

GRADE 5
Reading

Administered March 2016

RELEASED

READING

**Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question.
Then fill in the answer on your answer document.**

The narrator, Brianna, is running for class president when a new student, Jasmine Moon, decides to run against her.

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- 1** What is the most likely reason Mrs. Nutmeg supports Becks joining Jasmine’s campaign team?
- A** She believes that Jasmine has the best chance of winning the election.
 - B** She wants Jasmine to feel welcome in a new school.
 - C** She is unaware that Brianna wants Becks on her campaign team.
 - D** She wants Becks to have an opportunity to be a campaign manager.
-

- 2** Brianna’s thoughts in paragraphs 3 through 5 emphasize that she —
- F** questions Jasmine’s motives
 - G** knows what it feels like to be the new kid in school
 - H** relies on her friends to tell her what their classmates are doing
 - J** wishes she could be more like Jasmine
-

- 3** The sensory language in paragraph 22 highlights —
- A** the fact that Mrs. Nutmeg lets the students have animals in the classroom
 - B** the amount of time that Becks has spent at Jasmine’s house
 - C** the noises that students find annoying in the classroom
 - D** the uncomfortable situation the girls experience as they wait

- 4 By the end of the story, the reader can infer that Brianna has become concerned that Jasmine will —
- F be elected class president
 - G encourage Becks to run for class president
 - H interfere with her relationship with Becks
 - J receive help from adults with her campaign
-

- 5 What do the details in paragraph 11 emphasize about Brianna?
- A She is not sure how to persuade students to vote for her.
 - B She does not want to do the work required for a campaign.
 - C She is confident about her plan for her campaign team.
 - D She thinks she must make all the decisions in her campaign.
-

- 6 What does the word underhanded mean in paragraph 6?
- F Harsh
 - G Sneaky
 - H Organized
 - J Meaningless

- 7** How do Jasmine’s comments in paragraphs 20 and 22 affect the plot?
- A** They explain why Jasmine has difficulty making friends in her class.
 - B** They highlight the reasons why Becks would rather campaign for Brianna.
 - C** They help persuade Becks to join Jasmine’s campaign team.
 - D** They show that Brianna is upset about the possibility of Mrs. Nutmeg agreeing with Jasmine.
-

- 8** What is the best summary of this story?
- F** Brianna and Jasmine are two girls who are running for class president. They have to pick classmates to work on their campaigns. Todd Hampton, another candidate, acts silly during the selection process, and the teacher almost disqualifies him from running.
 - G** The teacher announces it is time for the candidates for class president to choose campaign teams. Brianna feels prepared because she has already decided who she would like to have on her team. But Jasmine asks one of Brianna’s best friends, Becks, to join her campaign.
 - H** Brianna wants to become president of her fifth-grade class with the help of her friends. But when the candidates in Brianna’s class select their campaign teams, Jasmine, a new student, asks Brianna’s good friend Becks to be on her team. Becks reluctantly agrees to work with Jasmine.
 - J** Jasmine, who is new to the school, is running for class president. Because she doesn’t know many people, she asks Brianna’s friend Becks to be her campaign manager because they live near each other. Brianna is surprised when this happens because she had anticipated selecting Becks to be part of her team.

9 Read the sentence from paragraph 6.

A guilty feeling scratched at the back of my mind.

The figurative language in this sentence shows that Brianna —

- A is unable to remember important details about Jasmine
 - B doubts her initial judgment of Jasmine’s motives
 - C wonders whether she should also provide pizza to promote her campaign
 - D cannot decide whether to continue running for class president
-

10 Which sentence helps the reader predict that Brianna will not get the campaign team she wants?

- F *Her father bought LOTS of pizza and she was just giving it away to kids "as a way of introducing herself."*
- G *Besides, hadn't my friends warned me not to get too carried away?*
- H *We'd discussed it all through the summer like a gazillion times.*
- J *When Mrs. Nutmeg smiled at Becks, I knew there was trouble.*

**Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question.
Then fill in the answer on your answer document.**

A New Kind of Park for Medway

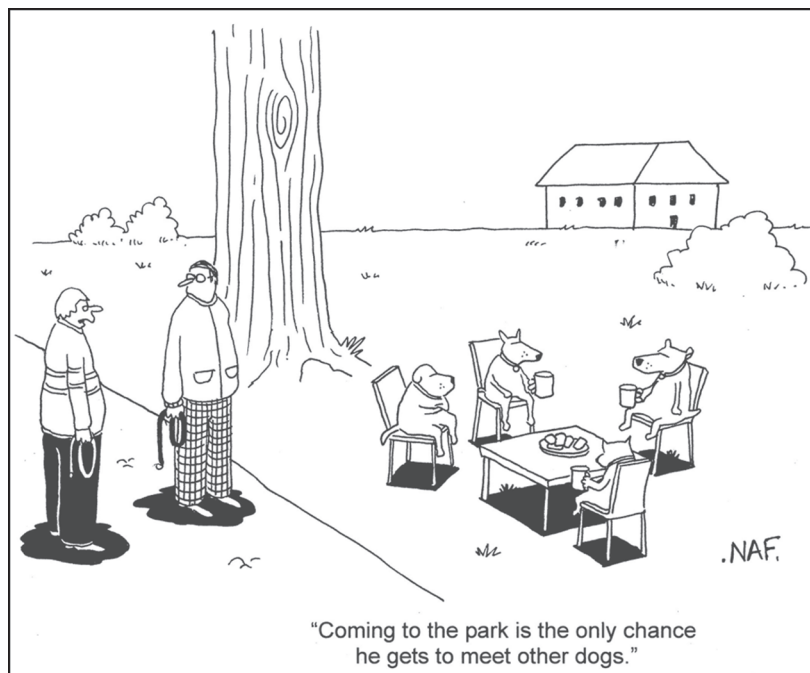
Dear Members of the Medway Town Council:

- 1 Our town is a wonderful place to live. I really enjoy going to the local library and playing at the local baseball field. However, there is one thing our town cannot go on without. I am the proud companion of a wonderful dog, and I am sure many other dog owners would agree with me that Medway should establish a dog park. Doing so would benefit not only dogs and their owners but the whole community as well. It would give Medway residents a chance to exercise and socialize, and it would help the town by ensuring happy, well-behaved dogs.
- 2 Dogs of all sizes need daily exercise. Few things make dogs happier than running. However, most of us can't run as fast as our dogs. A dog park provides a safe fenced area where dogs can be off their leashes to run freely. Running strengthens their overall well-being, and it results in less destructive behavior at home. Most dogs get into trouble because they are bored or have too much energy. Running uses up surplus energy and makes dogs calmer.
- 3 I walk my beagle daily, and I often see other people out walking their dogs. Some of us cross routes every day. However, since our dogs are on leashes and eager to keep moving, we rarely have the chance to stop and talk. Building a dog park would solve this problem. It would allow dog owners to get to know one another better and build a strong sense of community.
- 4 Even people who do not have pets will benefit from having a dog park in town. Like most towns, Medway has a rule that dogs must be leashed. Still, I often see dogs running loose in Skeltie Park. I understand that many people do not have fenced yards, and they want to give their dogs a chance to run free for a while. However, it is dangerous to let dogs run unleashed in a public place. They could run away or bother people who may not be comfortable having a strange dog approach them. A dog park is the perfect solution.
- 5 Furthermore, dogs that spend time at a dog park are usually friendlier than dogs that do not. At the park, dogs become more familiar with how to meet new people and other animals. Dogs that have grown accustomed to seeing new people are less likely to bark at neighbors. Dogs that have not had many social experiences are likely to feel threatened by unfamiliar people or animals.

- 6 A dog park does not need to be big in order to offer all these great benefits. Most dog parks are no more than an acre or two in size. The empty meadow south of the soccer field in Skeltie Park would be the ideal place for a dog park. We would not have to worry about parking since there is already a parking lot nearby. Aside from that, a fenced-in space with a few benches is all a dog park would need. Perhaps some of the businesses in town could donate materials or money, and volunteers could build the fence. This would minimize the cost to the town. I am sure many of the dog owners I see daily would be interested in joining a committee to make the dog park a reality. Once the park is built, the volunteer committee could maintain it by mowing grass, emptying trash cans, and doing other chores.
- 7 I hope you will agree that building a dog park within Skeltie Park is a good idea. I would be happy to address any concerns and discuss how best to move forward on this worthwhile project. Thank you for considering this idea.

