Student's Name					**Remedial Practice Sheet**
Grade	8	Section	8A / 8D	Date	____ / ____ / 2026

THE SWEET WORK OF BEES | READING & LANGUAGE PRACTICE

MAP Growth Style · Remedial Class

A. Reading Comprehension

Read the passage carefully. After each paragraph, write a short note in the margin: "This part is about…"

The Sweet Work of Bees

[1] For thousands of years, honey **has been enjoyed** by people all over the world. It **is spread** on bread, stirred into tea, and used in medicine. In the Holy Quran, a whole surah **is named** after the bee, An-Nahl, and honey **is described** as a drink that holds healing for people. But few people stop to think about how this golden food **is** actually **made**. The answer is surprising: every jar of honey is the result of thousands of hours of careful teamwork.

[2] A honeybee colony can contain up to 60,000 bees, and each bee has a job. The queen lays the eggs, while the male bees, called drones, have only one task: to mate with a queen. Almost all the work in the hive **is done** by the female worker bees. Some workers clean the hive, some feed the young, and some guard the entrance from enemies. The oldest workers **are given** the most dangerous job of all: flying outside to collect food.

[3] Honey begins as nectar, a sweet liquid that **is produced** by flowers. On a single trip, a worker bee may visit between 50 and 100 flowers. The nectar **is sucked up** through her long, tube-like tongue and **is stored** in a special "honey stomach," which is separate from the stomach she uses for her own food. When this stomach is full, she flies back to the hive, which may be several kilometers away.

[4] Inside the hive, the work continues. The nectar **is passed** from the forager to younger "house bees" mouth to mouth. As it **is passed** along, special enzymes **are added**, and these slowly change the nectar into honey. The liquid **is** then **placed** into the six-sided wax cells of the honeycomb. However, fresh nectar contains too much water, so it **cannot be stored** yet. To solve this problem, the bees fan the honey with their wings until much of the water has evaporated. Finally, each cell **is sealed** with a thin cap of wax, and the honey **is kept** safe until it **is needed**.

[5] The numbers behind this process are astonishing. In her whole life, a single worker bee makes only about one-twelfth of a teaspoon of honey. This means that one jar of honey represents the lifetime work of hundreds of bees. Because bees often produce more honey than the colony needs for winter, beekeepers can carefully collect the extra without harming the hive.

[6] Sadly, bee populations **are threatened** in many parts of the world. Their homes **are being destroyed**, and harmful chemicals **are sprayed** on the crops they visit. This matters to everyone, not only to honey lovers. About one-third of the food we eat depends on pollination, much of it done by bees. If bees **are protected**, our food supply **will be protected** too. The tiny worker bee, it turns out, carries a very big responsibility.

Highlighted words = the grammar focus for Part D.

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B. Reading: Multiple Choice (10 marks)

Choose the best answer. Go back to the passage to prove your answer, and write the paragraph number [ ] next to each question.

1. Which statement best expresses the central idea of the passage?

A) Bees are dangerous insects that people should keep away from.
B) Honey has been used as food and medicine for thousands of years.
C) Making honey is a complex teamwork process, and bees are important to people in many ways.
D) Beekeepers can collect extra honey without harming the hive.

2. According to paragraph 2, which bees collect food outside the hive?

A) the queen
B) the drones
C) the youngest worker bees
D) the oldest worker bees

3. Read the sentence from paragraph 5: "The numbers behind this process are astonishing." What does astonishing most likely mean?

A) very surprising
B) quite boring
C) a little frightening
D) difficult to count

4. According to paragraph 4, what happens right after the nectar is placed into the wax cells?

A) Special enzymes are added to it.
B) The bees fan it with their wings to remove water.
C) It is passed from bee to bee mouth to mouth.
D) It is sucked up through the bee's tongue.

5. Based on paragraph 3, what can the reader infer about worker bees?

A) They only collect nectar from flowers close to the hive.
B) They eat most of the nectar they collect.
C) They visit only one flower on each trip.
D) They work very hard and travel far to collect small amounts of nectar.

6. How is paragraph 4 mainly organized?

A) compare and contrast
B) historical events in time order
C) steps in a process
D) an opinion with supporting reasons

7. Why does the author include the fact that one worker bee makes only one-twelfth of a teaspoon of honey in her life?

A) to emphasize how much work goes into a single jar of honey
B) to show that honey is very expensive
C) to persuade readers to become beekeepers
D) to explain why bees live a short life

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8. Why do the bees fan the honey with their wings?

