Robert L. Merritt
7th Grade **ELA** Pack
Week of June 15-19, 2020

A Crooked Election

by Kyria Abrahams

Kelly is running for class president of Wright High School. Some of Kelly's classmates think elections are pointless. Kelly's best friend Maya doesn't believe in voting at all.

"I'm not voting," Maya tells her. "Voting is pointless."

"But if you don't vote, someone else will. And then they'll get what they want and you won't get what you want!" Kelly says.

"I don't want anything. I just want to be left alone." Maya responds.

Kelly is running for class president because she says she thinks the school can be better. She wants to see less meat served in the cafeteria and more vegetarian options. She also wants the school to stop bringing a live goat onto the field during football games.

"Kelly has good ideas, but won't be able to change anything," Maya tells her classmates. "She's just idealistic. No one can change anything."

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Kelly's opponent, Roger, is running for class president of Wright High School because his brother was president last year. In fact, Roger has three brothers, and all three of them have been class president.

"I'm not losing to anybody," Roger tells his brothers. "Especially not a *girl*."

Roger has really nice banners professionally printed and hangs them around the school. Roger's banners say: "Roger Whitaker. The Right Man for the Wright Job." The phrase "right man" is a reference to the fact that Kelly is a girl. Roger says that girls can't be president because they cry too much. He only says this secretly to his brothers. He would never admit this opinion to his classmates.

"All Kelly cares about is that we have tofu in the cafeteria," Roger tells his classmates. "But I want to fix the broken doors in the bathroom!" Roger holds up a screwdriver as he says this and makes a grunting "man" sound.

The election banners were given to him as a gift by the Harrison kids. Their dad owns Harrison Sign Manufacturers and made the signs for free.

"Just make sure that when you get elected-and we are confident that you will-you tell the school that they need new signs." They shake hands and give him the free signs, which suddenly don't seem so free.

Roger looks around the school and sees that they do, in fact, need new signs. The exit sign above the main door is cracked. The sign above the library just says "Librar." The menu next to the school cafeteria is so old it says you could get a peanut butter and jelly sandwich for 50 cents.

So, maybe it is a bit unfair to take something from a student who's going to vote for you. But Roger figures they have a good point about the signs.

Meanwhile, Kelly has been running around the school putting up signs of her own. They are all handmade from construction paper with fresh flowers on them. They say, "Make the school beautiful. Vote Healthy for Kelly."

Maya tells Kelly they look nice, but she doesn't think they'll do anything.

"It's just lipstick on a pig," she says. "Just because you make it look nice doesn't mean it's not still a pig."

Kelly's handmade signs make Roger nervous, because they seem more honest and down-to-earth. Although his signs are really nice and professional, it's also obvious that they cost money. Roger feels like the students don't relate to him.

He wants the other students to think he's just like them, so he organizes a barbecue during school lunch hours with free hot dogs. Actually, it's the Harrison brothers' idea. They even get him a deal on the hot dogs, from their cousin's supermarket, of course.

A few kids come by, but Roger also notices that a good amount of students stay in the cafeteria, eating food they brought from home. He can't figure out why someone would want to eat a stale sandwich when he's offering free hot dogs.

The hot dog giveaway is definitely a flop. Roger goes home dejected and sad.

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The next day, the school holds a debate between the two candidates. The debate is moderated by their civics teacher, Mrs. Graham.

Roger and Kelly sit on stage, opposite each other. The auditorium is filled with students, all of whom will have the opportunity to vote. All the students are watching with great interest, as this is how they will make their decision. One wrong answer today and it could mean losing the presidency.

Mrs. Graham asks the first question.

"As class president, how would you see fit to spend the school's extra money?"

Kelly answers first. "Well, I certainly wouldn't be spending our money on expensive signs and hot dogs," she says.

The audience gasps. This is a low blow. It's surprising that Kelly would say something like that.

Roger looks into the audience and sees the Harrison brothers sinking down into their seats.

Kelly continues, "I would like our school to be healthier, and I know we have many students who are vegetarian. They don't have many options for lunch, and if they forget to bring lunch from home, sometimes they don't eat lunch at all!"

