

# ANSWER KEY

S2S ELA

Weeks 17–32

# Week 17 — Life Moves to Land (Carboniferous Period)

## Sentence Expansion — Because, But, So

1. Plants changed Earth because they produced oxygen and created new forest habitats for animals to colonize.
2. Plants changed Earth but many animals were slow to adapt to the dense new forest environments.
3. Plants changed Earth so animals had to follow them into new habitats or find new sources of food.

## Sentence Expansion — How / Why / Where (Forests grew)

How. by spreading seeds, growing tall, and forming dense canopies

Why. because warm, humid conditions during the Carboniferous period provided ideal growing conditions

Where. across vast swampy lowlands that had previously been bare or shallow

Sample Summary: Forests grew across swampy lowlands during the Carboniferous period because warm, humid conditions allowed plants to spread seeds and grow tall, forming dense canopies that reshaped life on Earth.

## Fix the Fragment

"by changing the air and soil"

Answer: Plants changed the world by changing the air and soil.

## Write an Appositive

1. Plants, the foundation of Earth's first great forests, changed Earth.
2. The plants, towering trees and dense ferns that blanketed the land, transformed Earth's habitats.
3. Plants, the first organisms to form forests on land, changed the landscape for animals.

## Fix the Sentence

1. Plants changed Earth, so animals needed to follow them. (*Capitalize "Plants"; change→changed; follow→needed to follow; add comma before "so"*)

2. The plants transformed Earth, and animals followed them. (*Capitalize "The"; transform→transformed; follow→followed; add comma before "and"*)

3. Plants changed Earth, so animals needed to follow them. (*Capitalize "Plants"; change→changed; "need follow"→"needed to follow"; add comma before "so"*)

## Combine Sentences

Large forests grew / They changed Earth's climate

Answer: Large forests grew and changed Earth's climate.

## Four Sentence Types

Statement. During the Carboniferous period, large forests grew and dramatically changed Earth's atmosphere.

Question. How did the growth of forests during the Carboniferous period change the Earth's climate?

Command. Imagine walking through a Carboniferous forest filled with giant insects and towering trees.

Exclamation. The Carboniferous forests produced so much oxygen that insects grew to enormous sizes!

## Scrambled Sentence

Words: forests large grew climate Earth changed

Answer: Large forests grew and changed Earth's climate.

## Writing Details

Topic Sentence: Forests grew during the Carboniferous period and affected the environment.

Detail 1. The Carboniferous period saw massive forests of giant ferns, clubmosses, and early trees cover much of the land.

Detail 2. These forests produced large amounts of oxygen, raising oxygen levels to around 35% of the atmosphere.

Detail 3. High oxygen levels allowed insects to grow to enormous sizes, since they breathe through their skin.

Detail 4. When the massive forests died and were buried, they formed the coal deposits we still mine today.

## Topic Sentence

Details: forests produced more oxygen, insects became larger, trees grew very tall, decomposition recycled nutrients

Sample: The Carboniferous forests created a high-oxygen world where giant trees grew tall, enormous insects thrived, and dead plants slowly became the coal beds of today.

## Odd One Out

Topic Sentence: "Forests grew during the Carboniferous period and affected the environment"

Odd One Out: Detail 3 — "There were also rocks."

Reason: The presence of rocks is an irrelevant, obvious observation that says nothing about how Carboniferous forests affected the environment.

**⚠ WORKSHEET ERROR:** "Many living things die d so" on the Sentence Expansion page (Week 3 of this PDF) has a formatting/spacing error — "die d" should be "died." Check the printed version.

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# Week 18 — Reptiles & Mammal-like Creatures

## Sentence Expansion — Because, But, So

1. Some animals changed because life on land required very different traits than life in the water.
2. Some animals changed but others could not adapt quickly enough and eventually went extinct.
3. Some animals changed so they could survive in new environments and take advantage of new food sources.

## Sentence Expansion — How / Why / What (Animals adapted)

How. by developing stronger legs, tougher skin, and more efficient lungs

Why. because surviving on land required different traits than living in water

What. reptiles and mammal-like creatures with new body structures suited to land life

Sample Summary: Animals adapted by developing stronger legs, tougher skin, and more efficient lungs because surviving on land required very different traits than living in water, producing the first reptiles and mammal-like creatures.

## Fix the Fragment

"in different ways"

Answer: Animals adapted to life on land in different ways.

## Write an Appositive

1. Animals, creatures shaped by millions of years of evolution, developed new traits.
2. Some animals, early reptiles and mammal-like synapsids, adapted to survive on land.
3. Animals, organisms driven by the pressure to survive, developed new traits to thrive on land.

## Fix the Sentence

1. Animals developed new traits to survive on land. (*Capitalize "Animals"; develop→developed; trait→traits*)
2. Animals developed new traits to survive on land. (*Capitalize "Animals"; develops→developed; add "on" before "land"*)
3. Animals developed new traits for surviving on land. (*Capitalize "Animals"; develop→developed; trait→traits*)

## Combine Sentences

Animals adapted to land / New traits helped them survive

Answer: Animals adapted to land, and new traits helped them survive.

## Four Sentence Types

Statement. Reptiles and mammal-like creatures developed new traits such as stronger legs and tougher skin to survive on land.

Question. What new traits helped early reptiles and mammal-like creatures survive on land?

Command. Compare the traits of a fish and a reptile to see how animals adapted to life on land.

Exclamation. It is amazing that small changes in legs and lungs allowed animals to conquer the land!

## Scrambled Sentence

Words: animals land adapted traits survive helped

Answer: Animals adapted to land, and traits helped them survive.

## Writing Details

Topic Sentence: Animals developed new traits to survive on land.

Detail 1. Reptiles evolved dry, scaly skin to prevent water loss in dry conditions.

Detail 2. Legs grew stronger and moved under the body to support weight on land.

Detail 3. Lungs became more efficient, replacing gills as the primary way to breathe.

Detail 4. Reptiles also developed eggs with hard shells so they could reproduce away from water.

## Topic Sentence

Details: protective skins evolved, legs became stronger, lungs developed, animals adapted to land

Sample: Reptiles and mammal-like creatures thrived on land by evolving protective skin, stronger legs, and more efficient lungs to handle life away from water.

## Odd One Out

Topic Sentence: "Animals developed new traits to survive on land"

Odd One Out: Detail 3 — "Fish swim in water."

Reason: Fish swimming is about aquatic life and does not explain any adaptation for surviving on land.

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# Week 19 — The Great Dying (Permian Extinction)

## Sentence Expansion — Because, But, So

1. Many living things died because massive volcanic eruptions released toxic gases and dramatically changed Earth's climate.
2. Many living things died but some survivors went on to fill new ecological roles and eventually gave rise to the dinosaurs.
3. Many living things died so new ecological niches opened up, allowing the survivors to diversify and evolve rapidly.

