

Success

With Reading

5th Edition

Zachary Fillingham / Owain Mckimm

3



>> Introduction

Success With Reading 3 is the third volume of a four-volume series of exercise books designed to develop reading competence and improve reading skills. The book contains 100 articles on various topics and multiple comprehension questions to test readers' ability to recall and understand what they read in the articles.

The book is divided into four units according to different subjects. Each unit concentrates on one reading strategy. By reading these articles, readers will equip themselves with not only reading capability but also knowledge about a wide variety of subjects including arts & literature, animals, history, science, and sports.

Key Features

• A Wide Variety of Reading Topics

The reading material in this book incorporates different themes and various topics in order to provide readers with life knowledge, including:

Social Studies	Arts & Literature	Science	Animals / Plants	Other Content Areas	Sports
	History		Health & Body		
	Geography & Places		Internet or Technology		Mystery
	Culture		Science		
	Politics / Economics				
	Language & Communication				
	Environment & Conservation				
	People				
Food					

• A Wide Range of Reading Strategies

This book presents a wide range of effective reading strategies that can help readers become more strategic and effective in understanding any text in any subject. These reading strategies include:

1 Reading Skills help you practice some skills for understanding a text as a whole. The **Reading Skills** unit covers:

1 Main Idea

The **main idea** of a text is the key message it tries to convey. This might be an opinion or a fact. The main idea is often expressed in a thesis statement.

2 Supporting Details

A good article is always built on a foundation of facts, statistics, and other kinds of evidence that help to develop the author's main idea. These are called **supporting details**, because they "support" the author's argument.

3 Fact or Opinion

Facts are things that can be proved to be true—whether it be through tests, records, or documents—while **opinions** express the author's beliefs or judgments. Sometimes an opinion may read like a fact, but if the truth of it cannot be proved, it remains only an opinion.

4 Author's Purpose and Tone

An author always has a goal in mind when he or she writes something. The goal might be to argue a point, to present an important problem, or even just to make the reader laugh. To achieve this goal, the author will adapt the vocabulary and the information presented, affecting the tone of the article.

5 Clarifying Devices

Writers strive to make their work both interesting and clear. They do this by using various **techniques, words, and phrases** that give the writing order and structure and that draw the reader's attention. To identify these devices, you'll need to be able to deconstruct a piece of writing structurally and recognize the tricks of the writer's trade.

6 Making Inferences

Inference is when we guess at something we don't know using the information we do know. For example, if a friend looks angry when she opens the door, you can guess that something is wrong. Authors also use this kind of inference to make similar suggestions.

7 Cause and Effect

A **cause** makes something happen, and an **effect** is the resulting action or event. The link between causes and their effects can sometimes be obvious; other times they are more subtle. To make identifying these relationships easier, look out for words that expressly imply a cause-effect relationship, such as "therefore," "as a result," or "consequently" to their readers.

8 Figurative Language

Writers use figurative language to invoke feelings or create images that leave a deep impression on the reader. Here are some examples of the figurative language that you will encounter in this book.

Similes compare one object with another using the words “like,” “as,” or “than” (e.g., “Her heart is harder than stone.”).

Metaphors make more direct comparisons and usually equate one thing with another (e.g., “She has a heart of stone,” or “All the world’s a stage.”) and are therefore more powerful than similes.

Personification is when a nonhuman object is given human qualities (e.g., “The sun strolled across the sky.”).

Idioms are phrases that should not be taken literally and have a meaning other than those of the individual words (e.g., “To let the cat out of the bag” has nothing to do with cats, but instead means “to reveal a secret.”).

Finally, **hyperbole** is an exaggeration that is used for added effect (e.g., “I’ve told you a million times!”).

9 Finding Bias

Writers have their own experiences, opinions, and beliefs. When you add all these together, they form a **bias**, or a particular point of view. Discovering a writer’s bias can sometimes be difficult, but a good place to start is the language used and whether or not the writer portrays both sides of an argument fairly.

2 Word Study helps you practice some skills for building your vocabulary and understanding new vocabulary in a text. The **Word Study** unit covers:

1 Synonyms (Words With the Same Meaning)

Synonyms are words that have the same or almost the same meaning. Take “huge” and “gigantic” for example. English has nearly a million words, with many of them sharing a similar meaning. Being able to identify these words is a vital skill for improving your reading comprehension.

