



Grade 2

**Think Smart
for Smarter Balanced Assessments**

Unit Assessments



**Assessing the California
Common Core State Standards**

Read the passage. Then answer the questions.

A Special Place

You may think a desert is hot, dry, and empty, but a desert can be cold at night. Some rain falls each year. And certain plants and animals can live in a desert.

The Mojave (moh-HAH-vee) Desert is one of four deserts in the United States. It covers parts of four states. The states are California, Nevada, Arizona, and Utah.

In the Mojave Desert, it gets very hot during the day, but it can be very cold at night. The Mojave is dry. It gets about five inches of rain a year. Most of the rain falls during the winter.

Plants in the Mojave

Most plants cannot live in the hot, dry weather of the desert. The soil, or dirt, is rocky and sandy, but some low bushes, grasses, and other plants grow there. One plant is the prickly pear cactus. Its leaves look like needles. The leaves are called spines.



Ouch! Don't touch a cactus!

GO ON →

Some plants grow only during the wet season and live just a few weeks. Then they die. Other desert plants are dormant, or resting, for most of the year. They only grow when it rains. Some desert plants have colorful flowers. They make the desert look lovely.

Desert plants have different ways to stay alive. They send their roots out to seek water. Some plants send roots out in all directions. Others send roots deep into the ground. Desert plants store water in their leaves, roots, and stems. Many plants open their leaves only at night. This keeps them from losing water during the day.

Animals in the Mojave

The Mojave Desert is also hard for animals. Some reptiles live there. They include rattlesnakes, lizards, and the desert tortoise. They can stand the heat. Large mammals cannot. They cannot store enough water in their bodies to stay alive. They cannot find places to hide from the sun. But some small mammals live in the desert.

You can see coyotes in the Mojave. You might see foxes. The smallest desert mammal is the kangaroo rat. Kangaroo rats look like mice. But they have strong back legs. They can jump high and far. They can live in the desert because they do not need to drink water. They get all the water they need from the seeds they eat.

The hot sand can cause problems. You would burn your feet if you walked barefoot on the sand. Some desert animals keep their feet safe by moving fast. Some have hairy pads that protect their feet.

Some animals adapt to the desert in another way. They carry their fat in just one part of their body. Fat makes animals hotter. It is better to have the fat in one place. Desert animals may store fat in their tails, for example. Since they do not have fat all over, they stay cooler.

The Mojave Desert is hot and dry. But it is not empty. Animals and plants have special ways to live there.

Name: _____ Date: _____

- 1 What is the difference between night and day in the Mojave Desert? Use **two** details from the passage in your answer.

- 2 What is the **best** way to complete these sentences about the rain in the Mojave Desert?

The rainiest time of year in the Mojave Desert is _____.
About _____ inches of rain fall in the Mojave each year.

- Ⓐ winter, ten
- Ⓑ spring, ten
- Ⓒ summer, five
- Ⓓ winter, five

Name: _____ Date: _____

- 3** Complete the chart. Write **one** fact you learn from the picture. Write **one** fact you learn from the caption. Use the facts in the box below.

What the picture tells me	What the caption tells me

what to do if you see a cactus
how big a cactus is
where a cactus can grow
what the spines on a cactus look like
why a cactus can live in the desert

Name: _____ Date: _____

- 4 This question has two parts. First, answer part A. Then, answer part B.

Part A: Read the sentence from the passage.

Other desert plants are dormant, or resting, for most of the year.

In this sentence, what does dormant mean?

- Ⓐ dry
- Ⓑ old
- Ⓒ growing
- Ⓓ sleeping

Part B: Which word from the sentence **best** helps you understand the meaning of dormant?

- Ⓐ desert
- Ⓑ plants
- Ⓒ resting
- Ⓓ year

Name: _____ Date: _____

- 5 Read the sentence from the passage.

Some desert plants have colorful flowers.

Pick the words that **best** complete the sentences below.

The root word of colorful is _____. The word colorful in the sentence means about the same as _____.

- Ⓐ or, different
- Ⓑ full, large
- Ⓒ color, bright
- Ⓓ color, different

- 6 Why is it hard for plants and animals to live in the Mojave Desert? Pick **two** choices.

