

Enter Your Name | (Optional)

DIRECTIONS

Read each selection. Then read each question that follows that selection. Decide which is the best answer to each question. Mark the space for the answer you have chosen.



Ruling Lizards

Cousins

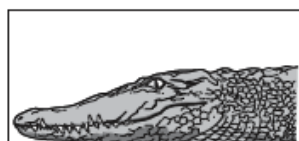
- 1 You could say that the alligator and the crocodile are cousins because they belong to the same animal group. The group is called *Archosauria* (ark-o-SOR-ee-ah). The name means “ruling lizards.”
- 2 The alligator and the crocodile are alike in many ways. Both have hard, bumpy skin. Both lay eggs in nests that they build near water. Both are reptiles, too.
- 3 A reptile is a kind of animal that lives mainly on land. A reptile’s body can’t make its own heat like a person’s body can. Its body changes as the air around it changes. It becomes warmer in warm weather and colder in cold weather. That’s the main reason we say that reptiles are cold-blooded animals.



Alligator

Look Again

- 4 Even though alligators and crocodiles are similar, there are ways to tell them apart. Adult alligators are usually gray or black, and they are darker than crocodiles. Adult crocodiles may be tan, green, or brown. Most types of alligators have broad snouts. The snout is the front part of the head. Crocodiles’ snouts are different. Their snouts are long and narrow.
- 5 Look at the picture of the alligator. Whenever an alligator closes its mouth, only the top teeth show. Now look at the picture of the crocodile. Do you see a difference? Whenever a crocodile closes its mouth, some of the lower teeth also show.



Crocodile

■ see *Ruling Lizards*, page 2

Different Ways

- 6 Alligators and crocodiles also have different ways of doing things. Alligators like freshwater. They sometimes wander into salty seawater, but they don’t stay in the water very long. The salt can be bad for them. Alligators usually make their nests at the edge of freshwater lakes, rivers, or swamps. They use grass and leaves to make their nests. Crocodiles, on the other hand, usually build their nests in mud or sand. Sometimes they construct these nests near salty water. The salty water doesn’t hurt them.
- 7 Alligators and crocodiles do other things differently, too. A mother alligator stays near her nest. When the eggs hatch, she carries the babies to water. They may even ride around on her head as she swims. They depend on her to help them stay safe. Crocodile babies don’t rely as much on their mothers. In fact, the babies leave the nest a few days after they are born.

Wild Animals

- 8 Would you know an alligator from a crocodile if you saw one? If you did see one, it wouldn't be a good idea to get too close. Like all wild animals, alligators and crocodiles are best left alone.

D

1 What is this article mainly about?

- ☐ Where crocodiles and alligators live
- ☐ How alligators and crocodiles are alike and different
- ☐ What crocodiles' teeth look like
- ☐ Where alligators and crocodiles build their nests

2 In paragraph 7, which words help the reader understand the meaning of rely?

- ☐ *are born*
- ☐ *ride around*
- ☐ *depend on*
- ☐ *eggs hatch*

3 Alligators build nests near freshwater because —

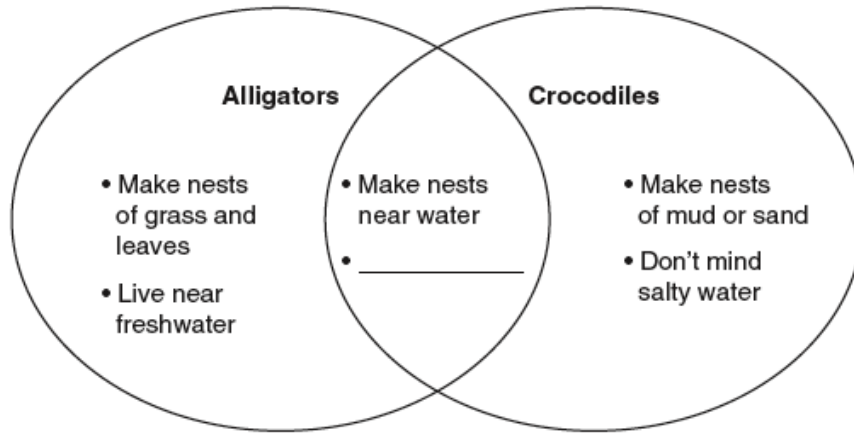
- ☐ they don't want to live close to crocodiles
- ☐ salty water is not good for them
- ☐ they are cold-blooded animals
- ☐ they have to carry their babies

