

Lift

LEVEL 1 UNIT 2 Assessment

VOCABULARY

DIRECTIONS: Choose the correct answer.

- 1** To have *access* means
- (A) to provide something.
 - (B) to allow someone to leave.
 - (C) to be able to get something.
 - (D) to be able to create something.
- 2** An earthquake's *impact*
- (A) affects the nearby environment.
 - (B) upholds the nearby environment.
 - (C) crashes into the nearby environment.
 - (D) overcomes the nearby environment.
- 3** The word *reliable* means
- (A) invalid.
 - (B) supported.
 - (C) dependable.
 - (D) unpolluted.
- 4** What does the word *source* mean?
- (A) the end
 - (B) the provider
 - (C) the deepest part
 - (D) the farthest point
- 5** The word *distribute* means
- (A) to flow slowly.
 - (B) to gather.
 - (C) to deliver.
 - (D) to produce.
- 6** A *technique* is a
- (A) type of work.
 - (B) type of science.
 - (C) way of doing something.
 - (D) way of taking something.
- 7** When something is *doubtful*, it is
- (A) unlikely.
 - (B) unusable.
 - (C) unnecessary.
 - (D) unappealing.
- 8** What is a *well*?
- (A) a hole where one gets water
 - (B) a place where one finds things
 - (C) a building where one gets better
 - (D) a factory where one builds things

- 9 Slow-moving water will sometimes spill / slide / seep into the ground.
- 10 When water is pure / reliable / filthy, it usually can't be drunk.
- 11 Scientists may use equipment / bundles / theories to get resources from the earth.
- 12 People use *cement* to
- (A) build things.
 - (B) filter water.
 - (C) break up rocks.
 - (D) dig into the earth.
- 13 A *device* is a kind of helpful
- (A) tool.
 - (B) program.
 - (C) organization.
 - (D) design.
- 14 Plans that work well are abundant / backward / effective.
- 15 A healthy lemon tree will drop / yield / grow a lot of fruit.
- 16 Most crops are ready to plant / water / harvest in the fall.
- 17 Different weather systems / instruments / devices affect the global climate.
- 18 When it rains heavily at lower elevations, snow can accumulate / activate / accomplish in the mountains.
- 19 Foods that contain *impurities* are
- (A) unripe.
 - (B) spoiled.
 - (C) healthful.
 - (D) partially prepared.
- 20 Proper *sanitation* means things are
- (A) safe.
 - (B) free-flowing.
 - (C) useful.
 - (D) clean.
- 21 Things that are *sophisticated* are
- (A) too deep.
 - (B) very strong.
 - (C) well developed.
 - (D) too complicated.
- 22 *Aqueducts* carry
- (A) boats.
 - (B) earth.
 - (C) goods.
 - (D) water.
- 23 A well-organized group of people is called a population / civilization / connection.
- 24 The residents of a city are called the city's population / civilization / organization.

READING

DIRECTIONS: Answer the question.

- 25** The title “A Farm We Can Live On” suggests the topic of the passage will be
- (A) a family looking for a farm to buy and live on.
 - (B) a family describing how they escaped the city.
 - (C) a group of farmers looking for someplace to live.
 - (D) a man describing the farm where he works.

DIRECTIONS: Read the passage and answer the questions.

A Farm We Can Live On

- 1 The truck rattled to a stop, and Papa, Mama, Miguel, and Carmen climbed out.
- 2 Mama gazed up at the house. “It’s big,” she said, “and it has electric lines running to it.”
- 3 Carmen and Miguel followed Mama and Papa toward the back porch, where Mr. Vargas was waiting to show them the house and farm.
- 4 Papa had grown up farming, and after living in the city for many years, he really wanted his own farm. It was a hard time for rural people, though. It was 1936, rainfall had been scarce for years, and the country had fallen into a terrible drought called the Dust Bowl.
- 5 But Papa had a good job in the city, and Mama took in mending. They’d saved their money, and Papa secured a loan from Mr. Vargas at the bank.
- 6 Now they needed to find a farm they could live on.
- 7 “This property,” said Mr. Vargas, “has modern conveniences—electricity and indoor plumbing.”
- 8 He led them into the kitchen, where Mama marveled at the stove.
- 9 “Not like wood stoves in some farmhouses we’ve looked at,” she said.
- 10 Mr. Vargas showed them the parlor before taking them upstairs to the bedrooms—three of them.
- 11 “I could have my own room,” Carmen said with a sigh, “instead of sharing with Mama’s mending.”