- Ⓐ The desert is very hot.
- Ⓑ The desert has little rain.
- Ⓒ The desert is cold at night.
- Ⓓ The desert has only small plants.
- Ⓔ The desert covers parts of four states.

- 7 Which of these words from the passage is a compound word?

- Ⓐ animal
- Ⓑ barefoot
- Ⓒ desert
- Ⓓ reptile

Read the passage. Then answer the questions.

To the Tundra!

Brett's father had to go far away for his job. He writes to Brett about where he is.

Dear Brett,

I took a plane to Alaska. Then I took a helicopter to our camp near the North Pole. The place where we landed is called the tundra. I will do some science projects and study the streams here.

This is a good job, but it gets lonely here. I miss you and Mom. I decided to write to tell you about the tundra. Then I will feel like we are together.

The tundra is very different from our home in Florida. Even though it is the start of summer, it feels like winter nights at home. I am glad it is not winter here. Then I would be as cold as a dog's nose!

The tundra looks very different from home, too. There is snow on the ground most of the year. We almost never have snow in Florida. Under the snow is permafrost, which is frozen soil. The soil has gravel and dead plants in it.

Most plants cannot grow here because it is so cold. Also, there is little rain. We get 50 inches of rain a year in Florida, but the tundra gets less than 10 inches.

There are no big trees like at home, only low bushes and grasses. The plants cannot spread their roots deep into the ground because of the permafrost. In summer, some of the permafrost melts. This helps plants grow for a while. But they cannot grow for long. The summer is very short here.

Some of the animals are different, too. There are no sea cows or pelicans in the tundra, but I see wolves, foxes, and fish. Yesterday, I saw some lemmings. Lemmings look like large mice.

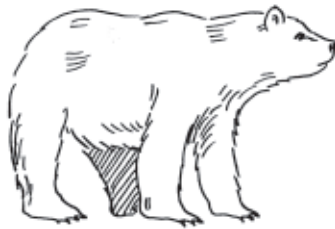
The most exciting animals are the polar bears. They have a layer of fat all over their bodies that keeps them warm. Their fur keeps them warm, too. The fur on their feet keeps them from slipping on the ice.

Some tundra animals go south where it is warmer in the winter, and they come back in the summer. They must be clever to know when to go and come back. Some animals cannot live on the tundra. For example, it is too cold for reptiles.

Soon, I will go down to a stream. There are not many roads, so I will have to hike. I have to wear a heavy coat and boots. I will carry all the things I need in a backpack. I will take samples of the water and that will help me learn more about the tundra.

It is time to work now, but I will write more later. It is fun telling you about the tundra.

Love,
Dad



I saw this bear near our camp.

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- 8** This question has two parts. First, answer part A. Then, answer part B.

Part A: What is the lesson of the passage?

- Ⓐ Do not take trips to faraway places.
- Ⓑ It is sad to have a job in a cold place.
- Ⓒ Sharing with others can make you feel good.
- Ⓓ The tundra is the best place to visit for work.

Part B: Which sentence from the passage **best** supports the lesson?

- Ⓐ I took a plane to Alaska.
- Ⓑ Soon, I will go down to a stream.
- Ⓒ I have to wear a heavy coat and boots.
- Ⓓ It is fun telling you about the tundra.

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- 9 Read what Dad does in his letter. Write the sentences in the correct order in the chart below.

Dad tells what the place he is in is like.

Dad tells where he is and how he got there.

Dad tells what he will do next.

Beginning of the letter	
Middle of the letter	
End of the letter	

Name: _____ Date: _____

- 10** How is the setting important to the passage? Pick **two** choices.
- Ⓐ The place the story is set is called the tundra.
 - Ⓑ The place the story is set is far away from Brett.
 - Ⓒ The place the story is set is just starting summer.
 - Ⓓ The place the story is set has different animals than in Florida.
 - Ⓔ The place the story is set takes a long time to get to from Florida.

- 11** Read the sentence from the passage.

This is a good job, but it gets lonely here.

Which words have the same root word as lonely?

