

SAMPLE PAGES FOR

The Competitive Edge English I EOC Test ENGLISH I END-OF-COURSE

J A N E H E R E F O R D

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READING STRATEGIES

These workbook pages are designed to help you practice skills in reading. Your teacher will maximize your learning by expanding upon these activities during class. Practicing these skills will help you demonstrate the curriculum standards for reading.

There are many strategies that you use when reading. You use different strategies when trying to completely understand the situation. You use other strategies when you are trying to predict, evaluate, or summarize.

PREDICTING

When you **PREDICT**, you use information from the passage to think about what may happen later.

➤ *EXAMPLE*

Forecasting Hurricanes

The hurricane season of 2003 marked a new method of forecasting hurricanes. Residents along the coasts of North and South Carolina were given five days to prepare for Hurricane Isabel in September 2003. Traditionally, weather forecasters used a three-day model to help officials determine when to evacuate an area. Isabel made landfall 200 miles away from the original five-day forecast. This fact concerns businesses involved in tourism along the coast. Spokespersons from the beach areas expressed concern that these premature forecasts hurt area business when vacationers and tourists changed their plans.

A representative from the National Weather Service argues that forecasts vary too much among local meteorologists. The National Hurricane Center agrees that the five-day model is an excellent tool to ensure safety for all. Still, local officials in the beach areas want to meet and discuss changing this policy of forecasting.

What predictions can be made from the facts in this passage about forecasting hurricanes?

The National Hurricane Center and the beach areas of North and South Carolina would go back to a three-day forecast that would help tourists decide what to do.

EVALUATING

When you **EVALUATE**, you come to a conclusion (form your own opinion) about something or someone in the passage.

➤ **EXAMPLE**

Palm Pilots in Schools

Tiny hand-held computers are making education easier for teachers, students, and administrators. The uses of palm pilots are endless.

With information at their fingertips, administrators can break away from their desks and get into the hallways more than ever before. Since many schools have large student populations, administrators can store photographs on the palm pilot to keep track of students' schedules, discipline records, or academic information. Teachers can take attendance, record and tabulate grades, or write letters to parents on their palm pilots.

Both teachers and students use the palm pilots to find new ways to incorporate the technology into lessons. A research institute, The Center for Technology and Learning in California, claims that students across the country are using Palm Pilots for everything from writing assignments to science experiments. Students can gather data for science experiments, take and send digital photos, study and compose music, keep a journal, and conduct a stock market simulation. Students in physical education classes can log their levels of physical activity outside of school, such as cutting grass or walking the dog. With special software, the palm pilot can allow students to take tests, calculate their grade, and record the grades in the teacher's computer.

Educators in these schools have used federal grants, money from parent teacher organizations (PTO), and other fund-raisers to purchase the palm pilots. They can cost as much as \$400.

What is your opinion about the events or the people in this passage?

My opinion is that palm pilots are great tools for the school system, and every school should find some way to purchase them.

SUMMARIZING

When you **SUMMARIZE**, you put into words what you have read. Using the six “W” questions can help you organize your thoughts and summarize texts after you read them. The six “W” questions are: WHO?, WHAT?, WHEN?, WHERE?, WHY?, and HOW?

➤ EXAMPLE

Ex-racing Dogs Get New Jobs as Pets

Greyhound dogs are trained to run races at speeds as much as 45 MPH—the speed limit for cars on many city roads! After a few years of adulthood, the racing industry no longer uses these dogs. These former racing dogs are often euthanized or sent to medical labs for experiments. Because of this, the Greyhound Protection League was founded. Since then, groups have formed in states throughout the country to find homes for these ex-racing dogs. Events are planned around the country to raise awareness and to help pet owners with veterinarian bills. One such event is Greyhound Planet Day.

Greyhounds are unique pets. They are odorless because they have no sweat glands. They are known for being very social and gentle. Thin-skinned, they are also prone to sunburn and enjoy cooling off in a lake or river. Pet lovers who adopt these greyhounds must teach them how to walk up steps and stay on the sidewalk after living a life on the racetrack.

Answer the six “W” questions. Summarize or restate the passage in your own words.

Summarizing Questions	Response
Who?	greyhounds
What?	Greyhounds are being euthanized, but some people are trying to save them.
When?	after a few years of adulthood
Where?	in all of the U.S.
Why?	to give them a life after racing
How?	by finding them a home

Summary: Many groups across the U.S. are saving former racing greyhounds by finding them new homes.

