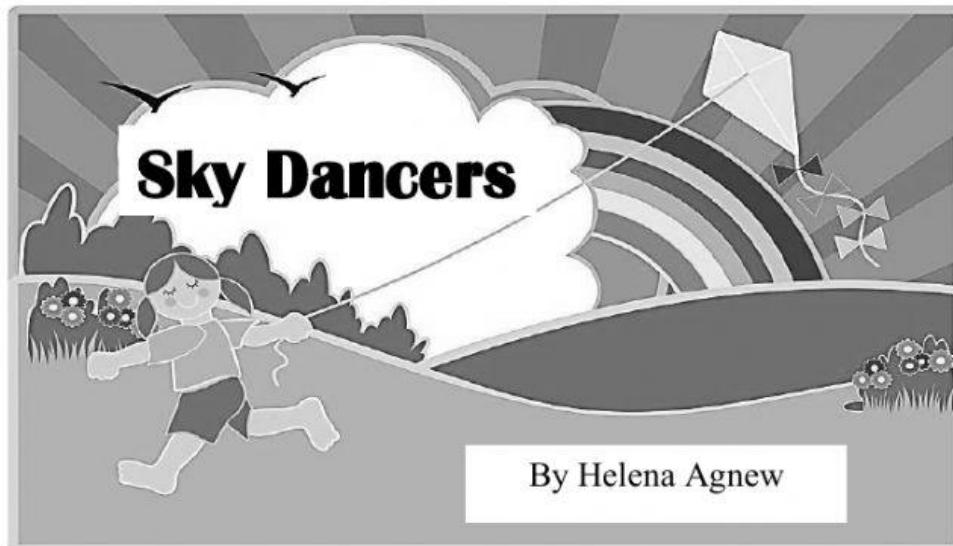


Comprehension

TASK NON-FICTION	Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. Use complete sentences.
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They swoop. They dip. They toss their tails about. They catch the wind and glide high in the sky. What are these objects dancing in the wind? They are kites.

5 Kites have a long history. More than three thousand years ago, people in China made the first kites. They used bamboo – light, strong plant stems – to build the frames. Then they added silk to make the kite.

10 The kite became an important symbol in China. People flew kites to celebrate happy events like birthdays. They believed kites could help tell the future. Later, they used kites to study the weather. Some Chinese stories tell of how army generals used kites to defeat their enemies.

Soon kites came to other parts of Asia. In Japan, as in China, people believed that kites brought good fortune. However, while Chinese kites had

been simple rectangles, Japanese kites took the forms of larger birds, dragons and fish.

15 After a while, the kite found its way from Asia to Europe. In the 1600s, young English children learned to make kites. People named the new toy “kite” because it glided like a kite – a bird of prey. Today, children and grown-ups all over the world enjoy flying kites.

Go Fly a Kite!



20 Kites may be different shapes, sizes and colours.
20 Some kites are flat and diamond shaped. Some look like boxes. Other kites fly across the sky in the shapes of butterflies, birds and even great white sharks. A kite may be one colour or a rainbow of colours.

25 Today, kites are often made of nylon or plastic. Their frames may be a light metal. Some kites are still made of paper and wood. Whatever they look like, kites are fun. So the next time you have a chance, take a break! Go fly a kite!

Agnew, Helena. **Sky Dancers in Hi-Lo Nonfiction Passages for Struggling Readers**. New York,

1. What is the main idea of this article?

(2 marks)

2. Where were the first kites made?

(2 marks)

3. What is the main idea of the section, “Go Fly a Kite!”

(2 marks)

4. Why did the author write this article?

(2 marks)

5. Jenny was flying her kite in the savannah. Suddenly, it started to rain heavily. What do you think happened next?

(2 marks)

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE

SURPRISE!

10 000 for Dinner

By Stephanie Lesser



A ship was sailing in a part of the ocean called the Persian Gulf. Suddenly, people on the ship saw a strange sight. It looked like a huge reef. (A reef is like an island made out of coral.) But there wasn't any reef on their maps.

As the ship sailed closer, the reef moved! Then the people on the ship saw that it wasn't a reef at all. It was dolphins! Ten thousand dolphins! They had gathered for a dolphin dinner party. It was one of the largest collections of dolphins ever seen at one time.

Dolphins travel in groups called pods. A dolphin pod will often join another pod to catch and eat fish. Often pods get together about the same time to eat. A pod will catch and eat fish for about an hour.

Want to know more about dolphins? Here's Dolly Dolphin to explain.

Every part of a dolphin's body does a special job.

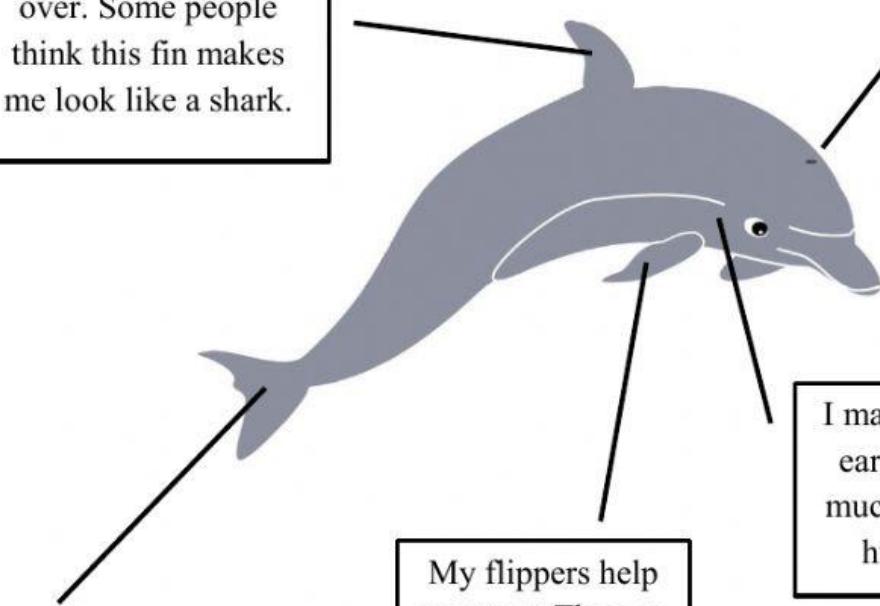
My dorsal or back fin, keeps me from tipping over. Some people think this fin makes me look like a shark.

My tail is very strong. When I move it up and down – whoosh – I speed through the water.

My flippers help me steer. They go left, right, up and down.

I open my blowhole to breathe in air. I'm a mammal, you know. I close my blowhole when I dive.

I may have small ears, but I hear much better than humans do.



Lesser, Stephanie. **SURPRISE! 10 000 for Dinner** in Hi-Lo Nonfiction Passages for Struggling Readers. New York, New York. USA. Scholastic Inc.

6. What is a dolphin pod?

(2 marks)

7. What do you think the people on the boat did after they saw the ten thousand dolphins?

(2 marks)

8. Write in a sentence, one fact about dolphins from the passage.

(2 marks)

9. Write a simile that is mentioned in the passage.

(2 marks)

10. Write a summary of what Dolly Dolphin says.

(2 marks)

END OF TEST