- Ⓐ loner and one
- Ⓑ one and alone
- Ⓒ alone and loner
- Ⓓ lean and one

- 12** This question has two parts. First, answer part A. Then, answer part B.

Part A: Read the paragraph from the passage.

The tundra is very different from our home in Florida. Even though it is the start of summer, it feels like winter nights at home. I am glad it is not winter here. Then I would be as cold as a dog's nose!

What does the underlined simile mean?

- Ⓐ I would not be cold.
- Ⓑ I would be very cold.
- Ⓒ I would turn into a dog.
- Ⓓ I would turn into a nose.

Part B: Which words from the passage **best** help you answer part A?

- Ⓐ home in Florida
- Ⓑ it is the start of summer
- Ⓒ nights at home
- Ⓓ glad it is not winter here

- 13** Read the sentences from the passage.

Under the snow is permafrost, which is frozen soil. The soil has gravel and dead plants in it.

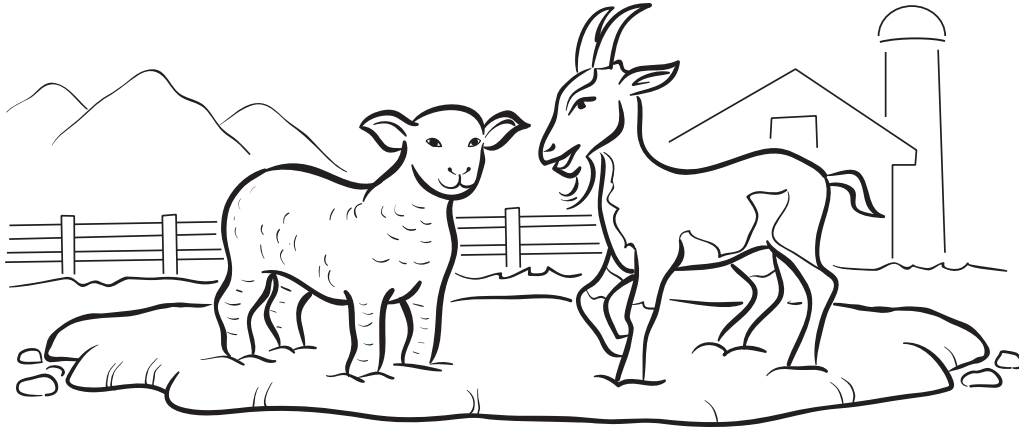
Which words from the sentences **best** help you understand what permafrost means?

- ☐ (A) snow is
- ☐ (B) frozen soil
- ☐ (C) has gravel
- ☐ (D) dead plants

- 14** Which animal does Dad think is the most exciting? What does he tell Brett about this animal? Use details from the passage to support your answer.

Read the passages. Then answer the questions.

Waiting for Springtime



Lamb was unhappy. He was tired of the cold weather. "The snow makes my feet cold," Lamb said to Goat. "My feet feel like blocks of ice."

"I like winter," said Goat. "There are lots of fun things to do, and it is beautiful. But do not worry. Winter is almost finished, and springtime will be here soon."

"I do not want to wait for springtime," Lamb said. "I want to solve my problem now." Lamb looked for something to keep his feet warm. He found some rocks.

"Can the rocks keep my feet warm?" he asked Goat.

"No," said Goat.

Lamb looked for something else to keep his feet warm. He moved his eyes up and down and noticed some pine cones on the ground.

"Can the pine cones keep my feet warm?" he asked Goat.

"No," said Goat.

Lamb looked for something else to keep his feet warm, and he found some branches of pine needles.

“Can the pine needles keep my feet warm?” he asked Goat.

“Yes,” said Goat.

“Make me some socks from the pine needles, then,” the lazy Lamb demanded. Goat helpfully tied the pine needles together to make a pair of socks, and Lamb put the socks on his feet. Lamb walked into the snow. His feet were as warm as toast. “Now my feet are not cold!” said Lamb.

The next day Lamb put the pine-needle socks around his feet and went out to the field. The snow that had covered the ground was gone. Lamb heard a baby bird singing in its nest and saw a bee flying around some bright flowers.

“This is springtime!” said Goat happily. “Spring is beautiful, too.”