## Sentence Expansion — Why / How / When (Species went extinct)

Why. because massive volcanic eruptions poisoned the oceans and changed the climate

How. through starvation, toxic oceans, extreme temperatures, and oxygen depletion

When. about 252 million years ago, at the end of the Permian period

Sample Summary: About 252 million years ago, species went extinct through starvation, toxic oceans, and oxygen depletion because massive volcanic eruptions poisoned the atmosphere and dramatically changed Earth's climate.

## Fix the Fragment

"when Earth became unstable"

Answer: Many species went extinct when Earth became unstable.

## Write an Appositive

1. The Permian extinction, the largest mass extinction in Earth's history, killed many species.
2. The massive die-off, an event that wiped out over 90% of marine species and 70% of land species, is called the Permian extinction.
3. The Permian extinction, a catastrophic collapse triggered by volcanic eruptions and climate change, caused massive species loss.

## Fix the Sentence

1. The Permian extinction killed many creatures. (*Capitalize "The"; permian→Permian (spelling); kill→killed*)
2. The Permian extinction killed many species. (*Capitalize "The"; permean→Permian (spelling); kills→killed; remove "fast"*)
3. The Permian extinction killed many creatures. (*Capitalize "The"; perman→Permian (spelling); kill→killed; "lots of"→"many"*)

## Combine Sentences

Earth became unstable / Many species went extinct

Answer: When Earth became unstable, many species went extinct.

## Four Sentence Types

Statement. The Permian extinction was the largest mass extinction in Earth's history, wiping out about 90% of all species.

Question. What caused so many species to go extinct during the Permian period?

Command. Research the Permian extinction to understand how volcanic eruptions can trigger a mass extinction.

Exclamation. The Great Dying was so devastating that life on Earth barely survived!

### Scrambled Sentence

Words: Earth unstable became species many extinct

Answer: Earth became unstable and many species went extinct.

### Writing Details

Topic Sentence: The Permian extinction killed many species and changed ecosystems.

Detail 1. Massive volcanic eruptions in what is now Siberia released enormous amounts of carbon dioxide and toxic gases.

Detail 2. Ocean temperatures rose and oxygen levels dropped, killing most marine life.

Detail 3. About 96% of marine species and 70% of land species were wiped out.

Detail 4. The survivors of the Permian extinction eventually evolved into dinosaurs, mammals, and modern reptiles.

### Topic Sentence

Details: many species went extinct, new niches opened up, climate changed dramatically, habitats shifted

Sample: The Permian extinction was a turning point in Earth's history — while it wiped out most life, the survivors inherited a planet full of open ecological niches and radiated into entirely new forms.

### Odd One Out

Topic Sentence: "The Permian extinction killed many species and changed ecosystems"

Odd One Out: Detail 3 — "Oceans contain salt."

Reason: The saltiness of the ocean is a basic fact completely unrelated to the Permian extinction or its effects on ecosystems.

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# Week 20 — Dinosaurs Rise (Triassic Period)

## Sentence Expansion — Because, But, So

1. Dinosaurs became common because the Permian extinction wiped out most of their competitors, leaving many ecological niches open.
2. Dinosaurs became common but they were not yet the giants we imagine — early Triassic dinosaurs were relatively small.
3. Dinosaurs became common so they gradually filled every major land habitat and became the dominant animals of the Mesozoic.

## Sentence Expansion — Why / How / When (Dinosaurs dominated)

Why. because the Permian extinction removed most of their competition

How. through efficient upright legs, quick reproduction, and adaptable diets

When. during the Triassic period, beginning about 240 million years ago

Sample Summary: Dinosaurs dominated the Triassic period beginning about 240 million years ago because the Permian extinction had cleared away most competitors, and their efficient legs and adaptable diets gave them a powerful advantage.

## Fix the Fragment

"after many animals disappeared"

Answer: Dinosaurs rose to dominance after many animals disappeared.

## Write an Appositive

1. Dinosaurs, powerful reptiles that thrived after the Permian extinction wiped out their rivals, rose during the Triassic.
2. Dinosaurs, the most successful land animals of the Mesozoic era, dominated after the extinction.
3. Dinosaurs, agile predators and massive herbivores that filled nearly every land niche, thrived after the Permian extinction.

## Fix the Sentence

1. Dinosaurs rose after other animals failed. (*Capitalize "Dinosaurs"; rise→rose; fail→failed*)
2. Dinosaurs rose after many other animals died. (*Capitalize "Dinosaurs"; rise→rose; die→died*)
3. Dinosaurs rose while others failed. (*Capitalize "Dinosaurs"; rises→rose*)

## Combine Sentences

Dinosaurs became dominant / Other animals declined

Answer: Dinosaurs became dominant as other animals declined.

## Four Sentence Types

Statement. After the Permian extinction, dinosaurs rose to become the dominant land animals of the Triassic period.

Question. Why were dinosaurs able to dominate the land after the Permian extinction?

Command. Compare the body structures of early Triassic dinosaurs and their competitors to see why dinosaurs thrived.

Exclamation. It is incredible that the most dominant animals in history got their start because of the greatest extinction ever!

## Scrambled Sentence

Words: dinosaurs dominant became animals other declined

Answer: Dinosaurs became dominant and other animals declined.

## Writing Details

Topic Sentence: Dinosaurs became the dominant land animals in the Triassic.

Detail 1. After the Permian extinction cleared away most competitors, dinosaurs rapidly filled the empty ecological niches.

Detail 2. Dinosaurs had upright legs positioned directly under their bodies, making them more agile than other reptiles.

Detail 3. Early dinosaurs were relatively small, but they reproduced quickly and diversified rapidly.

Detail 4. By the late Triassic, dinosaurs had established themselves as the dominant land animals on every continent.

## Topic Sentence

Details: dinosaurs reproduced quickly, they had efficient legs, they were warm-blooded, some were herbivores and others carnivores

Sample: Dinosaurs became the dominant land animals of the Triassic because their efficient legs, warm blood, and diverse diets gave them an edge over every other creature.

## Odd One Out

Topic Sentence: "Dinosaurs became the dominant land animals in the Triassic"

Odd One Out: Detail 2 — "Ferns were common plants."

Reason: The fact that ferns were common is a plant biology detail that does not explain why or how dinosaurs became dominant land animals.

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# Week 21 — Jurassic Giants & Ecosystems

## Sentence Expansion — Because, But, So

1. Giant animals lived because the warm, lush Jurassic environment provided abundant vegetation and few predators for large herbivores.
2. Giant animals lived but they required enormous amounts of food and water to sustain their massive bodies.
3. Giant animals lived so complex food webs developed, with large predators evolving alongside the giant herbivores.

