

Name _____ Date _____

Instructions: Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

1. How are people addressing the problem of losing seed variety as a result of GMO production?
 - Ⓐ They are creating new varieties of plants without the help of scientists.
 - Ⓑ They are throwing away GMO seeds and only planting traditional seeds.
 - Ⓒ They have started seed banks to save traditional seeds.
 - Ⓓ They are refusing to buy GMO crops and shopping only at farmer's markets.
2. Some people believe stronger GMO plants will cause _____.
 - Ⓐ vegetables to lose their flavor
 - Ⓑ a global food shortage
 - Ⓒ an increase in seed variety
 - Ⓓ an increase in crop yield
3. People who buy goods or services and use them are called _____.
 - Ⓐ bioengineers
 - Ⓑ consumers
 - Ⓒ corporations
 - Ⓓ environmentalists
4. Which of the following details expresses an opinion?
 - Ⓐ Many GMO crops on the market today have had new genes added to help them resist crop-eating pests.
 - Ⓑ GMO food products became part of the U.S. food supply in the mid-1900s.
 - Ⓒ There are more risks than benefits involved with the consumption of GMOs.
 - Ⓓ GMOs reduce the time and labor it takes farmers to raise the crops.

Quick Check continued on following page

Name _____ Date _____

5. What is the author's point of view on GMOs?
 - Ⓐ There are pros and cons to the creation and use of genetically modified foods.
 - Ⓑ Genetically modified foods should be illegal in the United States.
 - Ⓒ All farmers can benefit from planting only genetically modified seeds.
 - Ⓓ GMOs are directly related to the rise of food allergies.
6. Which of the following is a fact from the section "GMOs in the Environment"?
 - Ⓐ Bt toxins harm monarch larvae that hatch and feed on GMO plants.
 - Ⓑ The monarch butterfly is a beneficial insect that pollinates crops and other plants.
 - Ⓒ Crops engineered to kill "pest" insects will also kill helpful insects.
 - Ⓓ Only experts can tell how GMOs affect the environment and nearby plants and animals.
7. Some scientists believe that a new rice that produces vitamin A could help _____.
 - Ⓐ save the declining population of monarch butterflies
 - Ⓑ solve food shortages in undeveloped nations
 - Ⓒ prevent blindness in places where people's diets lack vitamin A
 - Ⓓ stop the spread of diseases that destroy and kill crops
8. **Agriculture** is _____.
 - Ⓐ the practice of farming and raising livestock
 - Ⓑ the practice of creating genetically modified organisms
 - Ⓒ the practice of studying the effects of GMOs on the natural world
 - Ⓓ the practice of collecting and saving non GMO seeds

Quick Check continued on following page

Name _____ Date _____

9. What is the author's purpose for writing this book?
 - Ⓐ to persuade the reader to never purchase GMOs
 - Ⓑ to inform the reader about the effects of GMOs on small farms
 - Ⓒ to persuade the reader to encourage the government to label foods containing GMOs
 - Ⓓ to inform the reader about the arguments for and against GMOs
10. A synonym for *changed* is _____.
 - Ⓐ assessed
 - Ⓑ altered
 - Ⓒ ingested
 - Ⓓ acquired
11. **Extended Response:** What are the pros and cons of GMOs? Use details from the text to support your response.
12. **Extended Response:** Why does the topic of GMOs continue to be controversial?

Quick Check Answer Sheet

Are GMOs Safe?

Main Comprehension Skill: Fact or Opinion

1. Ⓒ *Problem and Solution*
2. Ⓓ *Cause and Effect*
3. Ⓑ *Vocabulary*
4. Ⓒ *Fact or Opinion*
5. Ⓐ *Author's Point of View*
6. Ⓑ *Fact or Opinion*
7. Ⓒ *Problem and Solution*
8. Ⓐ *Vocabulary*
9. Ⓓ *Author's Purpose*
10. Ⓑ *Vocabulary*
11. Students should use details from the text to state the pros and cons of GMOs including the following: *Pros: pest-resistant plants, increased crop production, increased profit for farmers, and so on. Cons: potentially harmful to the environment, plants, animals, and humans; less variety of seeds leading to increased risk of disease; and so on.*
12. Students should note that people debate whether studies on GMOs provide enough valid information. For example, opponents of GMOs claim that they have difficulties obtaining unbiased information because the companies that own genetically modified seeds stand to make a profit from GMO production. The studies and research surrounding GMOs seem to be inconclusive.