

LESSON 6

Read this article about frightening dreams. Then answer questions about the article. Choose the best answer for Numbers 1 to 12.

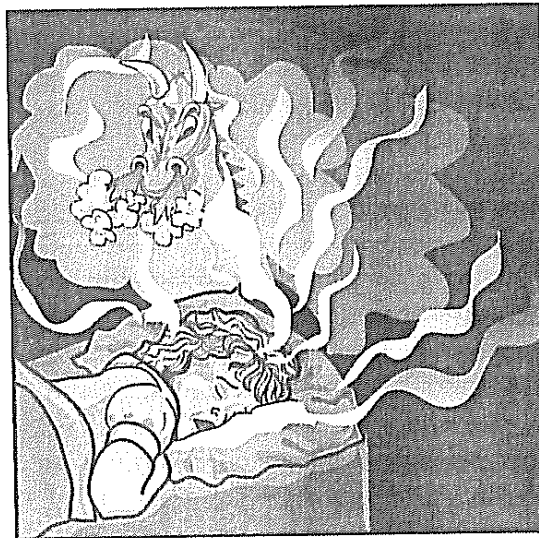
Have you ever woken in the middle of the night, feeling afraid but unsure as to why? Chances are you had a nightmare. Nightmares are different from regular dreams, because they happen at different times during the sleep cycle. When you first fall asleep, you enter the initial dream state. After you have been asleep for a long time, you enter the cycle known as dreaming sleep. During dreaming sleep, the dreamer is unable to move. All motor control is shut off. Sometimes, the mind may create a terrifying nightmare about the dreamer being unable to move or escape.

Waking up from a nightmare can feel like being lost in a dark tunnel. You may wake feeling hot and sweaty, as if you had just run a race. It can take several moments to recall where you are and to realise that the events in the nightmare did not actually occur. Maybe in your nightmare you were running from someone or something. It is possible that you screamed out loud because the nightmare seemed so real.

Researchers believe that everyone dreams several dreams each night. Many of these dreams are not remembered upon waking. Nightmares are more frequently remembered than other dreams because of their terrifying nature.

Nightmares are most common in children. Most children have nightmares when they are between the ages of two and six years. Children have more trouble with nightmares than adults because it is still difficult for them to determine what is real and what is make-believe. Children do not understand that the monster that chased and almost ate them was not real. Once a child reaches the age of about seven, the nightmares are usually less frequent and less frightening.

Nightmares of older individuals usually have a different cause. Researchers believe that nightmares of teens and adults mirror the things that are feared in waking life. A nightmare is a way for the subconscious mind to help us face and solve problems. If you have a nightmare, bear in mind that the nightmare is probably a message from your subconscious. By comparing what happened in the dream to what is happening in your daily life, you may just find out what that message is.



<p>Finding Main Idea</p> <p>1. What is a good title for the article?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ 'How to Avoid Nightmares' Ⓑ 'Understanding Nightmares' Ⓒ 'Dreams and the Sleep Cycle' Ⓓ 'How to Interpret Your Dreams' 	<p>Recognising Cause and Effect</p> <p>4. According to the article, nightmares are remembered more often than other types of dreams because</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ these are the most common type of dream occurrence. Ⓑ they often appear so real and terrifying to the dreamer. Ⓒ they happen during a different part of the sleep cycle. Ⓓ they often awaken the sleeper.
<p>Recalling Facts and Details</p> <p>2. Most children experience nightmares between</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ ages one and six. Ⓑ ages four and five. Ⓒ ages two and three. Ⓓ ages two and six. 	<p>Comparing and Contrasting</p> <p>5. A child's nightmare differs from an adult's nightmare because</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ most children believe that the scary images are real. Ⓑ most children remain in dreaming sleep longer than an adult. Ⓒ most children remember their dreams. Ⓓ most children have fears that they are not facing in everyday life.
<p>Understanding Sequence</p> <p>3. What happens first when a dreamer falls asleep?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ The dreamer enters the initial dream state. Ⓑ The dreamer's mind creates a terrifying nightmare. Ⓒ The dreamer enters the stage of sleep known as dreaming sleep. Ⓓ All motor control is shut off, so the dreamer is unable to move. 	<p>Making Predictions</p> <p>6. From information gained in the article, predict what area of study a dream researcher might pursue.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ the effects of frequent daydreaming on students' performance at school Ⓑ a comparison of the dreams of senior citizens and the dreams of younger adults Ⓒ the effects of one's subconscious on a person's waking hours Ⓓ the dreams of teens and their similarity to children's nightmares

