

Name: _____

Date: _____

Comprehension Check: Context Clues

Read the story below. Then answer the questions that follow in complete sentences.



The Language of Bees

Honey bees are insects that live in colonies or groups. They mostly eat the nectar or pollen from flowers. Bees cannot use words like we do, so they speak to each other by dancing.

Bees communicate through two different dances that tell the other bees the location and the quality of the food that they found. The first dance is called the waggle dance. It is done by the bee waggling its stinger, then turning in a figure eight pattern. This dance tells the other bees that food is far away. The second dance is called the round dance. In this dance, the bee moves in a circular pattern. This dance tells the other bees that food is very near. However, whether the food is nearby or far away, the bees will find it, and once it is found, they enjoy a delicious meal together.

So, the next time you observe a colony of busy bees, try to identify the type of dance they are doing. Maybe then, you two will be able to understand the language that bees speak.

By: The GLAT Team 2015

1. Using words from the passage, write a word that means the same or almost the same as the following words:

- (A) colonies: _____
- (B) nectar: _____
- (C) observe: _____

2. ‘Bees talk to each other by dancing.’

Write the **TWO** words from the passage that has the same meaning as **talk** as it is used in the sentence.

3. In addition to the location of the food, name one other message that is shared among the bees through their dance.

4. ‘**Bees mostly eat nectar or pollen from flowers.**’ This statement is telling us that:

- (A) Bees always eat nectar or pollen.
- (B) Bees mainly eat nectar or pollen.
- (C) Bees never eat nectar or pollen.
- (D) Bees sometimes eat nectar or pollen.

5. Using the information from the passage, complete the chart to show what each dance tells the bees about their food.

Movement of Bees	Round Dance	Waggle Dance
Information		

6. Based on information given in the passage, you can tell that the other bees:

- (A) are afraid to talk to each other.
- (B) do not understand the language of the dance.
- (C) do not like to dance for the food.
- (D) understand the language of the dance.

7. ‘**Sue wants to observe a colony of bees to see if she can identify their dances.**’ In this statement the term ‘**observe**’ means to:

- (A) look away from something.
- (B) look at something very closely.
- (C) not look at something at all.
- (D) peek at something.

8. Read the statements below. Write ‘T’ if the statement is true and ‘F’ if the statement is false.

- (A) Bees must cooperate in order for them to survive. _____
- (B) Bees use words to communicate. _____
- (C) Bees eat because they dance. _____
- (D) The dancers are named after their movement. _____