



PACKET I (9TH)

“making progress is a journey”

8300 Bissonnet Suite 218

Computer/Learning Lab open Mon – Fri 4pm – 7pm

M.P.J. ACADEMY OF EXCELLENCE

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CAREER EXPLORATIVE

It's imperative that you decide the direction of your life and NOW!

You will prepare a PowerPoint presentation of your life plan after graduation.

I. CHOOSE one of the following Career Explorative

- a. Medical – an entry level position in the medical field is a CNA
- b. Oil & Gas
- c. Engineering/Construction -this group will include hands on SketchUp
- d. Business/Sales/Marketing -this group is for people who have a business they would like to start, and people
- e. Cyber Security/Technology
- f. Content Creation
- g. Agency Real Estate/Insurance

II. WHAT DO YOU CURRENTLY KNOW ABOUT THE FIELD

- a. What are the entry level positions
- b. What are the schools or prerequisites
- c. What is the starting salary
- d. Add a LinkedIn job posting
- e. What are the positive effects for the community
- f. Plan of Action to career goal

For more assistance visit www.mpi-academy.org/schedule-center and schedule a “Progress Check”

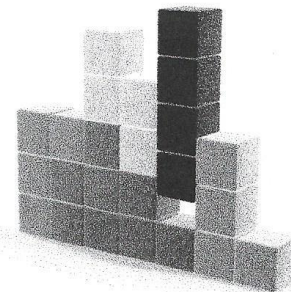
Name: _____

Nonfiction Reading Test

Tetris

Directions: Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow. Refer to the text to check your answers when appropriate.

Do you like video games? Lots of people do. There are many types of video games. Some people like action games. Other people like driving games. But the most popular game of all time is a puzzle game.



Tetris is a game about making lines. Blocks fall from the top of the screen. They fall one at a time. The player moves the blocks. Once the blocks hit the bottom, they are locked in place. Players try to make lines go across the screen with no gaps. Complete lines disappear. This gives players more room. The blocks pile up during the game. The game ends when the blocks get to the top of the screen.

A man named Alexey made Tetris in 1984. All the pieces in Tetris have four blocks. The word "tetra" means four. Alexey named his game after tetra and tennis. He made Tetris while working at a science academy in Moscow. Moscow is in Russia.

Alexey made his game on a screen that only showed letters. He could not use blocks. The blocks were made out of letters in the first game of Tetris. Still, all Alexey's friends loved his game. It was easy to learn and fun to play.

Soon the game spread across the world. It was on every computer. It was in arcades. It came with every one of Nintendo's Game Boy. More than 100 million Game Boys were sold. Tetris was all over the place. Even today Tetris comes with many phones.

Dr. Richard Haier has studied Tetris players. He ran many tests. He found that playing Tetris boosts mental activity. Dr. Haier thinks Tetris is good for the brain. I agree with this finding. Now go and play some Tetris. It's just what the doctor ordered.

1. What is this article about?
 - a. Video games
 - b. Tetris
 - c. Alexey
 - d. Blocks
2. What is the goal of Tetris?
 - a. To make tall piles of blocks
 - b. To match the colors of blocks
 - c. To make complete lines
 - d. To get blocks to the top of the screen
3. After which is Tetris named?
 - a. Fish
 - b. The number ten
 - c. Paris
 - d. Tennis
4. Where was Alexey when he created Tetris?
 - a. Paris
 - b. Russia
 - c. The United States of America
 - d. Germany
5. What is the highest selling game of all time?
 - a. A driving game
 - b. Call of Duty
 - c. Tetris
 - d. An action game
6. Which event happened first?
 - a. Tetris was played with letters instead of blocks
 - b. Tetris was released on the phone
 - c. Tetris was released in the arcade
 - d. Tetris was brought to the Game Boy
7. What is the main idea of the second paragraph?
 - a. To persuade readers to play Tetris
 - b. To explain how Tetris is played
 - c. To describe different types of games
 - d. To compare Tetris to other puzzle games
8. According to Dr. Richard Haier, which is true about Tetris?
 - a. Tetris lowers blood pressure
 - b. Tetris increases physical strength
 - c. Tetris boosts mental activity
 - d. Tetris has no positive side effects
9. What happens to a block that hits the bottom and does not form a complete line in Tetris?
 - a. It disappears and reappears at the top.
 - b. It is locked in place.
 - c. The player moves the block.
 - d. It gives the player more room.

10. Why did the first game of Tetris use letters instead of blocks?

- a. Alexey did not think to use blocks
- b. Alexey thought letters were more fun
- c. Alexey's screen could only show letters
- d. Alexey wanted to teach people to read

How does the word "tetra" relate to the game Tetris? Use evidence from the text to support your response.

How did being included with Nintendo's Game Boy help Tetris become successful? Refer to the text in your answer.

Why was Tetris so popular? Use evidence from the text to support your response.

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

Reteaching 2-4 Variables and Expressions

Numerical expressions are made up of numbers and operation symbols.

Examples:

$$6 + 3 \quad 9 \times 2 + 1$$

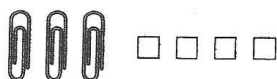
Variable expressions contain one or more variables.

Examples:

A **variable** is a letter that stands for an unknown number.

$$x + 4 \times 2 \quad a - b$$

You can model variable expressions using objects.