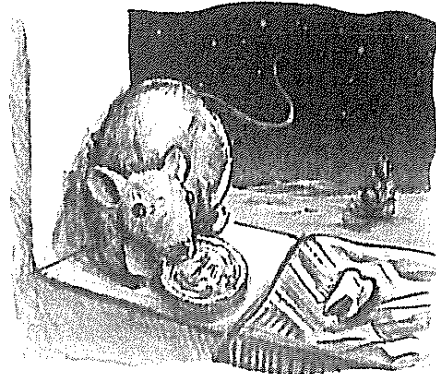
<p>Finding Word Meaning in Context</p> <p>7. In the article, the word <i>mirror</i> means</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ 'exaggerate'. Ⓑ 'inspect'. Ⓒ 'create'. Ⓓ 'represent'. 	<p>Identifying Author's Purpose</p> <p>10. The article was written mainly to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ describe what happens during a nightmare. Ⓑ explain about nightmares and why they occur. Ⓒ persuade readers to learn from their nightmares. Ⓓ inform readers how the sleep cycle affects nightmares.
<p>Drawing Conclusions and Making Inferences</p> <p>8. There is enough information in the article to determine that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ dreamers rarely have nightmares after the age of seven. Ⓑ a nightmare will continue to return until the dreamer understands what caused it to occur. Ⓒ a dreamer in dreaming sleep will not necessarily always have a nightmare. Ⓓ most dreams are not remembered, because they occur during dreaming sleep. 	<p>Interpreting Figurative Language</p> <p>11. The words <i>bear in mind</i> mean</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ 'take immediate action'. Ⓑ 'make a serious effort'. Ⓒ 'remember'. Ⓓ 'resolve'.
<p>Distinguishing Between Fact and Opinion</p> <p>9. Which of these is an <i>opinion</i>?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ Everyone dreams several dreams each night. Ⓑ Nightmares happen at a different time during the sleep cycle. Ⓒ Nightmares can be a way to help us understand our fears. Ⓓ Researching the cause of nightmares is a fascinating study. 	<p>Summarising</p> <p>12. Which of these is the best summary of the article?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ Nightmares can have many causes, depending upon the age of the dreamer. Ⓑ Children frequently have more nightmares than adults. Ⓒ Researchers are still trying to identify the causes of nightmares. Ⓓ Solving problems can best be achieved through nightmares.

LESSON 7

Read this article about curious customs. Then answer questions about the article. Choose the best answer for Numbers 1 to 12.

Tooth Tales

The loss of baby teeth helps mark a major stage in a child's development. In Australia, the United States and some parts of Europe, there is a custom that many children follow when they lose a baby tooth. Young boys and girls often place the tooth under their pillow at night. They hope that while they are sleeping they will get a visit from the tooth fairy, a winged sprite who leaves behind small gifts or money to replace the lost baby tooth. Some people may find a custom associated with losing teeth to be out of the ordinary. Yet, throughout the world and throughout history, there is much folklore surrounding the customs and beliefs about lost baby teeth.



People in England had a variety of customs associated with lost teeth. Their most popular custom traces back several centuries. When a child loses a baby tooth, the child's parents plant the tooth in a garden. According to folklore, this is supposed to help a permanent tooth grow in place of the lost tooth.

