

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Title: **Blizzard Bag #2 Cause and Effect**

Most people have not seen cougars in the wild. That's because cougars try to avoid humans. Cougars are present in most of the western United States. Sometimes, someone closer to the East Coast will think they saw a cougar. Experts believe those people likely saw a bobcat or else a very large house cat. When people do not get clear looks at some animals, they can think they saw something much larger than they really did. House cats and bobcats almost always weigh less than 30 pounds. A cougar can grow as large as 200 pounds!

1. What causes people to think they have seen a cougar when they have likely just seen a bobcat or a house cat?

- A. being very hungry when seeing the animal
 - B. seeing many animals at the same time
 - C. wanting very badly to see a cougar
 - D. getting an unclear look at the animal
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2. According to the passage, what is the result of cougars avoiding humans?

- A. Most people have seen bobcats or large house cats.
 - B. People in the western United States often see cougars.
 - C. People on the East Coast often see cougars.
 - D. Most people have not seen cougars in the wild.
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3.

The Foundation of Yellowstone

Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming, Montana, and Idaho was the first national park founded in the world. It is famous for its unique landscape. It includes hot springs and places where steam shoots out of the ground! It is also well known for having many different plants and animals.

Two artists helped start Yellowstone National Park. Thomas Moran, a painter, and William Henry Jackson, a photographer, visited the Yellowstone region in 1870. These two men made many pictures of the area and convinced the American people that the Yellowstone region must be preserved.

In 1872, President Ulysses S. Grant signed a bill to make Yellowstone a national park. Soon, more parks were created. In 1916, Congress created the National Park Service to watch over our nation's parks. One of the goals of the National Park Service is to preserve our country's natural wonders for many, many years.

from SRA Real Science

What effect did Thomas Moran have on many Americans?

- A. He discovered Yellowstone National Park.
 - B. He convinced them to protect the Yellowstone region.
 - C. He founded the National Park Service.
 - D. He encouraged more people to take art classes.
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4. Sylvester always gets into trouble for stealing things, but he never tells the truth. He tells the teachers and the principal that he would not have gotten so angry and stolen things if people were not always making fun of him. They actually believe him. They should not believe him because no one makes fun of him. He is a mean guy. We are all going to do the right thing and tell the teachers and principal that he has not been truthful!

What does Sylvester say causes him to steal?

- A. He just really enjoys it.
 - B. People make fun of him.
 - C. He wants to make money.
 - D. He does not have a reason.
-

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5. Since it had started to snow, the tournament was cancelled.

Which word in this sentence is a clue for a cause and effect relationship?

- A. tournament
 - B. cancelled
 - C. since
 - D. started
-

6. Volcanoes are special mountains that build themselves. They are made from very hot melted rock called magma. The pressure of gas from deep inside the earth pushes the magma up and out of the ground. When magma forces its way to the earth's surface, a volcano erupts. When the volcano erupts, the melted rock flows out of the ground. The melted rock is called lava.

from Childcraft: World and Space and SRA Science Connection Center: Volcanoes

What causes volcanoes to be formed?

- A. melted rock flowing out of the ground
 - B. pressurized rock flowing out of the ground
 - C. gas pushing magma out of the ground
 - D. lava running out of the ground
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Some people may notice that they feel better when the sun is shining. Research shows that staying in the sun for 15 to 20 minutes a week can improve human health. Sunlight causes the body to produce serotonin, a chemical that helps people's moods. Another benefit of sunlight is that people absorb vitamin D from it. Vitamin D strengthens bones and teeth. Also, staying in the sun for about 15-20 minutes a week causes the body to make melatonin. Melatonin is a chemical that helps people sleep at night.

Too much sunlight is harmful to people. Staying in the sun for too long can cause the skin to burn. Also, too much sunlight is known to cause skin diseases. People should limit their time in the sun. If people are in the sun for lengthy periods of time, they should wear sunscreen and/or protective clothing to prevent harmful effects from the sun.

