In Antarctica, scientists are taking a penguin census to learn about the environment. Researchers arrive at an island in Antarctica where they will count chinstrap penguins. Climate change is making a huge impact on Antarctica. Scientists are counting chinstrap penguins there to try to understand global warming’s effect on the oceans and on the rest of the environment.

**Magazine Quiz Distractor Guide for Penguin Census**

Climate change is making a huge impact on Antarctica. Scientists are counting chinstrap penguins there to try to understand global warming’s effect on the oceans and on the rest of the environment.

**Magazine Quiz Answer Key**

1. B  
2. A  
3. C  
4. A  
5. A  
6. C  
7. B  
8. D  
9. B  
10. C

**Define Words and Phrases Mini-Lesson (RI.4)**

Prior to reading, have students skim the text to identify unknown words. Tell them that the topic and the text’s main idea can provide important context clues. Read the text with students, and ask them to identify the article’s topic. Have them explain what they learned about the topic from reading (the main idea). Then have them go back to the text and read each sentence containing an unknown word. If there is not a synonym, antonym, explanation, or example in the sentences to use as a context clue, ask the following questions: Does the sentence support or refute the main idea? Can you use any of your prior knowledge about the topic to guess what the word means? Ask students to try replacing the unknown word with a word they think might be a synonym and have them see if it makes sense in the context of the article. If students are responding to a quiz question, have them use the answer choices to fill in the sentence and see if it fits.

**Question Distribution by Standard**

**Key Ideas and Details**
Read for Detail, Explain Connections, Identify Cause and Effect (RI.1, RI.2, RI.3)  
• Q1, Q5, Q8, Q9

**Craft and Structure**
Define Words and Phrases, Analyze Text Structure, Identify Point of View (RI.4, RI.5, RI.6)  
• Q3, Q4, Q7

**Integration of Knowledge and Ideas**
Analyze Graphic Features, Identify Claims and Evidence, Integrate Information (RI.7, RI.8, RI.9)  
• Q2, Q6, Q10

**Alternate Question Stems**

• Which word could replace [vocabulary word] in the sentence?  
• What does the [word/phrase] mean in this sentence?  
• What tools can you use to figure out the meaning of this word?  
• What is a synonym (or antonym) for [insert word]?
1. PENGUIN CENSUS: Read for Detail (RI.5.1; RI.6.1)

   What is the main reason scientists are conducting a census?
   
   A. to protect all species of penguins
   B. to understand the environment
   C. to find drilling sites
   D. to plan drone flight patterns

   **DISTRACTOR ANALYSIS**
   
   A. While this might be a hoped-for result of learning more about the environment, it is not the reason for the census.
   B. Correct answer: “It’s part of a global penguin census that will help researchers better understand the Antarctic environment.” See paragraph 2.
   C. There is no evidence in the article to suggest this.
   D. Scientists will use drones to help them with the census; drones are not the focus of their work.

2. PENGUIN CENSUS: Analyze Graphic Features (RI.5.7; RI.6.7)

   The photograph “Harsh Habitat” supports the idea from the article that
   
   A. chinstrap penguins nest on rocky slopes.
   B. scientists always use binoculars when counting.
   C. drones are now being used to count penguins.
   D. scientists use boats to perform the census.

   **DISTRACTOR ANALYSIS**
   
   A. Correct answer: The photograph depicts a scientist and penguins on this type of land.
   B. There is no evidence in the article to suggest this.
   C. This is true, but it is not the purpose of this photograph.
   D. This is true, but those conditions are not shown in this photograph.

3. RISING WATERS: Identify Point of View (RI.5.6; RI.6.6)

   Experts’ opinion of the Netherlands is that the country is
   
   A. in danger.
   B. a threat.
   C. proactive.
   D. unhealthy.

   **DISTRACTOR ANALYSIS**
   
   A. This is the opposite of what experts believe.
   B. There is no evidence in the article to suggest this.
   C. Correct answer: The country has made efforts to successfully prevent threats caused by rising sea levels.
   D. There is no evidence in the article to suggest this.

4. DEBATE: SHOULD CARS BE BANNED IN CITIES?: Analyze Text Structure (RI.5.5; RI.6.5)

   How did the author choose to organize this article?
   
