On the continent of South America is the Amazon Rain Forest where it is always hot and wet, and everything grows and grows. In this rain forest there grows a great Kapok tree. This is a story of a community of animals that live in a Kapok tree.

The Great Kapok Tree

1 Two men walked into the rain forest. Moments before, the forest had been alive with the sounds of squawking birds and howling monkeys. Now all was quiet as the creatures watched the two men and wondered why they had come. The larger man stopped and pointed to a great Kapok tree. Then he left.

2 The smaller man took the ax he carried and struck the trunk of the tree. Whack! Whack! Whack! The sounds of the blows rang through the forest. The wood of the tree was very hard. Chop! Chop! Chop! The man wiped off the sweat that ran down his face and neck. Whack! Chop! Whack! Chop! Soon the man grew tired. He sat down to rest at the foot of the great Kapok tree. Before he knew it, the heat and hum of the forest had lulled him to sleep.

3 A boa constrictor lived in the Kapok tree. He slithered down its trunk to where the man was sleeping. He looked at the gash the ax had made in the tree. Then the huge snake slid very close to the man and hissed in his ear: “Senhor, this tree is a tree of miracles. It is my home, where generations of my ancestors have lived. Do not chop it down.”

4 A bee buzzed in the sleeping man’s ear: “Senhor, my hive is in this Kapok tree, and I fly from tree to tree and flower to flower collecting pollen. In this way I pollinate the trees and flowers throughout the rain forest. You see, all living things depend on one another.”

5 A troupe of monkeys scampered down from the canopy of the Kapok tree. They chattered to the sleeping man: “Senhor, we have seen the ways of man. You chop down one tree, then come back for another and another. The roots of these great trees will wither and die, and there will be nothing left to hold the earth in place. When the heavy rains come, the soil will be washed away and the forest will become a desert.”

6 A toucan, a macaw, and a cock-of-the-rock flew down from the canopy. “Senhor!” squawked the toucan, “you must not cut down this tree. We have flown over the rain forest and seen what happens once you begin to chop down the trees. Many people settle on the land. They set fires to clear the underbrush, and soon the forest disappears. Where once there was life and beauty only black and smoldering ruins remain.”

7 A bright and small tree frog crawled along the leaf. In a squeaky voice he piped in the man’s ear: “Senhor, a ruined rain forest means ruined lives … many ruined lives. You will leave many of us homeless if you chop down this great Kapok tree.”

8 A jaguar had been sleeping along a branch in the middle of the tree. Because his spotted coat blended into the dappled light and shadows of the understory, no one had noticed him. Now he leapt down and padded

---

1 *Canopy - the tops of trees in the rain forest*

2 *Understory - the bottom of the rain forest*
silently over to the sleeping man. He growled in his ear: “Senhor, the Kapok tree is home to many birds and animals. If you cut it down, where will I find my dinner?”

9 Four tree porcupines swung down from branch to branch and whispered to the man: “Senhor, do you know what we animals and humans need in order to live? Oxygen. And, Senhor, do you know what trees produce? Oxygen! If you cut down the forest, you will destroy that which gives us all life.”

10 Several anteaters climbed down the Kapok tree with their young clinging to their backs. The unstriped anteater said to the sleeping man: “Senhor, you are chopping down this tree with no thought for the future. And surely you know that what happens tomorrow depends upon what you do today. The big man tells you to chop down a beautiful tree. He does not think of his own children, who tomorrow must live in a world without trees.”
Directions: Answer the following multiple-choice questions by filling in the circle for the best answer on your answer sheet.

1. According to the poem, where do all the animals live?
   A. In different parts of the rainforest
   B. They are homeless
   C. In the Kapok tree
   D. In the jungle

2. Which of the following animals said, “All living things depend on one another”?
   A. A toucan
   B. A bee
   C. A boa constrictor
   D. An elephant

3. Read the sentence from paragraph 5 in the box below:
   
   A troupe of monkeys scampered down from the canopy of the Kapok tree.
   
