

The transition from forest to treeless tundra on a mountain slope is often a dramatic one.

question 1

Where is the lower timberline mentioned in paragraph 1 likely to be found?

- A In an area that has little water
- B In an area that has little sunlight
- C Above a transition area
- D On a mountain that has an upper timberline.

question 2

Which of the following can be inferred from paragraph 1 about both the upper and lower timberlines?

- A Both are treeless zones.
- B Both mark forest boundaries.
- C Both are surrounded by desert areas.
- D Both suffer from a lack of moisture.

question 3

Paragraph 2 supports which of the following statements about deciduous trees?

- A They cannot grow in cold climates.
- B They do not exist at the upper timberline.
- C They are less likely than evergreens to survive at the upper timberline.
- D They do not require as much moisture as evergreens do.

question 4

The word "they" in the passage refers to

A valleys

B trees

C heights

D ridges

question 5

According to paragraph 3, which of the following is true of trees in the middle and upper

A Tree growth is negatively affected by the snow cover in valleys

B Tree growth is greater in valleys than on ridges.

C Tree growth on ridges is not affected by high-velocity winds.

D Tree growth lasts longer in those latitudes than it does in the tropics.

question 6

Which of the sentences below best express the essential information in the highlighted

A Because of their deformed shapes at high altitudes, trees are not likely to be seriously

B As altitude increases, the velocity of winds increase, leading to a serious decrease in t

C The deformed shapes of trees at high altitudes show that wind velocity, which increa

D Increased wind velocity at high altitudes deforms the shapes of trees, and this may c

question 7

In paragraph 4, what is the author's main purpose in the discussion of the dramatic co

A To argue that none of several environment factors that are believed to contribute to

- B To argue in support of one particular explanation of that phenomenon against several others
- C To explain why the primary environmental factor responsible for that phenomenon has been identified
- D To present several environmental factors that may contribute to a satisfactory explanation of that phenomenon

question 8

According to paragraph 6, all of the following statements are true of plants in the alpine zone EXCEPT:

- A Because they are low, they are less exposed to strong winds.
- B Because they are low, the winter snow cover gives them more protection from the extreme cold.
- C In the equatorial mountains, they tend to be lower than in mountains elsewhere.
- D Their low growth form keeps them closer to the ground, where there is more heat than in the air.

question 9

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

The transition from forest to treeless tundra on a mountain slope is often a dramatic one, with little or no intermediate stage.

question 10

Directions: An introductory sentence for a brief summary of the passage is provided below. Select the THREE answer choices that most accurately and comprehensively capture the main ideas and important details of the passage.

- A. Birch is one of the few species of tree that can survive in the extreme environments of the alpine tundra.
- B. There is no agreement among scientists as to exactly why plant growth is sharply different above the upper timberline.
- C. The temperature at the upper timberline is probably more important in preventing tree growth than the amount of snow.
- D. The geographical location of an upper timberline has an impact on both the types of trees that grow there and the types of animals that live there.
- E. High levels of ultraviolet light most likely play a greater role in determining tree growth at the upper timberline than do low levels of precipitation.
- F. Despite being adjacent to the timberline, the alpine tundra is an area where certain kinds of plants and animals are well adapted to live.

