

# Week of April 6-10, 2020

## Mrs. Swigart

Hello! I hope everyone is doing well. My “office hours” will be Monday 1-3, Tuesday 11-1, and Thursday 3-5. Of course, you can always email me and I will try to get back to you as soon as I can. Please feel free to email me any questions you may have. As far as turning in work goes, you can either share a doc with me, or turn it into the school. Hard copies are at the school so you don’t need to print anything. Loose leaf paper works for me as well for turning in assignments. I do ask that your name is written, with the date, class period, and the choice number. This is new, and I will work with you. Again, please feel free to reach out to me if you need anything.

I hope to see you soon! - Mrs. Swigart

6th Grade Literature	Read the article “The Future of Zoos” and answer the questions from “Know the News.” Then, write <b>at least</b> one paragraph (6-8 sent.) that answers the question, “Is it OK to keep animals in zoos? Find at least three pieces of evidence in the article or sidebars to support your opinion.	6th Grade Unit 9 Vocabulary Packet	Write your own story about a global pandemic. Make sure setting, conflict, character development, introduction, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution are evident and clear. (There should be at least a couple of pages.)

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**Online Extra!**  
Check out our guided-writing template for help crafting an essay on whether it is OK to keep animals in zoos.

## ANIMAL RIGHTS

# THE FUTURE OF ZOOS

People have kept animals in cages for thousands of years. But new understanding about the lives of creatures in captivity is transforming how zoos treat and exhibit animals. Are the changes enough?

BY LAURA ANASTASIA

**As You Read, Think About:** Is it our responsibility to protect animals from becoming extinct?

**Y**OUNG GORILLAS wrestle together playfully. Monkeys scale a 50-foot tree. Bonobos shriek and swing on vines. Around them, huge rock formations, tropical plants, and long grasses fill the landscape.

The animals are **native** to Africa's forests. This **habitat** reflects that. But these primates

actually live in Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens in Florida.

Every year, nearly 1 million people visit the zoo. They watch the apes and monkeys run overhead through tunnels. They film them climbing. They even touch hands with them through the glass.

The primates' large enclosure is very different from the metal cages that were once standard in zoos. That is no accident. Zoos used to be almost entirely focused on entertaining humans. But now zoos are embracing **conservation** and changing how they treat wildlife. They have been prompted to do so by destruction of habitats, illegal hunting, and research about how captivity affects the well-being of animals.

Some changes are easy to spot: Enclosures have been opened up. Natural **vegetation** has replaced concrete. Other changes are more behind-the-scenes. For →



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example, zoos are teaming up to save endangered species. They are also devoting millions of dollars to research. And they are focusing on teaching visitors about challenges animals face in the wild.

Such efforts have won praise from many people. But zoo critics say that enclosures are still cages, no matter how many trees are in them. They argue that zoos are **inhumane**. They point to studies that have shown that animals in captivity suffer from anxiety, boredom, and stress. Zoo critics say that wild animals should be free.

Recently, the debate over keeping wildlife in captivity has grown even more heated. This past February, the London Zoo in the United Kingdom tried to mate two Sumatran tigers. That species is critically endangered. But the male mauled the female to death before zookeepers could stop it. The incident shocked people around the world. It caused many to wonder if zoos have changed enough to truly benefit animals.

## Zoos of the Past

The earliest known **menagerie** existed in ancient Egypt more than 5,000 years ago (see sidebar, p. 13). Modern zoos became popular in the early 1800s in Europe, and they still capture humans' fascination. That is because zoos let people connect with wild animals in ways that are not possible through books or YouTube videos, supporters say.

"Most people won't have the opportunity to travel to Asia or Africa to see orangutans or elephants. But they can visit a zoo and see them up close," says Rob Vernon of the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA). That group officially certifies zoos that meet strict standards for animal care, conservation, and education.

Just making eye contact with a tiger can leave a lasting impression. "People are much more likely to want to help conserve an animal if they learn about it and see it up close," Vernon explains.