   A. compare and contrast
   B. description
   C. sequential
   D. chronological
Distractor Analysis

A. Correct answer: The author outlines arguments in favor of the ban and arguments against it.
B. While the article describes the idea of banning cars in cities, that is not the structure of the text.
C. There is no evidence in the article to suggest this.
D. There is no evidence in the article to suggest this.

5. Kid Heroes for the Planet: Explain Connections (RI.5.3; RI.6.3)
What do Aiden Wang and Addy Barrett have in common?
A. They were inspired by something they learned in school.
B. They raise money for their cause.
C. Their parents were also advocates for their cause.
D. They have direct contact with the animals they support.

Distractor Analysis

A. Correct answer: Aiden learned about monarch butterflies from his teacher and Addy read a book about the mountain gorilla when she was in first grade.
B. Only Addy’s organization raises money.
C. There is no evidence to suggest this.
D. Only Aiden has direct contact in that he cares for the caterpillars.

6. Building Green: Identify Claims and Evidence (RI.5.8; RI.6.8)
Which piece of evidence shows why recycling plastic into bricks will allow children in Côte d’Ivoire better access to education?
A. “...there aren’t enough classrooms.”
B. “...classrooms are often severely overcrowded.”
C. both A and B
D. none of the above

Distractor Analysis

A. Plastic bricks would address the lack of classroom, but there is more than one answer.
B. Plastic bricks would address overcrowding, but there is more than one answer.
C. Correct answer: The production of plastic bricks enables more classrooms to be built, allowing for more space and better access.
D. Both A and B are true. See above.

7. Forest Life: Define Words and Phrases (RI.5.4; RI.6.4)
Which of the following words is an antonym for exuberant, as it is used in the introduction of the article?
A. lively
B. restrained
C. rich
D. abundant
DISTRACTOR ANALYSIS

A. This word is a synonym of exuberant in this context.
B. Correct answer: Restrained means “quiet; not excessive,” which is the opposite of exuberant.
C. This word is a synonym of exuberant in this context.
D. This word is a synonym of exuberant in this context.

8. CITY OF TREES: Read for Detail (RI.5.1; RI.6.1)

Which of the following is not a direct benefit of planting trees?

A. People enjoy relaxing underneath the trees.
B. Trees produce food for community members.
C. Animals can live in the trees.
D. Concrete roads and buildings absorb more heat.

DISTRACTOR ANALYSIS

A. “They provide . . . a place where people can kick back and relax.” See “Keeping Things Cool.”
B. “[T]hey provide food for the community . . .” See “Keeping Things Cool.”
C. “The trees also provide a habitat for a variety of animals.” See “Keeping Things Cool.”
D. Correct answer: There is no evidence in the article to suggest this. Concrete absorbs heat regardless; it doesn’t absorb more heat when trees are planted nearby.

9. EIGHT QUESTIONS FOR THE IRWINS: Identify Cause and Effect (RI.5.3; RI.6.3)

What is the main purpose of the Irwins’ TV show?

A. to make their viewers worried about the issues facing the environment
B. to inspire people to make a difference
C. to emphasize conservation on a global scale
D. to show how to give animals the best life possible at a zoo

DISTRACTOR ANALYSIS

A. There is no evidence in the article to suggest this.
B. Correct answer: They want people to learn something from their show that will promote positive action.
C. This is the purpose of Wildlife Warriors.
D. This is what their parents wanted for the zoo.

10. PAGE 16 ARTICLES: Integrate Information (RI.5.9; RI.6.9)

What point do both Ariel Tweto and Fabien Cousteau agree on?

A. Being a pilot is more adventurous than being an astronaut.
B. It is challenging to protect the environment.
C. If you have a positive experience with something, you will appreciate it.
D. Discovering a new species is exciting.

DISTRACTOR ANALYSIS

A. There is no evidence in the text to suggest this.
B. They both encourage protection of the environment, but neither article discusses the challenges.
C. Correct answer: Both Tweto and Cousteau believe that the more kids know about and experience nature, the more likely they will be to take care of the planet.
D. There is no evidence in the text to suggest this.