

Name _____

Date _____ Weeks
364

6th Grade
ELA

Contractions

Directions: Change the words in () into a contraction.

1. Do you think _____ (I will) have enough time to eat breakfast.
2. You _____ (would have) if _____ (you had) gotten up earlier.
3. I _____ (could not) find my alarm clock to set it.
4. If _____ (you would) clean up your room, you could.
5. It _____ (does not) matter if I am late today.
6. _____ (they are) not counting people tardy today.
7. _____ (why is) that? Now everybody will be late.
8. I think that _____ (we are) wasting time with this conversation.
9. _____ (should not) somebody be making breakfast?
10. Well, _____ (I will) cook if _____ (you will) clean the kitchen.
11. _____ (that is) a great deal for me since I _____ (cannot) cook.
12. Well, I guess _____ (we will) both be happy this morning.
13. _____ (do not) forget that I like bacon, not sausage.
14. You _____ (will not) be getting either since we are out of both.
15. You _____ (might have) told me that before I agreed to clean.
16. Then you _____ (would not) have been so agreeable.

Name _____ Date _____

Late to School Cause and Effect

Directions: Read the story. Then fill in the chart of causes and effects.

Alisa awoke for school at what seemed like an unusually late time; she glanced at the clock to see: 7:45. She should have been up 45 minutes earlier and had missed her bus. Darting downstairs, she saw that her mom had already left for work. Hurrying back upstairs, she skipped her slow getting ready routine, in hopes of catching a ride with her neighbor. She didn't want to be late to school because there were only nineteen days left, and she had had perfect attendance the entire year. Hurrying back downstairs, she picked up the phone and dialed her neighbor's number. The phone rang, but there was no answer. She exited the door, stepping out onto the front porch, just in time to see the tail lights of her neighbor's familiar red car drive off into the distance. Sighing, she sank to the porch, unsure of what to do. After a little more thought, she hurried back inside, phoned her mom's nearby office, explained the situation, and then awaited for her mom to return home. Less than happy, her mom pulled up in the driveway five minutes later. Due to the time constraints, and her own need to be back at work for an important meeting, Alisa's mother, drove rather fast, but they arrived safely at ABC Middle School, with just enough time left for Alisa to make it homeroom without being tardy.

CAUSE	EFFECT
	She missed her bus.
She skipped her slow getting ready routine.	
She saw her neighbor's car drive off.	
	Alisa's mother returned home from work.
	Alisa's mother drove rather fast.
	Alisa made it to homeroom without being tardy.

Essay Outline Worksheet

Name: _____

Date: _____

Topic: (the title or the topic of your essay): _____

I. Introductory Paragraph

A. Opening Statement: How will you first bring the reader into your essay? What will you say to introduce what your essay is about? Think of this as a handshake with the reader.

What else will you say to introduce your ideas?

B. _____

C. _____

Thesis Statement: What is the main idea of your essay? ***THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT SENTENCE OF YOUR ENTIRE ESSAY, SO WORD IT CAREFULLY!!!!!!!***

II. Body Paragraph #1

A. Topic Sentence: What will this paragraph be about?

B. Evidence: What specific facts or ideas are you bringing into play here? Be sure to include your specific evidence here.

C. Concluding Sentence: How will you connect this paragraph back to your thesis? Write a sentence which explains how the evidence above proves your thesis statement.

III. Body Paragraph #2

A. Topic Sentence: What will this paragraph be about?

B. Evidence: What specific facts or ideas are you bringing into play here? Be sure to include your specific evidence here.

C. Concluding Sentence: How will you connect this paragraph back to your thesis? Write a sentence that explains how the evidence above proves your thesis statement.

IV. Body Paragraph #3

A. Topic Sentence: What will this paragraph be about?

B. Evidence: What specific facts or ideas are you bringing into play here? Be sure to include your specific evidence here.

C. Concluding Sentence: How will you connect this paragraph back to your thesis? Write a sentence which explains how the evidence above proves your thesis statement.

