Reading Comprehension

Name: _____ Date: _____

Grade: _____

English Language

Don't be afraid of Bats

Read very carefully through the following passage, and then answer the questions in complete sentences.

Imagine you are standing near a bridge. Suddenly, a bat under the bridge. Soon, more bats swoop down. Would you be scared? Why are so many people afraid of bats? Some people say that bats like to nest in people's hair. Others say that many people get sick from bats. But these things are not true! Bats are amazing creatures. Bats even do things that help us.

Bats are mammals. They have fur. Their babies are born alive. Mother bats make milk. Bats are the only mammals that can fly.

Many bats fly by using sound. The bats make a little noise. Then it listens. The sound hits something and bounces back to the bat. The echo tells the bat where things are. Then the bat knows where to go.

Do you like to eat bananas? If so, you might thank a bat. Some bats help bananas, dates and figs grow. Like bees, bats move pollen from one plant to another. Do you like to get bitten by insects? Of course you don't. You might thank a bat for eating insects. One bat can eat up to 600 insects in one hour.

The number of bats in the world is getting smaller. As people build cities and roads, bats are losing their homes. Some people think that all bats are pests. They try to harm bats. But now you know that bats are really amazing creatures that help people.

In fact, you may come to think of bats the way people do in China. In China, bats are thought to bring good luck and happiness. No matter where you are in the world, don't be afraid of bats. If you see a bat, don't scream. Just think of how lucky you are!

Questions

1. What would be another good title for this article?

_____(2pts)

2. Why are some people afraid of bats?

_____

_____(2pts)

3. How does the author feel about bats? Give a reason from the passage to support your answer.

_____

_____(2pts)

4. List 4 ways that bats benefit people.

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_____(4pts)

5. Why is the number of bats in the world getting smaller?

_____(2pts)

6. In what way is the bat different from all other mammals?

_____(2pts)

7. List 3 other characteristics of bats (separate from your answer for #6). (3pts)

1._____

2._____

3._____

8. In what way are bats similar to bees?

_____(2pts)

9. How do people in China view bats?

_____(1pt)