PRACTICE

For each passage:

1. use the facts to make a prediction.
2. use the facts to make a conclusion.
3. summarize the facts.

Trailblazing Tennis Star

Althea Gibson was a South Carolina native who was a pioneer in sports for both women and African Americans when she made her mark in the 1950's. During this time in America, many people spoke out about Civil Rights for African Americans. She contributed to the Civil Rights movement with her tennis racket. Her image is featured on the African American History Monument on the State House grounds in Columbia. Her biography is titled *Born to Win: The Althea Gibson Story*.

Althea Gibson was born in the town of Silver in Clarendon County, SC in 1927. The eldest of five children, she described herself as a "born athlete." She picked up tennis while she grew up in New York, slapping rubber balls off a brick wall. Althea soon met Fred Johnson, her one-armed tennis coach who taught her how to play. She won her first tournament at 15, becoming the New York State black girls' singles tennis champion. Boxer Sugar Ray Robinson helped pay for her travels.

She spent her high school years in Wilmington, N.C., where Dr. R.W. Johnson took her into his family's home and let her play on his grass court. Dr. E.A. Eaton coached her there, and Althea later credited him with helping her cultivate the grace and dignity she needed on and off the court. Althea stated that during this tumultuous time in America for minorities, "No one would say anything to me because of the way I carried myself. Tennis was a game for ladies and gentlemen, and I conducted myself in that manner."

Althea attended Florida A&M on a tennis and basketball scholarship, and then began her ascent in the American Tennis Association, founded in 1916 for black players.

Althea Gibson was the first black to complete in the U.S. championships in 1950, and at Wimbledon in 1951. However, it wasn't until several years later that she began to win major tournaments, including the Wimbledon and U.S. championships in 1957 and 1958, the French Open, and three doubles titles at Wimbledon from 1956-58. Overall, Althea won 11 Grand Slam titles (five singles, six doubles).

Althea reflected on her accomplishments as she presented her Wimbledon trophies to the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History in 1988. She marveled, "Who could have thought a Negro woman raised in Harlem, who went on to become a tennis player . . . and finally wind up being a world champion, in fact, the first black woman champion of this world?"

Althea Gibson was named the AP's Female Athlete of the Year in 1957 and 1958. Following her 1957 victory, she was given a ticker-tape parade in New York City and an official welcome at City Hall.

Arthur Ashe later became the first black man to win the U.S. Open and Wimbledon. More than 30 years passed before another black woman, Zina Garrison, reached the final at Wimbledon in 1990. Venus Williams won the tournament 10 years later and again in 2001, and her sister Serena captured her first U.S. Open title in 1999.

Althea retired from the game soon after her 1958 Wimbledon and U.S. titles because there was no prize money and few lucrative endorsements. It wasn't until 1968, the start of the Open era, that the major tournaments played pro players. The U.S. Open now offers \$1 million to the singles champions. Althea's longtime friend and former New York mayor David Dinkins said, "If she had been a half-step later in her tennis career, she would have been a multimillionaire."

Prediction:

Conclusion:

Summary:

A



High-Tech Trash Tactics

At first glance, it looks like a 1980s-era video game. Tiny trucks slowly move across a map of city streets on a computer screen. Actually, the computer screen shows a new global positioning system (GPS) that helps keep track of garbage trucks. The new system helps cities pick up garbage more quickly and efficiently, saving money in overtime and other costs. It costs about \$9,000 to install the system, including GPS devices in 18 trucks, and the cities also pay a monthly fee of \$450.

Reading Strategies

The GPS works by allowing supervisors to keep track of the garbage trucks. If one falls behind, perhaps from a heavy flow of garbage, backed-up traffic or mechanical failure, then he can radio other drivers to tell them to help out on that route. He can also direct traffic, in a sense, by advising drivers when to head to the dump. If several arrive at the same time, they can end up waiting and falling behind on their routes. The same adjustments were possible before, but the GPS system has made the process more immediate. The screen shows each individual house where garbage is picked up, how long workers take for breaks, and even the speed of the truck. The green dots, each representing a household where the garbage has been collected, slowly spread across the screen.

Public service departments say that the GPS system, in conjunction with other improvements such as new trucks, has paid off. Since the system was installed a few months ago, the on-time percentage has gone from about 80 percent up to the 90s. The GPS technology has reduced overtime by about 20 percent, although the exact benefit has not been calculated yet. The system ultimately will pay for itself.