IV. Body Paragraph #4? (optional)

A. Topic Sentence: What will this paragraph be about?

B. Evidence: What specific facts or ideas are you bringing into play here? Be sure to include your specific evidence here.

C. Concluding Sentence: How will you connect this paragraph back to your thesis? Write a sentence which explains how the evidence above proves your thesis statement.

V. Concluding Paragraph

A. Summative OR "So-What?" Statement: (reconnection to Thesis Statement): So-What version: If everything I've said is true, so what? What's the point of all this? Summative version: How can I sum it all up? Restate thesis in light of what you have proven. **THIS SHOULD BE THE MIRROR IMAGE OF YOUR THESIS STATEMENT. WORD IT CAREFULLY!**

Supporting Sentences:

If this is a Summative paragraph, recap the points of your essay. If this is a So-What paragraphs, add the appropriate sentences that further your statement.

B.

C. _____

D. _____

Closing Sentence: This is the final sentence of your essay, ending your discussion of the topic.

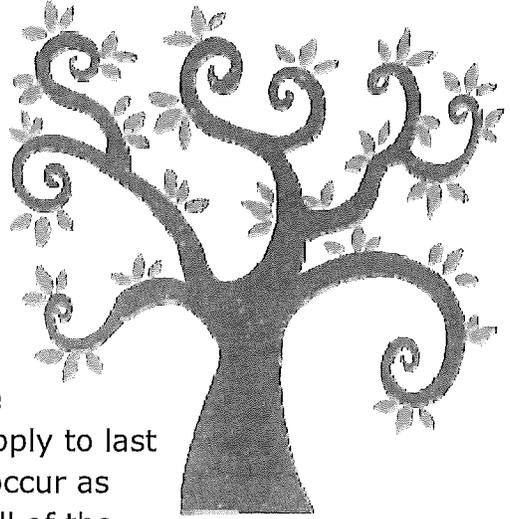
Notes: (use this space to jot down any further notes you have on your essay):

Name _____

Date _____

Autumn

Autumn is the season that falls between summer and winter. There are many changes that begin in this fascinating season. Days become shorter. Leaves of trees turn from green to vibrant red, yellow and orange. Trees need sunlight to keep their leaves a lively green. Without sunlight leaves turn colors. The grass is no longer blanketed with dew but with frost, almost every morning, as temperatures reach the freezing point. Animals start storing up a food supply to last through the long winter months. These changes occur as we adjust from the heat of the summer to the chill of the winter.



ANSWER THE QUESTIONS:

1. Autumn occurs between summer and which other season?
a. January b. spring
c. winter d. solstice
2. Which of the following changes may occur during autumn?
a. days become shorter b. it becomes very hot
c. days become longer d. there is more sunlight
3. Why do leaves change color during autumn?
a. they don't get enough oxygen b. they don't get enough light
c. they don't get enough water d. they get too much oxygen
4. What do animals begin to do to prepare for the end of autumn?
a. store extra body fat b. eat less
c. shed fur d. turn colors

Name _____

Date _____

Finding the Main Idea

Read each paragraph and choose the main idea.

Although many people think a koala is a bear, it is not. The koala is a type of mammal called a marsupial. A kangaroo is also a marsupial. These mammals carry their babies in a pouch. The kangaroo's pouch is on her stomach, but the koala's pouch is on her back. Both feed their babies milk and keep them secure in their pouch until they are strong enough to survive on their own.

Lucy would never get her room clean. It looked like a tornado had hit it. She couldn't believe how much damage her friends had done. They pull everything out and didn't put anything back. Glue was spilled all over her rug, and fingernail polish was spilled on her new bedspread. They had even wiped their chocolate covered fingers on her curtains. Wow! What a mess.

Tim and his family went fishing today. They stopped on the way to the lake and bought all of their favorite snacks. When they got to the lake, they ate and then started fishing. Tim caught four fish, and his brother caught three. They laughed and gave each other a high-five every time they caught a fish. The whole family had a great time. Maybe they would go fishing again soon.

The main idea of the paragraph is:

- a. The koala is not a bear.
- b. The kangaroo is nothing like the koala.
- c. The kangaroo and koala are mostly alike but have some differences.
- d. The kangaroo and koala are exactly alike.

