

Name _____

characteristics	concerns	disagreed	advancements
resistance	prevalent	inherit	agriculture

Finish each sentence using the vocabulary word provided.


Possible responses provided.

- (characteristics)** Fruits such as lemons and limes share some of the same characteristics.
- (prevalent)** During the wintertime cold weather is prevalent in many parts of the country.
- (agriculture)** She went to college to study agriculture and learn the best way to grow crops.
- (inherit)** Many parents hope their children will inherit their best qualities.
- (disagreed)** Some of the fans at the soccer game disagreed with the referee's decisions.
- (concerns)** At the neighborhood meeting, some people raised concerns about safety.
- (advancements)** Computers and cell phones are important advancements in technology.
- (resistance)** To avoid getting sick, you must build up your resistance to disease.

Name _____

Read the selection. Complete the author's point of view graphic organizer.

Details



Author's Point of View

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Name _____

Read the passage. Use the reread strategy to help you understand the text.

Is Nuclear Energy Safe?

12 Atoms are the tiny things that make up everything in the universe.
26 At the center of an atom is the nucleus. The energy that holds the
35 nucleus together is called nuclear energy. Scientists have discovered
49 how to use that energy as power in our everyday lives. This energy is
cheap and clean. But there are dangers as well.

58 Going Nuclear

60 In the 1930s, physicists learned how to use the energy inside atoms.
72 They split the atom. This released a huge amount of energy. This was
85 exciting to many people. We get much of our power from oil and coal.
99 But people knew that oil and coal would not last forever. Nuclear
111 energy was much easier to come by. It was a great discovery!

123 Nuclear power plants have many benefits. They do not release
133 harmful chemicals into the air. The waste that is produced is in solid
146 form. This makes it easier to control. Also, there is a very small
159 amount of waste compared to other ways of making energy.

169 Nuclear power plants last much longer than coal plants. They can
180 sometimes last sixty years. Plus, nuclear power plants use only a tiny
192 amount of fuel to make energy. That means we could make nuclear
204 energy for many generations.

Name _____

Problems with Waste

Sadly, there are serious problems with nuclear power. The first problem is the waste that is produced. It is true, the waste is very small. Yet it is highly toxic. Physicians have discovered it can cause severe illness. It has to be contained. Sometimes though, the waste leaks out. It can get into drinking water. The waste can cause cancer in humans.

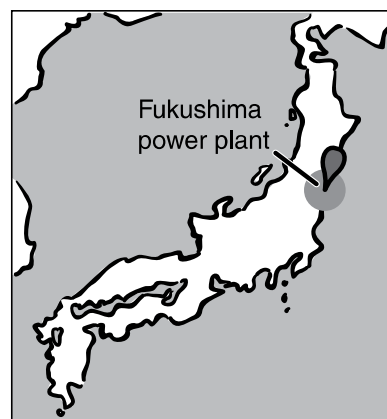
Japan Earthquake Disaster

It is true that accidents are rare. However, they can be very bad if they happen. In 2011, there was a large earthquake in Japan. As a result, one of the nuclear power plants was destroyed. The event is too recent to know all the effects it might have. Still, scientists believe that when the disaster is finally chronicled, it will prove to be one of the worst nuclear disasters ever.

Thousands of people had to be moved away from the plant. Waste leaked into the ocean. The cleanup will be long. It will take decades and it will be very costly.

Being Careful

There is no doubt that nuclear energy can be very good. It can give us energy. It can be safe and cheap. But it can also be dangerous. If we must use it, then we must use it carefully.



Five days after the earthquake, the U.S. government advised Americans within 50 miles of the plant to leave.

Name _____

A. Reread the passage and answer the questions.

Possible responses provided.

1. According to paragraph 2, what is one way that nuclear energy is better than energy from coal and oil?

Nuclear energy is easier to come by.

2. According to paragraphs 3 and 4, what is one of the benefits of nuclear power?

There is a very small amount of waste from nuclear power.

3. List two problems with nuclear energy that the author names in the text.

The waste produced is highly toxic; Accidents at nuclear power plants can be very bad.

4. What is the author's point of view on nuclear energy?

Nuclear energy can be good, but we must be careful when we use it.

B. Work with a partner. Read the passage aloud. Pay attention to rate. Stop after one minute. Fill out the chart.

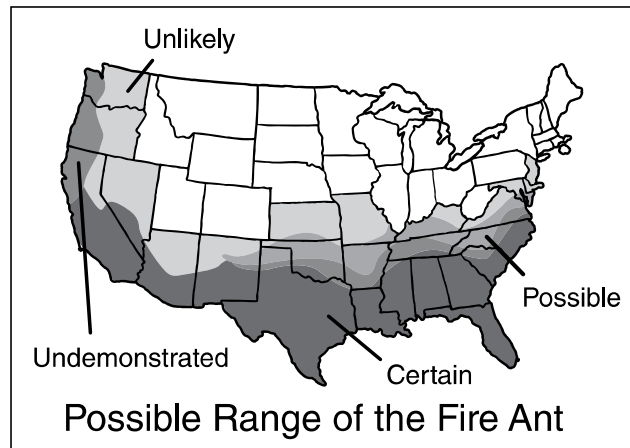
	Words Read	–	Number of Errors	=	Words Correct Score
First Read		–		=	
Second Read		–		=	

Name _____

Should We Use a Virus to Stop Fire Ants?

