How a Text Is Organized

Grade 4 Reading Worksheet

Name _____ Date _____

Read the text. Circle what each paragraph does.

READ THIS FIRST

Why the Monsoon Brings Rain

Every summer, much of India waits for the monsoon. A monsoon is a seasonal wind that changes direction. In India, the summer monsoon brings heavy rain that can last for months. This rain has a chain of causes, and it leads to many effects.

The chain begins with the sun. In spring, the sun shines strongly on the land of South Asia. Land heats up faster than water does. As a result, the land becomes much warmer than the Indian Ocean to the south.

Warm air over the land rises. As it rises, it leaves behind an area of lower air pressure. Cooler, wetter air from the ocean rushes in to take its place. This moving air is the monsoon wind.

The ocean air carries a great deal of water vapor. When the wind reaches the land, the air is pushed upward, especially near hills and mountains. Higher up, the air cools. Because cool air cannot hold as much water vapor, the vapor turns into clouds and rain.

The rain has big effects on people's lives. Farmers depend on it to grow rice, cotton and other crops. Wells, lakes and rivers fill up again after the dry, hot months. The cooler weather is also a relief after the hottest part of the year.

However, the monsoon can cause trouble, too. If too much rain falls at once, rivers may overflow and flood roads and fields. If the rain arrives late or is weak, crops may dry out. For this reason, weather scientists watch the ocean and the winds closely. They try to predict when the rain will arrive so farmers can plan.

By autumn, the land cools down. The winds switch direction and blow from the land toward the sea. The rainy season ends, and the cycle waits for next summer.

1. What does the first paragraph do?

   It tells what a monsoon is and says rain has causes.

   It tells how scientists predict floods and storms.

   It explains how farmers plant rice and cotton in spring.

   It describes what happens to the winds in autumn.

2. What does the fifth paragraph do?

It explains why land heats up faster than water does.

It shows how the rain helps people and farms.

It tells how weather scientists predict the rain.

It explains how warm air rises over the hot land.

3. What does the sixth paragraph do?

It lists the crops that farmers grow each year.

It explains how clouds form over the hills.

It shows that the monsoon can cause trouble too.

It tells how wells and lakes fill up again.

4. What does the last paragraph do?

It names the first cause in the chain of events.

It lists the good and bad effects on farmers.

It warns about floods and weak rain in summer.

It shows how the cycle ends and begins again.

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Answer Key - Grade 4 Reading Worksheet

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