Read the selection “An Unwelcome Guest” before answering Numbers 1 through 6.

An Unwelcome Guest

A wild, gray guest blows into town
And people pull their windows down.
Rushing up and down the streets,
She shoves at everyone she meets.

They race inside and slam their doors,
As this angry guest shrieks and roars.
“This storm,” they cry, “is more than rain!
It has become a hurricane!”
Denied our hospitality,
The wild guest tore through our city,
Ripped branches off the sides of trees
And flung them on the street like skis.

Her greenish clouds swirled until they burst.
Her manners were the very worst!
Rain poured down like water from a faucet.
Streets were streams and if your car was there, you lost it.

After putting out every city light
And keeping us awake all night,
The storm blew out of town (she had no bags to pack)
But what a mess she left! We'll never ask her back.

1. “An Unwelcome Guest” can BEST be described as
   A. a play.
   B. a story.
   C. a poem.
   D. an article.

2. The “wild, gray guest” in the selection is MOST LIKELY a
   F. hurricane.
   G. lady.
   H. snowstorm.
   I. traveler.

3. Which sentence BEST tells the theme of the selection?
   A. People should not travel during a storm.
   B. People should not be afraid of rainstorms.
   C. Travelers should not visit where they are not welcome.
   D. Hurricanes are powerful storms that can damage cities.
Which line BEST shows how hard it rained?

- F  Her manners were the very worst!
- G  As this angry guest shrieks and roars.
- H  But what a mess she left! We'll never ask her back.
- I  Streets were streams and if your car was there, you lost it.

Describe why the guest is unwelcome in the town. Use information and details from the selection to support your answer.
How does the author use personification and simile in “An Unwelcome Guest”? Use examples and details from the selection to support your answer.
Read the article “Two Endangered Animals” before answering Numbers 7 through 12.

**Two Endangered Animals**

Around the world, more than a thousand animals are endangered. If an animal is endangered, it may soon become extinct. There are two animals that scientists fear are disappearing quickly. These animals are the rhinoceros and the giant panda. The threat to these animals grows larger every day, and time to save them is running out. Extinction is not reversible.

A major threat to these endangered animals is the loss of habitat. A habitat is the area where an animal lives. Habitats are being changed or damaged worldwide. When animals lose their habitats, they can no longer find food or places to live.

Hunting and poaching also threaten endangered animals. Poachers are people who kill an animal illegally. They may kill it for sport or for parts of its body.

**The Rhinoceros in Danger**

The rhinoceros is an amazing animal. It has lived on Earth since prehistoric times. It is one of the largest animals in the world. Rhinoceroses have short legs but huge bodies. Some rhinoceroses can weigh two tons! A rhinoceros has one or two horns. The horn grows out of its nose and is used for protection. Rhinoceroses live in Africa and southeastern Asia.

The rhinoceros has nearly disappeared for many reasons. First, it is losing its natural habitat because of more people living on its land. Another reason is that many people in Asia use the horn of the rhinoceros for medicine. As a result, poachers kill rhinoceroses just for their horns.
Saving the Rhinoceros

Many countries are working as fast as possible to save the rhinoceros. Countries have laws making it illegal to hunt the rhinoceros. What’s more, some countries have areas of land where the rhinoceros’s habitat is protected. For example, most rhinoceroses in Zimbabwe have been moved to nature preserves. High fences surround some of these nature preserves. Guards patrol them.

Giant Pandas at Risk

Giant pandas live in China. They live on high mountain slopes and eat bamboo. These cute black-and-white animals look like giant teddy bears. They grow to be 5 or 6 feet tall. They can weigh 200 to 300 pounds.

Like the rhinoceros, the giant panda is facing several real dangers that may cause it to become extinct. First, many of the forests in which giant pandas once lived have been cut down for farming and lumber. This has left the giant pandas without shelter. Second, some bamboo forests aren’t growing because of lack of rain. This often causes giant pandas to starve. Finally, poachers are killing giant pandas for their fur.

Protecting the Giant Panda

The Chinese government has set aside protected land for giant pandas. However, unlike the rhinoceros, the giant panda needs a large area of land on which to live. This is because the giant panda needs huge amounts of bamboo to survive.

