

Teacher Guide & Answers

Passage Reading Level: Lexile 1210

1. **C** *selective breeding*
2. **D** *different examples of selective breeding and the impact of selective breeding on some animals*
3. **A** *humans breeding the animals*
4. **C** *These examples highlight both the benefits and drawbacks.*
5. **C** *the advantages and disadvantages of selective breeding*
6. **A** *to produce*
7. **A** *For example*
8. **Suggested answer:** *Answers may include: * the tame dogs we have as pets and companions*
** increased supply of milk and meat from cows*
** increased supply of eggs and meat from chickens*
9. **Suggested answer:** *Answers may include: * shortened life spans of dairy cows*
** roosters bred for muscle are top-heavy and cannot properly perform courtship dances*
** chickens bred for large breasts cannot support the extra weight on their skinny legs*
** chickens bred to lay more eggs have brittle bones since the eggs soak up the hens' calcium supply*

- 10. Suggested answer:** *Answers may vary and should be supported by the text. Students may explain that the author is cautious about the practice of selective breeding. The author explains the benefits of selective breeding as it can yield animals with desired traits. However, the author also explains that one of the drawbacks of selective breeding is the negative impact it can have on the well-being of the animals being bred for certain desirable traits. The author cites Temple Grandin, noting that breeding animals for size and strength interferes with natural animal processes. The author then goes on to describe the consequences of selective breeding that different animals face. At the end of the text, the author states, "Selective breeding is to thank for man's best friends. And yet, the pain and suffering that livestock endure makes us think twice. It is important to keep in mind that, in some cases, the negative consequences of selective breeding may outweigh the positive."*