# 195 million Number of visitors U.S. zoos receive annually—equal to more than half the U.S. population

SOURCES: Association of Zoos & Aquariums, U.S. Census Bureau

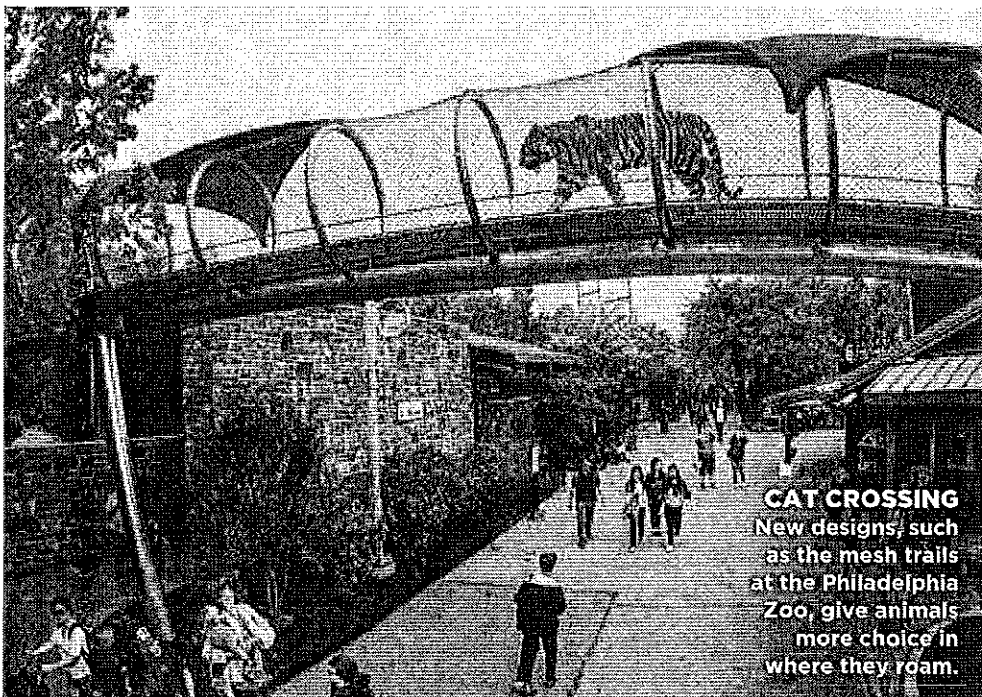
## Saving Species

Many of the nation's best zoos have made it their mission to protect animals, particularly endangered ones. They do that in part by studying the species they house. At the National Zoo in Washington, D.C., research on elephants is helping scientists develop a **vaccine** for a potentially fatal virus. The virus affects herds in zoos and in the wild.

In addition, the AZA helps coordinate zoos' efforts to protect more than 500 species. Those efforts include breeding endangered animals. And, when possible, zoos release those animals into the wild. This helps restore dwindling populations. Zoos have helped the black-footed ferret, the red wolf, and a handful of other species recover from the brink of extinction this way, says Ben A. Minter. He is a conservation expert at Arizona State University.

## Not a Simple Solution

Such efforts may sound noble. But zoo critics argue that many breeding programs focus more on **sustaining** zoo populations than on saving species. They argue that many animals being bred are not endangered. Critics say that zoos



**CAT CROSSING**  
New designs, such as the mesh trails at the Philadelphia Zoo, give animals more choice in where they roam.

PAGES 10-R: BOB SELZ/THE FLORIDA TIMES-UNION VIA AP IMAGES (GORILLA); COURTESY OF JACKSONVILLE ZOO (LEIUR); PAGE 12: TOM MIHALEK/EPA/SHUTTERSTOCK; PAGE 13: LEAVEVECTOR/SHUTTERSTOCK.COM (BACKGROUND); HIERACONPOLIS EXPEDITION (3600 s.d); EDUCATION IMAGES/UG VIA GETTY IMAGES (1974); BEELBROX VIA WIKIMEDIA COMMONS (1970S); CARLOS OSORIO/AP IMAGES (2005)

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are more concerned with having baby animals. The baby animals bring people, and therefore more money, into the parks.

Plus, success stories like the red wolf's are rare, Minter says. "Each one of these cases takes an enormous effort: multiple zoos, government agencies, scientists, volunteers. It can take many millions of dollars. Once it's back in the wild, the animal has to be monitored. It's a never-ending process," he explains.