For the rhinoceros and the giant panda, not much time is left. There are fewer places for them to live. Poachers continue to hunt them. Fortunately, scientists are continuing to work with countries to find solutions to these problems.
Now answer Numbers 7 through 12. Base your answers on the article “Two Endangered Animals.”

7 The rhinoceroses and giant panda are endangered MAINLY because of
   A  hunting and a loss of habitat.
   B  laws and an increase in building.
   C  farming and the loss of preserves.
   D  poaching and the patrol of guards.

8 According to the map caption, which is true about the giant panda habitat?
   F  It has shifted to the coastal regions.
   G  It contains an unlimited supply of bamboo.
   H  It is located on high mountain slopes in China.
   I  It is shrinking because forests are being cut down.

9 Under which heading could you find out why the giant panda is endangered?
   A  Giant Pandas at Risk
   B  Saving the Rhinoceros
   C  The Rhinoceros in Danger
   D  Protecting the Giant Panda
10. According to the article, what is the MAIN problem people face in trying to save the giant panda and the rhinoceros?
   
   [F] There is little food left for the animals to eat.
   [G] The animals cannot be moved to new homes.
   [H] The animals cannot be kept safe from hunters.
   [J] There is not a lot of time left to make changes.

11. How are the rhinoceros and the giant panda ALIKE? Use information and details from the article to support your answer.

   ____________________________________________________________
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Describe two ways that humans are responsible for the near extinction of the giant panda and the rhinoceros. Use information and details from the article to support your answer.
Read the article “Make Your Own Terrarium” before answering Numbers 13 through 20.

**Make Your Own Terrarium**

How do you make a terrarium? How does a terrarium work? Make your own and find out.

**You need:**
- clean pebbles, shells, or stones
- bark with moss on it
- small ferns or ivy
- sponge
- large glass jar
- two thin sticks
- potting soil

**What to do:**
1. First, clean your jar by rinsing and drying it well. Lay the jar on its side and cover the bottom with the pebbles.
2. Next, choose interesting stones and shells. Place these in the jar on top of the pebbles. Use the two thin sticks to grab the stones or shells and put them in place.
3. Then, take the bark and soak it in water for a few minutes. Place the bark on the pebbles.

4. Then, choose small plants that have their roots. Place these in the terrarium. Cover the roots with potting soil and put potting soil around the bark.

5. Now, find a location that gets some sunlight, but that isn't always in the sun. After you have found just the right place, put a few drops of water into the jar. Poke holes in the lid and screw it onto the jar.

6. Finally, sit back and watch.

**What happens:**

Once your terrarium is set up, the plants will grow and live with little or no help from you.

**Why terrariums grow:**

Terrariums allow you to grow plants that need lots of moisture, or tiny drops of water. These plants would most likely die if they were grown in open pots inside your home. That’s because the heated air in your home does not have enough moisture for these plants to thrive. Without enough moisture, the plants die.

Once the plants have taken root in the jar, they will begin to create a climate, or certain weather conditions, all their own. You may wonder how this happens.

The plants take in moisture from the soil. Then they let out moisture through their leaves. The moisture builds up on the glass and then drips back to the soil. This rain effect lets the terrarium go for weeks without watering.

Sometimes too much moisture builds up inside the jar. This can cause the plants to die. Lots of moisture causes mold and fungus to grow, which can also kill the plants. If your jar has too much moisture, simply take the lid off for awhile. That way the excess moisture can get out. Most of the time, though, a terrarium will take care of itself. All you have to do is watch it, watch it, watch it!
Now answer Numbers 13 through 20. Base your answers on the article “Make Your Own Terrarium.”

13 Read this sentence from the article.

That’s because the heated air in your home does not have enough moisture for these plants to thrive.

What does *thrive* mean?
A bend  
B grow  
C plant  
D wilt

14 Why does the author use the words *then, after, and finally* in the “What to do” section of the article?
F to explain why people like terrariums  
G to describe the effects of growing moss  
H to compare different kinds of terrariums  
I to order the steps in setting up a terrarium

15 Based on the article, what would MOST LIKELY happen if the lid were left off the jar for a long time?
A The plants would get sick.  
B The plants would grow taller.  
C Sun and rain would get into the jar.  
D Moisture would build up inside the jar.
16. Explain why plants grow in a terrarium. Use details and information from the article in your answer.

