The Cardinal, or red bird, is one of the most beautiful birds on earth. It is a songbird with a sweet sound that is nice to hear.

The male Cardinal is a bright red color and looks like he is wearing a black mask. He is larger than the female bird.

The female Cardinal is browner in color and appears to wear a smaller mask. She has some red color on her body. She sings the sweet song, too.

Cardinals can be found in the woods, parks or even your yard.

1. Which is the best summary of this passage?

- A. Cardinals are beautiful songbirds that can be found in many places. Males are bright red with a black mask. Females are browner and smaller, and have a smaller black mask.
- B. Many states have chosen the pretty red cardinal as the official state bird. Cardinals can be found in the woods, parks, or even in your own backyard. Cardinals sing songs.
- C. The male cardinal is larger and has more red coloring than the female cardinal does. He looks like he has a black mask on. The female's mask is a little smaller than the male's.
- D. Cardinals are the most beautiful birds on earth and can be found in many forests. Cardinals are red and brown songbirds that sing sweet songs that people enjoy hearing.

Nora sped along the sidewalk on her bike. The sweet smell of spring was in the air. That meant school would be out in two months. Nora could hardly wait. She rounded the corner and glanced into Mrs. Bob's front yard. Her name wasn't really Mrs. Bob. Her husband's name was Bob, and everyone called him that. Mrs. Bob became her nickname since their last name was impossible to say, let alone remember. Mrs. Bob was an amazing gardener. Her front yard was positively blooming in the spring. Nora always enjoyed peeking her nose through the front gate to smell the beauty. This time, though, Nora noticed that something was wrong.

Mrs. Bob's garden was a mess. Dead leaves and small branches littered the walkway. The grass was overgrown, and the hedges were in need of a trim. Nora hesitated. Then she went boldly up to the front door and knocked. Mr. Bob came to the door. Answering Nora's questions, he explained that Mrs. Bob had taken a bad fall that winter. She had broken her hip and was still recovering.

"The gardens would have to wait," he said, sighing sadly.

Nora had a plan. She talked with her parents and rallied the neighbors. The next Saturday, they descended on Mrs. Bob's front yard. They raked and hoed and weeded. They bought all of Mrs. Bob's favorite flowers and spent the afternoon planting. Neighbors who had barely seen each other all winter were chatting and laughing together. Mrs. Bob herself even came to the front window, astonished. She waved and laughed. Mr. Bob said he hadn't seen her smile like that in months. Nora was so proud of her neighborhood that day.

2. Which summary of the selection is correct?

- A. A young girl rallies her neighborhood to help an older neighbor.
B. An elderly neighbor falls down and cannot move for the whole winter.
C. A young girl rides her bike down the street and notices some trouble.
D. A young girl feels proud of her neighborhood in the springtime.

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**Waldo McWillerbee: Magician**

Waldo McWillerbee wanted to be a magician. With a funny name like Waldo McWillerbee, what else *could* he be besides a magician? A banker? Certainly not a banker! With a name like Waldo McWillerbee, he was meant to entertain the world, and he was determined to do just that with his wondrous, wonderful magic.

For his first trick, he would make his mother's prized antique vase float in the air. The vase was simply beautiful! It was over a hundred years old, and it had tiny blue and gold flowers painted all over it. He covered the vase in his magical handkerchief. He took the vase in his hands—one hand holding the top, and the other hand supporting the bottom. He chanted, "Scmoozy, Foozy, Kitten Hairy! Make this vase float in the air-y!" He released the vase. BAM! Tiny glass pieces with blue and gold flowers showered the floor.

Then Waldo McWillerbee knew he must perform a magician's most important trick of all: make himself disappear! Off Waldo McWillerbee ran to hide under the bed!

3. Which line **best** shows an idea that is important to include in a summary of this story?

- A. He covered the vase in his magical handkerchief.
- B. He took the vase in his hands . . .
- C. Off Waldo McWillerbee ran to hide under the bed!
- D. Certainly not a banker!

4. Which of these **best** summarizes the second paragraph?

- A. Waldo McWillerbee broke his mother's vase because he was trying to be a magician. He went to hide under his bed.
- B. Waldo McWillerbee chanted, "Scmoozy, Foozy, Kitten Hairy! Make this vase float in the air-y!" He wanted the vase to float.
- C. Waldo McWillerbee tried to use magic to make his mother's antique vase float in the air. The vase shattered on the floor.
- D. Waldo McWillerbee's mother had an antique vase with tiny blue and gold flowers painted on it. He covered it with a handkerchief.

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Soccer is the most widely played sport in the world. It started in the 1800s in England and is also called football. The main action in the game involves kicking the ball. Only the goalie is allowed to pick the ball up with his hands. Soccer became popular worldwide in the early 1900s. Many countries started their own teams. Even women's teams were started. The first women's World Cup was played in 1971.

Everywhere you go, kids are kicking balls. No matter where in the world you may travel, you see kids playing. The game of soccer unites us all.

5. What is the **best** summary of this passage?
A. Soccer was started in the 1800s. It is a popular sport.
B. Soccer is popular all over the world. It unites all people.
C. Women play soccer as well. They even have their own World Cup.
D. Everyone can play soccer. In some countries, it is called football.

Franklin loved to play checkers, but he wasn't a very good sport. If his piece was jumped, he would huff and pout. If he had to crown another player, he would slam his pieces on the table. If he lost... well, you wouldn't want to see what happened when he lost. Sometimes, the checkerboard went flying!

It's no wonder that, after a few months, Franklin ran out of checkers partners. His friends would play hopscotch and cards with him, and they would ride bikes. When he pulled out the checkerboard though, his friends would politely excuse themselves.

One day, he decided to ask Fonda, his big sister, to play. She wasn't a very good sport either! "I don't have time to play right now, Franklin. I'm working on a book report," Fonda said. "Well, boo! What am I supposed to do? I want to play checkers now!"

"Don't get in a huff, Franklin. Come with me."

Fonda put him in front of her computer, and on the screen was a giant checkerboard.