## Sentence Expansion — How / Where / Why (Dinosaurs grew)

How. through efficient digestive systems, long necks, and continuous bone growth

Where. in lush forests and vast floodplains across the Jurassic supercontinent

Why. because abundant plant life and a warm climate provided enough food to sustain enormous bodies

Sample Summary: Dinosaurs grew to enormous sizes in the lush forests and floodplains of the Jurassic because abundant vegetation and a warm climate provided enough food to sustain massive bodies through efficient digestion and continuous bone growth.

## Fix the Fragment

"with enough food and plants"

Answer: Giant dinosaurs could grow so large because the Jurassic world provided them with enough food and plants.

## Write an Appositive

1. Jurassic giants, massive dinosaurs that dwarfed every other land animal, lived in diverse ecosystems.
2. The enormous Jurassic animals, plant-eaters and meat-eaters ranging from chicken-sized to building-sized, needed large ecosystems.
3. Jurassic giants, the largest land animals that have ever lived, coexisted with many smaller species.

## Fix the Sentence

1. Jurassic giants lived in many huge and scary ecosystems. (*Capitalize "Jurassic"; live→lived; move adjectives before noun*)
2. Jurassic giants lived in ecosystems that were big and crowded. (*Capitalize "Jurassic"; add "in" and "that were"*)
3. Jurassic giants lived in huge, scary, and crowded ecosystems. (*Capitalize "Jurassic"; move adjectives before noun; add commas between adjectives*)

## Combine Sentences

Huge dinosaurs lived together / Ecosystems grew complex

Answer: Huge dinosaurs lived together as ecosystems grew more complex.

## Four Sentence Types

Statement. During the Jurassic period, enormous dinosaurs and complex food webs developed across lush forests and plains.

Question. How did sauropod dinosaurs grow to such enormous sizes during the Jurassic period?

Command. Study the food chains of the Jurassic period to understand how large predators and giant herbivores coexisted.

Exclamation. Some Jurassic sauropods were longer than three school buses end to end!

### Scrambled Sentence

Words: dinosaurs huge ecosystems lived complex together

Answer: Huge dinosaurs lived together in complex ecosystems.

### Writing Details

Topic Sentence: Dinosaurs grew large and ecosystems became complex in the Jurassic.

Detail 1. Sauropods like Brachiosaurus and Diplodocus grew to lengths of over 25 meters, feeding on treetop vegetation.

Detail 2. Large predators like Allosaurus evolved to hunt the giant herbivores, creating complex predator-prey relationships.

Detail 3. Smaller animals — early mammals, lizards, and pterosaurs — filled the ecological niches left open by the giants.

Detail 4. The first birds appeared during the Jurassic, beginning their long evolutionary journey from feathered dinosaurs.

### Topic Sentence

Details: herbivores and carnivores coexisted, some grew to enormous size, food chains developed, ecosystems became more complex

Sample: During the Jurassic period, enormous dinosaurs dominated a world of lush forests where complex food chains connected giant plant-eaters, fearsome predators, and countless smaller creatures.

### Odd One Out

Topic Sentence: "Dinosaurs grew large and ecosystems became complex in the Jurassic"

Odd One Out: Detail 1 — "Rocks eroded slowly."

Reason: Rock erosion is a geological process with no direct connection to how Jurassic dinosaurs grew large or how ecosystems became complex.

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# Week 22 — Cretaceous Life & Flowering Plants

## Sentence Expansion — Because, But, So

1. Flowers changed life because they created new partnerships with pollinators that allowed plants to reproduce more efficiently.
2. Flowers changed life but it took millions of years for flowering plants to spread across all of Earth's ecosystems.
3. Flowers changed life so insects, birds, and other animals co-evolved with plants in ways that shaped every ecosystem on Earth.

## Sentence Expansion — How / Why / What (Flowers evolved)

How. through co-evolution with pollinators such as insects, creating mutual benefits

Why. to attract pollinators and spread seeds more effectively than wind-pollinated plants

What. an explosion of new plant and animal species that reshaped every ecosystem on Earth

Sample Summary: Flowers evolved through co-evolution with pollinators because attracting insects and birds allowed plants to spread their seeds more effectively, producing an explosion of new species that reshaped every ecosystem.

## Fix the Fragment

"by working with pollinators"

Answer: Flowering plants spread successfully by working with pollinators.

## Write an Appositive

1. Flowering plants, angiosperms that attract pollinators with colorful blooms and sweet nectar, changed life on Earth.
2. Flowering plants, the most diverse group of plants on Earth today, created new opportunities for pollinators.
3. Flowering plants, organisms that co-evolved with insects and birds to spread their seeds, reshaped ecosystems.

## Fix the Sentence

1. Flowering plants changed life on Earth forever. (*Capitalize "Flowering" and "Earth"*)
2. Flowering plants made life on Earth very different. (*Capitalize "Flowering" and "Earth"; make→made*)
3. Flowering plants changed the Earth forever. (*Capitalize "Flowering" and "Earth"; flower→flowering; for ever→forever (one word)*)

## Combine Sentences

Flowering plants evolved / Food webs changed

Answer: As flowering plants evolved, food webs changed and became more complex.

## Four Sentence Types

Statement. During the Cretaceous period, flowering plants spread across the Earth and transformed ecosystems by attracting pollinators.

Question. How did flowering plants change the food webs and ecosystems of the Cretaceous period?

Command. Research how bees and flowers co-evolved to understand the partnership between pollinators and flowering plants.

Exclamation. Without the flowering plants that evolved during the Cretaceous, we would have almost no fruits, vegetables, or flowers today!

### Scrambled Sentence

Words: plants flowering evolved food webs changed

Answer: Flowering plants evolved and food webs changed.

### Writing Details

Topic Sentence: Flowering plants evolved and changed life on Earth forever.

Detail 1. Flowering plants first appeared about 130 million years ago and rapidly diversified across the Cretaceous world.

Detail 2. Their flowers attracted bees, beetles, and butterflies, creating partnerships that helped both plants and insects thrive.

Detail 3. Seeds enclosed in fruits allowed plants to spread through animal digestion, reaching new territories.

Detail 4. As flowering plants spread, they provided new food sources that helped mammals, birds, and insects diversify.

### Topic Sentence

Details: flowers attracted pollinators, new food sources appeared, pollination increased diversity, seeds spread by wind and animals

Sample: Flowering plants transformed Cretaceous ecosystems by attracting pollinators, producing fruit-encased seeds, and creating new food sources that drove the diversification of insects, birds, and mammals.

### Odd One Out

Topic Sentence: "Flowering plants evolved and changed life on Earth forever"

Odd One Out: Detail 3 — "Dinosaurs are awesome."

Reason: A personal opinion about dinosaurs says nothing about how flowering plants changed life on Earth.