Zoos have found it hard to breed certain endangered species, such as giant pandas and lowland gorillas. And sometimes the efforts turn deadly, as in the case of the Sumatran tigers at the London Zoo. Zoos can breed many animals successfully, such as otters and songbirds. But those animals often lack the skills they need to survive in the wild.

Plus, some endangered animals do not have a natural habitat to return to, says Lori Marino. She is a scientist who studies animal behavior in Kanab, Utah. "If their natural **ecosystem** is destroyed, then those animals must remain in captivity their entire lives," Marino says. "That is not conservation."

### Bad for Animals' Health?

Life in captivity is often difficult for animals, Marino says. Many show signs of stress and boredom. Big cats walk in endless loops. Polar bears rock their heads. Elephants sway. Such repetitive behaviors are not seen in the wild, Marino explains. "When you see a tiger pacing, that means it is very stressed," she says.

One study found that **carnivores** with naturally large ranges show the most stress in captivity. Such animals

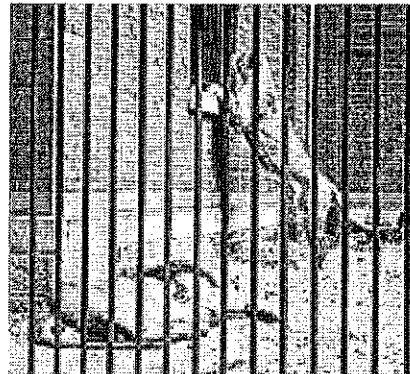
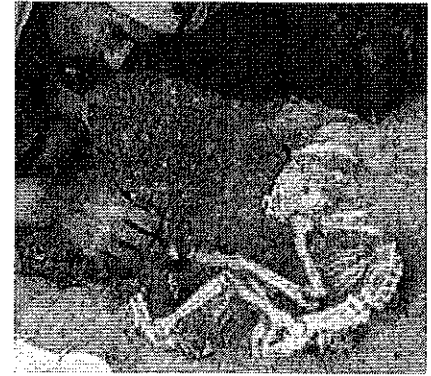
*(continued on p. 14)*

## KEY MOMENTS

### Wild History of Zoos

**3500 B.C.**

Rulers in ancient Egypt kept a menagerie of baboons, elephants, hippos, and wildcats—possibly for amusement or as a sign of power. An archaeological dig in 2009 uncovered the remains of more than 100 of these animals.

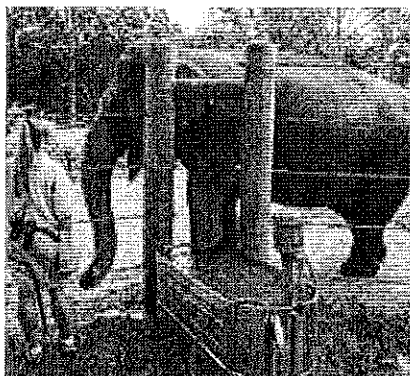


**1874**

The Zoological Society of Philadelphia opened the first U.S. zoo. The collection had more than 800 animals. Adults paid a quarter to get in. Kids paid a dime. More than 220,000 people streamed through the zoo's gates that year.

**1970s**

Woodland Park Zoo in Seattle, Washington, debuted new gorilla and African savanna exhibits—becoming the first zoo to make both the enclosures and the surrounding visitor areas resemble the animals' natural habitat.



**2005**

The Detroit Zoo in Michigan became the first major U.S. zoo to close its elephant exhibit for **ethical** reasons. The zoo sent its elephants to a **sanctuary** in California, saying they deserved more space and socialization with other elephants.

