

The other part of the explanation is body size. Larger animals require more food than smaller animals, but smaller animals have a higher metabolic rate. Smaller animals can therefore live where there is less food, **provided that** such food is of high energy content. That is why the smallest of the herbivores, Thomson's gazelle, lives on fruit that is very nutritious but too thin on the ground to support a larger animal. By contrast, the large zebra lives on the masses of low-quality stem material.

9. The phrase "provided that" in the passage is closest in meaning to
- ☐ as long as
  - ☐ unless
  - ☐ as if
  - ☐ even though

The differences in feeding preferences lead, in turn, to differences in migratory habits. The wildebeests follow, in their migration, the pattern of local rainfall. The other species do likewise. But when a new area is fueled by rain, the mammals migrate toward it in a set order to exploit it. The larger, less fastidious feeders, the zebras, move in first; the choosier, smaller wildebeests come later; and the smallest species of all, Thomson's gazelle, arrives last. The later species all depend on the preparations of the earlier one, for the actions of the zebra alter the vegetation to suit the stomachs of the wildebeest, topi, and gazelle.

10. The word "fastidious" in the passage is closest in meaning to

  - ☐ rapid
  - ☐ determined
  - ☐ flexible
  - ☐ demanding

11. According to paragraph 4, which of the following mammals exhibits a feeding behavior that is beneficial to the other herbivores that share the same habitat?

  - ☐ Topi
  - ☐ Zebra
  - ☐ Wildebeest
  - ☐ Gazelle

12. According to the passage, which of the following is true of wildebeests?

  - ☐ They eat more stem matter than zebras do.
  - ☐ They are able to digest large food particles if the food is of a high quality.
  - ☐ They tend to choose feeding areas in which the vegetation has been worn down.
  - ☐ They are likely to choose low-quality food to eat in periods when the quantity of rainfall is low.

The differences in feeding preferences lead, in turn, to differences in migratory habits. (1) The wildebeests follow, in their migration, the pattern of local rainfall. (2) The other species do likewise. (3) But when a new area is fueled by rain, the mammals migrate toward it in a set order to exploit it. (4) The larger, less fastidious feeders, the zebras, move in first; the choosier, smaller wildebeests come later; and the smallest species of all, Thomson's gazelle, arrives last. The later species all depend on the preparations of the earlier one, for the actions of the zebra alter the vegetation to suit the stomachs of the wildebeest, topi, and gazelle.

13. **Directions:** Look at the part of the passage that is displayed above. The numbers (1), (2), (3), and (4) indicate where the following sentence could be added.

**The sequence in which they migrate correlates with their body size.**

Where would the sentence best fit?

- ☐ Choice 1
- ☐ Choice 2
- ☐ Choice 3
- ☐ Choice 4

14. **Directions:** An introductory sentence for a brief summary of the passage is provided below. Complete the summary by selecting the THREE answer choices that express the most important ideas in the passage. Some sentences do not belong in the summary because they express ideas that are not presented in the passage or are minor ideas in the passage. **This question is worth 2 points.**

**East African herbivores, though they all live in the same environment, have a range of feeding preferences.**

**Answer Choices**

1. The survival of East African mammals depends more than anything else on the quantity of highly nutritious fruits that they are able to find.

2. An herbivore's size and metabolic rate affect the kinds of food and the quantities of food it needs to eat.

3. Zebras and wildebeests rarely compete for the same food resources in the same locations.

4. The different digestive systems of herbivores explain their feeding preferences.

5. Migratory habits are influenced by feeding preferences.

6. Patterns in the migratory habits of East African herbivores are hard to establish.