Long ago in Scandinavia, the Vikings believed the possessions of young children wielded great power. They used to pay children a fee for their lost teeth. Vikings used the teeth to make necklaces. They thought that necklaces made of children's teeth would protect them in battle.

In some parts of the world, a mouse plays an important role in a custom associated with a lost baby tooth. In many South American countries, as well as in Spain, the tooth fairy transforms into a mouse that takes the teeth and brings good luck and gifts to the child. In Mexico, *El Ratoncito* (the little mouse) takes baby teeth and leaves a coin in payment. In other parts of the world, mice were once thought to regrow lost teeth. Parents in such regions placed a child's lost tooth in the nest of a mouse. They believed that placing the tooth in a mouse's nest would ensure that a permanent tooth would grow in its place.

Long ago, here in Australia, parents ground their children's lost teeth into a powder and ate it. In other regions of the world, parents took extra care to keep a lost tooth far from animals. They believed that if an animal found a child's tooth, the animal's tooth might replace the lost tooth in the child's mouth. In ancient Egypt, it was believed that the sun made teeth strong. Lost baby teeth were tossed toward the sun.

Over time, many of these beliefs have blended with others. Some have disappeared altogether. Yet, these unique tooth customs have existed for centuries, helping to create the curious customs that we have today.

<p>Finding Main Idea</p> <p>1. The article tells mainly about</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ Viking customs about lost teeth. Ⓑ unique customs around the world. Ⓒ customs surrounding lost baby teeth. Ⓓ folklore surrounding the tooth fairy. 	<p>Recognising Cause and Effect</p> <p>4. Vikings made necklaces from baby teeth because</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ they wanted to honour their child's development. Ⓑ they believed this would help a permanent tooth grow in its place. Ⓒ they believed the necklaces protected them in battle. Ⓓ they believed it would help regrow another baby tooth.
<p>Recalling Facts and Details</p> <p>2. In some parts of the world, mice were thought to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ steal teeth. Ⓑ regrow teeth. Ⓒ protect teeth. Ⓓ strengthen teeth. 	<p>Comparing and Contrasting</p> <p>5. You can tell that a sprite is most like a</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ mouse. Ⓑ fairy. Ⓒ gift. Ⓓ custom
<p>Understanding Sequence</p> <p>3. What did some parents here in Australia do after their child lost a tooth?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ They ground the tooth. Ⓑ They bought the tooth. Ⓒ They planted the tooth. Ⓓ They hid the tooth. 	<p>Making Predictions</p> <p>6. A child whose parents plant her tooth in a garden long ago probably lived in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ Australia. Ⓑ Mexico. Ⓒ Spain. Ⓓ England.

<p>Finding Word Meaning in Context</p> <p>7. You can tell that <i>transforms</i> means</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ 'changes for the better'. Ⓑ 'changes completely'. Ⓒ 'moves from one place to another'. Ⓓ 'passes or moves'. 	<p>Identifying Author's Purpose</p> <p>10. The article was written mainly to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ describe how customs have grown and changed over the years. Ⓑ get readers to learn more about unique customs. Ⓒ explain the many customs surrounding lost baby teeth. Ⓓ entertain readers with information that teaches an important lesson.
<p>Drawing Conclusions and Making Inferences</p> <p>8. From the article, you can conclude that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ some customs associated with lost teeth are no longer practised. Ⓑ children in most countries believe in the tooth fairy. Ⓒ the sun helps to make teeth strong. Ⓓ most customs are based on events that could actually happen. 	<p>Interpreting Figurative Language</p> <p>11. You can tell that <i>out of the ordinary</i> means</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ particular. Ⓑ commonplace. Ⓒ remarkable. Ⓓ unusual.
<p>Distinguishing Between Fact and Opinion</p> <p>9. Which statement from the article expresses an <i>opinion</i>?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ Over time, many of these beliefs have blended with others. Ⓑ Some people may find a custom associated with losing teeth to be out of the ordinary. Ⓒ In some parts of the world, a mouse plays an important role in a custom associated with a lost baby tooth. Ⓓ They believed that placing the tooth in a mouse's nest would ensure that a permanent tooth would grow in its place. 	<p>Summarising</p> <p>12. What is a good summary of the article?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ Parents around the world celebrate their child's growth in different ways. Ⓑ Most children around the world put a lost baby tooth under their pillow. Ⓒ Many countries have unique customs associated with lost baby teeth. Ⓓ Most customs associated with lost baby teeth involve a mouse.