A) to keep the queen cool
B) to remove extra water so the honey can be stored
C) to add enzymes to the nectar
D) to keep enemies away from the cells

9. Which sentence from the passage best supports the idea that bees matter to everyone, not only to honey lovers?

A) "It is spread on bread, stirred into tea, and used in medicine."
B) "The queen lays the eggs, while the male bees, called drones, have only one task."
C) "On a single trip, a worker bee may visit between 50 and 100 flowers."
D) "About one-third of the food we eat depends on pollination, much of it done by bees."

10. In the last sentence, the phrase "carries a very big responsibility" suggests that the worker bee —

A) plays a very important role in our lives
B) carries heavy loads of nectar
C) is larger than most insects
D) is blamed for problems in the hive

C. Reading: Short Answer (4 marks)

Answer in complete sentences. Use evidence from the passage.

11. Explain how bees make sure their honey is kept safe inside the hive. Use TWO details from paragraph 4.

12. The author says that bee populations are threatened. Give TWO reasons from paragraph 6 and explain why this matters to people.

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D. Language Skill: The Passive Voice

Grammar focus from the passage (Common Core L.8.1b: form and use verbs in the active and passive voice).

The Passive Voice = be + past participle (V3)

Active: The queen lays the eggs. → **Passive:** The eggs are laid by the queen.

We use the passive when: (1) the action or process is more important than the doer, or (2) the doer is unknown or obvious. Add "by + doer" only when the doer is important.

How to change active → passive: ① the object becomes the subject ② use "be" in the SAME tense ③ add V3 ④ (by + doer).

Tense	Form	Example from the passage
Present simple	**am / is / are + V3**	"Each cell is sealed with a thin cap of wax." (¶4)
Past simple	**was / were + V3**	"The hive was cleaned yesterday." (example)
Present continuous	**am / is / are + being + V3**	"Their homes are being destroyed." (¶6)
Present perfect	**has / have + been + V3**	"Honey has been enjoyed by people…" (¶1)
Modals	**can / cannot / must + be + V3**	"…so it cannot be stored yet." (¶4)
Future	**will + be + V3**	"…our food supply will be protected too." (¶6)

E. Language Practice (12 marks)

Choose the best answer.

1. **Which sentence from the passage is in the ACTIVE voice?**
   - **A)** "Almost all the work in the hive is done by the female worker bees."
   - **B)** "The queen lays the eggs."
   - **C)** "Each cell is sealed with a thin cap of wax."
   - **D)** "Bee populations are threatened in many parts of the world."

2. **Choose the correct verb to complete the sentence.**
   Today, honey _____ in almost every country in the world.
   - **A)** produces
   - **B)** is producing
   - **C)** is produced
   - **D)** was produce

3. **Choose the correct verb to complete the sentence.**
   Last year, three new beehives _____ in our school garden.
   - **A)** were built
   - **B)** built
   - **C)** are built
   - **D)** was built

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4. Which sentence is the correct PASSIVE form of: "Worker bees build the honeycomb."

A) The honeycomb was built by worker bees.
B) The honeycomb builds worker bees.
C) Worker bees are built by the honeycomb.
D) The honeycomb is built by worker bees.

5. Which sentence is the correct ACTIVE form of: "The cells are sealed by the bees."

A) The bees seal the cells.
B) The bees sealed the cells.
C) The cells seal the bees.
D) The bees are sealing the cells.

6. Choose the correct verb to complete the sentence.

Right now, new research on bees _____ by scientists.

A) is carrying out
B) carries out
C) is being carried out
D) has carried out

7. Choose the correct verb to complete the sentence.

Many beehives _____ by storms since last spring.

A) have destroyed
B) has been destroyed
C) have been destroyed
D) were destroying

8. Choose the correct verb to complete the sentence.

Fresh nectar cannot _____ until most of the water is removed.

A) store
B) be stored
C) been stored
D) being stored

9. Choose the correct verb to complete the sentence.

If we plant more flowers, more bees _____.

A) will protect
B) are protecting
C) will protected
D) will be protected

10. Which sentence is written correctly?

A) The eggs are lay by the queen.
B) The eggs are laid by the queen.
C) The eggs is laid by the queen.
D) The eggs laid by the queen.

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11. Paragraph 4 uses many passive sentences, such as "The liquid is then placed into the six-sided wax cells." Why is the passive voice useful in this paragraph?

A) It keeps the focus on the process and what happens to the honey, not on who does each action.

B) It shows that the bees are lazy.

C) It shows that the events happened long ago.

D) It makes the paragraph sound more like a story.

12. Choose the correct verb to complete the sentence.

The honey from these hives _____ sold at the school fair every year.

A) are

B) were

C) be

D) is

Total: _____ / 26

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