

## CRITICAL THINKING ANSWERS

The following is the answer key for the *XTRA Weekly* lesson about students learning how to fly drones. The answer key is correlated to Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts for Grades 6–12. The critical thinking skills identified for each question were adapted from a district-wide thinking skills framework developed by San Diego City Schools educators. (For more information about these standards, please visit [www.corestandards.org](http://www.corestandards.org))

(Note: Point out to students that this article ran in the July 25, 2019, edition of the *Miami Herald*.)

### Vocabulary Multimeaning Words

**(Critical Thinking Skills: Synthesizing information—Drawing conclusions and making inferences; Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts: Vocabulary Acquisition and Use—Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases by using context clues, analyzing meaningful word parts, and consulting general and specialized reference materials, as appropriate)**

1. military (n.) – the armed services of a country; navigate (v.) – to find one’s way, especially across a long distance or in a difficult subject or area; collaboration (n.) – working together to achieve a goal; career (n.) – permanent work intended to last for a great part of one’s life; debris (n.) – scattered fragments of things, trash;

community (n.) – the people who live together in one area or share a common interest and activity

2. Answers will vary. fly (v.) – to move through the air; fly (n.) – an insect; drone (n.) – an unmanned aerial vehicle; drone (v.) – to make a continuous low humming sound; court (n.) – an area marked out with boundaries for a game; court (n.) – a place where trials and other legal procedures are carried out

### Fact and Opinion

**(Critical Thinking Skills: Analyzing information—Fact and opinion. Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts: Integration of Knowledge and Ideas—Distinguish among fact, opinion and reasoned judgment in a text)**

3. Answers will vary.

Facts: a. Students in the After-School All-Stars summer camp at Ruben Dario Middle School flew mini-drones through hula hoops and over their school’s roof as part of a program called Discover Drones, as noted in paragraph #3. b. The program is a collaboration between ASAS South Florida and Florida Power & Light Company, as noted in paragraph #5. c. FPL flew drones around South Florida power lines to survey possible damage in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma in September 2017, as noted in paragraph #7.

A fact is a statement that can be proven or verified.

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Opinions: a. “I think I want to be a drone pilot now that I know I can in a couple years,” as quoted in paragraph #10. b. “FPL has been a great partner,” as quoted in paragraph #14.

An opinion is a personal belief, judgment or appraisal regarding a particular matter.

### Drawing Conclusions Making Inferences

**(Critical Thinking Skills: Synthesizing information: drawing conclusions and making inferences; Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts: Key Ideas and Details—Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text)**

4. Answers will vary. The aim of the Discover Drones program is to expose youth to the world of innovation through technology, as noted in paragraph #5.
5. Answers will vary. The Florida Power & Light Company flew drones around South Florida power lines to survey possible damage in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma in September 2017, keeping workers away from hazardous debris and mapping hard-to-reach sites.