

Reading Comprehension Activity Four

For the questions that follow, two underlined sentences are followed by a question or statement. Read the sentences, then choose the best answer to the question or the best completion of the statement.

1. Young children require mental stimulation from an early age for their mental and behavioral growth.

Playing games and reading to small children helps with their cognitive development.

What does the second sentence do?

- A. It draws a conclusion about what is stated in the first.
 - B. It makes a contrast.
 - C. **It reinforces the first.**
 - D. It proposes a solution.
2. An endangered species in the wild, pandas are supported and bred in zoos in their native China and elsewhere around the world.

Breeding programs have increased the panda population in captivity; Chinese, North American and European scientists collaborate in studying panda behavior to encourage breeding and population growth.

What does the second sentence do?

- A. It states an effect.
- B. It analyzes a statement made in the first sentence.
- C. It makes a contrast.
- D. **It expands on the first sentence.**

3. More people are moving to Texas because of its strong economy, affordable housing, job opportunities, and limited state taxes.

In the fast-growing cities of Houston, Austin, and San Antonio, people are able to buy houses at more affordable rates than in cities like New York, Los Angeles, or Chicago, making these Texas cities attractive destinations for young families.

How do the two sentences relate?

- A. They establish a contrast.
- B. They present a contradiction.
- C. **They reinforce each other.**
- D. They express roughly the same idea.

4. Many people work long hours and consequently eat too much processed or fast food, depriving them of adequate nutrition and providing them with too many empty calories instead.

Vitamin and mineral supplements are widely available at drugstores, and these products are usually very affordable; furthermore, there are multivitamins that contain essential minerals, so people need not take more than one capsule at a time.

How do the two sentences relate?

- A. **They present a problem and a solution.**
- B. They reinforce each other.
- C. They express roughly the same idea.
- D. They present a contradiction.

5. Many working Americans struggle with poverty despite having one or more jobs because their wages are not high enough to cover basic essentials like rent, food, and healthcare.

A higher minimum wage would allow more working Americans to improve their standard of living and ultimately save and invest money, strengthening the U.S. economy as a whole.

What does the second sentence do?

- A. **It proposes a solution.**
- B. It states an effect.
- C. It makes a contrast.
- D. It reinforces the first.