

READING ONE

Acid rain is one of the biggest **environmental** problems today. It has many **long-term** effects, like damage to trees and buildings. It can lead to skin and breathing problems. It can also cause animals to become **extinct**.

Acid rain is caused by air **pollution from cars and factories**. These machines burn fuel for energy. When fuel burns, it produces smoke and invisible gases that mix with clouds. These dark clouds rain harmful chemicals onto the earth.

Although the rain is **not acidic enough to burn skin, it coats tree leaves, buildings, and the ground with toxic water**. Acid rain has actually been around since the mid-1800s. It was discovered by Robert Angus Smith. Smith found a relationship between acid rain and air pollution. However, scientists did not start studying acid rain **seriously until the 1950s**.

Acid rain can be prevented by burning less dangerous fuels. Factories have also **experimented** with special **filters** that remove harmful chemicals from the smoke. These are good solutions, but governments have to act fast. If they wait, the damage may be unstoppable.

VOCABULARY CHECK Match the words with their definitions.

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 1. environmental | a. continuing a long time into the future |
| 2. extinct | b. no longer living |
| 3. toxic | c. relating to the natural world |
| 4. coat | d. a chemical that can burn or melt other substances |
| 5. long-term | e. to cover |
| 6. filter | f. poisonous, harmful |
| 7. experiment | g. to try something in order to learn |
| 8. acid | h. something used to clean air or water |

READING COMPREHENSION

1 What is the main idea of the passage?

- A. Acid rain is the newest environmental disaster.
- B. Acid rain is as dangerous as other forms of pollution.
- C. Acid rain destroyed the environment in the mid-1800s.
- D. Robert Angus Smith found a solution for acid rain.

2 Which of the following is **NOT** correct according to the passage?

- A. Acid rain is a serious problem these days.
- B. Acid rain is as dramatic as piles of garbage and rising oceans.
- C. Cars and factories are main reasons for acid rain.
- D. Acid rain has been known for more than 150 years.

3 The word 'they' refers to

- A. solutions
- B. fuels
- C. chemicals
- D. governments

4 Which of the following is correct about acid rain?

- A. It can cause humans to become extinct.
- B. Toxic water from cars and factories causes acid rain.
- C. Serious research on acid rain only started around 50 years ago.
- D. It can make people get lung cancer.

5 What can be inferred from the passage?

- A. The current measures are not enough to stop acid rain.
- B. Scientists should pay more attention to acid rain.
- C. Governments are mostly responsible for acid rain.
- D. Acid rain can be gotten rid of by funding more research.

6 Which of the sentences below best expresses the information in the underlined sentence in the passage?

- A. Governments usually make good solutions.
- B. Governments are not interested in making good solutions.
- C. There are no good solutions.
- D. Solutions need to be put into effect to work

READING TWO:

People have dreamed of flying ever since they first looked up into the sky. Almost three thousand years ago, the ancient Greeks told stories about Icarus, who flew too close to the sun, and Pegasus, the winged horse. These stories reflected the Greeks' desire to fly. [A]

In 1452, Leonardo Da Vinci experimented with airplane designs in his artwork. Da Vinci came up with the parachute although he didn't have the technology or materials to build one. He also sketched a bicycle with wings attached to it. By pushing the pedals, you rotated the wings. [B]

[C] The first human flight didn't happen until more than three hundred years later. In 1782, two Frenchmen traveled 5 miles in a hot air balloon. It was powered by wood smoke and had no steering equipment. Soon, "ballooning" exploded in popularity around Europe. [D] **Gliders** didn't have motors, but **they** could travel longer distances than balloons. However, they were difficult to control and sometimes crashed. Is eventually in 1903, the brothers, Orville and Wilbur Wright, made the first motorized airplane flight in history.

VOCABULARY CHECK Match the words with their definitions.

1. motorize	a. having wings
2. attach	b. to show, express or be a sign of something
3. rotate	c. to suggest or think of an idea or plan
4. winged	d. to turn in a circle, especially around a fixed point
5. reflect	e. to fuel, to act with great strength
6. come up with	f. to connect, to link
7. steer	g. to have an engine or driving mechanism
8. power	h. to control the direction of a vehicle

READING COMPREHENSION

1 What is the best title of the passage?

- A. Who Flew First?
- B. The Long Journey to Airplanes
- C. Air Balloons Finally Come
- D. The Wright Brothers

2 Which of the following is correct according to the passage?

- A. Icarus is the first person who designed the airplane.
- B. Da Vinci was the first person who succeeded to make a parachute.
- C. Two Frenchmen built the first gliders before the Wright brothers.
- D. The Wright brothers made the first motorized airplane flight in history.

3 Which of the following is NOT what Da Vinci did?

- A. Tried airplane designs
- B. Made a parachute
- C. Came up with the idea for a bicycle with wings
- D. Inspired future inventors

4 The word 'they' refers to

- A. motors
- B. the Wright Brothers
- B. Gliders
- D. Frenchmen

5 Which is the best place for the following sentence? **By the 1880s, scientists built the first gliders.**

- A. [A]
- B. [B]
- C. [C]
- D. [D]

6 Which of the sentences below best expresses the information in the underlined sentence in the passage?

- A. Da Vinci made the parachute although he didn't have the technology or materials to build one.
- B. With the technology or materials to build one, Da Vinci could make the parachute.
- C. Da Vinci couldn't make the parachute because he didn't have the technology or materials to build one.
- D. Da Vinci couldn't make the parachute even if he had the technology or materials to build one.

READING THREE

Imagine that it is midnight, but when you look outside, it is as light as early evening. St. Petersburg, Russia is the largest city in the world where this phenomenon occurs every summer. [A] Every year from mid-June to early July, it never gets completely dark. Downtown St. Petersburg is full of people around the clock. [B] The White Nights (Russian: *Byeliye Nochi*) are a product of geography. St. Petersburg lies further north than any other city in the world its size. It is located at 59°(degrees) 57' (minutes) North (approximately the same distance north as Oslo, Norway and the southern tip of Greenland). At this high latitude, the sun does not fall far enough below the horizon for the sky to get dark. If it is not too cloudy, the sky is so bright at night that the city does not turn on the streetlights. [C] St. Petersburg is called the "cultural capital of Russia," and the city takes advantage of the White Nights with a magnificent cultural festival. For a month each summer, the entire city is alive with nighttime orchestra, opera, and dance performances in its many theaters and parks. [D]

VOCABULARY CHECK Match the words with their definitions.

1. phenomenon	a. all day and all night
2. magnificent	b. to happen, to take place
3. latitude	c. a unit to measure north or south of the equator
4. occur	d. the point at which the sky seems to touch the land or sea
5. capital	e. the most important place of a country or an activity
6. around the clock	f. very good, beautiful
7. horizon	g. something that exists and can be seen, felt, tasted
8. take advantage of	h. to use

READING COMPREHENSION

1 Which of the following is the best title for the passage?

- A. A Summer Event in St. Petersburg
- B. Tourist Attractions in St. Petersburg
- C. A Scientific Explanation of the White Nights
- D. How to Enjoy the White Nights

2 Which of the following is true?

- A. During the White Nights, midnight is as bright as 12:00 noon.
- B. No major city is further north than St. Petersburg.
- C. People like to stay indoors during the White Nights.
- D. No people live at a higher latitude than St. Petersburg

3 Which is the best place for the following sentence?

The festival attracts tourists from around the world.

- A. [A]
- B. [B]
- C. [C]
- D. [D]

4 Which of the sentences below best expresses the information in the underlined sentence in the passage?

- A. When the sun falls below the horizon, it gets darker.
- B. The sky does not get dark because the sun does not reach the horizon.
- C. The city is so far north that sunlight remains even after the sun sets.
- D. Because of the city's geography, daylight lasts all night for a month.

5 Which of the following is NOT stated in the passage?

- A. St. Petersburg is a culturally important city.
- B. St. Petersburg has many theaters.
- C. **The festival** is celebrated throughout Russia.
- D. The festival lasts for one month.

6 The word 'its' in the passage refers to

- A. festival
- C. Russia
- B. city
- D. summer

READING FOUR

What does it feel like to break a bone? It's different for everyone, but the pain is often sharp. If the break is small, however, the person may not feel much pain at all. If you think that you or someone else has broken a bone, the most important things to do are to stay calm, make the hurt person comfortable, and call the emergency number. Do not move the injured body part since movement could make it worse.

To treat the break, the doctor will need to take an X-ray. This gives the doctor the information he or she needs to set the bone: to put it back into its normal position. If the bone is large or it is broken in more than one place, the doctor may need to use

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metal pins to set it. After the bone has been set, the next step is usually putting on a cast, the special, hard bandage that will keep the bone in place for a month or two.

Your bones are excellent at healing themselves. Broken bones will produce many new cells and tiny blood vessels. These cover both ends of the broken part, and close up the break until the bone is as whole and strong as before

VOCABULARY CHECK Match the words with their definitions.

1	comfortable	a. relaxed and free from pain
2	cast	b. a tube through which blood flows in the body
3	treat	c. to keep cool and relaxed
4	normal	d. a hard cover used to protect a broken bone
5	heal	e. in its usual or correct position
6	in place	f. to make or become well again
7	stay calm	g. to work to cure
8	blood vessel	h. ordinary, usual

READING COMPREHENSION

- 1 Which of the following is the best title for the passage?
 - A. How to Know if a Bone is Broken
 - B. How Broken Bones Heal Themselves
 - C. Common Causes of Broken Bones
 - D. What You Should Know about Broken Bones
- 2 According to the passage, a person with a broken bone should ___.
 - A. try to stretch the injured body part
 - B. put the bone back into its normal position
 - C. call for help
 - D. use metal pins to set it
- 3 It can be inferred from the passage that
 - A. broken bones usually require metal pins
 - B. more serious breaks require metal pins
 - C. not all broken bones require a cast
 - D. setting a bone is usually painful
- 4 The word 'it' in the passage refers to
 - A. break
 - B. information
 - C. X-ray
 - D. bone
- 5 Why does the author include the information the special, hard bandage that will keep the bone in place for a month or two?
 - A. To explain what it means to set a bone
 - B. To explain the meaning and purpose of a cast
 - C. To show why X-rays of broken bones are important
 - D. To show why it is important not to move a broken bone
- 6 Which of the following is true?
 - A. A cast has to stay on for several months.
 - B. A broken bone that has healed is more likely to break again.
 - C. Broken bones sometimes do not heal completely.
 - D. Bones are excellent at healing themselves.

READING FIVE

Chris Evert is one of the greatest tennis players of all time. She was born in Fort Lauderdale, Florida in 1954. The weather in Florida is **suitable** for outdoor sports, so Evert was able to practice her tennis all year long. She learned a lot from her father who was a professional tennis coach. At age sixteen, Evert played in her first US Open (United States Open Tennis Championships). She did not win that year, but she eventually won the US Open six times. Evert achieved her first major victories in 1974 when she won the women's championship in two of the world's four most important tournaments; Wimbledon and the French Open. In 1986, she set a world record by winning the women's French Open for the seventh time. Over the next five years, she defeated 125 **opponents**. She became famous not only for her many victories but also for her **intense concentration** while playing. In addition, she was one of the first players to hit a powerful two-handed backhand. This has now become a common technique. Today, Evert is **retired** but often appears on television as a **commentator** for major tournaments. She will always be remembered for her achievements and **influence** on the game of tennis.