   In the sentence above, the word canopy most nearly means:
   A. the cover formed by the leafy upper branches of a tree
   B. a fabric cover suspended on poles above a bed
   C. a particularly large branch
   D. a big canvas or blanket

4. What is the main purpose of paragraph 5?
   A. To explain global warming
   B. To explain why it is called a “rainforest”
   C. To explain where birds live
   D. To explain the effects of chopping down trees in the rainforest

5. In paragraph 2, the most likely reason the author uses the words “Chop!” and “Whack!” more than once, and with exclamation marks (!), is to:
   A. show that the Kapok tree was easy to chop
   B. indicate the loud sounds made by the ax
   C. show that the spelling of these words are unusual
   D. show what the animals are saying
6. Which of the following details best suggests that the rainforest is full of life?
   A. “The larger man stopped and pointed to a great Kapok”
   B. “Now all was quiet as the creatures watched the two men and wondered why they had come.”
   C. “Two men walked into the rainforest.”
   D. “Moments before, the forest had been alive with the sounds of squawking birds and howling monkeys.”

7. Read the sentence from paragraph 10 in the box below:

   The big man tells you to chop down a beautiful tree. He does not think of his own children, who tomorrow must live in a world without trees.

Which of the following does the “big man” most likely represent?
   A. People who are very rich
   B. All the people living in the rainforest
   C. Companies that need trees for lumber
   D. An influential person in the community

8. Which of the following best states the author’s main message in this passage?
   A. Animals and plants depend on each other for survival
   B. Animals need to be protected
   C. The rainforest is a peaceful natural environment
   D. Kapok trees are beautiful and sacred, and should not be cut down

OPEN RESPONSE: The story, “The Great Kapok Tree,” contains a message about rainforests. What message is the author trying to tell the reader? Use specific and relevant information from the passage to support your answer.
We live in a global marketplace. Many of the things we wear, use, or eat every day come from other countries. For example, our cell phones may come from China, our clothes may be made in Mexico, and the grapes we eat may have come from Chile.

Globalization

1 Americans buy goods from all over the world because of globalization. This means the development of a global, or worldwide, society. In a global society, people, money, information, and goods flow fairly freely across national borders.

2 Globalization affects every country in the world. But no region is more involved than Asia. Countries such as China, South Korea, and Japan have played a major role in the global spread of manufacturing and trade. Asian countries are key players in the global economy.

The Growth of Globalization

3 Globalization is the result of several factors. Advances in communication and transportation have played a big part. Another major factor is the movement toward free trade. Free trade is the flow of goods and services across national borders, with few controls by governments.

4 Support for free trade has grown over the past 60 years. In 1947, the United States and 22 other countries signed the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). They agreed to reduce tariffs and other barriers to trade. A tariff is a tax on goods imported from another country. This agreement led to the creation of the World Trade Organization (WTO). The WTO also works to reduce trade barriers. By 2005 the WTO had 148 member countries.

5 Globalization has also been helped by the rise of multinational corporations. These are large firms that operate in more than one country. They are key actors in the global economy. They produce and sell goods and services around the world.

6 Globalization has brought economic growth to many developing countries. This has meant jobs for millions of people. It has also increased economic interdependence among countries. Interdependent countries rely on one another for resources, technology, and trade.

7 Trade between China and the United States is a good example of economic interdependence. Factories in China make all kinds of goods for export to the United States. When the U.S. economy is booming, Americans have plenty of money to spend on Chinese products. When the economy is not doing so well, Americans spend less on goods. So the jobs of many factory workers in China depend on the economic health of the United States.

Athletic Shoe Production: Sneaking Away from the U.S.

8 The history of sneaker production shows globalization at work. For years, the sneakers that Americans wore were made in the United States. Over time, however, most companies moved their production to Asia. By doing so, they were able to spend less on labor and materials. This made it possible to sell sneakers for less and still make a profit.
9 Look at your own shoes. The label probably says “Made in China” or another Asian country. This is true even for famous American sneakers: the Converse Chuck Taylor All Star. This shoe’s label used to read “Made in U.S.A.” But now they, too, are made in Asia.