At this, at least 50 students stand up and applaud. Even Maya stands and applauds, although she rolls her eyes a little, too. The other students join in the cheering.

Of course, a few students start booing, just to be jerks.

"Eat more bacon!" says one, cupping his hands around his mouth so the sound will carry.

"Eat a vegetarian!" says another, laughing and throwing pieces of paper.

"Okay everyone, that's enough!" the moderator says from stage. The students who are booing the vegetarians just look like troublemakers now.

Roger looks into the audience. He finally realizes how many students are vegetarian; he has never thought to find out before.

"What about you, Roger? What will you spend money on?"

"Well, I would like to have a new sign for the cafeteria," he says. "And that could certainly include any vegetarian options that the school may end up providing."

"Oh please! Without me to push for it, the school will never change its menu," Kelly says. "Roger offers empty promises. And he thinks he is better than me because I'm a girl!"

The students start to applaud and Roger watches the Harrison brothers sneak out the back door.

When the debate is over, Roger can tell that he lost. His failure is palpable; he can feel it. Students clamor around Kelly in a group, hugging her and telling her how they can't wait for the new lunch menu.

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Only a few people come up to Roger.

"I liked your nice sign," says Peggy, pushing her glasses up on her nose and squinting.

"Thanks," said Roger. "Can I count on your vote next week on election day?"

"Oh, that," Peggy says. "Well, actually, I'm voting for Kelly. I just wanted to be nice to you."

After school, the Harrison brothers are waiting outside to talk to Roger. He notices they are carrying some of Kelly's signs.

"We're going to have to withdraw our support," Boyd Harrison tells him.

"We just don't think you look like the winning candidate," Trent Harrison says. "And we really need to get behind someone who can help bring our dad more business."

"What are you talking about?" Roger says, angrily. "I was your guy! You supported me! I thought we were friends."

"Yeah, friends. Well, about that...You see, it's just that Kelly will bring in a lot more business for our dad's company," says Trent.

Boyd nods in approval. "It's nothing personal. You're a nice dude and all. But Kelly has a little more... *spirit*."

"Kelly? Oh please!" Roger is yelling now. "Her signs are all handmade! Didn't you see them? It's just hipster junk!"

"Oh, yeah, you noticed that? We went for a more 'indie' feel with these." Trent says.

"Tried to make them look handmade." Boyd interjects. "The hipsters love that. We're glad you noticed."

Kelly is coming out of the school now, and the Harrison brothers walk away from Roger without saying a word. Each brother puts an arm around Kelly.

"How's our best girl?" they ask.

Kelly smiles. "Doing just great now," she says. "Now that Roger looks like a woman-hating meat-eating loser."

"We've got this election in the bag," Boyd says. "A vegetarian bag, that is."

Trent holds up a bag of veggie burgers. "We've even been eating these at lunch, showing all those health-conscious kids that we're one of them."

"Well, you sure do look trustworthy now, don't you?" Kelly says, laughing. "But do you have any real food? I'm so sick of this vegetarian junk. My stomach is killing me!"

"You bet we do," says Boyd. "In fact, we have a whole bunch of hot dogs left over from Roger's barbeque yesterday. Let's go to our house and have dinner."

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"By the way," Kelly says, "How did you convince people not to go get delicious free hot dogs? I think he could have really turned people to his side with that."

"It was easy," Boyd says. "We started a rumor that Roger left the hot dogs out in his car overnight. Nobody wanted to get sick. He was so depressed; he just left everything sitting there. We grabbed all the leftovers and took them back home."

"That's brilliant," Kelly says. "I can't thank you enough!"

"Well, you won't have to thank us once you're elected. Just make sure the school uses our dad's business. And, oh yeah, when the cafeteria goes vegetarian, you know which veggie burgers are the best choice."

Boyd dangles the bag in front of her and, for the first time, she reads the label: "Harrison's Burgers."

"Victory has never tasted so sweet," Kelly says.

