How are Living Things Classified?

Some organisms, like dogs and cats, are classified into an even smaller group— the breed. But, regardless of the breed, all dogs belong to one species. All cats belong to another species.

A member of a particular classification group has traits that are the same as...
- all members of its own group, as well as
- all members of the broader classification groups.

For example: A member of a particular phylum has traits that are similar to...
- all members of that phylum, as well as
- all members of its kingdom.

Use the figure above to help you answer the following questions.

**CLASSIFICATION GROUP**  **SHARES SOME CHARACTERISTICS WITH THESE GROUPS**

1. a) a member of a class

2. b) a member of an order

3. c) a member of a species
2. Which are more similar...
   a) members of an order or members of a family?___________________
   b) members of an order or member of a phylum?____________________

3. Which has more members...
   a) a phylum or a family?_______________________________
   b) a genus or a family? ________________________________

4. Which group has fewer members...
   a) a family or genus? _________________________________
   b) an order or a phylum? ______________________________

5. a) Which group has the most members? __________________
   b) Which group has the fewest members? ________________

Study the Table showing the classification of four organisms. Answer the question in the spaces provided.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kingdom</th>
<th>Dandelion</th>
<th>Dog</th>
<th>Wolf</th>
<th>Human</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phylum</td>
<td>Plantae</td>
<td>Animalia</td>
<td>Animalia</td>
<td>Animalia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Tracheophyta</td>
<td>Chordata</td>
<td>Chordata</td>
<td>Chordata</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Order</td>
<td>Angiospermae</td>
<td>Mammalia</td>
<td>Mammalia</td>
<td>Mammalia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family</td>
<td>Asterales</td>
<td>Carnivora</td>
<td>Carnivora</td>
<td>Carnivora</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genus</td>
<td>Compositae</td>
<td>Canidae</td>
<td>Canidae</td>
<td>Canidae</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Species</td>
<td>Taraxacum officinale</td>
<td>Canis</td>
<td>Canis</td>
<td>Canis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. How many groups do wolves and humans share? __________________

7. How many groups do wolves and dogs share? ____________________

8. a) Which two organisms are the most similar? ___________________
   b) How do you know? ________________________________________

9. a) Which organism is least like the other three? _________________
   b) How do you know? ________________________________________

10. In what kingdom is the dandelion classified? ___________________
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A member of a particular classification group has traits that are the same as...
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For example: A member of a particular phylum has traits that are similar to...

- all members of that phylum, as well as
- all members of its kingdom.

Use the figure above to help you answer the following questions.

1. a) a member of a class
   members of it’s class, phylum & kingdom

   b) a member of an order
   members of its order, class, phylum & kingdom

   c) a member of a species
   members of its species, genus, family, order, class, phylum & kingdom
2. Which are more similar...
   a) members of an order or members of a family? family
   b) members of an order or member of a phylum? order

3. Which has more members...
   a) a phylum or a family? phylum
   b) a genus or a family? family

4. Which group has fewer members...
   a) a family or genus? genus
   b) an order or a phylum? order

5. a) Which group has the most members? kingdom
   b) Which group has the fewest members? species

Study the Table showing the classification of four organisms. Answer the question in the spaces provided.

Table 1 Classification of Organisms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Compositae</td>
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<td>Mammalia</td>
<td>Mammalia</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taraxacum officinale</td>
<td></td>
<td>Carnivora</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Canidae</td>
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<td>Canidae</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Canis</td>
<td>Canis</td>
<td>Canis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>familiaris</td>
<td>lupus</td>
<td>sapiens</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. How many groups do wolves and humans share? 3

7. How many groups do wolves and dogs share? 6

8. a) Which two organisms are the most similar? Wolves & dogs
   b) How do you know? They share the most classification groups

9. a) Which organism is least like the other three? dandelion
   b) How do you know? It’s not even in the same kingdom

10. In what kingdom is the dandelion classified? Kingdom plantae