The main idea of the paragraph is:

- a. There is glue on the rug.
- b. Lucy's friends are messy.
- c. A tornado hit the house.
- d. Lucy's friends ate chocolate.

The main idea of the paragraph is:

- a. Tim caught four fish.
- b. He ate his favorite snack.
- c. The family had a great time.
- d. They ate fish for supper.

Name _____

Date _____

Spot the Inference

It was a hot, sunny day and Edward was playing in the sand with his friends. This was Edward's favourite type of day out because he always loved riding the donkeys, building sand castles and swimming in the salty sea. After Edward and his friends finished their game they ran over to Edward's Mom because they heard the music from an ice cream van nearby.

Where was Edward?

How did you find this out?

Was it a special treat for Edward to be there?

How did you find this out?

What did Edward and his friends hope to get when they ran over to his Mom?

How did you find this out?

Now make up your own story and try to make an inference.

The Cat That Walked by Himself

By Rudyard Kipling

Directions: Read the short story. Answer the questions. Refer to the text to check your answers when appropriate.

Hear and attend and listen; for this befell and **behappened**¹ and became and was, O my Best Beloved, when the Tame animals were wild. The Dog was wild, and the Horse was wild, and the Cow was wild, and the Sheep was wild, and the Pig was wild--as wild as wild could be--and they walked in the Wet Wild Woods by their wild lones. But the wildest of all the wild animals was the Cat. He walked by himself, and all places were alike to him.

Of course the Man was wild too. He was dreadfully wild. He didn't even begin to be tame till he met the Woman, and she told him that she did not like living in his wild ways. She picked out a nice dry Cave, instead of a heap of wet leaves, to lie down in; and she strewed clean sand on the floor; and she lit a nice fire of wood at the back of the Cave; and she hung a dried wild-horse skin, tail-down, across the opening of the Cave; and she said, "Wipe your feet, dear, when you come in, and now we'll keep house."

That night, Best Beloved, they ate wild sheep roasted on the hot stones, and flavoured with wild garlic and wild pepper; and wild duck stuffed with wild rice and wild **coriander**²; and marrow-bones of wild oxen; and wild cherries. Then the Man went to sleep in front of the fire ever so happy; but the Woman sat up, combing her hair. She took the bone of the shoulder of mutton--the big fat blade-bone--and she looked at the wonderful marks on it, and she threw more wood on the fire, and she made a Magic. She made the First Singing Magic in the world.

Out in the Wet Wild Woods all the wild animals gathered together where they could see the light of the fire a long way off, and they wondered what it meant.

Then Wild Horse stamped with his wild foot and said, "O my Friends and O my Enemies, why have the Man and the Woman made that great light in that great Cave, and what harm will it do us?"

Wild Dog lifted up his wild nose and smelled the smell of roast mutton, and said, "I will go up and see and look, and say; for I think it is good. Cat, come with me."

"Nenni!" said the Cat. "I am the Cat who walks by himself, and all places are alike to me. I will not come."

"Then we can never be friends again," said Wild Dog, and he trotted off to the Cave. But when he had gone a little way the Cat said to himself, "All places are alike to me. Why should I not go too and see and look and come away at my own liking." So he slipped after Wild Dog softly, very softly, and hid himself where he could hear everything.

When Wild Dog reached the mouth of the Cave he lifted up the dried horse-skin with his nose and sniffed the beautiful smell of the roast **mutton**³, and the Woman, looking at the blade-bone, heard him, and laughed, and said, "Here comes the first. Wild Thing out of the Wild Woods, what do you want?"

Wild Dog said, "O my Enemy and Wife of my Enemy, what is this that smells so good in the Wild Woods?"

Then the Woman picked up a roasted mutton-bone and threw it to Wild Dog, and said, "Wild Thing out of the Wild Woods,

taste and try." Wild Dog gnawed the bone, and it was more delicious than anything he had ever tasted, and he said, "O my Enemy and Wife of my Enemy, give me another."