GPS technology, which works by using satellites to pinpoint exact locations on earth, increasingly is being used for navigation, mapping and other functions. Uses range from treasure hunt-type games to electronic monitoring in criminal cases to commercial trucking.

Prediction:

Conclusion:

Summary:

S



Conclusion:

Summary:



Common Goal: Girls Flock to Soccer

The percentage of girls who play high school soccer has increased dramatically in the past decade, jumping from 2.2% in the 1992-93 school year to 3.8% last year, according to a *USA Today* analysis of recently released high school participation figures.

A major factor in the growth of girls soccer is Title IX, the federal law that bans sex discrimination at schools receiving federal funds. Youth programs, the USA's 1999 Women's World Cup title, and college scholarships also have fueled the increase.

Kate Sobrero is on the U.S. national team. She says, "Anytime you have 40 million people watching the World Cup in 1999, a good percentage of that is young girls and they're going to see that and maybe those young girls are now in high school playing."

The next Women's World Cup is expected to keep the number of girls playing high school soccer on the rise. While soccer is flourishing, the percentage of girls who play high school sports has leveled off after steady increases the past 20 years. Data for the 2002-03 school year show the girls' participation rate has remained unchanged for a fourth year at 33%.

The boys' rate, currently at about 46%, has been relatively stagnant for more than a decade. The figures, collected by the National Federation of State High School Associations, show the raw number of students playing sports nationwide continues to rise. But adjusting for population shows the increase is because of more students in U.S. high schools.

Prediction:

Conclusion:

Summary:



Woman Pilot from China

Katherine Cheung was the first Asian American woman in the nation to become a licensed pilot. A native of Canton, China, Cheung immigrated to the United States in 1921. She decided to become a pilot after visiting an airfield in Los Angeles and earned her pilot's license in 1932, at a time when only 1 percent of all licensed U.S. pilots were women. She was the first Asian American woman pilot, according to the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum. Cheung also became an accomplished racer and stunt flier, and the Beijing Air Force Aviation Museum proclaimed her China's Amelia Earhart. After a cousin who had introduced her to flying was killed in a crash, she promised her father she would never fly again. She later broke the promise, but retired from flying for good in 1942, at age 38.

Prediction:

Conclusion:

Summary:



My Family of Pilgrims

Approximately 300 Carolinians have discovered their family connections to the Pilgrims on the Mayflower. Members meet twice a year, once close to Thanksgiving, to share fellowship. There's always a roll call of the survivors of the first winter on Plymouth Rock, and members related to those Pilgrims stand. Every three years, there's a national meeting in Plymouth. Being able to apply for membership in the Mayflower Society means documenting one's descent from one or more of the 26 Mayflower Pilgrims. Members estimate each state in the country has about 300 members of the society.

The search for your family history is difficult because you have to have one name to latch onto, and then prove your history through birth certificates, death certificates, school records, old Bibles, cemeteries, letters, and newspaper clippings. Once a person who is alive now gets into the Mayflower Society, it's easy for his own sons and daughters to get in. Members of the Mayflower Society are aging, however. This group that touts the importance of knowing one's history is struggling to stay relevant to today's younger generation. Many of the society's younger members were sponsored by their parents or grandparents. Once they reach 18, many let their \$35-a-year memberships lapse. Very few children attend the annual meetings.

Prediction:

Conclusion:

Summary:



“We Wear the Mask”

Paul Laurence Dunbar

We wear the mask that grins and lies
It hides our cheeks and shades our eyes,—
This debt we pay to human guile;
With torn and bleeding hearts we smile,
And mouth with myriad subtleties.

Why should the world be otherwise,
In counting all our tears and sighs?
Nay, let them only see us, while
 We wear the mask!

We smile, but, O Great Christ, our cries
To thee from tortured souls arise.
We sing, but oh the clay is vile
Beneath our feet, and long the mile;
But let the world dream otherwise,
 We wear the mask!

Reading Strategies

Prediction:

Conclusion:

Summary:



REVIEW

Read each selection and answer the questions.

“The Courage That My Mother Had”

Edna St. Vincent Millay

The courage that my mother had
Went with her, and is with her still:
Rock from New England quarried;
Now granite in a granite hill.

The golden brooch my mother wore
She left behind for me to wear;
I have no thing I treasure more:
Yet, it is something I could spare.

