

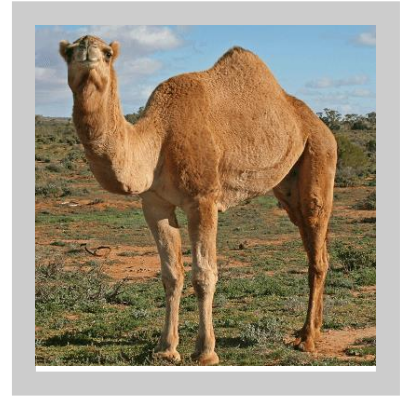
Name _____

Date _____

Camels

Camels are some of the world's most interesting creatures. Some camels have one hump on their backs. These are called dromedary camels. Other camels have two humps on their backs. These are called Bactrian camels. Camels are the only animals with humps. Many people believe that camels use their humps to store water, but that is false.

Camels actually use their humps to store fat. A well-fed camel's hump can weigh up to 80 pounds! Humps allow camels to live up to two weeks without needing to eat. Camels live in the desert, where food and water is scarce. A camel's humps keep it alive and well during times when food and water are far away or unavailable.



1) What are camels with two humps on their backs called?

- A. Dromedary camels
- B. Bactrian camels
- C. Two-hump camels
- D. Desert camels

2) Camel humps are used to store

- A. fat
- B. muscle
- C. milk
- D. water

3) As used in the passage, the word **scarce** most nearly means

- A. healthy and delicious
- B. frightened
- C. very expensive
- D. hard to find

Answers and Explanations

1) B

Core Standard: **Key Ideas and Details**

At the beginning of the passage, the author writes, “Other camels have two humps on their backs. These are called Bactrian camels.” This lets us know that Bactrian camels are the camels with two humps on their backs. Therefore, choice **(B)** is correct.

At the beginning of the passage, before the author writes, “Other camels have two humps on their backs. These are called Bactrian camels,” the author says, “Some camels have one hump on their backs. These are called dromedary camels.” This lets us know that dromedary camels are the camels with one hump on their backs. Thus, choice **(A)** is incorrect.

At the beginning of the passage, the author writes, “Other camels have two humps on their backs. These are called Bactrian camels.” This lets us know that Bactrian camels are the camels with two humps on their backs. Therefore, choice **(C)** is incorrect.

At the beginning of the passage, the author writes, “Other camels have two humps on their backs. These are called Bactrian camels.” This lets us know that Bactrian camels are the camels with two humps on their backs. Though the author says toward the end of the passage that “camels live in the desert,” there is no part of the passage that calls them “desert camels.” This means choice **(D)** is incorrect.

2) A

Core Standard: **Key Ideas and Details**

In the middle of the passage, the author writes, “Camels actually use their humps to store fat.” Therefore, choice **(A)** is correct.

In the middle of the passage, the author writes, “Camels actually use their humps to store fat.” There is no mention of camels’ muscle in the passage. This means choice **(B)** is incorrect.

In the middle of the passage, the author writes, “Camels actually use their humps to store fat.” There is no mention of camels’ milk in the passage. This means choice **(C)** is incorrect.

In the middle of the passage, before the author writes, “Camels actually use their humps to store fat,” the author notes, “Many people believe that camels use their humps to store water, but that is false.” Therefore, choice **(D)** is incorrect.

3) D

Core Standard: **Craft and Structure**

scarce (*adjective*): occurring in small numbers or quantities; rare; insufficient for the demand.

At the end of the passage, the author writes, “Camels live in the desert, where food and water is scarce.” The author goes on to say, “A camel's humps keep it alive and well during times when food and water is far away or unavailable.” From this, we can tell that because the food is scarce, it is far away or unavailable, or hard to find. This means choice **(D)** is correct.

From the passage, we can tell that because the food is scarce, it is far away or unavailable. “Healthy and delicious” does not mean “far away or unavailable.” Therefore, choice **(A)** is incorrect.

Though the word scarce sounds like the word scary, which means frightened, the meaning is different. From the passage, we can tell that because the food is scarce, it is far away or unavailable. This means choice **(B)** is incorrect.

From the passage, we can tell that because the food is scarce, it is far away or unavailable. “Very expensive” does not mean “far away or unavailable.” It is also not logical to think camels pay for their food. Therefore, choice **(C)** is incorrect.

4) A

Core Standard: **Integration of Knowledge**

At the end of the passage, the author writes, “Camels live in the desert, where food and water is scarce. A camel's humps keep it alive and well during times when food and water is far away or unavailable.” From this, we know camels live in the desert. We can assume from these sentences that it is likely that camels will go through periods of time when they won't be able to find food or water. Therefore, choice **(A)** is correct.

At the beginning of the passage, the author gives the names of camels that have one hump or two humps on their backs. There is no information in the passage about camels with three humps. Thus, choice **(B)** is incorrect.

In the middle of the passage, the author writes, “A well-fed camel's hump can weigh up to 80 pounds!” This indicates that 80 pounds is the most a camel's hump can weigh. This means choice **(C)** is incorrect.

At the beginning of the passage, the author writes, “Camels are the only animals with humps.” Therefore, choice **(D)** is incorrect.

5) D

Core Standard: **Integration of Knowledge**

The passage begins by identifying camels as interesting creatures, then lists details about camels' humps, including how much they weigh, what they contain, and the purposes they serve. This means choice **(D)** is correct.

In the passage, the author writes, "Humps allow camels to live up to two weeks without needing to eat." However, camels are the only animals in the passage, and the rest of the material is about camels and their humps, not other animals' eating and drinking habits. Therefore, choice **(A)** is incorrect.

The passage notes that camels live in the desert and that, oftentimes, "food and water is far away or unavailable." However, there are no further details as to what kind of food camels—or any other desert animals—eat in the desert. This means choice **(B)** is incorrect.

In the middle of the passage, the author writes, "A well-fed camel's hump can weigh up to 80 pounds!" However, the passage has plenty of other information about camels' humps, including the names of camels with humps, what the humps contain, and the purposes they serve. Thus, choice **(C)** is incorrect.