Lamb was not happy. “My feet are too warm,” he told Goat. “When will it be winter?”

Excitement for Spring

When spring begins, the Earth seems to wake up. The weather becomes warmer. There are more hours of sunlight each day. Trees grow green leaves and flowers bloom. Animals come out of their winter homes.

In spring, humans spend more time outside. Farmers start to work in their fields. People feel thankful that the dark, cold winter is over. People all over the world have celebrations, or parties, for the beginning of spring.

Holi

Holi (HOH-lee) is a celebration in northern India. India is a large country in Asia. Holi is the day before spring begins. Holi is a colorful day.

During Holi, people of all ages go into the streets. Then, the people throw powdered paint and colored water at each other. The people, streets, and buildings become covered in bright colors. The bright colors of the festival are like the bright colors of spring.

Nowruz

Nowruz (nou-ROOZ) is a New Year celebration. It is on the first day of spring. Nowruz started in the country of Iran. Iran is also in Asia.

On Nowruz, people get ready for the New Year. They might clean their homes, get haircuts, or buy new clothes. People eat special foods and visit each other. Adults give gifts. Children give flowers and desserts. It is a day for people to celebrate the New Year and the return of spring.

Spring Celebration

There are spring celebrations in Mexico. Mexico is the country just south of the United States. On the first day of spring there are as many hours of daytime as nighttime. This is special because it only happens twice a year.



People visit the pyramids in Mexico in spring

In Mexico there are some very old cities. In one of these cities are some tall stone buildings called pyramids. On the first day of spring, people climb to the top. This lets them get closer to the sun. People feel that the sun gives them special energy on this first day of spring.

All around the world people welcome spring. They are happy for the return of longer days and warmer weather.

Answer these questions about “Waiting for Springtime.”

- 15** Read the sentence from the passage.

Lamb was unhappy.

Which word uses the prefix un- in the same way as it is used in unhappy?

- (A) uncle
 - (B) under
 - (C) unite
 - (D) unkind
- 16** This question has two parts. First, answer part A. Then, answer part B.

Part A: Why does Lamb ask Goat the same question many times?

- (A) Lamb is unhappy because he does not like springtime.
- (B) Lamb is unhappy because he thinks Goat does not hear him.
- (C) Lamb is unhappy because he does not like to wear socks.
- (D) Lamb is unhappy because his feet are very cold.

Part B: Which sentence from the passage **best** shows why Lamb is unhappy?

- (A) “My feet feel like blocks of ice.”
- (B) “Can the pine cones keep my feet warm?”
- (C) “Now my feet are not cold!”
- (D) “When will it be winter?”

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- 17** How are Goat and Lamb different? Use text evidence from the passage to support your answer.

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Answer these questions about “Excitement for Spring.”

- 18** What is the passage **mainly** about? Tell how you know this is the main idea. Support your answer with text evidence from the passage.

- 19** Read the sentence from the passage.

On the first day of spring there are as many hours of daytime as nighttime.

Which statements are correct? Pick **two** choices.

- (A)** The words daytime and nighttime are synonyms.
 - (B)** The words daytime and nighttime are compound words.
 - (C)** The words daytime and nighttime are antonyms.
 - (D)** The words daytime and nighttime are similes.
- 20** Which sentence from the passage tells about the picture?
- (A)** Mexico is the country just south of the United States.
 - (B)** This is special because it only happens twice a year.
 - (C)** On the first day of spring, people climb to the top of the pyramid.
 - (D)** People feel that the sun gives them special energy on this first day of spring.

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Now answer these questions about “Waiting for Springtime” and “Excitement for Spring.”

- 21** Think about what you do when springtime comes. Maybe you visit a favorite park. Maybe you put away your winter jacket. Maybe you pick flowers. Write a story telling about what you do when springtime comes. Use at least **one** idea from **each** passage in your answer.

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The passage below needs revision. Read the passage. Then answer the questions.

Uncle Bill loves to take nature walks. I do, too. We ____ (1) ____ on a hike last week. "I ____ (2) ____ sure we will see a deer," Uncle Bill said. I ____ (3) ____ wait!" I yelled. They won't come near if you are loud," Uncle Bill told me.