Oh, if instead she'd left to me
 The thing she took into the grave!—
 That courage like a rock, which she
 Has no more need of, and I have.

quarry: to remove stone from ground

brooch: a decorative pin to be worn on a woman's blouse

1. Which statement is the **best** conclusion about the daughter's relationship with her mother?
- A The daughter admired her mother.
 - B The daughter often argued with her mother.
 - C The mother worked hard in the quarry to provide for her daughter.
 - D The mother thought the daughter did not deserve anything in her will.



“Annabel Lee”

Edgar Allan Poe

It was many and many a year ago
 In a kingdom by the sea,
 That a maiden there lived whom you may know
 By the name of ANNABEL LEE;
 And this maiden she lived with no other thought
 Than to love and be loved by me.

I was a child and she was a child,
 In this kingdom by the sea;
 But we loved with a love that was more than love—
 I and my Annabel Lee;
 With a love that the winged seraphs of heaven
 Coveted her and me.

And this was the reason that, long ago,
 In this kingdom by the sea,
 A wind blew out of a cloud, chilling
 My beautiful Annabel Lee;
 So that her highborn kinsman came
 And bore her away from me,
 To shut her up in a sepulcher
 In this kingdom by the sea.

The angels, not half so happy in heaven,
Went envying her and me-
Yes! - that was the reason (as all men know,
In this kingdom by the sea)
That the wind came out of the cloud by night,
Chilling and killing my Annabel Lee.

But our love it was stronger by far than the love
Of those who were older than we-
Of many far wiser than we-
And neither the angels in heaven above,
Nor the demons down under the sea,
Can ever dissever my soul from the soul
Of the beautiful Annabel Lee.
For the moon never beams without bringing me dreams
Of the beautiful Annabel Lee;
And the stars never rise but I feel the bright eyes
Of the beautiful Annabel Lee;

And so, all the night-tide, I lie down by the side
Of my darling - my darling - my life and my bride,
In the sepulcher there by the sea,
In her tomb by the sounding sea.

2. Which of the following statements is an accurate conclusion from this poem?
- A The poet fought other admirers for the affection of his bride.
 - B The poet feels that their love was stronger than the love of older, wiser couples.
 - C The poet believes that the angels were sympathetic.
 - D The poet still loves his bride even though she died yesterday.

A



“Wisdom”

Siegfried Sassoon

S

When Wisdom tells me that the world's a speck
Lost on the shoreless blue of God's To-Day . . .
I smile, and think, 'For every man his way:
The world's my ship, and I'm alone on deck!
And when he tells me that the world's a spark

Lit in the whistling gloom of God's To-Night . . .
I look within me to the edge of dark,
And dream, 'The world's my field, and I'm the lark,
Along with upward song, along with light!

3. Which statement below is the **most accurate** conclusion about the speaker in the poem?
- A The speaker is brave and confident.
 - B The speaker is facing a conflict in his life.
 - C The speaker is facing old age.
 - D The speaker is arrogant.



Ben

I have only seen my father cry twice. The first time was when we learned that my grandfather died. The second time was when our dog Ben died of old age. Dad met me in the driveway when I came home from school that day. The stoic look on his face held news that I would not want to hear. The moment that I stepped near to him he pulled me close in his arms. He sobbed and his chest heaved when he said, "We haven't seen Ben in three days." I cried out loudly and coughed to catch my breath standing there on the grass beside our driveway. For some odd reason at that time I remembered a book by John Steinbeck that we read in English class. In *The Red Pony*, the boy's pony becomes sick and walks into the pasture and dies. I guess animals know when they are going to die and leave home to find a place. That memory from English class did not take away the pain of losing Ben, but it did help answer my questions about why he would walk off and not let us be with him. Ben was our dog for 12 years, and for months he did nothing more than sleep under the stairs of the back porch. We knew he was getting old when his hips got stiff with arthritis, and we had to start feeding him soft food. Every memory I had of him since a puppy played through my mind. Coming home would never be the same without meeting him in the driveway.

4. Which of the following statements **best** summarizes this passage?
- A Dogs know when they are going to die, and they disappear.
 - B Memories of English class always stir painful memories.
 - C Death will come to those we love.
 - D Coming home would never be the same again after losing his pet of 12 years.

5. What is the prediction that can be made from the facts in this passage?

- A After their loss, no more pets will be allowed to live there.
- B A new puppy will be added to the family
- C All family members will read *The Red Pony*.
- D Ben will come walking down the driveway.