Sincerely,

Matthew Bayer



11 What is the author’s primary purpose in writing the letter?

- A** To explain why dogs are better behaved if they are used to being around people
 - B** To share information about a potential volunteer opportunity at the Medway dog park
 - C** To suggest that many dog owners do not give their pets an opportunity to exercise
 - D** To convince the town council that the citizens of Medway would benefit from a dog park
-

12 The word minimize in paragraph 6 means —

- F** encourage to take action
 - G** reduce
 - H** change on a regular basis
 - J** settle
-

13 How does the author try to convince people that the entire community will benefit from a dog park?

- A** He includes the advantages of a dog park for people who do not have pets.
- B** He restates the fact that the town has a law requiring dogs to be leashed.
- C** He mentions that dog owners should have a fence around their yard for their dog.
- D** He proves that most dog owners feel that their dog is safer on a leash.

- 14** How does the comparison in paragraph 5 support the author’s main argument?
- F** It suggests that people should avoid approaching a dog they have not met before.
 - G** It reveals that most dogs act in a similar way when encountering new people or animals.
 - H** It demonstrates that most dog owners prefer to have their dogs behave in a friendly way.
 - J** It explains that spending time at a dog park can have a positive effect on the behavior of dogs.
-

- 15** Which sentence from the letter contains an example of exaggeration?
- A** *I really enjoy going to the local library and playing at the local baseball field.*
 - B** *However, there is one thing our town cannot go on without.*
 - C** *Few things make dogs happier than running.*
 - D** *I walk my beagle daily, and I often see other people out walking their dogs.*

- 16** The author argues that a dog park would be good for dog owners because it would —
- F** provide them with assistance for dog training
 - G** prevent them from walking their dogs on the street
 - H** provide them with a place to talk with one another
 - J** offer them an outdoor area to sit and relax
-

- 17** Why is paragraph 6 important to the author's argument?
- A** It explains that the author has a plan for creating the park.
 - B** It proves that the author has found willing volunteers.
 - C** It shows that the author has experience caring for dog parks.
 - D** It suggests that the author's dog is familiar with the meadow in the park.

Read the next two selections. Then choose the best answer to each question.

The Cholla Cactus

1 When you hear the word “cactus,” you might think of tall, lanky plants covered with prickly spines. Beads of sweat may form on your forehead as you think of extreme desert heat. The thought of gritty sand burning beneath your feet might come to mind. But you may not know that cactus, one of the few plants able to survive in the extreme heat of the desert, can be beneficial to many animals and even to people.

2 The cholla (CHOY-yuh) is a cactus that grows in the deserts of the United States and Mexico. There are about 20 species that belong to the cholla family. Some chollas grow to be only a few inches tall, while others grow to be up to 15 feet tall and 6 feet wide.



A Cholla Teddy Bear Cactus

© Anton Foltin/iStockphoto.com # 9456158

Searching for Water

3 Regardless of the cholla’s size, desert animals have learned to rely on it for survival. Chollas have many stems that are similar to tree branches. Precipitation is scarce in the desert, but cholla stems store rainwater that is absorbed through the plant’s root system. Some desert animals depend on the water stored in cholla stems.

4 The desert bighorn sheep, for example, has learned to get water from the cholla cactus. Like many other desert animals, the bighorn rests when the temperatures rise and then goes in search of a cholla when the temperatures cool. The animal uses its large curled horns and its hooves to tear off pieces of a cholla and remove the spines. The bighorn gets water by eating the moist insides of the cholla.



A Desert Bighorn Sheep

© Steven Robertson/iStockphoto.com # 1147371

A Prickly Feast

5 The cholla cactus also provides tasty meals for many other desert animals. Bees enjoy the pollen of its colorful blooms. Birds, insects, reptiles, and mammals dine on the cholla’s juicy fruit.

- 6 The cholla also provides nutritious food for people. Members of the O’odham tribe and other desert-dwelling people eat the flower buds of some types of chollas. They roll the buds on a hard surface to remove the spines and then roast them slowly on an open fire. Once the buds have been thoroughly roasted (usually for a day), they are ready to eat. Cholla buds contain protein, calcium, and fiber—all of which are important to good health.

