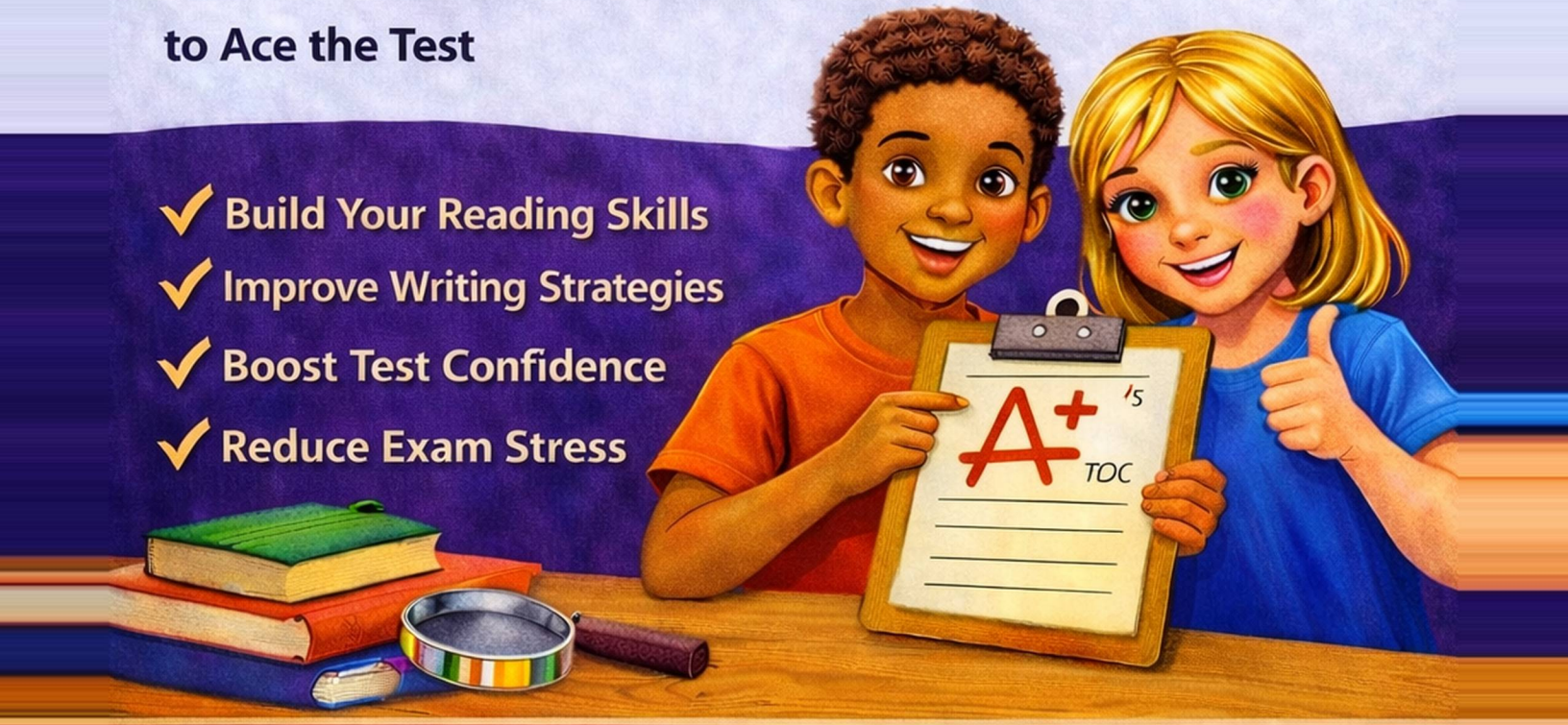
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Read the article. Then answer questions 1–8.

A Weather Station on the Roof

1 What started in the school roof as a citizen weather station quickly became a focused attempt to solve a community problem.

2 Rather than rely on guesses, participants record temperature, wind, and rainfall while comparing local data with regional forecasts. The repeated routine turns observations into evidence the team can use later.

3 The project nearly stalled when a loose shield exposed one sensor to direct sun and distorted the temperature readings. That moment pushed the team to analyze the problem instead of guessing at a quick fix.

4 The next version of the plan changed several things at once: the team repositioned the shield and compared new data against shaded ground readings. That revision made the readings more accurate, because the shield kept direct sun off the sensor.