GO ON 

- 12 But Miguel knew not to get attached to stoves and bedrooms until Papa checked out one more thing.
- 13 When they tromped back downstairs, Papa marched to the kitchen sink and gave the handle a turn. The kitchen pipes squealed . . . but nothing came out.
- 14 “That sink hasn’t been used in a while,” said Mr. Vargas, “but this farm has a well—or used to, anyway. Wait a minute to see if the water starts flowing.”
- 15 Everyone stared at the faucet until finally it gave a thunderous clang, and a dribble of filthy water seeped out.
- 16 Papa shook his head. “Without a reliable water source, this isn’t the place for us.”
- 17 Mr. Vargas showed them other farms. One had fresh paint, another had sturdy fences, and a third had a new chicken coop. But none of them had more than a trickle of water.
- 18 Mama grew tired, Miguel grew hungry, and Carmen grew discouraged. Would they ever find a farm they could live on?
- 19 “Are there any more farms for sale?” Papa asked Mr. Vargas.
- 20 “There’s one,” said Mr. Vargas, “but I’m not sure you’ll want it.”
- 21 He took them to the last farm, where the porch was about to fall off, the roof was missing shingles, and there wasn’t a speck of paint on the whole thing.
- 22 “Maybe it has enough bedrooms,” Mama said in a doubtful voice, “and a stove.”
- 23 “It has lots of trees,” said Miguel as he pointed toward the end of a grassy pasture.
- 24 “That’s where the creek runs through,” said Mr. Vargas.
- 25 “The creek?” Papa asked. “Does that mean the farm has access to water?”
- 26 “Let’s find out,” said Mr. Vargas.
- 27 The house didn’t have indoor plumbing, so Mr. Vargas led them to a well in the yard. Papa dropped a pebble down the well, and after a moment, they heard a plop as the pebble hit water below.
- 28 Papa gripped the well’s handle and began cranking. The bucket dropped down, down, down until Papa began cranking the other direction. Soon the bucket appeared at the mouth of the well again, this time full of cool, clear water.
- 29 “Hooray!” shouted Miguel.
- 30 Carmen and Mama gave each other a hug.
- 31 Papa shook Mr. Vargas’s hand. “I think we’ve found the farm we can live on,” he said.



DIRECTIONS: Read the sentences from the story. Match the sentence to the part of the plot each sentence comes from.

- (A) rising action
- (B) climax
- (C) falling action

26 ____ Papa gripped the well's handle and began cranking.

27 ____ They'd saved their money, and Papa secured a loan from Mr. Vargas at the bank.

28 ____ "Hooray!" shouted Miguel.

DIRECTIONS: Answer the questions.

29 In 3–5 sentences, describe how the author builds the rising action in paragraphs 5–18 of the story "A Farm We Can Live On."

30 In 3–5 sentences, describe the climax of the story in paragraphs 19–28 and how it leads to the resolution.



READING

DIRECTIONS: Answer the questions.

- 31** In “The Wonder of Machu Picchu,” what does the third heading, *An Ancient Wonder in Modern Times*, suggest about the content of that section?
- (A) It will describe the beauty of both ancient and modern ruins.
 - (B) It will describe why Machu Picchu is unusual in some way.
 - (C) It will explain how we use the same type of water system in today’s cities.
 - (D) It will explain how modern architects have followed the design of Machu Picchu.

- 32** In “The Wonder of Machu Picchu,” what does the heading *The Challenge of Water* probably refer to?
- (A) how to gather rainwater
 - (B) how to build water fountains
 - (C) how to bring fresh water to the city
 - (D) how to prevent water pollution

DIRECTIONS: Read the passage and answer the questions.

The Wonder of Machu Picchu

The Lost City of the Incas

- 1 The ruins of an amazing city stand high in the Andes Mountains of Peru. That city is Machu Picchu. The Inca people built Machu Picchu sometime around 1450 C.E. Then they left the city about a hundred years later. No one is sure why the Incas built Machu Picchu or why they later abandoned it. One idea is that the city was a special home for their emperor. After the Incas left, plants grew over the city and hid it from the world for centuries. However, local people always knew Machu Picchu was there.
- 2 An American historian and explorer named Hiram Bingham III had heard about the “Lost City of the Incas” and wanted to find the source of the legends. He conducted research for two years to collect clues to its location. Then in 1911, he went into the Peruvian jungle to search for the ancient city. An eleven-year-old Quechua Indian boy led him to Machu Picchu. Bingham’s first view of the ruins took his breath away.
- 3 Today, visitors from around the world come to Machu Picchu. Its advanced design is a wonder. Hundreds of terraces, or large steps, prevent the city from falling down the mountain. Along with its many stone steps, Machu Picchu had one of the most advanced water systems of ancient times. This system is called the Stairway of Fountains.