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# Week 23 — The End of the Dinosaurs

## Sentence Expansion — Because, But, So

1. Dinosaurs disappeared because a massive asteroid impact triggered fires, blocked sunlight, and caused a global winter that collapsed food chains.
2. Dinosaurs disappeared but their descendants — modern birds — still thrive on Earth today.
3. Dinosaurs disappeared so mammals were freed to diversify and eventually fill the ecological roles the dinosaurs had held for 165 million years.

## Sentence Expansion — Why / When / How (Dinosaurs disappeared)

Why. because an asteroid impact and massive volcanic activity destroyed food chains and changed the climate

When. about 66 million years ago, at the end of the Cretaceous period

How. through global fires, blocked sunlight, starvation, and extreme climate change

Sample Summary: About 66 million years ago, dinosaurs disappeared through global fires, blocked sunlight, and starvation because an enormous asteroid struck Earth and triggered climate change that collapsed the food chains they depended on.

## Fix the Fragment

"after a sudden disaster"

Answer: The dinosaurs disappeared after a sudden disaster struck the Earth.

## Write an Appositive

1. The end of dinosaurs, the Cretaceous mass extinction about 66 million years ago, allowed mammals to rise.
2. The extinction at the end of the Cretaceous, an event triggered by an asteroid impact and volcanic activity, ended dinosaur dominance.
3. Cretaceous extinction, the catastrophic event that wiped out three-quarters of all life on Earth, ended the age of dinosaurs.

## Fix the Sentence

1. The end of the dinosaurs let mammals take over. (*Capitalize "The"; add "the" before "dinosaurs"*)
2. The dinosaurs died and mammals came to dominate. (*Capitalize "The"; add "to dominate" for completeness — or acceptable as is with capitalization*)
3. The end of the dinosaurs let mammals take over the world. (*Capitalize "The"; dinosaur→dinosaurs; mammal→mammals*)

## Combine Sentences

A mass extinction occurred / Dinosaurs disappeared

Answer: A mass extinction occurred, and dinosaurs disappeared.

## Four Sentence Types

Statement. About 66 million years ago, a massive asteroid struck the Earth and triggered the extinction of all non-avian dinosaurs.

Question. How did the asteroid impact 66 million years ago lead to the extinction of the dinosaurs?

Command. Study the Chicxulub crater evidence to understand how a single asteroid impact ended the age of dinosaurs.

Exclamation. The asteroid that killed the dinosaurs released more energy than all the nuclear bombs ever made combined!

### Scrambled Sentence

Words: extinction mass occurred dinosaurs disappeared the

Answer: The mass extinction occurred and dinosaurs disappeared.

### Writing Details

Topic Sentence: A mass extinction ended the age of dinosaurs.

Detail 1. An asteroid about 10 km wide struck the Yucatan Peninsula, releasing enormous energy and triggering global fires.

Detail 2. Dust and smoke blocked sunlight for months or years, killing plants and collapsing food chains.

Detail 3. Without sufficient food, large dinosaurs starved; volcanic activity in India made the climate even worse.

Detail 4. About 75% of all species went extinct, but small mammals, birds, and some reptiles survived.

### Topic Sentence

Details: meteor impacts caused global fires, many dinosaurs starved, dinosaurs disappeared, volcanic activity contributed

Sample: The end of the dinosaurs came from a devastating combination of asteroid impact, global fires, and volcanic activity that starved and suffocated nearly all life on Earth.

### Odd One Out

Topic Sentence: "A mass extinction ended the age of dinosaurs"

Odd One Out: Detail 1 — "I miss dinosaurs."

Reason: "I miss dinosaurs" is a personal feeling, not a fact about the mass extinction or how it ended the age of dinosaurs.

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# Week 24 — Mammals Take the Stage

## Sentence Expansion — Because, But, So

1. Mammals spread because the extinction of the dinosaurs left countless ecological niches open for them to fill.
2. Mammals spread but it still took millions of years for them to grow to the large sizes we associate with them today.
3. Mammals spread so that within a few million years they had diversified into every habitat on Earth, from oceans to rainforests.

## Sentence Expansion — How / Where / Why (Mammals survived)

How. by hiding underground, eating varied diets, and surviving on small amounts of food

Where. in burrows, forests, and water sources that remained habitable after the asteroid impact

Why. because their small size and flexible diets made them better survivors in the post-extinction world

Sample Summary: Mammals survived by hiding underground and eating varied diets in the forests and burrows that remained habitable because their small size and flexibility made them more resilient to the conditions that killed the dinosaurs.

## Fix the Fragment

"with helpful traits"

Answer: Mammals survived the extinction with helpful traits like small size and flexible diets.

## Write an Appositive

1. Mammals, warm-blooded animals with fur and live births, spread after dinosaurs disappeared.
2. Mammals, small and adaptable creatures that had lived in the shadow of dinosaurs, diversified after dinosaurs disappeared.
3. Mammals, the group that would eventually produce whales, bats, elephants, and humans, expanded after dinosaurs disappeared.

## Fix the Sentence

1. Mammals spread after dinosaurs died. (*Capitalize "Mammals"; die→died*)
2. Mammals spread after dinosaurs disappeared. (*Capitalize "Mammals"; spreads→spread*)
3. Mammals spread after dinosaurs died. (*Capitalize "Mammals"; spreaded→spread (irregular — past tense of spread is spread)*)

## Combine Sentences

Mammals survived / They spread into new environments

Answer: Mammals survived and spread into new environments.

## Four Sentence Types

Statement. After the dinosaurs disappeared, mammals diversified rapidly and spread into habitats across the world.

Question. How did mammals survive the extinction event that killed the dinosaurs?

Command. List the traits that helped early mammals survive the end-Cretaceous extinction while the dinosaurs perished.

Exclamation. From tiny shrew-like creatures, mammals evolved into elephants, whales, and eventually humans!

### Scrambled Sentence

Words: mammals survived environments new spread into

Answer: Mammals survived and spread into new environments.

### Writing Details

Topic Sentence: Mammals survived and diversified after the dinosaurs disappeared.

Detail 1. Early mammals had survived the extinction as small, nocturnal insect-eaters that could hide underground.

Detail 2. With the dinosaurs gone, mammals rapidly grew larger and diversified into herbivores, carnivores, and omnivores.

Detail 3. Within 10 million years, mammals had colonized every major habitat, from tropical forests to polar regions.

Detail 4. Some mammals returned to the sea, eventually evolving into whales, dolphins, and seals.

### Topic Sentence

Details: mammals grew in size, they adapted to many habitats, some were nocturnal, they diversified in diet

Sample: After the dinosaurs' extinction, mammals seized the opportunity to grow larger, develop diverse diets, and colonize every habitat on Earth.

### Odd One Out

Topic Sentence: "Mammals survived and diversified after the dinosaurs disappeared"

Odd One Out: Detail 2 — "Some birds migrated."