The Woman said, "Wild Thing out of the Wild Woods, help my Man to hunt through the day and guard this Cave at night, and I will give you as many roast bones as you need."

"Ah!" said the Cat, listening. "This is a very wise Woman, but she is not so wise as I am."

Wild Dog crawled into the Cave and laid his head on the Woman's lap, and said, "O my Friend and Wife of my Friend, I will help Your Man to hunt through the day, and at night I will guard your Cave."

"Ah!" said the Cat, listening. "That is a very foolish Dog." And he went back through the Wet Wild Woods waving his wild tail, and walking by his wild lone. But he never told anybody.

When the Man waked up he said, "What is Wild Dog doing here?" And the Woman said, "His name is not Wild Dog any more, but the First Friend, because he will be our friend for always and always and always. Take him with you when you go hunting."

Next night the Woman cut great green armfuls of fresh grass from the water-meadows, and dried it before the fire, so that it smelt like new-mown hay, and she sat at the mouth of the Cave and plaited a halter out of horse-hide, and she looked at the shoulder of mutton-bone--at the big broad blade-bone--and she made a Magic. She made the Second Singing Magic in the world.

Out in the Wild Woods all the wild animals wondered what had happened to Wild Dog, and at last Wild Horse stamped with his foot and said, "I will go and see and say why Wild Dog has not returned. Cat, come with me."

"Nenni!" said the Cat. "I am the Cat who walks by himself, and all places are alike to me. I will not come." But all the same he followed Wild Horse softly, very softly, and hid himself where he could hear everything.

When the Woman heard Wild Horse tripping and stumbling on his long mane, she laughed and said, "Here comes the second. Wild Thing out of the Wild Woods what do you want?"

Wild Horse said, "O my Enemy and Wife of my Enemy, where is Wild Dog?"

The Woman laughed, and picked up the blade-bone and looked at it, and said, "Wild Thing out of the Wild Woods, you did not come here for Wild Dog, but for the sake of this good grass."

And Wild Horse, tripping and stumbling on his long mane, said, "That is true; give me it to eat."

The Woman said, "Wild Thing out of the Wild Woods, bend your wild head and wear what I give you, and you shall eat the wonderful grass three times a day."

Vocabulary

1. **behappened:** happened

2. **coriander:** an herb also known as cilantro

3. **mutton:** sheep

"Ah," said the Cat, listening, "this is a clever Woman, but she is not so clever as I am." Wild Horse bent his wild head, and the Woman slipped the plaited hide halter over it, and Wild Horse breathed on the Woman's feet and said, "O my Mistress, and Wife of my Master, I will be your servant for the sake of the wonderful grass."

"Ah," said the Cat, listening, "that is a very foolish Horse." And he went back through the Wet Wild Woods, waving his wild tail and walking by his wild lone. But he never told anybody.

When the Man and the Dog came back from hunting, the Man said, "What is Wild Horse doing here?" And the Woman said, "His name is not Wild Horse any more, but the First Servant, because he will carry us from place to place for always and always and always. Ride on his back when you go hunting.

Next day, holding her wild head high that her wild horns should not catch in the wild trees, Wild Cow came up to the Cave, and the Cat followed, and hid himself just the same as before; and everything happened just the same as before; and the Cat said the same things as before, and when Wild Cow had promised to give her milk to the Woman every day in exchange for the wonderful grass, the Cat went back through the Wet Wild Woods waving his wild tail and walking by his wild lone, just the same as before. But he never told anybody. And when the Man and the Horse and the Dog came home from hunting and asked the same questions same as before, the Woman said, "Her name is not Wild Cow any more, but the Giver of Good Food. She will give us the warm white milk for always and always and always, and I will take care of her while you and the First Friend and the First Servant go hunting.

Next day the Cat waited to see if any other Wild thing would go up to the Cave, but no one moved in the Wet Wild Woods, so the Cat walked there by himself; and he saw the Woman milking the Cow, and he saw the light of the fire in the Cave, and he smelt the smell of the warm white milk.

Cat said, "O my Enemy and Wife of my Enemy, where did Wild Cow go?"

