

# Using Glossaries and Beginning Dictionaries

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Score: \_\_\_\_ / 10



## Quick Review

A GLOSSARY is a small dictionary at the back of a book. A DICTIONARY is a longer list of words in alphabetical order. Both give the MEANING of a word; some also show how to say it and what part of speech it is.

## PRACTICE

Use what you know about dictionaries and glossaries to answer.

1. A glossary is found in the —
  - A. table of contents
  - B. back of a book
  - C. middle of a chapter
  - D. front cover
2. Words in a glossary or dictionary are in —
  - A. random order
  - B. alphabetical order
  - C. reverse order
  - D. size order
3. What does a DICTIONARY entry usually include?
  - A. the spelling, meaning, and how to say the word
  - B. only the price
  - C. only the page number
  - D. only the author
4. If you look up the word *amphibian* in a glossary, you will most likely find —
  - A. its meaning related to the book's topic
  - B. a story about a frog
  - C. the page where the index ends
  - D. a picture of the author



5. Which word comes FIRST in a glossary?
  - A. habitat
  - B. globe
  - C. groove
  - D. garden
6. Guide words on a dictionary page show —
  - A. the first and last word on that page
  - B. the date the dictionary was printed
  - C. the page number only
  - D. a list of synonyms
7. If a dictionary entry says *noun*, this tells you —
  - A. how to pronounce the word
  - B. the meaning of the word
  - C. the part of speech (kind of word)
  - D. the page the word came from
8. If you find a word with TWO meanings in the dictionary, you should —
  - A. pick the first meaning always
  - B. choose the meaning that fits the sentence you read
  - C. ignore both
  - D. ask a different person
9. Which of these is BEST when you don't know a word in a science book?
  - A. look in a fairy-tale book
  - B. check the science book's glossary first, then a dictionary if needed
  - C. guess from the first letter
  - D. skip the page
10. Pick any hard word you know and tell what THREE things a dictionary entry would show you about it.  

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## Answer Keys

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Explanations	
<b>1. B</b>	Glossaries are usually at the back. The other locations have different parts.
<b>2. B</b>	Always alphabetical for quick lookup.
<b>3. A</b>	Entries provide several pieces of information about the word.
<b>4. A</b>	Glossaries define topic-specific words.
<b>5. D</b>	G comes before H; within G: garden < globe < groove. So garden comes first.
<b>6. A</b>	Guide words help you flip to the right page quickly.
<b>7. C</b>	Part of speech tells how the word is used in a sentence.
<b>8. B</b>	Context decides which meaning fits.
<b>9. B</b>	Glossary is closer to the topic; dictionary is a backup.
<b>10.</b>	<b>Answer:</b> Example: For "gigantic" — (1) how to say it, (2) the meaning (very large), (3) the part of speech (adjective). Any three accurate dictionary-entry items.

