

Logical Connections in Nonfiction

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____ / 10



Quick Review

Sentences and paragraphs in nonfiction are connected by ideas. They might compare two things, show CAUSE and EFFECT, or list events in order (first, second, third). Look for SIGNAL WORDS like because, so, however, both, while.

PART 1 — READ

Read the passage. Then answer the questions.

Frogs and Toads

Frogs and toads look alike, but they are not the same. Both are amphibians that live near water and eat insects. However, frogs have smooth, wet skin, while toads have dry, bumpy skin. Frogs are also better jumpers because their back legs are longer.

Frogs lay their eggs in water. As a result, baby frogs hatch and swim around as tadpoles until they grow legs and become adults. Toads, on the other hand, may travel away from the water to find a cool, damp place to hide. They return to the water only when it is time to lay eggs.

Because frogs and toads eat bugs, they help control the number of insects near homes and gardens. So even though they may look strange, frogs and toads are very helpful animals to have around.

PART 2 — PRACTICE

Choose the best answer for each question. Show your work for short answers.

- Paragraph 1 mostly shows the connection of —
 - sequence (first, next, last).
 - comparison (how things are alike and different).
 - problem and solution.
 - question and answer.
- Which signal word in paragraph 1 introduces a DIFFERENCE?
 - Both
 - However
 - and
 - near



3. Which sentence shows CAUSE AND EFFECT?
 - A. Frogs and toads look alike, but they are not the same.
 - B. Frogs are better jumpers because their back legs are longer.
 - C. Toads have dry, bumpy skin.
 - D. Both eat insects near water.
4. In paragraph 2, the phrase **As a result** signals —
 - A. a comparison.
 - B. an effect of what came before.
 - C. a question to the reader.
 - D. the end of the passage.
5. Which logical connection links the sentences about toads in paragraph 2?
 - A. sentence 2 gives an OPPOSITE behavior to the first sentence about frogs.
 - B. sentence 2 repeats sentence 1 word for word.
 - C. sentence 2 ends the passage with a question.
 - D. sentence 2 lists names of types of toads.
6. Why does the author use the word **So** in paragraph 3?
 - A. to start a new topic
 - B. to introduce a result or conclusion from what just came before
 - C. to ask a question
 - D. to list more examples
7. Which sentence shows that the author is COMPARING two ideas?
 - A. Frogs are better jumpers because their back legs are longer.
 - B. Frogs have smooth, wet skin, while toads have dry, bumpy skin.
 - C. Toads return to water to lay eggs.
 - D. Frogs help control insect numbers.
8. What is the connection between paragraph 2 and paragraph 3?
 - A. Paragraph 3 keeps comparing skin types.
 - B. Paragraph 3 shows the EFFECT of frogs and toads eating bugs.
 - C. Paragraph 3 changes to a new animal.
 - D. Paragraph 3 lists the names of insects.



9. Which signal word would BEST replace **However** in the sentence “*However, frogs have smooth, wet skin...*”?

- A. because
- B. for example
- C. but
- D. next

10. Write your own sentence about frogs or toads that uses the signal phrase **as a result**.



Answer Keys

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Explanations	
1. B	Paragraph 1 compares frogs and toads. The others don't match the "alike but not the same" structure.
2. B	"However" signals a contrast. "Both" signals similarity; "and" joins ideas; "near" is a preposition.
3. B	"Because" signals a cause-and-effect link. The others are description or comparison.
4. B	"As a result" introduces an effect (tadpoles hatch and swim) of a cause (eggs laid in water).
5. A	The "on the other hand" phrase introduces a contrast between frog and toad behavior.
6. B	"So" usually means "as a result." The author connects "they eat bugs" to "they are helpful."
7. B	"While" is a comparison signal. The others give one-sided facts.
8. B	Paragraph 3 takes a fact from earlier (they eat bugs) and shows the effect: they help us. The other options misread the move.
9. C	"But" is the best simple replacement for "however" in a contrast. The others change the meaning.
10.	Answer: Example: Toads eat many bugs in the garden, and as a result, fewer mosquitoes bother us at night. Any sensible sentence with a cause-and-effect structure.