"Now you can get as mad as you want. You're playing a computer, and computers don't care!"

Fonda explained.

Franklin was so happy. He found the perfect checkers partner for a bad sport like him!

6. Which of these best summarizes the first paragraph?

A. Franklin did not like to lose. No matter what game he played, he would get angry if he lost. He would huff and puff and yell at his friends.
B. Franklin loved checkers, but he was not a good sport when he played. He pouted, slammed his pieces, and even threw the board when he lost.
C. Franklin was a very bad sport. If he lost at any game, he would huff and pout. Sometimes Franklin would jump another player to win.
D. Franklin's favorite game was checkers. You wouldn't want to see what happened if he lost a game. He might throw something at you!

7. Which line best shows an idea that is important to include in a summary of this story?

A. His friends would play hopscotch and cards with him . . .
B. He found the perfect checkers partner for a bad sport like him!
C. "I don't have time to play right now, Franklin . . ."
D. She wasn't a very good sport either!

Luke was not doing well in school. He had a hard time reading the blackboard in class. If he read too long, he got a headache. Mrs. Jung suggested he see the school nurse. Maybe she could help him.

Luke walked slowly down to the nurse's office. After explaining his headaches, the nurse made him do an eye exam. Luke had a hard time reading the letters, and his headache came back.

The next day, the nurse told Luke he needed glasses. He was getting headaches because he was working his eyes too hard to try to see. Luke was a little sad. He didn't know anyone his age
who wore glasses. It just didn't seem fair!
Luke’s mom took him to get glasses that afternoon. He didn't want to wear them a lot, but it was nice to read and not get headaches. After a few weeks, he wore them all the time. His friends thought the glasses were cool. They all complained about headaches so they could get glasses, too.

8. Which of the following best summarizes the story?

A. Luke was getting headaches, so he visited the school nurse. She told him that he needed glasses. He was sad about wearing his glasses at first, but soon he wore them all the time. His friends liked them.
B. Luke took an eye exam at the nurse's office, and she said he needed glasses. He had been having headaches, but after he got glasses, the headaches stopped, and his friends thought he was cool.
C. Luke's friends wanted glasses so they could be like Luke. Luke had to get glasses because his poor eyesight made him get headaches. His friends said that they had headaches so they could get glasses.
D. Luke was getting headaches because he could not see very well. The school nurse told Luke that he needed glasses, so his mom took him to get glasses that afternoon. His headaches stopped.

9. Which line shows an idea that would be good to include in a summary of this story?

A. After a few weeks, he wore them all the time.
B. Maybe she could help him.
C. Luke walked slowly down to the nurse's office.
D. It just didn't seem fair!

Petrified forests can be found all over the world. In these forests, ancient trees, which can be thousands of years old, have slowly turned into stone. The wood in the trees have turned into minerals. This makes the trees look like solid rock. These forests contain a lot of information. Every time a petrified log is opened, hundreds of fossils are found. Some fossils date back to over 200 million years ago. What a world of knowledge exists in these ancient stones!

10. Which statement summarizes the main idea of the passage?

A. Petrified forests are located in many places all over the world.
B. Petrified wood has hundreds of fossils in every piece.
C. Petrified wood can give us a lot of information about ages past.
D. Petrified wood takes thousands of years to form and solidify.

**Bats on Vacation**

Have you ever wondered what bats do in the winter? The answer depends on what kind of bat you are talking about. Some bats migrate to a warmer climate when the temperature begins to drop. Other bats hibernate.

Bats that migrate fly to warmer climates in the winter. They fly to places where they can find plenty of insects and fruit to eat. Some of these bats fly up to 800 miles to get from their homes in
the U.S. to their homes in Mexico.

Bats that hibernate stay in the same area year-round. Cave bats fly into caves and hibernate in groups of hundreds of bats. Having so many bats gathered together helps them stay warm all winter. When summer comes around, they live in trees and buildings. Tree bats hibernate in hollow trees during the winter. When the weather warms up, they live in roosts in trees.

11. Which of the following best summarizes the passage?

A. In the winter, cave bats hibernate in groups of hundreds. Hibernating in groups helps the bats stay warm throughout the long winter season.
B. Tree bats roost in hollow trees and buildings. When the weather turns cold in the winter, bats will hibernate in groups or migrate to a warm place like Mexico.
C. Bats migrate up to 800 miles away in Mexico. In the warmth of Mexico, they find plenty of insects and fruit to eat. In the summer, they fly back to their homes.
D. In the winter, some bats migrate to warmer climates where they can find food to eat. Other bats stay in the same place and hibernate in groups in caves or trees.

12. Samuel is writing a summary of "Bats on Vacation." Which word in the passage should he highlight as being important for his summary?

A. wondered
B. hibernate:migrate:
C. hollow
D. 800 miles

13. Mariana wanted to ride her bike without training wheels. She asked her dad to teach her how to ride a bike. Mariana was doing very well. She thought riding on two wheels was easy.

"Daddy, let go! I can do this," Mariana said.
"Are you sure?" Dad asked.
"Yes! I'm fine," she said.

Dad let go and Mariana raced off down the street. She was so excited to be riding her big-kid bike. Suddenly, a cat jumped in front of her bike. Mariana realized she didn't know how to stop! She swerved around the cat and hit the curb with her bike. Mariana fell off the bike and skinned her knees. Dad came rushing over.

"Mariana! Are you okay? Are you hurt?" Dad asked.
"I think I'm okay, Daddy," Mariana said. "But maybe I should learn how to stop before I learn how to go."

Which of the following best summarizes the story?

A. Mariana wanted her dad to let go, but he was not sure she was ready to ride on her own. Mariana said, "Daddy, let go! I can do this."
B. Mariana tried to avoid hitting the cat that jumped out in front of her, and she fell down. When she fell, she skinned her knees.
C. Mariana's dad helped her learn how to ride a two-wheeled bike. Mariana took off down the street but fell down when she could not stop.
14.  Mikah and his family took a vacation to Florida. Mikah had never been to the beach, so he was very excited. He wanted to swim and make a sand castle. He also wanted to look for sea shells.