2 Antonyms (Words With Opposite Meanings)

Antonym is another way of saying “a word with an opposite meaning.” Good and bad, big and small—all of these are antonym pairings. Sometimes, finding an antonym can be very easy. At other times, it can be a little challenging. Remember to always check the surrounding context for potential clues.

3 Words in Context

English words can have a variety of different meanings. For example, the adjective “fine” can be used to mean “acceptable” or “thin.” When you come across a potentially confusing word, it’s important to examine the context to determine its meaning. Looking for **context clues** can also help you deduce the meanings of words that you are completely unfamiliar with.

3 Study Strategies help you understand and use different parts of a text to gather information, developing your basic information-seeking skills. Information elements such as **visual material** and **reference sources** don’t present ideas in long pieces of text. Instead, they use pictures, numbered lists, alphabetical lists, and other methods to show information. The **Study Strategies** unit covers:

1 Visual Material

Visual material uses pictures and graphics to convey information. It includes charts, tables, and maps. If used properly, it can make complex information easy to understand.

2 Reference Sources

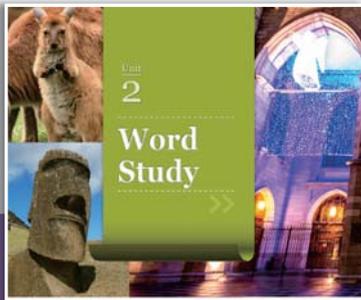
We live in a world of boundless information. Encyclopedias, the Internet, newspapers, cookbooks—all are valuable warehouses of knowledge. But finding specific information in such vast repositories can be tricky. That’s where indexes, search engines, listings, and similar tools come in handy. By learning how to navigate these collections, a world of information will soon be at your fingertips.

4 Final Reviews help you review your study effectively by providing bountiful reading material and probing questions. These units aim to examine how well you absorb the ideas and information in the book. To test your understanding of the text, make sure you complete the final reviews after studying the preceding units.

• The Best Test Preparation Book

This book is suitable for beginners and is the best preparation material for the General Scholastic Ability Test, the Department Required Test, the TOEIC, the TOEFL, and the IELTS.

How Do I Use This Book?



- 1-1 Main Idea
- 1-2 Supporting Details
- 1-3 Fact or Opinion
- 1-4 Author's Purpose and Tone
- 1-5 Clarifying Devices
- 1-6 Making Inferences
- 1-7 Cause and Effect
- 1-8 Figurative Language

- 2-1 Synonyms (Words With the Same Meaning)
- 2-2 Antonyms (Words With Opposite Meanings)
- 2-3 Words in Context
- 2-4 Review Test

1-1 Main Idea
The main idea of an article is not always obvious, so when reading, don't forget to ask yourself, "In addition to the article as a whole, what are the main ideas each paragraph will also have its own central idea. Once you know the point of each paragraph, you can use that knowledge to make sense of the whole piece."

1-1-1 I Feel Really Small: The California Redwoods
Visualize a place where the trees are so gigantic that you can't see the top of them and so wide that a car could pass easily through a hole in the trunk. Standing in one of northern California's redwood forests, you need to use your imagination. There are trees there that have been tall over a millennium and tower about the size of a...

2-1 Synonyms
Synonyms are words that have the same or almost the same meaning. Take "tough" and "stubborn" for example. English has many similar words, with many of them having a similar meaning. Being able to identify these words is a vital skill for improving your reading comprehension.

51 Is It a Wallaby or a Kangaroo? It's a Wallaroo!

A Wide Range of Reading Strategies

Each unit concentrates on one effective reading strategy that can help readers become more strategic and effective in understanding any text in any subject.

A Wide Variety of Reading Topics

The reading material incorporates different themes and various topics—including topics from arts, geography, history, culture, and science—to enrich readers' knowledge while strengthening their reading skills.

15 The Sport of Kitesurfing
Flying a kite is something to be done, often by children, on a relaxing summer's day in the park; surfing is a sport for cool people who love to catch a wave before partying hard on the beach. Who'd have thought that these two pastimes, as different as chalk and cheese, would be compatible? Modern-day kitesurfing began in the early 1990s, when Bill Bower, an aerodynamics specialist for aircraft manufacturer Boeing, and his son Cory decided to hook a kite up to a pair of water skis.