The Woman laughed and said, "Wild Thing out of the Wild Woods, go back to the Woods again, for I have braided up my hair, and I have put away the magic blade-bone, and we have no more need of either friends or servants in our Cave.

Cat said, "I am not a friend, and I am not a servant. I am the Cat who walks by himself, and I wish to come into your cave."

Woman said, "Then why did you not come with First Friend on the first night?"

Cat grew very angry and said, "Has Wild Dog told tales of me?"

Then the Woman laughed and said, "You are the Cat who walks by himself, and all places are alike to you. You are neither a friend nor a servant. You have said it yourself. Go away and walk by yourself in all places alike."

Then Cat pretended to be sorry and said, "Must I never come into the Cave? Must I never sit by the warm fire? Must I never drink the warm white milk? You are very wise and very beautiful. You should not be cruel even to a Cat."

Woman said, "I knew I was wise, but I did not know I was beautiful. So I will make a bargain with you. If ever I say one word in your praise you may come into the Cave."

"And if you say two words in my praise?" said the Cat.

"I never shall," said the Woman, "but if I say two words in your praise, you may sit by the fire in the Cave."

And if you say three words?" said the Cat.

"I never shall," said the Woman, "but if I say three words in your praise, you may drink the warm white milk three times a day for always and always and always."

Then the Cat arched his back and said, "Now let the Curtain at the mouth of the Cave, and the Fire at the back of the Cave, and the Milk-pots that stand beside the Fire, remember what my Enemy and the Wife of my Enemy has said." And he went away through the Wet Wild Woods waving his wild tail and walking by his wild lone.

That night when the Man and the Horse and the Dog came home from hunting, the Woman did not tell them of the bargain that she had made with the Cat, because she was afraid that they might not like it.

Cat went far and far away and hid himself in the Wet Wild Woods by his wild lone for a long time till the Woman forgot all about him. Only the Bat--the little upside-down Bat--that hung inside the Cave, knew where Cat hid; and every evening Bat would fly to Cat with news of what was happening.

One evening Bat said, "There is a Baby in the Cave. He is new and pink and fat and small, and the Woman is very fond of him."

"Ah," said the Cat, listening, "but what is the Baby fond of?"

"He is fond of things that are soft and tickle," said the Bat. "He is fond of warm things to hold in his arms when he goes to sleep. He is fond of being played with. He is fond of all those things."

"Ah," said the Cat, listening, "then my time has come."

Next night Cat walked through the Wet Wild Woods and hid very near the Cave till morning-time, and Man and Dog and Horse went hunting. The Woman was busy cooking that morning, and the Baby cried and interrupted. So she carried him outside the Cave and gave him a handful of pebbles to play with. But still the Baby cried.

Then the Cat put out his paddy paw and patted the Baby on the cheek, and it cooed; and the Cat rubbed against its fat knees and tickled it under its fat chin with his tail. And the Baby laughed; and the Woman heard him and smiled.

Then the Bat--the little upside-down bat--that hung in the mouth of the Cave said, "O my Hostess and Wife of my Host and Mother of my Host's Son, a Wild Thing from the Wild Woods is most beautifully playing with your Baby."

"A blessing on that Wild Thing whoever he may be," said the Woman, straightening her back, "for I was a busy woman this morning and he has done me a service."

That very minute and second, Best Beloved, the dried horse-skin Curtain that was stretched tail-down at the mouth of the Cave fell down--whoosh!--because it remembered the bargain she had made with the Cat, and when the Woman went to pick it up--lo and behold!--the Cat was sitting quite comfy inside the Cave.

"O my Enemy and Wife of my Enemy and Mother of my Enemy," said the Cat, "it is I: for you have spoken a word in my praise, and now I can sit within the Cave for always and always and always. But still I am the Cat who walks by himself, and all places are alike to me."

"I will do so," said the Woman, "because I am at my wits' end; but I will not thank you for it."

