Follow the Evidence

Use a source to write about hatchlings without copying it.

7.RL.27 "Quote, paraphrase, summarize, and present findings, following an appropriate citation style and avoiding plagiarism."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one short phrase you might quote, circle two details you could paraphrase, and number the paragraphs to plan a summary. Your marks will help you use the article's ideas in your own writing.

The Wrong Way to the Sea

1. On a moonlit beach, a sea turtle hatchling pushes through the sand and heads toward the ocean. The water's open horizon is often brighter than the dunes behind it. Hatchlings use this brightness as one clue for finding the sea. Porch lights, hotel windows, and streetlamps can compete with that natural glow. A hatchling that moves inland may lose time and energy before it reaches the water. It also faces dangers, such as roads and predators, that it might have avoided by moving toward the surf.

2. Light is not the only challenge on a nesting beach. A beach chair left near a nest can block a small turtle's path. Holes dug in the sand can trap hatchlings, and deep footprints can make their trip harder. Many coastal communities ask visitors to take their gear home and fill holes before leaving. These actions do not guarantee that every hatchling will survive, but they remove obstacles people can control. A clear stretch of sand gives hatchlings a better chance to reach the water without a human-made detour.

3. Some communities protect nesting beaches by using shielded outdoor lights that point downward. Others encourage residents to close curtains after dark. Rules vary by location, so visitors should check local guidance rather than assume every beach has the same policy. A person who sees a hatchling can give it space instead of picking it up or shining a phone light at it. Keeping a beach dark and clear helps hatchlings follow their own route. Source record for this article: 'The Wrong Way to the Sea,' Classroom Research Text, 2026.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Quote the sentence in paragraph 1 that compares the horizon with the dunes. Add a citation using the article's title.

2. Paraphrase the paragraph 3 idea about beach rules in your own words. Add a citation.

3. Summarize the main point of paragraph 2 in one sentence of your own words. Add a citation.

4. A student copied this sentence without quotation marks: "Porch lights, hotel windows, and streetlamps can compete with that natural glow." Rewrite the idea in your own words and cite the article.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-sentence notice for beach visitors. Summarize a danger hatchlings face, quote a short phrase from paragraph 3 about how to behave, and recommend one specific visitor action. Cite the article after both the summary and the quotation.

ANSWER KEY # Follow the Evidence

GRADE 7 · 7.RL.27

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one short phrase you might quote, circle two details you could paraphrase, and number the paragraphs to plan a summary. Your marks will help you use the article's ideas in your own writing. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Quote the sentence in paragraph 1 that compares the horizon with the dunes. Add a citation using the article's title.	**"The water's open horizon is often brighter than the dunes behind it" ("The Wrong Way to the Sea").**
2	Paraphrase the paragraph 3 idea about beach rules in your own words. Add a citation.	**Because beach rules differ by place, visitors should check the guidance for the beach they visit ("The Wrong Way to the Sea").**
3	Summarize the main point of paragraph 2 in one sentence of your own words. Add a citation.	**People can clear obstacles from nesting beaches to help hatchlings reach the water, though this cannot ensure their survival ("The Wrong Way to the Sea").**
4	A student copied this sentence without quotation marks: "Porch lights, hotel windows, and streetlamps can compete with that natural glow." Rewrite the idea in your own words and cite the article.	**Lights from buildings and roads can make it harder for hatchlings to follow the natural glow toward the sea ("The Wrong Way to the Sea").**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Hatchlings that wander inland can face roads and predators before reaching the ocean ("The Wrong Way to the Sea"). If you spot one, "give it space" ("The Wrong Way to the Sea"). Keep your phone light off and let the hatchling move on its own.

Accept accurate wording that keeps the source's meaning and uses quotation marks for exact words. Citations should identify the article by title.