FROM SOUTH KOREA TO THE WORLD

Most multinational corporations are based in Western Europe or the United States. But Asia has its share, too. LG Electronics is a large company based in South Korea. It makes televisions, computers, and other products. It began to expand overseas in the 1970’s. LG Electronics has facilities in North America, South America, Africa, Europe, Asia, and Australia.
Directions: Answer the following multiple-choice questions by filling in the circle for the best answer on your answer sheet.

9. “Economic Interdependence” among countries can best be described as:
   A. a multinational corporation
   B. economic growth
   C. countries relying on one another for resources
   D. international money

10. According to the article, which of the following factors helped globalization grow?
    A. Concern over the environment
    B. Economic interdependence
    C. Higher tariffs
    D. The rise of multinational companies

11. Which of the following sentences best states the main point of paragraph 4?
    A. The United States is a big country
    B. The WTO is influential around the world
    C. Twenty-two countries signed the GATT
    D. From 1947 to 2005, many more countries supported lowering tariffs

12. Read the sentence from paragraph 2 in the box below:
    
    Asian countries are key players in the global economy.
    
    In the sentence above, what does the word “key” most likely mean?
    A. Significant or important
    B. A small metal object used to open locks
    C. A button on a computer keyboard
    D. Mysterious or unknown

13. According to the passage, which of the following happened first?
    A. The WTO was created
    B. Twenty-two countries reduced taxes on goods imported from another country
    C. The WTO membership grew to 148 countries
    D. The Olympics were held in China
14. Which of the following is NOT an example of globalization?
   A. A factory is built in Columbia to produce coffee that is sent to Europe
   B. An American design company creates a jacket to be manufactured in Africa
   C. A car is made in Michigan and bought by a family in California
   D. Leather from Venezuela is sent to South Korean shoe companies

15. The purpose of paragraph 6 is to:
   A. explain the author’s purpose
   B. give an example of globalization
   C. give an example of a tariff
   D. explain how some countries have benefited from globalization

16. Read the sentence from paragraph 7 in the box below:

   Factories in China make all kinds of goods for export to the United States.

   In the sentence above, the word “goods” most nearly means
   A. items produced for trade with other countries
   B. the way China treats the United States
   C. acts of kindness
   D. economic interdependence

17. Which of the following continents has the most multinational corporations?
   A. Asia
   B. Europe
   C. North America
   D. Antarctica

18. The example of the “Converse Chuck Taylor All Star” sneaker supports which of the following ideas?
   A. How shoes are made
   B. Globalization at work
   C. Shoes made in the USA are the best
   D. A celebrity can help sell shoes around the world

OPEN RESPONSE: Based on information in the passage, explain what “globalization” is and how it affects the world. Use specific and relevant information from the passage to support your answer.
What causes the earth to shake, crack, and quake? This question is one for which philosophers and scientists gave answers throughout the centuries. The passage below traces how the answer to “what causes earthquakes?” changed from mythical to scientific explanations obtained through observations and investigations.

# Earthquakes

Karen Spies

## What Causes Earthquakes?

1. Ancient peoples did not have scientific explanations for earthquakes. Instead, they created myths and legends to explain what they could not understand. In many early cultures, people believed that the earth was carried on the backs of animals such as oxen, frogs, or snakes. For example, some Native Americans believed that seven sea turtles held up the earth. When they moved, the earth cracked and quakes followed.

2. In India, people once believed that four elephants supported the earth. The elephants stood on the back of a turtle, while the turtle balanced on a snake. If any of these animals made even the smallest movement, the earth would tremble and cause a quake.

3. The ancient Greeks thought that earthquakes showed the gods’ anger. A giant named Atlas had rebelled against the gods. As punishment, he had to hold up the world on his shoulders. When Atlas shrugged his shoulders, the Greeks said, an earthquake took place.

4. Aristotle, the Greek philosopher, was one of the first to try to explain earthquakes using logic as opposed to myth. He believed that hot air was caught in underground caves. As the hot wind blew and tried to escape, earthquakes occurred. William Shakespeare, the English writer, mentions this idea in one of his plays, Henry IV.

