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# Weekly Test Lesson 23

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

## Cowhands

When people imagine cowhands, they often think about what they have seen in the movies. However, the ranching industry has changed over the years, affecting cowhands' work. Long ago, ranches spread over large areas, with cattle roaming over open ranges. Cowhands from various ranches would work together during roundups. They would brand the new calves and sell the older cattle.

### Today's Cowhands

Today's cowhands admit that new inventions have made their jobs much less difficult. Most ranches are much smaller. The ranches also use barbed wire fences to keep the cattle from getting lost. Although cowhands continue to ride horses, they more often drive trucks around the ranches. Cattle can be transported from place to place using trains and large trailers. This ensures that the trip to different regions of the country is much faster. Cowhands, who once spent lengthy periods of time on the trail with the cattle, can now spend more time at home with their families.

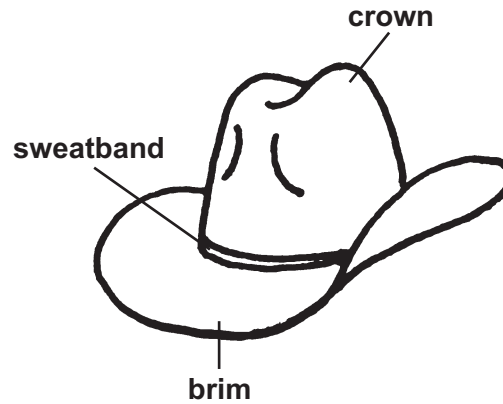
Even the cowhands' attire has transformed over time. Cowhands used to wear clothes that were discarded by other people. They wore any kind of hat with a wide brim that would prevent the sun from blinding their eyes. It was not until the 1900s that cowhands wore a felt hat, a large belt buckle, and pointed boots. Today's cowhands generally wear jeans, a brightly colored shirt, work boots, and a baseball cap. As they say, clothes make the man, and the felt hat remains a symbol of cowhand life.

### How to Care for a Felt Cowhand Hat

Many cowhand hats are constructed from felt, a light and smooth fabric. Felt is made by using hot water and steam to press together short, single fibers. It is a terrific fabric for hats because it lasts a long time. To keep a felt cowhand hat looking good, there are some important steps to follow.

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## Reading



- Always place your hat on a flat surface. Turn it upside down so that it is resting on its crown, which is the top of the hat. Never rest it on its brim because the brim could be flattened and lose its shape.
- Avoid leaving your hat in a place that gets particularly hot, such as a heater. You should also avoid places that are humid, such as the bathroom when you are taking a shower. If the hat gets too hot or there is too much moisture in the air, the sweatband, which is the part that makes your hat fit your head, will likely shrink.
- Sometimes your sweatband will get wet from perspiration or your hat will get wet from bad weather, such as rain, sleet, or snow. If this happens, remove your hat, and then flip up the sweatband in order to allow it to dry. This will stop the water from soaking into your hat. Wait for the sweatband or hat to air dry. Never try to rush the drying process by using something like a hair dryer. The heat will damage the hat.
- Always remember: home is where you hang your hat!

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1 Which section of the text tells how cowhands' roles have changed?

- (A) the entire article
- (B) Today's Cowhands
- (C) the image of a cowhand's hat
- (D) How to Care for a Felt Cowhand Hat

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2 Read the sentence from the text.

As they say, clothes make the man, and the felt hat remains a symbol of cowhand life.

What does the adage clothes make the man mean?

- Ⓐ The clothes that cowhands wear show the world that they are cowhands.
- Ⓑ Every man wears the same style of clothes that cowhands wear.
- Ⓒ Cowhands must wear a felt hat to do their jobs.
- Ⓓ Cowhands' clothes don't make a difference.

3 Read this paragraph from the text. Underline the sentence that states the main idea of the "How to Care for a Felt Cowhand Hat" section in the text.

Many cowhand hats are constructed from felt, a light and smooth fabric. Felt is made by using hot water and steam to press together short, single fibers. It is a terrific fabric for hats because it lasts a long time. To keep a felt cowhand hat looking good, there are some important steps to follow.

4 Look at the "How to Care for a Felt Cowhand Hat" section. Then look at the drawing of a felt hat. How does the drawing help the reader better understand the information?

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## Reading

- 5 Read the sentence from the text.

Always remember: home is where you hang your hat!

What does the phrase home is where you hang your hat mean as it is used in the text?

- Ⓐ Home is wherever you feel comfortable.
  - Ⓑ Wherever you go, take your hat with you.
  - Ⓒ A hat fits better when you hang it carefully.
  - Ⓓ It is difficult to imagine having more than one home.
- 6 This item has two parts. First, answer part A. Then, answer part B.

**Part A**

What is true of cowhands today that was also true of cowhands long ago?

- Ⓐ They spend a lot of time at home with their families.
- Ⓑ They work on large ranches covering a lot of area.
- Ⓒ They wear hats to protect their eyes from the sun.
- Ⓓ They use trailers and trains to move cattle.

**Part B**

Which detail from the text **best** supports the answer to part A?

- Ⓐ Ranches were spread over large areas with cattle roaming.
- Ⓑ Cowhands used to ride horses to move cattle along, and today's cowhands use trains and trailers.
- Ⓒ Cowhands can spend more time with their families.
- Ⓓ Cowhands used to wear hats with wide brims, and today's cowhands wear baseball caps.

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## Writing

- 7 Which sentence contains an error in grammar usage?
- (A) I lay the book on top of my desk when I am done.
  - (B) I make a green smoothie as soon as I rise in the morning.
  - (C) Art is one of the most important subjects to learn in school.
  - (D) When feeding the birds in the park, the children set on the bench.
- 8 Choose the sentence that contains a spelling error.
- (A) I wanted the chalenge of completing the task on my own.
  - (B) There must have been a dozen dogs at the park today.
  - (C) My sister wanted to impress her teacher.
  - (D) The sign reads, "Please do not disturb."
- 9 Paula is writing an opinion essay about driving. Read her draft. Underline the **two** words that are used incorrectly.

Driving is a complicated task. My father is learning my sister Riley how to drive. At the end of the day, she is really tired! When she comes in the house after a lesson, she sets the car keys on the table and sighs. Then she lies on the couch and naps. Riley normally picks things up quickly, but driving is challenging her. Surprisingly, I heard her ask Dad, "Can I have the car Saturday night?"

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**Writing**

- 10 Natasha is writing an opinion paper about cell phone usage in school. Read the introductory paragraph and complete the task that follows.

Students should be allowed to use cell phones in school. Most students these days have a cell phone, and many students bring them to school. Instead of having to keep their cell phones in desks or lockers, students should be allowed to keep them out in the classroom. When students use their cell phones in class, it may look like they're playing games or texting their friends. However, the students might just be looking up a word their teacher used or finding out more about the Civil War.

Write a conclusion that Natasha should add to this paper.

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