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Grade 7

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Reza Nazari

Grade 7 · Washington Smarter Balanced

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Reza Nazari

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Read the article. Then answer questions 1–8.

Capturing Water from Fog

1 Students working in a dry coastal town organized a hillside fog-catcher experiment because they wanted a solution their neighbors could understand and use.

2 The team treats the project like ongoing research. Participants stretch fine mesh nets between poles so tiny droplets collect and slide into barrels. Each routine gives them another piece of evidence about what is working.

3 One weakness became impossible to ignore: Salt residue stiffened the first set of nets and slowed the flow of water. Rather than hide the issue, the team treated it like evidence.

4 Rather than abandon the work, the team rinsed the nets weekly and angled the frames so the runoff moved more quickly. That revision made the system more efficient, because more water reached the barrels with less waste.

5 When the work reached its final stage, the collected water kept a native plant garden alive through late summer. What had started as an experiment on the hillside was becoming part of the town's regular routine.

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 stretch more nets across the hillside right away; others argued that one more season of notes might reveal problems the group had not yet seen. In the end, the team postponed the expansion until it had gathered more evidence, even though several neighbors were ready to build more frames immediately.

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

(A) able to store large amounts of water for long periods
(B) carefully arranged to look neat from a distance
(C) requiring extra time and materials to do the same job
(D) working well without wasting time or materials

Use the article "Capturing Water from Fog" 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 hillside fog-catcher experiment become a useful community project.

Use the article "Capturing Water from Fog" 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 team studied the weakness and then rinsed the nets weekly and angled the frames so the runoff moved more quickly.
(C) Students and volunteers worked together throughout the project.
(D) The project began after students identified a local need in the community.

Use the article "Capturing Water from Fog" to answer this question.

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

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

Use the article "Capturing Water from Fog" 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 foreshadow that the project will face a challenge later
(C) To show that the project depends on repeated steps and collected evidence
(D) To show that the team worked in an orderly way from the beginning

Use the article "Capturing Water from Fog" to answer this question.

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

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

19) What is the main purpose of paragraph 3?

(A) It introduces the idea of robotic surgery for the first time.
(B) It explains how scaling allows surgeons to operate through very small cuts, and why that matters for patients.
(C) It argues that robotic surgery is always better than traditional surgery.
(D) It describes the training surgeons complete before using a robot.

Use the article "Robots in the Operating Room" to answer this question.

20) Which sentence from the article best supports the idea that robotic surgery still has limits?

(A) A surgeon can guide a tool through a cut smaller than a fingernail.
(B) The equipment is expensive, and training takes years.
(C) Robotic systems also filter out tiny hand tremors that every person has.
(D) The surgeon looks into a high-definition display that shows the surgical area magnified many times.

Use the article "Robots in the Operating Room" to answer this question.

21) How does paragraph 5 contribute to the article?

(A) It introduces a new topic that is not related to the earlier paragraphs.
(B) It presents concerns that balance the benefits described earlier in the article.
(C) It summarizes the article's conclusion in a single paragraph.
(D) It explains in detail how to operate a surgical robot at home.

Use the article "Robots in the Operating Room" 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 robotic-assisted surgery offers real benefits but also has real limits.

(A) "These machines do not replace the doctor; instead, they act like precise extensions of the surgeon's arms."
(B) "Smaller cuts often mean less bleeding, shorter hospital stays, and faster recoveries."
(C) "In a typical robotic-assisted surgery, the doctor sits at a console a short distance from the patient."
(D) "Rural hospitals often cannot afford the systems, which raises fair concerns about who gets access."
(E) "The hope is that in the next decade robotic assistance will be available in far more hospitals, not just a privileged few."

Use the article "Robots in the Operating Room" to answer this question.

23) Which sentence would be the **best** summary of the article?

(A) Surgical robots are new and have no clear benefits yet.
(B) Robotic-assisted surgery extends what surgeons can do, offering smaller cuts and steadier motion, while raising fair questions about cost and access.
(C) Surgical robots are useful only for training students.
(D) Robotic surgery is mainly important because it is less expensive than older methods.

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

Priya wrote an informational essay about the importance of sleep for middle school students. Read Priya's essay and look for revisions she needs to make. Then answer the questions that follow.

Middle Schoolers Need Better Sleep

(1) Most middle school students need nine to eleven hours of sleep each night. (2) Doctors say that sleep helps the brain move new information into long-term memory. (3) Sleep also supports attention, mood, and healthy growth. (4) My little brother lines up his soccer cleats by the door every night.

(5) Unfortunately, many students do not get enough rest. (6) Homework, sports, and screens all compete for evening time. (7) Some students stay up past midnight and then drag themselves through first period the next morning.

(8) Small changes can help. (9) Leaving phones outside the bedroom, turning off bright lights an hour before bed, and keeping weekend and weekday schedules close together all make a real difference. (10) With steady routines, students often find that mornings become easier and classes feel less blurry.

24) Which sentence should Priya 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

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