


8 Good, Better, Best

1 PREPARE

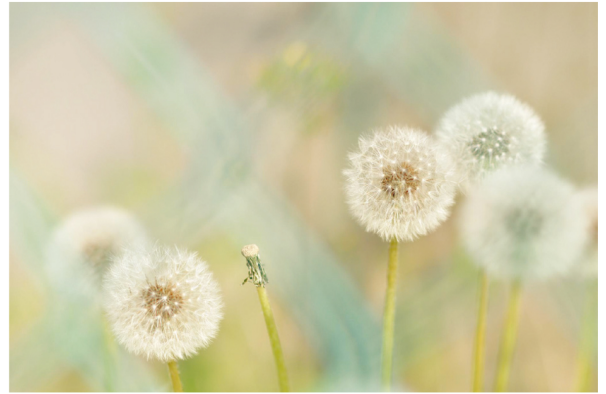
Look at the photos below. How do they make you feel? What do they make you think of? Write as many adjectives as you can think of in the space provided.



Blank yellow space for writing adjectives.


 How do you say _____ in English?

Blank light blue space for writing adjectives.



Blank yellow space for writing adjectives.

Blank light blue space for writing adjectives.

 How do you spell _____?



2 LISTEN

Anna and Charlie are talking about the differences between alligators and crocodiles. Listen to the conversation and check or write in the answers.

Which are longer, alligators or crocodiles?

alligators they are the same crocodiles

How much longer? 5 m 15 m 1.5 m

How long do alligators grow? 5.8 m 4.3m 1.5 m

How long do crocodiles grow? 5.8 m 4.3m 1.5 m

Crocodiles are the and of all the reptiles still alive today.

How much can an adult crocodile weigh? 500 kg 1,000 kg 1,500 kg

How much do alligators weigh?

less than 500 kg more than 1,000 kg about 1,500 kg

The alligator's snout is and with a U-shape at the end.

What is the shape of a crocodile's snout?

shorter and wider U-shaped longer and pointier

You can see some of a crocodile's teeth even when their are

Which are there more of in the world? alligators crocodiles about the same

First, there are only types of alligators, but types of crocodiles.

Where do some alligators live? in Africa in Australia in China

What is true about crocodiles?

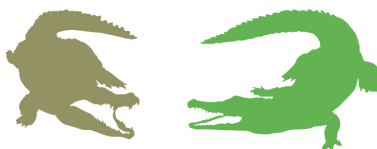
they have more teeth they are less aggressive they are more aggressive

3 CHECK

Check your answers with your teammates.



Which are longer, alligators or crocodiles?



_____, I think



I'm sorry, I don't know



4 PREPARE *Read about the Kingfisher.*

Eiji Nakatsu's hobby is bird watching. He is also the chief engineer of the bullet train in Japan. Because Japan is a mountainous country, there are many tunnels. When a speeding train enters a tunnel, the air pressure creates a loud bang. Nakatsu noticed that the Kingfisher was able to dive into water without making a splash. Nakatsu experimented with the shape of the front of the train. He designed it to mimic some of the same lines and angles as the Kingfisher's beak and head. With the help of one of nature's most effective hunters, Nakatsu was able to design a train that travels through the air more smoothly and is more efficient. The latest bullet trains travel 10% faster and use less energy than before.



5 ENGAGE *Ask your partner about the honeybee.*

How large is the honeybee?

What is the honeybee smaller than?

How many sides do the cells have?

What do the cells require?

How are they compared to other shapes?

What fields use the honeycomb shape?

What is the outside of the Soumaya Museum made of?

How many art objects are housed in the Soumaya Museum?

Memory Challenge!


*How do you
pronounce
this?*


*What does
mean?*

4 PREPARE *Read about sharks.*



Michael Phelps was a sensation at the 2008 Beijing Olympics. During the event, he won eight gold medals, the most medals won by anyone in one Olympic Games. One of his secrets? A swimsuit mimicking sharkskin. Studies show that sharks can swim through water with 10% less energy use than other fish. Sharkskin is covered with tiny teeth-like spikes called “denticles.” These denticles are slanted towards the shark’s tail and allow water to flow more smoothly over the shark’s body. This allows sharks to swim faster and with less effort than smooth-skinned fish. The shark can also move more quietly through the water, making the shark more dangerous. Boats are also making use of sharkskin mimicry. This technology allows boats to move through water more efficiently and use less fuel.

5 ENGAGE *Ask your partner about the “V” formation.*

When do birds use the “V” formation?

By how much can birds increase the distance they fly?

Where does Ilan Kroo do research?

To what does he want to apply the technique?

What did Kroo’s group discover in their studies of the “V” formation?

What else can mimicking birds flight patterns reduce?

How is the U.S. military looking into using the “V” formation?