5. Early scientists believed that large movements of rocks had something to do with earthquakes. But most of those scientists thought the movement was caused by underground explosions.

## A Puzzling Issue

6. One thing that fascinated early scientists was the shape of the continents. In 1620, English scholar Sir Francis Bacon noticed how similar in shape the continents were. The coast of Europe looked as if it might match up with the North American coastline. And the curve of Central America appeared to fit the western bulge of Africa. A French naturalist, George de Buffon, noticed that many similar animals and plants lived in Europe and North America. Could they have broken apart millions of years ago? What powerful forces might have caused such breaks?

7. A German scientist, Alfred Wegener, thought he had the answers to these questions. In 1912, Wegener proposed a theory of continental drift. He suggested that about 200 million years ago, the continents were one landmass. At some point, the continents had broken off, and were floating or drifting apart.

8. At first, scientists criticized Wegener’s ideas. But that changed when similar fossils were found on every continent. Since prehistoric animals could not have crossed the oceans, scientists theorized that there must have once been only a single large continent.
9 By the 1960’s, scientists had found evidence to support Wegener’s theory. When they began to explore the ocean, scientists discovered a giant mountain range. A crack runs through the center of most of it. Part of what makes up this mountain range is hot liquid, or magma. As the hot rock shifts, deep crevices are created and the magma pushes upward, forming new portions of the seafloor. As this seafloor grows, it moves the continents apart. They seem to be floating and drifting along the surface of the earth like giant rafts. This theory of continental drift led to a greater understanding of different reasons why earthquakes occur. Modern day scientists can not only now predict where and when earthquakes might occur but they have also developed tools to measure the size and intensity of different earthquakes.

**FUN FACTS**

**WEGENER’S IDEA AND EVIDENCE**

Upon the improvement of world maps in the early 1900’s, a German meteorologist by the name of Alfred Wegener introduced the hypothesis of continental drift. He suggested a supercontinent, called Pangea (meaning “all land”), that broke up millions of years ago, slowly moved to their current positions, and continue to move today.

When Wegener first noticed the similarities in the shoreline of continents on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean, he began fitting them together. He particularly liked the way in which South America and Africa fit. It was not until the 1960’s that scientists proposed a new map using the edges of the continental shelf as the true boundaries of the continents.

Wegener used documented cases of fossil organisms that had been found on different landmasses that could not have crossed the current oceans. Fossils of Mesosaurus have been found only in South America and Africa. Remains of other organisms appear to link these two continents during the late Paleozoic and early Mesozoic eras.
19. Read the sentence from paragraph 1 in the box below:

“... they created myths and legends to explain what they could not understand.”

Based on the sentence, the word “legend” most likely means
A. a famous person in history
B. a story that is passed down from generation to generation
C. an unusual event
D. a key that accompanies a map

20. According to paragraph 6, early scientists were fascinated by
A. the massive size of the continents
B. similar plants and animals living on different continents
C. the similar shape and coastline of the continents
D. the distance between the continents

21. The main difference between early scientists’ and ancient peoples’ explanations of earthquakes is
A. early scientists thought the movement was caused by underground explosions
B. early scientists used logic instead of myths
C. early scientists used myths only
D. early scientists used the scientific method

22. Which of the following sentences best explains Wegener’s theory of “continental drift”?
A. The continents were once a single land mass that broke into pieces and drifted apart.
B. The coast of Europe looked as if it might match up with the North American coastline.
C. Similar fossils and plants were found on different continents.
D. Large land masses crashed into each other and caused earthquakes.

23. In the subheading “A Puzzling Issue,” the word “puzzling” refers to something confusing and to
A. science and math, which puzzled ancient people
B. Wegener, whose thinking was a mystery to other scientists
C. earthquake predictions, which scientists still can’t figure out how to make
D. the continents themselves, which fit together like puzzle pieces
24. In the beginning of paragraph 7, the phrase “these questions” refers to
   A. questions the reader has
   B. questions ancient people had
   C. questions Wegener had
   D. questions the early scientists had

25. Read the sentence from the text box below:

   Scientists theorized that there must have once been only a single large continent.