2 The Conch Shell
Hawaii is often called a tropical paradise. It's known for its white sandy beaches, its gorgeous weather, and its friendly, fun-loving people. Hawaiians love a party, and if you ever visit the island group, you're sure to find yourself attending one at some point or another. When you arrive at a Hawaiian party, called a hula, you'll often be greeted by a deep, sonorous sound similar to the cry of a medieval battle trumpet. This is the sound of the conch, or "pu" as the Hawaiians call it, and it's a welcome guest and signal the start of the celebrations.

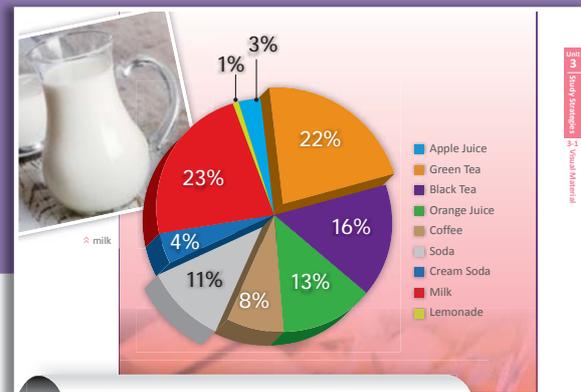
40 Flowers: Delicious or Deadly?
When you think about flowers, what words spring to mind? Fragrant, colorful... delicious? "Hold your horses," I hear you say. "Delicious? Flowers? That's not a conch!" In fact, we eat flowers all the time. We flavor our tea with jasmine and chamomile, season our food with the buds of capers, and fry up our dinner with sunflower oil. Some flowers have even been posing as vegetables: broccoli, cauliflower, and artichokes are all the next-generation buds of flowers, the sneaky devil!

46 Quitting Junk Food Cold Turkey
Ever feel like you need just one more hit of bubble tea? Or maybe you're feeling sick and a chocolate donut is the only medicine that can cure you? Believe it or not, you might just be an addict.

Various Forms of Colorful Graphics

Various forms of colorful graphics help enhance readers' learning experience.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 New Year's party at Joanne's house	2	3 Sign Jake up for guitar lessons	4
5	6 Jake back to school	7	8	9	10	11 Jake's talent agency appointment
	13 Ice skates	14	15 Meeting with Mr. Foster, Jake's science teacher	16	17	18 Day one of Jake's hockey tournament up north
19 Day two of Jake's hockey tournament	20 Hockey playoffs if Jake's team qualifies	21	22	23	24 Leave for mother-son spiritual journey	25



Questions

- The author's tone in this article is best described as _____.
a. tiring b. angry c. disappointing d. comic
- Which of the following best describes the author's attitude toward how the *Puya chilensis* consumes sheep?
a. Disgusted. b. Fascinated. c. Indifferent. d. Pessimistic.
- It's obvious from this article that the author's purpose is to _____.
a. tell a personal story b. argue a point
c. entertain the reader d. state a problem
- Why did the author introduce a specific example in the final paragraph?
a. To make a point about the plant being rare.
b. To encourage people to watch the plant.
c. To argue why we should protect the plant.
d. To compare it with another plant that eats animals.
- The author's purpose in the fourth paragraph is to _____.
a. offer a solution b. defend an animal
c. make a comparison d. state a theory

The Puya chilensis grows up to two meters in height.

The Puya chilensis feeds on sheep.

The Puya chilensis is covered in long spines. (c) by Wikimedia

Puya chilensis in bloom (c) by Wikimedia

Focused, Meaningful Practice Tests

Each article is followed by five multiple-choice comprehension questions that reinforce word recognition and reading comprehension. Readers can evaluate themselves effectively by using these tests.