Famous Alumnus Inspires Teens

C.A. Johnson Preparatory Academy students see his face every school day. Photos of former astronaut Charles F. Bolden, Jr., decked in his blue NASA suit, hang in the Columbia school's atrium and gym. The pictures of Bolden, a graduate of C.A. Johnson who grew up in the surrounding neighborhood, serve as reminders of the possibilities for Johnson's students. Recently students were able to see the astronaut during a question-and-answer session put on by Educational Television (ETV) at the State Fair. The students from C.A. Johnson were special guests in the studio audience. Bolden's comments were broadcast live on ETV, and students from all over the state emailed their own questions to Bolden. It was the C.A. Johnson students, sitting in the audience, who seemed to get the biggest thrill out of seeing the smiling, confident Bolden. The students, members of the school's JROTC, asked mainly about Bolden's leadership skills and military background. The major general retired from the Marine Corps last year after 34 years of service. When asked about the person who inspired him the most, Bolden said it was his dad; then he got choked up. Charles Bolden Sr. was an educator, administrator and coach at C.A. Johnson who stressed the importance of education to his children. Charles Jr. said his father let him work as a water boy during football games. C.A. Johnson students say meeting the astronaut was inspirational. They hope the event shows people that their school has a lot going for it.

6. Which statement is the **best** conclusion from the facts in this passage?

- A Students today do not have parents as role models like Bolden's father was to him.
- B Since Bolden grew up in their neighborhood, his experiences were probably similar to these students.
- C Since Bolden is as famous as he is, he was only able to offer a television broadcast, not a personal visit.
- D ROTC students are especially interested in the astronaut because of his military training.



Bluford Series Named after Astronaut

The Bluford Series is a collection of ten young adult novels that focus on the lives of a group of high school students and their families. The series draws its name from the school that many of the characters attend: Bluford High, named after Guion “Guy” Bluford, America’s first black astronaut. Set in contemporary urban America, each novel addresses complex topics relevant to the lives of today’s students: family, friendship, trust, isolation, violence, and peer pressure, to name a few. In addition, the books feature male and female characters and include elements from many literary genres, such as mystery, suspense, romance, and a touch of the supernatural. In other words, the Bluford Series offers something for almost every reader.

The real Guion Bluford High School named after the astronaut is located in West Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. When “Guy” was in high school himself during the 1950’s, he had to overcome stereotypes and prejudices. A counselor strongly advised him to learn a trade since he was “not college material.” Guy ignored his advice. He went on to college and succeeded by earning a Masters and then a Ph.D. in aerospace engineering. He became an astronaut in 1979 and made his mark as the first African American astronaut in space in 1983. In July 1993, Bluford retired from NASA and the Air Force. His character and achievements serve as an inspiration to the students at the real Bluford High School in Philadelphia and to the students across America who read about the characters in the Bluford Series.

7. Which statement is the **best** conclusion about both passages above?
- A Many landmarks and buildings across the country are named after astronauts.
 - B Astronauts have the type of character and personality that many young adults admire.
 - C Individuals with great achievements, such as astronauts, usually have an important role model.
 - D The career of an astronaut requires college education and specialized training.



The Shrine Bowl

The annual Shrine Bowl football game raises funds for the Shriners Hospitals that treat crippled and burned children. At the end of the year 2002, 700,000 burned and crippled children had been treated at Shriners Hospitals. Currently, 188,000 children are in the Shriners Hospital network. The Shrine Bowl features the top high school football players from North Carolina against the best from South Carolina.

The 2003 Shrine Bowl game on December 20th, 2003 marks the 67th year for this event. The game was played in Charlotte, North Carolina, for 64 years but moved to the high school football stadium in Rock Hill, South Carolina, in 2001 due to dwindling interest and attendance. The game was a sellout in 2001 and 2002 at the new location. The event begins with a parade down Rock Hill’s Main Street that leads to the stadium.

Reading Strategies

The board of directors and area businesses have helped the bowl game to be a huge success at the new location in South Carolina. Two radio stations, WRHI-AM and Interstate 107 FM have helped build radio coverage of the game from three stations to 50 stations. Radio coverage helps raise awareness among the public for the purpose of the game and the mission of the Shriners Hospitals for Crippled and Burned Children.