VOCABULARY CHECK Match the words with their definitions.

1	influence	a acceptable or right for someone or something
2	retire	b. to succeed in something after a lot of work or effort
3	achieve	c. to stop working or to change to a life of leisure
4	opponent	d. forceful, very strong
5	commentator	e. focus, attention
6	concentration	f. a reporter for radio or television
7	suitable	g. the power to have an effect on people or things
8	intense	h. challenger, competitor

READING COMPREHENSION

- 1 What is the topic of the passage?
 - A. Chris Evert's tennis career
 - B. Chris Evert's biography
 - C. Chris Evert's love of tennis
 - D. Chris Evert's unique tennis style
- 2 It is stated in the passage that
 - A. Evert worked for a while as a professional tennis coach
 - B. Evert won the US Open when she was a teenager
 - C. the US Open was played in Florida
 - D. Evert worked as a commentator for tennis tournaments
- 3 Which of the sentences below best expresses the information in the first underlined sentence in the passage?

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- A. Evert won both Wimbledon and the French Open in 1974 which were her first important victories
 B. Evert was the first woman to win both Wimbledon and the French Open in one year.
 C. Evert won all four of the world's most important tournaments in 1974.
 D. Evert first competed in Wimbledon and the French Open in 1974
- 4 *It can be inferred from the passage that*
 A. no woman had won the French Open before 1986
 B. no woman had won the French Open seven times before 1986
 C. Evert had not won the French Open before 1986
 D. the 1986 French Open was Evert's last major tournament victory
- 5 *Why does the author include the information she was one of the first players to hit a powerful two-handed backhand?*
 A. To give a reason for Evert's many victories
 B. To give an example of Evert's intense concentration
 C. To give an example of Evert's influence on tennis
 D. To give an example of a common tennis technique
- 6 *The word 'This' in the passage refers to*
 A. technique C. backhand
 B. first D. powerful

READING SIX

The largest American state is not California or Texas. It is Alaska. Alaska is also the most northern American state. It is over a thousand miles further north than the border between the US and Canada. Alaska is a huge, barren mass of land that is covered with snow and ice for most of the year. In the 1700s, Alaska was home only to polar bears and native Inuits. The first Russian settlers sailed to Alaska to set **up** a fur trade there. The Russian American Company was the first trading company to make its headquarters in Alaska. During the late 1700s and early 1800s, Russia tried to encourage other settlers to come and live in Alaska. However, few people were interested in moving to Alaska. The weather was harsh, and it was very difficult to make a living there. In 1867, American politician William Seward bought Alaska from the Russians for \$7.2 million. That amount was about 2 cents for every acre. It was called the "Alaska Purchase." Many politicians thought Seward was crazy to buy so much ice and snow. They called the purchase "Seward's Folly" until people discovered gold in the Alaskan mountains. "Seward's Folly" became "Seward's Genius."

VOCABULARY CHECK Match the words with their definitions.

1.	folly	a.	the main offices of an organization
2.	barren	b.	the political line between countries
3.	set up	c.	to ready something for operation or use
4.	harsh	d.	to support, to give confidence and hope
5.	purchase	e.	stupidity; a stupid action or idea
6.	border	f.	unable to produce plants or fruit
7.	headquarters	g.	to buy ,
8.	encourage	h.	severe, unkind, cruel

READING COMPREHENSION

- 1 *What is the best title of the passage?*
 A. Alaska's America C. A Great Deal
 B. The Richest State in America D. Seward Was So Silly
- 2 *Why was the Alaska Purchase called "Seward's Folly"?*
 A. Alaska was owned by Russia.
 B. Alaska was the biggest state in America.
 C. Nobody believed Alaska was useful.
 D. Seward paid more than \$7.2 million per acre for the land.
- 3 *Which of the following is NOT true?*
 A. Alaska is the largest American state.
 B. Russians were not the first residents to live in Alaska.
 C. Alaska was not an easy place to live.
 D. William Seward knew Alaska has Gold.
- 4 *The word 'They' refers to*
 A. Americans C. Russians
 B. Indians D. politicians
- 5 *What can be inferred from the reading?*
 A. Without gold, the purchase would be still called "Seward's Folly."
 B. The Russians wanted to buy Alaska back for more money.
 C. Many people moved to Alaska from Russia.
 D. William Seward became a very rich man.
- 6 *The author mentions the underlined sentence in order to*
 A. explain how polar bears and native Inuits lived together
 B. state that Alaska is the best place for polar bears and native Inuits
 C. stress how remote Alaska was
 D. describe why Alaska was not so popular to live in

READING SEVEN

Viruses are **microscopic particles** that are not really alive but still attack the cells of living things. They enter a plant or animal's cell. They then **multiply** into more viruses that enter more cells. When a virus attacks you for the first time, your body doesn't know how to **combat** it and you become ill. However, after you recover, your body is able to **recognize** that virus. [A] You are, therefore, less likely to get sick if it enters your body again.

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One disease caused by a virus is the flu (*short for influenza*). You can catch the flu in any season, but each winter, it attacks millions of people around the world. [B] Although it often feels like a very bad cold, the flu is much more serious. It kills hundreds of thousands of people every year. In some years, it is even worse than that. Twenty million people died of flu in 1918. [C] Other **viral** diseases, such as polio, have been almost **eliminated** through the use of vaccines. [D] Can't we do the same with the flu? The problem is that the flu virus changes in **minor** ways each year. These changes make it much more difficult to develop vaccines that work well.

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. eliminate 2. viral 3. multiply 4. microscopic 5. minor 6. particle 7. combat 8. recognize | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. very small b. a very small piece of matter c. to increase greatly in number d. to fight, to struggle against e. to identify someone or something f. caused by or behaving like a virus g. to remove, to take away h. unimportant, insignificant |
|---|---|

READING COMPREHENSION

- 1 What is the topic of the passage?
 - A. Differences between the flu and other viruses
 - B. Cures for the flu
 - C. Basic facts about the flu
 - D. How to know when you have the flu
- 2 Which of the following is true?
 - A. Viruses are living things.
 - B. Viruses only attack animals.
 - C. Viruses multiply inside the body.
 - D. The human body cannot fight viruses.
- 3 Which is the best place for the following sentence? **For days, they suffer from fever, a sore throat, coughing, and body aches.**

A. [A]	B. [B]	C. [C]	D. [D]
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- 4 According to the passage, why are you less likely to get sick the second time a virus enters your body?
 - A. The virus is not really alive.
 - B. The virus is unable to multiply.
 - C. Your body will not recognize the virus.
 - D. Your body is able to recognize that virus.
- 5 The word 'They' refers to

A. viruses	C. cells
B. things	D. animals
- 6 What can be inferred from the reading?
 - A. Millions of people die from the flu every year.
 - B. You are more likely to get sick if the flu enters your body for the first time.
 - C. It is impossible to have the flu more than once.
 - D. People only get the flu in winter.

READING EIGHT

England has had a democracy for a long time. Until 1918, however, women were not allowed to vote in it. The right to vote is called "suffrage," and the English women who fought for and won that right were called "suffragettes." [A]

The suffragette movement was led by Emmeline Pankhurst. In 1903, she founded an organization called the Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU). Members of the WSPU went to the Prime Minister to demand suffrage, but he told them to "be patient." The suffragettes were not satisfied. [B] The fight for the vote for women became intense and sometimes violent. In 1908, two suffragettes chained themselves to the fence outside the Prime Minister's front door! They were arrested and spent weeks in jail. In 1912, hundreds of women took to the streets of London. They broke shop windows and even threw stones at the Prime Minister's house. Thousands of suffragettes were jailed for this and similar actions over the years. [C] World War I (1914-1918) proved to be an important event for the women's movement. Women contributed so much to the war effort as nurses, factory workers, and at other jobs that more people became convinced of their right to vote. Women were finally given that right in January, 1918. [D]

VOCABULARY CHECK Match the words with their definitions.

1	found	a. pleased, fulfilled
2	demand	b. to do or give something to reach a goal
3	vote	c. the legal right to express an opinion in an election
4	arrest	d. to capture or catch someone by legal authority
5	satisfied	e. to establish and organize
6	jail	f. a group of people who act to support their beliefs
7	contribute	g. to request something forcefully
8	movement	h. to put in prison

READING COMPREHENSION

- 1 Which of the following would be the best title for the reading?
 - A. Democracy in England
 - B. Women in World War I
 - C. How English Women Won the Vote
 - D. The History of Women in English Politics
- 2 Which is the best place for the following sentence? **They wanted change immediately.**

A. [A]	B. [B]	C. [C]	D. [D]
--------	--------	--------	--------
- 3 The author mentions the underlined sentence in order
 - A. to stress that suffragettes didn't like the prime minister

- B. to demonstrate that the prime minister was important in the suffragette movement
- C. to show how extreme the movement could be
- D. to prove why the movement became so violent

4 To demand the right to vote, the suffragettes did the following EXCEPT -----

- A. going to the home of the Prime Minister
- B. becoming violent in the streets
- C. spending time in jail
- D. attacking the Prime Minister

5 The word 'their' refers to

- A. people
- B. women
- C. workers
- D. jobs

6 According to the reading, more people began to think that women should have suffrage because

- A. women fought bravely in World War I
- B. women did many important jobs during the war
- C. they thought that women's suffrage would help England win the war
- D. They didn't want women to be violent

READING NINE

Since the terrorist attacks of September 11th, 2001, there have been a lot of discussions about new **security** measures in airports and other public spaces. **Defenders** of civil **liberties** are worried that our fear of terrorism is a danger to our freedoms and **privacy**.

Now the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) in the US has ordered American airlines to give them data on millions of passengers. This is the country's latest attempt to improve security checks on airline Passengers. The plan is called "Secure Flight." It compares passenger records, from credit card numbers to addresses, with names on terrorist watch lists.

However, the plan is causing privacy concerns both in the US and abroad. [A] It has been said that European Union data protection officials had "huge concerns" about the US government's first attempt at computerized **screening of** passengers. [B] That effort was ended because of European fears that the government would have access to too much personal information.

[C] If the European Union determines that Secure Flight **violates** its privacy laws, airlines will have a problem. If they obey the TSA's orders, they **risk** being **fined** by the European Union for violating EU privacy laws. [D] If they obey the European Union, they risk being fined by the United States.

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

1	risk	a. protection of a person, or country against threats
2	fine	b. someone who protects a person or place against attack
3	security	c. the chance that something will go wrong or badly
4	defender	d. to test someone or something
5	violate	e. a legal right to do something; freedom
6	liberty	f. to act against something like a law
7	privacy	g. one's own secrecy
8	screen	h. to charge an amount of money for breaking a rule

READING COMPREHENSION

What is the topic of the passage?

