Integrating Information from Text, Visuals, and Data

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____ / 10

Quick Review

A real understanding often comes from putting the WORDS, the CHART, and the IMAGE together. Ask: what does the text say, what does the chart show, and what new idea appears only when you read both at once?

PART 1 — READ

Read the passage. Then answer the questions.

The Honeybee Count

Every spring, beekeepers across the United States open their hives after winter and count how many of their colonies survived. The U.S. Department of Agriculture combines those counts into a yearly survey called the Bee Informed Partnership Survey, which has tracked managed honeybee colonies since 2006. The story the numbers tell is not simple. Some years are unusually hard on bees; others are unusually kind. Researchers point to four main causes for colony loss: a parasite called the Varroa mite, pesticides used in nearby fields, fewer wild flowers along farmland edges, and poor winter weather. Most lost colonies suffered from more than one of these at once.

[Imagine a bar graph titled "U.S. Managed Honeybee Colony Loss, Winter Losses by Year." The vertical axis is labeled "Percent of colonies lost" and runs from 0 to 50. The horizontal axis lists six years: 2008, 2011, 2014, 2017, 2020, and 2023. The bars read approximately: 2008 = 36%, 2011 = 30%, 2014 = 24%, 2017 = 21%, 2020 = 39%, 2023 = 37%. A dashed horizontal line at 18% is labeled "loss level beekeepers say is sustainable."]

[Imagine a labeled diagram beside the bar graph. The diagram shows a single honeybee with five arrows pointing inward, each labeled with one threat. The labels read: "Varroa mite (parasite)," "Pesticides from nearby fields," "Loss of wildflower habitat," "Long, cold winters," and "Viruses spread by mites." A note below the diagram reads: "More than one threat often affects the same colony."]

Reading the text and the visuals together gives a clearer picture than either does alone. The graph shows that losses dropped between 2008 and 2017, climbed back up in 2020, and have stayed above the 18% "sustainable" line every single year on record. The diagram shows that any one colony can be facing several threats at once — so even when winters are mild, mites or pesticides may push the loss number above the sustainable line. The text adds the timing and the science. Each source on its own is incomplete; together, they explain why honeybee health is still an unfinished problem for American farmers and for the foods that depend on pollination.

PART 2 — PRACTICE

Use the passage AND the described visuals to answer each question.

1. According to the bar graph, in which year were winter colony losses the LOWEST?

   A. 2008

   B. 2014

   C. 2017

   D. 2020

2. Reading the text AND the graph together, which statement is BEST supported?

   A. Winter losses have stayed below the 18% sustainable line for most of the survey's history.

   B. Winter losses dropped between 2008 and 2017, but climbed again afterward — and have remained above the 18% sustainable line every recorded year.

   C. Winter losses have been exactly the same every year since 2006.

   D. The graph proves that the Varroa mite has been eliminated.

3. What does the dashed "18%" line on the graph represent, based on the text and graph together?

   A. The exact percentage of bees lost in 2017.

   B. The lowest possible loss rate any country has ever recorded.

   C. The loss level beekeepers consider sustainable.

   D. The total percentage of pesticides used in the U.S.

4. Looking ONLY at the diagram, what does the diagram add that the text does not say directly?

   A. The diagram shows a fifth threat — viruses spread by mites — alongside the four listed in the text.

   B. The diagram lists the exact yearly loss percentages.

   C. The diagram shows the price of honey from 2008 to 2023.

   D. The diagram shows where each beekeeper lives.

5. Which conclusion is BEST supported by combining the graph and the diagram?

   A. Bees face only one threat at a time, so the loss percentage tracks just one cause each year.

   B. Even when one threat eases (such as winter weather), other threats from the diagram can still push losses above the sustainable line.

   C. Pesticides are the only cause of bee loss.

   D. Wildflower habitat has nothing to do with honeybee survival.

6. Between 2008 and 2014, how did winter losses change, according to the graph?

   A. They rose sharply.

   B. They fell from about 36% to about 24%.

   C. They stayed exactly the same.

   D. They fell below 18%.

7. How does combining the text and the visuals change the reader's understanding compared with reading the text alone?

A. The reader sees exact numbers and a visible threshold the text describes only in general terms.

B. The visuals contradict the text on every point.

C. The visuals replace the need to read the text.

D. The visuals provide a personal story about a single beekeeper.

8. Which statement BEST shows that text and visuals can DISAGREE about EMPHASIS even when they agree on facts?

A. The graph and the diagram both prove that bees no longer face any problems.

B. The text emphasizes WHY losses happen; the graph emphasizes WHEN they happened; the diagram emphasizes WHICH threats can hit at once.

