

COMPARING AMAZING BEARS

Read the two texts about different types of bears. Then, answer the questions by comparing and contrasting the information from both texts.

AMAZING BEARS OF THE WORLD**## Text 1: Polar Bears**

Polar bears are amazing animals that live in very cold places near the North Pole. This area is called the Arctic. Their home is mostly on sea ice, which helps them hunt for food. Polar bears have thick white fur that helps them blend in with the snow and ice. This fur also keeps them warm in freezing temperatures. Under their fur, they have a thick layer of fat called blubber. Blubber acts like a warm blanket. Polar bears are excellent swimmers and spend a lot of time in the icy water. They mostly eat seals, which they catch by waiting near holes in the ice. Sometimes, they also eat fish or birds.

**POLAR BEAR****## Text 2: Grizzly Bears**

Grizzly bears are large, powerful bears that live in forests and mountains of North America, like in Alaska and Canada. Unlike polar bears, grizzlies live on land. They have thick brown fur that helps them hide among trees and rocks. Grizzly bears are omnivores, which means they eat both plants and animals. They enjoy eating berries, roots, and nuts. They also hunt for fish, especially salmon, and sometimes even small mammals. In the fall, grizzly bears eat a lot to get ready for winter. They dig dens in the ground or find caves to sleep in during the coldest months. This long winter sleep is called hibernation.

1. What is the main topic discussed in both "Text 1: Polar Bears" and "Text 2: Grizzly Bears"?
 - A. How bears survive in the desert.
 - B. Different kinds of bears and their lives.
 - C. The best places to see bears in zoos.
 - D. How bears learn to swim.
2. Both texts describe how bears find food. What is one important point about food that is true for both polar bears and grizzly bears, even though their diets are different?
 - A. Both types of bears only eat plants.
 - B. Both types of bears hunt for meat.
 - C. Both types of bears need to find food to survive in their habitats.
 - D. Both types of bears eat only fish.
3. Which detail about how a bear stays warm can only be found in "Text 1: Polar Bears" and not in "Text 2: Grizzly Bears"?
 - A. They have thick fur.
 - B. They sleep in dens during winter.
 - C. They have a layer of blubber under their fur.
 - D. They eat a lot of food in the fall.
4. How are "Text 1: Polar Bears" and "Text 2: Grizzly Bears" similar in how they describe where these bears live?
 - A. Both texts explain that the bears live in very warm places.
 - B. Both texts describe the bears living mainly in water.
 - C. Both texts give details about the specific natural environments where the bears make their homes.
 - D. Both texts mention that bears live in caves.
5. Which statement best describes a difference in how the two texts explain what bears do in winter?
 - A. Text 1 says polar bears swim more in winter, while Text 2 says grizzly bears eat more.
 - B. Text 1 does not mention what polar bears do in winter, but Text 2 explains that grizzly bears hibernate.
 - C. Text 1 says polar bears build warm nests, but Text 2 says grizzly bears travel south.
 - D. Text 1 explains that polar bears hunt more in winter, and Text 2 explains grizzly bears stay awake.
6. Which statement correctly compares an important way polar bears and grizzly bears look different, based on the texts?
 - A. Polar bears have thick white fur to blend with snow and ice, while grizzly bears have thick brown fur to hide among trees and rocks.
 - B. Polar bears are much smaller than grizzly bears.
 - C. Grizzly bears have blubber, but polar bears do not.
 - D. Both bears have thin fur to stay cool.

ANSWER KEY

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| 1. B. Different kinds of bears and their lives. RI.3.9 | 2. C. Both types of bears need to find food to survive in their habitats. RI.3.9 |
| 3. C. They have a layer of blubber under their fur. RI.3.9 | 4. C. Both texts give details about the specific natural environments where the bears make their homes. RI.3.9 |
| 5. B. Text 1 does not mention what polar bears do in winter, but Text 2 explains that grizzly bears hibernate. RI.3.9 | 6. A. Polar bears have thick white fur to blend with snow and ice, while grizzly bears have thick brown fur to hide among trees and rocks. RI.3.9 |