

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

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

Period: \_\_\_\_\_

Weekly Reading HW- EXAMPLE

Write week it was assigned  
How it will be referred to  
on your binder quiz

Directions: Read and annotate the passage below. Then answer the questions.

① A new study indicates agility not speed makes cheetahs such good hunters

Cheetahs' Secret Weapon: A Tight Turning Radius

Really, who else could it be?

1. Anyone who has watched a cheetah run down an antelope knows that they are stunningly fast.

But it turns out that speed is not the secret to their impressive hunting skills. A novel study of how cheetahs chase prey in the wild shows that it is their agility or their skill at leaping sideways, changing directions abruptly, and slowing down quickly, that makes them such great hunters. "Cheetahs don't actually go very fast when they're hunting," said Alan M. Wilson, the author of the new study. "The hunt is much more about maneuvering, acceleration, ducking, and diving to capture prey."

Seems crazy like a lot of work

This would not be good data

2. Until now, researchers had only been able to gather data on cheetahs hunting habits by studying the animals in captivity, or from direct, imprecise observations of their movements in the wild. But Dr. Wilson and his team designed and built a battery-powered, solar-charged tracking collar that uses an accelerometer, a gyroscope, and GPS technology to monitor the animal's movements. They attached these collars to five cheetahs and observed 367 of their hunting runs over nine months. The cheetahs ran as fast as 58 miles an hour and their average speed was 33 m.p.h. They found that cheetahs can slow down by as much as 9 m.p.h. in a single stride, a feat that is more helpful in hunting than their high-speed ability. A cheetah often slows down before turning and this enables it to make the tight turns that give it an advantage over its fast and nimble prey.

I wonder how they caught this many cheetahs

3. Along with those leg muscles, cheetahs have a flexible spine and big claws that give them a great deal of grip. This anatomy helps the cats get their feet in the right positions to turn and maneuver. "If you've ever skied or skateboarded really fast, you realize that stability and maneuverability at high speeds are a real problem," said Dr. Wilson. Cheetahs have adapted to handle these challenges of physics in unexpected ways.

I can't even stay on a skateboard for more than a minute without falling

4. Dr. Wilson's paper may have also put to rest the question of how fast cheetahs can actually run. In the 1960s, researchers in Africa recorded cheetahs running as fast as 65 m.p.h., but since then a number of scientists have only been able to clock them at speeds of only 30 to 40 m.p.h. This made some researchers "a little bit suspicious." However, Dr. Wilson's latest data seems to confirm that cheetahs do reach speeds approaching 60 m.p.h. on a fairly regular basis, making them the fastest land mammals. What is more, the cheetah's ability to maneuver at high speeds surpasses that of the greyhound and the horse, its closest competitors in that category. "The cheetah is way out there ahead of those animals," Dr. Wilson added. "It's really the all-around athlete, the all-around pursuit predator."

Cheetahs have anatomy that allows them to maneuver in ways others cannot

That's a big gap

④ Dr. W. paper indicates cheetahs can move at approximately 60 mph.

1. (RST.9-10.4) As it is used in the passage, the term novel means:



- a. A book
- b. Old

- c. Unique
- d. Average

2. (RST.9-10.1) Of the following, all were mentioned as being part of the reasons why cheetahs are such great hunters, EXCEPT:



- a. Their ability to change directions quickly
- b. Their ability at slowing down very quickly


- c. Their incredible speed
- d. Their skill at leaping sideways

Every week you will make corrections in a different color! Even if your answer is correct you must put ✓, ☺, ✱, something to indicate it is right. If it is wrong circle/write the correct response. This is worth 4 points.




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3. (RST.9-10.1) The author's purpose in including the quote from Dr. Wilson in the third paragraph is to:

-  a. Explain that skiers' and skateboarders' movements were compared to cheetahs' movements.
- b. Give the reader some context to better understand how impressively cheetahs move.
- c. Show that humans are superior to cheetahs because we can ski and skateboard really fast.
- d. Describe the difference between cheetahs hunting and humans skiing or skateboarding.

4. (RST.9-10.2) The main idea of the fourth paragraph is:


-  a. Cheetah's can turn quickly because they also have a flexible spine and big claws.
- b. Other scientists are suspicious of Dr. Wilson's results on how fast cheetahs can run.
- c. Dr. Wilson's paper has confirmed that cheetahs are faster than horses and greyhounds.
- d. Dr. Wilson's paper confirms the long-held idea that cheetahs can run as fast as 65 m.p.h.

5. (RST.9-10.1) How did Dr. Wilson and his team measure the cheetahs' hunting runs in the wild?

 Dr. Wilson and his team measured the cheetah's skills by attaching a solar powered collar to cheetah's that recorded the animals movements

**\*Write in Complete Sentence, Restate question in response \***

6. (RST.9-10.1) In addition to their leg muscles, how else are cheetahs able to make such tight turns?

 Cheetahs can make tight turns because of their big claws and flexible spines which provide them with a good grip to maneuver.

### Biology Annotation Strategies

**\*Students must summarize the main point of EVERY paragraph (Take Away)**

**Number each paragraph**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Underline Main Idea in each paragraph**

**Box Vocabulary Words**

**Write DF or Def next to definition of words**

**Talk to the text, use your prior knowledge to break down the information in the text (For example: I don't understand why..., this reminds me of..., I can't believe..., I got confused when..., this is similar to..., A question I have is..., I predict...**

*Adapted from the article, "Cheetahs' Secret Weapon: A tight turning radius" by Katie Miller for The New York Times, on June 13, 2013.*