They drove for two days to get to Florida. They played car games and told stories and listened to music. It was a very long drive. Mikah was glad when they made it to Florida.

When they arrived, it was raining. Mikah's mom said this happens by the beach. There is a lot of water in the air, so it sometimes rains a little bit each day. She thought the rain would be gone the next day.

The rain did not stop the next day. It kept going for six days. On the last day of their vacation, it finally stopped raining. Mikah and his brother played on the beach all day to make up for a rainy week. Mikah hoped they would never have such a wet vacation again.

Which of the following best summarizes the story?

A. Mikah's family drove for two days to go to the beach in Florida. Mikah was glad when they arrived because it took a long time to get there. It was a very long drive. When they got there, it was raining, and they were disappointed.

B. Mikah and his family drove to Florida for vacation. Mikah was excited to play on the beach, but when they arrived, it was raining. It rained for six days. On the last day, Mikah and his brother were finally able to play on the beach.

C. Mikah and his brother spent their last vacation day on the beach because it had rained the entire rest of the time. His family had driven for two days to get to the beach in Florida. They played car games and told stories.

D. Mikah wanted to build a sandcastle, swim, and look for sea shells, so his family drove for two days to get to Florida. They played car games and told stories and listened to music. It was raining when they got to the beach.

15.  Eric and Francine were at the library. They had a big report due in school, and they wanted to get as much research done as possible. Neither one of them was paying attention to the sky getting darker and darker. It was really late.

"Eric, I think I found a great article for your paper while I was looking for something else," Francine said. "I can print it out, if you want."

"Thanks, that would be great," Eric said. "I could use one more article."

All of a sudden, the lights started going out in the library. The whole first floor was dark. Eric and Francine looked over the railing on the third floor. Not one person was in the library.

"Do you think they forgot we came up here?" Francine asked. "We have been pretty quiet for a while."

"No, they always check to make sure everyone is gone," Eric said. "The librarian is probably just trying to tell us it's time to go. Let's grab our stuff and go downstairs."

Eric and Francine picked up their books and papers and walked slowly down the stairs. It was so dark, Francine was sure she would fall down. When they reached the front, the librarian was not at the desk. Eric called many times, but no one answered. Finally, Francine walked over to try the door.

"It's locked!" she said. "We are stuck in the library!"

Which of the following best summarizes the story?
Eric and Francine were studying on the third floor when the lights started going out. Eric and Francine called to the librarian but nobody answered. 

Eric and Francine were doing research late one night at the library. The lights started going out, and they realized that they were locked in the library. 

Francine found an article for Eric to use while she was doing research. Then, Eric and Francine saw that there were no other people in the library. 

Eric told Francine that someone always checks to make sure everyone left. Eric and Francine picked up their books and papers and went downstairs.

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16. The Blue Whale is the largest animal to have ever lived. They can stretch up to 89 feet long and weigh up to 170 metric tons. Their amazing size makes them targets for whale hunters. During the early 1900s, the desire to catch a Blue Whale was at an all-time high. The number of whales greatly decreased from over 200,000 to 2,000.

Whale hunting is not the only danger to the Blue Whale. Even though Blue Whales are very large, they can crash into ships and hurt themselves. They can also tangle and hurt themselves in fishing gear. Though there are rules that stop the hunting of whales, humans are still a danger to Blue Whales. Humans dump many chemicals into the ocean. Those chemicals can affect the growth of the whale population if they find their way into the whales.

Which is the best summary of this passage?

- A. Large ocean ships crash into Blue Whales often. This causes great harm to the population of Blue Whales.
- B. Blue Whales are the largest among all animals. Despite their large size, many things threaten their lives.
- C. The number of whales has decreased over the years. They have been hunted by whale hunters since the 1900s.
- D. A Blue Whale can stretch up to 89 feet and weigh up to 170 metric tons. The whales are amazing animals.

17. One afternoon, Stefan was walking home from the park. He had been playing baseball with his friends. Stefan was remembering a great catch he made when he heard a strange noise above him. He looked up and saw a cat stuck in a tree!

Stefan thought for a minute. It looked like Mrs. Nelson's cat. She would be upset if it got hurt. He tried to climb the tree, but he could not reach the lowest branch.

"Come on, kitty," Stefan called. "Come down from that tree. I'll catch you."

The cat just sat there. Stefan tried calling again, but nothing. He turned around to see if anyone was coming by, when the cat decided to jump. Before Stefan could put his arms out to catch it, the cat landed on his shoulder.

"Oh, you sweet boy!" Mrs. Nelson called. "You saved my cat! Stefan, you are my hero today!"

"It was nothing," Stefan grinned. He sure didn't feel like a hero, but why not enjoy this for a while?

Which of the following best summarizes the story?

- A. Stefan walked home from the park where he had been playing baseball with friends. He looked up and saw Mrs. Nelson's cat stuck in the tree.
- B. Mrs. Nelson called Stefan a hero after her cat jumped from the tree without any help. Stefan was just walking home from the park after a game.
C. Stefan tried to climb the tree and called to the cat to get it to come down from the tree. Mrs. Nelson called Stefan her hero for saving the cat.

D. Stefan tried to climb a tree to save Mrs. Nelson's cat that was stuck. The cat jumped down by itself, but Stefan still acted like a hero to Mrs. Nelson.

18. Emily loved Grandma's doll collection. She hoped Grandma would share it with her one day. She especially wanted to have Clarissa. Clarissa was Grandma's favorite. It used to be her grandma's. One day, Emily was at Grandma's by herself when she found the door to the doll cabinet open. She peeked in the cabinet. Clarissa was gone!

   Emily froze in fear. She was the only person home. Grandma would be so upset Clarissa was gone. Emily decided to find the doll. She looked all over the house. She searched each room from top to bottom. She even looked in closets and drawers.