8. Which of the following statements **best** summarizes this passage?
- A Since moving to South Carolina, the Shrine Bowl has been a huge success at raising awareness of the mission of Shriners Hospitals.
 - B The Shriners Hospitals sponsor a football game every year.
 - C Charlotte, North Carolina, was not a good location for the Shrine Bowl.
 - D Fifty radio stations cover the football game in South Carolina.



Finding Common Ground

Individuals Making Prevention a Commitment Together (IMPACT) is a group of community leaders and volunteers working to improve life. They started a movement this fall to address the needs of the Hispanic community.

More than 250 Hispanics and Americans gathered for Encuentro Familiar, community-wide events aimed at bringing together local residents and the growing number of Hispanics moving there. Several churches presented the event. While children kicked plastic balls and played Red Rover, adults grilled chicken and chatted before the evening's bilingual service. People headed for the fellowship hall, drawn by the aroma of beans and rice and the singing of Hispanic and American performers. Members of the growing Hispanic community brought a taste of their home countries to Encuentro Familiar. They came from Venezuela, Puerto Rico and Mexico. An area resident was instrumental in helping a family move from Venezuela to Cassatt to start a new church. In just three years, the church has grown from the five members of the original family of Venezuela to between 40 and 50 regular Spanish-speaking members. The pastor preached in Spanish at the Encuentro Familiar. The sermon was translated for English-speaking participants.

Many residents feel that Encuentro Familiar is important to bring the two cultural groups together. Hispanics say they continue to feel loved and welcomed in their communities now. Many Hispanics come to America to have a better life for their family. They have to overcome many obstacles. Encuentro Familiar is only one part of a movement by some citizens to reach out to Hispanics. An Hispanic Council was also formed earlier this year. Several area churches offer classes in English as a second language, as well as classes for getting a high school equivalency certificate in Spanish.

9. What is the **most accurate** conclusion that can be made from the facts in this passage?
- A Cultures feel welcome in new places when they are encouraged to share their own customs.
 - B Community members and religious groups have the ability to make a difference for other people.
 - C Encuentro Familiar is important to the Hispanic population.
 - D Due to the increasing Hispanic population, all Americans should study to become bilingual.



Women Farmers

If a bull is sick, a fence is broken, or a pasture on their 300-acre ranch needs mowing, Shirley Brown and Doris Blackmon roll up their sleeves and get to work. The sisters founded Famoda Farm in the shadow of the Appalachians more than four decades ago and have been raising Angus cattle ever since. They started as a curiosity—two women taking over a farm by choice instead of by tragedy, such as the death of a father or husband. Now, farm experts say more women are choosing to go into the fields and pastures as part of a growing trend of female-owned small businesses across the economic spectrum. The rise of direct-marketing tools, including the Internet, helps out female farmers just as it does other businesswomen. Agriculture just happens to be the area some women choose. South Carolina led the Southeast in the number of female farm operators, with an increase of better than 22 percent to about 2,000 from 1992 to 1997, according to the latest figures available from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. All but two Southern states saw increases ranging from about 22 percent to about 23 percent.

The trend has continued since then, as niche farming that doesn't require a lot of money—such as raising goats or growing organic vegetables—becomes more popular. The Agriculture Department is crunching numbers for its 2002 count. When totals are released next spring, officials expect to see another increase, helped by a decision to count farmers who own land in partnerships. Brown, 63, and Blackmon, 60 never knew they would be on the cusp of a trend when their parents gave them each a cow in 1962 and helped them buy the land for their ranch. The women honored their family by naming their farm Famoda, after the first two letters in father, mother, and daughter.

The sisters do most of the work themselves. They feed the cattle, mow the grass and clear pastures on their own. Blackmon's husband helps a little, mainly with mechanical problems like a broken-down tractor. The Famoda cows and bulls are some of the best tempered around. The sisters also have a reputation for quality. A trophy case along one wall of the home they share has dozens of trophies and ribbons from their days of showing their prize animals. Some of the trophies were won by Blackmon's daughter, who works as an embryologist, helping to inseminate cattle artificially. She lives in Ohio now, but her daughter wants to return and may take over the farm.

10. Which statement **best** summarizes this passage?
- A Women are capable of having careers that were traditionally held by men.
 - B Brown and Blackmon are just two examples of women farmers today.
 - C Businesses like the Famoda Farm require the labor of the entire family.
 - D A hobby or interest can turn into a career for anyone who puts forth the effort.
11. What is the **best** prediction that can be made from the facts in this passage?
- A The number of men farmers across the country will decrease in the next decade.
 - B The number of women farmers in South Carolina will increase in the next decade.
 - C Blackmon's daughter will take over the farm and be even more successful than her mother.
 - D Within the next decade, more women will choose careers traditionally held by men.



