

Name: _____

Date: _____

Student notes for: “Top 10 Real-Life Body Snatchers” by Megan Gambino

Day: 4

1. In the first section, the crickets are described as taking “a suicide leap” into an exposed water source. How does this phrase describe the effect of the hairworm parasite on the cricket?

2. In the third section, the text says that the host dies, “having served its purpose.” Think about the purpose that the caterpillar served. How did it benefit the parasitic wasp?

3. Reread section six. The author says that “scientists were surprised to find that there is a cost to the parasite.” Based on evidence in the text, why was this so surprising?

4. Reread section seven. After the flatworm eggs hatch inside the snail, in defense the snail produces a slime to trap the larvae. How does this defense mechanism affect the flatworm parasite?

5. What conclusions can you draw from the text about the effects of the parasites on the host animals?

