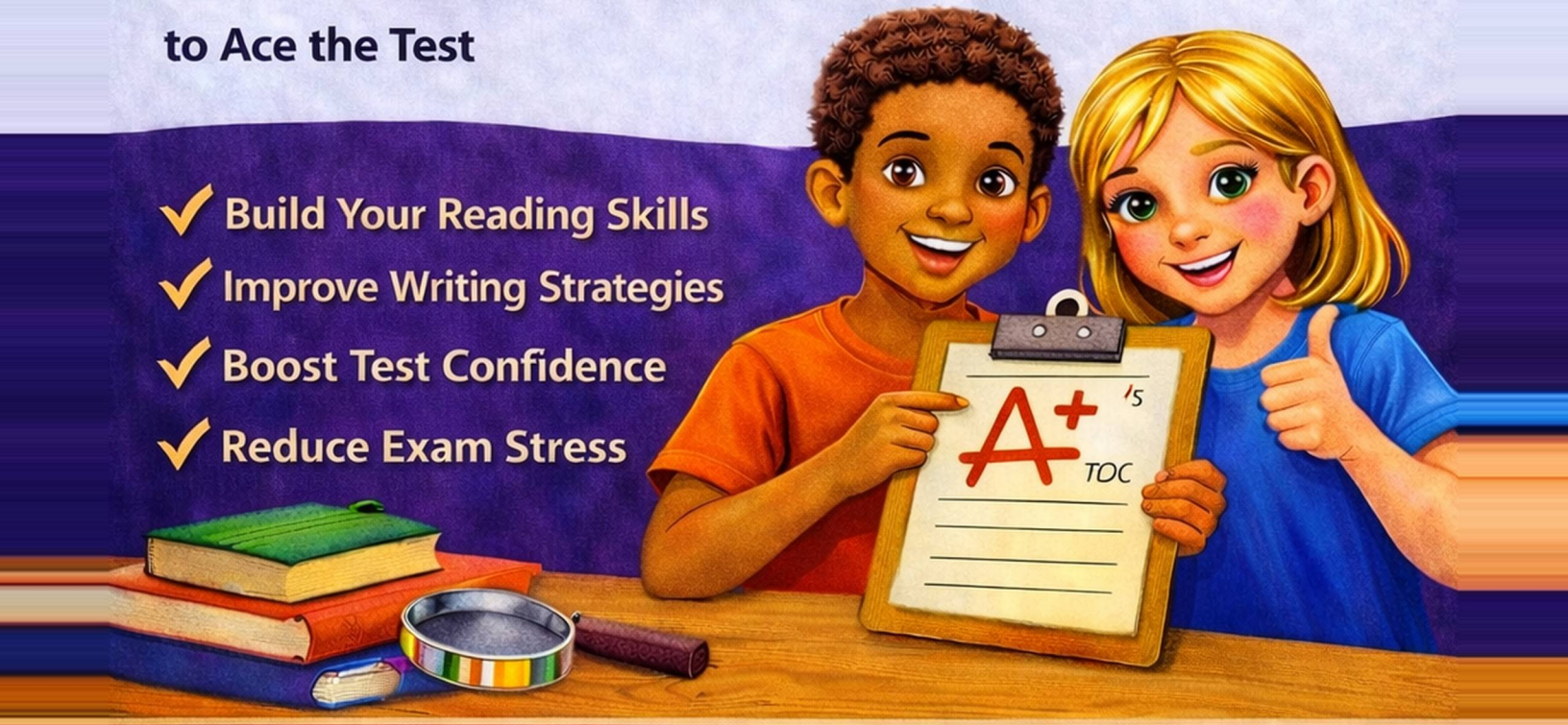
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Read the article. Then answer questions 1–8.

Building a Pollinator Corridor

1 Neighbors near the blocks between the school and the public library first heard about a pollinator corridor of native plants when students explained how it could answer a practical community need.

2 The project is built on steady procedures. Participants plant blooming species in sequence so bees and butterflies find food over many months. Those routines give the team a clear record of what changed and why.

