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* Teachers: A reproducible **Revise and Edit Chart** *specific to the task for each Extended Constructed-Response Question* is located in the Teacher's Manual. For those who prefer it, there is also a **generic Revise and Edit Chart** on page 122 of this text.



Keys to Comprehension

CONTEXT CLUES

Sometimes you come across a “mystery word”. It is a word you do not understand. Here is a way to figure out the meaning. **Context Clues** are the words **before** and **after** the mystery word. They help us understand what it means.



Be a word detective! Use Context Clues to figure out a mystery word.

Example:

The *massive* elephant tore down the tree. The elephant looked *huge* as it came up to the tree.

1. Look at the word **massive**.
2. The next sentence says the elephant is **huge**.
3. Read the first sentence using the new word. Does it make sense?

*The **huge** elephant tore down the tree.*

Yes, **massive** means **huge**. That is a good way to figure out a mystery word.



Be a word detective!

When you come to a word you don't know:

- Look for clues in the words around it.
- Then check to see if it makes sense.

Ask Yourself:

Picture: What looks so strange in this picture?

Paragraph 2: Where did these bears live?

Paragraph 5: Does this paragraph explain what happened?

When Bears Turned Green

by Linda Carr

1 Polar bears are supposed to be white. They live in the cold northern parts of the world. Their white fur makes them almost invisible in the snow and ice.

2 But three bears living in a zoo turned green. That's right! The big white bears turned as green as grass. Scientists wondered why it had happened.



3 They cut away some of the bears' fur. Then they looked at it carefully. There were tiny plants, called algae, inside the bears' fur.

4 Algae are teeny little plants that grow mostly in water. They do not have true leaves or flowers. Some kinds of algae can be green. And these algae changed the color of the bears' fur.

5 Scientists believe the algae were living in the small pool used by the bears. When the bears went for a swim, the algae moved into the bears' fur.

6 The algae were not hurting the bears. The bears were not hurting the algae. In fact, they lived together happily. But green polar bears were a strange sight!

Recite:

Tell about the strange problem the bears in this story had. Did they fix it?

Tips for Answering the Objective Question

You will be asked to read some paragraphs of the story again.

There is important information you must understand. Good readers **always** go back to read these parts again.

Circle the letter next to the correct answer.

1. What problem did the zoo bears have?

- a. The zoo keepers cut their fur.
- b. Their fur turned a different color.
- c. They were getting sick.

2. Read paragraph 1 again.

Why is it good that polar bears are white?

- a. They stay clean that way.
- b. They can play in the cold weather.
- c. They can hide in the snow and ice.

3. Why did the scientists want to check the bears?

- a. Green polar bears are odd.
- b. The algae were hurting the bears.
- c. The bears stopped eating.

I found the evidence (information) in paragraph _____, line _____.

4. Read paragraph 4 again.

You can tell that “algae” are:

- a. green plants that grow on hills.
- b. something that makes us sick.
- c. tiny plants that grow in the water.

5. Where did the algae come from?

- a. the bears' fur
- b. the bears' pool
- c. northern parts of the world

I found the evidence (information) in paragraph ____, line ____.

6. Read this sentence from paragraph 1.

Their white fur makes them almost invisible in the snow and ice.

The context (words around it) helps to explain that “invisible” means:

- a. can't be seen.
- b. having no smell.
- c. not real.



Check:

Did you answer ALL questions? (Remember, do not leave a blank!)

Short Constructed-Response Questions

Use evidence from the article to support (prove) your answer.

1. What strange thing does this story tell about? Why is it strange?

2. Explain how the polar bears' fur changed.

