

## Sam Cota Worksheet 2.4 My Family Testing Advantages in re Europe & the World

Sources for your study for your standardized tests include every resource around you, like family members, friends, books, artifacts, the internet, teachers. Not only that, this research will help you to add to and sharpen up your Family Canon .

### 1) What is a short story from Worksheet One

**My Mother was born in the United States, and was fluent in English, the Belumat dialect and Italian. Because her father and mother had been here for so many years, they spoke an older version of Belumat. When she went to visit in Italy, they thought it was so amusing that she spoke like the old people and not like the young ones. She got engaged to my father there, and sometimes they spoke in the newer version, in Italian, but mostly in English because he learned it very fast (like Morse Code).**

### 2) Pick one fact from this story.

**My Mother and Father both spoke the Belumat dialect of the Italian Alps, English and Italian.**

### 3) Choose a single word or term that is important to the story.

**Italy**

### 4) Go to a test-question bank<sup>1</sup> site <sup>2</sup> and look it up. Try answering any questions

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<sup>1</sup> Go to "If You Want to Go Straight to the Tests" in "By Way of Introduction"

<sup>2</sup> The questions below are from a Massachusetts (MCAS) Test Bank that is a few years old (<http://www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/search/>). When these were used, Wheelock College had permission from Superintendent David Driscoll as secured to Dean Donna McKibbens for use in any teacher testing preparation. This arrangement is now likely moot, and copyright is, as it was then, to © Copyright 1998 - 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. or its affiliate(s). All rights reserved Now many of these are collected on the [MCAS Resource Center](#). Any of these questions are illustrative of what the search term "building" will bring up on multiple tests across the land.

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that you find.<sup>3</sup>

**This came up:**

**There are no questions matching your selected criteria.**

- You may have selected a subject/grade combination for which the MCAS is not offered. [View a list of the tests administered by grade and year.](#)
- You may have searched for questions that are not yet available in the database.
- You may have searched for questions that have been removed from the database (the Department makes released MCAS test questions available online for five years only).
- Your criteria may be too narrow; try a broader search.

*Keep track of your studies. Do so in any way you wish, but do it. You'll be glad.*

**Nothing to Keep track of.**

**5) Interconnected terms will come up as you search. Add them to your (re)collection.<sup>4</sup>**

### Europe

**I selected a more inclusive word about where Italy is, that is, the continent where Italy is located. Two questions are on evolution and biodiversity of two European species. One is about how living things adapt to the environment, which is tangentially related to issues about living in Italy vs. the U.S. at the time my father emigrated, as resources were not plentiful after the war, and he was severely malnourished when he was a teenager. Another seemed relevant**

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<sup>3</sup> Unlike 'sample test' items, some or all "released items" are available after students have taken that season's tests, making this a goldmine for those preparing for them. All sites have answers, best found on the searchable sites. In this worksheet are most of the MCAS released items over the whole course of this particular timeframe. They were searched in terms of seasons, grade-levels, and topics. (Questions below are usually given in rough relationship to grade level, but don't get hung-up there as all age-levels are useful as you build or rebuild your knowledge.) On the website you can see the answers (see "show answer" below for what to look for. You also have "see student work" examples at different levels of ability. Click in "View Student Work" to see some of those.

<sup>4</sup> Some words yield a little, some a lot. Play around with versions of the word. If you don't find any questions to words you choose, you can experiment with any other stories that are familiar to you from your own life and times. As you get more familiar with the databanks, you will start to see the types of words that yield lots of questions. Enjoy the hunt for more things you know, never knew you wanted to know, need to know, and now can find out.

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because it was about learning to understand international visual symbols as a way to navigate environments with people who speak many languages. That is really the only major new topic. It is also from the "science and technology/engineering" standards.

6) Keep going until you are done, or want to change it up, or can't find anything else. Then, go to another Worksheet 2. Do not rinse. Repeat.

Continent 8 questions

North America 5 questions

I put all the questions together below.

Next, I hit the jackpot with 60 questions on travel.

This is fascinating array of sciences (physics, technology), mathematics and one oddly linked question from English. Many do use example of people traveling, and the gas the use, the mileage they will claim, the length of flight... Now I realize that some areas I'm being tested on do not feature the main arc of our family life-trajectory but I am expert in the Globe, which I study all the time by myself and with my Dad.

Also, Geography has 10: see this link.