- A. The European Union asking airlines for data about passengers
- B. The question of personal property and US law
- C. Privacy concerns in a post-September 11 th world
- D. The risks that airlines face from the US and the European Union

2 According to the passage, the US government's first plan for computerized screening

- A. was accepted by the European Union
- B. was ended because of protests from Americans
- C. was ended because of protests from Europeans
- D. was strongly supported by the airlines

3 Which is the best place for the following sentence? **Overall, this is a very difficult situation for the airlines.**

- A. [A]
- B. [B]
- C. [C]
- D. [D]

4 The word 'they' refers to

- A. EU privacy laws
- B. the United States
- C. airlines
- D. fines

5 If the airlines obey European Union privacy laws,

- A. they could be fined by the United States
- B. they could be fined by other airlines
- C. they won't be able to fly into Europe
- D. they won't be able to fly into the United States

6 Which information is NOT in the passage?

- A. The new plan is called " Secure Flight."
- B. European officials have concerns about computerized screening.
- C. Airlines can be fined if they disobey the new laws.
- D. Airline officials are against the new laws.

READING TEN

For wild animals, there is only one rule for survival: eat or be eaten. To survive in this difficult world, many animals have developed interesting techniques. Some animals make loud noises to **scare off** their enemies. Others give off a strange and unpleasant smell. The most common way for animals to avoid being seen is to use **camouflage to blend** in with their environment.

Blending in with the environment allows animals to either hide from animals that would want to eat them or **sneak up on**

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animals they would like to eat without being seen. Male birds are brightly colored in order to attract mates, but female and baby birds are usually a dull brown or grey. This makes **them** difficult for their enemies to see. When they stay very still, they blend in with the tree branches around them. It's a very **effective** protection method.

Interestingly, tigers use their **coloration** for a different reason. The tiger's orange and black stripes blend in with the grass and shadows of the jungle. This allows them to **creep** close enough to their prey without being seen. Once the tiger is within striking range, it can leap from the shadows and attack before its prey has time to escape.

Whether it's blending with the environment to eat or to avoid being eaten, camouflage is a great **adaptation**. The next time you see an animal with interesting colors, ask yourself why the animal is colored the way it is. It may serve more than making the animal look beautiful.

VOCABULARY CHECK Match the words with their definitions.

1	adaptation	a. to move very quietly and slowly
2	scare off	b. to frighten away
3	camouflage	c. working well
4	sneak up	d. the different shades and colors of something
5	effective	e. colors used for hiding
6	coloration	f. to move silently in order to surprise
7	creep	g. a change in ideas or behaviors for new situations
8	blend	h. to mix with something else

READING COMPREHENSION

- 1 What would be a good title for this passage?
 - A. How Animals Survive
 - B. Hunters and Their Prey
 - C. Male and Female Animals
 - D. How to Go Bird Watching
- 2 How are female and baby birds different from males?
 - A. They are more brightly colored.
 - B. They are usually a dull grey or brown.
 - C. They do not sing songs.
 - D. They are easy for enemies to see.
- 3 What does the word 'them' refer to?
 - A. male birds
 - B. enemies
 - C. mates
 - D. female and baby birds
- 4 Why do tigers need to be able to blend in with their environment?
 - A. to be successful hunters
 - B. to avoid animals that want to eat them
 - C. to live in the desert
 - D. to be easier to see
- 5 Which of the following sentences best expresses the idea of the underlined sentence in the passage?
 - A. Animals do not often survive very long in nature.
 - B. In nature, success depends on survival.
 - C. Some animals are not well-adapted to their environment.
 - D. Every animal has its own survival technique.
- 6 What can be inferred about lions from the reading?
 - A. The color of their fur is like the color of their environment.
 - B. They sleep most of the day.
 - C. Many other animals hunt them.
 - D. They are brightly colored in order to attract mates.

READING ELEVEN

Alexander Litvinenko was a key figure in the KGB, the Russian Secret Service. He was a top Russian spy and intelligence man. He also fought against organized crime and corruption in Russia. [A] He lived his entire life surrounded by danger and violence. When he died from radiation poisoning in 2006, people were not very surprised. Litvinenko had many enemies from a lifetime in the intelligence service. [B]

However, new information suggests that Litvinenko was actually murdered by the Russian government. During the early 2000s, Litvinenko and other secret agents were ordered to kill many important Russian politicians and businessmen. Litvinenko was worried that the government would kill him. [C] He fled the country and tried to enter Turkey and Britain. [D] While he was in Britain, Litvinenko accused Russian president Vladimir Putin of murder and corruption. In the US, he unsuccessfully tried to publish a book about Putin. In the book, he accused Putin of using terrorism to become president and control Russia.

In November 2006, Litvinenko died of radiation poisoning. He was poisoned with polonium-210, one of the most dangerous chemicals in the world. His wife Marina believes that the Russian government ordered the murder. Many other people feel the same way. If it is proven true, it would be a huge blow to Russian democracy.

VOCABULARY CHECK Match the words with their definitions.

1	figure	a. to say that someone has done something wrong
2	flee	b. a government department finding out enemy secret
3	secret service	c. a hard hit with a hand or a weapon
4	corruption	d. dishonesty, illegal behavior
5	accuse	e. a form of pollution produced during a nuclear react
6	murder	f. an important and well-known person
7	blow	g. to run away, to escape
8	radiation	h. to kill someone

READING COMPREHENSION

READING SUPPLEMENTARY COLLECTION FOR BLSERS

- 1 What is the best title of the passage?
- The End of A Secret Agency
 - The Cold War Finally Ends
 - Who Killed The Spy?
 - England In Trouble
- 2 The word 'it' refers to
- Litvinenko died of radiation poisoning
 - The Russian government ordered the murder
 - Litvinenko had many enemies
 - Litvinenko was a top Russian spy and intelligence man
- 3 Which is the best place for the following sentence? **This might have been responsible for his death.**
- [A]
 - [B]
 - [C]
 - [D]
- 4 Which of the sentences below best expresses the information in the underlined sentence the passage?
- People knew the Russian government would kill him.
 - Litvinenko had a cancer.
 - People were aware that Litvinenko's Job was quite dangerous.
 - The US government didn't like him.
- 5 Which of the following is NOT true?
- Alexander Litvinenko worked for the KGB.
 - Litvinenko killed many important Russian politicians and businessmen
 - Litvinenko tried to enter Turkey, America, and Britain.
 - Litvinenko died of chemical poisoning.
- 6 What can be inferred about Litvinenko from the reading?
- Nobody knows exactly who killed him yet.
 - He wanted to be a professional writer.
 - He didn't like what he did for the Russian government.
 - He owed a lot of money to gangsters.

READING TWELVE

The pyramids are one of the **wonders** of the ancient world. They were built as tombs for the pharaohs who were the rulers of Egypt. People often wonder how the Egyptians could build such huge **structures** so long ago. [A] However, with thousands of workers, it may not have been that difficult.

The earliest pharaohs built simpler tombs, called mastabas. These were square buildings with room inside for the **coffin** and some things the pharaohs wanted to take with them to the "afterlife" or life after death. [B] Later, pharaohs wanted more **impressive** tombs, so they began to **place** piles of earth on top of their mastabas. One of the first of these new tombs is now known as the Step Pyramid.

The first truly pointed pyramids were made at Giza. Some experts believe that they began as **ordinary** mastabas. [c] Then tons and tons of **soil** were put on top of the tomb, leaving a tunnel to the outside. Next, huge stones were placed all over the outside of the pyramid. To do this, workers built long **ramps** of dirt and then rolled the stones up the ramps. [D] They made the ramps higher and longer until the top of the pyramid was finished. Then they took the earth ramps away.

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 1. place | a. surprise, amazement, pleasure |
| 2. structure | b. to put, to locate, to move |
| 3. coffin | c. creating an extremely positive feeling |
| 4. ramp | d. a box or chest for burying a dead person |
| 5. wonder | e. something that has been built |
| 6. ordinary | f. usual, common |
| 7. impressive | g. earth, dirt |
| 8. soil | h. a sloping surface used to access a higher or lower level |

READING COMPREHENSION

1. What was probably the author's purpose in writing this reading?
- To persuade the reader to visit the Pyramids
 - To teach the reader some important facts about the Pyramids
 - To entertain the reader with a story about the Pyramids
 - To show how difficult it was to build pyramids
2. Which is the best place for the following sentence? *These included toys, weapons, jewels and other items.*
- [A]
 - [B]
 - [C]
 - [D]
3. Why did the pharaohs build the pyramids?
- They wanted impressive places to live.
 - They believed the pyramids would give them life after death.
 - They wanted impressive tombs.
 - They showed their military power by building pyramids.
4. In the building of a pyramid, which of the following happens FIRST?
- The top of the pyramid was finished.
 - Stones were placed on the outside of the pyramid.
 - Tons of soils were placed on the tomb.
 - A mastaba was built.
5. It can be inferred from the reading that the Step Pyramid _____
- was not built for a pharaoh
 - was not built from a mastaba
 - is not pointed
 - is not large
6. The word 'them' refers to _____
- pharaohs
 - things
 - the coffin and the body
 - jewels

READING THIRTEEN

Death Valley in California is one of the hottest and driest places on Earth. Its average summer temperature is well over 38°C (degrees Celsius), and its average yearly rainfall is less than 5 centimeters. The 210 kilometer-long valley lies in a mostly

READING SUPPLEMENTARY COLLECTION FOR BLSERS

undeveloped area of desert plains and rocky ridges east of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. [A] The valley got its unpleasant name from gold-seekers, some of whom died there during the 1849 California gold rush. **These** "Forty-Niners," the first non-Indians to explore the valley, were followed by other pioneers looking for silver and other precious metals. Each discovery led to the building of new settlements, but most of these did not survive. The hardships of the settlers are recorded in the names of the valley's features: Funeral Mountains, Coffin Peak, Starvation Canyon and Dead Man Pass. [B] However, Death Valley National Park consists of more than 3,000 square kilometers of unique scenery and places of historical interest. Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming became the nation's first national park in 1872. [C] Today, visitors from around the world are attracted to the beauty of the colorful rocks, untouched sand dunes, and rare wildlife. Old mines, ghost towns, and other pieces of evidence give us a view into the lives of the 19th century settlers, and ancient cave paintings and foot-trails remain as reminders of the Indians who lived there even earlier. [D]

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions

- | | | | |
|---|-------------|----|---|
| 1 | pioneer | a. | a long narrow raised part of a mountain |
| 2 | hardship | b. | a small hill of sand |
| 3 | dune | c. | something causing difficult conditions of life |
| 4 | reminder | d. | an important part of something |
| 5 | funeral | e. | a ceremony for burying a dead person |
| 6 | feature | f. | something used to help someone to remember |
| 7 | ridge | g. | one of the first people to do something important |
| 8 | undeveloped | h. | not fully grown |

READING COMPREHENSION

- Which of the following best states the main idea of the passage?
 - Death Valley is famous because it is the hottest place in North America.
 - Death Valley got its name from the early settlers who died there while looking for gold.
 - Death Valley is a very hot, dry place with an interesting history and beautiful scenery.
 - Death Valley is in California and is the hottest and driest place on Earth.
- Which of the following sentences does not belong in the passage?
 - Death Valley in California is one of the hottest and driest places on Earth.
 - These "Forty-Niners," the first non-Indians to explore the Valley, were followed by other pioneers looking for silver and other precious metals.
 - Old mines, ghost towns, and other evidence give us a view into the lives of the 19th century settle
 - Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming became the nation's first national park in 1872.
- Which of the following is NOT mentioned in the passage?
 - How much rain Death Valley gets in summer
 - How long Death Valley is
 - How hot Death Valley is in summer
 - How much rain Death Valley gets in a year
- According to the passage, which of the following is true?
 - Indians were the first to use the name "Death Valley."
 - Indians lived in the Death Valley area before non-Indians.
 - Many Indians live in Death Valley today.
 - No gold was ever found in Death Valley.
- The word 'these' refers to
 - pioneers
 - discovery
 - building
 - settlements
- Which is the best place for the following sentence?
At over 85 meters below sea level, it is the lowest place in North America.
 - [A]
 - [B]
 - [C]
 - [D]

READING FOURTEEN

Alligators and crocodiles are both native to America, and they both belong to the group of animals called crocodilians. They also look similar, and many people might even think they are the same animal. There are several differences that can be used to tell **them** apart. American alligators are much more common than American crocodiles.