The Career of a Paralegal

While lawyers assume ultimate responsibility for legal work, they often delegate many of their tasks to paralegals. In fact, paralegals—also called legal assistants—perform many of the same tasks as lawyers. Generally, paralegals do background work, including research to identify the appropriate laws, judicial decisions, legal articles and other material used to determine if a client has a good case. In addition to litigation, paralegals may also work in areas such as bankruptcy, corporate law and real estate.

Individuals interested in a career in this field must be able to handle legal problems logically and communicate, both orally and in writing, their findings and opinions. Because paralegals often work with the public, they must be courteous and uphold the high ethical standards expected of the legal profession. They must have a clear understanding of legal terminology, good research and investigative skills, and stay abreast of new developments in the laws that affect their area of practice. Computers are playing an increasingly larger role in legal research and litigation support, so familiarity with their operation is vital.

Students interested in the career of a paralegal may also study to become a legal secretary, legal investigator, legal assistant, paralegal, research assistant, and court reporter. Paralegals are employed in private law firms, banks, corporations, insurance agencies, legal clinics, courts, government agencies, accounting and engineering firms, title companies, construction companies, and legal aid offices—in fact, almost everywhere law-related work is performed.

12. Which statement **best** summarizes this passage?

- A Paralegals can obtain jobs in many different fields.
- B Anyone who communicates well can become a paralegal.
- C Paralegals play a vital role in helping lawyers deal with important cases.
- D The understanding of legal terminology can affect the paralegal's area of practice.



Hurricanes

Hurricanes are cyclones caused by very low barometric pressure. Their characteristic center, or eye, is an area of relative calm encircled by powerful winds and storms. Once a tropical cyclone reaches winds of 74 mph, it is technically called a hurricane. The National Hurricane Center in Miami, Florida, keeps track of storm formation using many types of monitoring devices to determine location and wind velocity. The center then broadcasts information needed by local weather officials to track the progress of the storm and to take the proper steps to warn citizens and visitors of a hurricane's approach.

13. Which of the following is the **best** summary of this paragraph?

- A Hurricanes are cyclones caused by very low barometric pressure.
- B Once a tropical cyclone reaches winds of 74 mph, it is a hurricane.
- C Proper steps must be taken to warn citizens and visitors.
- D Hurricanes are tracked by the National Hurricane Center in Florida, and they warn citizens and visitors of a hurricane's approach.



Nautilus

Here was our situation. Two miles to starboard rose Geuboroar Island, whose coast extended from north to west like an immense arm. Toward the south and east, we could already make out the tops of several coral formations, which the ebb tide was beginning to uncover. We had gone aground at high tide, which would make it difficult to refloat the *Nautilus*. Nevertheless, the ship had suffered no damage, for her hull was solidly joined. But even though it could never sink or spring a leak, there was a serious danger of it remaining grounded forever on these reefs, and that would be the end of Captain Nemo's submarine.

14. Which of the following is the **best** summary of this paragraph?

- A The *Nautilus* had become grounded on the coral formations. There was no damage, but it was in serious danger of remaining grounded forever.
- B To the starboard rose Geuboroar Island.
- C That would be the end of Captain Nemo's submarine.
- D We had gone aground at high tide.



Vegetarian

Terry is in high school and never eats at McDonald's or Kentucky Fried Chicken. Terry's a vegetarian and has not eaten meat since he was ten years old. He refuses to eat meat because he likes animals. Nisha, a devout Hindu, brings yogurt, fruit, and bean dishes for lunch at her school. She avoids meat for religious reasons. Some students become part-time vegetarians. When they don't like their lunchroom menus, they'll grab an apple, an orange, or a candy bar. In spite of what some people would call a limited diet, most vegetarians remain healthy. Vitamins and minerals in meat are generally available in fruits and vegetables, too.

15. Which of the following is the **best** summary of this paragraph?

- A Terry never eats at McDonald's or Kentucky Fried Chicken.
- B People who are vegetarians or part-time vegetarians by choice are healthy, because the minerals and vitamins in meat can also be found in fruits and vegetables.
- C Nisha avoids meat for religious reasons.
- D When they don't like luncheon menus, they'll grab an apple, an orange, or a candy bar.

