



## Quick Check

## Goliath Bird-Eating Spiders

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

1. Which of the following details supports the main idea of the section "The Biggest Tarantula"?
  - (A) Hawks, owls, skunks, and snakes sometimes prey on Goliath spiders.
  - (B) Goliath spiders weigh more than any other spider on the planet.
  - (C) Goliath spiders defend themselves by rearing up on their hind legs.
  - (D) Scientists and spider enthusiasts are fascinated by the Goliath spider.
2. Which of the following facts support the opinion that female Goliath spiders are good mothers?
  - (A) The female guards the eggs until they hatch in about six to seven weeks.
  - (B) Tarantulas are an enormous group of spiders.
  - (C) Female Goliaths are nocturnal creatures, coming out at night to hunt.
  - (D) Tarantulas molt when they outgrow their exoskeleton.
3. According to the text and the map, what is the Goliath spider's habitat?
  - (A) the rainforests in southern South America
  - (B) the deserts of northern South America
  - (C) the rainforests in northern South America
  - (D) the deserts of southern South America
4. What causes a Goliath spider to spray strong digestive juices in its prey to liquefy the body?
  - (A) The Goliath spider has a straw-shaped mouth that can only suck.
  - (B) The Goliath spider prefers the taste of liquefied food.
  - (C) The Goliath spider can't fit a solid body into its burrow.
  - (D) The Goliath spider needs to hide the remains from other predators.

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Quick Check *(continued)*

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5. In the conclusion, the author \_\_\_\_\_ the reader of what spiders teach us, and \_\_\_\_\_ the reader of the importance of studying them.
  - Ⓐ entertains; informs
  - Ⓑ persuades; entertains
  - Ⓒ informs; persuades
  - Ⓓ persuades; informs
  
6. **Extended Response:** How do Goliath spiders compare to other spiders? Use specific details from the book to identify the similarities and differences between them, and explain why the Goliath bird-eating spider is classified as a spider.



1. **(B)** *Main Idea and Details*
2. **(A)** *Fact or Opinion*
3. **(C)** *Main Idea and Details*
4. **(A)** *Cause and Effect*
5. **(C)** *Author's Purpose*
6. Answers will identify similarities between the Goliath spider and other spiders, such as the following: *eight legs, glands that make silk, a tough outer skeleton, sensory hairs*, and so on. Answers will identify differences between them: *the Goliath is much larger than other spiders, it lives in the rainforest and other spiders may not, it eats crickets and frogs and other food some spiders do not eat*, and so on. Answers will then explain the following: *the Goliath spider is classified as a spider because all spiders share specific traits, such as glands that make silk and eight legs, and the Goliath spider possesses all these traits.*