C. The text says wildflowers do not matter; the diagram says they do.

D. The graph and the text use different sets of years.

9. Using BOTH the text and the bar graph, explain in 2-3 sentences why a reader might say that the honeybee colony situation is "better than in 2008 but still not solved."

_____

_____

10. Identify ONE piece of information that appears in the DIAGRAM but NOT in the text. Explain in one sentence why that piece of information matters for understanding the article's main point.

_____

_____

Answer Keys

1	A	B	**C**	D	6	A	**B**	C	D
2	A	**B**	C	D	7	**A**	B	C	D
3	A	B	**C**	D	8	A	**B**	C	D
4	**A**	B	C	D	9	See below			
5	A	**B**	C	D	10	See below			

Explanations

1. C	The graph shows 2017 at roughly 21%, the lowest bar. A is the highest early bar (36%). B is low but not the lowest (24%). D rose again to 39%.
2. B	Both halves come from combining sources: the dip and rebound are in the graph; the always-above-18% point is also in the graph; the timing language is in the text. A reverses the data. C ignores the variation visible in the graph. D invents a finding never claimed.
3. C	The graph's label and the article both name 18% as the sustainable threshold beekeepers use. A is close to 21% but not 18%. B and D are unrelated meanings.
4. A	The text lists four threats; the diagram adds "viruses spread by mites" as a fifth — visual-adds-info question. B confuses graph with diagram. C and D invent content not shown.
5. B	The diagram says multiple threats hit at once; the graph shows losses staying above 18% every year — so weakness in one cause can hide behind strength in another. A contradicts the diagram. C and D contradict the diagram's other labels.
6. B	The graph shows the 2008 bar near 36% and 2014 near 24% — a clear drop, not below 18%. A reverses direction. C contradicts the graph. D would be below the sustainable line, which the article says has not happened.
7. A	The visuals supply concrete percentages and the 18% line that the text only mentions in words. B reverses the relationship. C is too strong; the text adds timing and science the visuals do not. D invents a personal story.
8. B	Same topic, different angles — the standard "complementary emphasis" answer. A contradicts every source. C invents a contradiction the text does not make. D is false — the text and graph use the same survey years.
9.	**Answer:** Strong answer: The graph shows winter losses fell from about 36% in 2008 to about 21% in 2017, which is better than 2008. But the graph also shows that losses climbed back above 35% in 2020 and 2023, and the text confirms that no year since 2006 has fallen below the 18% sustainable line. So losses have improved compared with 2008 — and yet bees are still losing more colonies than beekeepers can absorb. Acceptable variations: any answer that cites BOTH a comparison (2008 vs. a later year) AND the always-above-18% point. NOT acceptable: answers that use only the graph without the sustainable threshold; answers that claim the problem is solved; answers that ignore the rebound in 2020 and 2023. A 2-point answer (1) cites at least one number from the graph AND (2) names the 18% sustainable threshold from the text.

10.	**Answer:** Strongest answer: The diagram lists "viruses spread by mites" as a fifth threat — a detail the text does not name in its four-cause list. This matters because it shows the Varroa mite causes harm not only directly but also by spreading viruses, which makes mites an even bigger driver of losses than the text alone suggests. Acceptable variations: students may also note the diagram's caption ("More than one threat often affects the same colony") IF they explain that it strengthens the article's claim that most lost colonies suffered from more than one cause. NOT acceptable: answers naming a threat the TEXT already lists (Varroa, pesticides, wildflowers, winter weather); answers without an explanation; answers using only the graph. Look for something visible only in the diagram (the virus arrow OR the multi-threat caption). Reject any threat already listed in the text.

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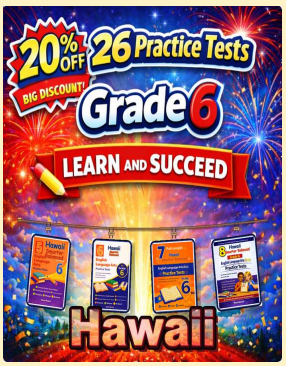

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