do you think the author of “This Tiny House” feels about large homes?

A  People who live in large homes are lucky.
B  A large home can be wasteful.
C  Large homes should not have bathrooms.
D  No one should have a large home.

52  Which sentence from “A Farmhouse on the Prairie” best shows that life on the farm was often hard?

A  “Eight of us—six children, Mom, and Dad—lived in a big farmhouse.”
B  “Instead of pumping water by hand, all we had to do was flip on a switch.”
C  “Our main source of heat was a huge, wood-burning cook stove in the kitchen.”
D  “In the winter, they would freeze almost instantly, and so would our hands.”

53  What does the “Fast Facts Sidebar” help you understand about “A Farmhouse on the Prairie”?

A  It shows how unusual it was to have electricity in the early 1900s.
B  It explains why people were afraid of electricity in the 1900s.
C  It points out that electricity could be used for running pumps.
D  It suggests that no one had electricity in the 1900s.
In paragraph 4 of “A Farmhouse on the Prairie,” the author writes that her family had a huge wood-burning cookstove in the kitchen. Later the author adds the following sentences.

We also had a round stove in the dining room that burned wood and coal. On a cold day, we’d stand next to the stove to soak up the heat. If we faced the stove, we would be warm on the front, but our backsides would be freezing!

What is the most likely reason the author adds these details?

A to show how the family used the two stoves differently
B to say that the round stove was better than the kitchen stove
C to show how little electricity the family actually used
D to say that the family had more stoves than they really needed

Based on “A Farmhouse on the Prairie,” what was the cook stove used for besides cooking?

A drying laundry in the winter
B warming baby pigs and sheep
C heating the outhouse
D keeping the electric pump from freezing

In “A Farmhouse on the Prairie,” what information can you find under the heading “Personal Care”?

A how the family cared for farm animals
B how members of the family washed and took care of themselves
C how members of the family cleaned and cared for the farmhouse
D how the stove and refrigerator were kept working
57 In paragraph 7 of “A Farmhouse on the Prairie,” the writer talks about the outhouse. What does “outhouse” mean?

A  a small building set against the outside of a house
B  a house with wires for electricity
C  a small building over a pit used as a bathroom
D  a large round washtub used for taking baths

58 Which sentence from “A Farmhouse on the Prairie” describes why the family all bathed on the same night?

A  “Every Saturday night was bath night.”
B  “Our bathtub was a large, round washtub that sat on the floor in the kitchen.”
C  “After each pail of water was nice and warm, she would pour the water into the tub.”
D  “She had to heat about five pails of water to fill the tub.”

59 How are the descriptions of daily life in both passages alike?

A  In both passages, people have neighbors close by.
B  In both passages, neither house has running water.
C  In both passages, neither house has room for more people.
D  In both passages, people use what they have wisely.

60 How are people who live in tiny houses like Gregory’s different from the family who lived in the farmhouse?

A  People living in tiny houses do without modern conveniences.
B  People living in tiny houses have electricity.
C  People living in tiny houses depend on their community more.
D  People living in tiny houses are happier with their lives.
This is a rough draft of a letter. It has some mistakes. Read the letter. Then answer the questions that follow.

A Letter to Emma

Dear Emma,

I’m finally here in California for summer vacation. Dad, Mom, and I arrived at Aunt Sara’s house three days ago. Her huge dog greeted us at the door.

Today we went sightseeing in the city of San Francisco. My aunt asked me what I wanted to do first. We could ride a cable car, and we could see Chinatown. I choose the cable car ride first. After Chinatown, we went to Golden Gate Park. There I saw a pair of gooses with their little ones. I had so much fun. This trip is cool than the one we took to Florida last summer.

We’ll be here for another three weeks. I’ll give you the address so that you can write to me. It’s 57 Smith Street Berkeley California 94705.

Love,

Rosa
61 Read this sentence from the letter.

Her huge dog greeted us at the door.

What does the word “greeted” tell you?
A It tells the kind of dog.
B It tells what the dog did.
C It tells where the dog was.
D It tells how the dog looked.

62 Read these sentences from the letter.

My aunt asked me what I wanted to do first. We could ride a cable car, and we could see Chinatown. I chose the cable car ride first.

Which word should replace the underlined conjunction?
A but
B so
C or
D yet

63 Read this sentence from the letter.

There I saw a pair of gooses with their little ones.

What word should the author have used to talk about more than one goose?
A geese
B goose
C goosies
D geeses
64 Read this sentence from the letter.

This trip is cool than the one we took to Florida last summer.

Which of the following is the correct way to write the sentence?
A  This trip is cooler than the one we took to Florida last summer.
B  This trip is more cooler than the one we took to Florida last summer.
C  This trip is most cooler than the one we took to Florida last summer.
D  This trip is coolest than the one we took to Florida last summer.

65 Read this sentence from the letter.

It’s 57 Smith Street Berkeley California 94705.

Which of the following should replace the underlined part to make the sentence correct?
A  57, Smith Street, Berkeley, California
B  57 Smith Street, Berkeley, California
C  57 Smith Street, Berkeley California
D  57 Smith Street Berkeley, California
Practice Test 3

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