South Carolina Sample Questions 2nd Grade Language Arts

"Blame It on the Wings"

- 1 Where did hummingbirds get their name? Blame it on the wings. These tiny birds fly so fast their wings look like a blur. Hummingbird wings beat about 70 times every second. As the wings flap, they make a humming sound, giving the little birds their name.
- 2 Those wings also help hummingbirds in other ways. Hummingbirds can fly in any direction they want. They can go straight up or down, backwards or forwards. They can even fly upside down. These wings also allow hummingbirds to fly a long way. Some have flown hundreds of miles from the United States to Mexico for the winter months.
- 3 These little birds come in many sizes. The smallest hummingbird weighs the same as two paper clips. The largest weighs about the same as 10 pennies. Even though hummingbirds are small, their size has never stopped them as their wings make them some of the most amazing birds in the sky.

1. What is the central idea of the passage?

- **A** Hummingbirds have flown from the United States to Mexico.
- **B** Hummingbirds' wings help them fly upside down.
- **C** Hummingbirds' wings make a humming sound.
- **D** Hummingbirds are special birds with wings that can do amazing things.

2. According to the passage, which statement is correct?

- **A** Hummingbirds are the fastest birds in nature.
- **B** Hummingbirds can fly in any direction.
- **C** Hummingbirds have wings that beat over 100 times every second.
- **D** Hummingbirds can fly for 70 hours without stopping.

3. What does the word blur mean in paragraph 1?

- **A** a tool used for mixing ingredients
- **B** a bird with long wings
- **C** an object that is difficult to see clearly
- **D** an animal that is tired

4. What causes the humming sound of a hummingbird?

- **A** The humming sound of a hummingbird is made by the wings flapping so fast.
- **B** The humming sound of a hummingbird is made by the hummingbird's beak.
- **C** The humming sound of a hummingbird is made when the hummingbird sings.
- **D** The humming sound of a hummingbird is made when it flies upside down.