We ____ (4) ____ walking along a path when I heard a sound. " ____ (5) ____ a deer!" I whispered.

Uncle Bill pointed to a log on the ground. "She ____ (6) ____ not spotted us yet. Let's sit here and watch her."

So I ____ (7) ____ down beside my uncle.

"How do you know it is a 'her'?" I asked.

"Females ____ (8) ____ have antlers," Uncle Bill explained. Antlers ____ (9) ____ horns on top of a male deer's head.

We watched the deer for a long time. Then she ____ (10) ____ away.

"We need to go home now, too," Uncle Bill said.

22 Which answer should go in blank (1)?

- (A) go
- (B) goes
- (C) went

23 Which answer should go in blank (2)?

- (A) is
- (B) are
- (C) am

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24 Which answer should go in blank (3)?

- Ⓐ can't
- Ⓑ ca'nt
- Ⓒ cant

25 Which answer should go in blank (4)?

- Ⓐ was
- Ⓑ were
- Ⓒ is

26 Which answer should go in blank (5)?

- Ⓐ They're
- Ⓑ There's
- Ⓒ Theirs

27 Which answer should go in blank (6)?

- Ⓐ has
- Ⓑ does
- Ⓒ have

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28 Which answer should go in blank (7)?

- ☐ (A) sat
- ☐ (B) sittted
- ☐ (C) sits

29 Which answer should go in blank (8)?

- ☐ (A) dont
- ☐ (B) don't
- ☐ (C) do'nt

30 Which answer should go in blank (9)?

- ☐ (A) is
- ☐ (B) was
- ☐ (C) are

31 Which answer should go in blank (10)?

- ☐ (A) running
- ☐ (B) runned
- ☐ (C) ran

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Answer these questions.

32 Which word begins with the same sound as now?

- Ⓐ scent
- Ⓑ crumb
- Ⓒ knock

33 Which word has the same vowel sound as dirt?

- Ⓐ worm
- Ⓑ right
- Ⓒ dart

34 Which word has the same vowel sound as for?

- Ⓐ far
- Ⓑ oar
- Ⓒ hurt

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35 Which word has the same vowel sound as cheer?

- Ⓐ dear
- Ⓑ chirp
- Ⓒ her

36 Which word has the same vowel sound as wear?

- Ⓐ fear
- Ⓑ wore
- Ⓒ chair



Narrative Performance Task

Task:

Your class has been learning about how different environments make the world an interesting place. Your teacher has asked you to make up your own narrative, or story, to share what you've learned.

Before you decide what you will write about, you will read two passages, or sources, that provide information about different places plants and animals can live. After you have looked at these passages, or sources, you will answer some questions about them. Look at the passages and the three questions that follow. Then, go back and read the passages carefully. They will give you the information you will need to answer the questions, and write your own narrative, or story.

In Part 2, you will write your story using information from the two passages.

Directions for Part 1

You will now look at two passages, or sources. You can look at either of the passages as often as you like.

Research Questions:

After looking at the passages, use the rest of the time in Part 1 to answer three questions about them. Your answers to these questions will be scored. Also, your answers will help you think about the information you have read, which should help you write your story. You may look at the passages, or sources, when you think they would be helpful. You may also look at your notes.

Source #1: Inside a Pond

Did you know that most of the Earth is covered by water? Some of that water is freshwater. Freshwater is the water that we drink, wash with, and use to water plants. Ponds are made up of freshwater.

Ponds are all around us. They can be made by people or nature. Pond waters are mostly still and not very deep. In fact, sunlight can reach the bottom of a pond.

Ponds have plant and animal life. Pond plants and animals need each other to live. Animals need to live in safe places with food to eat.

The Pond's Food Chain

Every living thing needs energy. Plants get energy from the sun. Animals get energy from food. The food chain starts with plants. Plants grow with energy from the sun. Some animals get energy by eating plants, while other animals get energy by eating other animals.

Pond Plants

Many plants grow in and around ponds. Some plants, like irises, grow along the pond's edge. Their leaves and flowers grow above the ground, and their roots grow down into the ground. Other plants, like water lilies, grow in the pond. Their leaves and flowers float on top of the water, and their roots grow down into the pond's muddy bottom.

