

Skills Worksheet

Active Reading**Section: The Importance of Classification**

Read the passage below. Then answer the questions that follow.

Linnaeus worked out a broad system of classification for plants and animals in which an organism's form and structure are the basis for arranging specimens in a collection. He later organized the genera and species that he described into a ranked system of groups that increase in inclusiveness. The different groups into which organisms are classified have expanded since Linnaeus's time and now consist of eight levels.

Similar genera are grouped into a family. Similar families are combined into an order. Orders with common properties are united in a class. Classes with similar characteristics are assigned to a phylum. Similar phyla are collected into a kingdom. Similar kingdoms are grouped into domains. All living things are grouped into one of three domains. Two domains, Archaea and Bacteria, are each composed of a single kingdom of prokaryotes. The third domain, Eukarya, contains all four kingdoms of eukaryotes.

SKILL: READING EFFECTIVELY

Read each question, and write your answer in the space provided.

1. What did Linnaeus use as the basis for classifying organisms in a collection?

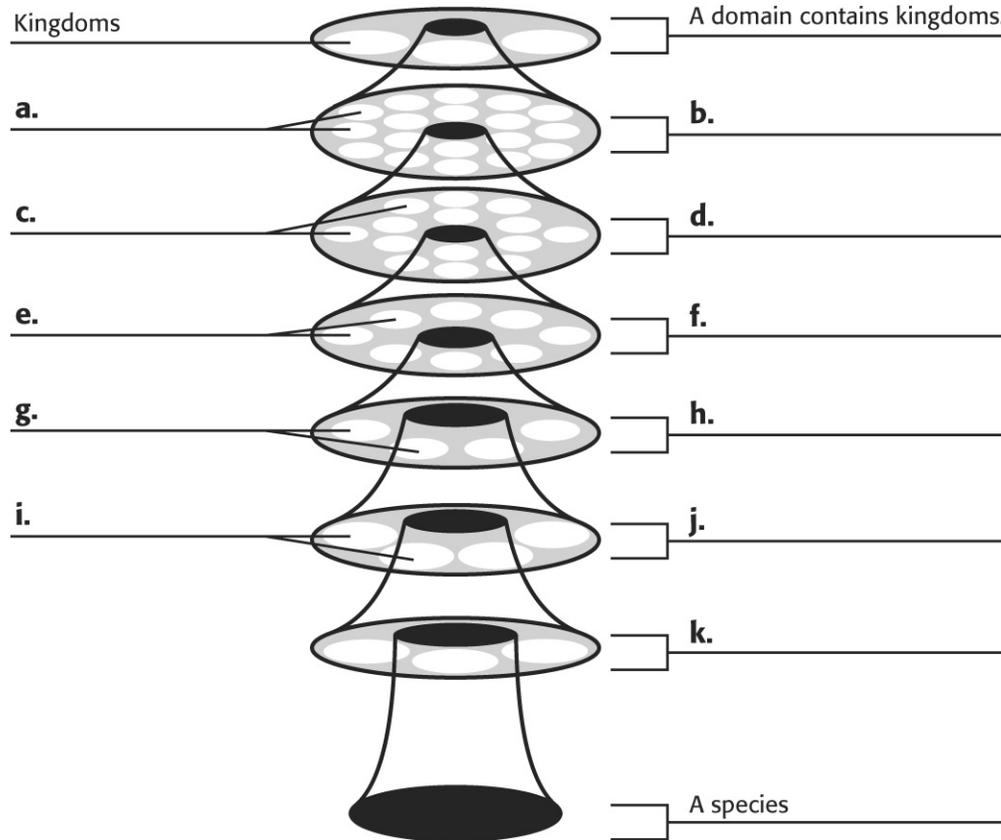
2. The second sentence of this passage states that Linnaeus described a "ranked system of groups that increase in inclusiveness." What does this mean?

3. How many kingdoms exist in the modern system of classification? What are they?

Active Reading *continued*

SKILL: INTERPRETING GRAPHICS

4. The figure below shows the eight levels of the classification system. Using the information contained in the passage, insert the correct label in the space provided on the left side of the figure. On the right side of the figure, compose a sentence that describes the level. Use a separate sheet of paper if necessary. The first one has been done for you.



An analogy is a comparison. In the space provided, write the letter of the term that best completes the analogy.

- _____ 5. Class is to order as order is to
- a. kingdom.
 - b. species.
 - c. phylum.
 - d. families.