How a Text Is Organized

Grade 4 Reading Worksheet - Building Confidence

Name _____ Date _____

Read the text. Circle what each paragraph does.

READ THIS FIRST

The Upside-Down Tree

The baobab is one of the most unusual trees in Africa. People sometimes call it the upside-down tree. When its leaves fall off in the dry season, its bare branches look like roots reaching into the sky.

The trunk is the baobab's most famous part. It is thick and round, like a giant barrel. Some trunks are so wide that it takes more than ten adults holding hands to reach around them. The bark is smooth and gray. Inside, the wood is soft and spongy. It can hold thousands of gallons of water, which helps the tree survive months without rain.

The branches grow only near the top of the tree. They spread out in a wide, flat crown. During the rainy season, they are covered in green leaves.

The flowers are large and white. Each one has a puff of thin threads in the middle. The flowers open at night and last only about one day. Their sweet smell draws fruit bats, which carry pollen from flower to flower.

The fruit is shaped like a long, fuzzy egg. It hangs down from a long stem. Inside the hard shell is a dry, chalky pulp around the seeds. People in many parts of Africa mix the pulp into drinks and porridge.

A baobab can live for more than a thousand years. With its huge trunk, odd branches and night flowers, it is easy to see why people remember it.

1. What does the last paragraph do?
   - It sums up the tree's most unusual features.
   - It compares the baobab with an oak tree.
   - It explains the steps for planting a baobab.

2. What does the first paragraph do?
   - It tells how fruit bats carry pollen at night.
   - It introduces the tree and gives its nickname.
   - It describes the fruit and how people eat it.

3. What does the second paragraph do?
   - It describes the fruit and its hard shell.
   - It describes the flowers and when they open.
   - It describes the trunk and how it holds water.

4. What does the fourth paragraph do?
   - It describes the flowers and their visitors.
   - It explains how people use the fruit in food.
   - It describes the branches and their leaves.

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Answer Key - Grade 4 Reading Worksheet - Building Confidence

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