The 3 paper clips represent 3 of the same variable.

$$3p + 4$$

You can evaluate the variable expression $3p + 4$ if you know a value for p .

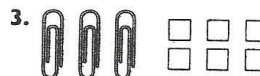
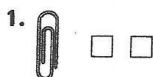
- ① Think of each paper clip as having a value of 6.

- ② Then use the order of operations to evaluate.

$$3p + 4 \text{ for } p = 6 \text{ means } 3 \times 6 + 4$$

$$\begin{aligned} 3p + 4 &= 3 \times 6 + 4 \\ &= 18 + 4 \\ &= 22 \end{aligned}$$

Write a variable expression for each model.



Evaluate each expression.

4. $3t - 4$ for $t = 8$

$$3 \times \underline{\quad} - 4 = \underline{\quad}$$

5. $7c$ for $c = 6$

$$7 \times \underline{\quad} = \underline{\quad}$$

6. $k \div 2$ for $k = 20$

$$\underline{\quad} \div 2 = \underline{\quad}$$

7. $15 + m$ for $m = 6$

$$\underline{\quad}$$

8. $2x + 1$ for $x = 3$

$$\underline{\quad}$$

9. $5y - 10$ for $y = 6$

$$\underline{\quad}$$

10. $4m + 8$ for $m = 5$

$$\underline{\quad}$$

11. $3(4h)$ for $h = 2$

$$\underline{\quad}$$

12. $9 - 3r$ for $r = 2$

$$\underline{\quad}$$

13. $a - b$ for $a = 5$
and $b = 4$

$$\underline{\quad}$$

14. $3ab$ for $a = 3$
and $b = 4$

$$\underline{\quad}$$

15. $x + 2y$ for $x = 3$
and $y = 2$

$$\underline{\quad}$$

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

Practice 2-3 The Order of Operations

Which operation would you perform first?

1. $4 + 6 \times 9$

2. $(7 - 5) \times 3$

3. $14 \div 2 \times 3$

4. $18 - 5 + 3$

5. $5 \times 2 + 6$

6. $(9 + 14) - 8 \div 2$

Find the value of the expression.

7. $8 - 3 \times 1 + 5$

8. $(43 - 16) \times 5$

9. $14 \times 6 \div 3$

10. $100 \div (63 - 43)$

11. $9 \times (3 \times 5)$

12. $7 \times (8 + 6)$

13. $15 - (5 + 7)$

14. $(12 - 9) \times (6 + 1)$

15. $(9 - 3) \times 2$

16. $8 - 3 \times 2 + 7$

17. $(9 - 4) \times 6$

18. $35 - 5 \times 3$

Compare. Use $<$, $>$, or $=$ to complete each statement.

19. $5 - 3 \times 1$ ☐ $(5 - 3) \times 1$

20. $(4 + 8) \times 3$ ☐ $4 + 8 \times 3$

21. $3 \times (8 - 2)$ ☐ $3 \times 8 - 2$

22. $(7 + 2) \times 4$ ☐ $7 + 2 \times 4$

23. $4 + (20 \div 4)$ ☐ $(4 + 20) \div 4$

24. $42 - (35 + 4)$ ☐ $42 - 35 + 4$

25. $(9 - 2) \times 3$ ☐ $9 - 2 \times 3$

26. $55 + 10 - 7$ ☐ $55 + (10 - 7)$

Place parentheses in each equation to make it true.

27. $6 + 7 \times 4 - 2 = 26$

28. $14 - 5 \div 3 = 3$

29. $27 \div 4 + 5 - 1 = 2$

30. $6 \times 7 + 2 - 1 = 53$

Practice

Logic

How to think like Spock.

One thing that makes Geometry better than any other math class is you actually get two classes in one. You learn all about angles and triangles and stuff, but you also get an introduction to what we call logic. Logic is really just a systematic way of thinking. Most people don't actually think logically. They use their emotions and then back their emotional decisions up with a set of selected facts.

For instance, you see a new pair of shoes at the store and you feel excited and you want them. After that you start to pile up the facts like, they go with such and such outfit and they are on sale. Carrying your new shoes out of the store, you think, "what a logical decision." Well here is what Spock would say, "Fashion is illogical unless your old pair of shoes is worn out. The new ones are unnecessary." Okay, Spock isn't known for his wild parties and popularity. It's just an example.

If you have trouble with this section you might even consider renting some old Star Trek episodes. (I'm not kidding. It actually helps.) Make sure you watch them when everyone else has gone to bed though, or you might get made fun of...trust me...

Deductive and Inductive Reasoning

Detectives and scientists...

Deductive Reasoning: To conclude something is true based on facts, definitions, and axioms.

Huh? Okay, here it is a little simpler. You know something, usually a small fact, and conclude some specific thing happened. Like Sherlock Holmes... He knows some facts about human nature and science. In looking at a crime scene he is able to conclude the identity of the killer. Here are a few more examples.

Ex. 1. Your little brother has chocolate sauce on his face. You conclude he must have eaten chocolate sauce.

Ex. 2. You know that all triangles add to 180° . That means that the specific triangles you are working with add to 180° .

Inductive Reasoning: To conclude a general fact based on specific examples.

Huh again! Okay, so you let go of an apple and it falls on the floor. You do this 10 times and then, like our friend Isaac, conclude that every time you let go of an apple it will fall down. More examples...