Unit
1

Reading Skills

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1-1 Main Idea

1-2 Supporting Details

1-3 Fact or Opinion

1-4 Author's Purpose and Tone

1-5 Clarifying Devices

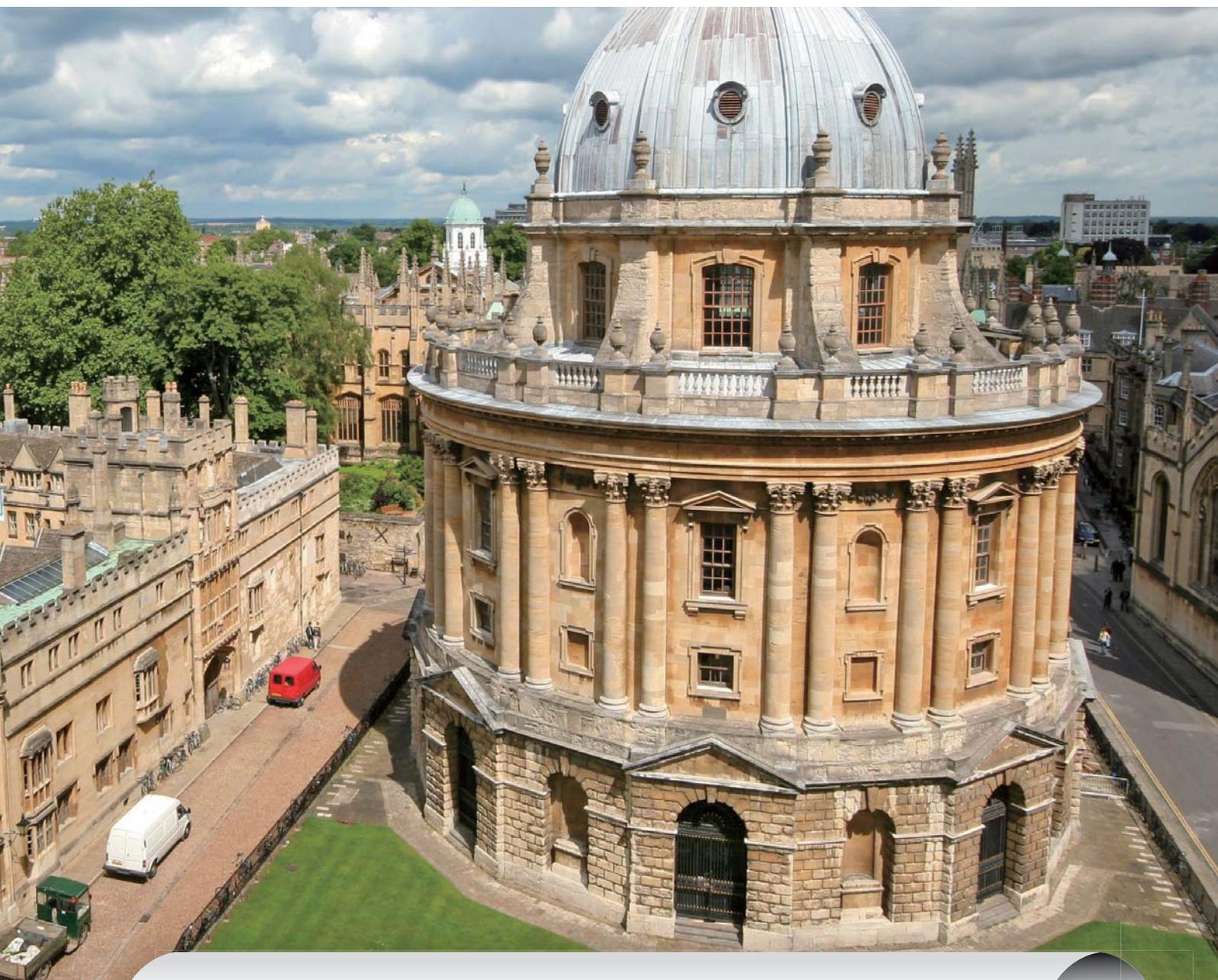
1-6 Making Inferences

1-7 Cause and Effect

1-8 Figurative Language

1-9 Finding Bias

1-10 Review Test



When it comes to understanding a text, knowing what the individual words mean is often not enough. It takes many different reading skills to truly understand what the author is trying to convey. Of course, understanding the literal meaning of a passage is an important first step, but you also need to be able to read between the lines; that is, you should analyze the relationships between ideas, recognize cause and effect, and predict the outcomes of stated events.

At an even more advanced level, you need to be able to recognize the author's persuasive techniques and bias and be able to distinguish between facts and opinions. The reading skills developed in this unit will help you do just that.

1-1 Main Idea

The **main idea** of an article is not always obvious, so when reading, don't forget to ask yourself, "What point is the author trying to make?" In addition to the article as a whole having a main idea, each paragraph will also have its own central idea. Once you know the point of each paragraph, you can use that knowledge to make sense of the whole piece.

✓ The California redwoods can reach up to 9 m in diameter.