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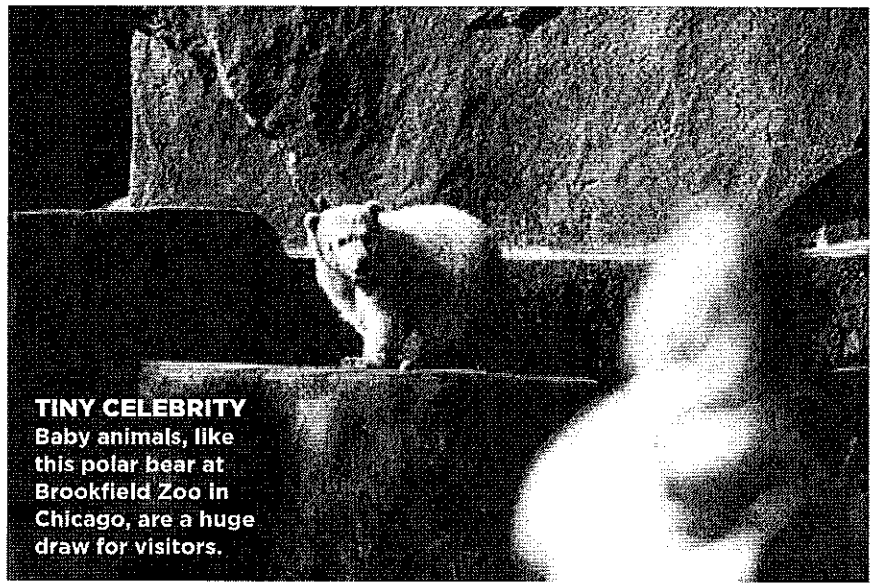
include polar bears, lions, and tigers. Wild polar bears' home ranges can span 31,000 square miles. That is about a million times the size of a zoo's typical polar bear enclosure.

Other research has shown that many animals are intelligent and experience a wide range of emotions. For example, elephants can recognize themselves in mirrors. They comfort other elephants that are distressed. They grieve when a member of their herd dies. Critics say that knowing animals have such complex feelings should stop zoos from keeping them captive, with little control over their lives.

### A New Kind of Zoo

Elephant research has caused more than 25 zoos in North America to close their elephant exhibits in recent years. The zoos send their herds to sanctuaries with more room to roam.

Sanctuaries are more similar to animals' natural environment and range than zoos are, Marino says. In sanctuaries, "the animals' health



**TINY CELEBRITY**  
Baby animals, like this polar bear at Brookfield Zoo in Chicago, are a huge draw for visitors.

and well-being are a priority. People aren't getting close to them. They're getting back as much of their freedom as possible," she says.

Meanwhile, zoos are exploring new ways to put animals' needs first. In 2011, the Philadelphia Zoo in Pennsylvania introduced a trail system for its animals. Tigers, red pandas, and other creatures cross the zoo overhead in mesh bridges and tunnels. This system gives them more choice in where and when they roam. About 20 zoos worldwide have followed this approach.

And Jacksonville Zoo's year-old great ape exhibit features several

computerized learning stations. These allow gorillas to communicate with zookeepers by pressing certain symbols, shapes, and colors. The technology helps reduce boredom. It also gives the gorillas a chance to have a say in their care. At the exhibit's center, a huge tree houses an area from which the zoo's staff can study the apes without intruding into their space.

### Finding the Right Balance

Are such changes enough to make life in zoos positive for animals? The debate over whether zoos are ethical continues. But the upgrades have attracted visitors. U.S. zoo attendance has risen by 20 percent over the past 15 years.

Still, even supporters know that zoos must maintain a delicate balance of keeping their animals happy, giving visitors access to them, and protecting animals from extinction in the wild.

Says Vernon, "Zoos today must exist for a higher purpose." ♦

## Signs of a Good Zoo

<p><b>Seal of Approval</b></p> <p>The logo of the Association of Zoos &amp; Aquariums indicates that a zoo treats animals well and devotes money to education and conservation.</p>	<p><b>Creature Comforts</b></p> <p>Look closely at the animals' living conditions. Do the animals have enough space? Do their enclosures have enough elements to occupy and stimulate them?</p>	<p><b>Teaching Tools</b></p> <p>Zoos should have signs posted about animals' conservation status and life in the wild. They may also have staff available to answer visitors' questions.</p>
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**WRITE ABOUT IT!**  
Is it OK to keep animals in zoos? Find at least three pieces of evidence in the article or sidebars to support your opinion. Then use that evidence and additional research to write an argument essay.



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**Test Prep**

## Know the News: The Future of Zoos

Read the article on pp. 10-14, then answer the questions.