   Emily was just about to give up when Grandma came home. Grandma was holding something in her arms. It was Clarissa! Emily raced to give Grandma a hug. Grandma explained that Clarissa needed a little extra stuffing, so she took the doll to a special doll maker. She left the cabinet open on accident. Emily was so relieved.

Which of the following best summarizes the story?

A. Grandma had taken the doll to get extra stuffing from a doll maker, and she had accidentally left the cabinet open. Emily had been very worried about the doll. When Grandma came home, Emily gave her a big hug.

B. Emily loved her Grandma's doll Clarissa. One day Emily saw that the doll was missing, so she searched the house for it. Grandma came home and told Emily she had taken the doll to get extra stuffing. Emily was relieved.

C. the doll was missing from the cabinet. The door to the cabinet was open. Emily was very worried and searched the house.

D. Emily searched the house, room by room, to find the missing doll, Clarissa. Her grandmother had taken the doll without telling Emily. Emily was very upset when she found that Clarissa was missing. She was happy when she returned.

19. Cubism is an art form that took off in the early part of the 20th century. Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque were the first artists to use cubism. They admired African and Native American art, which were simple in their styles. Picasso and Braque tried to copy that style, which became cubism. They helped change the way artists viewed their subjects.

   The subjects of cubism are broken up into square blocks. Then they are put back together to point out certain parts of the subject. This causes the subject to look very different from real life. Cubism allows artists to show a subject in a different light.

Which is the best summary of this passage?

A. During the 20th century, cubism was a popular art form. Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque wanted to copy African and Native American styles.

B. Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque liked simple styles of art. Picasso and Braque changed the way artists created their works of art.

C. In cubism, the subjects are broken up into square blocks. These square blocks then are put back together to highlight different parts.

D. Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque used different styles to form cubism. This type of art allows...
artists to show subjects in a new way.

20. Francie was on the computer. She was allowed to play her games after she finished her homework. Francie liked playing on the computer. It was really fun. When her friends were over, they would play games together.

Today, Francie was playing by herself. She had music playing in the background, and her mother was out getting groceries. It was pretty quiet in the house. Francie had just gotten to the next level in Sky Mania, an airplane game, when the screen suddenly went black.

What happened? She was just playing her game. She didn't press anything she wasn't supposed to or pull on any of the cords. Francie started to get nervous. She was afraid she broke the computer. Her mom would be so mad!

Which line shows an idea that would be good to include in a summary of this story?

A. . . . when the screen suddenly went black.
B. She was just playing her game.
C. It was really fun.
D. Today, Francie was playing by herself.

21. George Washington Carver was born a slave. He eventually became known all over the world for his research in the science of farming (agriculture). He also became known for his efforts to help farmers in the South. Southern farmers had been raising mostly cotton, which had worn out the soil. He taught farmers how to plant other crops to make the soil better. Carver thought of many products to make from sweet potatoes, soybeans, and cotton waste. He found more than 300 uses for peanuts and won many awards for his work.

Which is the best summary of this passage?

A. George Washington Carver was a great agricultural scientist. He helped Southern farmers better use the soil, and he thought of many products to make from different crops.
B. George Washington Carver was born a slave but was later a scientist. He helped Southern farmers learn how to raise cotton. He won many awards for the work he did.
C. George Washington Carver figured out more than 300 uses for peanuts. He also figured out uses for sweet potatoes, soybeans, and cotton waste. He won awards for his work.
D. George Washington Carver was one of the greatest scientists of all time. He came up with many products farmers could make from sweet potatoes, soybeans, and cotton waste.

22. For the first time, in Hazel's short life, she was afraid. She stared at the rock climbing wall and trembled a little bit. Although Hazel was strapped into the safety harness, she was still afraid. The little climbing holds that were sticking out didn't seem sturdy enough. Plus, it didn't help they were in different shapes and sizes.

Hazel tugged on her rope to make sure it could handle her weight. Finally, she took one last breath before she stepped onto the first climbing hold. That's not bad, thought Hazel. She pulled herself up to the next hold. Hazel kept pulling herself up until she reached the top of the wall. Much to her surprise, she wasn't afraid anymore. At the top, Hazel looked down and saw how much she had accomplished.
Which is the **best** summary of this passage?

A. Hazel tugs on her rope to make sure that it is secure. She takes a deep breath before she steps onto the first hold.

B. Hazel does not think that the climbing holds are sturdy enough. Also, she does not like how the holds are different.

C. Hazel stares at the rock climbing wall and trembles a little bit. She then realizes she is wearing a safety harness.

D. Hazel is afraid to climb up the rock climbing wall. However, once she climbs to the top, she is not afraid anymore.

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23. Marvin loved his dog Sarah, and he loved to feed Sarah doggie treats. One day, Marvin fed Sarah human treats, like hot dogs and chewy candies. Sarah's stomach grumbled. Sarah felt very sick from all of those extra human treats. She did not want to play, which worried Marvin very much.

"Mom!" Marvin called. "Sarah is sick! What do we do?"

"We will take Sarah to Dr. Woods, the veterinarian," Mom said. "Load Sarah in the car."

Marvin worried about Sarah the whole way to the vet. He petted her stomach hoping it would make her feel better. When they got to the vet's office, Dr. Woods gave Sarah some medicine. It helped her feel much better. She was ready to play! Marvin promised his mom he would not feed Sarah human treats again.

Which of the following **best** summarizes the story?

A. Marvin and Sarah ate hot dogs and chewy candies together. Sarah's stomach grumbled which meant that she was sick. Marvin rubbed Sarah's stomach on the way to the vet, but it did not work.

B. Marvin's mom helped Marvin take his dog Sarah to the vet to get better. Sarah did not want to play, so Marvin knew that she was sick. The vet gave Sarah some medicine, and she felt better.

C. The vet gave Sarah some medicine, and Marvin promised he would not give Sarah human treats again.

D. Marvin decided to give his dog Sarah human treats, like hot dogs and chewy candies. Sarah's stomach started hurting, so he called to his mother. His mother decided to take Sarah to Dr. Woods.