Because they hate the cold, alligators live in the southeastern part of the country usually in freshwater lakes and swamps. Their skin is dark with bright stripes and spots of yellow. They eat almost anything they can catch, including fish, birds, and, occasionally people! Until 1970, it was legal to hunt **them**, but too many were killed for their skins. Now there are strict controls on hunting, and alligators are again numerous in many areas. There are also strict controls on the hunting of deer and other animals.

American crocodiles are a bit different. They are even more sensitive to cold, so they live only in the tropical climate of southern Florida. Most crocodiles prefer the saltwater of coastal areas. They are very shy, so people do not often see **them** in the wild. Their skin is grayish-green or brown, and their heads are longer and more triangle-shaped than that of an alligator. They eat only fish and other water animals. Crocodiles are listed as an endangered species, so they are also protected by US law.

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions

- | | | | |
|---|------------|----|--|
| 1 | climate | a. | exact, accurate; having definite rules |
| 2 | swamp | b. | rare; in danger of extinction |
| 3 | coastal | c. | sometimes; from time to time |
| 4 | native | d. | an area of land covered by water |
| 5 | strict | e. | the average weather in an area |
| 6 | tropical | f. | a warm and wet area close to the equator |
| 7 | endangered | g. | growing or living naturally in a place |

8 occasionally h. beside the sea

READING COMPREHENSION

1. *What would be the best title for this passage?*
 - A. Alligators and Crocodiles: American Brothers
 - B. Crocodilians: Similarities and Differences
 - C. The Animals of the Swamp
 - D. Hunting Crocodiles: Terror in the Swamp
- 2 *What don't alligators eat?*
 - A. Water animals
 - B. Fish
 - C. Garbage
 - D. People
3. *The word 'them' refers to -----*
 - A. alligators
 - B. people
 - C. birds
 - D. crocodiles
4. *Which of the following is true?*
 - A. Alligators and crocodiles look exactly the same.
 - B. Alligators and crocodiles both prefer warm places.
 - C. Alligators and crocodiles both often hurt people.
 - D. Alligators and crocodiles are both very numerous.
5. *Which sentence does NOT belong in the reading?*
 - A. They look similar too, so many people might even think they are the same animals.
 - B. Their skin is dark, with bright stripes and spots of yellow.
 - C. There are also strict controls on the hunting of deer and other animals.
 - D. They eat only fish and other water animals.
6. *Which of the following words best describes how the passage is written?*
 - A. Chronographic
 - B. Storytelling
 - C. Comparative
 - D. Argumentative

READING FIFTEEN

Although there is a great **variety** of wedding styles in the United States, most weddings still follow certain traditions. One such tradition is an old saying that **dates back** to 19th century England about what a bride should wear or carry: "Something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue." [A] A bride wears "something old" to remind her of her family and the past. Some brides wear their mother's wedding dress or a piece of her jewelry.

"Something new" means good luck and hope for a happy future with her new husband. Again, this **item** may be the dress, but often it is a pair of new shoes. "Something borrowed" means that the bride has friends and family who will help her whenever she needs them. For example, she may wear a married friend's **bridal** veil or carry a friend's handkerchief. [B] "Something blue" is a symbol of **trust** and faith between the bride and **groom**. These days, some brides are creative with this item. They may paint their fingernails a light blue color for example. [C] However, the blue item is most often the **garter** worn on the bride's leg.

Another tradition, **by the way**, says that the groom should take the garter after the ceremony and throw it to the single men. The man who catches it will be the next one to get married. [D]

VOCABULARY CHECK . *Match the words with their definitions*

1	item	a. many different things
2	bridal	b. a man just married or about to be married
3	date back	c. a band worn to hold up a stocking or sock
4	variety	d. a single thing in a collection
5	by the way	e. faith, belief
6	groom	f. belonging or relating to a bride
7	garter	g. to be traced to a certain point in time
8	trust	h. in addition, as long as we're on the subject

READING COMPREHENSION

1. *Which of the following is a good title for the reading?*
 - A. How to Plan a Traditional Wedding
 - B. What You Should Wear on Your Wedding Day
 - C. A Wedding Tradition and Its Meaning
 - D. Different Types of Weddings
2. *To remind her of her family and the past, the bride might*
 - A. wear her mother's wedding dress
 - B. wear a pair of new shoes
 - C. carry a friend's handkerchief
 - D. paint her fingernails a light blue color
3. *Which item shows that the bride has helpful friends and family?*
 - A. Something old
 - B. Something new
 - C. Something borrowed
 - D. Something blue
4. *The word 'it' refers to -----*
 - A. item
 - B. dress
 - C. future
 - D. luck
5. *Which is the best place for the following sentence? **Each of these things has a special meaning for the bride.***
 - A. [A]
 - B. [B]
 - C. [C]
 - D. [D]
6. *What is the reason the author mentioned **They may paint their fingernails a light blue color?***
 - A. to show how important something blue is
 - B. because so many brides paint their fingernails a light blue color
 - C. to show how creative some brides are
 - D. to explain why some brides don't use blue garters

READING SIXTEEN

Vietnam was America's largest and bloodiest fight with **communism**. US **involvement** in Vietnam started as early as 1944 when American intelligence agents began working secretly there. After the country was divided into North and South in

READING SUPPLEMENTARY COLLECTION FOR BLSERS

1959, a series of events seemed to lead **inevitably** to war. [A] In 1963, there was a **military takeover** of South Vietnam, and its President Diem was **assassinated**. The following year, the communist North attacked an American ship, and the US felt that it had to respond. Congress gave President Johnson full power to send troops to the fight. [B] The American people's reaction to the war was so **passionate** largely because of the new **medium** of television. For the first time, TV news brought pictures of the bloody battles and dead soldiers right into everyone's living room every evening. People began to realize that the government was not giving them the full truth about the war. Huge demonstrations were organized, the first of which was in Washington in 1965. [C] Even some US soldiers in Vietnam were questioning America's involvement in the war. They made their protests by wearing peace signs on their uniforms, or by refusing to follow orders. Historians still argue about how much influence the anti-war movement had on government policy, but everyone can agree that both the war and the protests at home left the country feeling broken and battered. [D]

VOCABULARY CHECK .Match the words with their definitions.

1	military	a. a form of government with industries owned by the state
2	communism	b. taking part in something
3	takeover	c. to kill someone for political reasons
4	inevitably	d. in a way that cannot be avoided
5	assassinate	e. the act of taking control by force
6	involvement	f. a country's army, navy and air force
7	medium	g. having very strong feelings or emotions
8	passionate	h. a way of communicating

READING COMPREHENSION

1 What is the best title for the passage?

- A. A Brief History of South Vietnam
- B. American Support for the War in Vietnam
- C. The Vietnam War and its Effects on the US
- D. Vietnam: An Unjust War

2 The US first became involved in Vietnam in -----

- A. 1963 B. 1959 C. 1944 D. 1940

3 What caused the US to start sending troops to Vietnam?

- A. The assassination of President Diem
- B. The assassination of President Kennedy
- C. A military takeover by the North Vietnamese
- D. An attack by the North Vietnamese

4 What was NOT a result of television news about the war?

- A. Americans did not believe government reports on the war.
- B. Americans reacted strongly to the loss of US soldiers.
- C. Many people joined anti-war demonstrations.
- D. Americans came to understand the war.

5 The word 'them' refers to

- A. soldiers B. living room C. people D. government

6 Which is the best place for the following sentence?

Soon, US soldiers started dying, and the anti-war movement began.

- A. [A] B. [B] C. [C] D. [D]

READING SEVENTEEN

A **superstition** is a traditional belief in the magical effects of a **particular** action or thing. Many superstitions are related to luck. For example, breaking a mirror or spilling salt brings bad luck. On the other hand, carrying a rabbit's foot or being born on a Sunday brings good luck. According to other superstitions, specific actions bring specific results. Guests throw rice at a wedding to **ensure** that the couple will have many children. Wearing a white wedding dress was made popular by England's Queen Victoria. And, if a female wedding guest puts a piece of the wedding cake under her pillow at night, she will dream about her future husband.

Although many people **ridicule** such beliefs as **irrational** and unscientific, some of **them** may have a **practical** origin. Hanging garlic around a child's neck is supposed to provide protection from illness. Garlic may really have this effect, but because the strong smell keeps sick people away from the child! Another superstition states that lighting three cigarettes with one match will bring bad luck. This belief probably began during World War I when at night, a match that stayed lit too long **provided** a target for the enemy.

Every human culture in history has had some superstitious beliefs. Almost all people behave in a superstitious way once in a while. Maybe that is because everyone at sometime feels afraid or uncertain about the future. Superstitions can be **comforting**. They give people a sense of knowledge and control over what happens to **them**.

VOCABULARY CHECK .Match the words with their definitions

1	provide	belief in things unreal or impossible
2	comforting	to make sure or certain
3	ridicule	making to feel less sad or anxious
4	particular	relating to actual work and reality rather than imagination
5	superstition	not using reason or clear thinking
6	ensure	to laugh at someone in an unkind way
7	irrational	specific, special
8	practical	to give, to offer

READING COMPREHENSION

- 1 *What is the topic of the passage?*
 - A. Meanings and origins of superstitions
 - B. Superstitions from different cultures
 - C. Superstitions with practical origins
 - D. Superstitions about health
- 2 *According to the passage, which of the following brings good luck?*
 - A. Spilling salt
 - B. Lighting three cigarettes
 - C. Breaking a mirror
 - D. Carrying a rabbit's foot
- 3 *Which of the following sentences does NOT belong in the passage?*
 - A. According to other superstitions, specific actions bring specific results.
 - B. Wearing a white wedding dress was made popular by England's Queen Victoria.
 - C. Although many people ridicule such beliefs as irrational and unscientific, some of them may have a practical origin
 - D. Every human culture in history has had some superstitious beliefs.
- 4 *It can be inferred from this passage that*
 - A. all superstitions are related to luck
 - B. all superstitions have practical origins
 - C. all superstitions are related to magical effects
 - D. all superstitions are scientifically proven
- 5 *The word 'them' refers to*
 - A. superstitions
 - B. people
 - C. knowledge and control
 - D. beliefs
- 6 *According to the passage, superstitions are common because they*
 - A. make people feel better
 - B. have practical origins
 - C. are often true
 - D. are followed by educated people

READING EIGHTEEN

The ancient Olympic Games were first held in 776 BC in honor of Zeus, the father of the Greek gods. [A] They were quite different from the modern Olympics. They were shorter than the modern Games lasting only one to five days. The modern Games last two weeks. [B] There also were fewer events including running, boxing, and long jump. [C] Only men who spoke Greek were allowed to compete, and women were not even allowed to watch the events. [D] While today's Games move to a different city each time, the ancient Games were always held in Olympia. Olympia was probably chosen because it had a famous temple **dedicated** to Zeus. It was also convenient to reach by ship, and this was important because **participants** and **spectators** came from distant Greek colonies for the Games. These **colonies** were as far away as modern-day Turkey, Spain, Egypt, and Ukraine.

