

WRITING FACTS AND PHENOMENA

When you describe facts and phenomena, use the **simple present tense**. Write in clear and accurate sentences.

Explain the following phenomena. Use the **helping words** provided.

1

Hibernation of the bear



heart rate
slow down
body temperature
autumn to spring
diminish
store fat
thin and hungry
supply of food

2

The rainbow after the rain



colour spectrum
horizon
prism
drops of water
refraction of light
opposite the sun
formation

3

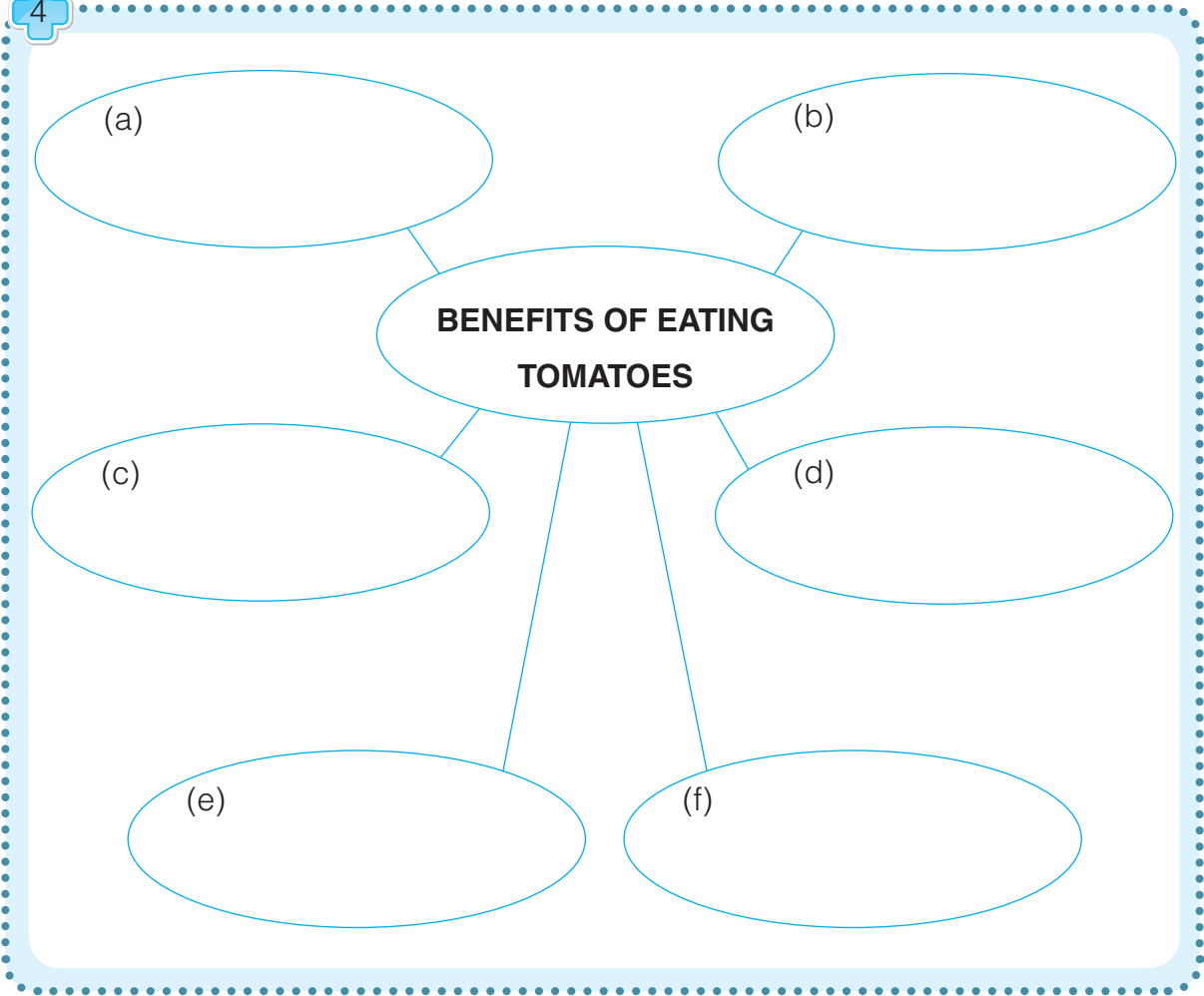
The steam over a cooking pot



condensation
evaporation
water droplets
cool
'mist'
boiling point
liquid

Complete the graphical organizer on the health benefits of eating tomatoes.