1. Which is a central idea of the article?

- (A) More than 25 zoos have closed their elephant exhibits in recent years.
- (B) People have been collecting and displaying animals for thousands of years.
- (C) Many zoos are changing the way they treat and exhibit animals.
- (D) Gorillas, monkeys, and bonobos at the Jacksonville Zoo have a large enclosure.

2. Which detail best supports that central idea?

- (A) The Philadelphia Zoo introduced a trail system for its animals that lets them cross the zoo overhead in mesh bridges and tunnels.
- (B) Baby animals often increase zoo attendance.
- (C) Studies have shown that animals in captivity suffer from anxiety, stress, and boredom.
- (D) The debate over keeping animals in captivity has grown more heated.

3. Based on context clues in the following statement, what does *expansive* mean? "The primates' expansive enclosure is a far cry from the metal cages that were once standard in zoos."

- (A) cramped
- (B) wild
- (C) old-fashioned
- (D) spacious

4. How are zoos today different from in the past?

- (A) Zoos today are solely focused on entertainment.
- (B) Zoos today devote millions of dollars to conservation and research.
- (C) Zoos today do not breed endangered species.
- (D) Zoos today are no longer controversial.

5. According to zoo critics, which is one reason zoos are inhumane?

- (A) Some animals in captivity suffer from anxiety and stress.
- (B) Zoo animal enclosures have gotten larger.
- (C) Many animal species are endangered.
- (D) Jacksonville Zoo has computerized learning stations for its gorillas.

6. Why does the author mention zoos' breeding efforts for the red wolf and the black-footed ferret?

- (A) to emphasize how difficult it is to help wild animal populations recover
- (B) to show how zoos have helped prevent some species from becoming extinct
- (C) to highlight the importance of enclosures that reflect animals' natural habitats
- (D) to convince readers that zoos should not breed endangered animals

7. Which detail best supports the idea that life in captivity is often difficult for animals?

- (A) Zoo attendance has increased by 20 percent over the past 15 years.
- (B) Some endangered animals do not have a natural habitat to go back to.
- (C) Big cats walk in endless loops in captivity but not in the wild.
- (D) Many animals raised in captivity lack the skills to survive in the wild.

8. Which best describes the structure of the article?

- (A) chronological
- (B) cause and effect
- (C) compare/contrast
- (D) problem/solution

9. Which statement *cannot* be supported by information in the article?

- (A) Improvements in zoos will likely end the debate over keeping animals in captivity.
- (B) Many zoos will likely continue to transform how they treat and exhibit animals.
- (C) In the eyes of zoo critics, animal sanctuaries are more humane than zoos.
- (D) Many species are endangered because of poaching and habitat loss.

10. Which word best describes Philadelphia Zoo's animal trail system and Jacksonville Zoo's computerized learning stations for gorillas?

- (A) standard
- (B) controversial
- (C) limiting
- (D) innovative

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## For the Glory of Zeus

Read the selection. Think about the meanings of the **boldfaced** words. Then go back to the selection. Underline the words or sentences that give you a clue to the meaning of each **boldfaced** word.

The next time you watch an Olympic race, think about Coroebus. This young runner was the first Olympic winner on record. He won a two-hundred-meter race held near a place called Olympia, in Greece. That was three thousand years ago.

The Olympic games were started as a part of a religious ceremony, a **tribute** to the chief Greek god, Zeus. They were held every four years. At first, there was only one event, the race that Coroebus won. People came from neighboring villages to sit on the grass and watch. Later, a **stadium** was built. Then the runners competed in this enclosed, roofless area.

As the games became more popular, more events were added. These included chariot races and the pentathlon. This five-event contest featured running, jumping, wrestling, throwing the discus, and throwing the **javelin**, or spear.

At the height of the games in ancient Greece, **attendance** was in the tens of thousands. Only men could go to the games. Women were not permitted to watch, and any found at the games could be put to death. The men at the Olympics came from all over the Greek world. During times of war, they would **proclaim** a truce during and just after the games. With peace declared, men could travel without fear.

Then, as now, the athletes underwent **strenuous** training. Every day they worked out under the stern eyes of their coaches. Participants were also very **competitive**. Winning was everything. It was the **supreme** achievement. No prizes were given for second or third place. Losers walked away in shame.