Ex. 1. You kick your cat, and every time you do, it scratches you. You conclude that if you kick your cat you will get scratched.

Ex. 2. You add up the interior angles of 100 triangles and every time you get a sum of 180° . After your hand uncamps you conclude that all triangles must have an interior angle sum of 180° .

The difference is subtle. Again, deductive: start with general facts... reach a specific conclusion. Inductive: start with specific examples and conclude a fact.

Let's practice!

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Identify each as either A: inductive or B: deductive reasoning.

1. You take 3 things and add them to 5 more things and count that you have 8 things. You repeat this several times and conclude that $3+5=8$.
3. You know that your ipod battery is low. It suddenly shuts off. You conclude that your ipod battery must have died.
5. Using specific examples to reach a general conclusion.
7. You know that if lines are parallel then alternate interior angles are equal. Your lines are parallel so you conclude that your alternate interior angles are equal.
9. The pen you had in your backpack is missing. You see your friend using a pen that looks like it. You conclude that your friend stole your pen, and you will be mad at him until lunch.
11. The sum of two sides of a triangle add up to be greater than the third side. You conclude that the triangle does in fact exist.
13. The area of a parallelogram is bh . The base is 12 and the area is 24. You conclude that the height is 2.
15. You go fishing, and every time you fish in a certain hole you never catch anything. You conclude that there are no fish in that hole.
17. Every time you eat fast food your stomach feels funny. You conclude that fast food makes your stomach feel funny.
2. You know that between two points there is exactly one line. You have two points, so you conclude you must have one line between them.
4. Using postulates theorems and definitions to draw conclusions.
6. Whenever you forget to feed your goldfish it dies. You conclude that if you don't feed your fish it will die.
8. You add up the interior angles of a bunch of quadrilaterals and get 360° every time. You conclude that the sum of the interior angles of all quadrilaterals is 360° .
10. The sum of the squares of the sides of a triangle is equal to the square of the third side. You conclude that the triangle must be a right triangle.
12. Every time you do all your homework your grades improve. You conclude that doing homework improves your grades.
14. You notice that every time you draw a triangle with the same 3 side lengths 5cm, 6cm, and 7cm, the triangles are congruent. You conclude that all triangles with the same 3 side lengths are congruent.
16. You know that an isosceles triangles has two equal sides. You see a triangle that has two equal sides and conclude that it is isosceles.
18. You see a series of numbers, 1, 3, 5, 7, ... You conclude the next number is a 9.

