

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Read the selection. Then answer the questions that follow.****Ranch Life**

Not long ago, there were many large farms called ranches. The best things about ranching were living on the open land and being around all the animals. Ranchers owned cattle, sheep, and horses that other people could buy. Ranching was a great way to make money.

Cattle, horses, and sheep eat grass during the summer. They could be left alone to eat and drink until they were big enough to sell. However, in the winter, they had to be fed hay and corn because there was not enough grass. Ranchers needed cowboys to help them with the animals. Cowboys enjoyed working with animals. However, they had to go out in all kinds of weather to feed and water the animals. Caring for the cattle, horses, and sheep was the hardest part of running a ranch.

Many of today's ranches are much smaller. Today, ranchers use machines to do a lot of the work. It is sad that our country no longer has very many large ranches with lots of cowboys.

**Turn the page.**

Answer the questions below.

**1** Which of these sentences tells a fact?

- Ranching was always a great way to make lots of money.
- Not long ago, there were many large farms called ranches.
- The best thing about ranching was living on the open land.

**2** Which of these sentences tells an opinion?

- Ranchers owned cattle, sheep, and horses that other people could buy.
- Cattle, horses, and sheep eat grass during the summer.
- Caring for the animals was the hardest part of running a ranch.

**3** What detail from the passage supports the idea that ranching is hard work?

- They could be left alone to eat and drink until they were big enough to sell.
- Today, ranchers use machines to do a lot of the work.
- However, they had to go out in all kinds of weather to feed and water the animals.

**4** What is the author's opinion about cowboys?

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**5** What is the author's opinion about how ranches have changed?

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Common Core State Standards

Questions 1–2: **Informational Text 1.** Ask and answer such questions as *who*, *what*, *where*, *when*, *why*, and *how* to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text. **Questions 3–5: Informational Text 6.** Identify the main purpose of a text, including what the author wants to answer, explain, or describe. **Informational Text 8.** Describe how reasons support specific points the author makes in a text.