With great **pomp** and splendor, each winning player was marched to the Temple of Zeus. There, the **contestant** received his prize, a wreath from the sacred olive tree. But the most important prize for an Olympic athlete was the honor of being the best, earned through great skill and effort.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

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## Context Clues

For each sentence write the letter of the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the word or words in italics. Use context clues to help you choose the correct answer.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. The Greeks honored Zeus, their chief god, by *paying tribute* to him through athletic events at Olympic games.  
A honoring      B illustrating      C ignoring      D challenging
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. The Olympic events required a lot of energy; in fact, they were so *strenuous* that only the strongest and most skilled competitors had even a small chance to win.  
A dangerous      B difficult      C entertaining      D popular
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. The athletes competed in an enclosed area, a roofless building called a *stadium*.  
A foundation      B meadow      C coliseum      D temple
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. The Olympic games became so popular that the stadium was always filled, with *attendance* in the tens of thousands.  
A challengers      B students      C players      D spectators
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. People's everyday lives were ordinary, so they loved the excitement created by the *pomp* and ceremony of the Olympics.  
A fanfare      B boredom      C brightness      D heat
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Throwing the *javelin* was a part of a tough five-event contest.  
A stone      B spear      C arrow      D ball
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Each *contestant* had to perform well in all five events in order to win.  
A winner      B participant      C observer      D official
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Each athlete was very *competitive* because winning was extremely important.  
A interested      B exhausted      C deliberate      D aggressive
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. To win was the *supreme* achievement that all competitors wished for; to lose meant shame.  
A most annoying      B most frightening      C greatest      D lowest
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. The Olympic games meant so much to the people of ancient Greece that they would *proclaim* a truce during a time of war in order to hold the games.  
A destroy      B disturb      C declare      D defeat



# Connotations

Some words are very close in meaning, yet there are small differences among them. The words suggest slightly different things. This means that the words have different **connotations**. Words can have positive connotations and negative connotations. For example, read the two sentences below.

- My brother is very thrifty in his spending.
- My brother is very cheap in his spending.

Both *thrifty* and *cheap* mean "conservative," but *thrifty* has a positive connotation and *cheap* has a negative connotation.

Read the sentence pairs below. One of the sentences in each pair contains an underlined word with a positive connotation, and one contains an underlined word with a negative connotation. Write *positive* or *negative* on the lines next to the sentences.

- \_\_\_\_\_ John is a very competitive player on the court.

\_\_\_\_\_ John is a very pushy player on the court.
- \_\_\_\_\_ We participated in grueling activities in gym class today.

\_\_\_\_\_ We participated in strenuous activities in gym class today.

# Find the Word

Read each sentence. Look for clues to help you complete each sentence with a word from the box. Write the word on the line.

pomp	tribute	stadium
javelin	proclaim	attendance

1. A ceremony that is very grand and elaborate would be filled with \_\_\_\_\_ and splendor.
2. The coach requires regular \_\_\_\_\_ at every practice; if a player misses a practice, she can't play in the game.
3. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a place where events are held.
4. People honor, or pay \_\_\_\_\_, to soldiers who have fought for their country.
5. I threw a spear, or a \_\_\_\_\_, at the sporting event.

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## Analogies

An **analogy** compares two pairs of words. The relationship between the first pair of words is the same as the relationship between the second pair of words.

Example: *Heavy* is to *light* as *hot* is to *cold*.

Use the words in the box to complete the following analogies.

supreme      tribute      contestant      strenuous      javelin      proclaim

1. *Smallest* is to *least* as *highest* is to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. *Game* is to *player* as *contest* is to \_\_\_\_\_.
3. *Question* is to *ask* as *statement* is to \_\_\_\_\_.
4. *Swing* is to *bat* as *throw* is to \_\_\_\_\_.
5. *Mistreat* is to *insult* as *honor* is to \_\_\_\_\_.
6. *Inactive* is to *sluggish* as *difficult* is to \_\_\_\_\_.

