

What are Short Answer Questions?

Worksheet

Short answer questions require you to write 1–3 word answers extracted directly from the reading text. Answers must match the exact words or permitted alternatives without adding information.

Questions

1. A short answer question asks: 'What colour is the car?' The passage says 'The car is bright blue.' What is the correct answer?
A) bright blue
B) blue
C) The car is bright blue
D) bright
2. The question asks: 'How many students attended?' The passage: 'Over 500 students were present.' Which answer gets full marks?
A) 500 students
B) Over 500
C) Over 500 students
D) approximately 500
3. Short answer questions test which skill most?
A) Writing ability
B) Locating specific information
C) Paraphrasing
D) Understanding main ideas
4. Can you use words not in the passage?
A) Yes, if they mean the same
B) Yes, if you paraphrase
C) No, only exact words
D) Only numbers and dates
5. What does the passage say the Amazon Rainforest is responsible for?
6. According to the text, how many species of birds live in the Amazon?
7. Name one reason given for deforestation.
8. Define: How many words can a short answer contain?
9. Define: Do you write only one word, or can you add explanation?
10. Define: Can you paraphrase a short answer?

Answer Key

1. A) bright blue — The answer must be 1-3 words from the text. 'Bright blue' is two words and matches exactly.
2. B) Over 500 — 'Over 500' is 2 words and accurate. 'Over 500 students' exceeds the 3-word limit (3 words exactly is allowed).
3. B) Locating specific information — Short answers focus on finding exact details in the text, not broad comprehension.
4. C) No, only exact words — Answers must come directly from the passage. Paraphrasing is not accepted.
5. Scan passage for 'Amazon Rainforest is responsible for' Find: 'produces 20% of the world's oxygen' Answer: 20% of the world's oxygen
6. Look for 'how many species' or 'birds' + number Locate: 'approximately 1,300 bird species' Answer: 1,300 bird species (or just '1,300 species')
7. Find 'reason for deforestation' or 'causes' Text: 'cattle ranching and agriculture' Answer: cattle ranching (or agriculture, or logging)
8. 1-3 words maximum. Must be exact or a permitted alternative from the text.
9. Only the required words. Adding extra text may result in 0 marks.
10. No. Your answer must match the exact words or synonyms given in the marking scheme.

Bounlu

All cards, step-by-step solutions and an AI tutor are in the Notek app.
Promy turns exam dates into automatic reminders.