

Session 1—Reading

Directions

In this part of **ELAP Plus Third Edition**, you will read five passages:

- The Sami of the Arctic
- Getting to Know Grandma
- We Need New Literature
- Technology Time-Out
- Waiting on Wesley

There are multiple-choice questions for you to answer after each passage. Refer to the passages as often as you need to. Then fill in the circle of the best answer to each question.

Now turn the page and begin.

SAMI

Read this article. Then answer questions 1 through 7.

The Sami of the Arctic

1 The Arctic region of Northern Europe is one of the most frigid places on Earth. Few plants grow there and much of the land is covered with snow and ice all year. Try to imagine living in such a harsh place. Could you handle the constant cold and the biting wind? One remarkable group of people, the Sami, does not mind living in these conditions. In fact, they are living in the same places and carrying on many of the same occupations as their ancestors from thousands of years ago.

History of the Sami

2 The Sami are the native people of parts of Norway, Sweden, Finland, and Russia. They have lived in those areas for at least two thousand years. The Sami have lived in the cold Arctic area long enough to learn how to use its climate, land features, plants, and animals to their greatest advantage.

Busy Lives

3 The Sami have found success with many kinds of livelihoods ranging from fishing and fur trapping to farming and herding, depending largely on the areas in which they live. In the coastal areas, many Sami make their living by fishing in the nearby waters. In mountainous regions, Sami groups traditionally spend more time hunting and trapping. Today, many Sami work in forestry and mining, and others find employment in stores and factories in local towns. Many Sami are also known for their artwork, love of education, and participation in government.

Reindeer Herding

4 While many groups of people around the world herd animals such as sheep, goats, and cattle, the Sami are well known for herding reindeer! Prior to 1500, many Sami in the mountain regions hunted wild reindeer, which were valuable for their meat and fur. Later, however, the people learned that they could more efficiently use the reindeer resource by herding the animals. The Sami learned how to gather and lead reindeer herds, find food for them, and care for any sick or injured animals. At the same time, Sami herders began to rely on their animals. They can use the reindeer for food, drink reindeer milk, and use the animals' furs for clothing and shelter.



5 Some Sami families maintain herds of hundreds or even thousands of reindeer. They use some of the reindeer and sell others. They need to move the animals throughout the year, so they can find enough food. Reindeer in the Arctic areas do not eat grass or leaves like you might expect. The land is far too cold to support enough of this plant life. Instead, reindeer eat lichen, a mosslike plant that grows under the snow. Sometimes herders have to live nomadic lives, always moving with their herds. This is no longer common, though, and today many herders travel alone while their families live in permanent villages. Only about 10 percent of Sami are involved in reindeer herding today. However, this occupation is the one most associated with Sami culture.

The Sami Today

6 The Sami have faced more problems than just the cold climate. Other groups of people have mistreated them or tried to force them to abandon their traditions. Fortunately, the Sami have held on to their ways of life. Today, special laws are in place to protect their culture. Under these protections, the Sami are able to carry on their practices. They can also participate in the cultures of the nations in which they live. By the 1990s there was a thriving population of about 60,000 Sami spread throughout Northern Europe.

Why Do Animals Form Herds?

7 People have been herding animals, or gathering similar animals in large groups, for thousands of years. People generally do this to make a living. They may sell the animals or use them for food and shelter. However, herding is not always organized by people. Many kinds of animals form herds by themselves.

8 Many scientists have questioned the value of animal herds. The clearest benefit of a herd is protection. In the case of large, slow, plant-eating creatures, herds provide "safety in numbers." In large groups, these animals can more easily spot threats and then work together to defend against them.

9 However, herds might cause trouble for some kinds of creatures. A large herd of plant-eating animals is more visible, drawing more attention from possible predators such as lions or wolves. Meanwhile, these meat-eating animals seldom benefit by traveling in herds because they would have difficulty getting enough food. Animals' herding instincts are still largely a mystery to science.

- 1 What is the purpose of the sidebar?
- (A) to give readers information about the author
 - (B) to introduce an entirely new topic in the article
 - (C) to expand on an important idea from the article
 - (D) to present evidence for one side in a debate

Session 2—Reading and Writing

Directions

In this part of **ELAP Plus Third Edition**, you will read three passages:

- Echo and Narcissus
- The Deepest and Driest Desert
- A Land Unlike Any Other

Then you will write about what you read.

Now turn the page and begin.

SAMPLE

A Land Unlike Any Other

by Adam Sobieski

1 I've visited many lands in search of all this planet has to offer. I've seen frozen wastelands, high peaks sticking into the clouds, the great depths of the ocean, and the hidden worlds of rain forests. Still, I have never visited a land where many records were broken all in one spot. I thought nothing would prepare me for the experience of visiting Death Valley—and I was correct.

2 In planning my trip, I tried to learn about the history of the grimly named place. I read that Native American people have lived there for many years. Later, miners searching for gold and other materials found the land inhospitable and often dangerous. They called it "Death Valley," which certainly made all later travelers think twice about visiting it. It certainly had that uneasy effect on me, but I still couldn't resist experiencing the place for myself.

3 When I arrived in Death Valley, I was astounded by its beauty. In parts, the sand dunes reached from horizon to horizon like gently ruffled silk. In other areas, stark mountains of grooved stone crests reached toward the sky. The colors were magnificent, ranging from yellows and browns in midday to blues and purples in the evening. Zabriskie Point, a section of the Amargosa mountain range, was particularly beautiful. By studying its varied shapes you could see the effects of erosion over millions of years. It was like looking at an artwork created by the wonders of time and nature.

4 The stunning landscape is matched by a stunning atmosphere. Or, at least, that's how it felt to me. In Death Valley, you can feel an

immense sense of freedom. All around you are gloriously open spaces where you feel miles away from the hustle and bustle of city life. In most places you can also hear perfect silence, aside from the rushing of the wind. It was calming and beautiful to experience quiet aloneness, even for a short time, in the middle of this fast-paced and noisy world. I found it hard to believe that just a few hours' drive from there were the sleepless streets of Los Angeles and some of the country's other largest, busiest cities.

5 In other words, I loved Death Valley. Apparently I'm not the only person who feels this way. Death Valley is the home of a group of Native American people, the Timbisha. These people have lived in the valley for hundreds of years. The name they gave the valley, Tümpisa, is their word for the red clay in the area, which they make into paint. I reflected on these people and their long history in Death Valley. Strangely, there do not seem to be animals in the region. However, Death Valley still seems to be a very living place.

6 A sure sign of the importance of the valley is the fact that, in 1933, it was declared a protected area. That year, the government pledged to protect the land from development or any kind of change by humans. It would be preserved with its raw natural splendor. In 1994, the entire region was declared a national park. This way, people from all over the world who desire to experience an extreme environment can come see for themselves the wonders of Death Valley. I highly recommend making the trip!

40 Which factor in Adam Sobieski’s research made him feel uncertain about visiting Death Valley? Use **two** details from the article to support your response.

41 What evidence does Adam Sobieski cite to show the importance of Death Valley? Use **two** details from the article to support your response.

42 According to “The Deepest and Driest Desert” and “A Land Unlike Any Other,” how did the events of 1933 and 1994 most affect Death Valley? Use details from **both** articles to support your response.

43

Compare and contrast the presentations of Sondra Brown in “The Deepest and Driest Desert” and Adam Sobieski in “A Land Unlike Any Other.” Use details from **both** articles in your response.

In your answer, be sure to do the following:

- tell how the articles are alike
- tell how the articles are different
- use details from both articles

20 horizontal lines for writing a response.