

6. Explain the significance of the word “invasive” to the rest of the article. Support your response with information from the article.

SCORE 2

The word “invasive” is highly significant throughout the article. It illustrates the nature of the reptiles that the author wishes to get across – dangerous and out of place. The use of the word invasive demonstrates that the reptiles do not belong in the US, and the author uses this term to impress upon his readers the dangers they pose to the environment and its natural biological diversity. It shows the viewpoint opposing those who call the species “introduced” rather than “invasive.”

This response demonstrates a thoughtful and thorough examination of text. The student accurately explains the meaning of the word in the context of the article and carefully evaluates the author’s craft (“...impress upon his readers the dangers...”; “It shows the viewpoint opposing...”). Text support is specific, and the logical explanation is very well developed.

SCORE 2

The significance of the word invasive to the rest of the article is it put snakes and reptiles in a negative light, because invasive implies that they are a burden, this word supported the part in the article about snakes being damaging to Florida, but also was contradicted by McInnes who thinks they are “introduced” and discriminated against.

This student carefully examines the tension between those who consider certain reptiles “invasive” and those who consider them “introduced.” This insightful response is well developed, specific, and shows a strong ability to evaluate author’s craft (“...in a negative light...”; “...supported the part...”; “...was contradicted by...”). The response demonstrates a thorough examination of the text.

SCORE 2

The significance of the word "invasive" reveals that these reptiles, and "pets" are invading other habitats and territory. Pythons are eating endangered animals, people now have to be on the alert for dangerous, unknown animals. These reptiles are invading quickly in other territory.

This response is succinct but thorough, wasting no words in its specific examination of text ideas that stress the dangers of invasive pythons. Although no mention is made of the controversy surrounding the term "invasive," the student crafts a well-developed discussion of these dangers and makes an insightful judgment about the need for people "to be on the alert." The student demonstrates a strong ability to evaluate text information.

SCORE 1

The word invasive is significant because it shows the reader that the Pythons being brought to America are bad. They interrupt the natural balance in the wild, and humans are the culprit to why this blending of organisms is happening so fast.

This response accurately states that the word "shows the reader" that pythons in America disrupt "the natural balance." However, the final sentence does not clearly explain why humans are responsible for this problem. Although the student uses information from paragraphs 24–26, it is not connected to the ideas presented or developed well enough to be thorough. Concrete information about how and why pythons came to America might support the idea more clearly and completely. The response shows some ability to evaluate information but remains only a sufficient examination of text.

SCORE 1

"Invasive" means that something is taking over something else. In this case pythons are taking over the animals in parts of the world that they are not from and being invasive because they have no predators.

This response shows some ability to evaluate text information. The student generally defines the word ("...something is taking over something else"), but although the explanation is accurate, it is limited. The response needs more development and more specificity for a higher score.

SCORE 1

The word in this article, "invasive" could mean dangerous or invading. MacInnes said that the word was too harsh, but either way the reptiles are too close to human habitat uncaged.

This response briefly discusses both the significance of the word ("dangerous"; "...too close to human habitat uncaged") and the existence of controversy over the use of the word. However, the response does not develop or connect these ideas thoroughly. More specific development is necessary to become eligible for a higher score.

SCORE 0

The word invasive is significant because it has a negative connotation about reptiles.

This brief response is on task and accurate, but it reveals only a cursory examination of text. The student makes an assertion ("...has a negative connotation..."), but more development and text support is needed for a higher score. The response shows little ability to evaluate information.

SCORE 0

"Invasive" really shows how these reptiles are not naturally in Florida or other parts of the world.

Although this brief response presents some specific text information ("...not naturally in Florida..."), the idea itself remains vague and unsupported. More development is needed to demonstrate some ability to evaluate information.

SCORE 0

The word "invasive", in this article means that people are judging these reptiles. No one wants them or wants to buy them as pets. People prefer dogs, cats, etc.

This response demonstrates a cursory examination of the text. The first sentence might be an attempt to address critics of the term "invasive." However, the discussion goes off-task with an explanation about why no one buys reptiles, an assertion that contradicts text information. This response is inaccurate and unsuccessful.