

Name: _____

RI.3-4.3 Describe the relationship between a series of events in a text, using language that pertains to time, sequence and cause/effect.

AFRICAN ADVENTURE

Read the excerpt below from *African Critters* by Robert B. Haas. It describes something the photographer experienced after a long day of observing and photographing elephants on the African plains. Use the information in the passages to answer the questions.

As I undressed for bed that night, there were images of trunks and tusks and thick gray hides dancing in my head. I was just about to take a shower when I heard a loud gurgling sound coming from the small pool of water beside my deck. I peered through the sliding glass doors. There was a huge elephant just 10 feet away, guzzling down the water in the black of night!

One, by one, the other members of the herd joined him for a refreshing drink. The crowd soon swelled to over 20 elephants, each one dipping its trunk in the water. Several glanced up and stared at me with a quizzical look in their eyes. My heart was pounding! But the herd eventually moved on, and I wandered off to bed. As I lay there with my eyes wide open, I was filled with a strange emotion—more respect than fear, but certainly a strong dose of each.

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1 What would be a good title for these passages? _____

2 What time of day was it? _____ **Circle the phrases that give you that information.**

3 Why were the elephants there? _____

4 Where was the pool of water?

- a. a half mile away
- b. beside his deck
- c. in his bathroom

5 How was the author feeling when he saw 20 elephants just outside his door?

Underline the sentence that tells you how he felt.

6 Describe how Haas felt when the elephants moved on.

- a. sleepy
- b. sorry
- c. scared but respectful

