

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Comprehension

Answer Numbers 1 through 10. Base your answers on the article “The Journey: Stories of Migration.”

- 1 Read this sentence from the article.

**There are few migrations as dramatic and frightening as when the desert locusts are moving across Africa.**

What does the author mean by the word *dramatic* in the sentence above?

- (A) easy
  - (B) entertaining
  - (C) exciting
  - (D) exhausting
- 2 How does a locust look DIFFERENT from a grasshopper?
- (F) A locust turns black.
  - (G) A locust turns green.
  - (H) A locust turns dark yellow or red.
  - (I) A locust turns bright orange or pink.

- 3 Read this sentence from the article.

**And in the sudden darkness there is a terrible thunderous noise.**

Why did the author use the word *thunderous* in the sentence above?

- (A) to show how soft the noise was
  - (B) to show how loud the noise was
  - (C) to show how scary the noise was
  - (D) to show how scratchy the noise was
- 4 Read this sentence from the article.

**Within minutes they will fly off again, leaving behind them a totally devastated landscape.**

What does the author mean by the word *devastated* in the sentence above?

- (F) beautiful
- (G) different
- (H) interesting
- (I) ruined

- 5 How does the landscape look DIFFERENT after the locusts have flown through?
- (A) All of the lakes have dried up.
  - (B) All of the plants have been eaten.
  - (C) All of the grasshoppers have laid eggs.
  - (D) All of the locusts have blocked out the sun.
- 6 How are today's locust swarms DIFFERENT from those in ancient times?
- (F) Today's swarms fly lower.
  - (G) Today's swarms are larger.
  - (H) Today's swarms are smaller.
  - (I) Today's swarms eat more plants.
- 7 How is the migration of the gray whale DIFFERENT from the migration of other mammals?
- (A) Gray whales change color before migration.
  - (B) Gray whales go farther than other mammals.
  - (C) Gray whales do not go as far as other mammals.
  - (D) Gray whales do not change colors before migration.
- 8 Read this sentence from the article.
- The whales eat and eat and eat, straining the tiny food through strips of baleen in their mouths.**

What does the author mean by the word *straining* in the sentence above?

- (F) to swallow
- (G) to push violently
- (H) to stretch beyond the limit
- (I) to remove by passing through

**The Journey:  
Stories of Migration  
Comprehension**

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- 9 How are the Arctic waters DIFFERENT from the waters along California and Mexico?
- Ⓐ The Arctic waters have less food.
  - Ⓑ The Arctic waters are much colder.
  - Ⓒ The Arctic waters are much dirtier.
  - Ⓓ The Arctic waters have more people fishing there.
- 10 How are gray whales and locusts DIFFERENT?
- Ⓕ Gray whales are fish, and locusts are insects.
  - Ⓖ Gray whales migrate, but locusts stay in one place.
  - Ⓗ Gray whales live in the sea, but locusts live in the desert.
  - Ⓘ Gray whales lay eggs, but locusts give birth to live young.

**Mark Student Reading Level:**

\_\_\_\_ Independent \_\_\_\_ Instructional \_\_\_\_ Listening

**Compare and Contrast, Author's Word Choice,  
Anchor Text**

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