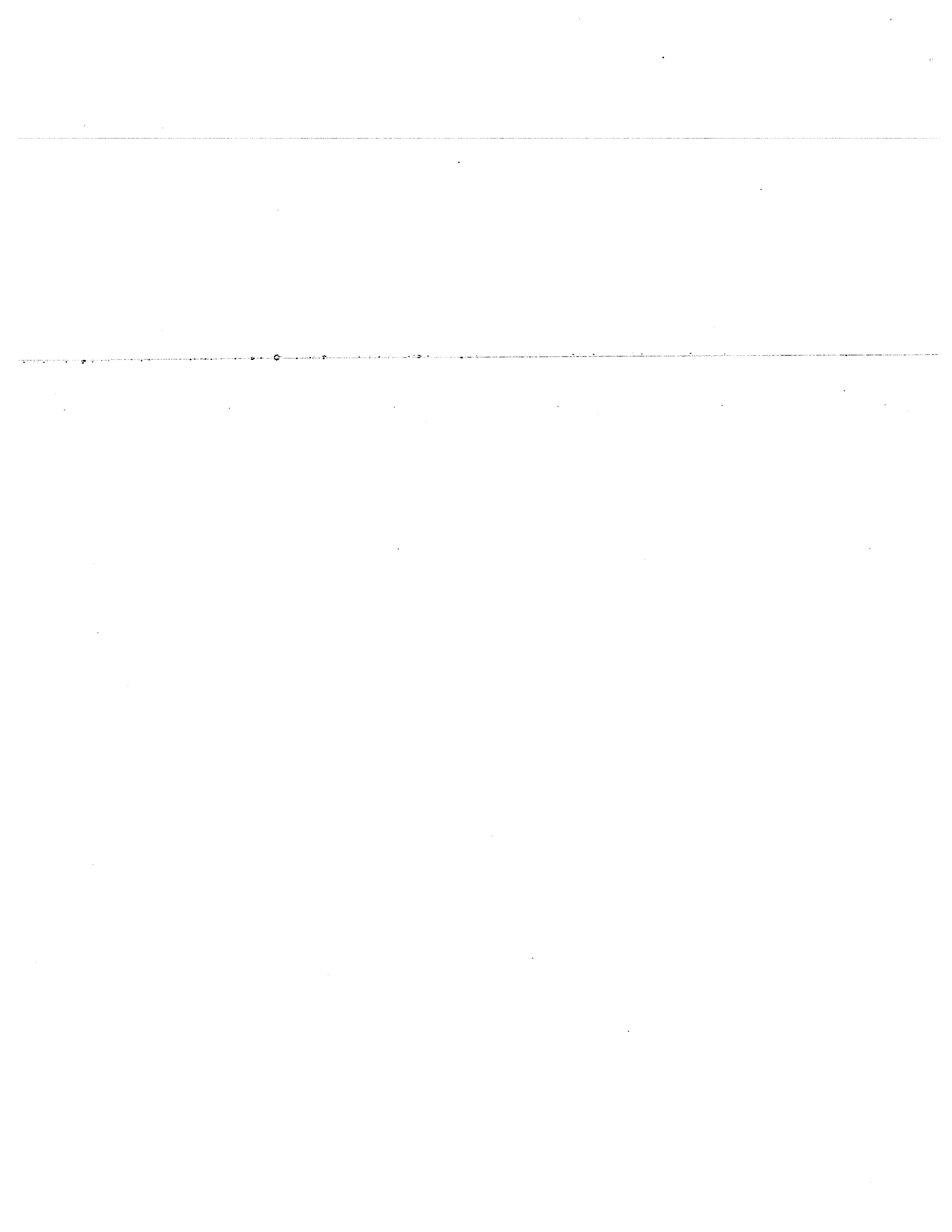


5th Grade ELA Work Packet

Week of March 29-April 2, 2021

Name _____

*Please do not begin any assignments until
instructed by Ms. Eggink.*



Directions

Read this article. Then answer questions 36 through 38.