17. What do you do FIRST to create a terrarium?
   F. Put plants’ roots in the soil.
   G. Wash and dry the container.
   H. Poke holes in the lid of the jar.
   I. Line the container with pebbles.
18 Which plants does the author recommend to grow in the terrarium?
   A small ferns or ivy
   B green moss or bark
   C clean shells or stones
   D small sponges or sticks

19 According to the article, what should you do if you see mold growing in a terrarium?
   F Shake the roots to knock the mold off.
   G Replace the shells with pebbles or stones.
   H Take the lid off the jar to let the moisture out.
   I Change the kind or number of plants in the jar.

20 How do plants in a terrarium live without being watered?
   A There is water in the shells.
   B There is moisture in the jar.
   C The plants like desert conditions.
   D The plants make their own water.
Read the selection “An Unwelcome Guest” before answering Numbers 1 through 6.

An Unwelcome Guest

A wild, gray guest blows into town
And people pull their windows down.
Rushing up and down the streets,
She shoves at everyone she meets.

They race inside and slam their doors,
As this angry guest shrieks and roars.
“This storm,” they cry, “is more than rain!
It has become a hurricane!”
Denied our hospitality,
The wild guest tore through our city,
Ripped branches off the sides of trees
And flung them on the street like skis.

Her greenish clouds swirled until they burst.
Her manners were the very worst!
Rain poured down like water from a faucet.
Streets were streams and if your car was there, you lost it.

After putting out every city light
And keeping us awake all night,
The storm blew out of town (she had no bags to pack)
But what a mess she left! We'll never ask her back.

1 “An Unwelcome Guest” can BEST be described as
   A a play.
   B a story.
   C a poem.
   D an article.
   (LA.4.2.1.1)

2 The “wild, gray guest” in the selection is MOST LIKELY a
   A hurricane.
   B lady.
   C snowstorm.
   D traveler.
   (LA.4.1.7.3)

3 Which sentence BEST tells the theme of the selection?
   A People should not travel during a storm.
   B People should not be afraid of rainstorms.
   C Travelers should not visit where they are not welcome.
   D Hurricanes are powerful storms that can damage cities.
   (LA.4.2.1.4)
4 Which line BEST shows how hard it rained?

- F  Her manners were the very worst!
- G  As this angry guest shrieks and roars.
- H  But what a mess she left! We'll never ask her back.
- I  Streets were streams and if your car was there, you lost it.

(LA.4.1.3)

5 Describe why the guest is unwelcome in the town. Use information and details from the selection to support your answer.

Sample 2-point response: The guest is a hurricane, and it is unwelcome because it causes a lot of damage in the town. It tears up branches, washes away cars, and knocks out the electricity.
How does the author use personification and simile in “An Unwelcome Guest”? Use examples and details from the selection to support your answer.

Sample 4-point response: The author uses personification by describing the hurricane as a woman and an uninvited guest. The guest is not welcome in the town. For example, the author writes that the hurricane shoves at everyone she meets. She also has terrible manners. “The wild guest” tears through the city, rips branches off trees, and flings them in the street. The author also says the storm had no bags to pack.

The author uses similes to describe branches and rain. The ripped branches are compared to skis and rain is compared to water from a faucet.

Extended-Response Rubric

<table>
<thead>
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(LA.4.2.1.3)
Read the article “Two Endangered Animals” before answering Numbers 7 through 12.

Two Endangered Animals

Around the world, more than a thousand animals are endangered. If an animal is endangered, it may soon become extinct. There are two animals that scientists fear are disappearing quickly. These animals are the rhinoceros and the giant panda. The threat to these animals grows larger every day, and time to save them is running out. Extinction is not reversible.

A major threat to these endangered animals is the loss of habitat. A habitat is the area where an animal lives. Habitats are being changed or damaged worldwide. When animals lose their habitats, they can no longer find food or places to live. Hunting and poaching also threaten endangered animals. Poachers are people who kill an animal illegally. They may kill it for sport or for parts of its body.

