



Reading Explorer 5, Third Edition Extra Comprehension Questions

Reading 8A: *The Genius of Swarms*

Choose the best answer for each question.

DETAIL

1. The author does NOT mention that insect-based decision-making is used by trucking companies in _____.
a. the United States
b. Italy
c. Switzerland
d. France

COHESION

2. The following sentence could best be added to the end of which paragraph?

After a while, dozens of scouts were dancing their little feet off, some for one site, some for another, and a small cloud of bees was buzzing around each box.

- a. paragraph L
- b. paragraph M
- c. paragraph N
- d. paragraph O

INFERENCE

3. When discussing the process bees use to find a new site for their nest, the author suggests that _____.
a. scouts communicate the news to the swarm by dancing
b. the researchers predicted which new home the bees would choose
c. swarms first break up and then send out scouts
d. scouts first build their new home, then inform the swarm



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DETAIL

4. Both ants and bees _____.
 - a. use pheromones to mark their routes
 - b. fight with other groups of insects
 - c. are divided into specialized groups
 - d. are all clever little engineers

VOCBULARY

5. What does the phrase *rules of thumb* in paragraph R mean?
 - a. rough, approximate rules
 - b. formal written rules
 - c. rules based on science
 - d. very old rules