1 I Feel Really Small:

The California Redwoods

- 1 Visualize a place where the trees are so gigantic that you can't see the tops of them and so wide that a car could pass easily through a hole in their trunks. Standing in one of northern California's redwood forests, you don't need to use your imagination. There are trees there that have been alive for well over a millennium and tower above the ground at heights of over 90 meters. Many are taller than the Statue of Liberty.
- 2 California redwoods, also called coast redwoods, are evergreen trees that have a reputation as the tallest trees in the world. The tallest living example, a tree named Hyperion, has attained a height of over 115 meters. Reports have told of taller trees existing before they were cut down in the nineteenth century.
- 3 The California redwoods can be found in a long, narrow strip of land that stretches about 750 kilometers along the coast of California, though since the 1850s, over 95% of the original forest has been cut down. The reason for this is that redwood is an incredibly desirable building material. It's light, durable, and largely resistant to fire. These qualities made it a must-have for the railroad industry, which once used it to build tracks.
- 4 Redwoods need an environment with high annual rainfall, abundant moisture, and temperatures of 10–16 degrees Celsius in order to grow. The area adjacent to the Pacific in which they thrive has ample rain, with fog and cool air from the coast keeping conditions damp all year long. The area's climate has also remained consistent for centuries, meaning that many of the

 dried resin of a redwood tree (cc by Sanjay ach)

» The California redwoods tower above the ground at heights of over 90 meters.



<< redwood forest

giants have been able to continue to grow for many years; one specimen is thought to be 2,200 years old.

5 However, because of the abundant rainfall, nutrients are often washed out of the soil, causing the redwoods to depend on the animals that live in and around them for adequate nutrition. Redwoods create great habitats for many forest animals, and the droppings of these animals help fertilize the soil and keep a redwood strong. When a redwood dies, its body is completely recycled by the forest, revitalizing the soil that it once lived in.

25

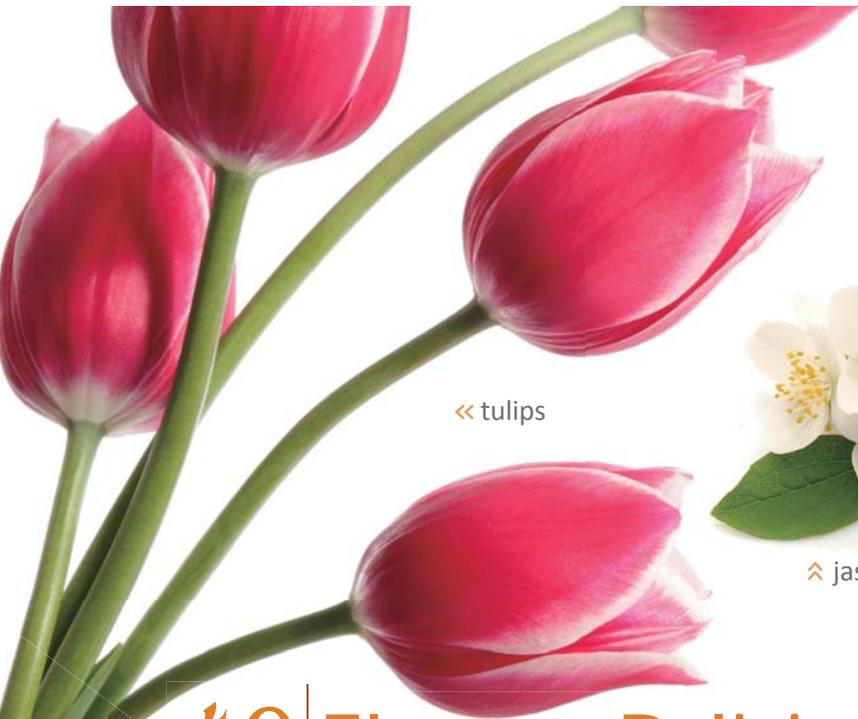


>> The California redwoods have often been cut down for building material.

