

HOW WELL CAN YOU READ?



Read the following passage and then answer the questions that follow.

For two months, I have been trying to decide who makes the best ice cream. I have narrowed it down to my four favorite manufacturers: Randolph Farms, Goodies, Disco, and Twinkle.

Let's start with Randolph Farms. Randolph Farms makes very good ice cream. They have lots of different flavors, but this doesn't really matter to me. That's because I always get coffee flavor. They make the best coffee ice cream in the world. I've never had hot coffee (the drink) but people tell me that Randolph Farms coffee ice cream tastes just like the real thing. Also, Randolph Farms uses all natural ingredients to make their ice cream. This is a good idea, I think.

Second, we have Goodies. Goodies makes excellent ice cream. Like Randolph Farms, Goodies uses all natural ingredients. They only make three different flavors—strawberry, vanilla, and chocolate—but they make them very well. The strawberry is amazing. Every bite of it reminds me of the strawberries that I used to pick behind my old house. The vanilla is wonderful. It is very smooth and has a refreshing, creamy taste. The chocolate is outstanding. It is made with real cocoa beans from Bolivia. I didn't know where Bolivia is so I decided to look for it on a map. After hunting awhile, I discovered that it is in South America! That's a long way to go to get cocoa, so it must be good. I would say that the only drawback to Goodies ice cream is that they only make three different flavors.

Third, we have Disco. Disco ice cream is okay. They don't have many good flavors. Actually, the only Disco flavor I like is Bubblegum. It is vanilla ice cream with little chunks of bubblegum in it. After you eat the ice cream, you can blow bubbles with the gum. That's pretty fun.

Finally, there is Twinkle. Twinkle ice cream is mediocre. The only good thing about Twinkle is that it is relatively inexpensive. You can buy a whole carton of Twinkle ice cream for \$4.50. That's only two weeks' allowance for me.

1) Which of the following would be the best title for this passage?

- A. Strawberry, Vanilla, Chocolate, and Bubblegum Too!
- B. The Four Top Ice Cream Manufacturers
- C. The Finest Ice Cream in the World
- D. Picking the Best Ice Cream Manufacturer

2) If the author wanted to get a scoop of coffee ice cream, where would he or she probably go?

- A. Randolph Farms
- B. Goodies
- C. Disco
- D. Twinkle

3) In paragraph 1, the author uses a colon. A colon (:) looks like two dots, one on top of the other. Colons are used to separate different parts of a sentence. The part before the colon introduces an idea and can stand alone as a sentence. The part after the colon gives more detailed information about this idea, often as a list. If the colon could talk, it would say, "And here they are!"

Using this information, it can be understood that which of the following sentences contains the correct use of a colon?

- A. My friends are: sweet, young, and generous.
- B. I like: to talk on the phone at night.
- C. I have three pets: Toto, Spot, and Rover.
- D. I want a new bicycle: or new roller skates.

4) According to the passage, the author likes Randolph Farms ice cream because it

- I. is all natural
- II. is made in Bolivia
- III. comes in many flavors
- A. I only
- B. I and II only
- C. II and III only
- D. I, II, and III

5) In paragraph 3 the author writes, "That's a long way to go to get cocoa, so it must be good." Using this information, we can understand that the author believes that

- A. Goodies loses money on sales of chocolate ice cream
- B. Bolivia makes the best cocoa in the world
- C. things that are hard to get must be high quality
- D. cocoa from the United States is not very good

6) According to the passage, the author likes Disco ice cream because it

- A. is relatively inexpensive
- B. has bubblegum in it
- C. is made in Bolivia
- D. is okay

7) According to the passage, how is Randolph Farms ice cream different than Goodies?

- I. Randolph Farms has many different flavors and Goodies does not.
- II. Randolph Farms uses all natural ingredients and Goodies does not.
- III. Randolph Farms is very expensive and Goodies is not.
- A. I only
- B. I and II only
- C. II and III only
- D. I, II, and III

8) An adjective is a word that is used to describe a thing. For example, in the sentence, "The car is fast," the word "fast" is an adjective. Using this information, which of the following are adjectives used in paragraph 3?

- I. flavors
- II. excellent
- III. old
- A. I only
- B. I and II only
- C. II and III only
- D. I, II, and III

9) According to the author, what is the only drawback to Goodies ice cream?