Reason: Bird migration is a behavior of modern birds and does not explain how or why mammals survived and diversified after the dinosaurs.

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# Week 25 — Birds, Crocodiles, & Dinosaur Descendants

## Sentence Expansion — Because, But, So

1. Some animals share ancestors because all life on Earth is connected through billions of years of evolution from common ancestors.
2. Some animals share ancestors but they can look and behave very differently due to millions of years of separate evolution.
3. Some animals share ancestors so scientists can study their DNA and bones to reconstruct the family trees of all life on Earth.

## Sentence Expansion — How / Why / What (Animals shared ancestors)

How. through evolution and genetic inheritance across millions of generations

Why. because all life on Earth descended from common ancestors over billions of years

What. shared DNA, bone structures, and developmental patterns that reveal their evolutionary connections

Sample Summary: Animals shared ancestors through genetic inheritance and evolution over millions of generations because all life on Earth ultimately descended from common ancestors, leaving behind shared DNA and bone structures that reveal their connections.

## Fix the Fragment

"from shared ancestors"

Answer: Birds and crocodiles descended from shared ancestors millions of years ago.

## Write an Appositive

1. Birds and crocodiles, two very different animals that both descended from archosaurs, share a common ancestor.
2. Birds and crocodiles, living relatives of the dinosaurs, descended from shared ancestors.
3. Birds and crocodiles, modern survivors of the archosaur lineage, share common ancestry with dinosaurs.

## Fix the Sentence

1. Birds and crocodiles share a common ancestry. (*Capitalize "Birds"; ancestry→ancestry; add "a"*)
2. Birds and crocodiles have the same ancestors. (*Capitalize "Birds"; has→have; add "the"*)
3. Birds, crocodiles, and dinosaurs share the same ancestors. (*Capitalize "Birds"; add commas between items in the list; add "the"*)

## Combine Sentences

Different animals share ancestors / Evolution explains their differences

Answer: Different animals share ancestors, and evolution explains their differences.

## Four Sentence Types

Statement. Birds and crocodiles are both descendants of archosaurs and share more DNA with dinosaurs than most other living animals.

Question. How do scientists use DNA and fossils to prove that birds and crocodiles share a common ancestor with dinosaurs?

Command. Compare the ankle bones of a bird, a crocodile, and a fossil dinosaur to see their shared ancestry.

Exclamation. The next time you see a chicken, remember — it is more closely related to T. rex than any other living animal!

### Scrambled Sentence

Words: animals ancestors share evolution differences explains

Answer: Animals share ancestors, and evolution explains their differences.

### Writing Details

Topic Sentence: Animals share ancestors, showing how evolution works.

Detail 1. Birds are living dinosaurs — they evolved directly from a group of two-legged theropod dinosaurs.

Detail 2. Crocodiles and dinosaurs both belong to the archosaur family, which emerged in the Triassic period.

Detail 3. DNA evidence shows that birds are more closely related to crocodiles than lizards or snakes are.

Detail 4. Fossil records, like Archaeopteryx, show the gradual transition from feathered dinosaurs to modern birds.

### Topic Sentence

Details: many species have similar traits, DNA shows relationships, fossil records show connections, common ancestors existed

Sample: Evolution is visible in the shared traits, DNA, and fossils of animals like birds and crocodiles, which both trace their ancestry back to the same ancient archosaur lineage.

### Odd One Out

Topic Sentence: "Animals share ancestors, showing how evolution works"

Odd One Out: Detail 1 — "Some species are aquatic."

Reason: The habitat of a species (aquatic vs. land) does not explain how animals share ancestors or how evolution produces diversity.

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# Week 26 — Mega Mammals and Ice Age Giants

## Sentence Expansion — Because, But, So

1. Very large mammals lived because cold Ice Age climates favored large bodies, which retain heat more efficiently than small ones.
2. Very large mammals lived but most of them went extinct at the end of the last Ice Age, possibly due to hunting and climate change.
3. Very large mammals lived so they left behind spectacular fossils like mammoths and giant ground sloths that we can still study today.

## Sentence Expansion — How / Why / When (Mammals grew)

How. by developing thick fur, large fat reserves, and massive bodies suited to cold climates

Why. because larger body mass helps retain heat in extremely cold environments (Bergmann's Rule)

When. during the Pleistocene Ice Age, between about 2.6 million and 11,700 years ago

Sample Summary: Mammals grew to enormous sizes during the Pleistocene Ice Age by developing thick fur and massive bodies because larger body mass is more efficient at retaining heat in extremely cold environments.

## Fix the Fragment

"during the Ice Age"

Answer: Many enormous mammals thrived during the Ice Age.

## Write an Appositive

1. Ice Age megafauna, enormous mammals like mammoths and giant ground sloths, were very large animals.
2. Ice Age giants, woolly mammoths and saber-toothed cats that roamed the frozen plains, grew very large.
3. Ice Age megafauna, ancient mammals adapted to survive in frozen landscapes, were extremely large.

## Fix the Sentence

1. Ice Age animals grew so big that they later died out. (*Capitalize "Ice Age"; grow→grew; "then they die"→"that they later died out"*)
2. Ice Age animals became very large, then died out. (*Capitalize "Ice Age"; "really"→"very" (more formal); add comma; died→died out*)
3. Ice Age animals grew big, then died out. (*Capitalize "Ice Age" (two words, not "iceage"); grow→grew; die→died out; add comma*)

## Combine Sentences

Large mammals evolved / Many later went extinct

Answer: Large mammals evolved, but many later went extinct.

## Four Sentence Types

Statement. During the Pleistocene Ice Age, enormous mammals like woolly mammoths and saber-toothed cats dominated the frozen landscapes.

Question. Why did so many of the large Ice Age mammals go extinct at the end of the last Ice Age?

Command. Research the woolly mammoth to understand how Ice Age mammals adapted to cold climates.

Exclamation. Woolly mammoths were still alive when ancient Egyptians were building the pyramids!

### Scrambled Sentence

Words: mammals large evolved extinct later many

Answer: Many large mammals evolved and later went extinct.

### Writing Details

Topic Sentence: Ice Age mammals grew large and many later went extinct.

Detail 1. Woolly mammoths had thick fur, a layer of fat up to 10 cm thick, and curved tusks for sweeping snow off vegetation.

Detail 2. Saber-toothed cats had enormous canine teeth used to puncture the thick hides of large prey.

Detail 3. At the end of the last Ice Age about 12,000 years ago, warming temperatures and human hunting drove most megafauna to extinction.

Detail 4. Some scientists believe early humans hunted the megafauna so effectively that the animals could not reproduce fast enough to survive.

