The geologic timescale is marked by significant geologic and biological events, includi

question 1

The word "significant" in the passage is closest in meaning to

A numerous

B important

C unexplained

D sudden

question 2

The period discussed in the passage is referred to as an "explosion" because it

A occurred 0.6 billion years ago, late in Earth’ s history

B was characterized by the unusually fast evolution of many new life-forms

C was characterized by widespread animal extinction

D was characterized by violent volcanic eruptions

question 3

According to Paragraph 2, which of the following is NOT a question that paleontologis

A Why was the origin of life a simple step in Earth’ s history?

B Why did it take so long for multicellular organisms to develop?

C Why did animal life evolve so rapidly?

D Why does the fossil record lack evidence of animal evolution during that time?

question 4

Which of the following best describes the relationship between paragraph 2 and parag

A Paragraph 2 puts forward several scientific claims, one of which is rejected in paragra

B Paragraph 2 poses several questions, and paragraph 3 offers a possible answer to on

C Paragraph 2 presents outdated traditional views, while paragraph 3 presents the curr

D Paragraph 2 introduces a generalization that is illustrated by specific examples in par

question 5

Which of the following is NOT mentioned in paragraph 4 as being true of the Ediacara

A It contains fossils that date back to the Precambrian period.

B It contains only soft-bodied animal fossils.

C It is located on a single site in Australia.

D It does not contain any fossils of the ancestors of modern animals.

question 6

Which of the sentences below best expresses the essential information in the highlight

A The animals found in the Tommotian fossil bed were once thought to belong to a va

B Animals in the Tommotian fossil beds were initially assigned to modern animal group

C Though at first they thought otherwise, paleontologists now agree that the animals i

D It is unclear whether the Tommotian fossils from the early Cambrian period represen

question 7

Why does the author mention "Anomalocaris" and "Wiwaxia" ?

A To contrast predators with animals that eat plants such as algae

B To question the effects of rapid mud slides on fossilization

C To suggest that much is still unknown about animals found in the Burgess Shale

D To provide examples of fossils that cannot be assigned to a modern animal group

question 8

What can be inferred from paragraph 7 about why the Cambrian explosion is so unusu

A It generated new ecological niches through the extinction of many unique animals.

B It was a period of rapid evolution, and evolution is often thought of as a slow process

C It is a period whose evolutionary sequences are clearly marked.

D It generated a very large number of ancient fossil beds containing soft-bodied anima

question 9

Look at the four squares [ ] that indicate where the following sentence could be added

The geologic timescale is marked by significant geologic and biological events, includi

question 10

Directions: An introductory sentence for a brief summary of the passage is provided be

A. Little is known about the stages of evolution during the Cambrian period, in part bec

B. While animal fossils from before the Cambrian explosion have no modern descenda

C. The Cambrian period is significant because it marks the emergence of eukaryotic life

D. The Ediacara fossil formation provides the most information about the Cambrian exp

E. Zoologists are awaiting the discovery of a 600-million-year-old fossil formation in or

F. Although the reasons for the rapid evolution of animals during the Cambrian period