Selection Comprehension

Choose the best answer for each question.

1. Why did the author write this passage?
   A to teach how to take care of animals
   B to persuade people to protect animals
   C to describe one special kind of animal
   D to tell ways that animals send messages

2. How can readers tell that “How Animals Talk” is nonfiction?
   F It tells events in time-order.
   G It gives true facts about a subject.
   H It tells why a person is important.
   I It has characters that must solve a problem.

3. What is MOST LIKELY happening when two bull elks crash their horns together?
   A They are showing their power.
   B They are greeting each other.
   C They are telling others where they are.
   D They are warning each other of danger.

4. How does the passage say that male deer tell other deer to stay away?
   F They howl loudly.
   G They raise their backs.
   H They rub a smell on trees.
   I They make a snorting sound.
5. Sailors used to compare the beluga whale to a canary because the canary (D) lives a long time.
   - **A** sings a sweet song.
   - **B** flies near the sea.
   - **C** has a bright color.

6. The author uses the pictures of the baby robins with their mouths open to show how robins (B) ask to be fed.
   - **F** how robins ask to be fed.
   - **G** how robins catch their food.
   - **H** what kind of food robins eat.
   - **I** how robins hide from enemies.

7. If “How Animals Talk” needed a new title, which would be **B** “What Did That Bird Say?”
   - **A** “How to Choose a Pet”
   - **C** “Let’s Visit an Animal Farm”
   - **D** “Which Animals Run the Fastest?”

8. Which event is MOST LIKELY to cause a male white-tailed deer to turn up its tail?
   - **F** getting lost
   - **G** feeling hungry
   - **H** seeing an enemy
   - **I** meeting a friend
Written Response (worth two points)

9. Explain why it is important for animals to send messages to each other. Use details and information from “How Animals Talk” to support your answer.

Sample two-point response: Animals need to be able to warn each other when they are in danger. They also need to be able to scare away their enemies, to tell each other where they are, and to show who is the strongest.
Phonics/Spelling: Diphthongs

Read each model word. Then fill in the circle next to the word that has the same sound as the underlined part of the model word and completes each sentence.

1. **toy**
   I found a _____ on the sidewalk and put it in my pocket.
   A. cloth  
   B. cookie
   C. coat
   D. coin

2. **owl**
   The _____ noise woke the baby.
   F. load
   G. loud
   H. low
   I. large

3. **join**
   Did you hear about the _____ who saved his sister’s life?
   A. bought
   B. brother
   C. boy
   D. blow

4. **proud**
   The _____ leaves on the trail crunched under our feet.
   F. brown
   G. bought
   H. bush
   I. bold

TOTAL SCORE: _____ /4
Focus Skill: Main Idea and Details

Read the passages. Then choose the best answer for each question.

Presidents’ Pets

The President and First Lady are not the only ones who live in the White House. Many Presidents bring pets into the White House. There have been some pretty unusual First Pets!

Dogs are popular pets in our country, so it is no surprise that many have lived in the White House. George W. Bush brought Spot the dog to live in the White House. When Bill Clinton was President, he had a Labrador named Buddy. He also had a cat named Socks.

Calvin Coolidge was President from 1923 to 1929. He had 12 dogs and two cats. He also had a bear, two raccoons, a bobcat, and a hippo. Most of the odd pets were gifts from other governments or groups.

1. What is the main idea of the passage?
   A. The President and First Lady live in the White House.
   B. Pets often live in the White House.
   C. Dogs are popular pets in the United States.
   D. Calvin Coolidge had many pets when he was President.

2. Which detail supports this main idea?
   Some presidents have unusual pets.
   F. Many Presidents bring pets into the White House.
   G. He also had a cat named Socks.
   H. Calvin Coolidge was President from 1923 to 1929.
   I. Calvin Coolidge also had a bear, two raccoons, a bobcat, and a hippo.
Animal Homes

Animals have different kinds of homes. Pets live with people, but many animals must find or build their own shelters. Different animals have different ways of making their homes.

Some animals dig into the ground. Earthworms dig tunnels and live in the soil. Badgers use their strong front paws to dig into the ground. Polar bears dig into packed snow to make a warm den.

