How a Text Is Organized

Grade 4 Reading Worksheet - Building Confidence

Name _____ Date _____

Read the text. Circle what each paragraph does.

READ THIS FIRST

Sloths and Hummingbirds

A sloth and a hummingbird both live in the warm forests of Central and South America. Both animals need energy from food to stay alive. However, they use that energy in very different ways.

A sloth is one of the slowest animals on Earth. It hangs upside down from branches and moves only a few feet in a minute. It eats leaves, which give it very little energy. To save energy, a sloth sleeps or rests for most of the day. Its body even stays cooler than the bodies of most other mammals.

A hummingbird, on the other hand, is one of the busiest animals on Earth. Its wings can beat about fifty times every second. Its heart can beat over one thousand times a minute while it flies. It drinks sweet nectar from flowers, which gives it quick energy. Because it burns energy so fast, a hummingbird must visit hundreds of flowers each day.

Still, the two animals have something else in common. Each one has a way to save energy when it needs to. The sloth saves energy every day by moving slowly. The hummingbird saves energy at night. It falls into a deep sleep called torpor, and its heart slows down a great deal.

So one animal is slow, and the other is fast. Yet both have bodies that fit the food they eat.

1. What does the last paragraph do?
   - It tells the next step in a process.
   - It sums up one difference and one likeness.
   - It gives a solution to a problem.

2. What does the first paragraph do?
   - It describes how hummingbirds sleep at night.
   - It introduces both animals and says they differ.
   - It explains how sloths save energy every day.

3. What does the second paragraph do?
   - It describes how a hummingbird flies and eats.
   - It shows what the two animals have in common.
   - It describes a sloth and how it uses energy.

4. What does the third paragraph do?
   - It describes how a hummingbird uses its energy.
   - It tells how to solve a problem with energy.
   - It describes how a sloth hangs from branches.

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Answer Key - Grade 4 Reading Worksheet - Building Confidence

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