

In seeking to describe the origins of theater, one must rely primarily on speculation, since

question 1

According to paragraph 1, theories of the origins of theater

A are mainly hypothetical

B are well supported by factual evidence

C have rarely been agreed upon by anthropologists

D were expressed in the early stages of theater's development

question 2

According to paragraph 1, why did some societies develop and repeat ceremonial activities?

A To establish a positive connection between the members of the society

B To help society members better understand the forces controlling their food supply

C To distinguish their beliefs from those of other societies

D To increase the society's prosperity

question 3

The word "this" in the passage refers to

A the acting out of rites

B the divorce of ritual performers from the rest of society

C the separation of myths from rites

D the celebration of supernatural forces

question 4

According to paragraph 2, what may cause societies to abandon certain rites?

- A Emphasizing theater as entertainment
- B Developing a new understanding of why events occur
- C Finding a more sophisticated way of representing mythical characters
- D Moving from a primarily oral tradition to a more written tradition

question 5

All of following are mentioned in paragraph 5 as possible reasons that led societies to

- A Theater allows people to face that they are afraid of.
- B Theater gives an opportunity to imagine a better reality.
- C Theater is a way to enjoy imitating other people.
- D Theater provides people the opportunity to better understand the human mind.

question 6

Which of the following best describes the organization of paragraph 5?

- A The author presents two theories for a historical phenomenon.
- B The author argues against theories expressed earlier in the passage.
- C The author argues for replacing older theories with a new one.
- D The author points out problems with two popular theories.

question 7

Why does the author mention " comedy" ?

- A To give an example of early types of theater

- B To explain how theater helps a society respond to threats to its welfare
- C To help explain why detachment is needed for the development of theater
- D To show how theatrical performers become detached from other members of society

question 8

Which of the sentences below best expresses the essential information in the highlighted portion of the passage?

- A A society's rites were more likely to be retained in the oral tradition if its myths were artistically appealing.
- B The artistic quality of a myth was sometimes an essential reason for a society to abandon its religious practices.
- C Some early societies stopped using myths in their religious practices when rites ceased to be artistically appealing.
- D Myths sometimes survived in a society's tradition because of their artistic qualities.

question 9

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

In seeking to describe the origins of theater, one must rely primarily on speculation, since no written records exist.

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 completely capture the main ideas and important details in the passage. Write the letters of your answers in the boxes provided.

- A. The presence of theater in almost all societies is thought to have occurred because early humans used theater to express their emotions.
- B. Many theorists believe that theater arises when societies act out myths to preserve social values.
- C. The more sophisticated societies became, the better they could influence desirable social behavior through theater.
- D. Some theories of theater development focus on how theater was used by group leaders to influence their followers.
- E. Theater may have come from pleasure humans receive from storytelling and moving objects.
- F. The human capacities for imitation and fantasy are considered possible reasons why theater developed.

