"The Snake That's Eating Florida" Quiz

Directions: Read the paired texts "The Snake That's Eating Florida" and "Tracking Pythons" in the March/April 2020 issue of *Storyworks*. Then fill in the bubble next to the best answer for each question below.

1. Which of the following is NOT a reason Burmese pythons became popular pets?
Ⓐ They were cheap.
Ⓑ They can grow to be more than 20 feet long.
Ⓒ They aren't venomous or aggressive to humans.
Ⓓ Many people think baby pythons are cute.

2. Which line best explains why pythons have thrived in Florida?
Ⓐ "The climate is ideal for pythons."
Ⓑ "In many areas of the U.S., an abandoned snake would die of cold or starvation."
Ⓒ "Pythons were first spotted in Everglades National Park in the mid-1990s."
Ⓓ "Many people end up setting their snakes loose in the wild."

3. The sidebar on pages 17-18 shows . . .
Ⓐ how scientists are fighting pests.
Ⓑ how other invasive species are damaging ecosystems.
Ⓒ which invasive species cause the most harm.
Ⓓ the pros and cons of invasive species.

4. Burmese pythons are the "kings and queens of the Everglades" because they . . .
Ⓐ can't be tamed.
Ⓑ are well-liked in the area.
Ⓒ can control what other animals do.
Ⓓ eat many animals but no animal eats them.

5. The article says that Burmese pythons have adapted to the environment in the Everglades. What's another word for *adapted*?
Ⓐ moved
Ⓑ improved
Ⓒ escaped
Ⓓ adjusted

6. It's difficult for snake scientists to find pythons in the Everglades because the snakes are . . .
Ⓐ good at hiding.
Ⓑ small.
Ⓒ fast.
Ⓓ underground.

7. Which line from the first article supports your answer to question 6?
Ⓐ "Burmese pythons breed quickly and easily."
Ⓑ "The snakes' green and brown scales help them blend into the wetlands . . ."
Ⓒ "They eat large quantities of almost anything . . ."
Ⓓ "But then these adorable hatchlings grow."

8. Both articles . . .
Ⓐ blame pythons for damaging the ecosystem.
Ⓑ are told from a first-person perspective.
Ⓒ explain the damage that pythons are causing to an ecosystem.
Ⓓ explain what's being done to fight the python crisis.

Constructed Response

Directions: On a separate piece of paper, write your answer to each question in a well-organized response. Make sure you support your answers with information and details from the articles.

9. How do invasive species cause harm? Support your answer using the Burmese python as an example.

10. Are humans to blame for the python problem in the Everglades? Explain your answer with details from both articles.

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