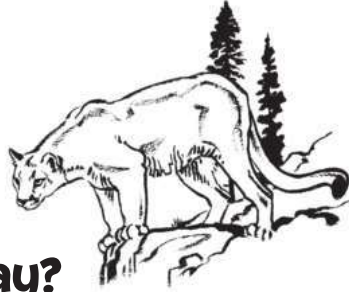




# Cougars



**Cougars**  
Independent Reading

## What's the Take-Away?

The main idea is the most important thing the paragraph says about the topic. All the other information in the paragraph is meant to support that main idea. Writers sometimes call the main idea the take-away. It is the one idea the author wants the reader to take away from the paragraph.

**Read the last paragraph on page 296. The main idea, or take-away, of this paragraph is that cougars have adapted to many different habitats. Find three details that support this take-away.**

Take-Away	Details
<b>Cougars have adapted to many different habitats.</b>	1. _____
	_____
	2. _____
	_____
	3. _____
	_____

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Lesson 10**  
READER'S NOTEBOOK

**Cougars**  
Independent Reading

Can you figure out the take-away by using details in the paragraph? Read the last paragraph on page 303. Write three details from the paragraph. Think about what these details are mostly about. Then write the take-away of the paragraph.

Details	Take-Away
1. _____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____ _____
2. _____ _____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____
3. _____ _____ _____	

# Shades of Meaning

**Cougars****Vocabulary Strategies:**  
Shades of Meaning

Rewrite each sentence, replacing the underlined word with the synonym in parentheses. Then identify the new word as weaker, stronger, or similar in meaning.

watched	shrieked	interesting	unfriendly	hurried
studied	tasty	fascinating	ate	walked
called	delicious	hostile	devoured	

1. The cougar watched its prey. (studied)  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. The bird called a warning. (shrieked)  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. The dessert was tasty. (delicious)  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. We found the cougars' behavior to be interesting. (fascinating)  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. The animals were hostile toward each other. (unfriendly)  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. The cougar ate the steak. (devoured)  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. The children hurried to the cougar exhibit. (walked)  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Proofreading for Spelling

Find the misspelled words and circle them. Write them correctly on the lines below.

The wolf, bear, and cougar are large North American predators. These animals have decreased over the years, even approaching the border of extinction. Bears can run 30 miles per hour. Imagine being a passenger in an express elevator and you'll get some sense of that speed. Cougars can run even faster and can leap up to 18 feet high. Wolves and cougars prey on other animals in the wild. Sometimes they might eat a domestic animal when their regular diet sources are scarce. While a rancher feels angry at this, others consider it a small price to pay for a healthy, balanced ecosystem, despite occasional thunder from a senator, congressman, or other pillar of the community. Wild predators aren't always popular, but they rarely threaten humans, having a natural, proper fear of people.

- |          |           |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 6. _____  |
| 2. _____ | 7. _____  |
| 3. _____ | 8. _____  |
| 4. _____ | 9. _____  |
| 5. _____ | 10. _____ |

**Cougars****Spelling:**

Final Schwa + /r/ Sounds

**Spelling Words**

1. cellar
2. flavor
3. cougar
4. chapter
5. mayor
6. anger
7. senator
8. passenger
9. major
10. popular
11. tractor
12. thunder
13. pillar
14. border
15. calendar
16. quarter
17. lunar
18. proper
19. elevator
20. bitter

**Challenge**

stellar  
clamor  
tremor  
circular  
adviser

# Direct Quotations

**Cougars****Grammar:** Direct Quotations and Interjections

A **direct quotation** presents the exact words of another writer or a speaker.

A direct quotation is enclosed in quotation marks. The first word of a direct quotation is capitalized. The end punctuation of a quotation (period, question mark, or exclamation point) appears before the ending quotation mark.

“Look out for cougars as you drive through the park!”

**Place a comma between other words in the sentence and the direct quotation.**

The ranger said, “Look out for cougars as you drive through the park.”

“Look out for cougars as you drive through the park,” the ranger said.

**Thinking Questions**

*Does the sentence give a speaker's exact words?  
How can I separate the exact words from the rest of the sentence?*

**Activity** Add quotation marks and commas where they are needed.

1. Uncle Robert exclaimed I would love to visit Big Bend National Park!
2. He said, This is one of the biggest desert areas in America!
3. I asked him Have you ever seen a mountain lion?
4. Rachel echoed, Did you ever, Uncle Robert?
5. He laughed. Yes, I have, and that was a great day!

**Place quotation marks where they are needed in the paragraph below.**

Uncle Robert said, When I was walking on Emory Peak, I saw a large animal running in the distance. I knew right away it was a cougar.

Rachel interrupted him, Weren't you scared?

Rachel is my baby sister, and sometimes we think alike.

Uncle Robert told us both to relax. Then he said, In this park, the cougars are not used to humans. They don't want to meet us either.

# Quotations from Text

**Cougars****Grammar:** Direct Quotations and Interjections

When you include parts of another text in your work, copy the words exactly and include any internal punctuation marks. Then enclose the quote in quotation marks.