Excerpt from *Wackiest White House Pets*

by Gibbs Davis

MOST SUSPICIOUS

- 1 John F. Kennedy was the youngest man ever elected president. The popular president and his stylish wife, Jackie, captivated the nation. During Kennedy's brief time in office he launched the space race. He also founded the Peace Corps to aid developing countries. Americans were fighting for their civil rights at home while the Cold War continued abroad.
- 2 During the Cold War, the Soviet Union and the United States didn't trust each other. The United States suspected everything that came from the Communist Soviet Union. Spies were everywhere. So when the president's daughter, Caroline, received a little dog from Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev, everyone was suspicious.
- 3 The little white dog was named Pushinka. (Pushinka means "fluffy" in Russian.) Pushinka was already a celebrity. Her mother, Strelka ("little arrow"), had been one of the first dogs sent into space. The Secret Service agents were suspicious of the fluffy little white dog. Was she a spy, too? The Russian dog didn't have fleas. But did she have other bugs? Pushinka was checked for secret microphones and spying devices. She passed the test with flying colors.
- 4 When Pushinka first saw the Kennedys' Welsh terrier, Charlie, it was puppy love. Soon, they had four pups. President Kennedy called them "pupniks."
- 5 The Kennedys received another unusual pet. This one was from a magician. It was a rabbit named Zsa Zsa. The talented bunny could play the first five bars of "The Star-Spangled Banner" on a toy golden trumpet!

BEST SWIMMER

- 6 Ronald Reagan was the oldest man ever elected president. He was also a former actor, appearing in over fifty films. Fearful of Communism, the president spent millions

GO ON

of dollars building up the military.

7 Everyone has a fish story. But only one president had a First Fish.

8 Reagan was recovering from an assassination attempt when he received something fishy in the mail. A ten-year-old boy had sent the president a goldfish in a plastic bag filled with water!

9 It didn't take long for the First Fish to get into the swim of things. The tiny White House resident was given a place of honor in a tank bearing the presidential seal.

10 Like the First Fish, the president was a powerful swimmer. As a young man, Reagan worked as a lifeguard during summer vacations on the Rock River in Illinois. He put a notch in a log every time he saved a person from drowning. In seven summers as a lifeguard, he made seventy-seven notches.

11 First Families often complain that living in the White House is a lot like living in a fishbowl. This is one fish who would know.

BEST-SELLING PET

12 George Herbert Walker Bush's inauguration in 1989 marked the two hundredth anniversary of the U.S. presidency. There had been many dramatic changes since our first president was in office. During Bush's term, Americans saw the collapse of Soviet Communism. The late twentieth century was also a glorious time for White House pets.

13 President Bush's springer spaniel, Millie, was voted "Ugliest Dog" in the Capital by *Washingtonian* magazine. Millie wasn't going to let sleeping dogs lie. She put paw to paper and set the story straight about her life in the White House.

14 Millie dictated 141 pages of her best-selling "dogobiography" to former First Lady Barbara Bush. In it, the famous First Dog recalls her heavy White House schedule. She also describes sitting in on morning briefings, chasing squirrels, and playing in the White House flower beds. Not one to let fame go to her head, she didn't neglect her duties as First Dog. She also mothered six puppies while in office.

15 The president was grateful to Millie. The published pooch had given practically all of her first year's royalties (almost \$900,000) to the First Lady's favorite charity—the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy. Still, President Bush was a little jealous that the media hound got so much attention.

16 In *Millie's Book*, the spaniel writes, "I overheard the Bushes talking the other night. Some discussion about me keeping a lower profile."

- 17 Every First Pet knows when to let the president be top dog.

