Central Idea and Objective Summary

Name: _____	Date: _____	Score: _____ / 10

Quick Review

The central idea is the whole text's controlling point. A summary should include the central idea and the most important supporting details without opinion words.

PART 1 — READ

Read the passage. Then answer the questions.

The Case for Dark Skies

For many people, city night means a pale orange glow instead of a sky full of stars. That glow, called light pollution, comes from outdoor lighting that shines upward or sideways instead of only where it is needed.

Light pollution affects more than stargazing. Migrating birds can become disoriented by bright buildings, sea turtle hatchlings may crawl toward streetlights instead of the ocean, and people can lose sleep when glare spills into windows.

Some cities have begun using shielded fixtures, warmer bulbs, and motion sensors. These changes do not require streets to become dark or unsafe. They aim light downward, where people need it, and reduce wasted energy.

Protecting dark skies is therefore not only an astronomy issue. It is a practical effort to support wildlife, human health, and efficient public lighting.

PART 2 — PRACTICE

Use the passage to answer each question. Choose the best answer and support short responses with evidence.

1. Which sentence from the passage BEST supports the inference that The author believes better lighting design can reduce harm without removing useful light.?

A. City night means a pale orange glow.

B. These changes do not require streets to become dark or unsafe.

C. Migrating birds can become disoriented.

D. For many people, city night means stars are hidden.

2. Which statement BEST expresses the central idea or theme of the passage?

A. Reducing light pollution through smarter lighting protects wildlife, health, energy, and the night sky.

B. All outdoor lights should be permanently removed.

C. Only astronomers are affected by city lighting.

D. Motion sensors are too expensive for cities.

3. What does the word 'shielded' most nearly mean as it is used in the passage?

A. decorated brightly

B. powered by batteries

C. covered or directed so light does not spill upward

D. painted a dark color

4. How does the structure or key detail identified in the passage contribute to meaning?

A. It gives a personal story about one astronomer.

B. It proves light pollution has no solution.

C. It defines every type of light bulb.

D. Paragraph 2 expands the issue from stargazing to several real-world effects.

5. Which conclusion is BEST supported by the whole passage?

A. The article mocks people who live in cities.

B. The article presents dark-sky policies as practical rather than extreme.

C. The article says safety and darkness cannot coexist.

D. The article focuses only on saving money.

6. Which choice is the BEST objective summary of the passage?

A. The article explains that light pollution harms stars, wildlife, sleep, and energy use, and that smarter lighting can reduce those harms.

B. The article celebrates bright city lights as a sign of progress.

C. The article tells readers to stop using electricity indoors.

D. The article claims sea turtles cause light pollution.

7. Which answer should be rejected because it goes beyond what the passage supports?

A. Reducing light pollution through smarter lighting protects wildlife, health, energy, and the night sky.

B. The article presents dark-sky policies as practical rather than extreme.

C. All outdoor lights should be permanently removed.

D. Paragraph 2 expands the issue from stargazing to several real-world effects.

8. Which detail would be MOST useful to quote in a written response about the passage?

A. City night means a pale orange glow.

B. Migrating birds can become disoriented.

C. For many people, city night means stars are hidden.

D. These changes do not require streets to become dark or unsafe.

9. In 2-3 sentences, explain how one quoted detail supports the idea that The author believes better lighting design can reduce harm without removing useful light..

_____

_____

10. Write a one-sentence analysis of the passage's message or main idea. Then name one detail that supports it.

_____

_____

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. B	The correct evidence directly proves the stated inference rather than merely mentioning the same topic.
2. A	The correct answer covers the whole passage, while the distractors are too narrow, too extreme, or unsupported.
3. C	The context around the word points to this meaning in this passage.
4. D	The correct answer explains the role the detail plays in the development of the text.
5. B	The correct conclusion follows from multiple details, not from a single isolated word.
6. A	A strong summary includes the main conflict or idea and the outcome without personal opinion.
7. C	This choice overstates or invents an idea that the passage does not prove.
8. D	This detail is specific enough to support analysis in a written response.
9.	**Answer:** A strong response quotes or closely paraphrases: These changes do not require streets to become dark or unsafe. Then it explains how that detail proves the inference instead of only repeating it. Use exact wording from the text or task, then explain your reasoning.
10.	**Answer:** A strong response states: Reducing light pollution through smarter lighting protects wildlife, health, energy, and the night sky. It supports the statement with a precise detail such as: These changes do not require streets to become dark or unsafe. Use exact wording from the text or task, then explain your reasoning.

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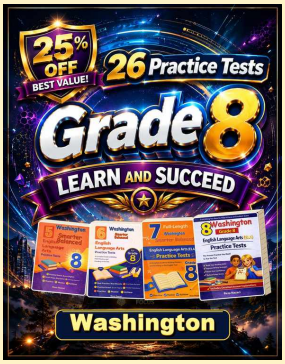

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