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Name: _____ **Date:** _____

1. Why does Kelly say she is running for class president?

A. She says the school needs new signs.

B. She says the school cafeteria should have more hot dogs.

C. She says she thinks the school can be better.

D. She says the football games can be more exciting.

2. What motivates the actions of Boyd and Trent Harrison?

A. They want to be elected class presidents.

B. They want to bring in money for their family's businesses.

C. They want to prove they are better than Kelly.

D. They want to embarrass Roger in front of the school.

3. The Harrison brothers give Roger free signs for his election campaign so that their father's sign company will get money from the school. Which evidence from the passage best supports this conclusion?

A. "The election banners were given to him as a gift by the Harrison kids. Their dad owns Harrison Sign Manufacturers and made the signs for free."

B. "They shake hands and give him the free signs, which suddenly don't seem so free."

C. "Roger looks around the school and sees that they do, in fact, need new signs. The exit sign above the main door is cracked."

D. "'Just make sure that when you get elected-and we are confident that you will-you tell the school that they need new signs.'"

4. How can Boyd and Trent Harrison best be described?

A. loyal

B. unintelligent

C. opportunistic

D. idealistic

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5. What is this passage mostly about?

A. an election with two crooked candidates

B. a kindhearted and honest girl who runs for class president

C. reasons why teenagers don't believe in voting

D. why vegetarian food is healthier than hot dogs

6. Read the following sentences: "When the debate is over, Roger can tell that he lost. His failure is **palpable**; he can feel it. Students clamor around Kelly in a group, hugging her and telling her how they can't wait for the new lunch menu."

What does "**palpable**" mean as used in the passage?

A. unnoticeable and minor

B. disappointing and annoying

C. helpful and encouraging

D. obvious and intense

7. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence below.

In her election campaign, Kelly says that she wants more vegetarian food in the cafeteria; _____, she does not actually like vegetarian food.

A. therefore

B. however

C. obviously

D. particularly

8. Who made Kelly's posters?

9. Trent and Boyd Harrison want to use the class election to make money for their family. They give Roger free signs from Harrison Sign Manufacturers so that, if Roger is elected, he will get the school to buy new signs from the Harrison business.

What is another way that the brothers use the election to make money for their family?

10. The word "crooked" can be used to describe something that is dishonest or corrupt. Explain why the election and the people involved in it are crooked.

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The Song of Wandering Aengus

by William Butler Yeats

I went out to the hazel wood,
Because a fire was in my head,
And cut and peeled a hazel wand,
And hooked a berry to a thread;
And when white moths were on the wing,
And moth-like stars were flickering out,
I dropped the berry in a stream
And caught a little silver trout.

When I had laid it on the floor
I went to blow the fire a-flame,
But something rustled on the floor,
And someone called me by my name:
It had become a glimmering girl
With apple blossom in her hair
Who called me by my name and ran
And faded through the brightening air.

Though I am old with wandering
Through hollow lands and hilly lands,
I will find out where she has gone,
And kiss her lips and take her hands;
And walk among long dappled grass,
And pluck till time and times are done,
The silver apples of the moon,
The golden apples of the sun.

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

1. Where does the speaker of the poem go?

A. to the moon

B. to a hazel wood

C. to the sun

D. to the bottom of a stream

2. What does the second stanza of the poem describe?

A. a glimmering girl

B. an old wanderer

C. a trout in a stream

D. a white moth in flight

3. The speaker is not feeling well at the beginning of the poem.

What evidence from the poem supports this conclusion?

A. "I went out to the hazel wood" (line 1)

B. "a fire was in my head" (line 2)

C. "I dropped the berry in a stream" (line 7)

D. "I went to blow the fire a-flame" (line 10)

4. Who is probably the speaker of the poem?

A. a young man who likes to pick the silver apples of the moon

B. wandering Aengus

C. a glimmering girl

D. a young woman who likes to pick the golden apples of the sun

5. What is the theme of the poem?

A. contentment or peace

B. charity or thanks

C. longing or desire

D. resentment or hate

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6. What is the effect of the words "flickering out" (line 6) and "glimmering" (line 13)?