### Topic Sentence

Details: mammoths and saber-toothed cats existed, large size helped survival, animals adapted to cold, they had thick fur

Sample: Ice Age megafauna like woolly mammoths and saber-toothed cats thrived in frozen landscapes because their enormous size, thick fur, and cold-weather adaptations made them perfectly suited for life in a glacial world.

### Odd One Out

Topic Sentence: "Ice Age mammals grew large and many later went extinct"

Odd One Out: Detail 3 — "Some plants became extinct."

Reason: Plant extinctions are not directly related to how or why Ice Age mammals grew large and went extinct — the topic is specifically about mammals.

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# Week 27 — Ice Ages & the Power of Glaciers

## Sentence Expansion — Because, But, So

1. Ice covered land because changes in Earth's orbit and atmospheric carbon dioxide levels caused global temperatures to drop dramatically.
2. Ice covered land but the glaciers eventually melted as the climate warmed, releasing enormous amounts of water into rivers and oceans.
3. Ice covered land so animals and plants had to adapt, migrate, or go extinct as habitats shifted under the advancing ice sheets.

## Sentence Expansion — How / Where / Why (Glaciers moved)

How. slowly, pushed by their own enormous weight down valleys and across plains

Where. across continents, through mountain ranges, and into lowland areas

Why. because gravity pulled the massive ice sheets downhill as new snow compressed into ice at higher elevations

Sample Summary: Glaciers moved slowly across continents and through mountain valleys because gravity pulled their enormous weight downhill as new layers of snow compressed into ice above them, carving the landscape as they went.

## Fix the Fragment

"across the land"

Answer: Glaciers moved slowly across the land, carving valleys and reshaping mountains.

## Write an Appositive

1. Glaciers, massive sheets of slow-moving ice that covered much of the Northern Hemisphere, shaped the land.
2. Glaciers, rivers of compressed ice that carved out valleys and rounded mountains, shaped valleys and mountains.
3. Glaciers, enormous bodies of moving ice that act like slow-motion bulldozers, carved valleys and shaped mountains.

## Fix the Sentence

1. Glaciers shaped the land and changed life. (*Capitalize "Glaciers"; shape→shaped; change→changed; restructure for clarity*)
2. Glaciers carved the land and changed animals' lives. (*Capitalize "Glaciers"; carve→carved; add "the"; animals life→animals' lives (possessive apostrophe)*)
3. Glaciers shaped the land and animals' lives. (*Capitalize "Glaciers"; add "the"; animals lives→animals' lives (possessive apostrophe)*)

## Combine Sentences

Glaciers covered land / They reshaped Earth's surface

Answer: Glaciers covered the land and reshaped Earth's surface.

## Four Sentence Types

Statement. During the Ice Ages, glaciers covered large parts of North America and Europe, carving valleys and depositing sediment as they moved.

Question. How did glaciers carve out the Great Lakes and other valleys during the Ice Ages?

Command. Look at a map of North America and find the regions shaped by glaciers during the last Ice Age.

Exclamation. The glaciers that carved the Great Lakes were over a mile thick in some places!

### Scrambled Sentence

Words: glaciers land covered surface Earth reshaped

Answer: Glaciers covered the land and reshaped Earth's surface.

### Writing Details

Topic Sentence: Glaciers shaped the land and changed habitats.

Detail 1. Glaciers carved out the Great Lakes, Yosemite Valley, and thousands of other lakes and valleys across the Northern Hemisphere.

Detail 2. As glaciers advanced, animals and plants were forced to migrate southward or face extinction.

Detail 3. When glaciers melted, the water formed rivers, lakes, and raised sea levels, creating new coastlines and habitats.

Detail 4. Glacial deposits of rock and sediment created new types of soil that later became fertile farmland.

### Topic Sentence

Details: glaciers carved valleys, moved slowly, melted to form rivers, landforms were reshaped

Sample: Glaciers were powerful sculptors of the landscape, slowly carving valleys, reshaping mountains, and eventually melting to fill rivers, lakes, and oceans.

### Odd One Out

Topic Sentence: "Glaciers shaped the land and changed habitats"

Odd One Out: Detail 2 — "Animals burrow underground."

Reason: Animals burrowing underground is a general behavior not specific to glacier activity — it does not explain how glaciers shaped the land or changed habitats.

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# Week 28 — What Makes a Human?

## Sentence Expansion — Because, But, So

1. Humans are animals because we evolved from earlier primates and share biological traits with all living creatures on Earth.
2. Humans are animals but our large brains, complex language, and culture set us apart from every other species.
3. Humans are animals so studying animal behavior and biology helps us understand our own evolution and instincts.

## Sentence Expansion — How / Why / What (Humans changed)

How. by developing larger brains, walking upright, and using tools and language

Why. because environmental pressures and social living favored intelligence and cooperation

What. a species capable of language, culture, art, and technology unlike anything else in nature

Sample Summary: Humans changed by developing larger brains and the ability to use language and tools because environmental pressures and social living favored intelligence, producing a species capable of culture and technology unlike anything else in nature.

## Fix the Fragment

"with unique traits"

Answer: Humans stand out from other animals with unique traits like language, tools, and culture.

## Write an Appositive

1. Humans, the only animals that use complex language and build civilizations, have unique traits.
2. Humans, large-brained primates capable of art, language, and abstract thought, developed unique abilities.
3. Humans, the most cognitively complex animals on Earth, are different from other animals.

## Fix the Sentence

1. Humans have unique traits. (*Capitalize "Humans"; has→have*)
2. Humans have many unique traits. (*Capitalize "Humans"; trait→traits*)
3. Humans have very unique traits. (*Capitalize "Humans"; has→have*)

## Combine Sentences

Humans developed unique traits / Culture became important

Answer: Humans developed unique traits, and culture became important.

## Four Sentence Types

Statement. Humans are unique among animals because of their large brains, complex language, use of tools, and the ability to create culture.

Question. What biological and behavioral traits distinguish humans from other primates?

Command. Compare the brain-to-body ratio of a human with that of a chimpanzee to see just how much larger the human brain is.

Exclamation. No other animal on Earth has ever written a book, built a city, or traveled to the Moon!

## Scrambled Sentence

Words: humans traits unique developed culture important

Answer: Humans developed unique traits and culture became important.

## Writing Details

Topic Sentence: Humans developed unique traits that made them different from other animals.

Detail 1. The human brain is unusually large relative to body size, giving humans exceptional abilities for reasoning, planning, and creativity.

Detail 2. Humans are the only animals that use fully complex language, allowing them to share abstract ideas and accumulated knowledge across generations.

Detail 3. Walking upright on two legs freed human hands for making and using tools with precision.

Detail 4. Humans are the only animals known to build complex cultures — including art, religion, music, and written history.

## Topic Sentence

Details: they have large brains, they make tools, they use language, they learn from experience

Sample: What makes humans unique is a combination of large brains, complex language, tool use, and the ability to learn from experience and pass knowledge across generations.