GO ON 

The Challenge of Water

- 4 Getting fresh water to Machu Picchu was a challenge. A large mountain spring was about 800 meters away, but carrying jugs of water down a mountain every day would be too hard. The Incas had to develop a reliable way to get enough water into the city. They also needed a way to drain away extra rainwater to prevent flooding.
- 5 Machu Picchu's water delivery and drainage system took smart, careful planning. Inca engineers met the challenge brilliantly. First, they built a stone wall to gather the spring water at the right spot. Then they built a canal, a kind of groove in the stone. The long, thin canal carried water down from the large spring and a smaller spring. The water flowed down steps and created a series of fountains. The stream of water was just the right size to fill clay water jugs. Thanks to this effective design, the Incas could get fresh water throughout the city. At the same time, the system drained extra water down the mountain.

An Ancient Wonder in Modern Times

- 6 Today, archaeologists and engineers still wonder at Machu Picchu's clever design. Without steel tools, carts with wheels, or other modern devices, the Incas managed to build a stone city into a mountain. Its steps and terraces have stood for almost 600 years, even surviving many small earthquakes. Today, the "Lost City of the Incas" is much more than a pile of ruins. Amazingly, Machu Picchu's water system still works as it was designed to over six hundred years ago!

33 Read paragraph 4 of “The Wonder of Machu Picchu.” Choose the sentence that describes the main challenge the Incas faced.

- ☐ (A) sentence 1
- ☐ (B) sentence 2
- ☐ (C) sentence 3
- ☐ (D) sentence 4

34 Read paragraph 6 of “The Wonder of Machu Picchu.” Choose the sentences that describe why Machu Picchu is still a wonder today.

- ☐ (A) sentences 1, 2, and 4
- ☐ (B) sentences 1, 3, and 4
- ☐ (C) sentences 2, 3, and 5

35 What solved the water problems at Machu Picchu? Choose two answers.

- ☐ (A) the jungle
- ☐ (B) the terraces
- ☐ (C) the local population
- ☐ (D) the surrounding streams
- ☐ (E) the flood prevention system

36 In 3–5 sentences, describe why the Incas built their Stairway of Fountains the way they did. Use text evidence to support your answer.

37 In 3–5 sentences, describe why his first view of the Machu Picchu ruins took Bingham’s breath away. Use text evidence to support your answer.



FOCUS ON LANGUAGE

DIRECTIONS: Answer the questions.

- 38** Read the sentences from “The Wonder of Machu Picchu.” Underline the pronouns.

Then in 1911, he went into the Peruvian jungle to search for the ancient city. An eleven-year-old Quechua Indian boy led him to Machu Picchu.

Write the pronouns.

subject pronoun: _____

object pronoun: _____

- 39** Read the sentences from “A Farm We Can Live On.” Underline the pronouns.

The house didn’t have indoor plumbing, so Mr. Vargas led them to a well in the yard. Papa dropped a pebble down the well, and after a moment, they heard a plop as the pebble hit water below.

Write the pronouns.

subject pronoun: _____

object pronoun: _____

DIRECTIONS: Choose the correct answers.

- 40** Mama and Papa were ready to look for a new home, so Mr. Vargas helped they / them find one.

- 41** Papa had grown up on a farm, and he / him wanted his children to have that same experience.

- 42** The Incas built Machu Picchu, and they / them designed a very advanced water system.

- 43** Read the dictionary entry and the sentence from “A Farm We Can Live On.”

convenience *n.*

1. the quality of being easy to use, get to, access, etc.
2. an appropriate or suitable time
3. something that makes life easier or more comfortable
4. a person’s comfort or ease

“This property,” said Mr. Vargas, “has modern conveniences—electricity and indoor plumbing.”

Which definition fits the word *conveniences* as it is used in the sentence?

- (A) definition 1
- (B) definition 2
- (C) definition 3
- (D) definition 4



- 44** Read the dictionary entry and the sentence from "A Farm We Can Live On."

marvel

n.