7. According to the passage, the right amount of sunlight

- A. cures skin diseases.
 - B. causes bad moods.
 - C. protects skin from burning.
 - D. helps people sleep at night.
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In the rainforests of Ecuador, there is a plant with an odd look. The wide leaves of this plant have areas of white color that look a little like mold. These white spots also look like moth larvae. Scientists believe the plants developed these spots because real moths will not lay their eggs on plants that already have moth larvae. It is a form of defense. The white spots mean that the plant cannot turn as much sunlight into food, though. Only the green part of the leaf can do that.

8. What causes the plant to produce less food?

- A. the moth larvae
 - B. the white spots
 - C. the green leaves
 - D. the moth eggs
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9. Which of these is an effect of the plant having the white spots?

- A. The plant are able to make more food.
 - B. Moths will eat the leaves of the plant.
 - C. The moth larvae will go to another plant.
 - D. Moths will not lay eggs on it.
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The Heat Index

Have you noticed that you feel hotter on humid days than on drier days that have the same temperature? This is because not as much water leaves your skin on humid days. The air on these days is already wet or moist. The evaporation of perspiration is one way your body keeps cool. You feel hotter because less perspiration evaporates. The air does not need more moisture.

The heat index takes into account the given air temperature and the relative humidity. It is a measure of how hot the air feels to your body. The apparent temperature to your body can be higher or lower than the air temperature. For example, if the temperature is 90°F and the relative humidity is only 20%, your body will feel like it is only 87°F. However, if the temperature is 90°F and the relative humidity is 80%, then the heat index is 113°F.

The heat index can have an effect on your body. High heat indexes can cause fatigue, heat exhaustion, and even death from heatstroke. Be careful when you exercise on humid days. However, wind, even on humid days, helps perspiration evaporate. This can help lower the heat index.

from SRA Real Science

10. What can cause the heat index to lower?

- A. wind
 - B. heat exhaustion
 - C. heatstroke
 - D. fatigue
-

11. Which weather factor may cause heat exhaustion?

- A. high winds
 - B. fatigue
 - C. high heat index
 - D. low heat index
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12. What causes your body to feel warmer on humid days than dry days?

- A. Your body produces more sweat.
 - B. The air temperature is hotter on humid days.
 - C. Perspiration can evaporate quickly from your body.
 - D. Only a little perspiration evaporates from your skin.
-

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It is not an easy job to plan the Olympics. It is a lot of work to hold the Olympics in a city. Just ask the people of Atlanta, Georgia. In 1996, athletes from over 100 countries participated in Atlanta. People were sent from newspapers, radio, and television stations to cover the games. Changes had to be made all over the city. Athletes and coaches needed places to stay. Fans and the media needed somewhere to stay, too. A lot of healthy food had to be ready for the participants. Teams of people had to make the food. Other teams cleaned up after people ate. Visitors wanted to shop and eat at nice places. Places had to be built for different events.

The first modern-day Olympics were very different. They were held in 1896. Only thirteen countries came to the Olympics in Athens, Greece. Ten athletes competed for the United States. However, we won nine out of ten events! This started America's tradition of winning a lot of Olympic events.

from Grolier: Story of America and Heath Literacy: Skill Practice and Assessment

13. What is one reason so much planning is necessary in the Olympics?

- A. Athletes pay a fee in order to have preparations made by the city.
 - B. A city has a lot to do in order to be ready for the Olympics.
 - C. It is within the city's law that preparations must be made.
 - D. Athletes put it in their contracts that the city must be prepared.
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14. Which sentence summarizes what happens when many people come to a city to attend the Olympics?

- A. Many types of changes are needed.
 - B. More food is cooked.
 - C. Athletes need more hotel rooms.
 - D. Athletes win more events.
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15. What is one effect of so many people coming to Atlanta for the Olympics?

- A. Many workers had to prepare large amounts of food.
 - B. The Olympics were moved to Athens, Greece.
 - C. The athletes needed more time to practice.
 - D. The athletes had to participate in more events.
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