- A. cheap ingredients
- B. expensive price
- C. mediocre quality
- D. a lack of flavors

10) How much money does the author receive in his or her weekly allowance?

- A. \$2.25
- B. \$4.50
- C. \$9.00
- D. Not enough information is provided

11) Given the information included in the passage, which of the following statements would the author most likely agree with?

- A. Each manufacturer has its strengths and weaknesses.
- B. The best manufacturers are the ones with the most flavors.
- C. Goodies is certainly not the best manufacturer, as they only have three flavors.
- D. Each manufacturer is good for different reasons.

12) If the author did decide that one manufacturer is best, which one would he or she probably choose?

- A. Randolph Farms
- B. Goodies
- C. Disco
- D. Twinkle

13) How many weeks would it take for the author to save enough money to buy two cartons of Twinkle ice cream?

- A. 1 week
- B. 2 weeks
- C. 3 weeks
- D. 4 weeks

READ THE FOLLOWING PASSAGE AND THEN ANSWER THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW.

Have you ever wondered what keeps a hot air balloon flying? The same principle that keeps food frozen in the open chest freezers at the grocery store allows hot air balloons to fly. It's a very basic principle: Hot air rises and cold air falls. So while the super-cooled air in the grocery store freezer settles down around the food, the hot air in a hot air balloon pushes up, keeping the balloon floating above the ground. In order to understand more about how this principle works in hot air balloons, it helps to know more about hot air balloons themselves.

A hot air balloon has three major parts: the basket, the burner, and the envelope. The basket is where passengers ride. The basket is usually made of wicker. This ensures that it will be comfortable and add little extra weight. The burner is positioned above the passenger's heads and produces a huge flame to heat the air inside the envelope. The envelope is the colorful fabric balloon that holds the hot air. When the air inside the envelope is heated, the balloon rises.

The pilot can control the up-and-down movements of the hot air balloon by regulating the heat in the envelope. To ascend, the pilot heats the air in the envelope. When the pilot is ready to land, the air in the balloon is allowed to cool and the balloon becomes heavier than air. This makes the balloon descend.

Before the balloon is launched, the pilot knows which way the wind is blowing. This means that she has a general idea about which way the balloon will go. But, sometimes the pilot can actually control the direction that the balloon flies while in flight. This is because the air above the ground is sectioned into layers in which the direction of the wind may be different. So even though the pilot can't steer the balloon, she can fly higher or lower into a different layer of air. Some days the difference between the direction of the wind between layers is negligible. But other days the difference is so strong that it can actually push the balloon in a completely different direction!

1) According to the passage, balloon pilots control the balloon's altitude by

- A. moving into a different layer of air
- B. regulating the air temperature inside the balloon
- C. adjusting the amount of air in the envelope
- D. changing the amount of weight contained in the basket

2) As used in paragraph 3, which is the best synonym for ascend?

- A. move
- B. fly
- C. sink
- D. climb

3) As used in paragraph 3, which is the best antonym for descend?

- A. fall
- B. float
- C. rise
- D. drop

4) According to the author, wicker is

- I. comfortable
- II. lightweight
- III. durable
- A. I only
- B. I and II only
- C. II and III only
- D. I, II, and III

5) If the hot air balloon pilot wants to change directions during flight, what might he or she do to accomplish this?

- A. head toward a mountain peak
- B. wait for it to rain
- C. fly into a cloud
- D. fly higher

6) Using the passage as a guide, it can be inferred that which of the following statements is not true?

- A. Air goes up and out the top of a chimney when you light a fire.
- B. Cool air collects about the ceiling when you open a refrigerator.
- C. Smoke from a candle rises after you blow out the flame.
- D. Cold air coming from an air conditioning vent settles about the floor.

7) Based on its use in paragraph 4, it can be understood that negligible belongs to which of the following word families?

- A. solemn, grave, serious
- B. substantial, considerable, large
- C. exhilarating, thrilling, exciting
- D. insignificant, small, unnoticeable

SUBJECT-VERB AGREEMENT QUIZ 1

New Year GRAMMAR Challenge

Circle the correct verb choice in the following sentences.