4 Which statement is true of both alligators and crocodiles?

- ☐ They are warm-blooded animals.
- ☐ They watch over their babies.
- ☐ They have no lower teeth.
- ☐ They live mainly on land.

5 Use the diagram below to answer the question that follows.

Alligators and Crocodiles



Which of these goes on the blank line?

Eat grass

- ☐ Lay eggs
- ☐ Carry babies to water
- ☐ Are gray or black

6 Which word in paragraph 4 means the opposite of broad?

- ☐ *adult*
- ☐ *narrow*
- ☐ *front*
- ☐ *types*

7 Which sentence from the article shows the reader that alligators and crocodiles are not exactly alike?

- ☐ *The name means “ruling lizards.”*
- ☐ *The snout is the front part of the head.*
- ☐ *Alligators and crocodiles also have different ways of doing things.*
- ☐ *Like all wild animals, alligators and crocodiles are best left alone.*

8 What is the title of this article?

- ☐ Cousins
- ☐ Ruling Lizards
- ☐ Kid News
- ☐ Look Again

9 In paragraph 6, what word helps the reader know what construct means?

- ☐ *edge*
- ☐ *water*
- ☐ *build*
- ☐ *wander*

10 This article was written mainly to —

- ☐ tell a funny story about two animals
 - ☐ show that alligators are good mothers
 - ☐ describe places where people might see alligators and crocodiles
 - ☐ tell about two animals from the same animal group
-

The Cave

1 The guide, Mr. Chan, flipped a switch. Now Diana could see the rough surfaces of the cave walls. Diana and her classmates followed Mr. Chan into the cave while Ms. Reyes walked behind. It had been warm outside, but the air in the cave was chilly. Diana set her lunch down and put on her jacket. Julia waited for her, and then the two girls hurried to catch up with the rest of the class.

2 Mr. Chan showed the class some raccoon tracks just inside the mouth of the cave. "The raccoon probably left the cave in search of a meal," he said. "There isn't much food in caves."

3 Diana wondered if there were other animals in the cave. Mr. Chan pointed out tiny fish in the stream that flowed through the cave. He said, "Small fish like these don't need much to eat. They are able to find enough food in the cave."

4 Soon they came to a dark area that was roped off to keep people out. "Why can't we go in that section?" Diana asked.



5 "That's the bat roost," Mr. Chan said. "Thousands of brown bats are hibernating in there. That means they're resting during winter. Spring is coming, though, so they'll probably leave soon." The children peered into the darkness, trying to see the bats.

6 "If there isn't much food in here, what do the bats eat?" Diana asked.

7 Mr. Chan said, "These bats eat insects outside the cave, but they don't eat while they're hibernating. The bats ate a lot of food in the fall. This food will last them until spring, when they wake up."

8 "Can we look at the bats?" asked Diana.

9 Mr. Chan shook his head. "We could harm them if we woke them now. Let's go find a spot where we can eat lunch.

We can talk about bats while we eat. I'll try to answer any questions you may have."

10 Just then Diana noticed that she didn't have her lunch. She must have left it behind when she stopped to put on her jacket. "We'll have to pick it up on our way back to the bus," Ms. Reyes said.

11 Even though she had only a sandwich and some grapes, Julia offered to share lunch with her friend. "You're the greatest," said Diana. "Thanks a lot."