A Safe Haven

- 7 Food and water aren’t the only needs of desert dwellers. Many animals also seek shelter from the scorching sun. Wood rats, also called pack rats, are known to save collected objects and use them in the construction of their nests. They sometimes use pieces of a cholla to build a nest in or on the cactus. The sharp spines of the cactus keep predators away from their nests. And the thick covering of the cholla also helps the wood rats keep cool during the hot summer and maintain body heat during cold winter months.
- 8 The cactus wren, the largest wren in the United States, has something in common with the wood rat. These birds also build their nests in chollas. They often situate the nest high in a cholla to keep their eggs a safe distance away from ground animals. A large nest is well supported in a sturdy cholla. And when young wrens hatch, the prickly spines of the cholla help keep the hatchlings inside the nest and shield them from would-be intruders.

Desert Survival

- 9 While the desert may seem virtually uninhabitable, it is home to many animals and plants. The cholla cactus not only survives in the desert but also helps animals live comfortably in this extreme environment.

Cactus Wren

by Byrd Baylor



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On the hottest
summer afternoons
when desert creatures
look for shade
5 and stay close to the earth
and keep their voices
low

I sit high on a cactus
and fling
10 my loud ringing trill
out to the sun . . .

over and over
again.

My home is
15 in a cholla cactus.
I won't live
where cactus doesn't grow

because I know
the only safe place
20 for a nest
is a stickery branch
in a cactus thicket.

I like thorns
in all directions.

25 At the entrance
of my nest
I pile more cactus.
I peck off the spines
where I go
30 in and out.

It is so good a nest
that when we leave it
other creatures
will move in—
35 a family of crickets
or a cactus-climbing mouse.

But now
it holds
six small brown birds

40 and me.

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Use “The Cholla Cactus” (pp. 14–15) to answer questions 18–21. Then fill in the answers on your answer document.

- 18** What is the main idea of the section titled “A Prickly Feast”?
- F** People sometimes roast the buds of certain types of cholla cactus.
 - G** The cholla cactus attracts bees because of its pollen.
 - H** People and animals eat parts of the cholla cactus.
 - J** The fruit of the cholla cactus is quite juicy.
-

- 19** According to the article, rainwater is stored in the cholla cactus’s —
- A** spines
 - B** roots
 - C** flowers
 - D** stems
-

- 20** The author included the information in paragraph 1 to help the reader —
- F** visualize a hot desert region
 - G** learn about people who live in extreme conditions
 - H** understand the kinds of plants that live in sandy soil
 - J** identify the ways in which animals survive in the desert

21 What do the subheadings in the article help the reader understand?

- A** There are many different types of cholla.
- B** The author is knowledgeable about desert animals.
- C** The cholla can be used for different purposes.
- D** Many animals live in severe environments.

Use "Cactus Wren" (pp. 16–17) to answer questions 22–27. Then fill in the answers on your answer document.

- 22** Why does the cactus wren "like thorns in all directions"?
- F** They offer cool shade from the desert heat.
 - G** They help keep intruders away.
 - H** They are a source of food for the young hatchlings.
 - J** They prevent the baby birds from moving around in the nest.
-
- 23** In lines 1 through 13, the poet contrasts the wren's behavior with that of other desert animals to show that the wren —
- A** feels comfortable in the heat of the desert
 - B** worries about the needs of other animals
 - C** makes noises that are more pleasant to listen to
 - D** copies the actions of other animals

24 Look at the dictionary entry for the word entrance.

entrance \ˈen-trən(t)s\ *noun*
1. permission to come into a place **2.** the act of coming in
3. the location or point for coming in **4.** the first appearance of an actor in a scene

Which definition best fits the way entrance is used in line 25?

- F** Definition 1
 - G** Definition 2
 - H** Definition 3
 - J** Definition 4
-

25 The photograph below the title represents which part of the poem?

- A** Lines 1–7
- B** Lines 8–13
- C** Lines 14–22
- D** Lines 25–30

26 The poet uses the word “stickery” in line 21 to help readers understand —

- F** how animals are able to find an abandoned nest
 - G** where the wren sits on the cactus to sing in the afternoons
 - H** how much work the wren does to build a nest
 - J** why most animals would not want to touch the cactus
-

27 This poem is written from the point of view of a —

- A** mouse
- B** baby bird
- C** mother bird
- D** cricket

**Use “The Cholla Cactus” and “Cactus Wren” to answer questions 28–31.
Then fill in the answers on your answer document.**