**The Author's Words**

*The experience was a once-in-a-lifetime thrill.*

**Quoted Sentences**

**Use a comma and capitalize the first letter of the quotation.**

The ecologist wrote, “**T**he experience was a once-in-a-lifetime thrill.”

**Use *that* or *as* to introduce the quotation.**

The ecologist wrote that “the experience was a once-in-a-lifetime thrill.”

**Thinking Questions**

*What part of the text do I want to quote? How can I include it smoothly in my writing?*

**Complete each sentence with a quoted phrase or sentence taken from the direct quotation that follows it.**

1. The cougar might be called an antisocial animal, \_\_\_\_\_  
 (“The cougar is a solitary diner, preferring to eat alone.”)
2. The author describes the cougar’s leaping ability saying,  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (“Its legs are like compressed springs that propel it great distances.”)
3. Small animals even far away are not safe from the cougar, which is  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (“The cougar is favored with acute eyesight.”)
4. Unlike a cat, the purr of a cougar is \_\_\_\_\_ (“Its purr is deceptive.”)
5. Although they’re hard to spot, \_\_\_\_\_  
 (“Cougars populate much of North America.”)

# Interjections and Dialogue

**Cougars****Grammar:** Direct Quotations and Interjections

**Interjections** show strong feelings, such as urgency, disbelief, annoyance, pain, shock, or surprise. They usually appear at the beginning of sentences and include such words as *Hey*, *Ouch*, *Wow*, and *No way*. They are followed by exclamation points or commas.

**Interjection**

**Great!** My book on cougars is in at the library. (shows excitement, happiness)

**Split quotations** are direct quotes divided into two parts. Begin and end both parts of the quotation with quotation marks. Capitalize and punctuate the first part the same way as a regular quotation. Place a comma, a space, and quotation marks before the first word of the second part.

**Split Quotation**

“The cougar moves soundlessly and speedily,” said Ms. Smith, “giving it a great hunting advantage.”

**Thinking Questions**

*Which words tell who is speaking? Do they split the quotation, or come before or after it?*

**Add the missing punctuation to each sentence. Then identify the interjection and the emotion it expresses.**

1. Ouch! Your cat just scratched me, cried Julia, and I was only petting her!  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What! I can't even see a mark, replied Belle, even with my magnifying glass.  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Huh! I am just glad she isn't a cougar, moaned Julia, because then I would really be hurt!  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Oh, Julia, said Belle, do you really think you would be petting a cougar?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. All right! muttered Julia, I was just saying!  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Verb Tenses

**Cougars**  
Grammar: Spiral Review

**Time:** conveys past, present, or future

The cougar went to its *lair*. (*action verb*)

**Sequence:** conveys order of events

Read the book, and then we will discuss cougars. (*action verb; helping verb*)

**Condition:** conveys that one action or state of being depends on a condition being met

If the trackers catch a cougar, they will tag it. (*action verb; helping verb*)

**State:** conveys a subject's state of being

The cougar felt frightened without its mother. (*linking verb*)

**On the line following each sentence, tell if the verb or verbs express time, sequence, condition, or state.**

1. The cubs greedily drank the milk. \_\_\_\_\_
2. After they play, they will eat again. \_\_\_\_\_
3. If they go to the watering hole, they may fall in. \_\_\_\_\_
4. The mother cougar watches their moves carefully. \_\_\_\_\_
5. She feels anxious about their safety. \_\_\_\_\_

**Write one paragraph about cougars that shows verb tenses used to convey time, sequence, condition, and state.**

---

---

---

---

---



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Connect to Writing

**Cougars**  
Grammar: Connect to Writing

Incorrect	Correct
Oh, when can we see the snakes asked Jeremy?	"Oh, when can we see the snakes?" asked Jeremy.

**Activity** Write each statement as a direct quotation. Add quotation marks, capital letters, punctuation, and spaces. Also add an interjection to at least one sentence. You can change words to improve your writing.

- Ms. Lin told us that the tallest animal on Earth is the giraffe.  
She said its long neck helps it reach leaves high in the trees.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- One journalist reported that scientists had discovered a new rainforest in Borneo.  
The animals there had never seen humans.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- The hyena stalks herds of wild animals. According to the tour guide, hyenas attack the sick or weak animals that stray behind the herd.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- This book, according to Jamal, is full of facts about wild animals. He says he will read the whole thing.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Focus Trait: Conventions

## Using Summaries and Paraphrases

**Cougars**  
**Writing:** Informative Writing

Original	Rewritten
"Cougars face few threats from other animals because they have no natural predators."	Cougars are at the top of the food chain because no other animals prey on them.

**Paraphrase or summarize each quotation in your own words. Check your spelling, grammar, and punctuation**

1. "By preying upon various animals, cougars perform the function of keeping the populations of other species in check."

---

---

2. "Cougars are competent but reluctant swimmers."

---

---

3. "Cougars conceal large prey they have caught, and feed on it for days."

---

---

4. "Cougars vocalize in many ways."

---

---

5. "The cougar population is distributed across North America."

---

---