

## Getting Ready to Read

### A. Learn the words.

#### Key Vocabulary

<b>fur</b>	hair on an animal
<b>hunt</b>	to follow an animal to kill it
<b>blend in</b>	to be difficult to see from similar things around

#### TOEFL Vocabulary

<b>extreme</b>	farthest out, severe
<b>surroundings</b>	area around
<b>determine</b>	to decide something
<b>opportunity</b>	favorable situation
<b>attack</b>	to hurt with violence

### B. Learn the question type.

#### TOEFL Question Type

##### Sentence Simplification

Which of the following best expresses the essential information in the highlighted sentence? Incorrect answers change the meaning in important ways or leave out essential information.

- This type of question asks for the answer that best restates, summarizes, or simplifies a sentence from the passage.
- The answer will use different vocabulary or grammar and it will often use synonyms.

## Reading Passage

C. Read the passage. Number each paragraph with the correct main idea or purpose.

1. How the bear gets its food
2. Where polar bears live
3. What the bear likes to eat
4. What the white fur does to help the bear

### Polar Bears

\_\_\_ Giant polar bears have beautiful white fur. They live near the North Pole in extreme weather.

\_\_\_ There is not much food at the North Pole. Polar bears like to hunt seals, but it is hard to find seals to hunt. Therefore, polar bears often have to eat other animals. When they do find seals, they have to hunt them carefully.

\_\_\_ The white fur helps polar bears blend in with their surroundings. Because it is the same color as the snow, it's hard to determine where the bear is.

\_\_\_ When the bear has an opportunity, it will attack a seal. Seals usually cannot see polar bears in time. The attack is usually a surprise for them. It is their white fur that helps polar bears hunt.

## Note-taking

D. Complete the summary notes by filling in the blanks.

**Topic:** Polar Bears

**Introduction:** Have white \_\_\_\_\_.

Live near the \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ weather.

**Food:** Not much \_\_\_\_\_.

Like to \_\_\_\_\_ seals but hard to find.

Often eat other \_\_\_\_\_.

Have to hunt \_\_\_\_\_.

**White fur:** White fur helps to \_\_\_\_\_ with surroundings.

White fur is same color as \_\_\_\_\_.

**Hunting:** When it has an opportunity, the bear will \_\_\_\_\_ a seal.

- Cannot see bears in \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_ for them

White fur helps polar bears \_\_\_\_\_.

## TOEFL Questions

### E. Choose the correct answers.

1. Which of the following best expresses the essential information in the highlighted sentence? Incorrect answers change the meaning in important ways or leave out essential information.

The white fur helps polar bears blend in with their surroundings.

- (A) The white fur helps polar bears hide.  
(B) The fur helps confuse bears.

2. Which of the following best expresses the essential information in the highlighted sentence? Incorrect answers change the meaning in important ways or leave out essential information.

Because it is the same color as the snow, it's hard to determine where the bear is.

- (A) Because polar bears are white, it is easy to find them.  
(B) The bear and snow are the same color, so it is hard to see the bear.

## TOEFL Vocabulary Practice

### F. Fill in the blanks with the correct words.

attacked      opportunity      determine      surroundings      extreme

1. Many French castles have beautiful \_\_\_\_\_.
2. World War II started when Germany \_\_\_\_\_ Poland.
3. A hurricane is an example of \_\_\_\_\_ weather.
4. Poor people often do not have the \_\_\_\_\_ to travel abroad.
5. It is sometimes difficult to \_\_\_\_\_ who is right in a debate.



# Practice

## A. Learn the words.

### Key Vocabulary

<b>hibernate</b>	to sleep all winter
<b>wake up</b>	to stop sleeping
<b>cave</b>	a large hole in rock or the ground

### TOEFL Vocabulary

<b>rare</b>	unusual, not common
<b>gather</b>	to make or form into a group
<b>prepare</b>	to make or become ready
<b>shelter</b>	something that provides a home
<b>protect</b>	to make safe

## B. Read the passage and underline the key information.

### Hibernation

It is rare to see bats, mice, snakes, or bears in winter. This is because they hibernate. Hibernation is when an animal sleeps all winter.

When an animal hibernates, it usually goes to sleep in the fall. Then, in the spring, it wakes up. An animal will do this because there is not much food in winter. Therefore, it goes to sleep.

The animal will gather and eat a lot of food. It does this to prepare for such a long sleep. It does not eat while it is hibernating.

At the end of fall, it is usually fat. Then it goes into its warm shelter. There are many kinds of shelters. Typical ones are caves, holes, or empty trees. The shelter protects the animal from the cold.

The animal usually sleeps for five months. When it wakes up, it is hungry. So, the animal eats. Then it all starts again!