- 28** Which sentence best describes a difference between the article and the poem?
- F** The article consists of factual information, while the poem allows for a deeper understanding of an animal’s experience.
 - G** The article describes the appearance of the cholla cactus, while the poem describes its growth patterns.
 - H** The article discusses the usefulness of the cholla cactus, while the poem does not.
 - J** The article describes an animal’s daily activities, while the poem does not.
-
- 29** According to the article and the poem, a cactus wren lives in a cholla cactus in order to —
- A** be near food for its young
 - B** be close to a source of water
 - C** seek shelter from the sun
 - D** be protected from other animals

30 Which sentence from the article best expresses the cactus wren's experience in the poem?

F *The cholla cactus also provides tasty meals for many other desert animals.*

G *Many animals also seek shelter from the scorching sun.*

H *While the desert may seem virtually uninhabitable, it is home to many animals and plants.*

J *The cholla cactus not only survives in the desert but also helps animals live comfortably in this extreme environment.*

31 Which idea do both the article and the poem support?

A Animals adapt to their environment.

B Animals often work together.

C Nature changes unexpectedly.

D People should rely on desert resources for food.

Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question.
Then fill in the answer on your answer document.

An Accidental Toy

- 1 An invention can be valued because it solves a problem or fills a need. And sometimes an invention can serve a purpose for which it was not intended. One such accidental invention resulted in a squishy, bouncy toy that millions of people enjoy playing with every day.

What Have We Here?

- 2 James Wright was an engineer working in the General Electric (GE) laboratories in New Haven, Connecticut, in the 1940s. The United States faced a shortage of natural rubber, so the U.S. government asked GE and other companies to develop artificial rubber for military uses. One day at work Wright added boric acid to silicone oil. The combination produced an interesting goo. The material bounced higher than rubber and was more stretchable. And the gooey, stretchy material would even take an imprint of ink images it was pressed on.



Wright's invention can take the ink off newspaper.

© AP Photo/Tom Copeland

- 3 But the government wasn't interested in Wright's invention. Artificial rubber that could be used for tires was already being made in other laboratories. Although Wright's putty had interesting features, nobody could find a practical way to use it.

Stretching into Success

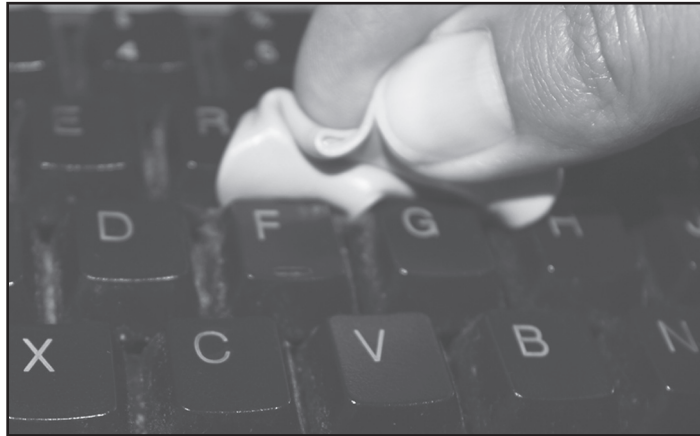
- 4 Perhaps the putty would have been just a local wonder if it weren't for a man named Peter Hodgson who had experience in advertising. Hodgson learned about the putty and had an idea. He knew that marketing and advertising were very important in making a product popular. If Hodgson could get the word out by advertising the putty, it could be a huge success.
- 5 Hodgson bought the rights to make the putty, which he named Silly Putty. He sold it in a catalog and in a few stores and then began to advertise it nationwide. Then Silly Putty was mentioned in the *New Yorker* magazine. Within three days Hodgson received 250,000 orders for Silly Putty. This once-rejected lab experiment had become a wildly popular toy. Hodgson packaged the putty in plastic eggs, and it is still sold that way. Silly Putty was one of the best-selling toys of the 1950s, and it remains very popular with children today. Since 1950, more than 300 million Silly Putty eggs have been sold!



Silly Putty stretches when it is pulled.

Not Just a Toy

- 6 As Silly Putty became more common in households, people took notice of its unique properties. It is pliable when pressed slowly but stiffens when pressure is applied quickly. So it can be squished by hand, but it remains in a ball when bounced off the floor. People noticed that things stick to the soft putty. For example, a ball of the putty rolled along a piece of clothing can remove pet hair, and a small piece of putty pressed between the keys of a computer keyboard can pick up dust and lint. And Silly Putty can be used to help balance a wobbly table if it is placed under one of the table legs.