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24. Janie really wanted a dog, but her parents did not think she was very responsible. She decided to start a dog-walking business in the neighborhood. She would prove that she was very responsible. She quickly lined up three customers for the next week.

The first day, Janie took out Mrs. Donnerby's poodle, Lulu. Lulu was not a good dog. She wanted to chase everything! Janie had a hard time keeping Lulu from running all over the neighborhood.

Janie's next two dogs were much better. They were Dr. Bunch's cocker spaniels, Captain and Gilligan. They walked slowly and liked to sniff a lot. Janie liked walking them because they were so calm.

Janie's parents were very impressed. She was very good with the dogs. After a month, Lulu even stopped trying to chase things and stayed by Janie's side. For her birthday a week later, Janie got her wish. She had a new puppy!

Which of the following **best** summarizes the story?
A. Janie had two really good cocker spaniels to walk, and they were very slow. She also walked Mrs. Donnerby's poodle, Lulu. By walking the dogs, Janie showed her parents that she was responsible.

B. Lulu was not a well-behaved dog, so Janie started teaching her to calm down. Janie was trying to prove that she was responsible enough to have her own dog. Her work with Lulu helped show that.

C. Janie really wanted to have a dog, so she started a dog-walking business. She lined up three customers in a week: Lulu, Captain, and Gilligan. Janie liked the dogs and wanted her own. She got a puppy.

25. Randy and Monica had the best idea for Grandma's birthday. They would throw her a surprise party! They told Mom and Dad, who were very excited about it. They offered to help with anything the kids needed.

After weeks of planning, the party had started. Monica greeted the guests and helped them with refreshments. Randy made sure they had enough food for everyone. He was also in charge of watching for Grandma. Everyone was having a great time. Grandma was set to arrive any minute now.

Over an hour later, Grandma still wasn't there. Randy and Monica started to worry. They had planned every detail of what would happen and when, down to what they would tell Grandma to get her to come to the house. All of a sudden, Monica rushed over to Randy.

"Randy, we forgot to invite Grandma!" Monica said.

Which of the following best summarizes the story?

A. Randy and Monica had refreshments and food at Grandma's surprise birthday party. Everyone was having a great time, but then they realized that they forgot Grandma.

B. Randy and Monica planned a great surprise party for Grandma's birthday. After all of the guests arrived, Randy and Monica realized that they forgot to invite Grandma.

C. Randy and Monica waited for an hour for Grandma to come to her surprise party. Everyone was starting to get worried. Monica yelled, "Randy, we forgot to invite Grandma!"

D. Randy and Monica got help from their parents to throw Grandma's surprise party. Mom and Dad were very excited about the party. They forgot to invite Grandma, though.

26. Delia was so jealous! Her little brother, Ethan, had the chicken pox, and he was getting all of Grandma Thora's attention. When Delia was sick, she just got Mom telling her to rest and take a nap. Grandma Thora was giving Ethan ice cream and letting him watch all of Delia's favorite movies. She wanted to watch them!

Delia huffed and puffed. She could not go in his room because she had never had the chicken pox. She wanted the chicken pox if it meant she got to do fun things with Grandma Thora and miss school. She was going to get in Ethan's room, and fast!

Grandma Thora opened the door to Ethan's room and went downstairs to the kitchen. She was probably getting him more ice cream. Delia just knew he was getting the good sprinkles and chocolate sauce, too!

She slipped in Ethan's room quietly. He was napping. Delia walked up to the bed, took Ethan's arm, and rubbed it against her. Then she snuck out before anyone would notice.

Two weeks later, Delia was in bed with the chicken pox. She cried and cried because she itched all over. The chicken pox was not fun at all!

Which of the following best summarizes the story?
A. Delia decided she was going to use her little brother to catch the chicken pox and get attention. When he was napping, she rubbed his arm against hers, and she got sick.

B. Delia was jealous of the attention her brother got when he was sick, so she tried to get sick too. Delia then got the chicken pox and realized they were no fun at all.

C. Delia was mad that Grandma Thora ignored her and paid attention to her sick little brother. She decided to get sick too, so she rubbed Ethan's arm against hers.

D. Delia was jealous because she wanted Grandma Thora to take care of her and give her ice cream. Delia huffed and puffed because she wanted the chicken pox too.

27. It was that time of year again. The fifth grade spelling bee was in one week, on Friday. Kendra was nervous. Every fifth grader in the school had to participate, and she was not a great speller. Kendra set herself a goal. She was going to get to the third round of the spelling bee. In third and fourth grade, she was out after the first round. She wanted to at least make it two more rounds.

   Kendra had studied for weeks and weeks. She studied day and night. She even made her parents ask her words at dinner. Kendra was determined to do well this time.

   The day of the spelling bee, Kendra felt like butterflies were in her stomach. She was really anxious. Her first turn, she spelled her word correctly. Kendra felt relieved. She was at least going to make it to the second round.

   Round after round went by, and Kendra was still going. It was down to her and a new kid, Vinny. Vinny misspelled his word. Kendra stood up and walked to the microphone. She breathed in, thought a minute, and spelled the word.

   Suddenly, everyone was clapping. Kendra had won the spelling bee!

Which of the following best summarizes the story?

A. Kendra studied hard and made her parents help her practice. She studied her words at dinner. Kendra spelled all of her words correctly, so she won the spelling bee.

B. Kendra was nervous about the spelling bee. She wanted to make it to the third round this year, so she studied very hard. Kendra ended up winning the spelling bee.

C. Kendra set a goal of making it to the third round of the spelling bee. She was extremely nervous, so she studied her words at dinner. Everyone clapped when she won the bee.

D. Kendra and Vinny were the last students in the spelling bee. Vinny misspelled his word, but Kendra spelled her word correctly. Kendra ended up winning the spelling bee.

28. Drew was so happy! He finally got a puppy for his birthday. He named the puppy Skip because he looked like he was skipping when he ran.