A. They hint at what is going to happen at the very end of the poem.

B. They create a powerful image in the reader's mind.

C. They show how upset and troubled the speaker is.

D. They slow down the meter of the poem with long syllables.

7. Read these lines from the poem:

I dropped the berry in a stream

And caught a little silver trout.

When I had laid it on the floor

I went to blow the fire a-flame, (10)

But something rustled on the floor,

And someone called me by my name:

What does the word "it" in line 9 refer to?

A. "the berry" (line 7)

B. "a stream" (line 7)

C. the "trout" (line 8)

D. "the floor" (line 9)

8. Where has the speaker wandered?

9. Name three things the speaker will do.

10. Identify the mood of the poem and explain what the poet does to create this mood.

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Robert L. Merritt

7th Grade **Math** Pack

Week of June 15-19, 2020

1. The price of a shirt is marked down from $12.50 to $10.00. What is the percent decrease of the shirt?

A 20%

B 25%

C 40%

D 80%

2. In a class, 37.5% of the students are girls.

If there are 20 boys in the class, what is the number of girls in the class?

A 8

B 12

C 32

D 52

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3. Use the information to answer the question.

Mr. Johnson is going to buy an $18\frac{3}{4}$ pound turkey for

Thanksgiving. The turkey costs $2.80 per pound at the grocery store.

If the grocery store runs a 20% discount on turkeys, how much will Mr. Johnson save (before taxes)?

A $1.05

B $3.75

C $10.50

D $42.00

4. A house owner pays a property tax of $8 for every $1,000 of assessed property value.

What is the tax for a home assessed at $160,000?

A $1,280

B $2,000

C $20,000

D $200,000

5. If 8 gallons of gas cost $28.16, how much will 5 gallons of gas cost at the same rate?

A $17.60

B $18.16

C $21.60

D $23.16

6. A jar of peanut butter costs $6.95 plus sales tax. After sales tax, the jar of peanut butter costs $7.30.

What is the sales tax rate?

A 5%

B 6%

C 7%

D 8%

7. Michelle's math grades are shown in the table.

Category	Weight	Scores
Class work	20%	90, 95, 100
Quizzes	30%	84, 90, 89, 94
Tests	50%	95, 90, 88

To the *nearest* percent, what is Michelle's final math grade?

A 89%

B 90%

C 91%

D 92%

Robert L. Merritt
7th Grade **Science** Pack
Week of June 15-19, 2020

1. **A substance is composed of organic material such as dead plants. To which category does the substance belong?**

A magma

B mineral

C ore

D soil

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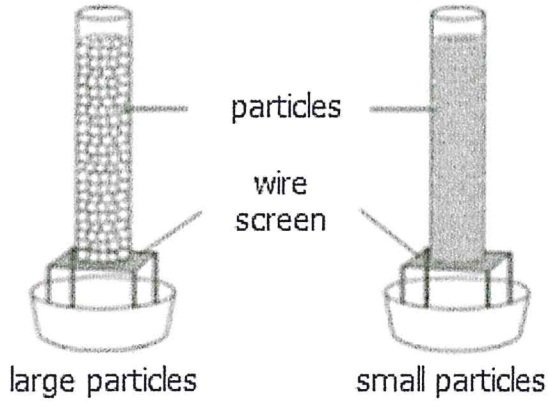
2. The diagram shows an experiment conducted to measure how quickly water moves through different sized particles. Small particles of marble and large particles of granite are put into two identical glass cylinders. Each cylinder contained equal volumes of the different sized particles. One cup of water was added to the top of each column while a student timed how long it took for the water to begin collecting in the pans under each wire screen. The student records the data in a table.



Particle Size	Time (s)
small	4.8
large	1.3

Which conclusion did the student *most likely* make from the data recorded in the experiment?

A The water flowed more quickly through the large particles because it took less time for the water to reach the pan as compared to the small particles

B The water was absorbed more by large particles of substance because it took less time for the water to reach the pan as compared to the small particles.