Pond plants help animals. Some animals use plants as hiding places. Other animals eat plants.

Pond Creatures

Many creatures live in ponds. Some insects and animals live on the water's surface. Creatures like insects live on top of the water. A pond skater is an insect that lives on top of the water. They have long legs. Their legs help them walk on water. Pond skaters eat other insects. Animals, like ducks, also live on the water's surface. Ducks eat plants and roots.

Some creatures live underwater. Fish and tadpoles live underwater. Fish eat plants and insects. Tadpoles are young frogs that eat small insects.

Crayfish and worms live on a pond's muddy bottom. Crayfish eat plants, dead fish, and insects. Worms eat mud and small bits of plants.

Bigger animals like raccoons and squirrels live near the pond. They drink water from the pond. Raccoons eat fish and plants found near the pond. Beavers eat plants found near the pond.

Source #2: Under the Ocean

Most of the Earth is covered by oceans. Oceans are made up of saltwater. Many kinds of plants and animals live in the ocean.

Oceans are very large and deep. The surface of an ocean is very large. Most oceans are larger than the surface of the United States. The average ocean is over 2.5 miles deep.

The plants and animals that live in oceans are called marine life. These plants and animals depend on each other to live. Marine plants use sunlight to make their own food. Marine animals cannot make their own food. Some marine animals, like fish and manatees, eat plants. Other marine animals, like turtles, eat plants and meat. Some marine animals, like penguins and sea lions, only eat meat. Plants help marine animals in other ways. Some marine animals hide behind plants.

The Ocean's Layers

An ocean is divided into three layers. The deeper you go in the ocean, the darker and colder it gets.

The top layer is called the sunlit zone. Sunlight enters this layer. This water is warmer since it gets sunlight. Sunlight gives plants the energy they need to grow. Some plants, like diatoms and seaweed, live here. Animals like sharks, seals, and sea lions live here too. More plants and animals live here than in the other zones.

The middle layer is called the twilight zone. These waters are poorly lit. The waters are much colder than in the sunlit zone. There is little light in this zone. Few plants live here. Most of the animals here eat meat. Animals, like the octopus, squid, and hatchet fish, live here.

The bottom layer is called the midnight zone. It is the darkest and deepest part of the ocean. No sunlight enters here. The waters are very cold. This layer has no plant life. There is little food. Few animals live in this zone. They have adapted to live here. Some animals have large mouths. Their mouths can catch any food that goes by. Fish, like the fangtooth and umbrellamouth gulper, can live here.

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- 1 Pick **two** choices that show details about underwater plants or animals found in **both** “Inside a Pond” and “Under the Ocean.”

- Ⓐ Plants eat animals to give them energy.
- Ⓑ Plants and animals can live underwater.
- Ⓒ Marine plants and animals live in ponds.
- Ⓓ Plants live along the bottom of the ocean.
- Ⓔ Animals need plants in order to stay alive.

- 2 The sources discuss some of the plants and animals that live in ponds and oceans. Explain what you have learned about why plants are important for animals that live in ponds and oceans. Use **one** detail from **each** source to support your explanation.

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- 3 The sources explain that ponds and oceans have three different “layers.” Why is this topic important? Use **one** example from **each** source to support your answer.

Directions for Part 2

You will now look at your sources. You will take notes. Then, you will plan, draft, revise, and edit your story. First read your assignment and the information about how your story will be scored. Then begin your work.

Your Assignment:

Your class has been learning about different places plants and animals can live. Your assignment is to write a story that uses information about what you have learned about plants and animals that live in ponds and oceans.

Using information from the two sources, “Inside a Pond” and “Under the Ocean,” write a story about a bird that visits a pond for a drink of water before flying to a nearby ocean. Write about what the bird sees other creatures, or animals, doing at the pond and ocean.

Your story must be several paragraphs long. Write the story from the point of view of the bird. Tell what the bird sees and does as it flies. Include information from both sources using your own words. Be sure to write who the story is about, where your story takes place, and what happens.

