

Benchmark #1 Practice Test–Scrambled Questions

Section 1 - Multiple Choice

For questions 1-3

Read this passage and then answer the question(s) below.

Bears

If you go camping this summer in a state park, you may be lucky enough to see a California black bear. Obviously, everyone loves animals, and most people are excited at the thought of seeing a bear, especially in its natural habitat. Most people, however, don't know what steps to take if they actually come across a bear in the wild. More and more people are now living in cities, and rarely leave their urban environs, so they have never seen a live bear (except for in the zoo). Because of this, they don't realize just how dangerous an encounter with a bear can be.

The California black bear generally weighs about 200 pounds, but some of the biggest can weigh up to 500 pounds. They can run fast-up to thirty miles an hour. If you see a bear, don't try to run away. Instead, make yourself as "big" as possible, by standing up straight and raising your arms. Never approach the bear. Most bears will try to avoid humans, but if a mother bear feels that her cubs are threatened, she may be incited to attack. Baby bear cubs are even cuter than puppies and kittens, but you should never give in to the temptation to pick one up.

There are many ways to discourage bears from coming to your campsite in the first place. Make sure to properly dispose of all garbage, including wrappings and fruit peelings (be assured that bears can smell even the faintest of food odors!) At night, put food far away from your tent or sleeping bag. Bears are very adept at clawing through plastic bags; many can even open up a plastic cooler or break a lock. Because of this, many camping stores sell specially designed food storage units that bears are unable to open (most stores charge too much for these storage units; they should be less expensive). By exercising caution and common sense, you can help ensure that the wilderness is a safe, beautiful place for both people and bears.

1) Read this sentence from the passage:

Most people, however, don't know what steps to take if they actually come across a bear in the wild.

In the wild is-

- (a) a simile that means like a vicious animal.
- (b) a simile that means as wild as it gets.
- (c) an idiom that means acting wildly.
- (d) an idiom that means found in nature.

2) Read this sentence from the passage:

Most bears will try to avoid humans, but if a mother bear feels that her cubs are threatened, she may be incited to attack.

What could replace the underlined phrase without changing the meaning of the sentence?

- (a) feel too excited to attack
- (b) feel uncertain about attacking
- (c) feel angered enough to attack
- (d) feel afraid of being attacked

3) Read this sentence from the passage:

Bears are very adept at clawing through plastic bags; many can even open up a plastic cooler or break a lock.

What means the same as adept?

- (a) skillful
- (b) adamant
- (c) likely
- (d) cheerful