MORE WACKY PET FACTS

- 18 The number one presidential pet has always been the dog. (George Washington had almost forty). Some First Dogs have been more popular than their presidents. President Harding was regarded as one of the worst presidents ever, but his upstanding Airedale terrier, Laddie Boy, became a national celebrity. (He even had his own special chair to sit in at cabinet meetings.) President Franklin Roosevelt's beloved little black Scottie, Fala, became an international celebrity, joining FDR at important world peace-making meetings. He traveled abroad more than any other White House pet. Both top dogs received thousands of gifts, letters, and invitations from their fans.

36

In "Excerpt from *Wackiest White House Pets*," what is a main idea of paragraphs 1 through 4?
Use two details from the article to support your response.

37 Why does the author of "Excerpt from *Wackiest White House Pets*" title the second section of the article "Best Swimmer"? Use two details from the article to support your response.

According to "Excerpt from *Wackiest White House Pets*," why was the late twentieth century a "glorious time for White House pets" (paragraph 12)? Use two details from the article to support your response.

Directions
Read this story. Then answer question 39.

Excerpt from *Bloomability*

by Sharon Creech

- 1 Lila and Guthrie were in two classes together. I didn't have any classes with her, and only one with Guthrie. Often I saw them walking together after class, and what surprised me was that Guthrie was usually doing the talking while Lila listened. When I was with Lila, she talked—or complained—and I listened.
- 2 And sometimes when I was listening, I'd think of things my sister Stella had said. Stella had kept a journal of all the places we'd lived and had recorded things she'd learned in each town. There was one whole page from when we lived in Ohio, about how to take a bus. In Indiana, she wrote: *Don't talk. Just listen.*
- 3 "What does that mean?" I asked her. "Why not talk?"
- 4 "Because people will laugh at your accent. Just listen. Wait and see how people talk and then talk like them."
- 5 In Oklahoma, Stella wrote, *Expect the worst.*
- 6 "Why?" I asked. "Why expect the worst?"
- 7 "Because then," Stella said, "you'll be prepared. You won't be caught off guard."
- 8 I figured that because Stella was older, she knew what she was talking about, and I followed her advice. I listened, and I expected the worst, most of the time.
- 9 In Oregon she wrote, *Dress plain the first day.*
- 10 "Why?" I asked.
- 11 "Because if you wear cowboy boots in Oregon, people are going to laugh at you. Wait and see what people wear, and then dress like them."
- 12 My mother overheard this. She said, "Stella! What a boring way to live. Don't you want to be different from everybody else?"
- 13 "No, I do not," Stella said. "I want to be the same."

GO ON

- 14 Sometimes I wanted to be the same, because then you'd have friends, and you wouldn't be just the new kid, but inside, deep inside my bubble, I also wanted to be different. I wanted to be interesting, but I didn't know how you got to be interesting.
- 15 Guthrie was different and he was interesting, and so was Lila. What I liked about them was that Guthrie was complete Guthrie through and through, and Lila was Lila through and through.
- 16 Guthrie was like no one else. He'd be walking down the hill and all of a sudden, he'd shout "*Sono libero!*" (I am free!) He pronounced *libero* like this: *LEE-bear-oh*. "*Libero, libero, liberoooooo!*"
- 17 He'd dive into the pool and shout, "*Fantastico!*" People liked being around him because when you were around him, you were happy, and you felt as if you could do anything he could do.
- 18 Lila was different in other ways, in ways that made people hate her much of the time. But what I thought was interesting about her was that she was always Lila. She knew what she thought and she wasn't afraid to say what she thought, even if it was wrong or stupid or mean, although she herself never thought that what she said was wrong or stupid or mean. She thought that she was right and that everyone else was wrong, and she didn't seem to care if she had friends or not.
- 19 I'd always felt as if I were in a sort of suspension, waiting to see how things worked, waiting to see who I was and what sort of life I might lead, and then moving on to a new town before I could figure out any of those things. Lila and Guthrie, though, seemed to already know who they were and they were already living their lives.
- 20 Sometimes Lila would say, "I'm the kind of person who—" and she'd finish that sentence in various ways: "I'm the kind of person who needs a room of my own"; and "I'm the kind of person who needs to talk about my feelings"; and "I'm the kind of person who has to have time to think." And every time she'd say something like this, I'd wonder how she came to know what kind of person she was.
- 21 I felt like Miss Average. I was neither tall nor short, neither chubby nor slim. People often said I had nice eyes, but no one knew what color they were. "Are those hazel? Brownish? Gray? What color is that, anyway?" Teachers often said I had "a sweet face," but when I looked in the mirror, it didn't look all that sweet to me. On my report cards, teachers usually wrote things like *Coming along* and *Satisfactory work* and *Very observant* and *Ought to speak up more*.

