South Carolina

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Grade 7

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Reza Nazari

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Read the article. Then answer questions 1–8.

A Portable Theater Company

1 The project took shape in schools and parks across the district, where students and volunteers turned a portable student theater stage into a workable response to a local problem.

2 To keep the work moving, participants pack folding scenery, rehearse quick setup, and adapt sound for indoor and outdoor spaces. Their notes help them explain both the changes they make and the reasons behind those changes.

3 Not every part of the plan worked smoothly. The first backdrop frame wobbled whenever the stage shifted on uneven ground. The setback forced the team to stop, observe, and rethink.

4 The revision came next: the team added locking braces and lighter panels that were easier to secure. That revision made the stage more portable, because the lighter panels were easier to move and secure.

5 As the project moved toward its conclusion, the company could perform short plays in places without an auditorium. The results highlighted the value of persistence, evidence, and teamwork.

6 The result was useful, but not without trade-offs. Supplies had to be rationed, and not everyone agreed about what should come next. Some members wanted to scale up right away; others pointed out that another round of evidence would catch problems the group had not yet seen. The team delayed the expansion in order to keep the work honest, even though a few supporters had already pictured a larger project that would have to wait.

Scan Me

1) As it is used in paragraph 4, what does the word *portable* most nearly mean?

(A) able to be carried or moved easily
(B) strong enough to stay steady on uneven ground
(C) designed to stay in one place
(D) quick to assemble without any planning

Use the article "A Portable Theater Company" to answer this question.

2) Which statement best expresses the central idea of the article?

(A) The article mostly explains the team's daily routines and gives only brief attention to how the project adjusted over time.
(B) The article describes a community effort whose success depended more on a single decisive moment than on the broader pattern of testing and revision.
(C) The article focuses on the project's final outcome and suggests that earlier setbacks had little effect on what the team eventually achieved.
(D) Careful research and revision helped a portable student theater stage become a useful community project.

Use the article "A Portable Theater Company" to answer this question.

3) Which detail best supports the idea that the team improved the project by studying a problem carefully?

(A) The finished project later provided a useful result for the community.
(B) The project began after students identified a local need in the community.
(C) The team studied the weakness and then added locking braces and lighter panels that were easier to secure.
(D) Students and volunteers worked together throughout the project.

Use the article "A Portable Theater Company" to answer this question.

4) How does paragraph 3 contribute to the structure of the article?

(A) It presents the setback that leads to the revision described later.
(B) It introduces the setting of the project for the first time.
(C) It compares two unrelated projects in different locations.
(D) It summarizes the article's conclusion before any evidence is given.

Use the article "A Portable Theater Company" to answer this question.

5) Why does the author include details about the team's routines in paragraph 2?

(A) To emphasize how much time and effort the project required
(B) To show that the project depends on repeated steps and collected evidence
(C) To show that the team worked in an orderly way from the beginning
(D) To foreshadow that the project will face a challenge later

Use the article "A Portable Theater Company" to answer this question.

6) Which sentence best explains how the article develops the topic?

(A) It introduces a project, explains its process, describes a problem, and shows a revised solution.
(B) It compares two competing approaches to solving the problem and argues that one is clearly better.
(C) It presents the final result first and then goes back to explain how the project originally started.
(D) It describes two different community problems and explains how each was solved by a different team.

20) Which detail best supports the idea that bison shape the prairie?

(A) Bison were once reduced to fewer than one thousand animals.
(B) Their heavy hoofprints press seeds into soil, and their dust baths create small patches.
(C) Bison live in several national parks.
(D) Some tribal nations manage bison herds.

Use the article "The Bison Come Back" to answer this question.

21) Which sentence from the article best supports the idea that recovery has not been easy?

(A) Many scientists at the time feared the bison would disappear entirely.
(B) Tribal nations, state agencies, and private ranchers spend time each year in meetings that are patient and sometimes tense.
(C) Their return is slow and steady rather than dramatic.
(D) Where bison return, the grass grows in a different way.

Use the article "The Bison Come Back" to answer this question.

22) **This question has two correct answers.** Choose the **two** sentences from the article that **together** best support the idea that bison recovery depends on careful cooperation and produces lasting benefits for the land.

(A) "Before the late eighteen-hundreds, great herds of American bison moved across the plains in numbers that reached into the millions."
(B) "Tribal nations, state agencies, and private ranchers spend time each year in meetings that are patient and sometimes tense."
(C) "In 1905, the American Bison Society formed to bring groups together and publish what they learned."
(D) "Where bison return, the grass grows in a different way."
(E) "What was once a rare sight is now part of many school field trips, and a few tribes have begun to restore hunting traditions that had nearly been lost."

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Use the article "The Bison Come Back" to answer this question.

23) Which sentence would **best** summarize the article?

(A) Bison are common animals, and their survival has never been in question.
(B) After nearly disappearing, bison have slowly returned to the plains through cooperation among ranchers, tribes, and agencies.
(C) The American Bison Society is the only reason bison survive today.
(D) Bison survival is mainly about fencing pastures.

Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question.

Samira wrote an informational essay about the benefits of a school garden. Read Samira's essay and look for revisions she needs to make. Then answer the questions that follow.

A Garden Changes a School

(1) A school garden is more than a patch of green in the parking lot. (2) Students who tend plants learn patience, care, and the scientific method in a way that no textbook matches. (3) A garden also connects lessons in science, math, and writing to real outcomes students can see and taste. (4) I sometimes go bowling with my family on Saturday nights.

(5) Gardens give every student a role. (6) Some students track growth and weather, while others harvest food or write short reports to share with the cafeteria staff.

(7) The work is not always easy. (8) Pests, weather, and busy schedules can frustrate students and teachers alike. (9) But those same challenges often teach the lasting lessons that make a garden worth keeping.

24) Which sentence should Samira remove from the **first** paragraph because it does not support the main idea?

(A) Sentence 1
(B) Sentence 2
(C) Sentence 3
(D) Sentence 4

Use the essay "A Garden Changes a School" to answer this question.

25) What is the **best** way to combine sentences 5 and 6?

(A) Gardens give every student a role, because some students track growth and weather while others harvest food or write short reports to share with the cafeteria staff.
(B) Students grow plants and measure them, and the cafeteria sometimes uses the vegetables for lunch.
(C) Roles exist in gardens, and food is grown there.
(D) Students do things in the garden.

Use the essay "A Garden Changes a School" to answer this question.

26) Samira wants to add a transition at the beginning of paragraph 3. Which sentence would **best** serve this purpose?

(A) In other news, the cafeteria will serve pasta on Monday.
(B) Of course, growing food at school is not without trouble.
(C) For example, bowling is a popular weekend activity.
(D) In addition, most students enjoy recess.