The Rhinoceros in Danger

The rhinoceros is an amazing animal. It has lived on Earth since prehistoric times. It is one of the largest animals in the world. Rhinoceroses have short legs but huge bodies. Some rhinoceroses can weigh two tons! A rhinoceros has one or two horns. The horn grows out of its nose and is used for protection. Rhinoceroses live in Africa and southeastern Asia.

The rhinoceros has nearly disappeared for many reasons. First, it is losing its natural habitat because of more people living on its land. Another reason is that many people in Asia use the horn of the rhinoceros for medicine. As a result, poachers kill rhinoceroses just for their horns.
Saving the Rhinoceros

Many countries are working as fast as possible to save the rhinoceros. Countries have laws making it illegal to hunt the rhinoceros. What’s more, some countries have areas of land where the rhinoceros’s habitat is protected. For example, most rhinoceroses in Zimbabwe have been moved to nature preserves. High fences surround some of these nature preserves. Guards patrol them.

Giant Pandas at Risk

Giant pandas live in China. They live on high mountain slopes and eat bamboo. These cute black-and-white animals look like giant teddy bears. They grow to be 5 or 6 feet tall. They can weigh 200 to 300 pounds.

Like the rhinoceros, the giant panda is facing several real dangers that may cause it to become extinct. First, many of the forests in which giant pandas once lived have been cut down for farming and lumber. This has left the giant pandas without shelter. Second, some bamboo forests aren’t growing because of lack of rain. This often causes giant pandas to starve. Finally, poachers are killing giant pandas for their fur.

Protecting the Giant Panda

The Chinese government has set aside protected land for giant pandas. However, unlike the rhinoceros, the giant panda needs a large area of land on which to live. This is because the giant panda needs huge amounts of bamboo to survive.

For the rhinoceros and the giant panda, not much time is left. There are fewer places for them to live. Poachers continue to hunt them. Fortunately, scientists are continuing to work with countries to find solutions to these problems.
Now answer Numbers 7 through 12. Base your answers on the article “Two Endangered Animals.”

7 The rhinoceroses and giant panda are endangered MAINLY because of
   A hunting and a loss of habitat.
   B laws and an increase in building.
   C farming and the loss of preserves.
   D poaching and the patrol of guards.
   (LA.4.1.7.3)

8 According to the map caption, which is true about the giant panda habitat?
   F It has shifted to the coastal regions.
   G It contains an unlimited supply of bamboo.
   H It is located on high mountain slopes in China.
   I It is shrinking because forests are being cut down.
   (LA.4.2.2.1)

9 Under which heading could you find out why the giant panda is endangered?
   A Giant Pandas at Risk
   B Saving the Rhinoceros
   C The Rhinoceros in Danger
   D Protecting the Giant Panda
   (LA.4.2.2.1)
Name ______________________________

10 According to the article, what is the MAIN problem people face in trying to save the giant panda and the rhinoceros?

F There is little food left for the animals to eat.
G The animals cannot be moved to new homes.
H The animals cannot be kept safe from hunters.
I There is not a lot of time left to make changes.

(LA.4.1.7.3)

11 How are the rhinoceros and the giant panda ALIKE? Use information and details from the article to support your answer.

Sample 2-point response: Both the rhinoceros and giant panda are endangered species. Both are losing their habitat and are having difficulty finding food and places to live. Both are killed by hunters and poachers.

Short-Response Rubric

<table>
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(LA.4.1.7.7)
Describe two ways that humans are responsible for the near extinction of the giant panda and the rhinoceros. Use information and details from the article to support your answer.

Sample 4-point response: Humans are responsible for the near extinction of the giant panda and the rhinoceros in several ways. First, they are changing these animals’ environments. People are living on the land the animals once lived on, forcing the animals to go elsewhere. In addition, people are clearing the land for farming. This also forces the animals to move to other habitats. All of this makes it hard for the animals to find food or new places to live.

In addition, humans are hunting and poaching the animals. They kill rhinoceroses for their horns and giant pandas for their fur. This helps cause their extinction, too.