She tied the thread to the little clay spindle whorl and drew it across the floor, and the Cat ran after it and patted it with his paws and rolled head over heels, and tossed it backward over his shoulder and chased it between his hind-legs and pretended to lose it, and pounced down upon it again, till the Baby laughed as loudly as it had been crying, and scrambled after the Cat and frolicked all over the Cave till it grew tired and settled down to sleep with the Cat in its arms.

"Now," said the Cat, "I will sing the Baby a song that shall keep him asleep for an hour. And he began to purr, loud and low, low and loud, till the Baby fell fast asleep. The Woman smiled as she looked down upon the two of them and said, "That was wonderfully done. No question but you are very clever, O Cat."

That very minute and second, Best Beloved, the smoke of the fire at the back of the Cave came down in clouds from the roof--puff!--because it remembered the bargain she had made with the Cat, and when it had cleared away--lo and behold!--the Cat was sitting quite comfy close to the fire.

"O my Enemy and Wife of my Enemy and Mother of My Enemy," said the Cat, "it is I, for you have spoken a second word in my praise, and now I can sit by the warm fire at the back of the Cave for always and always and always. But still I am the Cat who walks by himself, and all places are alike to me."

Then the Woman was very very angry, and let down her hair and put more wood on the fire and brought out the broad blade-bone of the shoulder of mutton and began to make a Magic that should prevent her from saying a third word in praise of the Cat. It was not a Singing Magic, Best Beloved, it was a Still Magic; and by and by the Cave grew so still that a little wee-wee mouse crept out of a corner and ran across the floor.

"O my Enemy and Wife of my Enemy and Mother of my Enemy," said the Cat, "is that little mouse part of your magic?"

"Ouh! Chee! No indeed!" said the Woman, and she dropped the blade-bone and jumped upon the footstool in front of the fire and braided up her hair very quick for fear that the mouse should run up it.

"Ah," said the Cat, watching, "then the mouse will do me no harm if I eat it?"

"No," said the Woman, braiding up her hair, "eat it quickly and I will ever be grateful to you."

Cat made one jump and caught the little mouse, and the Woman said, "A hundred thanks. Even the First Friend is not quick enough to catch little mice as you have done. You must be very wise."

That very moment and second, O Best Beloved, the Milk-pot that stood by the fire cracked in two pieces--ffft--because it remembered the bargain she had made with the Cat, and when the Woman jumped down from the footstool--lo and behold!--the Cat was lapping up the warm white milk that lay in one of the broken pieces.

"O my Enemy and Wife of my Enemy and Mother of my Enemy," said the Cat, "it is I; for you have spoken three words in my praise, and now I can drink the warm white milk three times a day for always and always and always. But still I am the Cat who walks by himself, and all places are alike to me."

Then the Woman laughed and set the Cat a bowl of the warm white milk and said, "O Cat, you are as clever as a man, but remember that your bargain was not made with the Man or the Dog, and I do not know what they will do when they come home."

"What is that to me?" said the Cat. "If I have my place in the Cave by the fire and my warm white milk three times a day I do not care what the Man or the Dog can do."

That evening when the Man and the Dog came into the Cave, the Woman told them all the story of the bargain while the Cat sat by the fire and smiled. Then the Man said, "Yes, but he has not made a bargain with me or with all proper Men after me." Then he took off his two leather boots and he took up his little stone axe (that makes three) and he fetched a piece of wood and a hatchet (that is five altogether), and he set them out in a row and he said, "Now we will make our bargain. If you do not catch mice when you are in the Cave for always and always and always, I will throw these five things at you whenever I see you, and so shall all proper Men do after me."

"Ah," said the Woman, listening, "this is a very clever Cat, but he is not so clever as my Man."

The Cat counted the five things and he said, "I will catch mice when I am in the Cave for always and always; but still I am the Cat who walks by himself, and all places are alike to me."

"Not when I am near," said the Man. "If you had not said that last I would have put all these things away for always and always and always; but I am now going to throw my two boots and my little stone axe (that makes three) at you whenever I meet you. And so shall all proper Men do after me!"

