

## Traits and Adaptations Practice (Demo Version)

Read each question carefully.

- 1) In what kind of environment would a bird be most likely to inherit webbed feet?
- A) an environment in which plenty of food can be found underneath sand
  - B) an environment in which plenty of food can be found in bodies of water
  - C) an environment in which plenty of food can be found in nuts and seeds
  - D) an environment in which plenty of food can be found under tree bark
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- 2) Why do cacti have spines?

- A) Cacti have spines because their leaves dried up from high temperatures in deserts. If cacti grew in areas with cooler temperatures, they would grow leaves again.
  - B) Cacti with spines were able to catch more insects than cacti without spines. Because the spines helped cacti capture more food, the cacti became stronger and lived longer than other cacti.
  - C) Cacti with spines were less likely to be eaten by animals than cacti without spines. The cacti with spines survived and produced offspring that also had spines.
  - D) Cacti with spines were harmful to cacti without spines. Over time, cacti with spines destroyed all of the cacti without spines.
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- 3) In what kind of environment would a plant be most likely to inherit very small leaves?
- A) a wet environment in which small leaves would help protect it from heavy rain
  - B) an environment in which small leaves would help protect it from being eaten by animals
  - C) a dry, hot environment in which small leaves would help protect it from losing water
  - D) an environment in which small leaves would help protect it from taking in sunlight
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- 4) Which of these is an example of mimicry?
- A) A jaguar's back has spots with dark marks in the center.
  - B) A spider's body shape and coloring is like that of an ant.
  - C) A deer's brown fur helps it hide in tall grasses.
  - D) A bumblebee's body is covered with black and yellow hairs.
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- 5) Squid are able to change their skin color. They can make their skin color match their surroundings so that they can hide from other organisms.

Of which of the following is this an example?

- A) camouflage
  - B) mutualism
  - C) mimicry
  - D) parasitism
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- 6) Seals have dark brown or gray fur on their backs and pale-colored fur on their undersides.

How does the coloring of a seal help it adapt to its environment?

- A) Its coloring helps it attract prey so that it will have plenty of food to eat.
  - B) Its coloring helps it mimic sharks so that predators will stay away from it.
  - C) Its coloring helps it change its body temperature easily, depending on whether the water is warm or cold.
  - D) Its coloring helps it blend in with its surroundings so that predators do not see it easily from above water or below.
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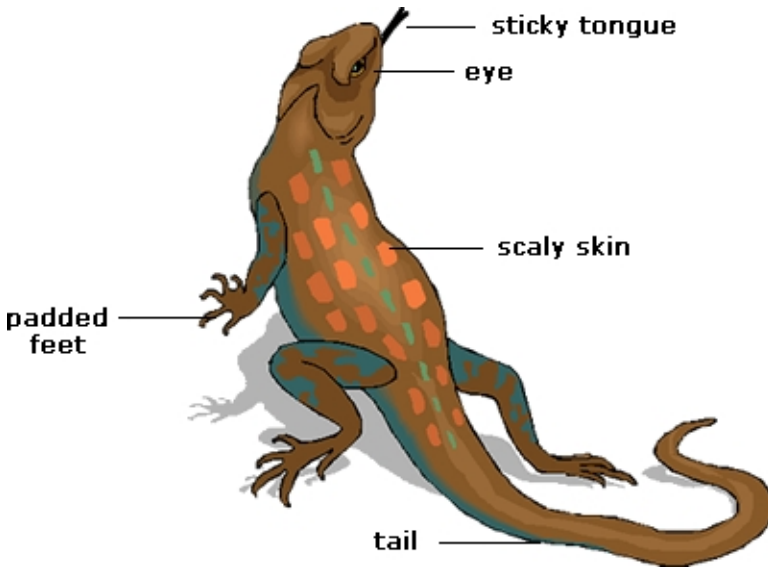
- 7) Which of these is an example of camouflage?
- A) A thick layer of fat helps polar bears stay warm during cold weather.
  - B) A cactus has a thick stem that helps it store water.
  - C) A lizard's coloring helps it blend in with sand and rocks in its environment.
  - D) A hummingbird transfers pollen from one flower to another.
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### "Lizards"

Lizards are found all over the world. Some are found in tropical forests, while others are found in dry deserts. Their skin is covered in scales. The coloring of their scales depends on their habitat. For example, lizards in a forest may have green scales, while lizards in deserts may have brown scales.

Most lizards are good climbers. They are able to climb on walls, trees, and even glass! They eat mostly insects. The picture below shows some parts of a lizard.



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8) from "Lizards"

Identify a structure that helps lizards survive in their desert environment. Explain how the structure helps them survive.

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- 9) Some seal mothers wean (stop nursing) their pups after as little as four days. The milk they feed their pups these first four days is very high in fat.

How does the high-fat content of seal milk best help pups adapt to their environment?

- A) It helps them form a thick layer of fat that will insulate them from the cold.
  - B) It helps them build strong muscles and bones so that they can swim very fast.
  - C) It helps them feed themselves by producing their own milk after they are weaned.
  - D) It helps them have enough fat in their diet since the food they eat does not contain fat.
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