   Skip was very cute, but he was not a very good puppy. In fact, he was very naughty! He chewed on everything from clothing to people. He really liked Mom's shoes. Every time Skip did something bad, Drew got in trouble. Mom said Drew had to train Skip or he could not keep him.

   Drew started training Skip right away. He did not want to lose his dog. He worked really hard with Skip. Slowly, Skip started getting better. He stopped chewing on things, and he even learned to sit and fetch. Drew was very proud of Skip. He was a good dog now!

Which of the following best summarizes the story?

A. Drew got a naughty puppy for his birthday and named him Skip. His mother said that Drew had to train Skip or he could not keep him. Drew trained his puppy to be a very good dog.

B. Skip was a bad dog who chewed on clothes and people. Every time Skip did something naughty,
Drew's mother got angry at Drew. Drew's mother made him train the puppy.

Drew's mom said that he had to train Skip or give him up. Drew decided to train the puppy because he loved him and did not want to lose him. He trained the puppy well.

Drew got a dog for his birthday which looked like he was skipping when he ran. Skip was cute, and Drew trained him to sit and fetch.

29. R.J. really wanted to get his library card. He wanted to get books for his dad to read to him before bed. He was tired of reading the same ones all the time. He knew the stories by heart. There was only one problem—R.J. had to learn how to write his name to get a library card.

R.J. asked his mom to help him. She was taking his brother, Cody, to the library on Friday. R.J. wanted to go and get his library card then. That meant he had three days to learn to write his name. His mom wrote his name on a big piece of paper. She helped him practice over and over.

Finally, it was Friday. R.J. went up to the librarian and said he wanted to get a library card. She gave him the piece of paper where he was supposed to write his name. Very slowly, R.J. wrote his name. He left the library with his brand new library card and three books. R.J. was so excited!

Which of the following best summarizes the story?

- A. R.J. practiced hard for three days so he could write his name. He wanted a library card, but he had to write his name to get the card. His practice paid off, and he was able to get a library card.
- B. R.J. asked his mom to help him learn to write his name, so she wrote his name on a big piece of paper. R.J practiced and was able to write his name. He went to the library and got a library card.
- C. R.J. wanted to get a library card so his dad could read new books. He was tired of reading the same books all of the time, so R.J. had to learn how to write his name. He practiced writing all week.
- D. R.J. wanted a library card, but he had to write his name in order to get the card. His mother helped him practice for three days. By the end of the week, he was able to write his name and get his library card.

30. It had been an especially hard practice after school. Coach Armstrong was really pushing the team. He wanted them to win state this year. Ryan was the team captain, so he worked harder than everyone else. He wanted to prove he was a great team captain. So when Ryan got on the bus that afternoon, he was really tired. He put on his headphones and quickly fell asleep.

When Ryan woke up, he did not recognize anything outside his window. He panicked and yelled at the bus driver to stop. He raced up to the front and asked the driver where they were. He hoped he could find his way home from here. Ryan knew his mom would be worried.

The driver was very nice. He told Ryan not to worry. He was starting his route over and could drop Ryan at his stop on the way back.

Which line shows an important idea that would be needed in a summary of this story?

- A. The driver was very nice.
- B. He wanted to prove he was a great team captain.
- C. Coach Armstrong was really pushing the team.
- D. He put on his headphones and quickly fell asleep.
31. A crowd of parents and students cheered as Russ and Stevie raced down the field. Russ and Stevie were champions in the three-legged race. They had won the race easily for the past three years. No matter how much they loved to win, they loved racing together more. They were best friends. In the race, Russ and Stevie took one stride at a time. They moved smoothly and perfectly. While other teams were falling and tripping over their feet, Russ and Stevie glided past them.

Both Russ and Stevie eyed the finish line, which was only few yards away. Both of them could feel that they were near the end of the race. Suddenly, the rope that tied them together snapped. Russ and Stevie broke apart and rolled to opposite ends of the race lane. They looked at each other and watched another team win the race. Russ brushed himself off first and helped Stevie up. "We'll just have to beat them next year. I guess," said Russ. Stevie replied, "Of course." They were happy as long as they did it together.

Which idea is most important to include in a summary of this story?

- A. "A crowd of parents and students cheered as Russ and Stevie raced down the field."
- B. "No matter how much they loved to race, they loved racing together more."
- C. "Russ and Stevie broke apart and rolled to opposite ends of the race lane."
- D. "Both Russ and Stevie eyed the finish line, which was only few yards away."

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The SuperBall, also known as the bouncy ball, was invented in 1965 by Norman Stingley. At the time, Stingley was a chemist living in California. He would take scraps of rubber and pack them together with up to 3500 lbs of pressure per square inch. This made the ball super bouncy. When dropped from shoulder height, it would bounce right back. And if an adult throws it down, it can bounce as high as a three-story house. The SuperBall went through many changes before it was released to the public. At first, the ball would fall apart if it hit a surface with too much force. The toy company Wham-O made it better, and two years later, it hit the shelves. It was an immediate success. To this day, SuperBalls are popular all over the world.

32. Which is the best summary of the article?

- A. The SuperBall was invented by Norman Stingley in 1965. It can bounce as high as a three story building.
- B. The SuperBall is also known as the bouncy ball. Norman Stingley invented it by packing rubber together.
- C. The SuperBall was invented by Norman Stingley in 1965. Its amazing bounce makes it a popular toy to this day.
- D. The SuperBall was manufactured by Wham-O. It took them two years to get it ready to sell to the public.

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The Truth About Bats

Bats are nocturnal, which means they are active at night. Because of this, humans rarely get a chance to interact with them. As a result, most people do not know as much about bats as they know about cats, birds, or squirrels. This causes a number of misunderstandings.

For instance, most people do not know what bats eat. They often assume that bats feed on blood and are harmful, but this is only true for 3 of the 1,100 different bat species.

In fact, most bats are helpful. The majority of bats eat insects that annoy humans. One insect-eating bat can eat 600–1000 mosquitoes in an hour. Other bats eat fruit. Like birds, these bats spread fruit seeds that grow into trees. A small group of bats eat nectar and pollen. These bats
help flowers and plants reproduce.
Next time you see a bat, thank it for all the good things it does.

