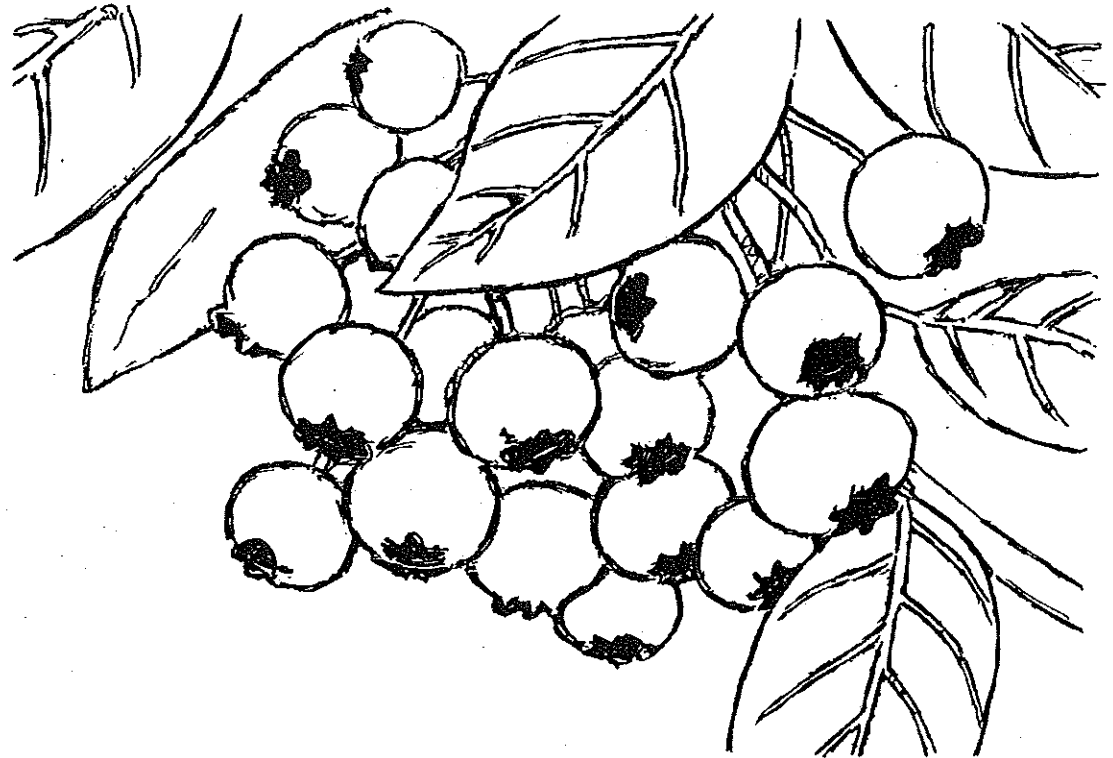


PART 1: COMPREHENSION

Directions

Read this selection about blueberries. Then do Numbers 1 through 11.

The All-American Berry



The blueberry deserves the title of all-American berry. The blueberry has been growing in North America for thousands of years. It is a native plant and now grows in thirty-five different states in the United States. Almost all the blueberries grown in the world are grown here in the United States. Americans grow about 300 million pounds of blueberries every year. Blueberry pancakes, blueberry muffins, and blueberry pies are all favorites.

National Blueberry Month is celebrated in July. That is when there are plenty of fresh, ripe berries. Most blueberries are picked then, but you can find them at the market all year long. There are canned blueberries on the shelf. There are frozen berries in the freezer case. There are even dried blueberries to eat as a snack.

American Indians picked blueberries. They ate them in the summer, and they made tea from the leaves. They drank blueberry juice to cure coughs. They also dried berries for winter consumption. Some dried berries were pounded to a powder; then the blueberry powder was mixed with cornmeal and water to make a

blueberry mush. The berries were also added to dried meat. Blueberries helped to ensure good health through the long, tough winters.

When settlers from Europe arrived in North America, they learned about blueberries from the Indians. The settlers liked the taste of the sweet berries. It is very possible that blueberry mush was on the first Thanksgiving menu. In later years, the settlers added milk, butter, and sugar to the mush.

You can make blueberry mush yourself. Here is the recipe. Be careful, and have an adult help you.

1. Combine 2 cups of water and 2 cups of milk in a pan. Heat until little bubbles form on the edge of the pan.
2. Slowly add 1 cup of cornmeal. Add the cornmeal slowly and keep stirring. Add a little salt.
3. Cover the pan. Turn the heat to low. Cook the mush until it gets thick. Stir it from time to time.
4. Take the pan off the stove. Add about 1/4 cup of honey or maple syrup. Stir it in well.
5. Add a pint of fresh blueberries.