   The name given to this single large continent was
   A. Paleozoic
   B. Supercontinent
   C. Pangaea
   D. Mesopotamia

26. What is the main purpose of picture 3 in the “Fun Facts” box?
   A. To show how similar fossils were present on different continents
   B. To show the similarity in shape between South America and Africa
   C. To explain the theory of continental drift
   D. To show dinosaurs fighting

OPEN RESPONSE: Based on the passage, explain the scientific causes and effects of earthquakes. Use specific information from the passage to support your answer.
People in ancient Greece and Rome believed supernatural gods and goddesses, who experienced human emotions like jealousy and passion, directed events in their world. The myth of “Echo and Narcissus” shows the human qualities of the gods and explains the origin of two things in nature, a narcissus flower and an echo.

Echo and Narcissus
Retold by Walker Brents

1 Liriope, the river nymph, gave birth to a beautiful child. The child was named Narcissus. As he grew, his beauty increased. His dazzling looks had a strange effect upon the woodland spirits, the water and tree nymphs, around whom he spent his days. They all fell in love with him, but he was oblivious, interested only in hunting in the hills with his companions. His pride in his beauty grew so great that he had nothing but scorn for the feelings of others.

2 There was one nymph, Echo by name, who saw Narcissus chasing deer into nets in the hills. Echo was instantly seized by love and could not overcome it. Secretly, she followed him through the wilderness, waiting for her chance to make herself known to him - but one thing held her back: she could not initiate speech on her own. She could only repeat what was said to her. This was her condition, and it had come about because one day the goddess Hera was questioning the nymphs about her husband Zeus. She asked them where Zeus was, suspecting that the unfaithful god had been chasing the lovely nymphs and dwelling among them. Indeed he had, and while he was making his escape, Echo distracted Hera with the flow of entertaining conversation. When Hera learned she had been fooled, she cursed Echo, saying, “From now on your words will not be your own. You will only be able to repeat what is said to you. That way your powers to beguile and distract will be curtailed.”

3 Thereafter Echo could only repeat the words she heard. She could not announce herself to Narcissus. She trailed him silently, hoping for the right circumstance to meet him and declare her love. One day Narcissus had wandered away from his companions, and was in the forest looking for them. Echo was nearby, but Narcissus did not see her. “Is anyone here?” he cried. “Here,” she answered. “Come to me,” he called out. “Come to me,” she replied. “Do not avoid me,” he pleaded. She said the same to him. “Let us meet.” He fell back from her scornfully. “You are not the one I seek. I would die before I would be near you.” Echo advanced toward him, pleading, “I would be near you.” But he ran from her.

4 Haunted by rejection and crushed by shame, Echo hid herself in caves and covered herself with leaves. She began to waste away and disappear. In the end only her bones were left, and these became rocks. But her voice remained. Travelers and wanderers heard it sometimes, answering them with their own words. Still Echo did not forget Narcissus.

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1 Beguile - lead by deception or trickery; distract
2 Curtail - make less as if by cutting away a part; reduce
Meanwhile, Narcissus too fell victim to a curse. Another nymph had fallen in love with him, but was also spurned. This one cried to the heavens for vengeance: “May Narcissus fall into a love that is not returned!” The goddess of righteous anger, Nemesis, heard these words. And so it happened that on a sunny and hot day Narcissus found himself at a pond to which no shepherd’s flocks had been, from which no goats had drunk. It was a wild place. A green meadow surrounded it, and tall trees shaded it from the sun and sheltered it from winds. Putting his face to the waters in order to quench his thirst, Narcissus caught sight of his reflection for the first time. He was astonished by the beautiful face that met his eye.