22 I was all jumbled up most places, but especially here in Switzerland because it didn't seem to be like any place I'd ever lived. This wasn't just another new town and this wasn't just another new school. Here everybody was from different places, not just me. Most of the people were new, not just me. Everybody had a different accent, not just me.

GO ON

39

In "Excerpt from *Bloomability*," what do paragraphs 15 through 17 show about Guthrie's character? Use two details from the story to support your response.

Lined writing area for the student response.

Directions

Read this story. Then answer questions 40 through 42.

Excerpt from *Cicada Summer*

by Andrea Beaty

- 1 The cicadas are everywhere. They came back to Olena two days ago, after seventeen years of hiding in the ground and waiting. Waiting to climb into the sunlight. Waiting to climb the bushes and trees. Waiting to sing.
- 2 They waited so long. Then, thousands of them crawled out of the ground and up into the trees and bushes in just one night. Their song sounds like electricity buzzing on a power line, getting higher and higher and louder and louder until the air nearly explodes from the noise.
- 3 There are a hundred cicadas on the oak tree outside Mrs. Kirk's sixth-grade classroom. I stand at the window watching them buzz from branch to branch. Their bodies are thick and clumsy, and I wonder how they can fly at all with their thin, little wings.
- 4 Then I see the cicada on the bookshelf next to me. It stares at me with its black marble eyes, and I stare back. I'm so close, I could thump it off the shelf if I wanted.
- 5 I could, but I don't.
- 6 At first, no one else notices the cicada. The other kids are hunched over their spelling tests; ready to spell *entangled* or *fearful* or *mottled* or some other word.
- 7 This week's words are adjectives, but Mrs. Kirk picked the wrong ones. She should have chosen words like *sweaty* or *noisy* or *stifling*. *Stifling* would be a good word today. It's so hot, it feels like July and the buzzing of the cicadas squeezes into the room and pushes out the air until no one can breathe. It's *stifling*.
- 8 I stare at the cicada, but even without looking, I know what's going on behind me. In the front row, Judy Thomas is wound up like a tiger ready to pounce on the next spelling word. She presses her pencil so hard against the paper that the lead nearly breaks. When Mrs. Kirk says the next word, Judy will spell it as fast as she can in her perfect handwriting, and then look around to make sure she's the first to finish. Of course she will be. She always is.

9 In the back row, where the hopeless cases sit—where there’s a desk with my name on it—Rose Miner is cheating off Tommy Burkette. Mrs. Kirk knows they’re doing it, but she’s too hot and too tired to care. Besides, the only person in the whole world who spells worse than Rose is Tommy, so it doesn’t make much difference anyway.

10 After a while, the cicada on the shelf starts buzzing and Rose screams like it’s Godzilla or something and Ricky Fitzgerald stands up and yells, “It looks like the cicada that got my grandma!”

11 Ricky Fitzgerald has told the story about the cicada that got his grandmother about a hundred times in the last two days. He says the last time the cicadas came around, one flew into his grandma’s hair and made her run crazy around the yard until Ricky’s grandpa came out with the sheep shears and lopped off half her hair.

12 I’ve seen his grandma’s hair. She has one of those beehive hairdos that’s tall and round and really hard from all the hairspray she uses. I can see why a cicada would land there. A hair cave like that would be a great place to get out of the sun.