Note: You can use 2 cups of frozen or canned berries instead of fresh ones. Defrost frozen berries between two layers of paper towels. Drain the canned blueberries. Undrained blueberries would turn the mush blue.

1 What is the topic of this selection?

- A cornmeal mush
- B American Indian foods
- C European settlers' foods
- D blueberries

2 The main idea of the third paragraph is that American Indians

- F dried blueberries and made blueberry powder.
- G made and ate blueberry mush.
- H taught settlers about blueberries.
- J used blueberries in many ways.

3 Compared to the earlier versions of the mush, the later versions made by the settlers were probably

- A thicker.
- B healthier.
- C sweeter.
- D saltier.



4

Which sentence in the first paragraph is a statement of opinion?

- F The blueberry deserves the title of all-American berry.
- G The blueberry has been growing in North America for thousands of years.
- H Almost all the blueberries grown in the world are grown here in the United States.
- J Americans grow about 300 million pounds of blueberries every year.

5

What is the last step in making blueberry mush?

- A mixing the milk and water
- B adding the blueberries
- C adding the maple syrup or honey
- D slowly stirring in the cornmeal

6

In making blueberry mush, when do you cover the pan?

- F as soon as you turn on the heat
- G just before you add the cornmeal
- H just after you add the cornmeal
- J when you take the pot off the stove

7

Why did the author probably include the recipe for blueberry mush?

- A It is a very popular dessert for people to eat.
- B It lets the reader share the settlers' experience.
- C It is the best way to celebrate National Blueberry Month.
- D It is a convenient way to store blueberries for later use.

8

Which of the following statements is supported by information from the selection?

- F North America produces most of the world's blueberries.
- G Blueberries will only grow in North America.
- H Americans eat more blueberries than any other fruit.
- J Pancakes are the most popular way to eat blueberries.

9

Who is the intended audience for this selection?

- A teachers
- B parents
- C students
- D historians

10

The author wrote this selection to

- F** express personal feelings about blueberries.
- G** present information about blueberries.
- H** entertain readers with a funny story about blueberries.
- J** persuade readers that blueberries are healthy.

11

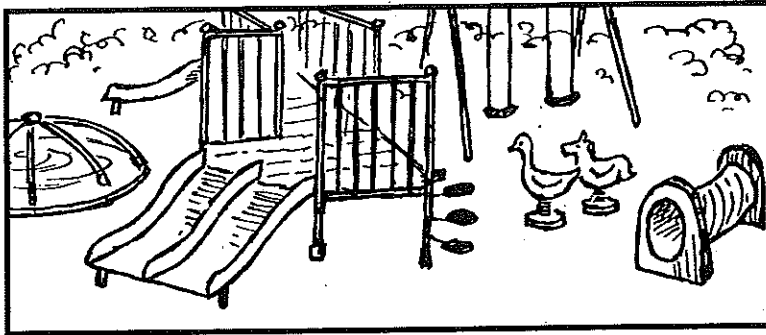
This selection is an example of

- A** historical fiction.
- B** science fiction.
- C** fantasy.
- D** nonfiction.



Directions

Read this selection about planning and building a playground. Then do Numbers 12 through 22.



GRAND OPENING OF TOWN PLAYGROUND

Yesterday afternoon, Pine Lake marked the opening of its new playground. There were balloons, speeches, and lots of prizes. The people of Pine Lake are proud of their new playground. They are also proud that everybody worked together to build it.

It all started last September in a fourth-grade classroom. The teacher, Miss Green, asked her class to think about Pine Lake. Miss Green wondered how the town could be better. Her students decided that a playground would enhance the town.

Some students drew pictures of a new playground. Others wrote stories about it. Students in other classes got excited about the idea too. They talked to family members about the project. Everyone worked to make the dream come true.

A group of parents met to work on park plans. One parent said, "I was sure many people would lend a hand. We sent out a letter asking people to list ways they could help. A lot of people answered the letter. Some said they could build things. Others agreed to pick up supplies. An artist made a poster. Neighborhood businesses gave money and goods."

In January, the town had a planning day. The children had many ideas about the playground. They knew what they wanted. Sue Wing, a builder, wrote down the ideas. She spent the next month drawing the design. Wing said, "Designing the playground was the most fun I have had in years. The kids had such good ideas."



March was building month. Wood, sand, and other goods were ordered. Helpers picked up the supplies and dropped them off beside the lake. Tom Smith used his bulldozer to level the ground at the site.

Last Saturday, the people of Pine Lake built the playground. The weather was warm and

sunny. It was a great day for building. Over two hundred people showed up to help. Some people were unavailable, but everybody who was there went to work. By the end of the day, the job was done. Pine Lake had its playground.

12

What is the main idea of this selection?

- F** There were balloons, prizes, and speeches at the grand opening.
- G** Pine Lake needs a new playground to improve the town.
- H** Miss Green's class was responsible for the new playground.
- J** The people of Pine Lake built a new playground together.

13

You would see writing like this in

- A** a local newspaper.
- B** an encyclopedia.
- C** an atlas.
- D** a sports magazine.

14

What happened in January?

- F** The idea of a playground was introduced.
- G** The playground was built.
- H** The playground site was prepared.
- J** The town planned the playground.

15

What was Tom Smith's contribution to the playground?

- A** He led the parents' group.
- B** He designed the playground.
- C** He donated money.
- D** He leveled the ground.

16 The idea of having a playground came from

- F** a group of parents.
- G** Miss Green.
- H** a group of students.
- J** Sue Wing.

17 About how long did it take from the first idea of having a playground until the day the playground opened?

- A** one month
- B** six months
- C** one year
- D** over a year

18 This selection shows how people can benefit from

- F** donations.
- G** competition.
- H** research.
- J** cooperation.

19 The last paragraph is mainly about the

- A** grand opening of the playground.
- B** design of the playground.
- C** actual building of the playground.
- D** uses for the playground.

20 Which of the following types of details does the author use to present information?

- F** quotes from people involved
- G** diagrams and sketches of the playground
- H** details on the work and materials involved
- J** interviews with national experts



21 The parents' group wrote a letter asking for help from

- A** town officials.
- B** construction companies.
- C** Miss Green's class.
- D** Pine Lake residents and businesses.

22 The effect of the students' pictures and stories was to

- F** create prizes for the opening day.
- G** get people excited about the idea.
- H** raise money for the project.
- J** inspire Sue Wing's design.

PART 2: VOCABULARY

Directions

Mark your answer choice for Numbers 23 through 32.

23 The first selection explained that the blueberry is a *native* plant. What does *native* mean?

- A was brought here first by the settlers
- B has always been here
- C is well-liked by the people who live here
- D makes people healthy

24 In the second selection, Miss Green wondered how the town could be better. Her students decided a playground would *enhance* the town. The word *enhance* means

- F destroy.
- G shrink.
- H be costly for.
- J improve.

25 *National Blueberry Month* is celebrated in July. What is the base word of *national*?

- A nat
- B nation
- C tion
- D al

26 Americans grow about 300 million pounds of blueberries *every year*. What single word could replace *every year* in this sentence?

- F reyear
- G yearover
- H yearful
- J yearly

27 American Indians drank blueberry juice to *cure* coughs. Another word for *cure* is

- A soften.
- B increase.
- C spread.
- D fix.

28

The recipe for blueberry mush says that *undrained* blueberries would turn the mush blue. *Undrained* means

- F badly drained.
- G drained only once.
- H drained too much.
- J not drained.

29

An *artist* made a poster for the new playground. In which word does *ist* mean the same as in *artist*?

- A list
- B tourist
- C history
- D sister

30

There are *canned* blueberries in grocery stores. *Canned* means

- F able to.
- G for sale.
- H sweet.
- J put in a can.

31

American Indians dried berries for winter *consumption*. What does *consumption* mean?

- A harvesting
- B using up
- C activities
- D illness

32

Some people were *unavailable* to help build the playground. *Unavailable* means

- F not happy.
- G not able to help.
- H ready to help.
- J not helpful.



PART 3: GRAMMAR, USAGE, MECHANICS

Directions

Mark your answer choice for Numbers 33 through 40.

33

Which word in this sentence is a noun?

They talked to family members about it.

- A talked
- B to
- C members
- D about

34

Which noun names something that cannot be seen?

- F prizes
- G playground
- H idea
- J builder

35

Blueberries can be found on the *shelf* in the store. What is the plural form of *shelf*?

- A shelve
- B shelves
- C shelfes
- D shelves

36

“The All-American Berry” uses the singular word *blueberry* and its plural form, *blueberries*. Which of these words forms its plural the same way *blueberry* does?

- F key
- G sky
- H boy
- J ray

37

The word *children* is an irregular plural. Which of these words has an irregular plural too?

- A mouse
- B horse
- C fox
- D giraffe

38

Which word or group of words from "Grand Opening of Town Playground" is a common noun?

- F Pine Lake
- G Miss Green
- H businesses
- J Saturday

39

Sue Wing drew the design for the playground. Which is the correct way to refer to her design?

- A Sue Wings design
- B Sue Wing's design
- C Sue Wings' design
- D Sue's Wing design

40

Which sentence is correctly written?

- F The playground design used the childrens ideas.
- G The playground design used the children's ideas.
- H The playground design used the childrens ideas.'
- J The playground design used the childrens' ideas.