1. Someone from the Humane Society (is, are) here to see you.
2. The issue of war, peace, and nuclear holocaust (was, were) of paramount importance at the conference.
3. Everyone visiting Tanzania and Kenya (want, wants) to see a game preserve.
4. All of the teachers at my school (is, are) in favor of the new schedule.
5. Mr. Draper, as well as his oldest son, (is, are) in the plumbing business.
6. The natives believe that noise, smoke, and dancing (drive, drives) away evil spirits.
7. An apple or a few cookies usually (ease, eases) my hunger after work.
8. Neither the dealers nor the manufacturer (guarantee, guarantees) this new product.
9. Where (is, are) the father and his two sons going?
10. The janitor as well as the engineer and his assistant (was, were) expecting a wage increase.
11. (Has, Have) anyone in class studied the lesson today?
12. None of the men (has, have) signed their contracts yet.



13. Part of the apples in the crate (was, were) rotten.
14. It's I who (am, is) asking permission to address the group.
15. After the game the team (was, were) taking off their uniforms.
16. He is one of those active boys who (is, are) always in mischief.
17. My favorite dessert (is, are) strawberries and cream.
18. The robbers discovered that some of their loot (was, were) missing.
19. Neither my friend nor I (am, is) ready for the oral examination.
20. Neither Freckles nor his friends (is, are) planning to go on the hike.

SUBJECT-VERB AGREEMENT QUIZ 2

Write the correct form of the infinitive verb in each of the following sentence

1. To know
 2. To like
 3. To be
 4. To be
 5. To play
 6. To have
 7. To wear
 8. To love
 9. To be
 10. To live
- Mr. Winters know a lot about diets.
Both Todd & Bridget likes chocolate cake.
The wings of the plane is twenty feet long.
Among Susan's favorite movies were "Gone with the Wind."
Chuck, as well as Laura, play Charades quite well.
Mickey and Ruth has a nice family.
Everyone wear blue jeans.
Suzanne love cats.
There were a large crowd at the class reunion. (past tense)
Both the Wongs and the Grahams lives in Florida.



Find the answers in next MONDAY issue

ANSWER KEY TO THE LAST EIS PAGE ACTIVITIES (DATED FEBRUARY 1, 2016)

KEY : A

1. Mary has moved house.
2. Fred and Frank have started a company.
3. My parents have gone to Greece.
4. Sue has got married.
5. Granny has celebrated her 80th birthday.

KEY : B

2. He has learnt French.
3. She has bought a dress.
4. I have cleaned it.
5. He has found his cat.
6. He has grown a beard.

KEY : C

2. Have you ever travelled to Hollywood?
3. Have you ever met Bill Clinton?
4. Have you ever written a novel?
5. Have you ever run a marathon?
6. Have you ever given money to charity?

KEY : D

2. it hasn't rained this week.
3. I haven't spent any money this week.
4. I haven't seen him today.
5. I haven't received any post this month.
6. it hasn't been warm this spring.

KEY : E

2. It has been raining.
3. Jack has been shopping.
4. Fred has been painting the kitchen.
5. Maisy has been driving for 4 hours.
6. Harry has been digging the garden.

KEY : F

1. has been learning for
2. have been writing since
3. have been travelling for
4. have been going since
5. has been raining since
6. has been looking for
7. has been selling since
8. have been waiting for
9. has been playing since
10. have been watching for

KEY : G

1. have been building have built
2. has been writing has written
3. have been painting have painted
4. have been saving have saved
5. have been watching have watched

KEY : H

1. Have you been studying
2. has he been working
3. 've lost
4. have been playing
5. 've been reading haven't finished
6. 've known
7. have you heard
8. 's broken
9. has been marking
10. hasn't read

KEY : I

1. has she studied/has she been studying
2. did he begin
3. wrote
4. Did you visit
5. hasn't been
6. have gone
7. happened
8. has had; fell
9. has won;
10. made
11. have just remembered
12. Have you replied
13. worked
14. has lived
15. never had

1. b, 2. g, 3. e, 4. f, 5. l, 6. c, 7. a, 8. j, 9. i, 10. k, 11. d, 12. h

1. superimpose, 2. atoms, 3. revolt, 4. attributed to, 5. research, 6. project, 7. internal, 8. eliminated, 9. logic, 10. goal, 11. integrate, 12. Constitute