Silly Putty can be used to clean a computer keyboard.

Courtesy of ETS

- 7 Because Silly Putty is soft and smooth, some people have found that squeezing it can help reduce stress or focus the mind on a task. Squeezing the putty keeps the hand muscle active and uses excess energy. Silly Putty can also be used in physical therapy for people who have hand injuries. The putty offers resistance when squeezed to help people strengthen hand muscles.
- 8 Uses for Silly Putty continue to be found some 70 years after its invention. In fact, astronauts on space missions have used Silly Putty to hold their instruments in place in zero gravity, showing that the toy's potential is truly out of this world.

- 32** The author's main purpose in writing the selection is to —
- F** encourage the reader to think of clever uses for a product
 - G** inform the reader about the invention and uses of an interesting product
 - H** describe some creative ways of promoting a new product
 - J** explain how to develop an invention
-

- 33** From the information presented in paragraph 2, the reader can conclude that Wright's invention —
- A** cost more to make than the government was willing to pay
 - B** required chemicals that were difficult to get
 - C** displayed characteristics that he did not expect
 - D** was the reason he was offered a job in the laboratory
-

- 34** Which of these statements best summarizes the section titled "Stretching into Success"?
- F** When Peter Hodgson purchased the rights to make the putty, he decided to call it Silly Putty.
 - G** Peter Hodgson learned of an invention, named it Silly Putty, and used his experience to successfully advertise it.
 - H** Peter Hodgson realized that children around the country would like the putty if he came up with a good name for it.
 - J** To help make James Wright's invention popular, Peter Hodgson wanted to give more people the opportunity to know about it.

- 35** Based on the ideas presented in the selection, what can the reader conclude about Silly Putty?
- A** It is used today by more adults than children.
 - B** Copying ink images is the most valuable of its uses.
 - C** For about 70 years it has been the most popular toy on the market.
 - D** It has gained new uses over the years.
-

- 36** What is the meaning of the word properties in paragraph 6?
- F** Creators
 - G** Solutions
 - H** Qualities
 - J** Customers
-

- 37** What can the reader conclude about Peter Hodgson based on information in the selection?
- A** He purchased several toys from different companies.
 - B** He saw the possibilities for something that others did not.
 - C** He searched for new inventions by reading magazines.
 - D** He believed that mistakes often lead to important discoveries.

38 The author presents the ideas in paragraphs 2 through 5 in chronological order so that the reader will better understand —

- F** how a failed invention became popular when it was given a new purpose
 - G** how an engineer mixed different chemicals to produce an invention
 - H** the process an engineer followed to invent a product for the government
 - J** the best way to market an invention as a toy
-

39 Wright's invention was originally intended for —

- A** military use
- B** children
- C** physical therapy
- D** astronauts

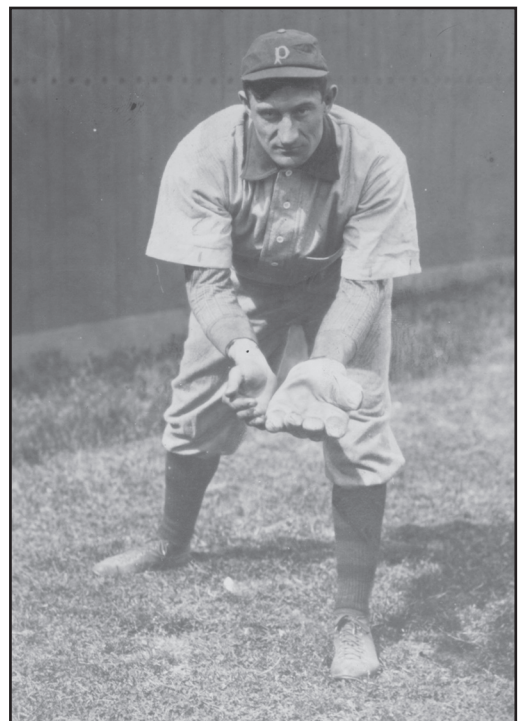
Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question.
Then fill in the answer on your answer document.