33. Samuel is writing a summary of "The Truth About Bats." Which word in the passage should he highlight as being important for his summary?

A. cats
B. group
C. number
D. :helpful:nocturnal:

34. Which of the following best summarizes the passage?

A. Bats are helpful, nocturnal animals that are often misunderstood. Most bats eat annoying insects, while others eat fruit, nectar, and pollen, which help plants reproduce.
B. Bats do not feed on blood and are not dangerous. They eat a lot of insects that are annoying to humans. Some bats can eat up to 1000 mosquitoes in an hour.
C. Humans rarely interact with bats, so they do not know much about them. Most people know a lot about cats, birds, and squirrels, but they do not learn about bats.
D. Many bats feed on fruit, nectar, and pollen, which help flowers and plants reproduce. Bats are helpful and good, even though most people do not think that they are.

Snake Scare!

Corey was playing in the front yard with his friends Jimmy and Paul. They ran all over the yard and threw a baseball back and forth. Then, Jimmy saw something moving in the grass.
"Guys, there's a snake in the yard! Come see," Jimmy called.
Corey and Paul raced over. All three boys thought snakes were really cool. They each wanted a snake for a pet.
"I'm going to get a box and put the snake in it. I can take him home," Jimmy said.
Corey shook his head. "The snake is in my yard. I should get to keep it!"
Just then, Corey's mom came outside. "Hi, boys, you ready for a snack?"
"Mom, look what we found!" Corey said, picking up the snake.
Corey's mom screamed, "Put that down! It's poisonous! Put it down now!"
Corey dropped the snake, and the boys ran inside. They all looked at each other with relief.

35. Which line shows an idea that would be good to include in a summary of this story?

A. Corey and Paul raced over.
B. They ran all over the yard and threw a baseball back and forth.
C. "Hi, boys, you ready for a snack?"
D. Corey dropped the snake, and the boys ran inside.

36. Which of the following best summarizes the story?
Jimmy and Corey argued over who should take a snake home. Jimmy wanted to take the snake home in a box. Corey wanted to keep the snake because it was in his yard. The snake was poisonous.

Three boys played outside in Corey's front yard while his mom was inside. Jimmy found a snake and tried to put it in a box and take it home. All of the boys wanted a snake for a pet.

Corey's mom came outside to find a poisonous snake in the yard. She yelled at her son Corey, "Put that down! It's poisonous! Put it down now!" The boys dropped the snake and ran inside.

Corey, Jimmy, and Paul were playing outside when they found a snake. As they argued who would take it home, Corey's mom yelled that the snake was poisonous. The boys ran inside.

37. Karmina is writing a summary of "Snake Scare!" Which word in the passage should she highlight as being important for her summary?

A. baseball
B. front
C. something
D. poisonous

Answers

1. A
2. A
3. C
4. C
5. B
6. B
7. B
8. A
9. A
10. C
11. D
12. B
13. C
14. B
15. B
16. B
17. D
18. B
19. D
20. A
21. A
22. D
23. C
24. C
25. B
26. B
27. B
Explanations

1. When you summarize an article, you retell it in a much shorter form. This article explains the differences between male and female Cardinals. A good summary of this article outlines the differences in as few words as possible, using only the major ideas.

2. A summary is a brief yet complete re-telling of the main events in a story. The main event in this story is that Nora notices a problem and gathers her neighbors together to fix it.

3. A summary gives only the most important ideas and information of a story. It does not give all of the details. One of the most important points in this story is that Waldo McWillerbee hid under his bed after he broke his mother's vase. The sentence from the story that best shows this important event is, "Off Waldo McWillerbee ran to hide under the bed!"

4. A summary gives only the most important ideas and information of a story. It does not give all of the details. The second paragraph deals with Waldo trying to make his mother's antique vase float in the air and how it broke. Details that are not important include: what the vase looked like and the "magic" words Waldo said.

5. A summary gives only the most important ideas and information in the passage. It does not give all the details. The best summary of this passage tells us that soccer is a popular sport, played all over the world.

6. A summary gives only the most important ideas and information of a story. It does not give all of the details. The first paragraph deals with Franklin having a bad attitude when playing checkers. The first paragraph gives examples of how he was a bad sport.

7. A summary gives only the most important ideas and information of a story. It does not give all the details. One of the most important events in this story is that Franklin finally found a checkers partner in his sister's computer. The sentence from the passage that best shows this important idea is, "He found the perfect checkers partner for a bad sport like him!"

8. When you summarize a story, you retell it in shorter form. A summary tells the important ideas of the story, but it does not give all of the details. A good summary of this passages tells how Luke got glasses to help him with his headaches and what happened after he got glasses. These are the most important events in the story.

9. When you summarize a story, you retell it in shorter form. A summary tells the important ideas of the story, but it does not give all of the details. A good summary of this passages tells how Luke got glasses to help him with his headaches and what happened after he got glasses. These are the most important events in the story.
10. The main idea of this passage is that petrified wood is able to give us information about life forms existing millions of years ago. The ability of the wood to turn into stone is important for housing the fossils but is not the main idea here.

11. When you summarize an article, you retell it in a much shorter form. A summary tells the important ideas of the article, but it does not give all the details found in the original passage. The passage is about how bats survive the winter—some bats migrate, and some hibernate. A good summary will include these two important ideas.

12. When you summarize an article, you retell it in a much shorter form. A summary tells the important ideas of the article, but it does not give all the details found in the original passage. The passage is about how bats survive the winter—some bats migrate, and some hibernate. A good summary will include these two important ideas.

13. When you summarize a story, you retell it in shorter form. A summary tells the important ideas of the story, but it does not give all of the details. This summary is good because it includes the major ideas listed in the correct order.

14. When you summarize a story, you retell it in shorter form. A summary tells the important ideas of the story, but it does not give all of the details. This summary is good because it tells the main events of the story in the order that they happened. It shows that the family drove to Florida and that Mikah was excited to play on the beach. The summary also includes the important facts that it was raining for six days, but on the final day, Mikah and his brother were able to play at the beach.