13 That’s what I think, but Ricky says it attacked his grandma to suck out her brains and make her into a zombie.

14 Ricky Fitzgerald is a dork.

15 Mrs. Kirk sighs the same way she has about ninety-nine times since the cicadas showed up and Ricky started telling his story.

16 “Thank you, Ricky,” she says.

17 But before Ricky can say another word, Mrs. Kirk says, “Bobby, would you get rid of it, please?”

18 I could reach up and touch the cicada without trying, but Mrs. Kirk doesn’t ask me. Bobby Bowes gets up from his desk and walks right in front of me. He grabs the cicada in one hand and opens the window screen with the other. He tosses the insect outside, closes the window screen, and sits down again without a word. He doesn’t say, “Move, Lily,” or anything. He doesn’t even notice me standing there.

19 He doesn’t notice because I’m invisible.

- 20 Most people would say that's a lie. They'd say that I'm not invisible because they can see me as plain as day. Most people are wrong. It's not my skin that makes me invisible. It's my silence. My silence and the trick I do with my eyes where I never look anybody in the face.
- 21 You can tell everything about a person by looking in their eyes. I don't want anybody to know anything about me, so I look away.
- 22 I've been invisible for two years now.

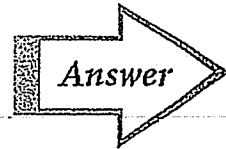
What does the phrase “wound up like a tiger ready to pounce” (paragraph 8) suggest about Judy Thomas? Use two details from the story to support your response.

41

In "Excerpt from *Cicada Summer*," how do paragraphs 9 and 18 contribute to the story? Use two details from the story to support your response.

Planning Page

You may PLAN your writing for question 42 here if you wish, but do NOT write your final answer on this page. Writing on this Planning Page will NOT count toward your final score. Write your final answer on Pages 19 and 20.



GO ON

42

The narrator's point of view often affects the way stories are told. In the "Excerpt from *Bloomability*" and the "Excerpt from *Cicada Summer*" how does each author use narrative point of view to tell their stories? How are these points of view similar and how are they different? Use details from both stories to support your response.

In your response, be sure to

- explain how point of view affects the way the story is told in the "Excerpt from *Bloomability*"
- explain how point of view affects the way the story is told in the "Excerpt from *Cicada Summer*"
- describe how these points of view are similar and how they are different
- use details from both stories to support your response

Lined writing area with 20 horizontal lines.

STOP

Directions

Read this story. Then answer questions 15 through 21.

Tom is spending the summer on his aunt and uncle's farm. He misses his friend Petie, so he writes letters to Petie describing events on the farm.

Excerpt from *The Midnight Fox*

by Betsy Byars

- 1 I had just finished writing this letter and was waiting for a minute to see if I would think of anything to add when I looked up and saw the black fox.
- 2 I did not believe it for a minute. It was like my eyes were playing a trick or something, because I was just sort of staring across this field, thinking about my letter, and then in the distance, where the grass was very green, I saw a fox leaping over the crest of the field. The grass moved and the fox sprang toward the movement, and then, seeing that it was just the wind that had caused the grass to move, she ran straight for the grove of trees where I was sitting.
- 3 It was so great that I wanted it to start over again, like you can turn movie film back and see yourself repeat some fine thing you have done, and I wanted to see the fox leaping over the grass again. In all my life I have never been so excited.
- 4 I did not move at all, but I could hear the paper in my hand shaking, and my heart seemed to have moved up in my body and got stuck in my throat.
- 5 The fox came straight toward the grove of trees. She wasn't afraid, and I knew she had not seen me against the tree. I stayed absolutely still even though I felt like jumping up and screaming, "Aunt Millie! Uncle Fred! Come see this. It's a fox, a fox!"
- 6 Her steps as she crossed the field were lighter and quicker than a cat's. As she came closer I could see that her black fur was tipped with white. It was as if it were midnight and the moon were shining on her fur, frosting it. The wind parted her fur as it changed directions. Suddenly she stopped. She was ten feet away now, and with the changing of the wind she had got my scent. She looked right at me.
- 7 I did not move for a moment and neither did she. Her head was cocked to one side, her tail curled up, her front left foot raised. In all my life I never saw anything like that fox standing there with her pale golden eyes on me and this great black fur being blown by the wind.
- 8 Suddenly her nose quivered. It was such a slight movement I almost didn't see it, and then her mouth opened and I could see the pink tip of her tongue. She turned. She still was not afraid, but with a bound that was lighter than the wind—it was as if she was being blown away over the field—she was gone.