Questions

- 1.** Which of the following statements best expresses the main idea of the article?
 - a. Many redwoods are taller than the Statue of Liberty.
 - b. California redwood is a strong, light, durable wood.
 - c. The California redwood is a magnificent natural phenomenon.
 - d. Many of the original redwoods were cut down after 1850.
- 2.** What is the main idea of the second paragraph?
 - a. The tallest tree in existence is called Hyperion.
 - b. California redwoods are also called coast redwoods.
 - c. There may have been taller redwoods before 1900.
 - d. California redwoods are the world's tallest trees.
- 3.** What is the main point of the third paragraph?
 - a. Much of the original redwood forest has been cut down over the years because of redwood's special properties.
 - b. Redwoods can be found in a 750 km long strip of land along the coast of California.
 - c. California redwood is an excellent building material, being light, durable, and resistant to fire.
 - d. The railroad industry used California redwood to construct railroad tracks.
- 4.** The main idea of the fourth paragraph is that _____.
 - a. because of their habitat's climate, redwoods can grow to a great age
 - b. the east coast of California gets plenty of rain all year round
 - c. the California redwood needs specific conditions in order to thrive
 - d. the climate in which the redwoods grow hasn't changed in centuries
- 5.** Which of the following statements best expresses the main idea of the fifth paragraph?
 - a. Redwoods are an essential part of the forest's natural balance.
 - b. Redwoods provide habitats for many forest animals.
 - c. When redwoods die, they are recycled by the forest.
 - d. Heavy rainfall affects the amount of nutrients in the redwoods' soil.





<< tulips



⤴ chamomile

⤵ hemlock



⤴ jasmine



⤴ jimsonweed

⤵ sunflower oil



>> carnations

40 Flowers: Delicious or Deadly?



1 When you think about flowers, what words spring to mind? Fragrant, colorful . . . delicious? **“Hold your horses,”** I hear you say. **“Delicious? Flowers? I’m not a cow!”**

2 In fact, we eat flowers all the time. We flavor our tea with jasmine and chamomile, season our food with the buds of capers, and fry up our dinner with sunflower oil. Some flowers have even been posing as vegetables: broccoli, cauliflower, and artichokes are all the not-yet-bloomed buds of flowers, the sneaky devils!

3 Once you get over the initial strangeness of the idea, you’ll find a whole world of edible flowers at your fingertips. **You’ll realize that your garden is a pantry, a meadow is a supermarket, and a flora expo is an all-you-can-eat buffet!** Tulips, begonias, roselles, carnations: all can be eaten straight off the stem and offer a range of unique flavors, from the sweetness of honey to the sharp tang of citrus. These few examples are, of course, just the tip of the iceberg, and there are many more edible delights that can be found in a field, in a forest, or on a riverbank near you.

4 Just one word of warning: some flowers, though they may delight our sense of smell, reveal a deadly secret if eaten. Hemlock, for example, is a leafy plant native to Europe with small white flowers that, while not particularly beautiful, look perfectly harmless. This killer was, however, used in ancient Greece to execute condemned prisoners.



>> begonias





<< capers

Perhaps its most famous victim was the great philosopher Socrates. Plato, Socrates's recorder, depicts how Socrates's feet first became cold and numb. Then the sensation spread upward through his body until it reached his heart.

5 Jimsonweed, a bushy plant with foul-smelling, trumpet-shaped flowers, has been administered for centuries in herbal medicine as a cure for asthma. However, the fatal dose of this flower is only slightly higher than the medicinal dose. A catchy little phrase describes the deadly effects of jimsonweed: shortly before it stops your heart, you'll go "red as a beet, dry as a bone, blind as a bat, and mad as a hatter."

6 Don't be put off by **the black sheep of the family**; edible flowers make an inspired addition to any meal. Just remember to do your research before digging in!



35 >> cauliflower



>> broccoli



>> artichokes



>> roselles

Questions

1. "Hold your horses" in the first paragraph means "_____".
 - a. I don't understand
 - b. wait a minute
 - c. don't be stupid
 - d. please be quiet
2. Which of the following statements from the article personifies flowers?
 - a. "We flavor our tea with jasmine and chamomile."
 - b. "In fact, we eat flowers all the time."
 - c. "Some flowers have even been posing as vegetables."
 - d. "Delicious? Flowers? I'm not a cow!"
3. "You'll realize that your garden is a pantry, a meadow is a supermarket, and a flora expo is an all-you-can-eat buffet!" contains a series of _____.
 - a. metaphors
 - b. similes
 - c. idioms
 - d. personifications
4. The purpose of the similes "red as a beet, dry as a bone, blind as a bat, and mad as a hatter" is to _____.
 - a. make the symptoms of jimsonweed poisoning seem humorous
 - b. reassure people that the effects of jimsonweed aren't so bad
 - c. make the symptoms of jimsonweed poisoning more appealing
 - d. emphasize the powerful effects of jimsonweed.
5. What does the author mean when he refers to hemlock and jimsonweed as "**the black sheep of the family**"?
 - a. They are easy to spot despite being harmful.
 - b. They are terrible, but rare, exceptions.
 - c. They are prized and sought-after examples.