12 "You're lucky! You wouldn't have found much food in here," Mr. Chan told Diana.

13 Diana replied, "If it weren't for Julia, I might be as hungry as a bat in springtime!"

D

11 The reader can tell that Mr. Chan —

- ☐ enjoys being in the bat roost
- ☐ knows a lot about caves
- ☐ feeds the tiny fish in the stream
- ☐ has met Ms. Reyes before

12 In paragraph 1, what word means the opposite of chilly?

- ☐ *outside*
- ☐ *warm*
- ☐ *air*
- ☐ *down*

13 Paragraphs 5, 6, and 7 are mainly about —

- ☐ students looking for bats
- ☐ food in the cave
- ☐ things bats do
- ☐ how dark the cave is

14 Which sentence from the story shows that Diana thinks the cave is interesting?

Soon they came to a dark area that was roped off to keep people out.



"Can we look at the bats?" asked Diana.

- ☐ *Just then Diana noticed that she didn't have her lunch.*
- ☐ *"You're the greatest," said Diana.*

15 Read the meanings below for the word spot.

<p>spot \ˈspät\ <i>noun</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. a stain on clothing2. a place or location3. a difficult problem4. a mark on the skin

Which meaning best fits the way spot is used in paragraph 9?

- ☐ Meaning 1
- ☐ Meaning 2
- ☐ Meaning 3
- ☐ Meaning 4

16 Which word best describes Diana?

- ☐ Tired
- ☐ Sad
- ☐ Curious
- ☐ Worried

17 After Diana picks up her lunch, she will probably —

- ☐ share it with Julia
- ☐ feed it to the bats
- ☐ give it to Mr. Chan
- ☐ take it home with her

18 It is important that the story takes place in a cave because —

- ☐ caves are dark and scary places
- ☐ Diana learns about animals that live in caves
- ☐ Julia and Diana have always wanted to see a cave

- ☐ it's easy to get lost in a cave

19 In paragraph 4, which word helps the reader understand the meaning of section?

- ☐ *soon*
- ☐ *dark*
- ☐ *people*
- ☐ *area*

20 Read the list below. It shows the order in which some events happened in the story.

<input type="radio"/> 1.	The class enters the cave.
2.	
3.	Mr. Chan talks about animals that live in the cave.
4.	Diana notices she does not have her lunch.
<input type="radio"/>	

Which of these belongs on line 2?

- ☐ The children eat lunch.
- ☐ Diana stops to put on her jacket.
- ☐ Julia shares her lunch with Diana.
- ☐ Diana goes back to find her lunch.
-

Faraway Places

1 Elias sat on the steps and gazed across the field. He and his grandfather had spent the day on the tractor. They were getting their field ready for planting. The black dirt smelled good. Elias looked up. A silver moon hung over the farm. Elias wished his father were with him to enjoy the clear night. "What do you think Dad is doing right now?" he called out to his grandfather.

2 Elias heard the sound of the squeaky screen door close behind Grandpa. "Same thing you are, I'd bet—relaxing at the end of a long day's work."

3 Grandpa was probably right. Elias's father had been away on business for a whole month. "Hey, Grandpa. What's that bright star?" he asked.

4 Grandpa looked at the bright dot that Elias had pointed out. "That's not a star. I think it might be the planet Jupiter," Grandpa said. Suddenly he disappeared back into the house.

5 Elias called out, "Grandpa?"

6 "I'll be right back," Grandpa said. "I just want to get something." A moment later Grandpa pushed the screen door open with his boot. He carried a battered old telescope in his arms. In a matter of minutes, he had set it up in the yard. He aimed the telescope at the light Elias had inquired about. Grandpa leaned over to squint through the lens and then motioned for Elias to have a look. Grandpa said, "It's Jupiter, all right. Here, look at the four tiny dots in a row next to the big dot. Those are some of Jupiter's moons."

7 Elias peered through the telescope. It took him a moment to find Jupiter and its moons. "How do you know so much about this stuff?" he asked his grandfather.