Some animals build their homes above the ground. Beavers use mud and branches to build lodges. Termites build towering nests. Some can be 10 feet tall!

3. What is the main idea of the selection?
   A Some animals dig their homes into the ground.
   B Animals build different kinds of homes.
   C Pets live with people in their homes.
   D Beavers build their homes with mud and branches.

4. Which main idea does this detail support?
   Termites build towering nests.
   F Some animals build their homes above the ground.
   G Pets live with people.
   H Some animals dig into the ground.
   I Polar bears dig into packed snow to make a warm den.
Use Reference Sources

Choose the best answer for each question.

1. Where would you look to learn the capital city of Idaho?
   - a dictionary
   - a thesaurus
   - an atlas
   - a magazine

2. What would be the best resource to use to learn about animal homes?
   - an atlas
   - an encyclopedia
   - a thesaurus
   - a dictionary

3. Where would you look to find the meaning of the word recognize?
   - a magazine
   - an atlas
   - an encyclopedia
   - a dictionary

4. Where would you look to find a word that has the same meaning as the word pleasant?
   - a thesaurus
   - a dictionary
   - an encyclopedia
   - an atlas
Use the encyclopedias below to answer each question.

5. In which encyclopedia volume would you find information for a report about fish?
   A) Vol. 2  
   B) Vol. 3  
   C) Vol. 4  
   D) Vol. 5

6. In which encyclopedia volume could you read about an octopus?
   F) Vol. 5  
   G) Vol. 6  
   H) Vol. 7  
   I) Vol. 8

Use Reference Sources
Robust Vocabulary

Choose the word that best completes each sentence.

1. The mother chimp _____ her baby.
   A. grooms
   B. communicates
   C. wanders
   D. demonstrates

2. You must _____ the game spinner when it is your turn.
   F. communicate
   G. signal
   H. alert
   I. flick

3. What _____ is the coach giving the player?
   A. conflict
   B. flick
   C. signal
   D. chatter

4. The _____ lion caught its prey.
   F. dazed
   G. ferocious
   H. shabby
   I. suspicious

5. The _____ gorilla rules his group.
   A. signal
   B. chatter
   C. alert
   D. dominant
6. We heard the ____ coming from the classroom.
   (F) camouflage  
   (G) patrol  
   (H) chatter  
   (I) charging

7. Writing letters is my favorite way to ____.
   (A) communicate  
   (B) flick  
   (C) chatter  
   (D) groom

8. I ended the ____ with my brother.
   (F) scent  
   (G) charging  
   (H) conflict  
   (I) alert

9. The dog went ____ after the cat.
   (A) disappointed  
   (B) charging  
   (C) dominant  
   (D) ferocious

10. The whistle will ____ the students that recess is over.
    (F) alert  
    (G) communicate  
    (H) conflict  
    (I) groom
Grammar: Abbreviations

Read each word. Write the letter of the abbreviation that matches it.

1. ___ Street
2. ___ Mister
3. ___ Monday
4. ___ Texas
5. ___ Doctor
6. ___ October
7. ___ Avenue
8. ___ California
9. ___ Friday
10. ___ February

a. Dr.
b. TX
c. CA
d. Ave.
e. St.
f. Mon.
g. Fri.
h. Feb.
i. Mr.

TOTAL SCORE: _____ /10
A wolf is a member of the dog family. Unlike pet dogs, wild wolves are not good companions for humans. They are ferocious hunters.

Wolves live in groups called packs. Wolves in a pack communicate with one another. One way they do this is by howling. Many people think a wolf’s howl is a frightening sound. They often say wolves howl at the moon. The truth is, wolves howl for different reasons.

A wolf might howl to tell the rest of the pack that they should come together to start a hunt. Because wolves hunt mostly at night, the moon happens to be out. A wolf may howl to tell another animal to stay out of the wolves’ territory. If a wolf gets separated from the pack, it may howl to tell the other pack members where it is.

Like our pet dogs, wolves also bark and growl. What does it mean when a dog barks or growls? A wolf’s bark or growl might mean the same thing. A wolf uses these sounds to say, “I’m angry!”