LESSON 8

Read these directions for writing a research essay. Then answer questions about the directions. Choose the best answer for Numbers 1 to 12.

Writing a research essay is an opportunity to become an expert in a subject that interests you. The six steps below show you the ropes for completing a research essay. By following these steps, you'll be able to prepare a solid essay.

Six Steps for Writing a Research Essay

- Step 1: What Do I Need to Do?** First, choose a topic that interests you. Make sure the topic is not too broad. For example, a research essay about World War II would be too extensive. Instead, narrow your topic to a particular event that took place during the war. Once you've chosen a topic, make a list of questions that your research essay will answer. These are most likely the very questions you yourself have about your subject. As you learn more about your topic, change or add to your list of questions.
- Step 2: What Can I Do to Find What I Need?** Brainstorm ideas to figure out what sources of information to use. You can do this by yourself or with one or two classmates. Some sources to use are encyclopedias (including those online), books, magazines, newspapers and online search engines. Once you have a list of possible sources, decide which ones you will use.
- Step 3: Where Can I Find What I Need?** Many sources are in your school or local library. Check with a librarian to see if the library has magazine indexes; some of these are on computer and allow you to search by author, title and keywords. Don't be afraid to ask for help from a librarian. A capable librarian is the cornerstone of any library. They are usually eager to provide assistance and guidance. Consider conducting interviews or surveys about your topic.
- Step 4: What Information Can I Use?** Once you've located your sources, take notes about the important information you've found. Keep a bibliography as you do your research to help you keep track of all your information sources.
- Step 5: How Do I Pull My Information Together?** Review your notes; then make an outline. List the main ideas of your essay. For each main idea, list the supporting details. Your outline prepares you for the next step – writing your first draft. After you've written your first draft, revise your work. Check ideas, organisation, word choice and sentences. Also check spelling and punctuation. Be sure you have a strong beginning and ending. Now write your final draft.
- Step 6: How Did I Do?** Evaluate how well you completed the assignment. Think about such questions as: Where did I find most of my information? What did I learn about the writing process? What will I do differently next time I write a research essay?

Finding Main Idea

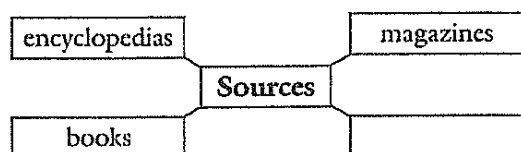
1. What is the passage mostly about?
- (A) using steps to make an outline for a research essay
 - (B) organising the different steps for completing a research essay
 - (C) finding sources of information to complete a research essay
 - (D) writing a research essay by following important steps

Recognising Cause and Effect

4. Why wouldn't the Roman Empire be a good topic for a research essay?
- (A) because readers might not find the topic interesting
 - (B) because the topic covers too broad an area
 - (C) because it would be time consuming to find all the information needed
 - (D) because most people already know more than enough about the topic

Recalling Facts and Details

2. The web shows some ideas about different sources you can use to write an essay.



Which of these goes in the empty box?

- (A) online encyclopedias
- (B) newspapers
- (C) keywords
- (D) magazine index

Comparing and Contrasting

5. In the passage, a librarian is compared to
- (A) the director of a play.
 - (B) the keeper of the gate.
 - (C) an essential part of the foundation of a building.
 - (D) a lighthouse that guides young readers.