Honus Wagner, Baseball Legend

- 1 Some 12-year-olds dream about the kind of job they'll have when they get older. At the age of 12, Johannes Peter "Honus" Wagner was already working with his father and brothers in the coal mines near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Wagner would load about 2,000 pounds of coal onto a cart each day, earning 70 cents for a day's hard labor. But Wagner didn't plan to work in the coal mines forever. He had a different dream: to become a professional baseball player.
- 2 As children, Wagner and his brothers spent all their free time playing baseball. One of his older brothers noticed Wagner's skills. He encouraged Wagner to practice playing each of the nine positions on a baseball team.
- 3 Wagner fell in love with the sport. He walked several miles to see the home games of the nearest professional baseball team, the Pittsburgh Pirates. He would watch the team play while sitting in a tree just outside the ballpark. Wagner's love for the game would help him become one of the greatest baseball players of all time.

Looks Can Be Deceiving

- 4 As a young adult, Wagner began playing for various area baseball teams. In 1895 he was recruited to play for a minor league team. He hoped his talent would soon earn him a spot on a major league team.
- 5 Though powerfully built, Wagner was an awkward figure on the baseball field. Some major league managers were not impressed. Wagner's bowed legs and long arms made him look clumsy. His left hand appeared too large for his baseball glove. And Wagner used a glove with a hole in it. Wagner made the hole himself because he thought the ball was easier to hold in his glove that way.
- 6 However, coaches quickly learned to appreciate Wagner's ability to hit the baseball and play any position. His gawkiness didn't matter. In 1897 Wagner



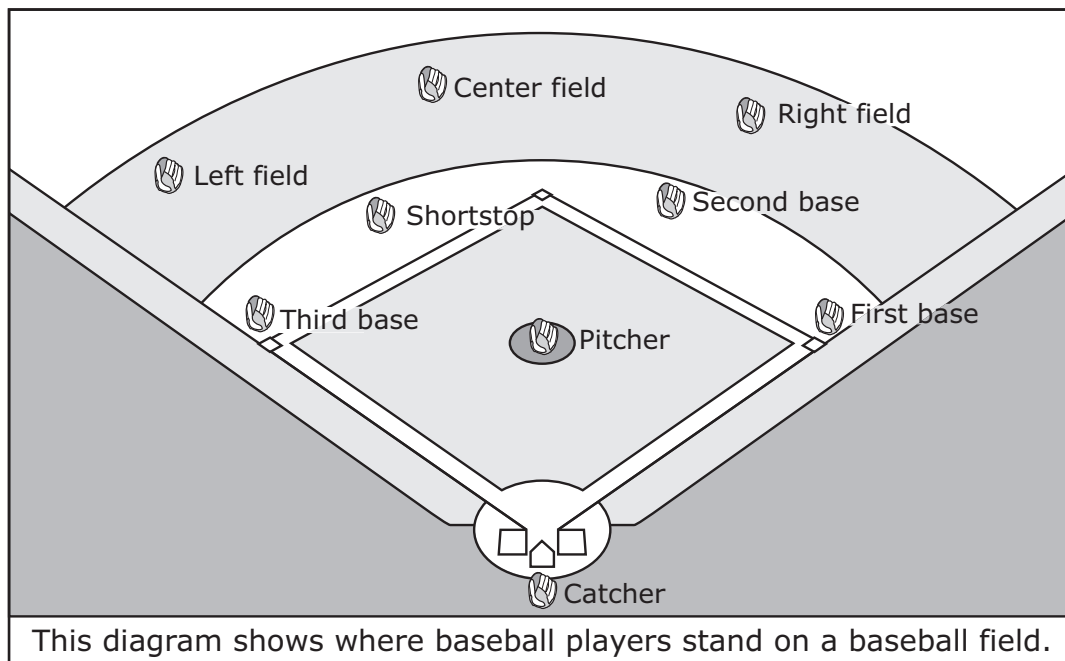
Honus Wagner in His
Pittsburgh Pirates Uniform

Courtesy of Library of Congress # LC-USZ62-71742

joined a major league team in Louisville, Kentucky. He was a shining star there until 1900, when he was asked to join the Pittsburgh Pirates. At last Wagner was playing for his home team!