5 By the end of the project, the class began sharing a weekly weather note with the community garden. The outcome showed that research and revision can turn a local idea into lasting improvement.

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.

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

(A) correct and close to the true measurement
(B) protected from rain by a roof
(C) shared equally among all groups
(D) easy to read from a distance

Use the article "A Weather Station on the Roof" to answer this question.

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

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

Use the article "A Weather Station on the Roof" 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) Students and volunteers worked together throughout the project.
(C) The team studied the weakness and then repositioned the shield and compared new data against shaded ground readings.
(D) The project began after students identified a local need in the community.

Use the article "A Weather Station on the Roof" 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 summarizes the article's conclusion before any evidence is given.
(C) It introduces the setting of the project for the first time.
(D) It compares two unrelated projects in different locations.

Use the article "A Weather Station on the Roof" to answer this question.

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

(A) To foreshadow that the project will face a challenge later
(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 emphasize how much time and effort the project required

Use the article "A Weather Station on the Roof" to answer this question.

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

(A) It compares two competing approaches to solving the problem and argues that one is clearly better.
(B) It introduces a project, explains its process, describes a problem, and shows a revised solution.
(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.

Scan Me

Use the article "Why Seed Banks Matter" to answer this question.

20) How does paragraph 4 contribute to the article?

(A) It introduces seed banks for the first time.
(B) It shows a second purpose of seed banks: preserving traditional varieties that markets no longer support.
(C) It argues that farmers should stop growing high-yield crops entirely.
(D) It summarizes the earlier information about the Svalbard vault.

Use the article "Why Seed Banks Matter" to answer this question.

21) Based on the article, what can the reader infer about seed banks?

(A) They work quickly and without any human effort.
(B) They are only important for countries that experience drought.
(C) They depend on careful, ongoing work by scientists and volunteers.
(D) They are no longer needed because farming has become more modern.

Use the article "Why Seed Banks Matter" 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 seed banks protect against both sudden disasters and slow, long-term losses in crop variety.

(A) "The most famous is the Svalbard Global Seed Vault in Norway, built deep inside a mountain."
(B) "A single disease can sweep through a single type of wheat or rice."
(C) "Scientists check moisture levels, test seed viability every few years, and plant small sample plots to refresh the collection."
(D) "As markets shifted toward a few high-yielding types, older varieties nearly disappeared."
(E) "Some have been operating quietly for more than fifty years."

Scan Me

Use the article "Why Seed Banks Matter" to answer this question.

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

(A) Seed banks store millions of seeds in a few cold vaults around the world.
(B) Seed banks quietly protect crop diversity so that scientists, farmers, and communities can respond to future needs.
(C) Seed banks are only useful in very cold climates.
(D) Seed banks replace farms by growing crops themselves.

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

Diego wrote an informational essay about the benefits of learning a musical instrument. Read Diego's essay and look for revisions he needs to make. Then answer the questions that follow.

Why Everyone Should Try a Musical Instrument

(1) Learning a musical instrument does more than make music. (2) Studies show that students who play an instrument often develop stronger memory, patience, and focus. (3) Practice teaches the kind of steady attention that also helps with math and reading. (4) My older cousin is really good at skateboarding.

(5) Playing an instrument also builds community. (6) School bands, church choirs, and neighborhood lessons bring together students who might never meet otherwise. (7) Over time, these groups become places where students support each other through the slow work of improvement.

(8) Learning an instrument can be hard at first. (9) Fingers get sore, and songs can sound rough during the first weeks. (10) But students who stick with it describe a steady joy that grows as small pieces of music come together.

24) Which sentence should Diego 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 "Why Everyone Should Try a Musical Instrument" to answer this question.

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

(A) Playing an instrument also builds community, because school bands, church choirs, and neighborhood lessons bring together students who might never meet otherwise.
(B) Playing an instrument builds community, school bands bring together students.
(C) Bands build community, and instruments are played by students.
(D) Community is built and students meet.

Use the essay "Why Everyone Should Try a Musical Instrument" to answer this question.

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

(A) In short, everyone should love their pets.
(B) Of course, starting an instrument is not always easy.
(C) Next week, our school will host a pizza party.
(D) In contrast, music is never enjoyable.