Understanding Sequence

3. According to the six steps, an outline should be made
- (A) before reviewing all your notes.
 - (B) after determining which sources you will use.
 - (C) before you brainstorm ideas for sources of information to use.
 - (D) before writing your first draft.

Making Predictions

6. Predict what will most likely happen the first time a student uses the six steps to complete a research essay.
- (A) The student will learn how to conduct interesting interviews.
 - (B) The student will receive the highest mark they have ever attained.
 - (C) The student will discover effective ways to gather, organise and report information.
 - (D) The student will become an expert on writing research essays.

<p>Finding Word Meaning in Context</p> <p>7. In Step 1, the word <i>extensive</i> means</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ 'far from complete'. Ⓑ 'difficult to understand'. Ⓒ 'lacking in depth'. Ⓓ 'far-reaching'. 	<p>Identifying Author's Purpose</p> <p>10. The passage was written mainly to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ explain to students how to become an expert in a subject of interest. Ⓑ describe a plan for completing a research essay. Ⓒ teach students how to conduct thorough research. Ⓓ inform students of six methods that can be used to research a topic.
<p>Drawing Conclusions and Making Inferences</p> <p>8. From the passage, you can conclude that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ revising a research essay is not an essential step. Ⓑ research essays are easier to complete when you follow a plan. Ⓒ finding information is the hardest part of writing a research essay. Ⓓ research essays teach students how to work with others. 	<p>Interpreting Figurative Language</p> <p>11. The phrase <i>show you the ropes</i> means</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ 'instruct you on the details'. Ⓑ 'help you to be recognised above all others'. Ⓒ 'teach you to become an authority'. Ⓓ 'show you how to take advantage of a new opportunity'.
<p>Distinguishing Between Fact and Opinion</p> <p>9. Which of these is a <i>fact</i>?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ Research essays require more effort than most other assignments. Ⓑ Step 5 is the least important step for writing a research essay. Ⓒ Much of the information needed to complete a research essay can be found at the library. Ⓓ Magazine indexes are most useful when trying to decide on a topic. 	<p>Summarising</p> <p>12. Which of these is the best summary of the passage?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ Research essays should be written about interesting topics. Ⓑ Research essays are best completed in a library. Ⓒ Research essays will make the writer an expert on the topic researched. Ⓓ Research essays can be completed by dividing the assignment into manageable parts.

LESSON 9

Here is an essay about eucalypt trees. Read the essay. Then answer questions about the essay. Choose the best answer for Numbers 1 to 12.

Australia is dominated by an amazing tree called the eucalypt. It makes up 95% of the forest and woodland trees in Australia. Australia is often a hard place for trees. But the eucalypt does well in any environment. It's at home in our hot, dry interior. It also does well in areas along the coast.

The eucalypt gets its name from a Greek word meaning 'well covered'. This refers to the fruit of the tree. We call them gumnuts. There are hundreds of different species of eucalypt. These range from the tall, thin ironbark to the shorter and twisted mallee or coolabah.

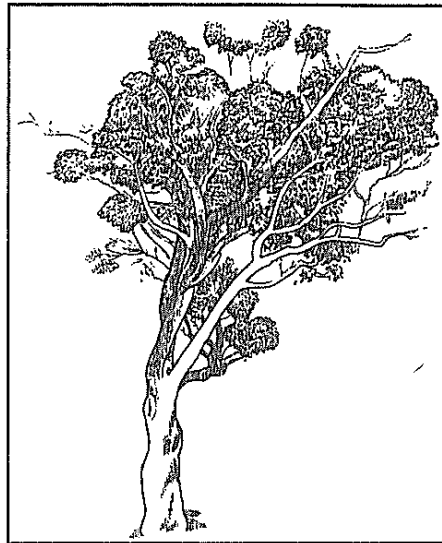
One species of eucalypt is known as *eucalyptus regnans*. This is actually the tallest hardwood tree in the world. One was measured at 132 metres in 1872 at Watts River, Victoria. If this measurement was right, this was the tallest tree ever recorded.