Like today's Olympics, the ancient Games **took place** every four years. Another similarity between the ancient and modern Games is the promotion of peace and cooperation. A **truce** among the different Greek cities was **declared for** the month before the Olympics in order to allow the athletes to arrive safely. Judges could fine cities and **ban their** athletes from competition for breaking the truce. Today, the goal of the International Olympic Committee is to bring "warm friendship to all the people-of the world through sharing and global togetherness."

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions

1. declare	a. to give or offer something for certain purposes
2. truce	b. a person taking part in an activity
3. ban	c. an area controlled by a more powerful country
4. spectator	d. to happen, to occur
5. take place	e. a viewer of an event
6. participant	f. a brief pause in fighting
7. dedicate	g. to announce something publicly or officially to
8. colony	h. not allow officially

READING COMPREHENSION

- 1 *Which of the following is the best title for the passage?*
 - A. The Ancient and Modern Olympics: Differences and Similarities
 - B. How the Olympics Began
 - C. Similarities Between the Ancient and Modern Olympics
 - D. How the Olympics Have Changed
- 2 *Which of the following is NOT true of the ancient Olympics?*
 - A. They did not include women.
 - B. They were always held in Olympia
 - C. They had fewer events than the modern games.
 - D. They were longer than the modern Games.
- 3 *According to the passage, Olympia was a good place for the Games because*
 - A. it was the most important city in Greece
 - B. it was easy to travel to
 - C. many athletes lived there
 - D. it had the largest temple in Greece
- 4 *The word 'their' refers to -----*
 - A. Olympics
 - B. Judges
 - C. athletes
 - D. cities
- 5 *It can be inferred from the passage that*
 - A. ancient Greek cities almost never broke the truce
 - B. Judges of the ancient Games were involved in government
 - C. the different ancient Greek cities sometimes fought each other
 - D. athletes often fought each other during the ancient Games
- 6 *Which is the best place for the following sentence? Today's Games, or course, are open to everyone.*
 - A. [A]
 - B. [B]
 - C. [C]
 - D. [D]

READING NINETEEN

During the 1960s and 70s, Love Canal was a **typical** small town in Niagara Falls, New York. People grew up and lived their lives the same way as the people in any other small town all over the country. Unfortunately, the **residents** of Love Canal didn't know that something was happening in their town that would soon become national news. [A] In 1942, before the town was built, the Hooker Corporation bought land in Love Canal. For the following 10 years, the company buried more than 21,000 tons

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of toxic waste there. When they could no longer bury any more toxic waste, the Hooker Corporation sold the land back to the town. Houses were built on the spot. Over the years, children of these families began to get sick. More than half of the children born in Love Canal had **asthma**, breathing problems, and horrible birth **defects**. [B] When people heard about the problems in Love Canal, they began to **protest**. Soon, the news media began reporting the story. [C] The Love Canal families were **relocated**, and the Hooker Corporation was forced to pay \$129 million. [D] The Love Canal **Incident** shows just how horrifying the problem of toxic waste can be. Many people wonder how many other sites around the world are filled with toxic waste. There is one piece of good news, though. The Love Canal Incident also showed that these companies could be **sued** successfully. This may make them think twice before destroying people's lives.

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions

1	defect	a. to move to a new place
2	resident	b. a person who lives or has their home in a place
3	protest	c. to act upon one's displeasure over something
4	sue	d. a medical condition which makes breathing difficult
5	asthma	e. to take legal action against a person or organization
6	incident	f. to be like a certain group of things
7	typical	g. something (usually bad) that happens
8	relocate	h. something that is wrong with someone's body

READING COMPREHENSION

1 What is the best title of the passage?

- A. Love Canal A Family Place
- B. A Tragic Event
- C. The Secret of Pollution
- D. The Clever Hooker Cooperation

2 Which is the best place for the following sentence?

A disaster was developing.

- A. [A] B. [C] C. [B] D. [D]

3 The word 'them' refers to -----.

- A. companies B. wastes C. people D. sites

4 What did the Hooker Corporation do with the land after they finished using it?

- A. They closed it to visitors.
- B. They sold it back to the town.
- C. They built a park on it.
- D. They built a highway on it

5 What can be inferred from the reading?

- A. Love Canal was famous even before the accident.
- B. The Hooker Corporation didn't buy land in Love Canal to bury toxic wastes.
- C. Children in Love Canal suffered from the shortage of medical system.
- D. Not many companies were sued successfully before the incident.

6 The author mentioned the underlined sentence in order to

- A. introduce a good place to live in
- B. show why the Hooker Corporation chose the place
- C. show that Love Canal was just like other towns
- D. indicate that toxic wastes are usually buried in small towns

READING TWENTY

Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley, author of *Frankenstein*, was born to write. Her mother was one of the world's first **feminist** writers, and her father was a **prominent** journalist and political author. As Mary was growing up, her parents' **acquaintances** included the great poets William Blake and Samuel Taylor Coleridge. Mary herself published her first poem at the age of ten. When she was sixteen years old, she ran away with another famous poet, Percy Bysshe Shelley. They married four years later.

In the summer of 1816, Mary and Percy were visiting their friend Lord Byron. Byron challenged her to write a horror story. Mary had heard from her husband about recent experiments in which scientists used electricity to make dead animals' muscles move. She decided to write about a scientist, Dr. Victor Frankenstein, who brings a dead man back to life in the same way. The book was completed a year later when Mary was only nineteen.

Frankenstein brought Mary fame when it was published in 1818 although at first some people doubted that a nineteen-year-old woman could have written it.

They **suspected** that her husband was the true author. In the novel, the "monster" that Dr. Frankenstein creates is intelligent and longs for friendship, but other people reject **him** out of terror and **disgust** at his strange appearance. In **despair**, the monster **torments** and kills the man who had created him. The novel uses a frightening and suspenseful story to show how modern science can have terrible, **unintended** results. Mary Shelley wrote several more novels, but none of them achieved as much popularity as *Frankenstein*.

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions

1	torment	a. a person believing in the power of women
2	unintended	b. very well known and important
3	disgust	c. a person that you have met but do not know well
4	suspect	d. to show strong feelings of dislike
5	prominent	e. hopelessness, depression
6	despair	f. to cause a person or animal to suffer
7	acquaintance	g. to not trust, to doubt
8	feminist	h. not planned

READING COMPREHENSION

READING SUPPLEMENTARY COLLECTION FOR BLSERS

- 1 *What is the topic of the passage?*
 A. Mary Shelley's writing career
 B. The author and history of Frankenstein
 C. The popularity of Frankenstein
 D. The major events of Mary Shelly's life
- 2 *Which of the following is NOT true of Mary Shelley?*
 A. Her parents were both writers.
 B. She married Percy Bysshe Shelley at the age of sixteen.
 C. She wrote Frankenstein in a year.
 D. She wrote Frankenstein in response to a challenge from Byron
- 3 *It can be inferred from the passage that Frankenstein*
 A. was Mary Shelley's first novel
 B. was the most popular novel of its time
 C. was partly written by Lord Byron
 D. was Mary Shelley's only novel
- 4 *According to the passage, which of the following is true of Frankenstein?*
 A. Most people today think that Percy Shelley wrote it.
 B. It is about a scientist with a strange and frightening appearance.
 C. Mary Shelley used scientific ideas in writing it.
 D. It describes a monster with no human feelings.
- 5 *The word 'him' refers to -----*
 A. husband B. monster C. Dr. Frankenstein D. None of the above
- 6 *Which of the sentences below best expresses the information in the underlined sentence in the passage?*
 A. Shelley's husband wrote the novel.
 B. Shelley was a habitual liar.
 C. People did not believe that a young woman could write so well.
 D. There were too many dishonest writers at that time.

READING TWENTY- ONE

It's not surprising that the birthplace of cola was the hot and humid American South. This region had long specialized in creating delicious soft drinks. A druggist in Atlanta, Georgia named John Pemberton created the most well-known drink brand in the world in the 1880s. However, it seems clear that he had no idea how big it would become.

Like many American pharmacists of the day, Pemberton was opposed to the drinking of alcohol and wanted to produce a stimulating soft drink. First, he made "the French Wine of Coca," made from the coca leaf. Then, he began to experiment with the cola nut. Eventually, he managed to make a combination of the two that he thought was sweet, but not too sweet. Deciding that "the two C's would look well in advertising," he named it Coca-Cola.

Pemberton's invention caught on fairly quickly. By 1905, "Coke" was being advertised all over the country as "The Great Natural Temperance Drink." The drink enjoyed additional success since there was a large and popular temperance movement in the US at that time. In the 1920s, alcohol was outlawed, and sales of Coke rose significantly. However, they continued to rise even after the law was repealed.

Another reason for Coke's popularity was good business sense. A year after he invented it, Pemberton had sold Coca-Cola to Asa Griggs Candler for only 20 \$283.26! Candler was a marketing genius, and by the time he sold the Coca-Cola Company in 1919, it was worth \$25 million.