## Odd One Out

Topic Sentence: "Humans developed unique traits that made them different from other animals"

Odd One Out: Detail 2 — "Some primates climb trees."

Reason: Tree climbing is a general primate ability shared by many species — it is not a uniquely human trait and does not distinguish humans from other animals.

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# Week 29 — Primate Development

## Sentence Expansion — Because, But, So

1. Primates changed because climate shifts shrank forests and forced some species onto open grasslands where upright walking was advantageous.
2. Primates changed but it took millions of years of gradual evolution for fully upright walking to develop.
3. Primates changed so their freed hands could be used for making tools, carrying food, and eventually creating technology.

## Sentence Expansion — How / Why / When (Primates walked)

How. on two legs, with an upright posture supported by a reshaped pelvis and spine

Why. because bipedalism freed the hands, allowed for better vision across grasslands, and used less energy while traveling

When. beginning around 4–7 million years ago with early hominins in Africa

Sample Summary: Primates walked upright on two legs beginning around 4–7 million years ago in Africa because bipedalism freed the hands and allowed for better vision across the open grasslands where early hominins lived.

## Fix the Fragment

"by walking upright"

Answer: Primates changed how they moved by walking upright on two legs.

## Write an Appositive

1. Primates, early human ancestors who gradually developed bipedalism, walked upright.
2. Primates, our ancient African relatives who lived millions of years ago, began walking upright.
3. Primates, ancestors of modern humans who evolved over millions of years, walked upright on two legs.

## Fix the Sentence

1. Walking upright was very important for primates. (*Restructure to fix run-on; "primates walk upright" is not a complete subject; walk→walking; add "was"*)
2. Primates walking upright was very important. (*Capitalize "Primates"; restructure to make a complete sentence*)
3. Walking upright was very important for primate survival. (*Capitalize; walk→walking; fix run-on by adding "was"; reorder*)

## Combine Sentences

Primates walked upright / Their hands were freed

Answer: Primates walked upright, so their hands were freed for other uses.

## Four Sentence Types

Statement. When early hominins began walking upright, their freed hands could make tools, carry food, and eventually build civilizations.

Question. Why did walking on two legs give early hominins an advantage over other primates?

Command. Compare the pelvis and spine of a chimpanzee with that of a human to understand the skeletal changes needed for bipedalism.

Exclamation. The simple act of standing upright may be the single most important step in human evolution!

### Scrambled Sentence

Words: primates upright walked hands freed their

Answer: Primates walked upright and their hands were freed.

### Writing Details

Topic Sentence: Primates walked upright and changed how they lived.

Detail 1. Walking on two legs freed the hands to carry food, make tools, and care for young more effectively.

Detail 2. An upright posture gave early hominins a better view of the savanna, helping them spot predators and prey.

Detail 3. Bipedalism is more energy-efficient than knuckle-walking over long distances, helping hominins range farther.

Detail 4. With hands freed from walking, early humans could develop the fine motor skills needed for toolmaking.

### Topic Sentence

Details: walking freed their hands, hands could hold tools, posture improved vision, they could carry objects

Sample: Walking upright was a transformative change for primates — it freed their hands to hold tools, carry objects, and eventually build the foundation of human technology.

### Odd One Out

Topic Sentence: "Primates walked upright and changed how they lived"

Odd One Out: Detail 1 — "Monkeys have tails."

Reason: The presence of tails in monkeys is a physical characteristic that has nothing to do with how walking upright changed the lives of primates and early humans.

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# Week 30 — Tools, Fire & Survival

## Sentence Expansion — Because, But, So

1. Humans used tools because they needed ways to hunt more effectively, process food, and protect themselves from predators.
2. Humans used tools but early tools were simple stone flakes — it took hundreds of thousands of years to develop more complex technology.
3. Humans used tools so they could hunt larger animals, cook their food, and eventually build shelters and expand across the world.

## Sentence Expansion — How / Why / What (Humans used tools)

How. by chipping stones into blades, using bones as levers, and eventually controlling fire

Why. because tools and fire gave humans advantages in hunting, cooking, warmth, and protection

What. sharper blades, cooked food, warmth, and protection that no other animal could match

Sample Summary: Humans used tools by chipping stones into blades and controlling fire because these technologies gave them advantages in hunting, cooking, and warmth that no other animal could match.

## Fix the Fragment

"using tools and fire"

Answer: Early humans survived by using tools and fire to hunt, cook, and stay warm.

## Write an Appositive

1. Tools and fire, two inventions that transformed human survival, gave humans power.
2. Tools and fire, key technologies that allowed early humans to hunt, cook, and stay warm, allowed humans to control their environment.
3. Tools and fire, the most important innovations in early human history, helped humans survive.

## Fix the Sentence

1. Tools and fire gave humans power over the environment. (*Capitalize "Tools"; give→gave; enviroment→environment; add "the"*)
2. Tools and fire gave humans control of the environment. (*Capitalize "Tools"; add "the" before environment*)
3. Tools and fire helped humans gain control of the environment. (*Capitalize "Tools"; reorder: "tools, fire, and humans" → "Tools and fire helped humans"; gain→gained; enviroment→environment; add "the"*)

## Combine Sentences

Humans used tools and fire / Survival became easier

Answer: Humans used tools and fire, so survival became easier.

## Four Sentence Types

Statement. Early humans used stone tools and fire to hunt, cook food, stay warm, and protect themselves from predators.

Question. How did the ability to control fire change the daily lives and long-term evolution of early humans?

Command. Research the Oldowan and Acheulean tool traditions to see how human toolmaking technology improved over time.

Exclamation. Cooking food with fire changed human evolution itself — it allowed us to extract more calories and grow bigger brains!

## Scrambled Sentence

Words: humans fire tools used survival easier

Answer: Humans used tools and fire, and survival became easier.

## Writing Details

Topic Sentence: Humans used tools and fire to survive and adapt.

Detail 1. The earliest stone tools, called Oldowan tools, were simple flakes chipped from rocks about 3.3 million years ago.

Detail 2. Controlling fire gave humans warmth, protection from predators, and the ability to cook food — which made more nutrients available and supported brain growth.

Detail 3. Sharper tools like hand axes and spear tips allowed early humans to hunt much larger and more dangerous animals.

Detail 4. Using tools and fire, humans were able to survive in cold climates and expand out of Africa into Europe and Asia.

## Topic Sentence

Details: fire provided warmth, tools helped hunt, they built shelters, they cooked food

Sample: By controlling fire and creating tools, early humans transformed their survival — they could hunt bigger prey, cook nutritious food, build shelters, and live in climates no earlier hominin had conquered.

## Odd One Out

Topic Sentence: "Humans used tools and fire to survive and adapt"

Odd One Out: Detail 3 — "Fossils are preserved in rocks."

