

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Central Thought Match

**Directions:** Read each passage carefully. Match each passage to the best main idea statement from the list (A-F). Write the letter of your chosen main idea for each passage in the blanks.

- A. Solving puzzles helps develop patience and persistence.
- B. A celebration is remembered mainly because of flags and parades.
- C. Small acts of care at an animal shelter make a big difference.
- D. Life in the desert survives through adaptation to scarce water.
- E. A mayor's long speech can change how people feel about history.
- F. Building a bridge unites a city and improves travel.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. During the summer, Ethan volunteered at the local animal shelter. Every day, he fed the dogs, brushed their fur, and walked them in the yard. Some animals had been abandoned, while others were waiting for new homes. Ethan often felt sad for them, but he was proud when families came to adopt. By the end of the summer, he realized that small actions—like filling food bowls or cleaning cages—helped the animals feel safe and cared for.

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. High above the city, the new bridge stretched across the wide river. Workers spent months laying steel beams and securing cables. On opening day, crowds gathered to watch the first cars drive across. The mayor gave a speech about how the bridge would make travel faster and safer. Boats passed underneath as children waved flags. The bridge quickly became a symbol of connection between two busy parts of the city.

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. Rosa loved puzzles more than anything else. She kept a box of jigsaw pieces under her bed and worked on them late into the night. Some puzzles had hundreds of tiny pieces, which tested her patience and focus. When she finally finished one, she framed it as proof of her hard work. Over time, Rosa discovered that puzzles weren't just for fun—they taught her perseverance and problem-solving.

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. In the desert, water is scarce and precious. Cacti store water inside their stems, while camels can last for days without drinking. People dig wells and collect rainwater to survive. Despite the heat and dryness, the desert is full of plants, animals, and people that adapt in surprising ways.