4



Now, write a short paragraph listing the benefits of eating tomatoes to a group of health-conscious people.

Write a **paragraph** for each subject matter. Be as **descriptive** as possible by using **adjectives**.

▶ Example

How does a trapdoor spider catch its prey?

Trapdoor spiders live in the tropics. They can also be found in parts of the United States and Europe. Trapdoor spiders are smart. Unlike a common spider which spins a web on plants or trees, a trapdoor spider makes a home in the ground. It covers the entrance of its home with silk. Avoiding suspicion, it covers the silk door with debris and dirt. When the unsuspecting prey walks over it, it becomes trapped. It thus becomes a meal for the spider.

5

How do cacti survive in a desert?

6

Why are trees and grass planted on the slopes of hills?

ANSWERS TO WRITING FACTS AND PHENOMENA

1. The bear is active from spring to autumn. It eats a lot to build up its body weight by accumulating fat. Then in winter, it can go into hibernation. The bear hibernates during this period as it is difficult for it to find food. During this time, it retreats into its cave and sleeps. It does not eat during this period. Its heart rate slows down and its body temperature decreases when it sleeps. It stays alive by relying on the food that it has eaten before hibernating. The bear becomes thin and hungry by the time the winter season is over. The hibernation period is a way that the bear adapts to the harsh conditions that it lives in.
2. Many people look forward to looking at the beautiful and colourful rainbow after the rain. The colours of the rainbow are violet, indigo, blue, green, yellow, orange and red. The rainbow is formed when sunlight passes through rain or other forms of water droplets in the air. The water droplets act like a prism when light is refracted through them. This refraction of light separates the sunlight into the different colours that we see on the rainbow. The rainbow is always in the opposite direction of the sun. When we look at the horizon, we can often see this wonderful rainbow.
3. When water boils, evaporation takes place and water changes to steam. We cannot see steam as it is a gas. Once this gas comes into contact with the cooler air around it, it will lose heat and condensation takes place. As a result of condensation, steam turns to mist and that is what we see above that pot of boiling water.
4. (a) Tomatoes contain lycopene, which is an antioxidant that helps to reduce the risk of cancer.
(b) Both canned and fresh tomatoes are equally nutritional because tomatoes do not lose their nutritional qualities even if they are cooked.
(c) Tomatoes are a good source of vitamin C, which increases our immunity against colds and infections.
(d) Tomatoes are a good source of vitamin A, which improves our eyesight and fights off viral infections.
(e) Tomatoes are a good source of fibre, which maintains healthy cholesterol levels and facilitates bowel movements.
(f) Tomatoes are a good source of potassium, niacin, vitamin B6 and folate, which can reduce the risk of heart disease.

We can gain many benefits from eating tomatoes. They have been known to contain compounds that are beneficial in the prevention of fatal illnesses like cancer and heart disease. Unlike other types of food, the tomato does not lose its nutritional qualities when it is cooked. Both canned and fresh tomatoes can be eaten without worrying about any loss in the nutritional value. The most important benefit of eating tomatoes is that it contains lycopene, which acts as an antioxidant to help prevent cancer. In fact, when the tomato is cooked and oil enters the tomato, lycopene is more fully released. The tomato is also a good source of vitamin C, which helps to increase a person's immunity against infections and colds. It also contains vitamin A, which helps to improve the eyesight and to fight off viral infections. The tomato also provides us with a good source of fibre to facilitate bowel movements and maintain healthy cholesterol levels. Being a good source of potassium, niacin, vitamin B6 and folate, the tomato reduces our risk of heart disease.

5. Cacti can be found in the hot and dry desert. They come in many different shapes and sizes. The cactus is able to survive effectively in an area that does not rain much as it does not require much water to survive. In fact, too much water will kill the cactus. The cactus is like a water bottle. It stores water in its fleshy and succulent stem. The skin of a cactus is also very tough and this prevents water from evaporating. The surface of the cactus can expand and contract to accommodate the accumulation of water. In addition, the cactus does not have any leaves. It therefore does not lose water as easily as the other plants. Although all cacti have flowers, the flowers bloom and wither within very short periods and this again prevents water from escaping through the petals.
6. Trees and grass are planted on the slopes of hills to prevent erosion and landslides. The purpose is to restore the vegetation to the hill slopes as quickly as possible. Another reason is to conserve the soil. When it rains, the top layer of the soil is prevented from flowing away. Heavy rain drops erode the soil, so the grass helps to absorb the shock by receiving the full impact of the rain drops.