The eucalypt has always been an important part of Australian life. The Aborigines made spears and shields from its wood. They built canoes from its bark. Eucalyptus oil was one of the first Australian products to take off overseas. Today it's mainly used to make cleaners, medicines and perfumes. But the most important job for the eucalypt lies with the koala. Many things find the eucalypt poisonous to eat. But the koala relies on it. In fact it's the only thing they eat.

The eucalypt is only native to Australia and a few of the Pacific Islands. But recently it has spread its roots to places as far away as America, Russia and parts of Africa and Europe. It gets picked for timber plantations because it grows quickly and it can put up with drought.

But despite its prosperity, life is not all roses for the eucalypt. Since Europeans arrived the eucalypt has been heavily logged and cleared for farming. There are so many eucalypts today that this might not seem like much of a threat. But some species need very specific weather and soil to survive.

Sixteen species of eucalypt are currently listed as endangered. This means that they could die out if we continue to cut them down. The loss of eucalypts is sadly reflected in the numbers of koalas in Australia. Koala populations have plummeted from several million in the 1920s to only around 40-80 thousand today.



<p>Finding Main Idea</p> <p>1. What is the main idea in paragraph four?</p> <p>(A) The aborigines used the eucalypt for spears, shields and canoes.</p> <p>(B) Eucalyptus oil was one of Australia's first major exports.</p> <p>(C) The eucalypt is an important part of Australian life.</p> <p>(D) The koala eats eucalyptus leaves.</p>	<p>Recognising Cause and Effect</p> <p>4. What has happened as a result of the clearing and logging of eucalyptus trees?</p> <p>(A) There are far fewer koalas than there were.</p> <p>(B) There is a worldwide shortage of eucalyptus oil.</p> <p>(C) Eucalypts are no longer the most common tree in Australia.</p> <p>(D) The eucalypt has been planted overseas to ensure its survival.</p>				
<p>Recalling Facts and Details</p> <p>2. Where in Australia do eucalypts live?</p> <p>(A) the desert</p> <p>(B) the mountains</p> <p>(C) the coast</p> <p>(D) almost anywhere</p>	<p>Comparing and Contrasting</p> <p>5. According to the article, what is the main difference between the ironbark and the mallee?</p> <p>(A) where they live</p> <p>(B) their leaves and flowers</p> <p>(C) their size and shape</p> <p>(D) their numbers</p>				
<p>Understanding Sequence</p> <p>3. The timeline tells about the history of the eucalypt.</p> <table border="1"><tr><td>Aborigines made spears, shields and canoes from the eucalypt.</td><td></td><td>Eucalypts are planted in several other countries.</td><td>Sixteen species of eucalypt are endangered.</td></tr></table> <p style="text-align: center;">1 2 3 4</p> <p>Which of these could <u>not</u> go in box two?</p> <p>(A) A eucalypt is measured at 132 metres.</p> <p>(B) Eucalypts are heavily logged and cleared for farming.</p> <p>(C) Koalas begin to eat eucalypt leaves</p> <p>(D) Eucalyptus oil becomes a major Australian export.</p>	Aborigines made spears, shields and canoes from the eucalypt.		Eucalypts are planted in several other countries.	Sixteen species of eucalypt are endangered.	<p>Making Predictions</p> <p>6. Predict what will happen to koalas if their eucalypt habitats continue to disappear.</p> <p>(A) Koalas will find a different plant to eat.</p> <p>(B) There will be fewer koalas.</p> <p>(C) Koalas will migrate to another country.</p> <p>(D) Koalas will become carnivores.</p>
Aborigines made spears, shields and canoes from the eucalypt.		Eucalypts are planted in several other countries.	Sixteen species of eucalypt are endangered.		

