

Sequence, Steps, and Cause & Effect

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____ / 10



Quick Review

Some passages tell you the ORDER of events or steps (first, next, then, finally). Others show CAUSE and EFFECT — one thing makes another thing happen. Look for time words and signal words like because, so, when.

PART 1 — READ

Read the passage. Then answer the questions.

How a Seed Becomes a Plant

Every tall plant starts as a small seed. First, the seed is planted in the soil. The seed needs water to wake up. When water soaks into the seed, the hard shell softens and a small root pushes down into the soil. This first step is called germination.

Next, a tiny green stem pushes up out of the soil and reaches toward the sunlight. Because the plant needs light to make food, the stem grows taller as it follows the sun. Small leaves open from the stem. The leaves are like little factories that turn sunlight into food for the plant.

After many weeks, the plant grows flowers. Bees and other insects visit the flowers and carry pollen from one plant to another. As a result, the flowers can turn into fruit or seeds. When the seeds drop or are carried away, the cycle can start again with a brand new plant.

PART 2 — PRACTICE

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

- Which event happens FIRST in the life of a plant?
 - A flower appears on the stem.
 - The seed is planted in the soil.
 - Leaves open up from the stem.
 - Insects carry pollen to other plants.
- What CAUSES the hard shell of the seed to soften?
 - sunlight that warms the seed
 - water that soaks into the seed
 - the small root pushing down
 - leaves opening from the stem



3. Which step happens RIGHT AFTER the seed germinates?
- A. Flowers appear.
 - B. A small root pushes down.
 - C. A tiny green stem pushes up toward the sunlight.
 - D. Bees visit the plant.
4. Why does the stem grow taller toward the sun?
- A. The seed pushes it from below.
 - B. Insects pull it upward.
 - C. The plant needs light to make food.
 - D. The wind blows the plant upward.
5. Which word in paragraph 3 is a SIGNAL word for cause and effect?
- A. "After"
 - B. "As a result"
 - C. "and"
 - D. "visit"
6. What CAUSES the flowers to turn into fruit or seeds?
- A. The stem stops growing.
 - B. Insects carry pollen from one flower to another.
 - C. The leaves close up at night.
 - D. Bees take the flowers home.
7. Put the steps in ORDER:
1) A small root pushes down. 2) A flower appears. 3) Water soaks the seed. 4) Seeds drop and start the cycle again.
- A. 1, 3, 2, 4
 - B. 3, 1, 2, 4
 - C. 2, 3, 1, 4
 - D. 3, 2, 1, 4
8. Use the word **because** in a sentence about plants from this passage.
-
-
9. Which event comes LAST in the cycle?
- A. The seed is planted.
 - B. The flowers grow on the plant.
 - C. Seeds drop and a new plant begins.
 - D. Leaves turn sunlight into food.



10. Why does the writer use words like “first,” “next,” “after”?
- A. to make the passage longer
 - B. to show the steps in the order they happen
 - C. to give the writer's opinion
 - D. to compare two different plants



Answer Keys

<p>1 <input type="radio"/> A <input checked="" type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>2 <input type="radio"/> A <input checked="" type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>3 <input type="radio"/> A <input type="radio"/> B <input checked="" type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>4 <input type="radio"/> A <input type="radio"/> B <input checked="" type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>5 <input type="radio"/> A <input checked="" type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p>	<p>6 <input type="radio"/> A <input checked="" type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>7 <input type="radio"/> A <input checked="" type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>8 <input type="text" value="See below"/></p> <p>9 <input type="radio"/> A <input type="radio"/> B <input checked="" type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>10 <input type="radio"/> A <input checked="" type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p>
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Explanations	
1. B	Paragraph 1 says the seed is planted first. The others happen later in the cycle.
2. B	Paragraph 1: water soaks into the seed and the shell softens. The other options are later events.
3. C	Paragraph 2 starts with "Next, a tiny green stem pushes up." A and D happen later; B is part of germination, not after.
4. C	Paragraph 2 directly states this cause. A,B, D are not supported by the text.
5. B	"As a result" signals an effect. "After" is a time word, "and" joins things, "visit" is just an action.
6. B	Paragraph 3 says pollen is carried, which lets flowers form seeds and fruit. The other options are not in the text.
7. B	Water soaks first → root pushes → flower → seeds drop. B is the only order that matches the passage.
8.	Answer: Example: The stem grows toward the sun because the plant needs light to make food. Any cause-and-effect sentence built from the text.
9. C	"The cycle can start again" closes the passage. A is the start; B is in the middle; D happens early too.
10. B	Time words mark sequence. A, C, D are not the purpose of those words.

