

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|--|-----|
| Introduction | iii |
| Reading Skills for Tests | |
| I. Vocabulary..... | 1 |
| II. Understand the Main Idea | 15 |
| III. Answer Multiple Choice Questions | 29 |
| IV. Give Written Answers | 41 |
| V. Use Clues to Infer Answers | 58 |
| VI. Use Your Thoughts and Feelings to Infer Answers..... | 71 |
| VII. Understanding Analogies..... | 87 |
| Math Skills for Tests | |
| VIII. Estimate the Correct Answer | 98 |
| IX. Solve Complicated Word Problems | 105 |
| X. Different Units of Measure in Word Problems | 133 |
| XI. Estimation in Word Problems | 155 |
| XII. Understand Charts..... | 173 |
| XIII. Understand Patterns..... | 184 |
| Review | 199 |
| Answer Key | 213 |

Guided Practice

You just learned these four steps that will help you find the correct answers to questions about your vocabulary:

- Step 1:** Think about what the word means before you look at the answer choices.
- Step 2:** Try each answer choice in the sentence.
- Step 3:** Cross out answer choices that do not make sense.
- Step 4:** Choose the best answer.

Now you will practice each of the steps in the next exercises. These exercises guide you through each step. After you practice, you will feel more confident when you answer vocabulary questions.

Exercise 1

Step 1: Think about what the word means *before* you look at the answer choices.



After you touch animals in a petting zoo, it is important to sanitize your hands.

I think sanitize means _____.

Clue: After you touch animals, your hands are dirty.

Are you having trouble thinking of what the word might mean? Just take a guess!

Step 2: Try each answer choice in the sentence.

After you touch animals in a petting zoo, it is important to sanitize your hands.

- a. clap
- b. wash
- c. smell
- d. raise

Don't choose your answer yet — go through all the steps first!

Which of the following sentences make sense?

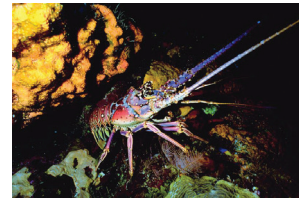
1. After you touch animals in a petting zoo, it is important to clap your hands.
 - yes
 - no
2. After you touch animals in a petting zoo, it is important to wash your hands.
 - yes
 - no
3. After you touch animals in a petting zoo, it is important to smell your hands.
 - yes
 - no
4. After you touch animals in a petting zoo, it is important to raise your hands.
 - yes
 - no

B. Understand the Main Idea in a Paragraph

Just as a group of pictures can have a main idea, a paragraph is a group of sentences with a main idea. Every paragraph has a main idea. Most paragraphs also have details that support the main idea.

The next exercises will show you how to write a paragraph with a main idea and details that support the main idea.

Exercise 5



Below is a paragraph that a student (Ashley) wrote to describe the group of pictures above.



There are many types of ocean life. When most people think about ocean life, they usually think about fish. Mammals, such as dolphins, also call the ocean home. Plants, sharks, and lobsters also are part of the diverse group of living things in the ocean.

Ashley starts with a sentence that states the main idea.

There are many types of ocean life.

Then she goes on to describe details that support the main idea.

When most people think about ocean life, they usually think about fish. Mammals, such as dolphins, also call the ocean home. Plants, sharks, and lobsters also are part of the diverse group of living things in the ocean.