

UNITS 6–10

Match each word to its definition.

- | | | |
|------------------|---|---|
| 1. anxiety (n) | ● | ● a. when two or more things hit or crash into each other |
| 2. collide (v) | ● | ● b. a problem or reason not to do something |
| 3. ancient (adj) | ● | ● c. to change and develop over time |
| 4. evolve (v) | ● | ● d. fear or worry that something bad is going to happen |
| 5. drawback (n) | ● | ● e. very old |

Complete each sentence with the correct word from the box.

- | | | | | |
|--------|-----------|------|--------|-----------|
| adjust | architect | data | remote | sensitive |
|--------|-----------|------|--------|-----------|
6. The village is in a _____ location, hundreds of miles from the closest city, so it's difficult to get to.
 7. Scientists collect information about storms, such as the air temperature and wind speeds. They use this _____ to predict future storms.
 8. The _____ said she got many of her ideas for the twenty-story skyscraper she designed from nature.
 9. Birds _____ to different wind speeds by raising or lowering their wings when they fly.
 10. Some companies collect personal details about their customers, such as their ethnic origins or political beliefs. It's the companies' responsibility to keep this _____ information safe.

LEVEL 2 Assessment

Read the sentences. Then choose the correct answer.

11. The children were thrilled when they saw their new digital tablets. They couldn't wait to use them!

What does the underlined adjective mean?

- a. very sad
- b. very happy

12. During the COVID-19 pandemic, teenagers reported increased levels of anxiety. They said they felt depressed after being stuck at home for such a long period of time.

What does the underlined adjective mean?

- a. very excited or happy
- b. very worried or sad

Choose the correct answer to complete each sentence.

13. The water cycle is a continuous _____ that moves water from the land to the air, and back again.
a. project
b. process
14. The area that was damaged by the tornado _____ from the north side of the city to the south side.
a. explained
b. extended
15. The author is famous around the world. His book has been _____ into over fifty different languages!
a. translated
b. transacted
16. You can write a story about anything you want. Just use your _____!
a. imagination
b. imagine
17. A virtual reality headset _____ you to enter into a new world.
a. ables
b. enables

LEVEL 2 Assessment

18. It was a _____ cold day for that time of the year, so no one was prepared for the freezing temperatures.
- particular
 - particularly
19. The oldest buildings in the city were built in the _____ style, with tall white pillars and large stone staircases.
- musical
 - classical
20. A tiger's large sharp teeth are one _____ advantage of the tiger over its prey.
- obvious
 - political

Read the passage.**Functional and Fantastic Design**

Have you ever wondered how architects dream up their designs? You may be surprised to find out that the ideas for some of the world's most modern-looking architecture come from things that are found in nature. For example, the Beijing National Stadium in China looks like a bird's nest, and the Aldar Headquarters in Abu Dhabi, U.A.E., looks like a clam shell. Biomimetic architecture draws inspiration from the Earth to create architectural wonders. *Biomimetics* is the study of natural materials and living organisms to create similar man-made products and processes.

Let's take a closer look at two such structures that were inspired by nature: Singapore's Helix Bridge and India's Lotus Temple. The Helix Bridge was completed in 2010. It's a 280-meter-long structure that crosses the Marina Bay in Singapore. It looks like the double helix of a human DNA¹ molecule—a huge version of the tiny structure within each living cell. The bridge has sets of steel bars that curve and overlap to make a spiral. It is used as a walkway for pedestrians, and it includes viewing platforms where people can see all around the bay. At night, the structure is lit up, and the letters "c," "g," "a," and "t" shine brightly in red and green to represent the four parts of DNA (cytosine, guanine, adenine, and thymine).

The Lotus Temple is located in New Delhi, India. It was opened in 1986. It has a nine-sided, circular shape, and is 34.3 meters tall and 70 meters in diameter. The architect, Fariborz Sahba, based his design on the shape of the lotus flower because the lotus is an important religious symbol that represents purity, holiness, and knowledge. Similar to a real lotus, the temple uses energy from the sun. Solar panels on the building generate 120 kilowatts of electricity, which in turn saves 120,000 rupees² a month.

The Helix Bridge and the Lotus Temple are great examples of what mankind can do when inspired by nature. Architectural knowledge and expertise, as well as advances in technology and engineering, have made it possible to create such incredible buildings. Biomimetics will no doubt continue to be popular with architects who wish to combine inspiration from nature with human skill and knowledge. The results are buildings that are both functional and fantastic!

LEVEL 2 Assessment

¹ **DNA** (deoxyribonucleic acid) is a complex molecule that contains genetic information for the development and functioning of an organism.

² The **rupee** is the standard unit of money used in India.

Choose the correct answers.