3 The first serious obstacle appeared when some flower beds bloomed all at once and then left long gaps with little nectar. Instead of giving up, the team looked closely at what had gone wrong.

4 Using what the evidence showed, the team added species with different bloom times and mapped the corridor by season. That revision improved the bloom sequence, because different plants now flowered across more months of the year.

5 Eventually, observers recorded more pollinators moving between sites. Butterflies and bees no longer appeared only in short bursts, and the planted blocks began to feel connected instead of isolated.

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 extend the corridor immediately; others argued that another season of bloom maps and pollinator counts 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 the fuller beds made a longer corridor seem within reach.

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

(A) a sudden change in weather
(B) a container used to store tools
(C) a color pattern repeated in art
(D) an order in which things follow one another

Use the article "Building a Pollinator Corridor" 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 pollinator corridor of native plants become a useful community project.

Use the article "Building a Pollinator Corridor" to answer this question.

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

(A) Students and volunteers worked together throughout the project.
(B) The team studied the weakness and then added species with different bloom times and mapped the corridor by season.
(C) The project began after students identified a local need in the community.
(D) The finished project later provided a useful result for the community.

Use the article "Building a Pollinator Corridor" 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 compares two unrelated projects in different locations.
(C) It introduces the setting of the project for the first time.
(D) It summarizes the article's conclusion before any evidence is given.

Use the article "Building a Pollinator Corridor" 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 "Building a Pollinator Corridor" 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 describes two different community problems and explains how each was solved by a different team.
(D) It presents the final result first and then goes back to explain how the project originally started.

20) Which sentence from the article best supports the idea that low-cost sensors have limits?

(A) Middle schools have joined these projects in a natural way.
(B) A box about the size of a paperback book can now report on tiny particles of dust, soot, and smoke.
(C) Low-cost sensors drift over time and can give false readings in very humid weather.
(D) Citizen science in air quality shows how small, shared efforts can turn fuzzy claims into sharper ones.

Use the article "Neighborhood Air, Neighborhood Science" to answer this question.

21) What can the reader infer about the author's view of citizen science?

(A) The author thinks it cannot be trusted at all.
(B) The author believes it works best alongside official data.
(C) The author thinks professional data is no longer needed.
(D) The author believes only professional scientists should study air.

Use the article "Neighborhood Air, Neighborhood Science" 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 student-led air-quality projects can change both what a community knows and what its leaders decide to do.

(A) "Until recently, measuring air quality required costly equipment and full-time staff."
(B) "When they shared the data with their principal, drop-off traffic was rerouted, and later measurements showed improvement."
(C) "Low-cost sensors drift over time and can give false readings in very humid weather."
(D) "The maps built from these sensors may not reach every home yet, but they already show what neighborhoods have known for years: air quality is not the same on every street."
(E) "A box about the size of a paperback book can now report on tiny particles of dust, soot, and smoke."

Scan Me

Use the article "Neighborhood Air, Neighborhood Science" to answer this question.

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

(A) Citizen-run air-quality sensors are cheap, but they are never accurate.
(B) When communities, including middle schools, use low-cost sensors to study their own air, they can turn fuzzy claims into sharper, actionable data.
(C) Air-quality studies have no place in schools.
(D) Air quality is almost always the same on every street.

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 likes to race his scooter down the driveway after dinner.

(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

Use the essay "Middle Schoolers Need Better Sleep" to answer this question.

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

(A) Unfortunately, many students do not get enough rest because homework, sports, and screens all compete for evening time.
(B) Many students lose sleep when homework and screens take up too much of the evening.
(C) Evening time fills quickly with homework, sports, and screens.
(D) Busy evenings often make it harder for students to get enough rest.

Use the essay "Middle Schoolers Need Better Sleep" to answer this question.

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

(A) Fortunately, small changes can make a big difference.
(B) One reason students stay up late is that homework can take hours.
(C) For example, some students like to sleep later on weekends.
(D) As a result, schools should start at noon.