<http://www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/search/default.aspx?YearCode=%25&GradeID=%25&QuestionTypeCode=%25&QuestionSetID=All&FrameworkCode=&Strand=&Standard=&KeywordVal=geogra&ReportingCategoryCode=&ShowReportingCategory=&originalpage=1&allowCalculator=&page=1&mode=&answers=&questionanswer=&removeQuestionID=&unreleased=no&intro=no&FormSubmitted=yes>

and the World has 16.

A lot aren't included here, but you see where they would go on Worksheet 3: My Family Resources are Everywhere.

Questions on Europe, Continent, North America

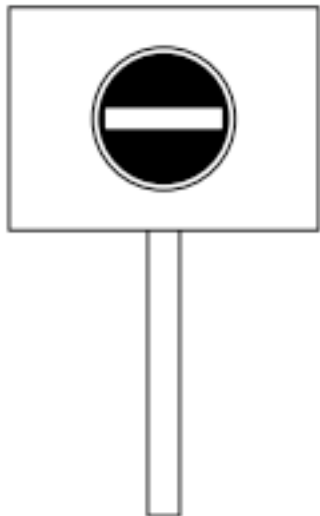
2012 Spring Release, Science and Technology/Engineering - Grade 8

 **Question 18: Multiple-Choice**

**Reporting Category:** Technology/Engineering

**Standard:** 3.4 - Identify and explain how symbols and icons (e.g., international symbols and graphics) are used to communicate a message.

The international highway symbol for “No Entry” is shown on the sign below.



Which of the following is the **most** important reason why this symbol is used on roads throughout Europe?

- A. Symbols take up less space on a sign than words.
- B. European countries have many different languages.
- C. Small children can understand symbols better than words.
- D. One factory can make signs used by many European countries.

**State Average = 75%**

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2016 February  
Biology, Biology -  
High School

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 **Question 24:  
Multiple-Choice**

## Sam Cota Worksheet 2.4 My Family Testing Advantages in re Europe & the World

**Reporting Category:** Ecology

**Standard:** 6.1 - Explain how birth, death, immigration, and emigration influence population size.

Cowbirds are birds that lay their eggs in the nests of smaller birds such as warblers. The cowbird eggs develop quickly and usually hatch first. As a result, the larger cowbird chicks get most of the food and may push the smaller warbler chicks out of the nest. The warbler parent birds do not seem to know that the cowbird chicks are different from their own offspring.

The original range of the cowbirds' habitat was limited to the Midwest prairies. Today, cowbirds are found in all states in the continental United States.

Which of the following describes the most likely way that the expansion of the cowbirds' range has affected warblers?

- A. Warbler population sizes have decreased.
- B. Warbler eggs have become larger in size.
- C. Warblers have increased their birth rates.
- D. Warblers have become less protective of their nests.

[Show Answer](#)

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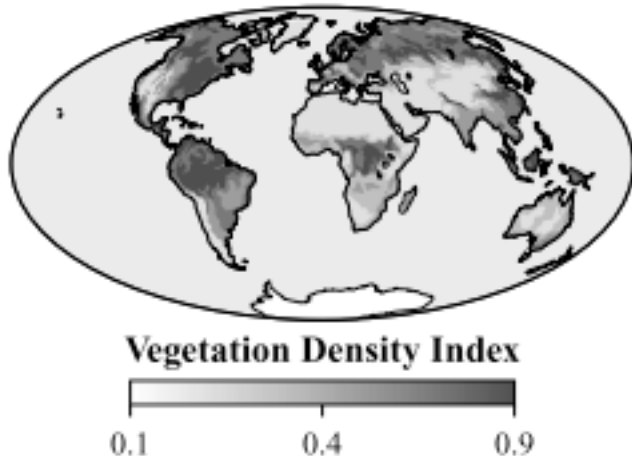
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 **Question 41:  
Multiple-Choice**

**Reporting Category:** Ecology

**Standard:** 6.4 - Explain how water, carbon, and nitrogen cycle between abiotic resources and organic matter in an ecosystem, and how oxygen cycles through photosynthesis and respiration.

Scientists use satellite data to produce images such as the one below, showing the density of plants across Earth's different land areas. Scientists study these images to determine how plant density changes during a year. They can then use this information to help predict carbon dioxide concentrations in the atmosphere in different locations and at different times of the year.



Which of the following **best** explains why scientists can predict carbon dioxide concentrations from plant density data?

- A. Plants add carbon dioxide to the atmosphere during germination.
- B. Plants add carbon dioxide to the atmosphere during transpiration.
- C. Plants remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere during photosynthesis.
- D. Plants remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere during cellular respiration.

