Microbes: Friend or Foe?

Name _____ Date _____

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

1. How are bacteria and fungi alike?

Ⓐ both are single-celled organisms

Ⓑ both can create food products

Ⓒ both can cause athlete's foot

Ⓓ both can cause strep throat

2. The purpose of an immune system is _____.

Ⓐ to remember disease microbes

Ⓑ to recognize problem microbes

Ⓒ to fight microbes that cause disease

Ⓓ all of the above

3. What is the main idea of the section titled "Fighting Microbes with Vaccines"?

Ⓐ Vaccines are useful in helping extremely ill people recover from dangerous infections.

Ⓑ Vaccines are able to prevent some infections by helping the body recognize dangerous microbes.

Ⓒ Dr. Jenner discovered that people didn't get smallpox if they had contracted cowpox in the past.

Ⓓ Each year, many people get a flu shot, which is a vaccine used to prevent a common infection.

4. What happens when antibiotics are overused or misused?

Ⓐ Microbes develop resistances to them.

Ⓑ The antibiotics attack the wrong microbes.

Ⓒ The antibiotics change into different forms.

Ⓓ All of the above

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5. What is one way that fungi and protozoa are different?

Ⓐ Protozoa cannot spread to other people.

Ⓑ Fungi can be multicelled and protozoa are single celled.

Ⓒ Fungi are food for birds and fish.

Ⓓ None of the above

6. What is a difference between good microbes and bad microbes?

Ⓐ Good microbes are almost invisible, but bad microbes can be easily seen.

Ⓑ Bad microbes cause disease, but good microbes can prevent or cure illness.

Ⓒ Only a few types of good microbes exist, but several types of bad microbes exist.

Ⓓ All of the above

7. What is an **organism**?

Ⓐ a medicine

Ⓑ a symptom

Ⓒ a disease

Ⓓ a living thing

8. Why do scientists keep trying to produce stronger antibiotics?

Ⓐ because stronger antibiotics are needed to fight stronger microbes that are forming

Ⓑ because people can take an antibiotic only one time

Ⓒ because all types of antibiotics can be produced only once

Ⓓ all of the above

9. Where can microbes be found?

Ⓐ in the air

Ⓑ inside human bodies

Ⓒ on the surface of objects

Ⓓ all of the above

10. What is an **antibiotic**?

Ⓐ a type of bacteria living in human cells

Ⓑ a medicine that attacks harmful microbes

Ⓒ a disease for which there is no known cure

Ⓓ a rapid spread of a disease around the world

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11. **Extended Response:** Explain three things you can do daily to help prevent the spread of dangerous microbes.

12. **Extended Response:** How can microbes be both friend and foe? Use specific examples of helpful and harmful microbes.

Quick Check Answer Sheet

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Main Comprehension Skill: Compare and Contrast

1. Ⓑ *Compare and Contrast*
2. Ⓓ *Main Idea and Details*
3. Ⓑ *Main Idea and Details*
4. Ⓐ *Cause and Effect*
5. Ⓑ *Compare and Contrast*
6. Ⓑ *Compare and Contrast*
7. Ⓓ *Vocabulary*
8. Ⓐ *Cause and Effect*
9. Ⓓ *Main Idea and Details*
10. Ⓑ *Vocabulary*
11. Answers will vary but should include three of the following: *cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, wash hands often and for fifteen seconds, eat a balanced diet, get enough sleep each night, brush and floss your teeth.*
12. Answers will vary. Example: *Microbes are friends because some bacteria help us digest food, but microbes are foes because some viruses and protozoa can cause diseases such as the flu or malaria.*