What do they seek to create?

Memory Challenge!



4 **PREPARE** *Read about the honeybee.*

Between five and 15 mm long, the honeybee is smaller than most other similar insects. However, the honeycomb structure it creates is one of the world's most efficient storage systems. The six-sided cells require less material to make than other shapes. They are also stronger and lighter. The structure is more flexible and wear-resistant. Because of its unique assets, the honeycomb structure is used in many fields, from aerospace and construction to noise reduction. Architects are also interested in this shape. Mexican architect Fernando Romero designed the Soumaya Museum in Mexico City. The outside of the building is made of 16,000 six-sided tiles. This creates different visual effects depending on how you look at it. Housing about 70,000 art objects, the Soumaya Museum is the most-visited private museum in the world.



Diego Delso, Wikimedia Commons, License CC-BY-SA 4.0

5 **ENGAGE** *Ask your partner about the Kingfisher.*

- What is Eiji Nakastu's hobby?
- What is his job?
- What happens when a speeding train enters a tunnel?
- What did Nakatsu notice about the Kingfisher?
- How did he design the new train?
- What can Nakatsu's new train do?
- How much faster is the latest bullet train?
- What does it use less of than before?

Memory Challenge!



4 PREPARE

Read about the V formation.



Many varieties of birds use this familiar “V” shape when they fly together. Studies show that birds that use this technique can increase the distance they fly by over 70%. Professor Ilan Kroo, leading a group of researchers at Stanford University, believes that this technique could be applied to commercial flights, too. In their studies, they discovered that commercial jets flying in the V formation could use 15% less fuel to achieve the same distance as solo flight. Mimicking birds’ flight patterns can also reduce carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions by 15%, and reduce nitrogen oxide (NO_x) emissions by 25%. The U.S. military is already looking into using this V formation for national defense. They seek to find ways of creating a more efficient, less wasteful air force.

5 ENGAGE *Ask your partner about sharks.*

How many medals did Michael Phelps win at the 2008 Olympics?

What was one of his secrets?

What do studies show about sharks?

What is sharkskin covered by?

What do they do?

What can a shark do better than a smooth skinned fish?

What makes the shark more dangerous?

What does this technology allow boats to do?



Memory Challenge!

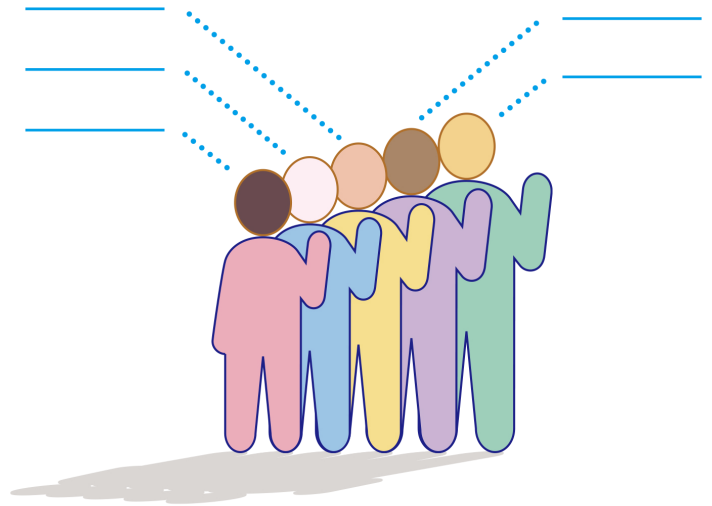
6 PREPARE

Read the clues. Name the people below.

I am shorter than Brad, but taller than Jenny. Brad is taller than Hans. Hans is shorter than I, but taller than Maya. Maya is taller than Jenny, but shorter than I.

Who is the shortest?

Who is the tallest?



7 PREPARE

Read the clues. Write the planets in their order from the sun.



Saturn is on the right of Jupiter.

Neptune and Uranus are between Saturn and Pluto.

Mercury is the hottest.

Neptune is further from the Sun than Uranus.

Mars is on the left of Jupiter.

Pluto is the coldest.

Venus and Earth are between Mercury and Mars.

Venus is nearer Mercury than Earth.

Jupiter is the largest.


8 WRITE


Write about yourself. Use the comparative and superlative.



BINGO!



9  **PREPARE** *Change the adjectives below to the comparative and/or superlative forms. Fill in the grid above.*

- | | | | |
|------------|----------|-----------|----------|
| aggressive | fast | near | serious |
| cheap | flexible | old | short |
| cold | heavy | pointy | small |
| dangerous | hot | quiet | smooth |
| effective | large | resistant | strong |
| efficient | loud | safe | tall |
| expensive | narrow | scary | wasteful |

10  **PLAY** *Take turns drawing a card and calling out the adjective.*

Use cards on page 113