[Show Answer](#)

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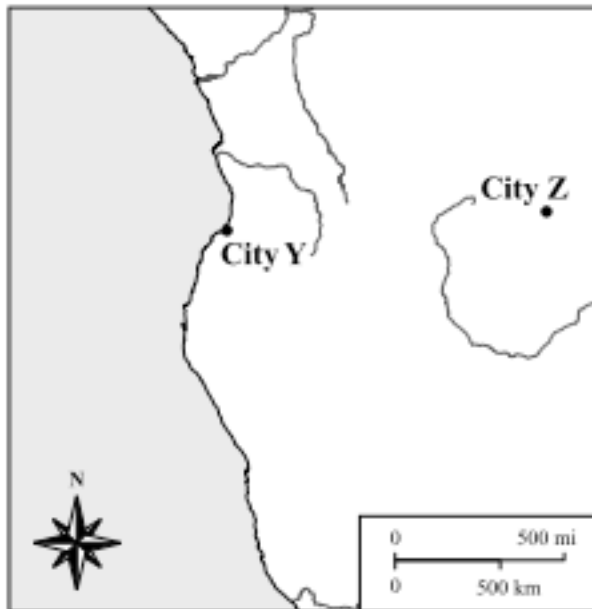
 **Question 4:  
Multiple-Choice**

**Reporting Category:** Earth and Space Science

**Standard:** 4 - Explain the relationship among the energy provided by the sun, the global patterns of atmospheric movement, and the temperature differences among water, land, and atmosphere.

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The map below shows the locations of two cities. City Y is near the coast, and city Z is near the middle of a continent. The cities have the same elevation.



Based on the map, which of the following statements describes how the climates of the two cities are **most likely** different?

- A. City Y receives less rain than city Z.
- B. City Y has colder winters than city Z.
- C. City Y has cooler summers than city Z.
- D. City Y receives more sunlight than city Z.

[Show Answer](#)

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**2015 Spring  
Release, Science  
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 **Question 15:  
Multiple-Choice**

**Reporting Category:** Earth and Space Science

**Standard:** 5 - Describe how the movement of the earth's crustal plates causes both slow changes in the earth's surface (e.g., formation of mountains and ocean basins) and rapid ones (e.g., volcanic eruptions and earthquakes).

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The pictures below show the estimated locations of landmasses on Earth 225 million years ago and their present day locations.

**225 Million Years Ago**



**Present Day**



Which of the following processes caused the breakup and relocation of the landmasses over time?

- A. tectonic plate motion
- B. strong ocean currents
- C. erosion and sedimentation
- D. volcanic eruptions and weathering

[Show Answer](#)

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 **Question 45:  
Open-Response**