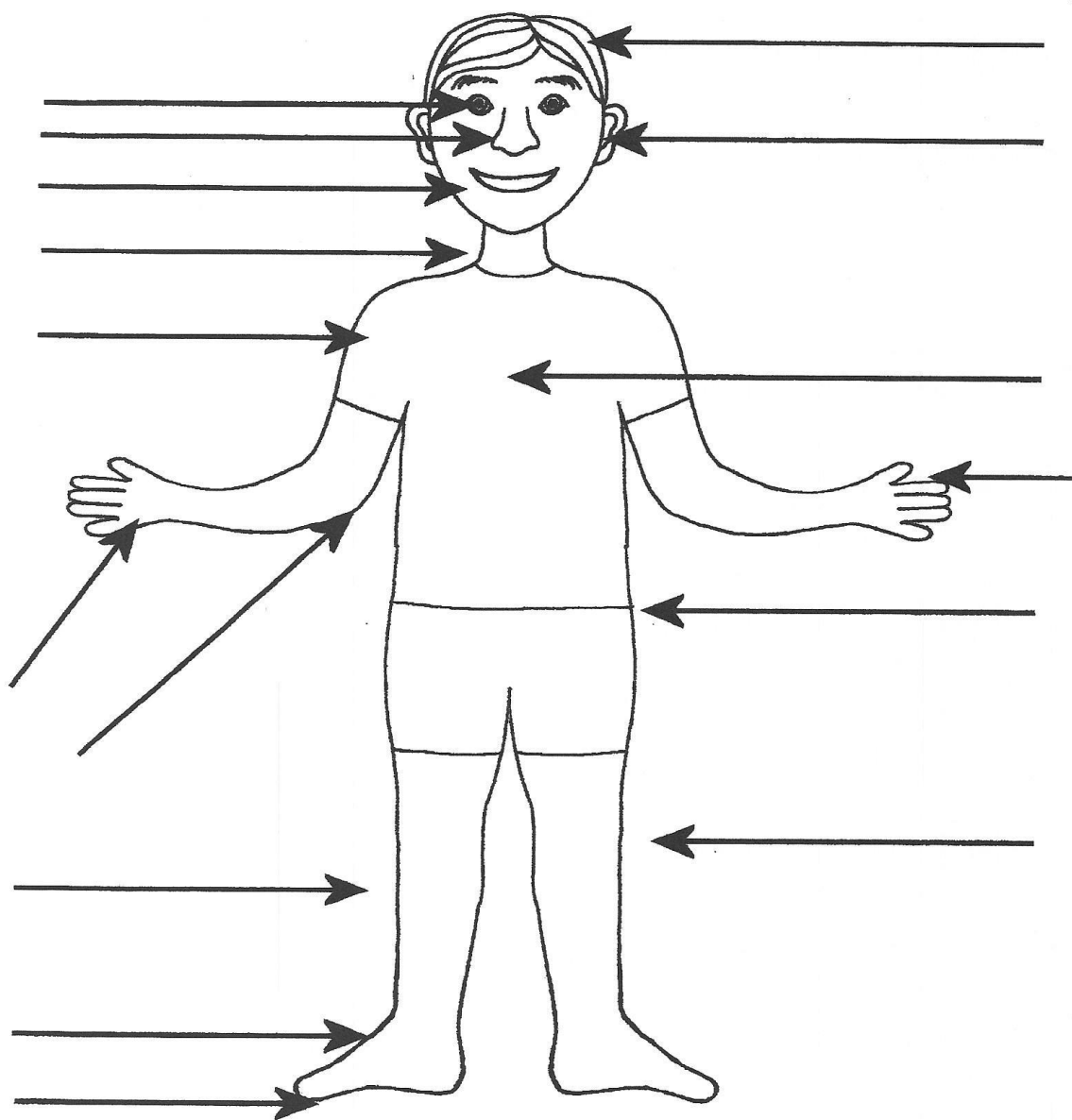
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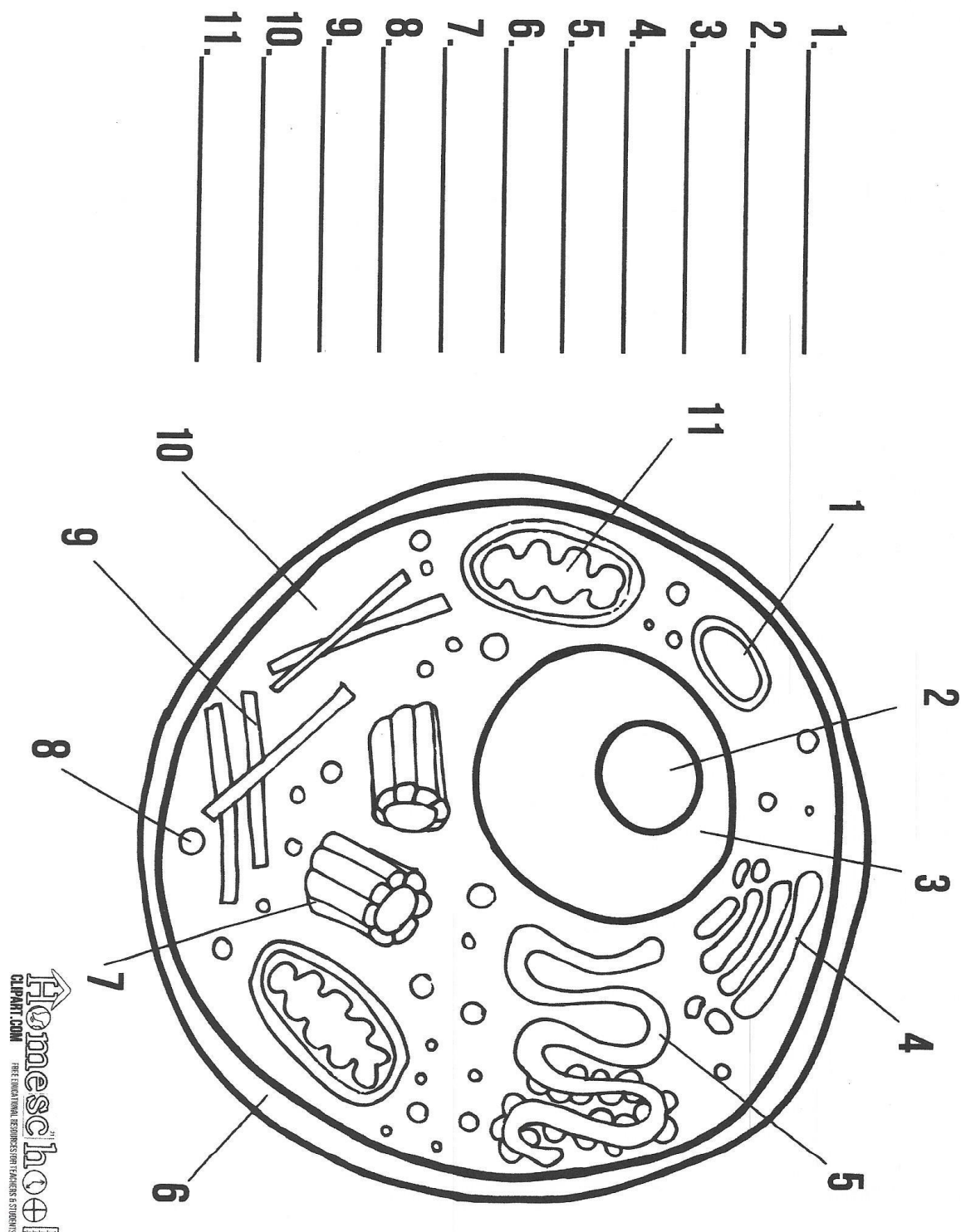
Body Part Worksheet

Label the boy's body with the correct body part names in Spanish.



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Animal Cell Definition

Animal cells are eukaryotic. Animal cells have an outer boundary known as the plasma membrane. The nucleus and the organelles of the cell are bound by a membrane. The genetic material (DNA) in animal cells is within the nucleus that is bound by a double membrane. The cell organelles have a vast range of functions to perform like hormone and enzyme production to providing energy for the cells.

