

Practice with Hints

Notes

Soaring High

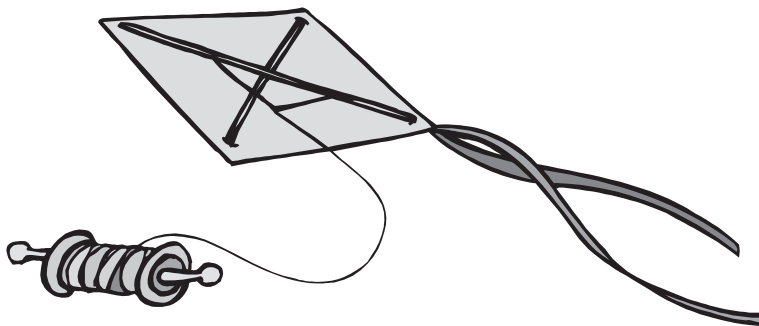
It is a wonderful feeling to fly a kite. You can feel it pulling with the wind. You can make it go higher or lower. Kites are fun because they are almost like flying yourself.

Skim This title hints that the passage will be about flying.

Kinds of Kites

There are many different kinds of kites. One kind is called the **diamond kite** because it is shaped like a diamond. Usually diamond kites have long tails. A tail on the bottom of a kite helps it fly. Tails can be made of many things. Some are made of cloth or plastic. Some are made of tubes. Diamond kites are usually good in very windy weather because of their long tails.

Look Take notes when the author provides lots of facts.



A diamond kite. Notice the long tail.

Ask What does this picture show?

If there is very little wind, it is good weather for a **delta kite**. A delta kite looks like a triangle and is very easy to get into the air. It usually does not have a tail, or it may have a small one. A delta kite is very light and fast, so a tail would slow it down.

Another kind of kite is the **box kite**. This kite is made of two boxes, one on top of the other. These kites fly very well. Like diamond kites, they are very stable. They don't usually have tails, though. Box kites were first used in Australia.

History of Kites

Kites have been flown all over the world for many years. People in the South Sea Islands used to use kites to fish. Just imagine! In New Zealand, people made kites that looked like birds because they could both fly. Kites were also used in China. Some kites were so big that they could pull a person into the air.

Solve Figure out what kind of organization is used here.

Notes

When the explorer Marco Polo traveled from Italy to China, he saw kites. Then he learned how to build kites from the Chinese. When he returned he taught people about kites. They began to build kites, too. Kites were flown all over Europe. They came to the United States, too.

Kites have been used for more than just fun or fishing. For hundreds of years, people also used them for science. Kites were used to do research on weather. The U.S. Weather Service used large box kites that went up to 10,000 feet high.

The Wright brothers flew kites, too. Their kites helped the Wright brothers build the first airplane. The kites told them a lot about the wind and what makes wings go up or down.

Today's Kites

Today, kites may be more popular than ever before. They come in many different colors and designs. Some kites today use two lines instead of just one. This makes it easier to manipulate the kite so that it moves the way you want. Some kites even have four lines. People like to do stunts such as making them turn upside-down and around.



Wilbur and Orville Wright, flying a glider as a kite.
Library of Congress

Solve Does this picture help you understand the passage better?

Assemble The end of the passage often retells the main idea.

If you'd like to fly, it's easier than ever before to find a kite that's just right for you!

- 1** Which is an example of cause and effect?
- (A) kites being used for fishing by people in the South Sea Islands
 - (B) kites being so big they could pull a person into the air
 - (C) kites coming in many different colors and sizes
 - (D) diamond kites being good in wind because they have a tail



Hint—Look for key words that help show cause and effect.

- 2** What happened right after Marco Polo traveled to China?
- (A) He learned how to build kites.
 - (B) Kites came to America.
 - (C) Kites were flown in Europe.
 - (D) The Wright brothers flew kites.



Hint—Look for words that give clues about the order of events.

- 3** How is the section called “History of Kites” organized?
- (A) It has no organization at all.
 - (B) It has a question-and-answer organization.
 - (C) The events are in the order they happened.
 - (D) There is a problem-and-solution organization.




Hint—How are histories usually organized?

- 4** Which of the following is true about kites with four lines?
- (A) They are easier to make than kites with one line.
 - (B) They are lighter than kites with two lines.
 - (C) They fly better when there is no wind.
 - (D) They are easier to control than kites with one line.




Hint—Look for what the passage says people do with four-line kites.


- 5** Which of the following is an opinion (not a fact)?
- (A) "Kites are fun because they are almost like flying yourself."
 - (B) "Some kites today use two lines instead of just one."
 - (C) "In New Zealand, people made kites that looked like birds because they could both fly."
 - (D) "Diamond kites are usually very good in windy weather because of their long tails."

 *Hint*—Remember an opinion cannot be proved.

- 6** Which sentence from the passage shows the author’s bias?
- (A) "It is a wonderful feeling to fly a kite."
 - (B) "Kites were used to do research on weather."
 - (C) "Another kind of kite is the box kite."
 - (D) "When the explorer Marco Polo traveled from Italy to China, he saw kites."

 *Hint*—Which sentence tells you what the author thinks about kites?

- 7** How does the author use compare-and-contrast organization when he talks about the box kite and the diamond kite? Use at least two examples from the passage to support your answer.

 *Hint*—Reread what the author says about each kite. Then compare and contrast them.