<p>Finding Word Meaning in Context</p> <p>7. What is the meaning of the word <i>prosperity</i> in paragraph six?</p> <p>Ⓐ 'wealth' Ⓑ 'beauty' Ⓒ 'size' Ⓓ 'successes'</p>	<p>Identifying Author's Purpose</p> <p>10. What is the author's purpose in the first and second paragraphs?</p> <p>Ⓐ to convince readers that the eucalypt is a wonderful tree Ⓑ to describe the different species of eucalypt Ⓒ to entertain readers with everything there is to know about the eucalypt Ⓓ to inform readers with some basic facts about the eucalypt</p>
<p>Drawing Conclusions and Making Inferences</p> <p>8. From the article, you can tell that eucalypts</p> <p>Ⓐ are more affected by disease than other plants. Ⓑ are found throughout Australia today. Ⓒ are not as impressive today as they once were. Ⓓ will become extinct if they are not protected.</p>	<p>Interpreting Figurative Language</p> <p>11. The phrase <i>life is not all roses</i> means</p> <p>Ⓐ life is not all easy for the eucalypt. Ⓑ the eucalypt does not have pretty flowers like the rose. Ⓒ the eucalypt is not related to the rose. Ⓓ life is extremely difficult for the eucalypt.</p>
<p>Distinguishing Between Fact and Opinion</p> <p>9. Which of these is an <i>opinion</i>?</p> <p>Ⓐ Eucalypts make up about 95% of the forests and woodlands in Australia. Ⓑ The eucalypt is the perfect symbol of everything that is Australian. Ⓒ Eucalypts grow quickly and aren't bothered by drought. Ⓓ Eucalypts are only native to Australia and a few of the Pacific Islands.</p>	<p>Summarising</p> <p>12. Which of these would be a good summary of the article?</p> <p>Ⓐ The eucalypt is the best tree in the world. Ⓑ The eucalypt must be protected or it will become extinct. Ⓒ The eucalypt is a special part of Australia that should be appreciated. Ⓓ The eucalypt is the most common tree in Australia.</p>

LESSON 10

Read this article from the science section of a newspaper. Then answer questions about the article. Choose the best answer for Numbers 1 to 12.

Astronomy Corner

By Carol Sagen



What is the Sun?

The Sun is an amazing ball of energy. This ball of energy is really just a star, like the ones you see on a clear night. The Sun, however, is much closer to Earth than other stars. That is why we can feel the heat of the Sun. That is also why the Sun looks much bigger and brighter than other stars.

What is the Sun made of?

The Sun is made of hot gases that contain many of the same elements found on Earth. These elements are hydrogen, helium, calcium, sodium, magnesium and iron.

How large is the Sun?

Although the Sun may look small from Earth, it is actually quite large. It only looks small because it is about 150 million kilometres away. The Sun has a diameter of 1.4 million kilometres. It is so large that more than one million planets the size of Earth could fit inside it.

Compared to other stars, however, the Sun is average in size. There are many stars that appear small in the night sky but are actually bigger than the Sun.

How hot is the Sun?

Very hot! The surface of the Sun is approximately 6000°C. Although the inside portion of the Sun has not been studied, the temperature inside the Sun is believed to be greater than 14 million degrees C. The outer atmosphere of the

Sun (which we cannot see with our eyes) gets extremely hot, about 800,000 to 1.1 million degrees. These temperature changes are of great interest to scientists.

How old is the Sun?

The Sun is no spring chicken – it is about 4½ billion years old! Humans have been around for only a tiny fraction of this time. Scientists believe that the Sun will remain the way it is for about another 5 billion years. After that, the Sun will begin burning out. Eventually, the Sun will no longer give off heat.

Does the Sun move?

The Sun spins on an axis. It moves at different rates because of the movement of gases. The equator of the Sun moves about once every 25 days, while the poles of the Sun rotate about once every 35 days.

Why do we study the Sun?