“What star-like eyes are these; what smooth skin! That forehead, that jaw, that gorgeous flowing hair! Who are you? Draw near to me!” He reached his hands to the water, but the reflected image disintegrated. He waited for it to reappear. “No fortress gates nor city walls; no long rocky highway, not impenetrable forest nor unclimbable mountain stands between us. Yet I cannot reach you! How can this be?” He cried to the endless skies, “How is it that when I find my love his very nearness keeps us far apart?” But there was no answer.

Narcissus could not leave his place. Entranced by his own reflection, he began to waste away from hunger and thirst. His strength and his life ebbed away and did not return. Echo hovered around him, invisible and unforgetting. Her disembodied voice repeated his final word, which was “Alas.” He died, and his spirit left his body. Even on the boat of souls, crossing the river between this world and the other one, Narcissus leaned over the edge, looking into those waters, trying to catch a glimpse of the image that so captivated him.

The nymphs heard of his death and went to the pond to retrieve his body for the funeral ceremony. But when they got there, they found no corpse, only a new blossom with snowy petals and a yellow corona. The flower came to be called “Narcissus,” in honor of the child who came to know himself and fell in love.
Directions: Answer the following multiple-choice questions by filling in the circle for the best answer on your answer sheet.

27. Read the sentence from paragraph 1 in the box below:

They all fell in love with him but he was oblivious, interested only in hunting in the hills with his companions.

According to the sentence above, the best synonym for the word “oblivious” is
A. unaware
B. ignorant
C. generous
D. heroic

28. Why is Echo unable to speak on her own?
A. She is terrified
B. She is cursed by Zeus
C. She is in love with Narcissus
D. She is cursed by Hera

29. Why is Echo “haunted by rejection and crushed with shame”?
A. Echo fooled Hera
B. Narcissus does not want to be with her
C. Echo died
D. Echo killed Narcissus

30. Who is Nemesis?
A. Narcissus
B. A nymph who fell in love
C. Goddess of righteous anger
D. God of flowers

31. The purpose of the quotation marks in paragraph 2 are to show
A. the author’s thoughts
B. a character’s thoughts
C. a character’s words
D. the title of the story
32. The vowel sound in the middle syllable of Liriope is most like the vowel sound in the word
   A. rio
   B. this
   C. seat
   D. lie

33. What is the main purpose of paragraph 6?
   A. To describe how Narcissus falls in love with Echo
   B. To describe how Narcissus falls in love with himself
   C. To describe how Narcissus talks to the sky
   D. To describe the face of a prince

34. Which of the following sentences best supports the idea that Narcissus had “nothing but scorn for the feelings of others”?
   A. “I would die before I would be near you.”
   B. “How is it that when I find my love his very nearness keeps us far apart?”
   C. “Entranced by his own reflection, he began to waste away from hunger and thirst.”
   D. “In the end, only her bones were left, and they became rocks.”

OPEN RESPONSE: Explain a lesson that can be learned from the myth of Echo and Narcissus. Use relevant and specific information from the passage to support your answer.
One way to make a decision about something is to do an experiment to see what is likely to happen. Read the passage below to find out how Kalvin thought about improving the odds so that he can have a better chance of eating his favorite cereal each morning.

Tossing Marshmallows

1 Kalvin, an eighth grader, always has cereal for breakfast. He likes Cocoa Blast cereal so much that he wants to eat it every morning. Kalvin’s mother wants him to eat Health Nut Flakes at least some mornings because it is more nutritious than Cocoa Blast. Kalvin and his mother have come up with a fun way to determine which cereal Kalvin will have for breakfast. Each morning, Kalvin flips a coin. If the coin comes up heads, he will have Cocoa Blast. If the coin comes up tails, he will have Health Nut Flakes. Kalvin discovered that with a coin the results are always equal. This meant that he had the same chance of getting a head on a coin toss as he would a tail. Kalvin came up with a new idea.

