ALASKA ENGLISH 10 · UNIT 2 · 25 QUESTIONS

Reading Informational Text — Practice Test

This practice test was made by AI and there may be mistakes. If a question or answer looks wrong, use the Flag a mistake button so it can be fixed.

Why Salmon Return to Alaska Streams

Use this reading for questions 1 to 8.

Each year, salmon that grew up in the ocean swim back to the freshwater streams where they hatched. The journey can be long, and the fish must swim upstream against strong currents, leap over small falls, and avoid bears and eagles along the way.

Scientists have found that salmon can sense the smell of their home stream. They follow that familiar scent through rivers and lakes until they reach the gravel bed where they were born. Once there, females dig shallow nests in the gravel and lay eggs, and males guard the nests from rivals.

The return of the salmon matters far beyond the stream. Bears, eagles, and people depend on salmon for food, and the nutrients from salmon that die after spawning help feed the forest. When salmon numbers fall, the whole system feels the loss, which is why protecting clean streams matters to Alaska communities.

1 **According to the passage, what is the central idea of the article?**

- **A** salmon return to their home streams to spawn, and their return supports wildlife, people, and forests
- **B** bears are the only animals that eat salmon
- **C** salmon swim upstream only in winter
- **D** salmon never leave the ocean

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2 **According to the passage, how do salmon find their home stream?**

A by following the smell of their home stream

B by watching eagles fly overhead

C by following boats

D by listening for waterfalls

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3 **According to the passage, what do females do once they reach the gravel bed?**

A swim back to the ocean at once

B hide under rocks until spring

C dig shallow nests in the gravel and lay eggs

D build dams across the stream

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4 **According to the passage, why does the return of salmon matter beyond the stream?**

A it makes streams warmer in winter

B it gives bears a place to swim

C it stops all fishing in Alaska

D bears, eagles, and people depend on salmon for food, and nutrients from salmon help feed the forest

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5 **According to the passage, what challenges do salmon face on the journey upstream?**

A strong currents, small falls, bears, and eagles

B warm ocean water only

C a lack of gravel in the ocean

D fishing boats in lakes only

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6 **According to the passage, what can the reader infer when salmon numbers fall?**

A streams become cleaner at once

B the whole system feels the loss

C forests grow faster

D bears stop eating entirely

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7 **According to the passage, what is the author main purpose?**

A to compare salmon with other fish in detail

B to tell a funny story about fishing

C to explain how salmon return home and why that return matters

D to persuade readers never to visit streams

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8 **According to the passage, which detail best supports the idea that protecting clean streams matters?**

A males guard nests from rivals

B salmon hatch in freshwater streams

C salmon leap over small falls

D when salmon numbers fall, the whole system feels the loss

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9 **Which statement best explains the difference between a central idea and a supporting detail?**

A a central idea is the main point, while a supporting detail is evidence or an example for that point

B a central idea is always a single word, while a detail is a full paragraph

C a central idea is an opinion, while a detail is always false

D a central idea and a detail mean exactly the same thing

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10 **An author writes only about the benefits of a plan and uses strongly emotional words to praise it, while ignoring all drawbacks. This is most likely an example of**

- **A** a neutral summary, because it covers the plan
- **B** bias, because it presents only one side
- **C** a fact, because emotional words are always true
- **D** a primary source, because the author saw the plan

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11 **Which source is most likely to be credible for a school research project?**

- **A** an anonymous blog post with no sources listed
- **B** a social media rumor shared by strangers
- **C** an article by a recognized expert that cites its sources
- **D** a joke page that copies text from other sites

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12 **Which word most clearly signals a contrast between two ideas?**

- **A** similarly, because it shows likeness
- **B** first, because it shows order
- **C** because, because it shows a cause
- **D** however, because it signals a change or contrast

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13 **Which word most clearly signals a cause?**

- **A** because, because it links a reason to a result
- **B** finally, because it shows the last step
- **C** however, because it shows contrast
- **D** similarly, because it shows likeness

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14 **Which sentence states an opinion rather than a fact?**

A The library opens at 9 in the morning

B The library is the best place in town to study

C The library has three floors

D The library lends books for two weeks

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15 **Which summary best summarizes an article about how regular exercise improves health?**

A One student ran three miles on Tuesday

B Gyms open early in the morning

C Regular exercise improves health in several important ways

D Running shoes come in many colors and sizes

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16 **An article states that library visits doubled from 200 visitors to 400 visitors in one year. What can the reader correctly conclude?**

A visits increased by 400 visitors

B visits fell by 200 visitors

C visits stayed the same

D visits increased by 200 visitors

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17 **A writer claims that a new study program works. Which evidence would best support that claim?**

A results from a study comparing students who used the program with students who did not

B a slogan praising the program

C a photo of students smiling

D a personal story from one student who liked the program

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18 **A diary written by a person who lived through an event is best described as a**

A secondary source

B primary source

C summary

D textbook chapter

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19 **A textbook chapter that summarizes many diaries and letters about an event is best described as a**

A interview

B primary source

C secondary source

D personal letter

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20 **An author organizes an article by describing a problem and then offering steps to fix it. This text structure is**

A chronological order

B description only

C compare and contrast

D problem and solution

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21 **An author organizes an article by showing how two towns are alike and different. This text structure is**

A compare and contrast

B sequence

C problem and solution

D cause and effect

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22 **In an informational article, headings and subheadings mainly help readers by**

- **A** making the article longer
- **B** showing the topic of each section so readers can find information quickly
- **C** replacing the need for evidence
- **D** telling a fictional story

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23 **Which statement about an argument is correct?**

- **A** evidence weakens an argument
- **B** a claim needs no evidence to be convincing
- **C** a strong argument states a claim and supports it with relevant evidence
- **D** an argument should hide its claim

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24 **30 out of 100 students ride the bus, 50 walk, and 20 are driven. Which conclusion is supported by these numbers?**

A no students ride the bus

B all students ride the bus

C most students are driven

D half of the students walk

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25 **An author tone in an informational article is best judged from**

A the writer word choice and attitude toward the subject

B the color of the cover

C the date it was printed

D the number of pages

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ANSWER KEY

1. A
2. A
3. C
4. D
5. A
6. B
7. C
8. D
9. A
10. B
11. C
12. D
13. A
14. B
15. C
16. D
17. A
18. B
19. C
20. D
21. A
22. B
23. C
24. D
25. A

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