Dino Battle!

Required Annotations		Student-Created Annotations		Summary / Questions / Reflection	

Comprehension	**Stems: mort--die, death; capt—take, seize; mono--one** **Previous stems: spec, inter, con**	Comments

Two of the most **iconic** dinosaurs to ever roam Earth are the ferocious *Tyrannosaurus rex* and the three-horned *Triceratops*. In a new dinosaur hall at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D. C., visitors will view them in a never-before-seen pose: *T. rex* eating the *Triceratops*.

In the new display, the *T. rex* crouches over the *Triceratops* and wraps its mouth around the frill, which is the bony collar that frames a *Triceratops* head. "The *T. rex* is basically trying to rip the *Triceratops* head off," says paleontologist Steve Jabo, who is working on the exhibit. Not only is this display more exciting than a traditional standing pose, but it more accurately captures how dinosaurs moved and their **mortality**. It also will be unique because the bones are various shades as opposed to the **monotone** displays of the past.

Unlike many museum dinosaur displays, which use plastic **casts** of the bones that have been dug up, this one will show most of the *T. rex's* actual bones. "We're using as many *T. rex* bones as we can," says Jabo. "The missing pieces have been made up from casts of other specimens." The *Triceratops* skeleton is also made mostly of fossilized bones.

But using the real bones presents some challenges. First, real fossilized bones are much heavier than fake bones. They're also more fragile. Paleontologists don't want to drill into a real bone and damage it. Instead, they are working with blacksmiths who are building a steel frame that supports custom cradles for each bone. They then mount the bones in the proper positions, as in the picture at left.

The paleontologists designed the display in such a way that the bones are correctly **articulated**, or connected. Using 3-D printed bones, they first built a smaller model to make sure each bone was at the perfect angle. Then they designed the steel frame and cradles to support each dinosaur's pose.

Jabo thinks visitors will love the new display when it opens in 2019. "I've never seen an interaction like that. It looks really cool," he says.

Questions

1. In the penultimate (next-to-last) paragraph, which punctuation mark indicates that the text is going to explain the meaning of "articulated"?
2. What is another example of that kind of comma use in the article?
3. What transition words does the author use to indicate the difficulties of using real bones?
4. What is ironic about the author's use of "cradle" in this text?
5. In which ways does this project join old technologies with new? (Provide evidence from the text.)
6. When discussing the arranging of the bones, what is ironic about the fossilized dinosaur bones?
7. Using the evidence from the text, draw the display.