15. When you summarize a story, you retell it in a much shorter form. This summary is good because it includes the major ideas listed in the correct order: two kids were doing research in the library, and they got locked in after they noticed the lights were going out.

16. A summary gives only the most important ideas and information of a story. It does not give all of the details. The best summary for this passage tells the reader that the Blue Whale is the largest animal and that it has many dangers.

17. When you summarize a story, you retell it in shorter form. A summary tells the important ideas of the story, but it does not give all of the details. This summary is good because it includes the major ideas listed in the correct order. The most important ideas of the story are: 1) Stephan climbing the tree to save the cat, 2) the cat jumping down, and 3) Mrs. Nelson being proud of Stefan even though he didn't save the cat.

18. When you summarize a story, you retell it in shorter form. A summary tells the important ideas of the story, but it does not give all of the details. This summary is good because it tells the main events of the story in the order that they happened: Emily loved her Grandma's doll and was upset when she found it was missing. She searched all over for a missing doll, only to find that Grandma had taken it to get extra stuffing. The summary also shows how the story ends: Emily was relieved.

19. A summary gives only the most important ideas and information of a story. It does not give all of the details. The best summary for this passage tells the reader that Picasso and Braque used different styles to form cubism and that it allows artists to show subjects in a different way.

20. When you summarize a story, you retell it in shorter form. A summary tells the important ideas of the story, but it does not give all of the details. The most important idea is that Francie was playing on the computer when the screen went black. The line "... when the screen suddenly went black" shows an important event in the story.
21. When you summarize an article, you retell it in a much shorter form. This summary gives the major ideas of the story without too many details. The summary states why George Washington Carver is important and gives two important examples.

22. A summary gives only the most important ideas and information of a story. It does not give all of the details. The best summary for this passage tells the reader that Hazel is afraid of climbing the rock wall and that she is not afraid after she climbs to the top.

23. When you summarize a story, you retell it in shorter form. A summary tells the important ideas of the story, but it does not give all of the details. A good summary includes the major ideas: why Sarah got sick, how she got better, and that Marvin promised not to give Sarah human treats again.

24. When you summarize a story, you retell it in shorter form. A summary tells the important ideas of the story, but it does not give all of the details. The most important ideas in the story are: 1) Janie having to prove she is responsible so she can get a dog, 2) Janie starting a dog-walking business and proving she is responsible, and 3) Janie being rewarded with a new puppy.

25. When you summarize a story, you retell it in shorter form. A summary tells the important ideas of the story, but it does not give all of the details. This summary is good because it includes the major ideas listed in the correct order: 1) Randy and Monica planned a surprise party for Grandma, 2) all of the guests arrived, but then they realized they never invited Grandma!

26. When you summarize a story, you retell it in shorter form. A summary tells the important ideas of the story, but it does not give all of the details. A good summary explains how Delia tried to get the chicken pox because she was jealous of the attention her grandma gave her little brother. It also includes the end of the story: Delia found that chicken pox was no fun at all!

27. When you summarize a story, you retell it in shorter form. A summary tells the important ideas of the story, but it does not give all of the details. This summary is good because it tells the main events of the story in the order that they happened: 1) Kendra was nervous about the bee, 2) she worked hard to make it to the third round, and 3) she won the entire spelling bee.

28. When you summarize a story, you retell it in shorter form. A summary tells the important ideas of the story, but it does not give all of the details. This summary is good because it tells the main events of the story in the order that they happened. It does not give details, however, like what Skip learned or how Skip got his name.

29. When you summarize a story, you retell it in shorter form. A summary tells the important ideas of the story, but it does not give all of the details. A good summary tells the main events of the story, which all explain that R.J. learned to write his name so he could get a library card.

30. When you summarize a story, you retell it in shorter form. A summary tells the important ideas of the story, but it does not give all of the details. The most important idea is Ryan fell asleep on the bus and missed his stop. The line "He put on his headphones and quickly fell asleep" shows an important event in the story. While the other details add to the story, they are not important details that need to be included in a summary of this story.

31. A summary gives only the most important ideas and information of a story. It does not give all of the details. The most important idea to include is that Russ and Stevie love to race together. This is important because when they lose at the end, they both do not care. Russ and Stevie are still best friends. The other answer choices are details that are not needed to summarize the passage.
32. A summary gives only the most important ideas and information of a story. It does not give all the details. The best summary for this passage tells the reader who invented the SuperBall, in what year, and how popular it is today. No other details are needed.

33. When you summarize an article, you retell it in a much shorter form. A summary tells the important ideas of the article, but it does not give all the details found in the original passage. A good summary of this passage explains what bats are and that people do not understand that bats are actually helpful. Two words important to these ideas are "helpful" and "nocturnal."

34. When you summarize an article, you retell it in a much shorter form. A summary tells the important ideas of the article, but it does not give all the details found in the original passage. This summary explains what bats are, that people do not understand that bats are not scary or bad, and that bats are actually helpful. The summary also gives a short example of how they are helpful.

35. When you summarize a story, you retell it in shorter form. A summary tells the important ideas of the story, but it does not give all of the details. This summary is good because it includes the major ideas listed in the correct order. The most important ideas of the story are that the boys were playing when they found a snake. Then Corey's mom yelled that it was poisonous, and the boys ran inside. The best summary does not focus on the details of the story, but instead tells about the main events.

36. When you summarize a story, you retell it in shorter form. A summary tells the important ideas of the story, but it does not give all of the details. This summary is good because it includes the major ideas listed in the correct order. The most important ideas of the story are that the boys were playing when they found a snake. Then Corey's mom yelled that it was poisonous, and the boys ran inside. The best summary does not focus on the details of the story, but instead tells about the main events.

37. When you summarize a story, you retell it in a much shorter form. A summary tells the important ideas of the article, but it does not give all the details found in the original passage. The snake being poisonous, however, is a very important part of the story.