

READING A MAGAZINE ARTICLE

Practice test

Name: _____

Read this article and answer the following questions.

ERMINE ESCAPE

ANIMAL: ERMINE

HABITAT: Marshes and rocky areas near woodlands and treeless plains

The ermine doesn't turn completely white in winter—it sports a black tip on its tail year-round. Why? The black blotch is a sneaky defense against flying predators like hawks. When the bird swoops down to attack, the black tip confuses them.

The hawk sees the ermine moving one way, and its tail flailing behind it in other directions. This blur of motion can cause a hawk to miss the ermine entirely.



WINTER **SUMMER**

WINTER

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Answer the following questions based on the article.

1. What is the title of the article? _____
2. What animal is it? _____
3. Where does the animal live? _____
4. What are the colors of the animal during summer?
 - a. All white
 - b. All black
 - c. All brown
 - d. White and brown
 - e. White and black
5. What is the color of the animal during winter?
 - a. All white
 - b. All black
 - c. All brown
 - d. White and brown
 - e. White and black
6. Why does the tail have a black tip?
 - a. To confuse its predator
 - b. To attract its predator
 - c. To attack its predator
7. Why does the animal change colors?
 - a. For fun
 - b. For protection
 - c. For fashion
8. Who is the predator of this animal? _____
9. From what magazine is this article taken? _____
10. Which month edition is it? _____