

Answer Key

Synonym

1. A
2. D
3. C
4. B
5. C
6. A
7. A

Synonym Replacement

8. A
9. A
10. A
11. C
12. B
13. D
14. A
15. A
16. B
17. C
18. A
19. C
20. A
21. B
22. D
23. C
24. B
25. B
26. A
27. C

Smart Word Choices

28. A
29. D
30. D
31. D
32. B
33. D
34. C

Confusing Words

35. A
36. B
37. B
38. A

39. A

40. A

41. B

42. A

43. B

44. A

Feral Animals

45. B

46. C

47. C

48. B

49. C

50. C

51. B

52. B

53. Feral animals face challenges such as hunger, disease, accidents, and conflicts with humans or other animals. These challenges can be mitigated by responsible pet ownership, including rehoming unwanted pets, spaying and neutering animals to prevent overpopulation, and supporting local animal shelters.

54. Feral animals can negatively impact local wildlife by hunting and killing native species, which disrupts natural ecosystems. They may also compete with native animals for food and resources, further upsetting the ecological balance.

The Riders of the Pony Express

55. B

56. C

57. B

58. C

59. B

60. B

61. C

62. C

63. Pony Express riders delivered mail by riding between stations set up every 10 to 25 miles along the route. They would ride at top speed, exchange their tired horses

for fresh ones at each station, and continue without delay. Each rider typically changed horses three times and covered about 100 miles before passing the mail bags to the next rider in the relay.

64. The Pony Express is remembered today because it symbolizes the bravery, determination, and adventurous spirit of the American frontier. Although it only operated for 16 months, it represented a significant advancement in communication across the vast distances of the United States, and its legacy endures in the stories and legends of the Wild West.

Lantern Fish – The Ocean’s Little Lights

65. C
66. C
67. C
68. C
69. B
70. C
71. B
72. B
73. Lantern fish inhabit the deep ocean, where daylight is minimal. Their bioluminescence, provided by tiny lights on their bodies, is crucial for communication, attracting prey, and potentially distinguishing between males and females. These lights help them navigate the dark waters and enhance their survival in the abyssal depths.
74. At night, lantern fish may swim closer to the ocean’s surface. Their bioluminescent lights create a sparkling effect under the water, resembling stars. This behavior is likely part of their feeding and mating strategies, making their lights both a visual spectacle and a functional adaptation.