

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Title: **Blizzard Bag #1 Summarizing**

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### **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.

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

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

## 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.

2. Which of the following **best** summarizes the passage?

- A. 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.
  - B. 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.
  - C. 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.
  - 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.
- 

3. 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. number
  - B. :helpful:nocturnal:
  - C. group
  - D. cats
-

## 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.

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

- A. hibernate:migrate:
  - B. 800 miles
  - C. wondered
  - D. roosts
- 

5. Which of the following **best** summarizes the passage?

- A. 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.
  - 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. In the winter, cave bats hibernate in groups of hundreds. Hibernating in groups helps the bats stay warm throughout the long winter season.
  - 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.
- 

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.

6. Which is the **best** summary of this passage?

- A. 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.
  - B. 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.
  - C. 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.
  - D. 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.
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7. The snow fell at a slow and steady pace. It was a snow that no one in the small town of Adak, Alaska thought much of. The snow was soft and disappeared quickly. However, as the day went on, the snow thickened and stayed on the ground. Then the wind picked up, blowing the snow in every direction. It was a true blizzard.

The citizens of Adak were surprised by the blizzard. There was no sign that the weather would change so suddenly. The citizens raced to their homes to prepare for the worst. They boarded up their windows, stocked their pantries, and their firewood supply. They wanted to have plenty of food and to stay safe and warm.

Which is the **best** summary of this passage?

- A. In Adak, Alaska, snow falls at a slow and steady pace. The snow is soft and disappears quickly on the ground.
  - B. A blizzard surprises the citizens of Adak, Alaska. There was no warning that the weather would change so suddenly.
  - C. The citizens of Adak, Alaska, race to prepare for the worst. They start by boarding up their glass windows.
  - D. A light snow turns into a blizzard in Adak, Alaska. This causes the citizens of Adak to rush to prepare for the storm.
-

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8. 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 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.
  - B. 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.
  - C. 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.
  - D. 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.
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9. 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 asked her dad to teach her how to ride a two-wheeled bike, and he said yes. A cat got in her way, and her dad was scared.
  - 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 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."
  - D. 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.
- 

10. Looking around at the main hall, Carlos did not know any of the kids. His family had just moved to a new town and, now, he had to go to a new school. This meant that Carlos had to start making new friends. However, he could not find one friendly face in the sea of kids.

Out of nowhere, someone pushed Carlos down, and his books scattered everywhere. Carlos picked himself up and started gathering up his books. He picked up his history book first and smoothed the cover. Suddenly, a hand gave him one of his dropped books. Carlos looked up and finally saw a friendly face. He knew he was going to find a friend after all.

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

- A. "He picked up his history book first and smoothed the cover."
  - B. "Carlos picked himself up and started gathering up his books."
  - C. "This meant that Carlos had to start making new friends."
  - D. "Suddenly, a hand gave him one of his dropped books."
-

**11.** 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 one of the greatest scientists of all time. He came up with many products farmers could make from sweet potatoes, soybeans, and cotton waste.
  - B.** 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.
  - C.** 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.
  - D.** 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.
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**12.** Of all the Chinese restaurants, A Wok Away was the most popular restaurant in the city. A Wok Away was known for its amazing design. The outside of the restaurant was modeled after an ancient palace. It had amazing woodwork and details. In front, two large dragons sometimes breathed fire on Saturday evenings.

A Wok Away had all of the usual Chinese food, but it also had the strangest ones. Everyone wanted to try all the unusual food. The restaurant had different kinds of fish and meat. They were from all around the world. The restaurant also had all types of sauces for dipping the food. The food made A Wok Away more popular than the other local restaurants.

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

- A.** "The outside of the restaurant was modeled after an ancient palace."
  - B.** "In front, two large dragon statues sometimes breathed fire on Saturday evenings."
  - C.** "The restaurant also had all types of sauces for dipping the food."
  - D.** "A Wok Away was the most popular restaurant in the city."
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**13.** 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?

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

Marvin's mom helped Marvin take his dog Sarah to the vet to get better. Sarah did not

  - B.** want to play, so Marvin knew that she was sick. The vet gave Sarah some medicine, and she felt better.

Marvin decided to give his dog Sarah human treats, like hot dogs and chewy candies.

  - C.** Sarah's stomach started hurting, so he called to his mother. His mother decided to take Sarah to Dr. Woods.

Marvin fed his dog Sarah human treats. Sarah got sick, so Marvin and his mom took her

  - D.** to the vet. The vet gave Sarah some medicine, and Marvin promised he would not give Sarah human treats again.
-

**14.** Ingo thought the end of summer came too quickly. He was afraid that all of the fun from the past two months would disappear under loads of schoolwork. For the summer, Ingo and his friends had made a list of things to do—things that they could never do during the school year. They had done nearly everything on the list. However, there was just one more thing left on the list.

The last thing on the list was something Ingo wanted to do a lot. Ingo wanted to be a part of a band, but not just any band. He wanted to be a part of a real rock band. Throughout the entire summer, Ingo and his friends saved money for band equipment. Now that it was the end of summer, they were finally getting guitars, speakers, and drums. Ingo hoped that they would be able to create the rock band of his dreams.

Which is the **best** summary of this passage?

- A.** Ingo wants to create a real rock band. Ingo and his friends save money for rock band equipment and make good music.
  - B.** Ingo and his friends do not get their band equipment until the end of the summer. They have to go back to school.
  - C.** Ingo and his friends have almost completed their to-do list. All they have left to do is to create their own rock band.
  - D.** Ingo does not want the summer to end. He is afraid that all of the fun from summer would disappear at school.
- 

**15.** SAO PAULO, Brazil - On a recent trip to South America, a team of scientists discovered a new type of insect. Scientists have named them flash bugs. They believe that flash bugs have been around for over 1,000 years. Although the insects have been around for a long time, they lived in an unexplored region of the rainforest. The team of scientists stumbled onto the insect when they were lost in the rainforest.

The flash bug is said to be in the same family as the common firefly. Like the firefly, it can produce light. However, unlike a firefly, its body is bright red with green accents. The flash bug is very fast, and it can breathe fire. It can fly quickly to escape other insects that may try to eat it. Scientists hope to learn more about the flash bugs by studying them carefully.

Which is the **best** summary of the news article?

- A.** A new insect is in the same family as the firefly. The main difference is that its body is bright red with green accents.
- B.** During a trip, a team of scientists discovers a new insect. The insect is like a firefly but has some differences.
- C.** The new South American insects are called flash bugs. Scientists believe that the insects are over 1,000 years old.
- D.** An insect is discovered by lost scientists in South America. The team of scientists finds the insect just by accident.

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