21. Which paragraph defines the term *biomimetics*?
 - a. Paragraph 1
 - b. Paragraph 3
 - c. Paragraph 4

22. What is the purpose of paragraphs 2 and 3?
 - a. to list pros and cons
 - b. to give examples
 - c. to define a new term

23. Which structure is similar to a plant, in that it uses energy from the sun?
 - a. Helix Bridge
 - b. Lotus Temple
 - c. Both structures

24. Which structure is located in Asia?
 - a. Helix Bridge
 - b. Lotus Temple
 - c. Both structures

25. Which structure has large red and green letters on it?
 - a. Helix Bridge
 - b. Lotus Temple
 - c. Both structures

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Read part of the passage. Then choose the correct inference.

26. *Solar panels on the building generate 120 kilowatts of electricity, which in turn saves 120,000 rupees a month.*
- a. Installing solar panels on the building was a very long and expensive process.
 - b. The building uses solar power, which is less expensive than regular electricity.

Scan the passage to answer the question.

27. When was the Lotus Temple opened?
- a. 1986
 - b. 2010

Read the sentences from the reading passage. What does the underlined pronoun refer to? Choose the correct answer.

28. Let's take a closer look at two such structures that were inspired by nature: Singapore's Helix Bridge and India's Lotus Temple. The Helix Bridge was completed in 2010. It's a 280-meter-long structure that crosses the Marina Bay in Singapore.
- a. Lotus Temple
 - b. Helix Bridge

Read the sentences from the reading passage containing a cause and an effect. Choose the correct answer.

29. *Biomimetics will no doubt continue to be popular with architects who wish to combine inspiration from nature with human skill and knowledge. The results are buildings that are both functional and fantastic!*

Which part of the passage is the effect?

- a. buildings that are both functional and fantastic
- b. architects combine inspiration from nature with human skill and knowledge

LEVEL 2 Assessment

Read the sentence from the reading passage. Choose the correct answer.

30. *For example, the Beijing National Stadium in China looks like a bird's nest, and the Aldar Headquarters in Abu Dhabi, U.A.E., looks like a clam shell.*

What two things are being compared in this sentence?

- a. Beijing and Abu Dhabi
- b. natural and man-made things

Read each sentence. Choose the best synonym of the underlined word.

31. The Beijing National Stadium was built for the 2008 Olympics and it was designed to resemble a giant bird nest.
- a. look like
 - b. be located next to
32. Some self-employed professionals feel isolated in their homes, so they rent office space to be around other people while they work.
- a. lonely
 - b. comfortable

Complete the sentences with the correct words from the word bank.

gets

use

33. If your son _____ a VR headset for Christmas, he should _____ it in a room with plenty of space so he doesn't bump into anything and hurt himself.

begin

talk

34. If you _____ to feel more anxious than usual, you should _____ to the school counselor who is there to help you.

LEVEL 2 Assessment

Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verb in parentheses.

35. Hurricanes are powerful storms that start over the ocean. Warm ocean air

_____ (go) up into the sky. This air _____
(release) heat and then _____ (cool) down. The change in temperature
and air pressure _____ (cause) the air to begin moving in a circle, which
can eventually become a storm with dangerously fast winds.

Read each paragraph that gives advice. Choose the correct answer.

36. If you want your child to learn more about the world around them, send them outside!
Observing nature in real life is better than reading about someone else's experience in a book.
Give your child a task that they can do in your very own backyard, such as counting how many
kinds of birds they see, or drawing different kinds of plants. By observing these things
themselves, your child will be more engaged and will learn more!

Does the underlined sentence explain *why* the advice is important or *how* to follow the advice?

- a. why the advice is important
- b. how to follow the advice

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- a. why the advice is important
- b. how to follow the advice

LEVEL 2 Assessment

Read the prompt. Then write a short paragraph about your opinion.

38. **Think about technology in education. Do you think it's a good idea for students to use digital devices (e.g., laptops, tablets, VR headsets) in the classroom? Why or why not?**

A. OUTLINE

Plan an outline for your paragraph.

Include a strong topic sentence that expresses the main idea.

Add some details that include facts, examples, and personal experiences to support your main idea.

Add ideas for a concluding sentence that is an opinion, a prediction, a question, or a restatement of the main idea.

LEVEL 2 Assessment

B. Think of some words and phrases you can use in your paragraph. Write them in the box.

The words and phrases below can be useful when making an argument.

- *There are a number of strong arguments to support/challenge the idea that ...*
- *There are some important reasons why ... is a good/bad idea.*
- *... is a good/bad idea for several reasons*
- *however, although, even though*
- *First, To begin with, Second, Third, While, Finally*
- *To conclude, To summarize, In short*

C. Write your paragraph based on your outline. Use the model to help you. Remember to use the vocabulary you wrote down.

Model:

Using digital devices in the classroom is a good idea for several reasons. To begin with, students need to become familiar with digital devices in order to be prepared for their future careers. Second, students have access to so much information when they have computers or other devices in the classroom. Finally, teachers can easily find and share materials by using digital devices. To summarize, having digital devices at schools provides many advantages.

LEVEL 2 Assessment



(12 points)