Paraphrase a Source

Grade 4 Writing Worksheet

Name _____ Date _____

Read each source. Circle the one that copies it too closely.

1. Source: "Volcanoes form when melted rock from deep underground pushes up through cracks in the earth." Which choice copies the source too closely?

   A volcano starts when liquid rock forces its way up through gaps in the earth's surface.

   Deep under the ground, rock melts and can squeeze up through breaks to build a volcano.

   Volcanoes form when hot melted rock from deep below ground pushes up through cracks in the earth.

   Melted rock rising from far below through openings in the ground creates volcanoes.

2. Source: "Sloths move so slowly that tiny plants called algae can grow in their fur." Which choice copies the source too closely?

   Sloths move so slowly that small plants called algae are able to grow in their fur.

   Because sloths hardly move, little green plants named algae grow on their coats.

   A sloth is so slow that algae, a kind of tiny plant, can live in its hair.

   Algae, which are tiny plants, have time to spread on a sloth's coat since it barely moves.

3. Source: "Fireflies make light inside their bodies and use it to send signals to other fireflies." Which choice copies the source too closely?

   Other fireflies get signals from the light a firefly creates inside itself.

   Glowing from within their own bodies, fireflies talk to one another by flashing their lights.

   Fireflies produce light inside their bodies and use it to send signals to other fireflies.

   The light a firefly makes inside its body is a message that other fireflies are able to read.

4. Source: "Glaciers are huge masses of ice that slowly slide downhill over many years." Which choice copies the source too closely?

   Slowly and steadily, glaciers, which are giant areas of ice, flow down mountains across the years.

   An enormous frozen mass called a glacier creeps down a slope, taking years to travel far.

   Glaciers are huge masses of ice that slowly move downhill over many years.

   Over a long time, big blocks of ice called glaciers creep down slopes.

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Answer Key - Grade 4 Writing Worksheet

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