2 Kalvin looked through the kitchen cupboard and found a bag of large marshmallows and a bag of small marshmallows. He thought that a marshmallow might be a good thing to flip and wondered which size would be better. Since Kalvin wants to eat Cocoa Blast most of the time, he needs to find marshmallow that lands in one position-either on its side or on one of its flat ends-most of the time. Once he decides which type of marshmallow is better, he will ask his mother if he may use the marshmallow instead of a coin for deciding his cereal each morning. When Kalvin did his experiment, he tossed each size marshmallow 50 times. He kept track of his data carefully by organizing it in the table above.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Lands on end</th>
<th>Lands on side</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Large Marshmallow</td>
<td>III IV III IV II</td>
<td>III IV III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Marshmallow</td>
<td>III IV III IV</td>
<td>III IV III</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

KALVIN’S DATA TABLE

DID YOU KNOW?

Originally, marshmallows were made from the root of the marshmallow, a pink-flowered European perennial herb. Today, most marshmallows are made from corn syrup, sugar, albumen, and gelatin.
35. Kalvin will have to eat Health Nut Flakes in the morning if the following is true:
   A. He flips a coin and it lands heads-up
   B. He flips a coin and it lands tail-side up
   C. He flips a marshmallow and it lands on its side
   D. He doesn't finish his homework the night before

36. What is the main reason for Kalvin's experiment?
   A. To complete his homework assignment
   B. To see if marshmallows flip the same way coins do
   C. To practice his math
   D. To improve the chance that he will get to eat his favorite breakfast cereal

37. After looking at Kalvin's data table, which of the following is true?
   A. The small marshmallow is more likely than the large one to land on its end
   B. The large marshmallow is the best one for Kalvin to flip
   C. The large marshmallow lands on its side most of the time
   D. Marshmallows are not as nutritious as Health Nut Flakes

38. The author's purpose for including the “Did You Know?” text box is
   A. to add an interesting fact about marshmallows
   B. to add an interesting fact about math
   C. to argue that marshmallows are unhealthy to eat
   D. to argue that more math should be taught in schools

39. Based on the information in the passage, which of the following most likely happens next?
   A. Kalvin asks if he can flip a coin
   B. Kalvin eats Health Nut Flakes
   C. Kalvin asks his mother if he can flip a small marshmallow
   D. Kalvin eats a bagel

40. The tally marks in the data table represent
   A. marshmallows
   B. flips
   C. coins
   D. strikes

OPEN RESPONSE: Explain how Kalvin uses math to help him solve a real-life problem. Use specific and relevant information from the passage to support your answer.
**FAST-R**  
Anchor Assessment Answer Sheet

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<tr>
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<td>Class</td>
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Passage  Middle School Anchor Assessment  
Teacher Name

Completely fill the circle for the correct answer.

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<th>The Great Kapok Tree</th>
<th>Earthquakes</th>
<th>Tossing Marshmallows</th>
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<td>8. A  B  C  D</td>
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<td>9. A  B  C  D</td>
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**OFFICE USE ONLY**

RESEARCH  Y  N
OPEN RESPONSE  1  2  3  4
Open-Response Question

DIRECTIONS: Choose ONE of the options to answer and circle below the one you choose. Use specific and relevant details from the passage to support your answer.

OPTION 1: BASED ON THE PASSAGE “THE GREAT KAPOK TREE”

The story, “The Great Kapok Tree,” contains a message about rainforests. What is the author trying to tell the reader? Use specific and relevant information from the passage to support your answer.

OPTION 2: BASED ON THE PASSAGE “GLOBALIZATION”

Based on information in the passage, explain what “globalization” is and how it affects the world. Use specific and relevant information from the passage to support your answer.

OPTION 3: BASED ON THE PASSAGE “EARTHQUAKES”

Based on the passage, explain the scientific causes and effects of earthquakes. Use specific information from the passage to support your answer.

OPTION 4: BASED ON THE PASSAGE “ECHO AND NARCISSUS”

Explain a lesson that can be learned from the myth of Echo and Narcissus. Use relevant and specific information from the passage to support your answer.

OPTION 5: BASED ON THE PASSAGE “TOSSING MARSHMALLOWS”

Explain how Kalvin uses math to help him solve a real-life problem. Use specific and relevant information from the passage to support your answer.

Space for you to plan and outline your response.
Space for you to plan and outline your response (Draft).