The components of animal cells are centrioles, cilia and flagella, endoplasmic reticulum, golgi apparatus, lysosomes, microfilaments, microtubules, mitochondria, nucleus, peroxisomes, plasma membrane and ribosomes.

Parts of Animal Cell

Animal cell contains membrane bound nucleus, it also contains other membrane bound cellular organelles. These cellular organelles carry out specific functions that are necessary for the normal functioning of the cell. Animal cells lack cell wall, a large vacuole and plastids. Due to the lack of the cell wall, the shape and size of the animal cells are mostly irregular. The constituents of animal cells are structures like centrioles, cilia and flagella and lysosomes.

Parts of the animal cell are as follows:

Cell membrane - forms the outer covering of the cell, and is semi-permeable.

Cytoplasm - is a gel-like matrix where all the other cell organelles are suspended inside the cell.

Nucleus - contains the hereditary material DNA and directs the activities of the cell.

Centrioles - organize the microtubules assembly during cell division.

Endoplasmic Reticulum - are a network of membranes composed of rough and smooth endoplasmic reticulum.

Golgi complex - is responsible for storing, packaging of cellular products.

Lysosomes - are enzyme sacs, that digest cellular wastes.

Microtubules - are hollow rods, function primarily as support and shape to the cell.

Mitochondria - is the site for cellular respiration and producers of energy.

Ribosomes - are made of RNA and proteins, and are sites for protein synthesis.

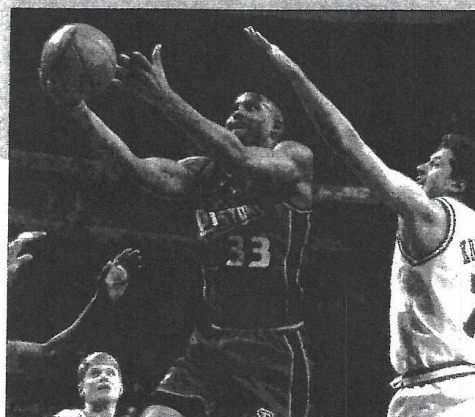
Take another shot at it! As you read, underline any context clues that help you find the meanings of the bold-faced words. Then fill in the bubble next to the best definition of each word.

If you look at photographs from the early days of professional sports, one thing might strike you. There were no teams with both black and white players. Although **segregation** in American society was slowly fading away, in sports the color barrier continued. Then, in 1947, Jackie Robinson joined the Brooklyn Dodgers baseball team. When he stepped onto the field with his white teammates, he **altered** the course of history.

In the NBA, the color barrier finally fell in 1950, the league's fourth season. That year, Chuck Cooper became the first black player to be drafted when he was chosen by the Boston Celtics. Sweetwater Clifton became the first black player to sign an NBA contract when he signed with the New York Knicks. But it was Earl Lloyd who made history. He had the **distinction** of being the

Earl Lloyd, now 68, lives in Detroit with his wife, Charlita. He is proud of his role in history. "My situation wasn't like Jackie Robinson's—he played in a very **hostile** environment. Even some of his own teammates didn't want him around," says Lloyd.

"In basketball, folks were used to seeing **integrated** teams with both black and white players at the college level. But of course, the Capitols did stay and eat at places where I wasn't welcome. Did it make me bitter? No. If you let yourself become bitter, it will eat away at you inside. If **adversity** doesn't kill you, it makes you a better person."



Chuck Cooper, Sweetwater Clifton, and Earl Lloyd paved the way for players like Grant Hill

1. **Segregation** means

 - ☐ a. skin condition
 - ☐ b. old-fashioned sport
 - ☐ c. photography
 - ☐ d. separation of blacks and whites

2. **Altered** means

 - ☐ a. the same
 - ☐ b. changed
 - ☐ c. tailor-made
 - ☐ d. jumped over

3. **Distinction** means

 - ☐ a. confusion
 - ☐ b. player
 - ☐ c. honor
 - ☐ d. day

4. **Hostile** means

 - ☐ a. a place to stay
 - ☐ b. unfriendly
 - ☐ c. friendly
 - ☐ d. old

5. **Integrated** means

 - ☐ a. mixed together
 - ☐ b. separated
 - ☐ c. all in one
 - ☐ d. far apart

6. **Adversity** means

 - ☐ a. friendliness
 - ☐ b. included
 - ☐ c. hardship
 - ☐ d. money

Grammar: Grades 4–5

Activity 11: Classify Common Nouns/Activity 12: Classify Proper Nouns

ACTIVITY 11 Classify Common Nouns

Name: _____

Date: _____

Write 10 or more common nouns for each group in the circles.

<i>People</i>	<i>Places</i>	<i>Things</i>

ACTIVITY 12 Classify Proper Nouns

Name: _____

Date: _____

On the lines below, write 10 or more proper nouns that fit each group named.

**Proper Nouns That
Name People**

**Proper Nouns That
Name Places**

**Proper Nouns That
Name Things**

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Principles of Fitness

1. In order to get the most benefits from exercise with the least amount of risk, you should:

- a. Exercise at a high intensity such as sprinting or running.
- b. Exercise at a moderate intensity such as brisk walking, swimming or cycling
- c. Exercise at a low intensity.
- d. The intensity doesn't matter.