We need the Sun for light, heat and energy. Without the Sun, life on Earth would not exist. Scientists know that the Sun changes over time. These changes affect our lives and our climate. They also affect our communication satellites. The more we know about the Sun, the more we can understand how its changes affect life on Earth.

<p>Finding Main Idea</p> <p>1. The article is mostly about</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ the universe. Ⓑ the Sun. Ⓒ stars. Ⓓ Earth. 	<p>Recognising Cause and Effect</p> <p>4. The Sun looks brighter and bigger than other stars because</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ it is closer to Earth than other stars. Ⓑ it is brighter and bigger than most stars. Ⓒ it has already begun to burn out. Ⓓ it is made of elements not found in most stars.
<p>Recalling Facts and Details</p> <p>2. Which of these is <u>not</u> an element found in the Sun?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ calcium Ⓑ magnesium Ⓒ potassium Ⓓ hydrogen 	<p>Comparing and Contrasting</p> <p>5. How does the outer atmosphere of the Sun differ from its surface?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ It can be seen. Ⓑ It is hotter. Ⓒ It is cooler. Ⓓ It is always changing.
<p>Understanding Sequence</p> <p>3. What will happen in 5 billion years?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ The Sun will be harder to see in the sky. Ⓑ The Sun will become more like a planet. Ⓒ The Sun will move closer to Earth. Ⓓ The Sun will start to burn out. 	<p>Making Predictions</p> <p>6. Who would probably be most affected by the Sun's interference with communications systems?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ teachers Ⓑ bus drivers Ⓒ video game players Ⓓ mobile phone users

<p>Finding Word Meaning in Context</p> <p>7. Which of these is the best meaning of <i>axis</i>?</p> <p>Ⓐ 'a circle that divides a sphere into two equal parts'</p> <p>Ⓑ 'an imaginary straight line around which an object rotates'</p> <p>Ⓒ 'the path that one object follows around another object'</p> <p>Ⓓ 'the power, strength or energy that something has'</p>	<p>Identifying Author's Purpose</p> <p>10. The article was written mainly to</p> <p>Ⓐ describe what the Sun looks like.</p> <p>Ⓑ explain facts about the Sun.</p> <p>Ⓒ get readers to learn more about the Sun.</p> <p>Ⓓ entertain readers with unusual facts about the Sun.</p>
<p>Drawing Conclusions and Making Inferences</p> <p>8. From the article, you can conclude that</p> <p>Ⓐ the Sun is the largest star in the sky.</p> <p>Ⓑ the Sun is much smaller than Earth.</p> <p>Ⓒ the Earth is older than the Sun.</p> <p>Ⓓ not much is known about the inside of the Sun.</p>	<p>Interpreting Figurative Language</p> <p>11. The article states that <i>The Sun is no spring chicken</i>. This means that the Sun is not</p> <p>Ⓐ old.</p> <p>Ⓑ young.</p> <p>Ⓒ alive.</p> <p>Ⓓ powerful.</p>
<p>Distinguishing Between Fact and Opinion</p> <p>9. Which statement from the article expresses an <i>opinion</i>?</p> <p>Ⓐ The Sun is an amazing ball of energy.</p> <p>Ⓑ We need the Sun for light, heat and energy.</p> <p>Ⓒ Eventually, the Sun will no longer give off heat.</p> <p>Ⓓ These temperature changes are of great interest to scientists.</p>	<p>Summarising</p> <p>12. What is a good summary of the article?</p> <p>Ⓐ The Sun is a star that affects life on Earth.</p> <p>Ⓑ More must be learned about the Sun before we can understand how it affects our lives.</p> <p>Ⓒ The Sun is an old star made up of gases, giving off heat and providing life on Earth.</p> <p>Ⓓ The Sun is about 4½ billion years old and is about 150 million kilometres from Earth.</p> <p>You have now completed Lessons 6–10. Go to page 32. Complete Self-assessment 2.</p>