Then the Dog said, "Wait a minute. He has not made a bargain with me or with all proper Dogs after me." And he showed his teeth and said, "If you are not kind to the Baby while I am in the Cave for always and always and always, I will hunt you till I catch you, and when I catch you I will bite you. And so shall all proper Dogs do after me."

"Ah," said the Woman, listening, "this is a very clever Cat, but he is not so clever as the Dog."

Cat counted the Dog's teeth (and they looked very pointed) and he said, "I will be kind to the Baby while I am in the Cave, as long as he does not pull my tail too hard, for always and always and always. But still I am the Cat that walks by himself, and all places are alike to me."

"Not when I am near," said the Dog. "If you had not said that last I would have shut my mouth for always and always and always; but now I am going to hunt you up a tree whenever I meet you. And so shall all proper Dogs do after me."

Then the Man threw his two boots and his little stone axe (that makes three) at the Cat, and the Cat ran out of the Cave and the Dog chased him up a tree; and from that day to this, Best Beloved, three proper Men out of five will always throw things at a Cat whenever they meet him, and all proper Dogs will chase him up a tree. But the Cat keeps his side of the bargain too. He will kill mice and he will be kind to Babies when he is in the house, just as long as they do not pull his tail too hard. But when he has done that, and between times, and when the moon gets up and night comes, he is the Cat that walks by himself, and all places are alike to him. Then he goes out to the Wet Wild Woods or up the Wet Wild Trees or on the Wet Wild Roofs, waving his wild tail and walking by his wild lone.

1. Which is **NOT** one of the ways that the Woman improves the Man's life?
 - a. She moves the Man out of his pile of wet leaves.
 - b. She teaches the Man to clean up after himself.
 - c. She starts the fire and keeps it fed.
 - d. She attracts helpful animal companions.
2. What is the **main** reason why the Wild Dog approaches the cave?
 - a. He is hungry.
 - b. He is attracted to the warmth of the fire.
 - c. He is trying to protect the other animals.
 - d. He wants to be petted by the Man and the Woman.
3. Which statement about the Cat is **false**?
 - a. The Cat is sneaky.
 - b. The Cat finds a way to get what he wants.
 - c. The Cat's attitude gets him into trouble.
 - d. The Cat is eager to please others.
4. Which is the correct order of events?
 - a. The Cat and the Woman make a deal, the Baby is born, and then the Horse becomes the Man's servant
 - b. The Dog becomes Man's friend, the Baby is born, and then the Cat meets the Woman for the first time
 - c. The Horse becomes the Man's servant, the Baby is born, and then the Dog becomes Man's friend
 - d. The Cat meets the Woman for the first time, the Baby is born, and then the Cat angers the Man
5. Which character is also known as *The Giver of Good Food*?
 - a. The Man
 - b. The Woman
 - c. The Cow
 - d. The Cat
6. The Cat makes a deal with the Woman by doing **ALL** of the following **EXCEPT**?
 - a. The Cat plays with the Baby.
 - b. The Cat helps the Baby sleep.
 - c. The Cat flatters the Woman.
 - d. The Cat makes the Man laugh.
7. Which animal is the Cat's closest friend?
 - a. The Bat
 - b. The Dog
 - c. The Horse
 - d. The Cow
8. What is the author's purpose in referring to the reader as "Best Beloved"?
 - a. He truly appreciates each and every one of his readers and is expressing his love.
 - b. He is acting as though the story is being told to a child.
 - c. He is writing this story in the olden days when everyone was called "Best Beloved."
 - d. He wants the reader to feel comfortable so he is being sweet and endearing.
9. Which poetic device or technique is used in the following sentence?
"The smoke of the fire at the back of the Cave came down in clouds from the roof--puff!"
 - a. Rhyme
 - b. Simile
 - c. Onomatopoeia
 - d. Repetition
10. This text attempts to explain each of the following **EXCEPT**?
 - a. This text explains why cats catch mice.
 - b. This text explains why cats always land on their feet.
 - c. This text explains why cats and dogs fight.
 - d. This text explains why cats get along with babies.

Extended Response: Answer the following question in complete sentences on a separate sheet of paper. Use evidence from the text to support your response and explain your answer completely.