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions

1	repeal	a.	to make illegal, to ban
2	significantly	b.	to be skillful in a certain subject or field
3	specialize	c.	meaningfully, importantly
4	temperance	d.	a person skilled in making or selling medicine
5	outlaw	e.	to remove something, especially a law
6	stimulate	f.	to become popular
7	pharmacist	g.	avoidance of alcoholic drink
8	catch on	h.	to make excited, to give energy

READING COMPREHENSION

- 1 *Which of the following would be a good title for the reading?*
 A. The Invention and History of Coca-Cola
 B. Why Cola is the World's Most Popular Soft Drink
 C. John Pemberton and Coca-Cola
 D. Coca-Cola and the Temperance Movement
- 2 *According to the reading, the birthplace of Coca-Cola is "not surprising" because*
 A. almost all Southerners were opposed to alcohol
 B. the South had a history of inventing soft drinks
 C. most pharmacists came from the South
 D. Coca-Cola means the South
- 3 *The word 'it' refers to*
 A. sense B. genius C. time D. company
- 4 *Which of the following is responsible for Coke's additional success?*
 A. The temperance movement
 B. Its great taste
 C. Pemberton's good business sense
 D. Its name
- 5 *Which of the following happened LAST?*
 A. Asa Candler sold the company.
 B. Coke was advertised as the "Great National Temperance Drink."
 C. John Pemberton sold Coca-Cola.
 D. Alcohol was outlawed.
- 6 *It can be inferred that sales of Coke increased during the 1920's because -----*
 A. people could not drink alcohol
 B. it had become cheaper
 C. the government encouraged it
 D. the sales of other soft drinks were outlawed in America

READING TWENTY - TWO

READING SUPPLEMENTARY COLLECTION FOR BLSERS

The Sun is huge compared to Earth, but **it's** not the largest type of star. The biggest stars are called, appropriately, giants. Giants are old, dying stars, and are many times larger than our Sun. [A]

One of the most surprising discoveries in recent astronomy was a giant star, about 13 times the radius of the Sun with a planet in orbit around **it**. This is the first time a planet has been found orbiting a giant star. Until this discovery, scientists were not sure that it was even possible since planets are usually consumed when a star expands into a giant.

The star is called Iota Draconis, and **it** is one hundred light years from Earth. [B] Astronomers found the planet using the "wobble technique." This is detecting and measuring the gravitational pull exerted by the planet on the star. **It** actually causes the star to wobble slightly! They have estimated that the planet's mass is about nine times that of Jupiter, the largest planet in our solar system. [C]

Another reason for the high level of interest in this news is that the Sun will also someday evolve into a giant star comparable in size to Iota Draconis. [D] Of course, this will not happen for several billion years. Scientists used to be certain that Earth would be destroyed by the Sun's expansion. Now we know that there is at least a chance for Earth to survive!

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions

1	gravitational	a. to use fuel, energy, or time
2	evolve	b. to put force or physical pressure on something
3	estimate	c. to discover something or find by careful search
4	wobble	d. relating to or resulting from the force of gravity
5	radius	e. the distance between center of a circle to its edge
6	detect	f. to move or rotate with an uneven or rocking motion
7	exert	g. to gradually change and develop over a period of time
8	consume	h. to say what you think an amount or value will be

READING COMPREHENSION

1 What is the topic of the passage?

- A. Stars that are larger than the Sun
- B. A recent astronomical discovery
- C. Differences between the Sun and Iota Draconis
- D. The planets of our solar system

2 Which is the best place for the following sentence?

Nobody knows whether Earth can survive this change.

- A. [A] B. [B] C. [C] D. [D]

3 Which of the following is true of Iota Draconis?

- A. It is the largest giant star ever found.
- B. It is the largest planet found in orbit around a giant star.
- C. It is the first giant star found with an orbiting planet.
- D. It is the first planet found orbiting a giant star.

4 What does the "wobble technique" measure?

- A. The mass of a star
- B. A planet's gravitational pull on a star
- C. The distance of a planet from Earth
- D. The shape of a planet's orbit

5 The word 'it' refers to -----

- A. discovery B. giant star C. Sun D. planet

6 It can be inferred that -----

- A. life on Earth will definitely survive for several billion years
- B. giant stars always have planets orbiting them
- C. Earth might survive the Sun's expansion
- D. without question, the Sun will burn up every planet in the solar system

READING TWENTY - THREE

Computers can do a lot of wonderful things, but they cannot understand how you are feeling. That may soon change however.

Computer engineers at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (M.I.T.) are working on the new field of "sensitive computing." They are designing computers and software that can identify your mood and emotions as you work on them. A "virtual buddy" on the screen will then be able to respond appropriately. It will tell you a joke if you are bored, cheer you up if you are sad, and offer help if you are having trouble with an **assignment**.

To sense your feelings, a computer should be able to hear, see, and touch its users. So far, the sensitive computers at M.I.T. can do two out of three. The cameras watch your facial expressions, eye movements and **posture**. Sensors on the mouse measure the pressure of your hand and how much your palm is sweating.

[A] **Equipping** computers with sensors is easy, but teaching them to **interpret** the information is the real challenge. Clicking the mouse very hard several times probably **indicates** anger, but other signals are more difficult. [B] While it may take years, the engineers are quite sure that they can solve such problems.

Moreover, virtual buddies may not be **limited** to computers. [C] It is possible that someday, your MP3 player will "know" when you are feeling worried and choose a relaxing song. Or, perhaps your cell phone will sense that you are lonely and call your best friend for you. [D]

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

1	limit	a job, task, or duty
2	virtual	a friend
3	buddy	almost real, realistic pretend
4	assignment	to decide what the meaning of something is
5	indicate	to provide objects that are necessary for a purpose
6	posture	the way in which someone stands
7	equip	to show that something will happen
8	interpret	restrict

READING COMPREHENSION

- 1 Which of the following is the best title for the passage?
- Recent Discoveries at M.I.T.
 - Computers That Act Like Friends
 - Computers That Control Your Emotions
 - Sensors on Computers, MP3 Players and Cell Phones
- 2 What is a virtual buddy?
- An engineer who works in the field of sensitive computing
 - A person who sends jokes and other messages to your computer
 - An onscreen friend created by software on a sensitive computer
 - A buddy you can meet regularly
- 3 Which is the best place for the following sentence?
A frown can mean you are unhappy, or it can simply mean that you are concentrating.
- [A]
 - [B]
 - [C]
 - [D]

- 4 The word 'them' refers to -----
- computers and software
 - mood and emotions
 - engineers
 - things
- 5 It can be inferred that so far, the sensitive computers are NOT able to
- see
 - hear
 - touch
 - calculate
- 6 According to the passage, which of the following is true?
- It is difficult to equip computers with sensors.
 - Engineers have already completed their work on sensitive computers.
 - Engineers have also made virtual buddies for MP3 players and cell phones.
 - Virtual buddies may not be limited to computer

READING TWENTY-FOUR

To understand how the Rocky Mountains formed, we need to understand plate tectonics, the theory of how the Earth's surface moves and changes. According to this theory, the surface of the Earth is made up of a series of continental and oceanic plates, each of which moves over the **molten** rock under the surface of the entire planet. Two hundred million years ago, all the continents **comprised** one large land mass known as Pangaea. Slowly, this giant continental plate broke apart and the new, smaller continents began to **drift**.

At one time, the North American Plate was moving to the west and the Pacific Plate was moving to the north. These plates violently hit each other at least twice in history, creating the Rocky Mountains. The first **collision** occurred about 175 million years ago. It caused a shock wave that moved east, forcing huge masses of rock to crack and slide up over their neighbors. This is known as **thrust faulting**. The shock wave gradually formed the mountain ranges across Western Canada and the United States. The second collision occurred around 5 million years ago. The force behind this collision provided the energy needed to complete the Rockies and the foothills. Eventually, the force **subsided** as it approached Calgary, and the **prairies** were left flat.

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

1	drift	a.	to become less intense, to fall to a lower level
2	molten	b	a strong push
3	comprise	c.	a break in the rock layers of the Earth's crust caused by stress
4	fault	d.	to make up the whole of something
5	collision	e.	a violent meeting of objects; a crash
6	thrust	f	a wide area of flat land without trees
7	subside	g	to move in a slow, smooth way
8	prairie	h.	a liquid state of a solid due to great heat

READING COMPREHENSION

- 1 Which of the following is the best title for the passage?
- Pangaea and the Rockies
 - The Theory of Plate Tectonics
 - Basic Facts about the Rockies
 - Plate Tectonics and the Rockies
- 2 Why does the author include the information the theory of how the Earth's surface moves and changes?
- To explain the meaning of plate tectonics
 - To introduce the topic of the passage
 - To indicate that plate tectonic theory has not been proven
 - To explain why the formation of the Rockies is hard to understand
- 3 The word 'which' refers to -----'
- surface
 - Earth
 - plates
 - series
- 4 It can be inferred from the passage that _
- Calgary does not have very high mountains
 - Calgary has very high mountains
 - the second shock wave was larger than the first
 - the second shock wave was smaller than the first
- 5 Which of the sentences below best expresses the information in the second underlined sentence in the passage?
- The shock wave produced by the collision moved large pieces of rock to the east.
 - The collision's shock wave moved east and caused large cracks in the Earth's surface.
 - As it moved east, the force of the collision caused large pieces of Earth to break and move upward.
 - The collision formed the Rockies as it moved east.
- 6 The passage indicates all of the following EXCEPT that
- the Rockies were formed by collisions between two plates
 - the Rockies are located in both Canada and the US
 - the first collision resulted in thrust faulting
 - the foothills of the Rockies were formed by the first collision

READING TWENTY- FIVE

Black Hawk' was the name of a great Native American warrior in the early days of the United States. Black Hawk was the **chief** of the Sauks, a tribe of natives that wanted to keep their lands away from white settlers. When the Americans went to

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war with Britain in 1812, the British wanted Black Hawk to help them. **In return**, the British promised to return the lands that had been stolen from the natives. [A] During the War of 1812, Black Hawk **commanded** a large army of native soldiers, and fought many battles with the American general Henry Procter. As the war **raged** on, Black Hawk became more **discouraged** with the losses of life. He decided to sign a peace treaty in 1816 to stop the war. Unfortunately, the British broke their promise and refused to give the natives back their land. [B] Throughout the 1820s and 1830s, Black Hawk battled the United States Army all over the country. In 1832, the Black Hawk War began. Once again, Black Hawk fought to **regain** the natives' lost lands. The war was long and difficult, and many of Black Hawk's soldiers were killed in battle. [C] Black Hawk might have been forgotten by history, but in 1833, he got the opportunity to tell his life story to a government interpreter. Black Hawk's biography was the first Native American **biography** published in the United States. Finally, the American people were able to see Black Hawk's **dignity** and courage for themselves. [D]

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

1	regain	a. self-respect, pride, nobility
2	chief	b. to happen in a strong or violent way
3	in return	c. to get again, to have returned
4	command	d. to feel unwilling to continue; frustrated
5	rage	e. the ruler of a tribe
6	biography	f. in exchange
7	discouraged	g. to give someone an order
8	dignity	h. someone's life story written by another person

READING COMPREHENSION

1 What is the best title of the passage?

- A. The Most Fierce Battle in American History
- B. Native Indians Were Battered in America
- C. Who Killed Native Indians in America?
- D. An Extraordinary Warrior

2 How did Black Hawk become famous?

- A. He was the last surviving member of the Sauk tribe.
- B. His biography was published.
- C. He became a great politician.
- D. He was an important American army general.

3 The word 'them' refers to _____

- A. Indians B. Americans C. British D. lands

4 Which is the best place for the following sentence?

Black Hawk was now known as a great leader as well as a great warrior.

- A. [A] B. [B] C. [C] D. [D]

5 The author mentions the underlined sentence in order to

- A. stress how many events were forgotten in history
- B. state that his achievement may not be that significant
- C. explain why he was forgotten by history
- D. stress the importance of his biography

6 Which of the following is NOT true?

- A. Black Hawk was the chief of the Sauks.
- B. Black Hawk battled the British Army for America.
- C. Black Hawk's biography was the first Native American biography in America.
- D. Black Hawk was betrayed by the English.