2. Which of the following is not a primary benefit of regular cardiovascular exercise?

- a. Increased ability to take in and use oxygen
- b. Improved balance
- c. Lower blood pressure
- d. Lower pulse rate

3. Controlled arm and leg swings, slow activity which warms and stretches muscles is called:

- a. Static stretching
- b. Passive stretching
- c. Dynamic stretching
- d. Proprioceptive Neuromuscular Facilitation

4. Fitness walking, jogging, and running are physical activities that can improve:

- a. muscle endurance and flexibility
- b. cardiovascular fitness and flexibility
- c. cardiovascular fitness and body composition
- d. muscle strength and endurance

5. Muscular strength is:

- a. the ability for arm muscles to lift weights over your head
- b. the ability of a muscle or group of muscles to exert maximum force
- c. the ability to run more than one mile
- d. the ability to jump over a car

6. Stretching by assuming a stretch position and holding it for 30 to 60 seconds is called:

- a. Static stretching
- b. Passive stretching
- c. Dynamic stretching
- d. Proprioceptive Neuromuscular Facilitation

7. What does FITT stand for?

- a. Fitness, Interval, Time, Type
- b. Frequency, Interval, Time, Type
- c. Frequency, Intensity, Time, Type
- d. Frequency, Intensity, Trial, Type

8. Increasing muscular strength helps:

- a. increase lean tissue
- b. decrease body fat
- c. improve fitness
- d. all of the above

9. The ability of the heart, lungs and blood vessels to deliver oxygen to working muscles and tissues during physical activity for a long period of time.

- a. muscular strength
- b. flexibility
- c. cardiovascular endurance
- d. body composition

10. The make-up of the body in terms of lean mass (muscle, bone, vital tissue and organs) and fat mass.

- a. Cardiovascular Endurance
- b. Spot Reducing
- c. Flexibility
- d. Body Composition

11. Individuals with good flexibility are less likely to be injured.

- a. True
- b. False

12. The ability for a muscle to work against a resistance for an extended period of time is

- a. Muscular strength
- b. Flexibility
- c. Cardiovascular endurance
- d. Muscular endurance

13. The principle of exercise which is how long one exercises to improve fitness is called:

- a. Overload
- b. Frequency
- c. Time
- d. Progression

14. The ability to move joints and use muscles through their full range of motion.

- a. Muscular Endurance
- b. Muscular Strength
- c. Flexibility
- d. Cardiovascular Endurance

15. Why is BMI sometimes very inaccurate and misleading?

- a. It measures only body mass.
- b. It doesn't account for muscle.
- c. It measures fat around the waist.
- d. It does not take gender into account.

16. Lactic acid is produced in your muscles during rapid exercise when the body cannot supply enough oxygen to the tissues.

- a. True
- b. False

17. The warm-up is an activity that:

- a. prepares your muscles for work
- b. is the first stage of any physical activity routine
- c. important for avoiding injuries
- d. all of the above

18. Running, swimming, and using an elliptical machine are all ways to improve your:

- a. flexibility
- b. muscular strength
- c. cardiorespiratory endurance
- d. muscular endurance

19. Evaluating your current fitness level prior to beginning an exercise program

- a. is only important for physically inactive people
- b. is not important
- c. will have nothing to do with activities you choose for your program
- d. will help in setting realistic goals

20.

The number of times one should exercise to improve a component of fitness is called:

- a. Intensity
- b. Time
- c. Frequency
- d. Progression

Use this 5-item pretest to test your knowledge in Math..

Select an answer for each item. If you do not know the answer, you should make an educated guess. After you submit the test, you will be given your results.

Value: 1

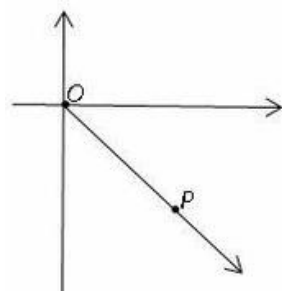
The table below shows the cost of purchasing a standard stapler at five office supply stores, A through E. If the median cost of purchasing a standard stapler for these stores was \$17.99, which of the following could NOT have been the cost of the stapler for Store A?

Store	Cost
A	
B	\$17.49
C	\$19.00
D	\$15.66
E	\$17.99

- ☐ a. \$19.95
- ☐ b. \$18.95
- ☐ c. \$16.95
- ☐ d. \$19.25

Value: 1

In the xy -coordinate plane shown below, point P has coordinates $(8, -6)$. Which of the following is an equation of the line that contains points O and P ?



- ☐ a. $y = -x + 4$
- ☐ b. $y = -\frac{4}{3}x$
- ☐ c. $y = x - 4$
- ☐ d. $y = -\frac{3}{4}x$

Value: 1

If $6m + 4 = 8m$, then $4m =$

- ☐ a. 6
- ☐ b. 2
- ☐ c. 8
- ☐ d. 4

Value: 1

The perimeter of a square is 20 ft. If you increase the length of the square by 2 feet and decrease the width by 1 foot, what is the area, in square feet, of the new figure?

- ☐ a. 22
- ☐ b. 28
- ☐ c. 35
- ☐ d. 40

Value: 1

If $\frac{x+1}{x} = 6$ then $x =$

- ☐ a. 7
- ☐ b. $\frac{1}{5}$
- ☐ c. 5
- ☐ d. $\frac{1}{7}$

For more assistance visit www.mpj-academy.org/schedule-center and schedule a “Progress Check”

Use this 8-item pretest to test your knowledge in Reading..