The fire ant has been an unwelcome guest in the United States ever since its arrival in 1930. Each year, fire ant colonies cause billions of dollars of damage. This much money could be put to better use.

Luckily, scientists have discovered a virus that may help control fire ant colonies. The SINV-1 virus is capable of destroying an infected colony in three months. Scientists' efforts to turn SINV-1 into a pesticide will save citizens a lot of money.



Answer the questions about the text.

1. How do you know this text is a persuasive article?

It includes true facts about an issue and expresses the author's opinion.

2. What is the author's opinion about the SINV-1 virus?

The author thinks it is a good idea to use it as a pesticide because it can destroy a colony. It will prevent damage and save money.

3. What text feature is included? According to the text feature, how is the range of the fire ant changing?

map; Possible response: The fire ant's range is probably increasing.

Name _____

Greek Root Meanings*phys* – nature or body*dec* – ten*gen* – birth or kind*chron* – time

Read each passage below. Use the Greek roots from the box above along with context clues to find the meaning of each word in bold. Write the meaning on the line. **Possible responses provided.**

- In the 1930s, **physicists** learned how to use the energy inside atoms. They split the atom.
scientists who study the nature of things

- Nuclear power plants last much longer than coal plants. They can sometimes last sixty years. Plus, nuclear power plants use only a tiny amount of fuel to make energy. That means we could make nuclear energy for many **generations**.
a group of people born around the same time

- Waste leaked into the ocean. The cleanup will be long. It will take **decades** and it will be very costly.
ten year periods

- A nuclear weapon was used in World War II. John Hersey **chronicled** the events in his true story, *Hiroshima*.
wrote down the events in order of time

Compound Words/Roots and Related Words

Name _____

A. Read each sentence and circle the compound word. Then write the meaning of the compound word based on the smaller words.

Possible definitions provided.

1. There was a terrible snowstorm yesterday.

Meaning: a storm with a lot of snow

2. This new jacket is both warm and waterproof.

Meaning: not able to be damaged by water

3. Did you like to eat peanut butter and jelly sandwiches?

Meaning: a type of food made from peanuts

4. She jumped off the diving board and landed with a splash.

Meaning: a board used for diving into a pool

B. Read the words in the box. Sort them under their related roots below.

refresher
collectible

movement
unfamiliar

collection
freshen

familiarize
remove

collect

1. collection

2. collectible

family

3. familiarize

4. unfamiliar

fresh

5. refresher

6. freshen

move

7. movement

8. remove

Name _____

Evidence is details and examples from a text that support a writer’s opinion. The student who wrote the paragraph below cited evidence that supports the opinion that the author did a good job of presenting information in a compare-and-contrast text structure.

Topic sentence	→	In “Is Nuclear Energy Safe?” I think the author does a good job of comparing and contrasting the benefits and dangers of nuclear energy.
Evidence	→	In the section “Going Nuclear,” the author discusses the advantages of nuclear power. For example, nuclear power plants last longer than coal plants.
Concluding statement	→	In the section “Problems with Waste,” the author explains that the waste produced by nuclear power plants is toxic and can cause cancer. I think the author does a good job of using a compare-and-contrast text structure to show what is good and bad about nuclear energy.

Write a paragraph about the text you have chosen. Tell how well the author used a compare-and-contrast text structure to present information about a topic. Cite evidence from the text. Remember to link your opinions and reasons using words and phrases while using irregular verbs correctly.

Write a topic sentence: _____

Cite evidence from the text: **Answers will vary but should include a topic sentence, evidence from the text, and a concluding statement. Details and examples from the text should support the writer’s opinion of how the author uses a compare-and-contrast text structure.**

End with a concluding statement: _____

Name _____

A. Read the draft model. Use the questions that follow the draft to help you think about the writer's audience.

Draft Model

Technology is cool. It's got this way of making things easier. It does stuff like help people keep up with pals and find important info.

1. Who might be the audience for this writing?
2. What words and details could be added or deleted to make the purpose clearer?
3. What words in the model could be replaced to create a more formal tone?
4. What words and details could be added or deleted to appeal to the audience even more?

B. Now revise the draft by adding or replacing language to make the tone more formal.

Answers will vary but should include language to make the tone more

formal.