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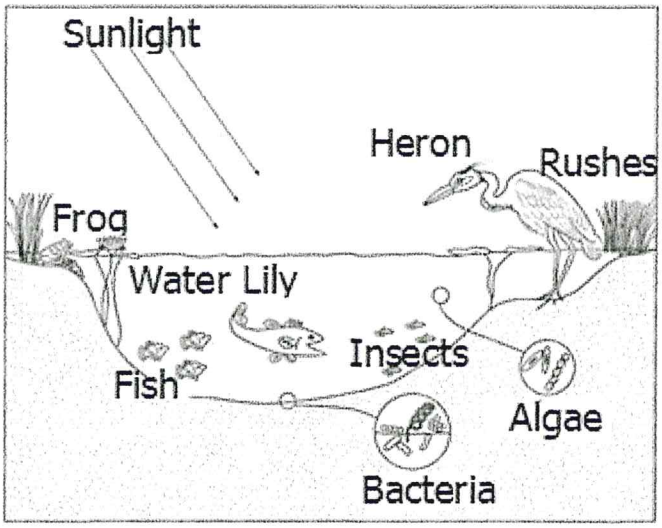
C The water flowed more slowly through the granite particles than the marble particles because it took more time for the water to reach the pan as compared to the granite particles.

D The water flowed more quickly through the small particles because it took more time for the water to reach the pan as compared to the large particles.

3. **The diagram shows a pond and several organisms that live in it.**



Which word *best* describes the pond?

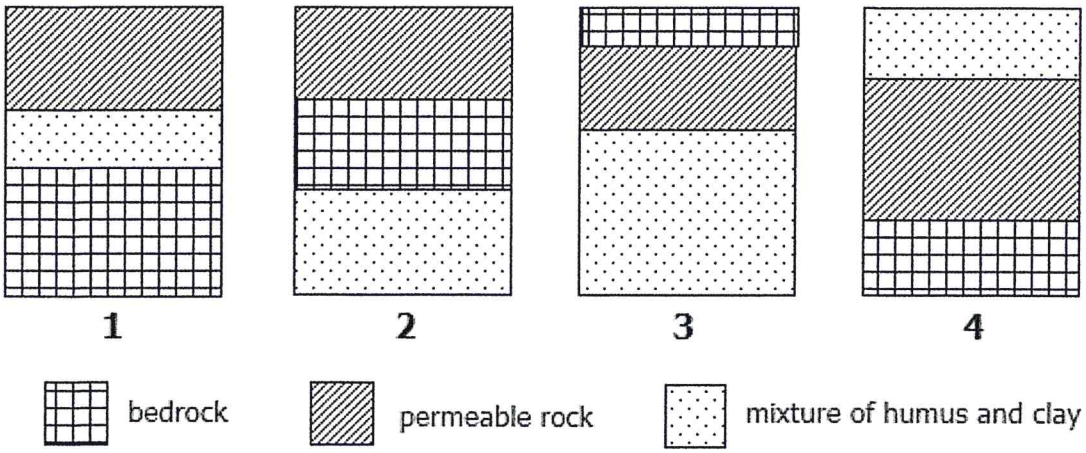
A biome

B ecosystem

C niche

D population

4. Examine the four soil profiles, labeled 1-4.



Which soil profile is *most* suitable for plant growth?

A soil profile 1

B soil profile 2

C soil profile 3

D soil profile 4

5. The table lists the particle size of four different types of soils.

Soil	Particle Size
Type I	Clay
Type II	Coarse Sand
Type III	Silt
Type IV	Fine Sand

What is the correct arrangement of the types of soil from *most* to *least* permeable?

A Type 1 > Type 2 > Type 3 > Type 4

B Type 2 > Type 3 > Type 4 > Type 1

C Type 2 > Type 4 > Type 3 > Type 1

D Type 1 > Type 3 > Type 4 > Type 2

6. The table gives details of soil samples collected from different regions.

Soil Sample	Percent Sand	Percent Silt	Percent Clay	Texture
P	50	40	10	Loam
Q	70	5	25	Sandy Clay Loam
R	20	70	10	Silt Loam
S	20	10	70	Clay

Which soil sample would be *least*permeable?