8 "I've always loved the stars and planets," Grandpa answered. "When your dad was a boy, I taught him what I had learned. He also read every book he could find on the subject. We spent hours out here with this telescope almost every night."

9 "I never knew Dad was interested in the stars," Elias said.

10 "Well, that was a long time ago," Grandpa said. "I even



forgot I had this old thing until you asked about that bright star.”

Then Grandpa looked at another brilliant light, farther to the right of Jupiter. “I

wonder what that other bright light is,” he said.



- 11 Elias smiled as he thought about his father. “Can you show me how to find the other planets?” he asked. “Then I can surprise Dad when he comes home.”

D

- 21 How does Elias feel at the end of the story?

- ☐ He is eager to show his father what he has learned.
- ☐ He wishes his grandfather would put the telescope away.
- ☐ He feels sad that his grandfather does not know more about the stars.
- ☐ He is tired from his long day in the fields.

- 22 In paragraph 10, what word means about the same thing as the word brilliant?

- ☐ *wonder*
- ☐ *right*
- ☐ *farther*
- ☐ *bright*

- 23 As the story begins, Elias and his grandfather have spent the day —

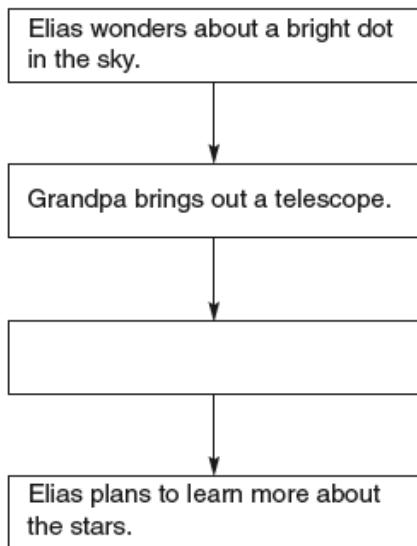
- ☐ looking at stars
- ☐ talking with Elias’s father
- ☐ working in the field
- ☐ taking a walk

- 24 What is Elias’s main problem in the story?

- ☐ Farmwork is too hard for him.
- ☐ He wants to know the names of the stars.
- ☐ He misses his father.

- ☐ The telescope is too old.

25 Look at the chart below. It shows the order of some events in the story.



Which event belongs in the empty box?

- ☐ Grandpa goes inside to get something.
- ☐ Elias rides a tractor all day.
- ☐ Elias learns that his father likes the stars.
- ☐ Grandpa and Dad talk about the stars.
- 26 What is Elias thinking about at the beginning of the story?
- ☐ His father
- ☐ Telescopes
- ☐ Tractors
- ☐ The stars
- 27 Which sentence from the story shows that Grandpa has not used his telescope in a long time?
- ☐ *Grandpa looked at the bright dot that Elias had pointed out.*
- ☐ *In a matter of minutes, he had set it up in the yard.*
- ☐ *"I've always loved the stars and planets," Grandpa answered.*
- ☐ *"I even forgot I had this old thing until you asked about that bright star."*
- 28 Elias's grandfather probably wants to —

- ☐ share his love of the stars with Elias
- ☐ teach Elias about the tractor
- ☐ read more about the planets
- ☐ learn more about telescopes

29 How does the reader know that Elias is a curious boy?

- ☐ He asks a lot of questions.
- ☐ He reads books about the planets.
- ☐ He enjoys learning about Grandpa's farm.
- ☐ He wants his own telescope.

30 When Elias's father returns, he will probably —

- ☐ find a new job
- ☐ look at the stars with Elias
- ☐ teach Grandpa about the stars
- ☐ get a new telescope

You have reached the end of the test. To score the test, click on the “Score Test” button. To clear your answers and begin the test again, click on the “Reset” button. The scoring of the test will take a minimum of 10 seconds.

Score Test

Reset

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