Reason: How fossils form is a geology/paleontology fact completely unrelated to how early humans used tools and fire to survive.

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# Week 31 — Human Migration

## Sentence Expansion — Because, But, So

1. Humans moved around Earth because they followed food sources, escaped harsh climates, and explored new territories over tens of thousands of years.
2. Humans moved around Earth but they carried their tools, language, and culture with them, spreading human civilization across every continent.
3. Humans moved around Earth so that by about 15,000 years ago, people had reached every continent except Antarctica.

## Sentence Expansion — Where / How / Why (Humans migrated)

Where. out of Africa, across Asia, Europe, Australia, and eventually into the Americas

How. by walking, using boats, and following coastlines and river valleys

Why. to find new food sources, escape difficult conditions, and explore unfamiliar territories

Sample Summary: Humans migrated out of Africa and across Asia, Europe, Australia, and the Americas by walking and using boats to follow food sources and explore new territories.

## Fix the Fragment

"across the world"

Answer: Human migration spread people across the world over tens of thousands of years.

## Write an Appositive

1. Human migration, the movement of early people out of Africa to every corner of the globe, spread people across the world.
2. Human migration, a journey that took tens of thousands of years to complete, spread people across continents.
3. Human migration, the prehistoric process that populated every habitable part of the Earth, spread people across the globe.

## Fix the Sentence

1. Human migration spread people everywhere. (*Capitalize "Human" — otherwise this sentence is already correct*)
2. Human migration spread people everywhere. (*Capitalize "Human"; spreads→spread; remove "to"*)
3. Human migration spread across all the world. (*Capitalize "Human"; humans migration→human migration; add "the"*)

## Combine Sentences

Humans migrated widely / They adapted to new environments

Answer: Humans migrated widely and adapted to new environments.

## Four Sentence Types

Statement. Early humans migrated out of Africa over tens of thousands of years, eventually reaching every continent except Antarctica.

Question. How did early humans adapt to the many different climates and environments they encountered during their migration?

Command. Trace the routes of early human migration on a map to understand how people spread from Africa to every continent.

Exclamation. Every person alive today traces their ancestry back to the same small group of humans who left Africa about 70,000 years ago!

### Scrambled Sentence

Words: humans widely migrated environments adapted new

Answer: Humans migrated widely and adapted to new environments.

### Writing Details

Topic Sentence: Humans migrated and adapted to different environments around the world.

Detail 1. Modern humans left Africa about 70,000 years ago and reached Asia, Europe, and Australia within the next 30,000 years.

Detail 2. They crossed into the Americas via a land bridge across what is now the Bering Strait during the last Ice Age.

Detail 3. In cold climates, people developed heavier clothing, built insulated shelters, and relied more heavily on hunting large game.

Detail 4. Different migration routes led to the development of different languages, cultures, and physical adaptations across the globe.

### Topic Sentence

Details: they moved across continents, they learned to farm, they developed clothing, they adapted to different climates

Sample: Human migration was driven by the remarkable ability to adapt — wherever early people traveled, they developed new clothing, food strategies, and cultural practices to survive.

### Odd One Out

Topic Sentence: "Humans migrated and adapted to different environments around the world"

Odd One Out: Detail 2 — "Some animals hibernate."

Reason: Animal hibernation is a biological behavior of other species and has nothing to do with how or why humans migrated and adapted to new environments.

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# Week 32 — Before History: Art, Ritual, and Imagination

## Sentence Expansion — Because, But, So

1. Humans created stories because they needed ways to explain the world, pass knowledge to the next generation, and build group identity.
2. Humans created stories but we have no written record of the earliest tales — only cave paintings and artifacts survive to hint at them.
3. Humans created stories so communities could share beliefs, coordinate behavior, and build the foundations of culture and civilization.

## Sentence Expansion — Why / How / What (Humans told stories)

Why. to explain the world, preserve knowledge, and strengthen community bonds

How. through oral tradition, cave paintings, ritual, music, and dance

What. a shared cultural identity, preserved knowledge, and the foundations of human civilization

Sample Summary: Humans told stories through oral tradition, cave paintings, and ritual to explain the world and preserve knowledge, creating a shared cultural identity that became the foundation of human civilization.

## Fix the Fragment

"through art and stories"

Answer: Early humans communicated and preserved knowledge through art and stories.

## Write an Appositive

1. Art, ritual, and imagination, the earliest forms of human culture, helped humans survive.
2. Art, ritual, and imagination, tools that bound communities together and preserved knowledge, supported survival.
3. Art, ritual, and imagination, the creative forces behind human culture and community, helped early humans survive.

## Fix the Sentence

1. Imagination and storytelling mattered for survival. (*Capitalize "Imagination"; matter→mattered*)
2. Art, ritual, and imagination helped humans survive. (*Capitalize "Art"; add commas between list items; help→helped*)
3. Imagination and storytelling mattered for human survival. (*Capitalize "Imagination"; storytelled→storytelling; matered→mattered; Survival→survival*)

## Combine Sentences

Humans told stories / Imagination helped communities survive

Answer: Humans told stories, and imagination helped communities survive.

## Four Sentence Types

Statement. Prehistoric humans expressed themselves through cave paintings, rituals, and oral stories that helped communities share knowledge and build identity.

Question. How did storytelling, art, and ritual help early human communities survive and thrive?

Command. Study the cave paintings of Lascaux or Altamira to understand what early humans thought was important enough to record.

Exclamation. Some of the cave paintings made by early humans over 40,000 years ago are more beautiful and detailed than many modern artworks!

## Scrambled Sentence

Words: humans stories told imagination communities helped

Answer: Humans told stories and imagination helped communities.

## Writing Details

Topic Sentence: Humans told stories and used imagination to communicate and survive.

Detail 1. Cave paintings found at sites like Lascaux (France) and Altamira (Spain) show animals, humans, and abstract symbols painted over 40,000 years ago.

Detail 2. Oral storytelling allowed communities to pass down knowledge about hunting, migration routes, and social rules across generations.

Detail 3. Ritual burial practices with flowers and grave goods suggest early humans had beliefs about death, spirit, and the afterlife.

Detail 4. Shared stories and rituals helped groups form stronger identities, cooperate more effectively, and survive together.

## Topic Sentence

Details: stories taught lessons, art expressed culture, imagination solved problems, oral tradition preserved knowledge

Sample: Long before writing existed, humans used art, stories, and ritual to teach lessons, preserve knowledge, and create the cultural bonds that allowed communities to survive.

## Odd One Out

Topic Sentence: "Humans told stories and used imagination to communicate and survive"

Odd One Out: Detail 4 — "Movies tell stories."

Reason: Movies are a modern invention with no connection to prehistoric storytelling, art, or imagination as survival tools for early humans.

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