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Reading

Weekly Test Lesson 18

Read the passage. Then answer the questions.

Florida Caverns State Park

A Place to Visit

Most people think of sunshine when they think of Florida. Yet one of the state's most amazing places to visit is a cave that the sun does not reach. This cave is in Florida Caverns State Park.

There are more than 20 caves in Florida Caverns State Park. Visitors can tour the main cave. There are also many other fun things to do in the park. Visitors can enjoy the many hiking trails. They can canoe along the Chipola River. They can go on a fishing trip. There is even a golf course!

What's Under the Ground?

One of the park's most popular activities is touring the main cave. Guides lead tours of people through the underground passages. It is cool in the cave. During all seasons, the temperature stays close to 65 degrees. Although the cave is naturally dark, lights have been placed in the areas that people walk through.

What might visitors see in the main cave? Visitors look around in astonishment. They don't expect to see such beauty in a cave. Rock formations decorate the cave. These shapes are formed when water drips in the cave. The dripping water has different minerals in it. These natural substances create the rock formations. The formations that hang from the ceiling are called stalactites. There are also clumps of rock. They look like they are growing out of the ground. These are called stalagmites. The image shows a group of three stalagmites.

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As visitors walk through the cave, they can imagine that the formations are other things. One looks like a giant wedding cake. Another looks like drapes that cover a window. Some are shaped like giant straws.

In addition to rock formations, visitors can also see fossils inside the cave. Fossils are the remains of plants or animals from long ago. These fossils have been left behind in the cave. Visitors to the main cave may see fossils such as shells and fish bones. They may even see a shark tooth!

Most of the caves in Florida Caverns State Park are not open to the public. Some of the caves are a shelter for different kinds of animals. The caves are a safe place for them to live away from human activity. Animals that live in the park's caves include bats, crayfish, and salamanders.

History of the Park

In 1935, Dr. J. C. Patterson bought a large piece of land. He wanted this land to become a Florida state park. He had not yet found the cave that is used for tours today. But Dr. Patterson had seen other caves in the area. He hoped that one of these caves could become a place for tourists to visit. One day, people working on the land noticed a tree that had blown over. Where the tree had stood, they saw an opening. Through that opening, they found a giant cave! It was decided that this incredible cave should be made into a tourist

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attraction, just as Dr. Patterson had hoped. Workers spent four years getting this newly found cave ready for visitors. They built pathways for walking and put up lights to lead the way.

In 1942, Florida Caverns State Park welcomed its first visitors. Since then, thousands of people have enjoyed the park. It has much to offer—above and below the ground.

- 1** Read the sentences from the passage.

Visitors look around in astonishment. They don't expect to see such beauty in a cave.

Based on the word root, what does the word astonishment **most likely** mean?

- (A) a feeling of being scared
- (B) a feeling of being happy
- (C) a feeling of being alone
- (D) a feeling of surprise

- 2** Read these sentences from the passage.

Rock formations decorate the cave. These shapes are formed when water drips in the cave. The dripping water has different minerals in it. These natural substances create the rock formations.

What does the word formations **most likely** mean?

- (A) water drips
- (B) cave drawings
- (C) shapes found in natural substances
- (D) rock shapes formed by the minerals in dripping water

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- 3 What does the reader learn about stalagmites from both the passage text and the image? Support your answer with details from the passage.

- 4 Read the sentences from the article.

Some of the dark caves are a shelter for different kinds of animals. The caves are a safe place for them to live away from human activity. Animals that live in the park's caves include bats, crayfish, and salamanders.

What is the **most likely** meaning of the word shelter?

- Ⓐ a dark place
- Ⓑ a place to live
- Ⓒ a place in the ground
- Ⓓ a place for human activity

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- 5 Mark the boxes to show which idea relates to each section.

	A Place to Visit	What's Under the Ground?	History of the Park
The caves have stalactites and stalagmites.			
Dr. Patterson bought land to create a state park.			
Visitors can hike, canoe, and fish in Florida Caverns State Park.			

- 6 How do the headings help readers understand the passage?
- Ⓐ They show differences between the caves.
 - Ⓑ They identify the topic of each set of paragraphs.
 - Ⓒ They show the events that led to the park opening.
 - Ⓓ They identify causes of the caves and their effects.

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Writing

- 7 Read the sentence.

Mrs. Vincent is earned the teacher of the year award.

What revision is needed?

- (A) Change is earned to is earn.
- (B) Change is earned to are earn.
- (C) Change is earned to has earned.
- (D) Change is earned to was earned.

- 8 Choose the sentence that contains an error in grammar usage.

- (A) Mom and Dad have asked for help.
- (B) We are going to the store.
- (C) Tanya were sad it rained.
- (D) I am cooking dinner.

- 9 Choose the sentence that contains an error in grammar usage.

- (A) We are asking for more fruit in the cafeteria.
- (B) Lita and Marcus was choosing oranges.
- (C) Javier is interested in more apples.
- (D) I am hoping for more bananas.

- 10 Read the paragraph. Underline the **two** words that are spelled incorrectly.

There is no question that winter is the best season. It may have the koldest weather of all the seasons, but it also has the most fun activities. In winter, people can ski, sled, and snowboard. They can also make a snowman. I love to catch flakes of snow on my tongue. In my opinion, winter goes by too kwickly.