1. a person or thing that causes wonder, surprise, or amazement
2. strong interest, surprise, or admiration

v.

3. to be filled with wonder, surprise, or admiration
4. to feel astonishment about something that may be confusing or difficult to understand

He led them into the kitchen, where Mama marveled at the stove.

Which part of speech is the word *marveled* as it is used in the sentence?

- (A) noun
- (B) verb
- (C) adverb
- (D) adjective

- 45** Read the dictionary entry and the sentences from "A Farm We Can Live On."

marvel

n.

1. a person or thing that causes wonder, surprise, or amazement
2. strong interest, surprise, or admiration

v.

3. to be filled with wonder, surprise, or admiration
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"This property," said Mr. Vargas, "has modern conveniences—electricity and indoor plumbing."

He led them into the kitchen, where Mama marveled at the stove.

"Not like wood stoves in some farmhouses we've looked at," she said.

Which definition fits the word *marveled* as it is used in the sentence?

- (A) definition 1
- (B) definition 2
- (C) definition 3
- (D) definition 4

- 46** Read the dictionary entry and the sentence from "A Farm We Can Live On."

thunderous *adj.*

1. creating thunder
2. very loud; sounding like thunder

Everyone stared at the faucet until finally it gave a thunderous clang, and a dribble of filthy water seeped out.

Which part of speech is the word *thunderous*?

- (A) noun
- (B) verb
- (C) adverb
- (D) adjective

- 47** Read the dictionary entry and the sentence from "A Farm We Can Live On."

trickle

n.

1. a thin, slow, sometimes uneven movement of something

v.

2. to fall in drops
3. to flow in a thin, slow stream of liquid
4. to move in very small amounts

But none of them had more than a trickle of water.

Which definition fits the word *trickle* as it is used in the sentence?

- (A) definition 1
- (B) definition 2
- (C) definition 3
- (D) definition 4

GO ON 

- 48** Read the sentences from “The Wonder of Machu Picchu.”

The Inca people built Machu Picchu sometime around 1450 C.E. Then they left the city about a hundred years later. No one is sure why the Incas built Machu Picchu or why they later abandoned it.

Based on the context, what word has a similar meaning to *abandoned*?

- (A) left
- (B) lost
- (C) built
- (D) designed

- 49** Read the sentence from “A Farm We Can Live On.”

Mr. Vargas showed them the parlor before taking them upstairs to the bedrooms—three of them.

Based on the context, what might a *parlor* be?

- (A) a piece of art
- (B) an outdoor space
- (C) an office space
- (D) a room in a house

- 50** Read the sentences from “The Wonder of Machu Picchu.”

Machu Picchu’s water delivery and drainage system took smart, careful planning. . . . Thanks to this effective design, the Incas could get fresh water throughout the city. At the same time, the system drained extra water down the mountain.

Based on the context, what does the word *drainage* mean?

- (A) the way of getting water up a mountain
- (B) the way of getting water to sewers
- (C) the way of removing water from a place
- (D) the way of bringing water to a place

- 51** Read the sentence from “A Farm We Can Live On.”

Everyone stared at the faucet until finally it gave a thunderous clang, and a dribble of filthy water seeped out.

Based on the context, what does the word *clang* mean?

- (A) silence
- (B) crash
- (C) applause
- (D) noise

- 52** Read the sentences from “A Farm We Can Live On.”

Papa gripped the well’s handle and began cranking. The bucket dropped down, down, down until Papa began cranking the other direction.

Based on the context, what does the word *cranking* mean?

- (A) turning
- (B) fighting
- (C) throwing
- (D) stressing



WRITING

- 53** Many communities rely on bottled water for safe, fresh drinking water. However, plastic bottles are a large source of garbage and pollution. Some people want to ban plastic bottles that are only used one time and then thrown away. Brainstorm a list of possible solutions that could lessen or eliminate the use of plastic water bottles. Choose one of these, and write a problem-solution essay about what could be done to reduce plastic pollution while delivering safe drinking water to communities that need it.

Your problem-solution essay should include a title and introduction that explains the importance of the issue, one paragraph that describes the problem with facts and examples, one paragraph that describes a solution with facts and examples, and a conclusion that describes the impact of the solution. Write your essay in the space below.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper has a slight shadow on the right side, suggesting it's resting on a surface. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.