Select an answer for each item. If you do not know the answer, you should make an educated guess. After you submit the test, you will be given your results.

Value: 1

Read the 2 passages below and then choose the best answer to each question. Answer the questions on the basis of what is stated or implied in the passages.

Passage 1

I recently met a fifth-grade teacher who had asked her students what they did after school. Most said they stayed inside and watched TV or spent time on the computer. Some went to a recreation center for an afterschool program—where they played computer games. A handful of students played outside, but most of those were doing organized sports. It turned out that fewer than 10% of the children were enjoying unstructured time outside rather than concentrating on electronic devices. This is a tragedy! Now more than ever, kids need opportunities to learn and develop through outdoor activities—and not just on organized teams. Parents, limit computer use and encourage your kids to get outside and play every day!

Passage 2

There is almost no reliable data about the level of technological literacy among children in the United States. Our students perform relatively poorly on international tests in science and math, however, and many other Western countries teach more about technology than we do. It seems that American students are not as technologically literate as their international counterparts. This could put them at a disadvantage when it comes to their careers, because technology is everywhere, from medical facilities to farms. Obviously, it is imperative that teachers and parents make the use of technology, including computers, a more central part of children's lives.

The author of Passage 2 probably would respond to the last sentence of Passage 1 ("Parents . . . every day!") by

- ☐ a. asserting that parents should help children find a balance of indoor and outdoor activities
- ☐ b. claiming that young children often know more about computers than their parents do
- ☐ c. pointing out that many children would rather use technology than play outside
- ☐ d. arguing that children should be spending more time using computers

Value: 2

When we think of volcanoes, eruptions, lava, and smoke-filled air come to mind—all occurring on land. Most people are surprised to learn about the prevalence of underwater volcanoes on our planet. Because the lava and smoke spilling out of an active, underwater volcano is contained by the ocean, people generally do not take note of these eruptions. However, the largest underwater volcanoes are capable of creating huge tidal waves, threatening coastal communities.

The main idea of the passage is that

- ☐ a. traditional volcanoes and underwater volcanoes are similar
- ☐ b. the lava and smoke from an underwater volcano is contained by the sea
- ☐ c. most tidal waves are caused by underwater volcanoes
- ☐ d. underwater volcanoes receive little attention but can be dangerous

Value: 3

In 2010, talk show host Oprah Winfrey and novelist Jonathan Franzen kissed and made up after a nine-year feud. In 2001, Franzen was disinvited from appearing on Winfrey's TV show to pitch his novel *The Corrections* after he made it clear that he was unhappy about the book's being chosen for the Oprah Book Club. Describing his work as "in the high-art literary tradition," Franzen said he didn't want to be associated with the Club, which he accused of occasionally choosing "schmaltzy, one-dimensional" novels. But Winfrey is apparently able to forgive and forget: she chose Franzen's next novel, *Freedom*, for her book club and said of it, "Now you haven't heard me say this word often, but this book is a masterpiece."

The passage implies that Franzen's criticism of the Oprah Book Club was motivated primarily by

- ☐ a. pride
- ☐ b. anger
- ☐ c. insensitivity
- ☐ d. ignorance

Value: 4

Read the passage below and then choose the best answer to each question. Answer the questions on the basis of what is stated or implied in the passage. In this passage taken from a short story, the narrator describes the cabin where her father worked.

I wasn't sure what **this work** involved, but it must have been exciting because the Lab itself was exciting. Anywhere we didn't go often was exciting.

We would get there in a heavy wooden rowboat, built in the five-house village half a mile away—our mother would row, she was quite good at it—or by following a twisty, winding footpath over fallen trees and stumps and around boulders and across wet patches where a few slippery planks were laid across the sphagnum moss, breathing in the mildew smell of damp wood and slowly decaying leaves. It was too far for us to walk, our legs were too short, so mostly we went in the rowboat.

The Lab was made of logs; it seemed enormous, though in the two photographs of it that survive it looks like a shack. It did however have a screened porch, with log railings. Inside it there were things we weren't allowed to touch—bottles containing a dangerous liquid in which white grubs floated, their six tiny

front legs clasped together like praying fingers, and corks that smelled like poison and were poison, and trays with dried insects pinned to them with long, thin pins, each with a tiny, alluring black knob for a head. All of this was so forbidden it made us dizzy.

At the Lab we could hide in the ice house, a dim and mysterious place that was always bigger on the inside than it was on the outside, and where there was a hush, and a lot of sawdust to keep the blocks of ice cool. Sometimes there would be a tin of evaporated milk with holes punched in the top and wax paper stuck over them; sometimes there would be a carefully hoarded stub of butter or an end of bacon; sometimes there would be a fish or two, pickerel or lake trout, already filleted, laid out on a chipped enamel pie plate.

What did we do in there? There was nothing to actually do. We'd pretend we had vanished—that nobody knew where we were. This in itself was strangely energizing. Then we'd come out, away from the silence, back into the pine-needle scent and the sound of waves pocking against the shore, and our mother's voice calling us, because it was time to get back into the rowboat and row home.*

* Margaret Atwood, excerpt from "The Boys at the Lab" from *Moral Disorder: Stories*. Copyright © 2006 by O. W. Toad, Ltd. Used by permission of Nan A. Talese/Doubleday, a division of Random House, Inc. Any third party use of this material, outside of this publication, is prohibited. Interested parties must apply directly to Random House, Inc. for permission.

