

Night Hunter Notes

Analyze central ideas, compare and contrast, and text features in an informational text.

4.9 "Multiple genres: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts--genres. The student recognizes and analyzes genre-specific characteristics, structures..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

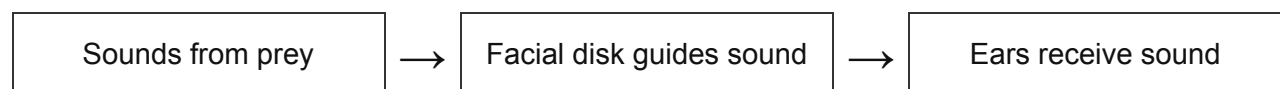
1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline a sentence in paragraph 1 that states its central idea. Circle compare-and-contrast words in paragraph 2. Box the pronunciation guide; trace the printed sound-flow arrows with your pencil.

How Owls Hunt

- ① Owls have body parts that help them find food in dim light. Large eyes help them use the light that is available. A ring of feathers called a facial disk guides sounds toward the ears. A barn owl can locate small prey by listening. Its hearing is useful when leaves or darkness make an animal difficult to see.
- ② Owls and hawks both use sharp talons to catch prey. However, many hawks hunt in daylight and rely on sharp eyesight. Many owls hunt after dark and use both sight and hearing. Quiet flight also helps many owls listen for prey without loud wing noise. These are common patterns, not rules for every owl or hawk.
- ③ The diagram below traces one route that sound takes toward an owl's ears. Read its labels from left to right, following the arrows. It is a flow diagram, not a picture of an owl's body. The pronunciation guide talon /TAL-un/ helps you say the word for a bird's sharp claw. Such features give information in a different form from the paragraphs.

INCOMING SOUND: A SIMPLIFIED ROUTE



Follow each arrow from left to right. The feathers guide incoming sound toward the ears.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What is the central idea of paragraph 1?

2 Which two details support that central idea?

3 How is paragraph 2 organized? Give a similarity and a difference.

4 What does following the diagram's arrows help you understand? How does /TAL-un/ help in a different way?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Use these facts: rabbits have fur and eat plants; owls have feathers and eat other animals; both breathe air. Write a three-sentence comparison for a younger reader: a central idea, a similarity and a difference. Add the separate pronunciation guide for talon from the passage. Explain to a partner how that guide helps a reader differently from a flow diagram.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline a sentence in paragraph 1 that states its central idea. Circle compare-and-contrast words in paragraph 2. Box the pronunciation guide; trace the printed sound-flow arrows with your pencil. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the central idea of paragraph 1?	Owls have body parts that help them find food in dim light.
2	Which two details support that central idea?	Large eyes help owls use available light, and the facial disk guides sound toward the ears. Also accept the barn owl using hearing to locate prey.
3	How is paragraph 2 organized? Give a similarity and a difference.	It compares and contrasts owls and hawks. Both use sharp talons. Many hawks hunt by day, while many owls hunt after dark using sight and hearing.
4	What does following the diagram's arrows help you understand? How does /TAL-un/ help in a different way?	The arrows show sound from prey being guided by the facial disk toward the ears. The pronunciation guide helps the reader say talon; it does not show the sound route.

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Rabbits and owls are animals with different coverings and foods. Both breathe air. Rabbits have fur and eat plants, while owls have feathers and eat other animals.

Pronunciation guide: talon /TAL-un/.

Illustrative explanation: The guide helps me say a word, while the diagram shows the route that sounds take toward the ears.

This focused worksheet targets informational structure, central idea, comparison and text features within the broader 4.9 standard. Accept an accurate central-idea sentence and supported comparisons with qualifiers such as many. Observe the partner explanation; the transfer has three comparison sentences plus a separately labeled pronunciation guide. The arrows show a simplified route of incoming sound, not anatomy or light emitted by eyes. Sources for teacher reference: Cornell Lab, Great Horned Owl overview (allaboutbirds.org/guide/Great_Horned_Owl/overview), American Barn Owl overview (allaboutbirds.org/guide/Barn_Owl), and Evolution and Ecology of Silent Flight (pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC7671161/).