A soil sample P

B soil sample Q

C soil sample R

D soil sample S

7. Which weather term is considered a form of precipitation?

A dew

B fog

C frost

D sleet

8. In which area would the rate of evaporation be the *lowest*?

A over the ocean

B over the mountains

C over the rainforest

D over the desert

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9. On Earth, what process generates *most* of the water vapor?

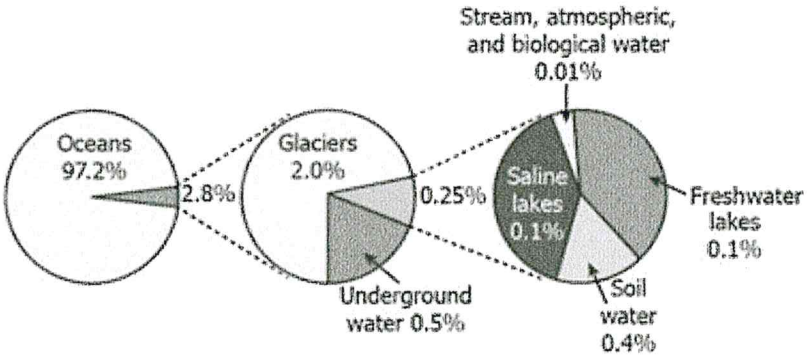
A condensation

B evaporation

C precipitation

D transpiration

10. The pie chart shows the distribution of the world's available water.



Based on the pie chart, which is the largest reservoir of freshwater?

A glaciers

B freshwater lakes

C soil water

D underground water

Name _____ Date_____ / _____ / _____

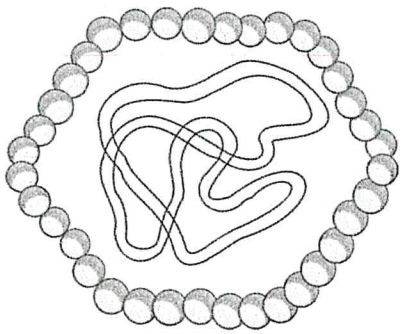
VIRUSES - BIOLOGY AND STRUCTURE

Provide the missing terms in the blanks below using the words listed below.

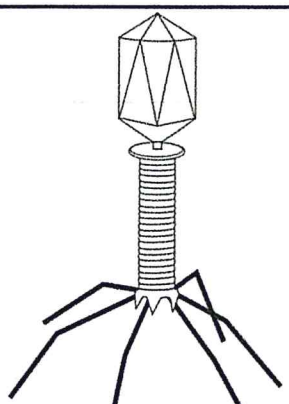
Cells	**Antibodies**	**AIDS**	**Interferon**
Measles	**Mumps**	**Protein**	**Reproduction**
weakened	**Vaccines**		

1. Viruses are made up of nucleic acids encapsulated by a coat of_____.
2. Unlike bacteria, viruses, are not composed of _____.
3. The only function required for life that viruses can perform is_____.
4. These can produce protection against some viral diseases: _____.
5. Name three viral diseases: _____, _____, and_____.
6. A _____ form of the virus can be used to make a vaccine.
7. The body uses _____ and _____ as two natural defenses against viruses.

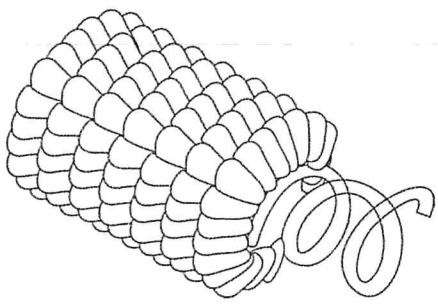
Three different types of viruses are diagrammed below. For the polyhedral and rod-shaped viruses, label the nucleic acid and protein coat. For the bacteriophage, label the capsid, collar, tail sheath, tail fiber and base plate.



Polyhedral virus



bacteriophage



Rod-shaped virus

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