

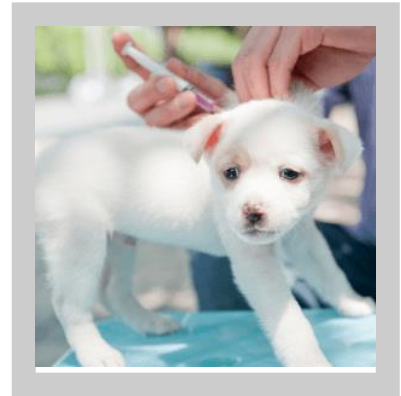
Name _____

Date _____

Public Health Announcement

The Guilford County Department of Public Health is hosting two rabies clinics this month in honor of World Rabies Day on Sept. 28. The rabies vaccination will cost \$5 per shot and will protect your pet for one calendar year. Dogs must be leashed and cats must be kept in carriers.

The State of North Carolina requires dogs, cats, and ferrets to be vaccinated. The health department recommends that other animals that have regular contact with humans, such as horses, should be vaccinated as well. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the rabies virus causes approximately 55,000 human deaths worldwide each year, with most of the deaths occurring in children under 15. The rabies virus is transmitted through the bite of an infected animal. When an animal has rabies (or is rabid), the virus circulates throughout its body and is transmitted to other animals or humans through its saliva. The most commonly infected animals are raccoons, bats skunks, and foxes.



The best ways to keep your pet from becoming rabid are to keep it leashed in public, as roaming pets are exposed to wild animals. Feed your pet indoors if possible. Wild animals will venture into your basement, outbuildings, or garage to seek food, so be sure the storage location you select for your pet food is secure. Moreover, do not try to touch, feed, or rescue wild animals. Do not pick up dead animals as the virus could still be present.

This year in Guilford County, the majority of the animal rabies cases have involved raccoons, with foxes in a very close second place. Guilford County has recorded fifteen cases of animal rabies thus far this year.

1) According to the author, which of the following is required in order to have a pet in Guilford County vaccinated for rabies?

- I. a fee of five dollars
 - II. a leash for dogs
 - III. a carrier for cats
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- A. I only
 - B. I and II only
 - C. II and III only
 - D. I, II, and III

- 2) Using information in the passage, we can understand that which of the following animals would LEAST likely be a carrier of rabies?
- A. a squirrel
 - B. a shark
 - C. a possum
 - D. a coyote
- 3) As used in paragraph 2, the word **transmitted** most nearly means
- A. passed
 - B. communicated
 - C. attached
 - D. merged
- 4) In paragraph 2, we learn that an animal has rabies, "the virus circulates throughout its body." Which of the following sentences uses the word **circulates** most similar to the way in which it is used in paragraph 2?
- A. The host circulates through the party to make sure his guests are enjoying themselves.
 - B. At the fair, flies circulate over the picnic table when the cakes and pies are displayed.
 - C. A tiny blood clot may circulate through the aorta and two ventricles of the heart.
 - D. Thanks to a window fan, cool air circulates through the third story bedroom.
- 5) Which of the following is NOT a good recommendation for those people who want to keep their animals rabies free?
- A. It is best to feed your cat in the kitchen.
 - B. Store your dog food in a lidded container.
 - C. Do not allow your pets to go outdoors alone.
 - D. Let your dog run free at the local walking trail.

6) Who is the intended audience for this information? Where might information like this be published? Who might have written it? How do you know?

Answers and Explanations

1) D

Core Standard: **Key Ideas and Details**

In paragraph 1, the author states that “The rabies vaccination will cost \$5 per shot and will protect your pet for one calendar year.” This supports **option (I)**.

In paragraph 1, the author also states that to attend the clinic, and receive the vaccination, “Dogs must be leashed and cats must be kept in carriers.” This supports **option (II)** and **option (III)**.

Therefore **(D)** is correct.