REMEMBER: A well-written story

- is well-organized and stays on the topic
- has an introduction and conclusion
- uses details from the sources
- develops ideas fully
- uses clear language
- follows rules of writing (spelling, punctuation, and grammar)

Now begin work on your story. Manage your time carefully so that you can plan, write, revise, and edit your story. Write your response on a separate sheet of paper.



Question	Correct Answer	Content Focus	CCSS	Complexity
1	see below	Compare and Contrast	RI.2.3.	DOK 2
2	D	Key Details	RI.2.1	DOK 1
3	see below	Text Features: Illustrations, Captions	RI.2.5	DOK 2
4A	D	Context Clues: Sentence Clues	L.2.4a	DOK 2
4B	C	Context Clues: Sentence Clues/Text Evidence	L.2.4a/ RI.2.1	DOK 2
5	C	Root Words	L.2.4c	DOK 2
6	A, B	Connections Within Text: Cause and Effect	RI.2.3	DOK 2
7	B	Compound Words	L.2.4d	DOK 1
8A	C	Theme	RL.2.2	DOK 3
8B	D	Theme/Text Evidence	RL.2.2/ RI.2.1	DOK 3
9	see below	Text Structure: Plot	RL.2.5	DOK 2
10	A, D	Text Structure: Setting	RL.2.5	DOK 3
11	C	Root Words	L.2.4c	DOK 2
12A	B	Similes	L.2.6	DOK 2
12B	D	Similes/Text Evidence	L.2.6/ RI.2.1	DOK 2
13	B	Context Clues: Sentence Clues	L.2.4a	DOK 2
14	see below	Text Structure: Character	RL.2.3	DOK 2
15	D	Prefixes	L.2.4.b	DOK 1
16A	D	Connections Within Text: Cause and Effect	RL.2.3	DOK 2
16B	A	Connections Within Text: Cause and Effect/ Text Evidence	RL.2.3/ RI.2.1	DOK 2
17	see below	Plot: Compare and Contrast	RL.2.3	DOK 3
18	see below	Main Idea and Key Details	RI.2.1	DOK 2
19	B, C	Compound Words; Antonyms	L.2.4d	DOK 1

Answer Key

Name: _____

Question	Correct Answer	Content Focus	CCSS	Complexity
20	C	Text Features: Illustrations	RI.2.5	DOK 2
21	see below	Compare Across Texts	W.2.8	DOK 3
22	D	Irregular Verbs	L.2.1d	DOK 1
23	C	Linking Verbs	L.2.1	DOK 1
24	A	Contractions	L.2.2c	DOK 1
25	B	Helping Verbs	L.2.1d	DOK 1
26	B	Contractions	L.2.2c	DOK 1
27	A	Helping Verbs	L.2.1d	DOK 1
28	A	Irregular Verbs	L.2.1d	DOK 1
29	B	Contractions	L.2.2c	DOK 1
30	C	Linking Verbs	L.2.1	DOK 1
31	C	Irregular Verbs	L.2.1d	DOK 1
32	C	Silent Letters	RF.2.3	DOK 1
33	A	<i>r</i> -Controlled Vowels /ur/	RF.2.3	DOK 2
34	B	<i>r</i> -Controlled Vowels /or/ and /ar/	RF.2.3	DOK 2
35	A	<i>r</i> -Controlled Vowels /ir/	RF.2.3	DOK 2
36	C	<i>r</i> -Controlled Vowels /ar/	RF.2.3	DOK 2

Comprehension: Selected Response 2, 3, 6, 8A, 8B, 9, 10, 16A, 16B, 20	/16	%
Comprehension: Constructed Response 1, 14, 17, 18, 21	/12	%
Vocabulary 4, 5A, 5B, 7, 11, 12A, 12B, 13, 15, 19	/16	%
English Language Conventions 22-31	/10	%
Phonics 32-36	/5	%
Total Unit Assessment Score	/59	%

- 1 **2-point response:** The desert is cold at night but hot during the day. Many plants open their leaves at night, but keep them closed during the day so that they do not lose water.

