

Reading Section Practice Test (p. 231)

Note: If you answered an item incorrectly, complete the exercises listed for that item.

1. (B) The passage states that slime molds "were regarded as organisms of ambiguous taxonomic status." See Exercises R9–R14.
2. (D) To "ingest" or "consume" bacteria means to eat it as food. See Exercises R1–R3.
3. (C) The passage states that "Their uniqueness lies in an unusual life cycle, which alternates between a feeding stage in which the organism is essentially unicellular and a reproductive stage in which the organism adapts a multicellular structure." See Exercises R9–R14.
4. (A) The passage states that "the organism initiates a new genetic program that permits the cells to eventually find a new, food-rich environment." See Exercises R9–R14.
5. (A) The word "Starvation" refers to "become starved" in the preceding sentence and explains when this occurs. See Exercises R4–R8.
6. (D) An "entity" or "unit" is an assemblage of parts, or as in this case, members. See Exercises R1–R3.

7. (A) There are two distinct kinds of cells. Other cells form prespore cells. See Exercises R4–R8.
8. (C) The author does not mention legs. The organism moves like a slug and then changes to a fungi-like form on a stalk. See Exercises R4–R8.
9. (D) When something bears fruit, it is at the stage where the next generation is produced. The author is referring to the organism as being ready to release its spores. See Exercises R15–R21.
10. (B) After the spores that form the head ("the head develops into spores") are scattered around the area ("are dispersed into the environment"), they develop ("form") into a new generation ("the next generation") of amoebae cells. See Exercises R9–R14.
11. (A) Developmental biologists are interested in this transformation because it is similar "to an important process found in higher organisms in which organs with highly specialized functions are formed from unspecialized stem cells." See Exercises R15–R21.
12. (A) The passage states the DNA approach "has essentially backed up the results of the earlier dye studies." See Exercises R9–R14.

13. Unspecialized Cells

(B) The passage states that the organism is unicellular during the feeding stage.

(F) The passage states that "This mass [the cells that have come together] sticks together through the secretion of adhesion molecules."

(G) The passage states that "Once a favorable location has been found with a fresh source of bacteria to feed on, the migration stops."

(H) The passage states that "a few of the amoebae start to produce periodic chemical pulses that are detected, amplified, and relayed to the surrounding members, which then move toward the pulse origin."

Specialized Cells

(D) The passage states that "the back cells climb up the stalk and form a spherical-shaped head, known as the sorocarp."

(E) The passage states that "The head develops into spores, which are dispersed."

(I) The passage states that "The front cells turn into a stalk, and the back cells climb up the stalk and form a spherical-shaped head."

See Exercises R22–R24.

14. (C) The "path" of something is the route it takes.