The Cat makes a lot of enemies in this story. What is it about the Cat that offends so many others? Which character trait do the others find offensive? Support your answer with at least two examples from the text.

It's Okay to be Uncomfortable: Why We Should Not Ban Books

September 23-29 is annually recognized as “Banned Books Week.” It is a celebration that takes place all around the U.S., protesting the **censorship** of information in public libraries and schools. Since 1982, roughly 11,300 books have been challenged, according to the American Library Association.

There are a lot of reasons why a book can be banned. One of the biggest is racial themes, seen in Sherman Alexie’s “The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian” and Harper Lee’s “To Kill a Mockingbird.” Most books that include racial slurs or unjust treatment of minorities, naturally, are protested. The use of them in an academic setting can often make students feel uncomfortable or offended.

*Witchcraft is another big one that gave J.K. Rowling’s “Harry Potter” series the ban hammer in several schools. Parents worry that the use of magic would promote their children to dip their feet into Wicca or Satanism. Novels with the mention of the **occult** or **necromancy** usually stir up religious concern.*

Whether it’s sex, violence, profanity or drugs, books are challenged all the time and that’s nothing new. In 399 B.C.E., Socrates was charged with corrupting the minds of youths. Hitler burned over 25,000 books in Munich for being “un-German.” Galileo agreed to destroy some of his manuscripts after pressure from the Catholic church. Think of all the

Censorship (noun): _____

Highlight or underline the reasons the author gives for books being banned in the *italicized section*

Occult (adj); of or relating to magic, astrology, or any system claiming to use knowledge of secret or supernatural powers

necromancy (n); magical communication with the dead,

← Highlight or underline a piece of new or surprising information that you found in this paragraph.

texts which were lost with the destruction of the Library of Alexandria.

I think it's important to remember that when a novel is banned now, it is removed from the classroom; it is not removed from the public. Therefore, the **onus** lies on parents, rather than the average Joe with no kids.

I understand the difficulty in deciding what is and what is not appropriate for children. After all, no one should ever be advocating for 'Lolita' to be taught to kindergarteners. 'And Tango Makes Three' by Peter Parnell and Justin Richardson is another story, literally. This book is specifically aimed towards a younger audience. It discusses same-sex relationships by illustrating the true story of two male penguins who fell in love and adopted their daughter, Tango, at New York's Central Park. If that's not the cutest sentence you've ever read, I don't know what to tell you.

There is concern that Roy, Silo and Tango are leading the gay agenda, and that scares a lot of people. That's the bottom line of this whole process: books can be very influential and that's scary. It makes parents only want their own opinions taught, but that's not how the world works. At some point or another, little Suzy and little Johnny need to learn about racism and sex and gay people. That doesn't mean that they're going to experiment with it or even agree with these topics as they are presented.

Onus:

What is the main point the journalist is making in this paragraph?

Some of this stuff is hard to read and I don't mean 'The Canterbury Tales' kind of hard to read. I'm talking about the horrors of 'Kite Runner' and 'Thirteen Reasons Why.' The real problems human beings face are hard to swallow. Why should high schoolers be reading about them then? It's important to be aware of all the bad stuff in the world because it's going to be there when they graduate. Future adults don't just have a right to this knowledge, their parents and educators have the obligation to prepare them.

Banning books is just putting a bandaid on real problems. Is it uncomfortable how many times the N-word is used in 'The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn?' Yes, and by the way it's 219 times in 366 pages. But it's real life. People really spoke like that. It's horrifying and students need to be aware how horrifying it was. Students need to remember the Holocaust and understand the treatment of minorities in both the past and present. Students need information. Who are we to deny them that?

Sometimes being uncomfortable is a good thing. It means that we are recognizing an issue. To keep our heads down and be silent during injustice is unacceptable with the resources we have today. It is also unfair to forget the suffering of people of the past, because the subject seems **vulgar**. The world can be a cruel, unforgiving place, but banning books is not the answer.

What does the journalist mean by "hard to swallow"?

Vulgar (adj):