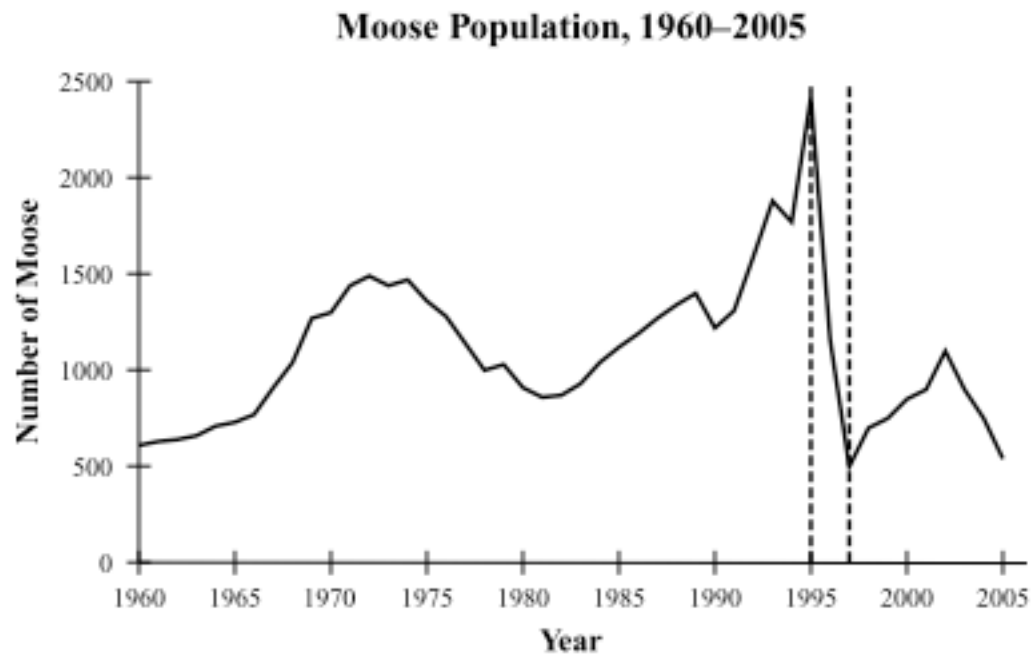
**Reporting Category:** Ecology

**Standard:** 6.1 - Explain how birth, death, immigration, and emigration influence population size.



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Lake Superior is on the northern border of the continental United States. The graph below shows changes in the size of the moose population on an island in Lake Superior from 1960 to 2005. The island is in a remote location several miles off the northwest shore of the lake.



- Explain why immigration and emigration are **not** likely to have an effect on the size of the island's moose population.
- Describe what happened to the size of the island's moose population from 1995 to 1997, **and** describe how the birth rate and the death rate must have compared during this time.
- Identify **two** different natural factors that could have contributed to the change in moose population size you described in part (b).
- Explain why **each** of the factors you identified in part (c) contributed to the change in moose population size.

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 **Question 4:  
Multiple-Choice**

**Reporting Category:** Evolution and Biodiversity

**Standard:** 5.2 - Describe species as reproductively distinct groups of organisms. Recognize that species are further classified into a hierarchical taxonomic system (kingdom, phylum, class, order, family, genus, species) based on morphological,

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*behavioral, and molecular similarities. Describe the role that geographic isolation can play in speciation.*

At one time, all the continents on Earth were joined in a supercontinent called Pangaea. Over time Pangaea split into separate continents.

Which of the following statements describes a result of this split?

- A. All fossil evidence of species from Pangaea was lost.
- B. Organisms on the separated continents no longer migrated for breeding.
- C. Ancestral organisms evolved into different species on the separated continents.
- D. Evolution in species proceeded more slowly on the separate continents than it had on Pangaea.

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#### **Question 5:** **Multiple-Choice**

**Reporting Category:** Language

**Topic:** 4 - Vocabulary and Concept Development

**Standard:** CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.L.4 - Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases by using context clues, analyzing meaningful word parts, and consulting general and specialized reference materials, as appropriate.

#### **View Reading Selection**

Read the sentence from paragraph 3 in the box below.

Bottled water is often shipped long distances to reach consumers, sometimes transcontinentally.

In the word *transcontinentally*, the prefix *trans-* means

- A. nearly.
- B. across.
- C. toward.

D. beneath.

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**2012 Spring  
Release, Science  
and Technology/  
Engineering -  
Grade 5**

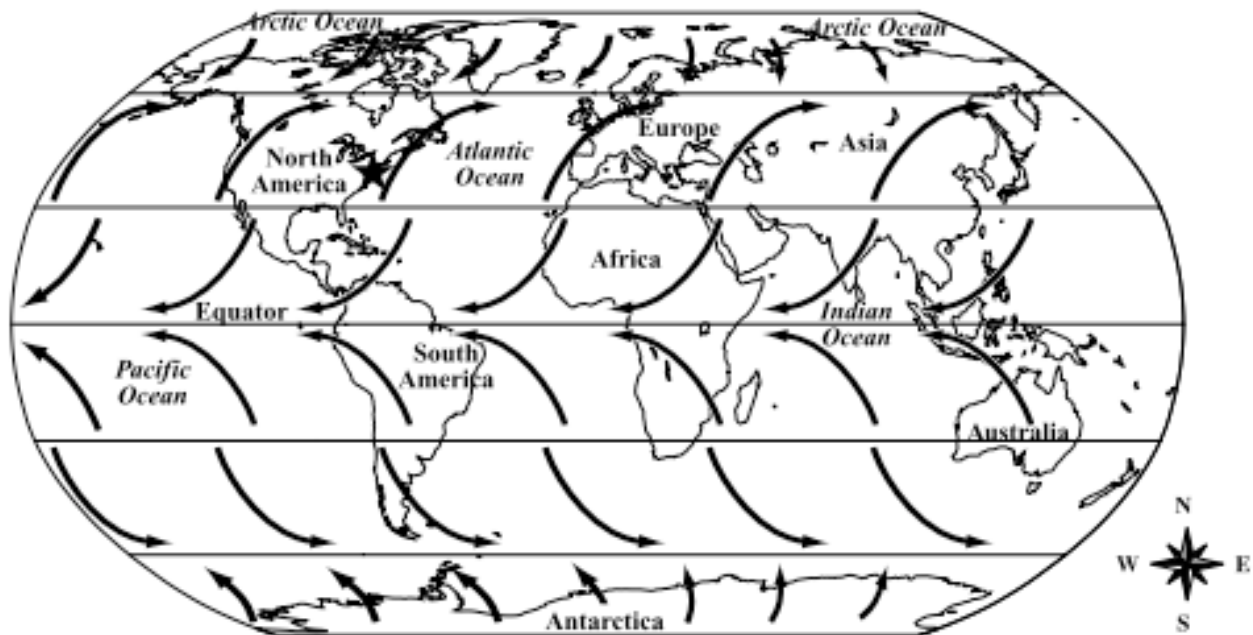
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 **Question 14:  
Multiple-Choice**