- 3 Students should write the following in the chart:

• what the spines on a cactus look like	• what to do if you see a cactus
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- 9 Students should order sentences as follows: Beginning: Dad tells where he is and how he got there. Middle: Dad tells what the place he is in is like. End: Dad tells what he will do next.
- 14 **2-point response:** Dad thinks the polar bear is the most exciting. He tells Brett how the bears' layer of fat and their fur keep them warm. The fur on their feet keeps them from slipping on the ice.
- 17 **2-point response:** Goat is helpful and patient. He is a good friend. Supporting details: He tries to assure Lamb that winter is almost over. He patiently answers Lamb's questions. He makes socks for him from pine needles. He doesn't get upset with Lamb's complaints. Lamb is different from Goat in that he complains about the weather. He does not know much about how to stay warm. He tells Goat to make socks for him but does not even try to help. He seems lazy and expects others to do things for him.
- 18 **2-point response:** The passage is mainly about how people around the world celebrate spring, with examples of Holi, Nowruz, and by visiting the pyramids.
- 21 **4-point response:** I wake up one morning. Warm sun shines into my room. I open the window and feel the air. It is warm! It is finally spring.

I don't have to wear my jacket today. I don't have to wear my hat or boots. I put them away in my closet. I get dressed in my brightest clothes. I want to look like a spring flower.

After breakfast, I go to the park. There are lots of people outside playing and having picnics. They are wearing bright colors, too. Everyone is happy it is spring. Even the birds are singing a happy spring song.

I pick flowers at the park. They are pink, yellow, and orange. Then I go home. I put the flowers in a cup of water. I put them on the table. Even my home looks ready for spring.

At bedtime I think of all the fun things I can do this spring. I am glad it is spring again.

Narrative Performance Task				
Question	Answer	CCSS	Complexity	Score
1	B, E	RI.2.1, RI.2.2, RI.2.3, RI.2.9 W.2.2, W.2.3, W.2.8 L.2.1, L.2.2	DOK 3	/1
2	see below		DOK 3	/2
3	see below		DOK 3	/2
Story	see below		DOK 4	/4 [P/O] /4 [D/E] /2 [C]
Total Score				/15

- 2 2-point response:** I learned that animals need plants for food. “Inside a Pond” says that some animals get energy by eating plants. “Under the Ocean” says that some marine animals, like fish and manatees, only eat plants.
- 3 2-point response:** This topic is important because some plants and animals can only live on certain “layers” of ponds and oceans. “Inside a Pond” says that a pond skater lives on the top “layer” of the pond. “Under the Ocean” says that plants can only live on the top two “layers” of the ocean. Plants cannot live on the bottom “layer,” since no sunlight reaches there.

10-point anchor paper: One day a robin named Harry was flying through the sky. He was on his way to visit the ocean. Harry was thirsty. He wasn’t very close to the ocean yet, so he looked for a place to stop for a drink of freshwater. Harry saw a pond near some trees. He flew to the pond.

After landing, Harry saw some pretty flowers, called irises, growing along the pond’s edge. He also noticed a plant, called a water lily, growing inside the pond. The water lily’s leaves floated on the water. Its roots were under the water.

Harry saw many creatures in the pond. He saw insects, called pond skaters, walking on top of the water. The pond skaters were trying to eat some small insects. Some hungry ducks were eating plant roots. Harry also noticed some tadpoles hiding near the water lily’s roots. Some fish were swimming underwater.

The sun was bright, so Harry was able to see to the bottom of the pond. He saw some worms and crayfish on the pond’s bottom as he was taking a drink. The worms were eating small parts of plants laying on the pond’s muddy bottom. Harry decided it was time to fly on to the ocean.

Harry saw the ocean up ahead. He landed in the sand along the ocean’s shore to rest. Harry saw a plant, called seaweed, floating along the shore. He decided to fly over the ocean to look for marine life. Harry saw a couple of seals playing in the ocean. A little later, he noticed a group of sharks swimming together.

Harry knew that the ocean was deep. It was so deep that he couldn’t see all of the plants and animals that lived in the ocean. He could only see the plants and animals that lived in the top layer. He wondered what animals lived deep in the ocean as he finished his visit to the ocean.