### Extended-Response Rubric

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(LA.4.2.2.3)
Read the article “Make Your Own Terrarium” before answering Numbers 13 through 20.

**Make Your Own Terrarium**

How do you make a terrarium? How does a terrarium work? Make your own and find out.

**You need:**
- clean pebbles, shells, or stones
- bark with moss on it
- small ferns or ivy
- sponge
- large glass jar
- two thin sticks
- potting soil

**What to do:**
1. First, clean your jar by rinsing and drying it well. Lay the jar on its side and cover the bottom with the pebbles.
2. Next, choose interesting stones and shells. Place these in the jar on top of the pebbles. Use the two thin sticks to grab the stones or shells and put them in place.
3. Then, take the bark and soak it in water for a few minutes. Place the bark on the pebbles.

4. Then, choose small plants that have their roots. Place these in the terrarium. Cover the roots with potting soil and put potting soil around the bark.

5. Now, find a location that gets some sunlight, but that isn't always in the sun. After you have found just the right place, put a few drops of water into the jar. Poke holes in the lid and screw it onto the jar.

6. Finally, sit back and watch.

**What happens:**

Once your terrarium is set up, the plants will grow and live with little or no help from you.

**Why terrariums grow:**

Terrariums allow you to grow plants that need lots of moisture, or tiny drops of water. These plants would most likely die if they were grown in open pots inside your home. That's because the heated air in your home does not have enough moisture for these plants to thrive. Without enough moisture, the plants die.

Once the plants have taken root in the jar, they will begin to create a climate, or certain weather conditions, all their own. You may wonder how this happens.

The plants take in moisture from the soil. Then they let out moisture through their leaves. The moisture builds up on the glass and then drips back to the soil. This rain effect lets the terrarium go for weeks without watering.

Sometimes too much moisture builds up inside the jar. This can cause the plants to die. Lots of moisture causes mold and fungus to grow, which can also kill the plants. If your jar has too much moisture, simply take the lid off for awhile. That way the excess moisture can get out. Most of the time, though, a terrarium will take care of itself. All you have to do is watch it, watch it, watch it!
Now answer Numbers 13 through 20. Base your answers on the article “Make Your Own Terrarium.”

13 Read this sentence from the article.

That's because the heated air in your home does not have enough moisture for these plants to thrive.

What does thrive mean?

A  bend
B  grow
C  plant
D  wilt

(LA.4.1.6.3)

14 Why does the author use the words then, after, and finally in the “What to do” section of the article?

F  to explain why people like terrariums
G  to describe the effects of growing moss
H  to compare different kinds of terrariums
I  to order the steps in setting up a terrarium

(LA.4.1.7.5)

15 Based on the article, what would MOST LIKELY happen if the lid were left off the jar for a long time?

A  The plants would get sick.
B  The plants would grow taller.
C  Sun and rain would get into the jar.
D  Moisture would build up inside the jar.

(LA.4.1.7.8)
16 Explain why plants grow in a terrarium. Use details and information from the article in your answer.

Sample 2-point response: Plants grow in a terrarium because of the rain effect. A plant’s roots take in moisture from the soil. It lets out moisture through its leaves. The moisture builds up on the glass then drips back onto the soil to start the process over.

Short-Response Rubric

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(LA.4.2.2.2)

17 What do you do FIRST to create a terrarium?

- Put plants’ roots in the soil.
- Wash and dry the container.
- Poke holes in the lid of the jar.
- Line the container with pebbles.

(LA.4.1.7.5)
18 Which plants does the author recommend to grow in the terrarium?
   A  small ferns or ivy
   B  green moss or bark
   C  clean shells or stones
   D  small sponges or sticks
   (LA.4.2.2.1)

19 According to the article, what should you do if you see mold growing in a terrarium?
   F  Shake the roots to knock the mold off.
   G  Replace the shells with pebbles or stones.
   H  Take the lid off the jar to let the moisture out.
   I  Change the kind or number of plants in the jar.
   (LA.4.2.2.2)

20 How do plants in a terrarium live without being watered?
   A  There is water in the shells.
   B  There is moisture in the jar.
   C  The plants like desert conditions.
   D  The plants make their own water.
   (LA.4.2.2.2)