In the second paragraph, "this work" clearly refers to

- ☐ a. writing
- ☐ b. food science
- ☐ c. photography
- ☐ d. insect research

Value: 5

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When the narrator repeatedly uses the pronouns "we" and "us," she is most likely speaking of herself and

- ☐ a. a sibling
- ☐ b. her mother
- ☐ c. her father
- ☐ d. the reader

Value: 6

I wasn't sure what this work involved, but it must have been exciting because the Lab itself was exciting. Anywhere we didn't go often was exciting.

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Details in the passage suggest that the narrator is

- ☐ a. an adult remembering a recent incident
- ☐ b. an elderly person remembering middle age
- ☐ c. an adult recalling a location from childhood
- ☐ d. a child describing a frightening place

Value: 7

If you are committed to healthy, green living and want to reduce your environmental footprint, you might consider expanding your daily diet to include bugs. Supporters of the edible insect initiative rightfully argue that farming insects has a much lower environmental impact than does raising livestock since bugs are easier to harvest and require a fraction of the water and land space that cattle need. Indeed, the high-protein, low-fat health benefits of bug-eating have long been known. For hundreds of years, crickets, silkworms and even tarantulas have been served roasted, stewed and fried at the dinner tables of many cultures.

Which words best describe the author's attitude toward the "edible insect initiative"?

- ☐ a. awe and amazement
- ☐ b. interest and support
- ☐ c. disgust and distaste
- ☐ d. fear and apprehension

Value: 8

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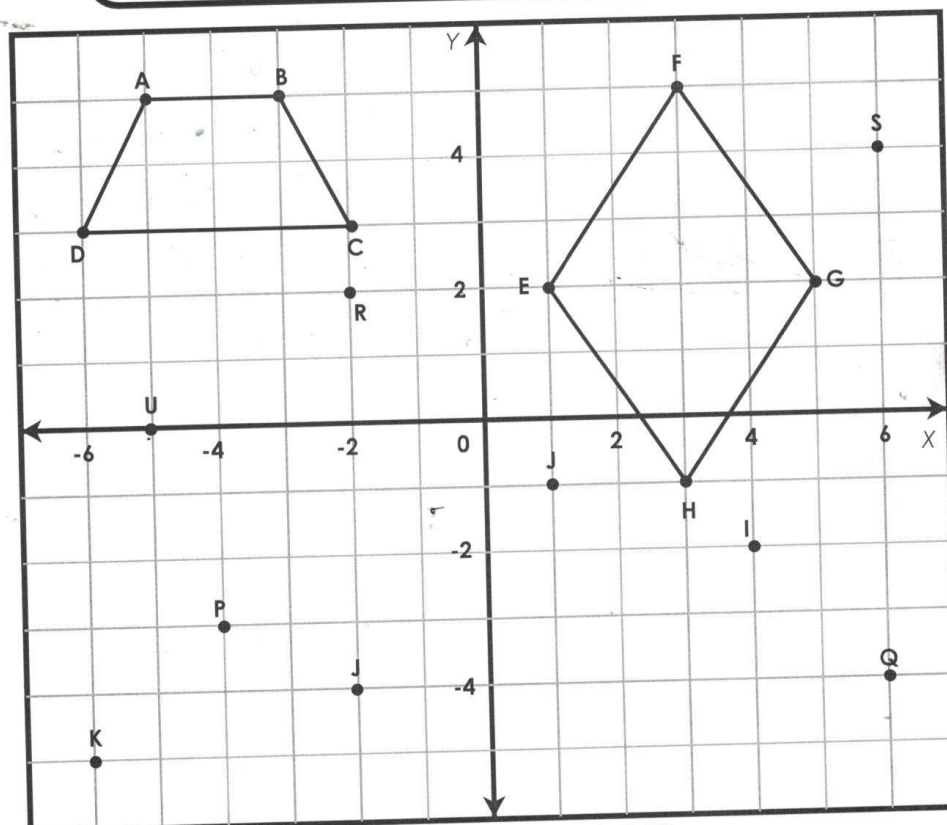
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The descriptions of the Lab and of the ice house are similar in that both descriptions

- ☐ a. emphasize cheerful and light-filled surroundings
- ☐ b. contain images of hiding and concealment
- ☐ c. highlight the narrator's misconception of size
- ☐ d. contrast with descriptions of the narrator's home

COORDINATE PLANE



1. Translate parallelogram ABCD 2 units down and plot it.
2. Translate rhombus EFGH 2 units to the left, 4 units down, and plot it.
3. If the coordinates of the vertices of a square LMNO are $L(-5, -5)$, $M(-5, -2)$, $N(-2, -2)$. What are the coordinates for O?
4. If the coordinates of the vertices of a triangle XYZ are $X(2, 1)$, $Y(4, 4)$ and $Z(5, 2)$. Translate the triangle XYZ 4 units down. What are the new coordinates?
5. Write the coordinates down for the following points:

I _____ P _____ G _____ Q _____ R _____
 S _____ J _____ U _____ H _____ K _____

For more assistance visit www.mpj-academy.org/schedule-center and schedule a “Progress Check”