

READ THE PASSAGE Notice what each paragraph is about.

All Kinds of Noses

Lines of ants passed each other on the sidewalk. Pairs of ants would stop and touch their feelers together. It looked very strange. Each ant was finding out where the other ant had been. They were “smelling” each other. However, insects don’t have true noses. Instead, their feelers work like noses.

The main reason for noses, or feelers, is to pick up scents. All insects use their feelers, or antennae, to gather scents. A fish’s nostrils do not breathe air. That would be silly. Their nostrils gather smells that help them find food.

Mammals also use their noses for breathing. Some mammals’ noses have special features to help them live in their environment. A camel’s nostrils close to keep out the blowing desert sand. Whales, dolphins, and beavers have nostrils that close when they swim underwater. That’s a good thing! You know that getting water up your nose when you swim is an awful feeling.

Elephants have very hardworking noses. An elephant’s nose is used all day to grab food, drink water, and help the elephant cool off.

SKILL PRACTICE Read the item. Write your response.

1. How do ants smell? How do you know?

2. Write the opinion statement in the second paragraph. How do you know it’s an opinion?

3. Which animals have nostrils that can close?

STRATEGY PRACTICE Underline one fact and draw a box around one opinion in the second paragraph.