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Weekly Test Lesson 10

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

A Helping Paw

When Carlene White suggested Great Danes as service dogs, other organizations had doubts. Great Danes did not fit the same mold as golden retrievers or other breeds trained as service dogs. Observing Great Danes convinced Carlene that they are the perfect dogs to help people who have problems balancing and walking. Great Danes are taller, heavier, and stronger than the average dog, and they can support a person with mobility limitations. She created the Service Dog Project to breed, train, and donate Great Danes to people who need them.

“This breed is different,” Carlene stated. “They fail every puppy test known to mankind because they just don’t do what other dogs do. They’re thinkers. You don’t train a Dane. You educate him.” Carlene agrees that Danes can be taught to do tricks. However, a service dog often needs to figure out how to do something different. For example, it might eat in a loud school cafeteria with hundreds of students or ride the subway.

Carlene’s Great Danes look the same as any other Great Danes. They meet the standards set by the American Kennel Club (AKC). Six colors, markings, and patterns are accepted by the AKC. *Fawn* dogs are yellow gold with a black mask. *Blue* dogs are pure steel blue. *Black* dogs are glossy black. *Harlequin* dogs are white with black patches. *Mantle* dogs are black and white with a solid black body. Measured at the shoulder, males are at least 30 inches tall and females are at least 28 inches tall. The dog’s height is important because it must be tall enough to support the human partner without the person bending to reach the dog. The dogs are large and muscular enough to support a human partner.

People are important to Service Dog Project puppies from the moment of birth. Each puppy is greeted with joy. At least one person stays with the puppies all the time. The training process starts when the puppies are three weeks old. The puppies are spoon-fed to get their attention. They quickly figure out that they are rewarded for sitting *in front of* the trainer, not jumping *on* the trainer.

The Service Dog Project teaches the dogs basic skills like riding in a car, behaving in a store or restaurant, and helping a partner with mobility limitations. They learn to lay down to wait (or sleep) while their human partner works, goes to classes, or does other tasks. They learn to stand still when a person needs support to get up or walk. After about a year of training, the dogs are ready to be matched with a human partner.

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Puppies are not raised by a single person, trained, and then matched to a human partner like in other service dog organizations. They live at Service Dog Project. They work and play with trainers, volunteers, and other dogs. They live in the house and special rooms made for them. They go on overnight visits with trainers and volunteers. Their tightest bond will be with their human partners. Each dog chooses a lifetime partner from the applicants who need one.

Applicants spend time with all of the dogs ready to be matched. When a bond forms between an applicant and a dog, a match is made. The dog and the person are then trained to work together.

Bella and George might be one of the most famous partnerships from Service Dog Project so far. Bella is a 40-pound, 11-year-old fifth grader. George is her 130-pound Great Dane partner. Bella has Morquio syndrome, a disease that affects her size and movement. By her age, most children with this disease use a wheelchair all the time. Thanks to George, Bella is walking and doing the same things as her friends.

When Bella started volunteering, many of the dogs weren't interested in her because of her age. George put his head in her lap and sighed. He knew he had found his match. In 2015, George and Bella walked into an arena to receive George's American Kennel Club Award for Canine Excellence. The award recognizes dogs who have a big impact on the lives of their owners and the community. Bella and George were on TV and many people learned about them.

Other service dog organizations no longer have doubts. In 2015, thirty Great Dane puppies born at Service Dog Project received the same care and training as George. They can help more people become independent. Carlene's Great Danes have given a helping paw to many people.

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Reading

- 1 Read the sentences from the text.

Observing Great Danes convinced Carlene that they are the perfect dogs to help people who have problems balancing and walking. Great Danes are taller, heavier, and stronger than the average dog, and they can support a person with mobility limitations.

What does the phrase mobility limitations mean?

- (A) ability to see
 - (B) greater strength
 - (C) problems concentrating
 - (D) difficulties standing or moving around
- 2 This question has two parts. First, answer part A. Then, answer part B.

Part A

What is the main idea of the text?

- (A) Only Great Danes should be service dogs.
- (B) Carlene White can train any dog to be a service dog.
- (C) Golden retrievers are the most successful service dogs.
- (D) Great Danes' differences make them a good choice for service dogs.

Part B

Underline **two** details from the paragraph that support the answer to part A.

When Carlene White suggested Great Danes as service dogs, other organizations had doubts. Great Danes did not fit the same mold as golden retrievers or other breeds trained as service dogs. Observing Great Danes convinced Carlene that they are the perfect dogs to help people who have problems balancing and walking. Great Danes are taller, heavier, and stronger than the average dog, and they can support a person with mobility limitations. She created Service Dog Project to breed, train, and donate Great Danes to people who need them.

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Reading

- 3 Why do Great Dane service dogs have height requirements?
- (A) Great Danes must be able to pick up dropped items.
 - (B) Great Danes must learn to be still when their human partners need to stand.
 - (C) Great Danes must meet American Kennel Club standards to be a service dog.
 - (D) Great Danes must be able to support their human partners without them needing to bend.
- 4 Which detail from the text **best** supports the idea that Great Danes can be educated?
- (A) Great Danes did not fit the same mold as golden retrievers or other breeds trained as service dogs.
 - (B) They quickly figure out that they are rewarded for sitting *in front of* the trainer, not jumping *on* the trainer.
 - (C) Puppies are not raised by a single person, trained, and then matched to a human partner like in other service dog organizations.
 - (D) Thanks to George, Bella is walking and doing the same things as her friends.

- 5 Read the sentence from the text.

Their tightest bond will be with their human partners.

Which word **best** means the same as the word bond as it is used in this sentence?

- (A) glue
- (B) restraint
- (C) agreement
- (D) relationship

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Reading

- 6 Why do Great Danes make good service dogs? Use several details from the text to support your answer.

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Writing

- 7 Choose the sentence that contains a spelling error.
- (A) Please look at the calender and tell me the date.
 - (B) Some small planes have propellers on the wings.
 - (C) The story is confusing and can bewilder a reader.
 - (D) Michael has a blister from working in the garden.
- 8 Which sentence is written correctly?
- (A) Roger yelled they're coming from the west!
 - (B) "Roger yelled they're coming from the west!"
 - (C) Roger, "yelled they're coming from the west!"
 - (D) Roger yelled, "They're coming from the west!"
- 9 Which sentence is written correctly?
- (A) I want to go to the basketball game, stated Ahmet.
 - (B) "I want to go to the basketball game stated Ahmet."
 - (C) "I want to go to the basketball game, stated Ahmet!"
 - (D) "I want to go to the basketball game," stated Ahmet.
- 10 Read the paragraphs. Underline the sentence that contains an error.
- Maricela tried out for the play last week. When she was given the lead in the play, she felt like shrieking in excitement. Instead, she calmly said, "Thank you for choosing me for the part."
- The director was impressed by her behavior. "He replied, you will do a great job!"
- Maricela smiled and said, "I'll do my best!"
- Julia gave Maricela a big smile and cheered, "Good work!"