A Hometown Favorite

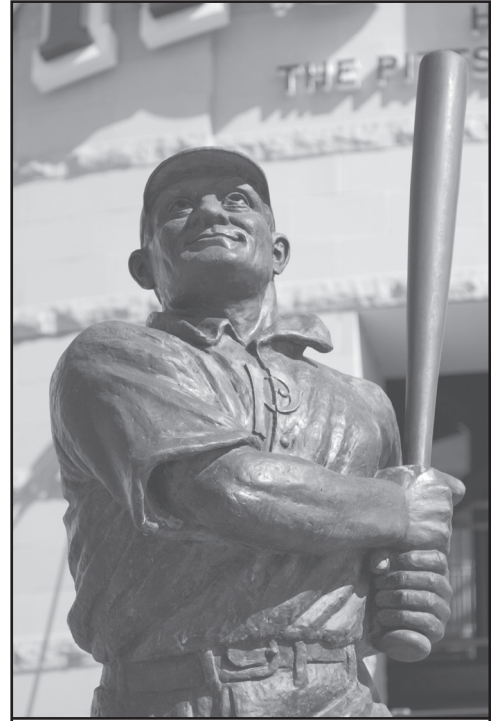
- 7 Wagner's power, speed, and talent led to success with the Pirates. Thunderous applause greeted the fan favorite at every home game.
- 8 After playing several positions with the Pirates, Wagner earned a consistent role as the team's starting shortstop. A shortstop plays between second and third base. More balls are hit to the shortstop than to any other position. A shortstop must also have a strong throwing arm to quickly throw the long distance to first base. Game after game, Wagner had success playing this difficult position.
- 9 Wagner's long arms and large hands helped him with batting as well. He was able to hit almost any ball pitched to him. In the early 1900s Wagner was one of the National League's best players. Many other teams wanted him to play for them, but he remained loyal to his home team.



- 10 Wagner played for the Pirates for 17 years. For much of that time, he was the best hitter in the National League. Arthritis pain in his legs slowed him down, though. Wagner tried to retire, but his coaches persuaded him to keep playing because they believed the team benefited from his leadership. In 1917 Wagner played his last game for the Pittsburgh Pirates. But he wasn't finished with the team just yet. Wagner became a coach for the Pirates some years later, serving his team again from 1933 to 1951.

Honoring Excellence

- 11 Wagner is considered by many to be the greatest shortstop of all time. He was one of the first five players selected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame. At the time of his death in 1955, Wagner still held many National League records. Wagner worked hard to become a professional baseball player. His journey continues to motivate young people who aspire to be professional athletes.



A statue of Honus Wagner stands in front of the Pittsburgh Pirates stadium.

Robert Pernel, used under license from Shutterstock.com

40 In paragraph 11, the word aspire means to —

- F** encourage a friend
 - G** arrange a meeting
 - H** design a project
 - J** seek a goal
-

41 What do the details in paragraph 5 help the reader understand about Wagner?

- A** He was underestimated because of his appearance.
 - B** He was unhappy with his performance on the minor league team.
 - C** He lacked the patience that coaches of major league teams expected of players.
 - D** He needed the proper equipment before a major league team would select him.
-

42 Which sentence from the selection shows that Wagner was a positive influence on others?

- F** *Wagner would load about 2,000 pounds of coal onto a cart each day, earning 70 cents for a day's hard labor.*
- G** *Wagner's love for the game would help him become one of the greatest baseball players of all time.*
- H** *For much of that time, he was the best hitter in the National League.*
- J** *Wagner tried to retire, but his coaches persuaded him to keep playing because they believed the team benefited from his leadership.*

- 43** By including the details in paragraph 3, the author most likely hopes to convey that Wagner —
- A** took time to explore a professional career that was not related to baseball
 - B** had a real passion for baseball from an early age
 - C** settled for playing with the Pittsburgh Pirates because the team played close to his childhood home
 - D** enjoyed interacting with players during the Pittsburgh Pirates home games
-

- 44** What is the primary theme in the selection?
- F** Family members should offer support to one another.
 - G** Kindness often leads to friendship and admiration.
 - H** People should take the time to pursue their interests.
 - J** Dedication can help a person achieve great success.

45 Which phrase from paragraphs 5 and 6 helps the reader understand the meaning of gawkiness in paragraph 6?

- A** *bowed legs and long arms*
 - B** *play any position*
 - C** *didn't matter*
 - D** *learned to appreciate*
-

46 The photograph of the statue of Wagner conveys the message that —

- F** Wagner's accomplishments are still respected today
- G** the Pittsburgh Pirates are successful today because of Wagner
- H** people can still learn from Wagner's life story
- J** Pittsburgh Pirates fans believe that Wagner is the best coach of all time



**STAAR
GRADE 5
Reading
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