

Read the passage “A Change in Color” and answer the questions that follow.

A Change in Color

- 1 Do you know why the leaves of many trees turn to different colors in the autumn? The answer begins with what makes leaves green in the first place—chlorophyll.
- 2 Chlorophyll is a green substance carried throughout a tree by a fluid flowing from the tree’s roots. The fluid flows from a tree’s roots, all the way up and out into its leaves. During spring and summer, there are many hours of strong sunlight. The chlorophyll in the leaves captures energy from the sunlight and uses the energy to make food for the tree.
- 3 Of course, leaves are not just green. Other substances and sugars in the leaves can give leaves a different color. During part of the year, the green chlorophyll blocks out these other colors.
- 4 You can do a simple test with paint to see why other colors cannot be seen in the leaves. Measure out one teaspoon of green paint and put it on a piece of thick paper. Now add just a drop of red paint and mix it into the green paint. When you finish, you won’t see the red paint at all. The green overpowers the red!
- 5 The same thing happens in the leaves of a tree. A tree’s leaves have chemicals and sugars that could make them red, gold, brown, or orange. These colors cannot show through as long as so much chlorophyll is present.
- 6 When autumn comes, however, things begin to change. The days grow shorter, with less and less sunlight. The temperatures begin to grow colder. The shorter, cooler days send a message to the tree: winter is coming. The trees should begin storing their food for the winter.



Standard 1: Vocabulary/Concept Development

- 1** Read these sentences from the passage.

When you finish, you won't see the red paint at all. The green overpowers the red!

What does the prefix over- mean in the word overpowers?

- A again
- B also
- C more
- D with

Standard 2: Comprehension/Analysis of Text

- 2** A tree's leaves will remain green until the tree

- A makes more chlorophyll for the leaves.
- B has enough sugars trapped in the leaves.
- C begins to store food when the weather turns cooler.
- D makes enough fluid to carry chlorophyll to the leaves.

Standard 2: Comprehension/Analysis of Text

- 3** In the test described in paragraph 4, the green paint represents the

- A sunlight.
- B leaves on a tree.
- C chlorophyll in leaves.
- D simple sugars in leaves.

Standard 1: Vocabulary/Concept Development

- 4** Read this sentence from the passage.

The chlorophyll in the leaves captures energy from the sunlight and uses the energy to make food for the tree.

What is the meaning of captures as used in the sentence above?

- A wins
- B absorbs
- C expresses clearly
- D takes by surprise

The following questions are not about a passage. Read and answer each question.

Standard 1: Vocabulary/Concept Development

1 Read this sentence.

Mr. Martinez broke the news that the family was moving to a new city.

What does the phrase broke the news mean in the sentence?

- A asked
- B hid
- C repeated
- D told

Standard 1: Vocabulary/Concept Development

2 Read this sentence.

Mrs. Martin asked the writer to autograph her book.

The word autograph contains the Latin root graph. What does graph mean?

- A buy
- B give
- C read
- D write

Standard 1: Vocabulary/Concept Development

3 Here is an entry from a dictionary.

sheet (shēt) *noun*

- 1. broad, rectangular cloth used for bedding
- 2. broad, thin piece of paper or glass
- 3. newspaper
- 4. large block of stamps

Read this sentence.

Carol needed one sheet of paper for her homework.

Which meaning *best* fits the way sheet is used in the sentence?

- A meaning 1
- B meaning 2
- C meaning 3
- D meaning 4

Standard 1: Vocabulary/Concept Development

4 Read this sentence.

The classroom was empty and silent after the students left.

Which of these is a *synonym* for the word silent?

- A cheerful
- B large
- C quiet
- D scary