## Cloze Paragraph

Use the words in the box to complete the paragraph. Then reread the paragraph to be sure it makes sense.

strenuous      tribute      attendance      pomp      stadium      competitive

If you wanted to compete as an athlete in the Olympic games, you would have to go through

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ training. You would have to be very (2) \_\_\_\_\_  
in order to win. Or you might just enjoy watching the Olympic games with all their splendor and  
(3) \_\_\_\_\_. Just being in (4) \_\_\_\_\_ could be truly exciting.  
I have never sat in an Olympic (5) \_\_\_\_\_, but I would like to someday. I hope to  
attend as a (6) \_\_\_\_\_ to my grandfather, who competed in the Olympics in the  
high jump competition.

## Understanding Related Words

The words in the box are closely related to the vocabulary words. See how many of the words you already know. Use the glossary to find the definitions of unfamiliar words.

candidate	attained	cross-country	gauge	archives
stopwatch	spectators	factor	capable	scoreboard

Write each word from the box in front of its meaning.

1. \_\_\_\_\_: a watch that can be instantly stopped and started, used for measuring tiny amounts of time
2. \_\_\_\_\_: people who watch something or look on without taking part
3. \_\_\_\_\_: to measure something; to judge
4. \_\_\_\_\_: a board on which scores of a sporting event are posted
5. \_\_\_\_\_: person who seeks a position of honor
6. \_\_\_\_\_: going across open country such as fields and woods instead of using a road
7. \_\_\_\_\_: element or idea that helps to bring about a result
8. \_\_\_\_\_: historical records
9. \_\_\_\_\_: able; having the power, ability, and fitness to do something
10. \_\_\_\_\_: reached, achieved; gained through effort

## Challenge Yourself

1. Name two factors that are important to success in life.  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Name an activity that you are capable of doing well.  
\_\_\_\_\_

Word Skills

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### Word Groups

Read each pair of words. Think about how they are alike. Write the word from the box that best completes each group.

spectators    gauge    stopwatch    candidate    capable    archives

1. records, documents, \_\_\_\_\_
2. audience, fans, \_\_\_\_\_
3. clock, timer, \_\_\_\_\_
4. able, ready, \_\_\_\_\_
5. applicant, nominee, \_\_\_\_\_
6. judge, measure, \_\_\_\_\_

### Rewriting Sentences

Rewrite these sentences using one of the words from the box.

cross-country    attained    gauge    scoreboard    archives    factor

1. The rower achieved her goal of finishing the race.  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. The coach will carefully determine the distance.  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Javier's love of animals was a major element in his decision to become a veterinarian.  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. The board showing the score proved that we won the game by a narrow margin.  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Her name is in the school's historical records.  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Running across open fields is one way to train for many sports.  
\_\_\_\_\_

Word Skills

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**Standardized Test Practice**

Read each sentence. Circle the word that best completes the sentence.

**TIP**

Before you choose an answer, try reading the sentences with each answer choice. This will help you choose an answer that makes sense.

1. The crowd was impressed by the \_\_\_\_\_ of the ceremony.  
 A tickets                      B heat                      C pomp                      D time
2. In her acceptance speech, the winner paid \_\_\_\_\_ to her acting coach.  
 A tribute                      B money                      C energy                      D dismissal
3. The judges will \_\_\_\_\_ the winners at the end of the competition.  
 A send                      B train                      C ridicule                      D proclaim
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ are at the starting line, ready to begin the race.  
 A spectators                      B contestants                      C larger-than-life                      D modern
5. Some of the races are very \_\_\_\_\_ and tiring.  
 A strenuous                      B humorous                      C ancient                      D supreme
6. The large \_\_\_\_\_ holds 50,000 spectators.  
 A container                      B stadium                      C library                      D magazine
7. The bad weather caused poor \_\_\_\_\_ at the events; most of the people chose to stay home.  
 A seats                      B friendship                      C lights                      D attendance
8. I am amazed at how far that competitor can throw the \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A javelin                      B monitor                      C competition                      D stadium
9. Winning the gold medal in the 400-meter relay was a \_\_\_\_\_ achievement for the girls on the team.  
 A sudden                      B supreme                      C disappointing                      D simple
10. Jamison is a \_\_\_\_\_ player who always wants to win.  
 A competitive                      B contestant                      C illiterate                      D visual