**Reporting Category:** Earth and Space Science

**Standard:** 8 - Describe how global patterns such as the jet stream and water currents influence local weather in measurable terms such as temperature, wind direction and speed, and precipitation.

The map below shows global wind patterns. The east coast of the United States is marked with a star.



Global winds blow in the directions shown on the map. Winds blowing from the east coast of the United States have the **most** effect on the weather in which of the following regions?

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- A. Africa
- B. Asia
- C. Europe
- D. South America

[Show Answer](#)

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**2011 Spring  
Release,  
Mathematics -  
Grade 10**

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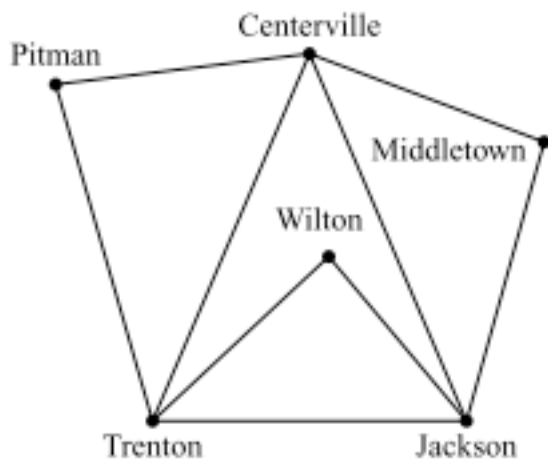
 **Question 28:  
Multiple-Choice**

**Reporting Category:** Geometry

**Standard:** 10.G.11 - Use vertex-edge graphs to model and solve problems.



The diagram below represents different connecting routes an airplane pilot can take to travel from one city to another.



An airplane will fly from Middletown to Wilton. The pilot of the airplane wants to stop in no more than 2 cities between Middletown and Wilton.

How many different ways can the pilot fly from Middletown to Wilton?

- A. 1
- B. 2

C. 3

D. 4

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**2013 Spring  
Release, English  
Language Arts -  
Grade 7**

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 **Question 2:  
Multiple-Choice**

**Reporting Category:** Reading

**Topic:** 13 - Nonfiction

**Standard:** CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.R.8 - Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, including the validity of the reasoning as well as the relevance and sufficiency of the evidence.

 **View Reading Selection**

Which of the following examples is the **most** similar to the way people in medieval times prepared to travel at night?

- A. A blind person memorizes the location of the furniture in her home.
- B. A person fills up her car with gas before driving to her night job.
- C. A hiker brings a sleeping bag with him during a nighttime hike.
- D. A person researches the history of a town he is going to.

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 **Question 32:  
Open-Response**

**Reporting Category:** Evolution and Biodiversity

**Standard:** 5.2 - Describe species as reproductively distinct groups of organisms. Recognize that species are further classified into a hierarchical taxonomic system (kingdom, phylum, class, order, family, genus, species) based on morphological,

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The table below gives the common names, scientific names, and known geographic locations of several wild cats.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Main Geographic Location(s)
African lion	<i>Panthera leo</i>	Africa
Bengal tiger	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, Nepal
Cheetah	<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i>	Africa
Indochinese tiger	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	Thailand, Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Vietnam
Leopard	<i>Panthera pardus</i>	Africa, China, India
Ocelot	<i>Leopardus pardalis</i>	South America, Central America
Sumatran tiger	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	island of Sumatra

Using their common names, identify **all** the wild cats listed in the table that belong to the same genus.

Identify **and** explain one type of evidence scientists could have used to classify these wild cats.

The three kinds of tigers listed in the table are all classified as one species.

- Based on the information in the table, identify which kind of tiger has the greatest chance of becoming a separate species. Explain your answer.
- Describe how scientists could determine if one of the kinds of tigers becomes a separate species.

[Show Answer](#)

And so on....