GO ON

- 9 Still I didn't move. I couldn't. I couldn't believe that I had really seen the fox.
- 10 I had seen foxes before in zoos, but I was always in such a great hurry to get on to the good stuff that I was saying stupid things like, "I want to see the go-rillllllas," and not once had I ever really looked at a fox. Still, I could never remember seeing a black fox, not even in a zoo.
- 11 Also, there was a great deal of difference between seeing an animal in the zoo in front of painted fake rocks and trees and seeing one natural and free in the woods. It was like seeing a kite on the floor and then, later, seeing one up in the sky where it was supposed to be, pulling at the wind.
- 12 I started to pick up my pencil and write as quickly as I could, "P.S. Today I saw a black fox." But I didn't. This was the most exciting thing that had happened to me, and "P.S. Today I saw a black fox" made it nothing. "So what else is happening?" Petie Burkis would probably write back. I folded my letter, put it in an envelope, and sat there.
- 13 I thought about this old newspaper that my dad had had in his desk drawer for years. It was orange and the headline was just one word, very big, the letters about twelve inches high. WAR! And I mean it was awesome to see that word like that, because you knew it was a word that was going to change your whole life, the whole world even. And every time I would see that newspaper, even though I wasn't even born when it was printed, I couldn't say anything for a minute or two.
- 14 Well, this was the way I felt right then about the black fox. I thought about a newspaper with just one word for a headline, very big, very black letters, twelve inches high. FOX! And even that did not show how awesome it had really been to me.

15 How are paragraphs 2 through 6 important to the structure of the story?

- A They describe the setting and the main characters.
- B They describe an event that is later repeated.
- C They explain why the fox is in the field.
- D They introduce a problem into the plot.

16 Read this phrase from paragraph 4.

... my heart seemed to have moved up in my body and got stuck in my throat.

What does this phrase suggest about Tom?

- A He is having trouble standing still.
- B He is having difficulty speaking.
- C He is experiencing a thrill.
- D He is feeling affection.

17 How are the events described in paragraphs 6 and 7 different from earlier events?

- A The fox is moving through an open area.
- B The fox is acting with less certainty.
- C The fox is moving at a faster pace.
- D The fox is aware of Tom.

18 How is Tom's experience in the field different from his experience in zoos?

- A He is able to observe a black fox in the wild.
- B He is able to observe the way a black fox moves at the zoo.
- C He spends time observing a black fox at the zoo.
- D He is frightened to see a black fox in the wild.

19

In paragraph 12, why does Tom hesitate over his letter?

- A He does not want other people finding out about the fox.
- B He is not sure his friend will believe him about the fox.
- C He is not sure how to capture his experience in words.
- D He does not have time to explain what he witnessed.

20

Based on paragraphs 13 and 14, how are the words "WAR!" and "FOX!" similar?

- A They inspire a powerful response in Tom.
- B They provide Tom with a physical reminder.
- C They help promote Tom's interest in writing.
- D They create connections within Tom's family.

21

Which statement best summarizes how the fox affects Tom?

- A Tom regrets not being able to share his experience.
- B Tom feels as though he is in a movie.
- C Tom is deeply moved by the event.
- D Tom can no longer concentrate.

Wednesday ___/___

Title: _____ Pages read: _____

Summary:

Thursday ___/___

Title: _____ Pages read: _____

Summary:

Friday ___/___

Title: _____ Pages read: _____

Summary:
