



Test Passage

Read the test passage, and complete a graphic organizer. Then reread the passage, and add more ideas to your organizer.

Black-footed ferrets are in trouble. These ferrets lived in grasslands in the west. They mainly ate prairie dogs. When settlers moved there, they changed the ferrets' home. Farmers killed prairie dogs with poison. Ferrets died from eating sick prairie dogs.

Scientists thought all the black-footed ferrets were gone. They were surprised when a dog brought a ferret home. Scientists found the ferret's colony. They took the last eighteen ferrets out of it. They began raising ferrets in zoos. Scientists want the ferrets to live in their real home. They have started ferret colonies. Now there are more than 1,000 black-footed ferrets living in the wild.

Source: www.blackfootedferret.org

Comprehension Questions

Use your graphic organizer to answer the following questions.

1. What is the topic of this text? How do you know?
2. What is the intent of the author?
 - a. to entertain me with stories about prairie dogs
 - b. to persuade me to release ferrets into the wild
 - c. to show me how cute ferrets are in real life
 - d. to inform me about why ferrets are in trouble

How do you know?

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| 3. What is the meaning of the word <i>colony</i> in the text? How do you figure that out? |
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4. Summarize the text using information from your graphic organizer.

Word Power

Number your paper from 1 to 12. Write your answers next to the matching numbers on your paper.

Skill Questions

Write the words. Then draw a fish above the word families.

1. woman
2. flocking
3. dustpan
4. headlock

Building Meaning

spurts	perish	mature	flock
scan	grave	project	release

5. Write a meaningful sentence for the word *perish*.
6. Hector and his brother decided that summer was the perfect time to finish their go-cart project.
Project means—
 - a. plan.
 - b. mistake.
 - c. award.
 - d. chart.
7. Lela realized she made a _____ mistake when she blamed her best friend for stealing her toy without any proof.
8. Carlos knew fall was coming when he saw the large flock of birds flying south. *Flock* means—
 - a. beat.
 - b. flight.
 - c. group.
 - d. color.
9. Tina decided to end her walk early when short _____ of rain soaked her to the bone.
10. I always keep my dog on a leash until we get to the dog park where it is safe to release him in the fenced-in space. *Release* means—
 - a. listen to.
 - b. run to.
 - c. take in.
 - d. let go.
11. A tomato isn't fully _____ until it is bright red and is easy to pull off the vine.
12. Theresa likes to scan the beach to see if she can find new shells for her collection. *Scan* means—
 - a. miss.
 - b. search.
 - c. hear.
 - d. steal.