2) B

Core Standard: **Integration of Knowledge**

In paragraph 2, the author states that “The most commonly infected animals are raccoons, bats, skunks, and foxes.” Notice what these animals have in common: living on land, living close to humans, eating similar things as humans. In paragraph 3, the author goes on to suggest ways to keep your pet safe from wild animals, who may fight with a pet, or lurk near its food. The author writes, “Wild animals will venture into your basement, outbuildings, or garage to seek food, so be sure the storage location you select for your pet food is secure.” A shark would not likely be attracted by pet food, enter your garage to seek food, or fight with domesticated animals. Using this information, we can understand that **(B)** is correct.

Squirrels, possums, and coyotes are all wild animals that share much in common with raccoons, bats, skunks, and foxes. They also fit the description of animals that “will venture into your basement, outbuildings, or garage to seek food.” Therefore, they are likely to be rabies carriers, making choices **(A)**, **(C)**, and **(D)** are incorrect.

3) A

Core Standard: **Craft and Structure**

Transmit (*verb*): to pass or spread, to send or forward.

Paragraph 2 states that “The rabies virus is transmitted through the bite of an infected animal. When an animal has rabies (or is rabid), the virus circulates throughout its body and is transmitted to other animals or humans through its saliva.” We can understand that the rabies virus gets from one animal to another through a bite. Therefore it is *spread* from one animal to another. Choice **(A)** is correct.

Although the word transmit can be used to describe communication, this is not how this word is being used in context. A disease (rabies) is not communicated. Rather, it is transmitted, or passed, from one animal to another. Therefore choice **(B)** is incorrect.

The passage does not provide information to support choices **(C)** and **(D)**. Therefore they are incorrect.

4) C

Core Standard: **Craft and Structure**

Circulate (*verb*): to move or cause to move continuously or freely through a closed system or area, such as blood.

In paragraph 2, the author states that “When an animal has rabies (or is rabid), the virus circulates throughout its body and is transmitted to other animals or humans through its saliva.” From this, we can understand that the virus reaches every part of the body, including mouth saliva. Therefore it must move continuously throughout the body, via the flow of blood. A small clot circulates, or moves, through the chambers and vessels of the heart because it is contained in the blood vessels. Blood flows continuously throughout the body of an animal or human. So, choice **(C)** is correct.

A host moves about a party, greeting and talking to various guests. The host is not contained, however, as is blood within blood vessels, or a virus within a body. Choice **(A)** is incorrect.

Though flies are attracted to food outdoors, and fly around and over exposed food, they are not circulating, or making a circuit, through a closed, contained area. Choice **(B)** is incorrect.

While a fan can move cooler air into a room, the cooler air is not enclosed, or contained. Air evaporates, and if the fan is turned off, the air will cease circulating. Choice **(D)** is incorrect.

5) D

Core Standard: **Integration of Knowledge**

In paragraph 3, the author lists a number of ways to keep an animal free of rabies. He or she states that “The best ways to keep your pet from becoming rabid are to keep it leashed in public, as roaming pets are exposed to wild animals.” The “local walking trail” would be considered a public space, and the author recommends against allowing dogs to run free in public. Using this information, we can understand that choice **(D)** is correct.

In paragraph 3, the author states, “Feed your pet indoors if possible.” Since the recommendation is to feed your cat in the kitchen, and the kitchen is indoors, we can understand that choice **(A)** is incorrect.

In paragraph 3, the author warns “be sure the storage location you select for your pet food is secure.” A lidded container is a secure location, so it is a good place to keep food away from animals with rabies. Choice **(B)** is incorrect.

In paragraph 3, the author states that “The best ways to keep your pet from becoming rabid are to keep it leashed in public, as roaming pets are exposed to wild animals.” Since the author recommends that pets be leashed in public and not exposed to wild animals, we can understand that any pet should therefore not be allowed to go outdoors alone. Choice **(C)** is incorrect.