READING TWENTY – SIX

The discovery of insulin was the result of experiments by a Canadian doctor named Frederick Banting. [A] He had served in World War I, and had seen many horrible things. When he returned to Canada, Banting wanted to do work that would relieve human suffering. [B] Banting worked with a medical student named Charles Best. [C] With Best's help, he discovered that diabetes is caused by the lack of a hormone called insulin. [D] This was the first hormone ever discovered. Insulin is made in the pancreas by cells called islet cells, and its function is to help the body absorb carbohydrates in food that give it energy. If the body doesn't make insulin, it gradually starves to death. Before Banting's discovery, the best method for treating this condition was a strict diet. Unfortunately, the diet was only a temporary solution. Most people still wasted away and died very young.

Banting and Best discovered a way to make insulin from islet cells in cows and pigs. Then they purified it and injected it into patients. When properly used, the insulin allows cells in the body to absorb carbohydrates. It is not a cure, but it allows many people with diabetes to live long and almost normal lives. Today, researchers are experimenting with islet cell transplants in order to find a permanent cure. However, none of their research would be possible without the discoveries made by Banting and Best.

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

1. permanent	a. an operation in which a new organ is put into someone's body
2. purify	b. to become very thin and weak
3. diabetes	c. to make pain less unpleasant
4. absorb	d. to take something in
5. inject	e. disease interrupting the level of sugar in the blood
6. relieve	f. lasting forever
7. transplant	g. to make something clean
8. waste away	h. to put a liquid into a person's body using a needle

READING COMPREHENSION

1 Which of the following is the best title for the passage?

- A. An Important Medical Discovery
- B. The First Hormone
- C. The Causes of Diabetes
- D. The Career of Frederick Banting

2 The word 'their' refers to -----

- A. discoveries B. people C. transplants D. researchers

3 Which is the best place for the following sentence?

He became a research doctor and began working on a cure for diabetes.

- A. [A] B. [B] C. [C] D. [D]

4 It is NOT stated in the passage that

- A. people with diabetes cannot eat carbohydrates
- B. a strict diet used to be the main treatment for diabetes
- C. cows and pigs also have islet cells that produce insulin
- D. research is being done on islet cell transplants

5 Why does the author include the information: **It is not a cure, but it allows many people with diabetes to live long and almost normal lives?**

- A. To give a reason for Banting's interest in insulin
- B. To explain that there will never be a cure for diabetes
- C. To explain the significance of Banting's discovery
- D. To emphasize that diabetes is no longer a dangerous disease

6 It can be inferred from the passage that

- A. the important discovery was actually made by a medical student
- B. Banting made his discovery while serving in World War I
- C. diabetes prevents the body from absorbing carbohydrates
- D. Banting discovered other hormones after insulin

READING TWENTY – SEVEN

In 1905, Albert Einstein was a recent university graduate who had married a fellow student and was working as a **patent** clerk in Bern, Switzerland. He was having trouble getting promoted and was not entirely satisfied with his job, but at least it allowed him leisure time to spend in pubs talking with friends, taking long walks, and thinking. [A] Even as a child, Einstein had always enjoyed working out physics problems.

He had published a few physics articles as a student though none made much of an impression on the scientific community. However, Einstein continued to think about problems in **theoretical** physics. [B]

One day in the spring of 1905, Einstein went for a stroll with his best friend, Michele Besso. He told Michele that he felt very close to some kind of **breakthrough** though his ideas were not entirely clear yet. He went to bed that night feeling uneasy, but woke up the next morning feeling, as he wrote later, "the greatest excitement." [C] Over the next several weeks, he wrote the first **draft** of the article that introduced the world to the theory of **relativity**. Soon after sending it to a physics journal for publication, he realized that he had forgotten something. He mailed a three-page **supplement** to the journal, explaining "a very interesting conclusion" to which his **investigations** had led him. Near the end of the supplement appeared the **equation** that would change the world: $E = mc^2$. [D]

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 1. draft | a. dealing with ideas or speculation |
| 2. patent | b. an important new discovery |
| 3. equation | c. an examination or questioning of something |
| 4. supplement | d. the first version of something written |
| 5. theoretical | e. the relationship between time, space, and motion |
| 6. relativity | f. something used to replace something else |
| 7. investigation | g. a mathematical sentence |
| 8. breakthrough | h. an exclusive right to make or sell an invention |

READING COMPREHENSION

1 Which of the following would be a good title for the reading?

- A. The Life of Albert Einstein
- B. Albert Einstein's Breakthrough
- C. Einstein's Theory of Relativity
- D. Albert Einstein and Michele Besso

2 Which of the following was true of Einstein in 1905?

- A. He was married.
- B. He did not have a job.
- C. He had published several important physics Articles.
- D. He was a professor.

3 Einstein went to bed "feeling uneasy" because

- A. he was worried that his ideas were wrong
- B. his breakthrough had not happened yet
- C. he was worried about getting promoted
- D. his friend had disagreed with him

4 Which is the best place for the following sentence?

Now, Einstein could answer the questions that had been bothering him.

- A. [A] B. [B] C. [C] D. [D]

5 The word 'it' refers to -----

- A. world B. relativity C. theory D. draft

6 It can be inferred from the reading that

- A. Einstein did not consider $E=mc^2$ an important part of his article
- B. Einstein continued thinking about his ideas after writing the article
- C. Einstein later wrote at least one more draft of the article
- D. Einstein didn't know the importance of the equation

READING TWENTY – EIGHT

Canada is a young country. It became a country in 1867, but it has changed a lot since then. Many western provinces didn't join Canada until 1905, and some maritime provinces didn't join until 1949. Nunavut did not join until 1999. This means that Canada as a whole country is very young indeed!

Throughout Canada's history, it has been very concerned about its neighbor to the south, the United States. Like the US, Canada began as a colony of England. It acquired home rule in 1867, partly because Canadians worried that the Americans would

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try to conquer their country after the American Civil War. Early Canadians pressed westward because they feared that the United States would try to seize that land first.

Canada and the United States have a peaceful relationship and are among the closest allies in the world. Still, Canada remains worried about the influence of the US. Canadians worry that there is too much American TV, movies, and culture in Canada. They also worry that the rest of the world cannot differentiate their culture from American culture. However, Canada also depends heavily on the United States for economics and trade. Canada tries very hard to emphasize the differences between the two countries and maintain a distinct identity, even while maintaining a friendly relationship. The US threat to Canada may not be military, but Canada still feels the pressure from America in a real and constant way.

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

- | | | |
|---|-----------|---|
| 1 | maintain | a. to take something and hold it |
| 2 | emphasize | b. to give importance to something |
| 3 | military | c. to keep up, to continue |
| 4 | ally | d. clearly separate and different from something else |
| 5 | acquire | e. near the sea or coast |
| 6 | maritime | f. to get something through an effort |
| 7 | seize | g. armed forces |
| 8 | distinct | h. a country that helps another in times of war |

READING COMPREHENSION

1 Which of the following is the best title for the passage?

- A. The Early History of Canada
- B. American Culture in Canada
- C. A Comparison of Canadian and American Culture
- D. Canada and Its View of the US

2 Which of the following is true of Canada, according to the passage?

- A. It was once a part of the United States.
- B. It was ruled by England until 1867.
- C. It fought a war for independence from England.
- D. It was heavily involved in the American Civil War.

3 The word 'their' refers to -----

- A. TV, movies, and culture
- B. Canadians
- C. United States
- D. allies

4 It can be inferred from the passage that _____

- A. Canada and the US often disagree on military matters
- B. Canadians want their country to be more like the US
- C. Canadian culture and American culture are the same
- D. Trade relations are an important part of the Canada-US relationship

5 Which of the following is NOT true of Canadians, according to the passage?

- A. They want to continue being a close ally of the United States.
- B. They settled western Canada in order to prevent Americans from doing so.
- C. They want the world to see that they are different from Americans.
- D. They watch only American TV and movies.

6 Which of the sentences below best expresses the information in the underlined sentence in the passage?

- A. Canada tries to be different from the US because it worries about American influence.
- B. Canada is trying to establish friendship with the United States so that it can maintain a separate identity.
- C. Canada wants to stay friends with the US while keeping its identity separate.
- D. Canada's close relationship with the US prevents it from having its own identity.

READING TWENTY – NINE

Crude oil is removed from the earth by drilling into the ground and drawing it out through a well. As the world's supply of this kind of oil is disappearing, tar sands are being explored as an **alternative** source of oil.

Tar sands are not sand made of tar. Rather, they are a **combination** of clay, sand, water, and bitumen. Bitumen is a very thick form of oil that, unlike crude, does not flow easily. For this reason, it is much more difficult to remove from the ground. It must be **obtained** by either strip mining or by putting chemicals and hot water into the ground **which** force the bitumen to flow into oil wells. The first technique destroys the landscape, while the second **uses up** large amounts of water and pollutes the environment. However, scientists are working toward finding better **methods**. One **potential** solution is to use hot air to draw the bitumen out of the ground. This is a less damaging process.

Up to 66% of the world's remaining oil supply may lie in tar sands. They are located all over the world, but the biggest tar sands are in Venezuela and in Alberta, Canada. Alberta's Athabasca Tar Sands, **which** hold at least 1.7 trillion barrels, are the world's largest. Since only 1.75 trillion barrels of crude oil remain worldwide, it is possible that the future of the oil industry **rests on** developing this resource.

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

1	use up	a. possible
2	alternative	b. to get something
3	combination	c. to spend all of something
4	obtain	d. a different choice; an option
5	rest on	e. a certain way of doing something
6	method	f. to lean on something
7	crude	g. a mixture of two or more things
8	potential	h. natural, raw or rough

READING COMPREHENSION

- 1 Which of the following is the best title for the passage?
- Sources of Crude Oil
 - Meeting the Needs of the Future
 - Oil and the Environment
 - Alberta's Oil Supply
- 2 Which of the following is NOT true?
- Bitumen can be removed by strip mining.
 - Tar sands contain crude oil.
 - Tar sands contain water, sand, clay, and a form of oil.
 - Bitumen is harder to obtain than crude oil.
- 3 Why does the author include the information: **only 1.75 trillion barrels of crude oil remain worldwide?**
- To emphasize how much oil lies in Alberta's tar sands
 - To show how large the oil industry is
 - To show the increasing importance of tar sands
 - To emphasize that the world's energy needs are increasing
4. The word 'which' refers to -----'
- ways B. chemicals C. chemicals and hot water D. wells
5. Which of the sentences below best expresses the information in the first underlined sentence!
- Both methods of obtaining bitumen from tar sands are polluting.
 - Putting chemicals and hot water into the ground is environmentally damaging.
 - Strip mining destroys the environment by using up water and putting chemicals into the ground,
 - The methods of removing bitumen ruin natural scenery, waste water, and cause pollution.
- 5 It can be inferred from the passage that _____
- it is not exactly known how much of the world's oil is in tar sands
 - oil from tar sands is worth more than other forms of oil
 - tar sands are located in every country on Earth
 - there is a greater supply of crude oil than of bitumen

READING THIRTY

Coffee drinking began around the 9th century in the Arab world, probably North Africa. The Arabs believed it gave them special energy. They were careful to keep it a secret from their enemies, especially Europeans. Perhaps because Islam forbids drinking alcohol, coffee became a favorite stimulating drink throughout the Muslim world, which included the Middle East. Turkey, and parts of India. The first coffee shop is thought to have opened in the Turkish capital of Istanbul in 1475.