## TOEFL Questions

### C. Choose the correct answers.

1. Which of the following best expresses the essential information in the highlighted sentence? Incorrect answers change the meaning in important ways or leave out essential information.

When an animal hibernates, it usually goes to sleep in the fall.

- (A) Animals sleep in the summer.  
(B) Animals normally start hibernating in the fall.
2. According to the passage, animals that hibernate eat a lot of food during the summer because
- (A) they do not eat while they hibernate  
(B) it helps them sleep in the winter
3. According to the passage, which is NOT true of a hibernating animal?
- (A) It usually goes to sleep in the fall.  
(B) The animals are hungry at the end of fall.

## TOEFL Vocabulary Practice

### D. Fill in the blanks with the correct words.

rare      prepare      gather      shelters      protect

1. Paintings by Pablo Picasso are very \_\_\_\_\_ and expensive.
2. Every year millions of Muslims \_\_\_\_\_ in Mecca to pray.
3. You must \_\_\_\_\_ for a test if you want to pass.
4. The police \_\_\_\_\_ people from criminals.
5. Eskimos made \_\_\_\_\_ out of ice called igloos.

Read the passage.

## How Animals Protect Themselves

■ 1) Have you ever walked in the grass and smelled something terrible? The smell might be skunk spray. A skunk will spray something that attacks it. ■ 2) It can shoot its spray very far. It makes everything smell horrible. It is hard to clean from fur. A sprayed animal will smell for weeks. A skunk will use its spray to stop from being attacked. It wants to protect its babies and shelter. So if you ever see a baby skunk, prepare to be sprayed! ■ 3)

■ 4) Other animals protect themselves in different ways. A buffalo is very heavy, but it still needs to be protected. It likes to be in a large group with many other buffalo. This group is called a herd. The herd protects it. A wolf will often attack a buffalo. A wolf is very strong and dangerous. The herd protects the buffalo. The herd makes it hard for a wolf to kill a buffalo. This is because the wolf has to go past all the others in the herd. Wolves are also scared of a running herd of buffalo. Buffalo are heavy and fast. A buffalo is taller than a wolf. Therefore, a wolf will be trampled by the herd.

A wolf must wait. A buffalo away from the herd is not protected. So, a wolf will sneak up on it. Then the wolf will jump on it. This is how a wolf finds its food. The buffalo will be safe if they stay together.

Choose the correct answers.

1. The word horrible in the passage is closest in meaning to  
(A) sweet (B) sour  
(C) good (D) bad
2. According to the passage, buffalo gather in herds because  
(A) this is how a wolf finds food  
(B) this is how buffalo find food  
(C) wolves are scared of herds  
(D) buffalo like to be alone



3. Look at the four squares (■) that indicate where the following sentence could be added to the passage.

**Of course, not only skunks protect themselves.**

Where would the sentences best fit?

- (A) Square 1 (B) Square 2  
(C) Square 3 (D) Square 4

4. Why does the author use the following sentence?

So if you ever see a baby skunk, prepare to be sprayed!

- (A) The author wants the reader to be sprayed.  
(B) The author is trying to protect the reader from being sprayed.  
(C) The author is trying to protect the baby skunks.  
(D) The author likes the skunk spray.

5. Which of the following best expresses the essential information in the highlighted sentence? Incorrect answers change the meaning in important ways or leave out essential information.

Therefore, a wolf will be trampled by the herd.

- (A) The herd will step on the wolf.  
(B) The wolf will kill the buffalo.  
(C) The buffalo will be scared of the wolf.  
(D) Buffalo are not scared of wolves.

6. **Directions:** Complete the table below about the animal characteristics discussed in the passage. Match the characteristics to the correct animal. TWO of the answer choices will not be used.

**Answer choices**

- (A) Large animal  
(B) Small animal  
(C) Gather in herds  
(D) Uses spray for protection  
(E) Has eight legs  
(F) Protects its shelter  
(G) Hibernates every year

**Skunks**

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**Buffalo**

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

# Check-up

## Question Type Review

### A. Choose the correct answer.

1. A *sentence simplification* question asks
  - (A) what a word or phrase means
  - (B) about specific details or facts that are in the passage
  - (C) for a sentence that appears in the passage
  - (D) for a sentence in the passages to be restated, summarized, or simplified

## Key Vocabulary Practice

### B. Fill in the blanks with the correct words.

hunting      caves      hibernate      wake up      blending in      fur

1. Animals that hibernate, \_\_\_\_\_ in the spring.
2. People don't \_\_\_\_\_ during winter.
3. Iguanas are very good at \_\_\_\_\_ to what is around them.
4. In France, there are drawings on the walls of \_\_\_\_\_ that are nearly 30,000 years old!
5. Cats are good at \_\_\_\_\_ mice.
6. Some people kill tigers for their beautiful \_\_\_\_\_.