The drink did not become well known in Europe until 1683 when the Turks were trying to conquer Austria. The Turkish army **surrounded** Vienna. The Viennese needed someone to get out of the city to bring **reinforcements**, or they would be defeated. According to one **account**, a **criminal** volunteered to try in exchange for his freedom. As he was sneaking through the enemy camp, he smelled some coffee and decided to taste it. It gave him energy, so he stole some of the beans. He was thus able to get through the Turkish army and get help. The city was saved.

When the Turks **retreated**, they left behind bags of the green coffee beans. The king wanted to **reward** the criminal, so he said the man could have anything he wanted.

The criminal asked for the beans and a place where he could sell the drink that had helped him save Vienna. This became the first European coffee shop. The drink quickly became so popular throughout Europe that during the 18th century, there were more coffee shops in London than there are today.

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

1	forbid	a.	to go away from a place
2	surround	b.	a report or spoken description of an event
3	reinforcements	c.	to not allow, to make something impossible
4	account	d.	to give something to show thanks
5	criminal	e.	to do something without being forced to do it
6	volunteer	f.	additional soldiers
7	reward	g.	to encircle something completely
8	retreat	h.	a lawbreaker

READING COMPREHENSION

- 1 Which of the following is the best title for the passage?
- The Popularity of Coffee
 - An Important Event in the History of Coffee
 - Coffee in the Arab World
 - Why Europe Loves Coffee
- 2 According to the passage, which of the following is true?
- The Turks gave a man his freedom in exchange for coffee.
 - Coffee was well known in Vienna before the Turkish army arrived.
 - A criminal escaped from prison to get reinforcements.
 - Coffee was important in saving Vienna from the Turks.
- 3 The word 'This' refers to _____
- drink B. place C. energy D. Vienna
- 4 Which of the following is NOT true?
- A criminal opened the first European coffee shop.
 - The Turkish army didn't succeed in conquering Vienna.
 - Coffee became popular in Europe in the 18th century.
 - The first coffee shop was in Vienna.

5 Which of the sentences below best expresses the information in the underlined sentence in the passage?

- A. All over the Muslim world, people drank coffee for stimulation instead of alcohol which was not allowed.
- B. Since Muslims were not allowed to drink alcohol, they enjoyed many stimulating drinks like coffee.
- C. To the Muslims of the Middle East, Turkey, and India, coffee was a better drink than alcohol.
- D. Because the Muslims of the Middle East, Turkey, and India drank alcohol, they needed a different stimulating drink.

6 It can be inferred from the passage that in the 9th century, —

- A. North Africa was not part of the Muslim world
- B. Arabs considered Europeans their enemies
- C. much of Europe was Muslim
- D. coffee was already popular in Europe

READING THIRTY – ONE

Many scientists argue about dinosaurs today, but one of the most famous arguments **took place** over 100 years ago. Two American scientists named Othniel Charles Marsh and Edward Drinker Cope fought all the time. They **competed** with each other to be the greatest scientist.

The two men actually started out as friends. Cope was working at a place where a company was **excavating** minerals. He asked the company to call him whenever they discovered bones. There were many bones there, so Cope was becoming very famous for finding fossils. Marsh came to visit Cope and see how he was doing, but he secretly **bribed** the company to tell him when they found bones. When Cope found out, he was very angry and the two became enemies.

Both men tried very hard to discover the most dinosaurs. They wanted to **uncover** dinosaur bones very fast, so they used dynamite to remove dirt. Unfortunately, this probably destroyed many valuable fossils. Each man stole bones from the other, and one time, Cope actually stole a whole **trainload** of fossils. Another time, Marsh was so worried about Cope finding some bones that he **smashed** them before Cope could get there.

The two men found more dinosaur bones than anyone in the history of digging up fossils. Cope found 56 kinds of dinosaurs while Marsh found 64. However, their fighting also destroyed many fossils and was very **embarrassing** for other scientists in the United States.

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. compete | a. to break, to destroy |
| 2. excavate | b. to happen, to occur |
| 3. embarrassing | c. to try to be more successful than someone else |
| 4. bribe | d. to find something that has been lost or hidden |
| 5. uncover | e. the amount of material that a train can hold |
| 6. trainload | f. to dig out |
| 7. smash | g. to make someone do something by giving them money, |
| 8. take place | h. uncomfortable, upsetting |

READING COMPREHENSION

1 What is the best title of the passage?

- A. The Biggest Dinosaur
- B. Dinosaurs Disappeared
- C. A Silly Battle
- D. Cope Won over Marsh

2 Which of the following is NOT true about the competition between Cope and Marsh?

- A. It helped them find more bones.
- B. Many fossils were ruined.
- C. It broke their friendship.
- D. They made a lot of money.

4 Why did Cope and Marsh become enemies?

- A. Cope found more bones than Marsh.
- B. Marsh bribed the company which was working with Cope.
- C. Cope became famous for finding fossils.
- D. Marsh became famous for finding fossils.

5 The author mentions the underlined sentence in order to -----

- A. state that finding fossils was so important
- B. prove that they were angry people
- C. show that their competition was destructive
- D. describe why they became enemies

6 What can be inferred from the reading?

- A. Cope and Marsh found few bones.
- B. They used dynamite to find bones because other scientists also used it.
- C. They stole bones from other scientists.
- D. Although Cope and Marsh found many bones, many others were destroyed.

3 The word 'this' refers to —

- A. fossil B. dinosaur C. using dynamite
- D. uncovering dinosaur bones very fast

READING THIRTY – TWO

The fastest period of technological change in history was during the second half of the 18th century. This period is known as the Industrial Revolution. During this time, changes began to happen in the way people made and provided goods. These goods were being made at an increasingly rapid rate. These changes came about because of the development of machinery and the use of steam, followed by electrical power, all of which allowed goods to be made on a large scale in factories.

Before this time, goods had been made mostly by hand in people's homes. This kind of **manufacturing** is known as "cottage industry." The cottage industries could not compete with the development of large, power-driven machinery that could do the work of several people at once. Society began to rely less on farming and cottage industry for survival, and more on the cities where most manufacturing was **carried out.**

During the Industrial Revolution, the lives of people changed quickly. The bigger towns and ports grew dramatically as

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people left the countryside to find **employment** in new city factories. This move from the country to the city was also due to improvements in the technology used on farms. Fewer people were needed for farm work as more powerful machinery was used. However, crowding in the cities led to the **exploitation** of workers and poor living conditions including problems with pollution and waste **disposal**. These conditions, along with an unequal **distribution** of wealth and resources, gave rise to popular **demands** for social **reform**.

Technology will continue to develop and change society. People will continue to be concerned about how such changes may affect our quality of life.

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

1	disposal	a. to make, to produce
2	carry out	b. sharing, division
3	demand	c. the process of getting rid of something
4	exploitation	d. misuse, abuse
5	reform	e. to do something that you were asked
6	distribution	f. job, work
7	employment	g. to make again, to change
8	manufacture	h. to insist, to strongly desire

READING COMPREHENSION

1 Which of the following is the best title for the passage?

- A. Inventions of the Industrial Revolution
- B. Effects of the Industrial Revolution
- C. The Origin of the Industrial Revolution
- D. The Story of the Industrial Revolution

2 Which of the following is NOT mentioned in the passage as a problem resulting from the Industrial Revolution?

- A. Unclean living conditions
- B. Poor treatment of workers
- C. Poor health care
- D. Crowding

3 The word 'which' refers to -----

- A. power
- B. use
- C. machinery, steam, and electrical power
- D. development

4 Why does the author include the information **that could do the work of several people at once**?

- A. To indicate the power of the new machinery
- B. To show that most manufacturing required more than one worker
- C. To show that the Industrial Revolution created many new jobs
- D. To indicate how many people moved from cottage industry to manufacturing

5 It can be inferred from the passage that in 1701, -----

- A. steam was widely used
- B. electrical power was not in use
- C. very few goods were manufactured
- D. crowding in the cities led to the exploitation of workers

6 Which of the sentences below best expresses the information in the second underlined sentence?

- A. Many people went to the bigger towns and ports to build factories for manufacturing.
- B. Most people left the countryside because of the lack of factory jobs there.
- C. Large numbers of people moved from the country to cities to find manufacturing jobs.
- D. Large towns and ports first developed because people moved there to look for work.

READING THIRTY – THREE

There are three basic types of forest. Tropical forests have the greatest variety of plants. They are found in the hot regions near the equator where the only seasons are the rainy and dry seasons. However, rain can fall there any time of year, and tropical forests receive more than 200 centimeters of rain annually. In fact, they are so wet that they are sometimes called rainforests. Trees in tropical forests are evergreen and never lose their leaves. There are many other types of smaller tropical plants also, including orchids, tropical flowers, vines, ferns, mosses, and palms. [A] The second type of forest is called the temperate forest. These are found mostly in eastern North America, northeastern Asia, and western and central Europe. Temperate forests see the full range of seasons: spring, summer, winter and fall. [B] There is less rainfall than in tropical forests, with an average between 100 and 150 centimeters per year. Temperate forests also show less variety as they consist mostly of deciduous trees like oak, hickory, beech, hemlock, maple, basswood, cottonwood, elm and willow. [C]

The largest forests are the boreal forests of Siberia, western Asia (also called Eurasia), Alaska, and western Canada. Temperatures tend to be low, and winters are long. Rainfall is also low, with an average of 40-100 centimeters per year, mostly in the form of snow. There is also less tree variety in these forests, mostly 20 evergreen trees with needles, such as pine, fir and spruce. These forests have very few smaller plants. They are the most popular sources of wood for construction. [D]

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

1	evergreen	a. series, variety
2	equator	b. an imaginary line drawn around the middle of the Earth
3	range	c. to be likely to
4	annually	d. an area of the far north
5	temperate	e. once every year, yearly
6	deciduous	f. neither very hot nor very cold
7	boreal	g. plants that lose their leaves each fall
8	tend to	h. a tree that has green leaves all the year round

READING COMPREHENSION

1 Which of the following is the best title for the passage?

- A. The Definition of a Forest
- B. Temperate and Boreal Forests
- C. Types of Trees
- D. Kinds of Forests

2 Which of the following is NOT true of tropical forests?

- A. They only receive rain during the rainy season.
- B. They are found only in hot climates.
- C. They receive the most rainfall.
- D. They have many different types of plants.

3 The word 'where' refers to -----

- A. variety B. forests C. regions D. types

4 Which is the best place for the following sentence?

Smaller plants here are mostly herbs.

- A. [A] B. [B] C. [C] D. [D]

5 Which of the sentences below best expresses the information in the underlined sentence?

- A. Tropical forests consist of trees, orchids, vines, ferns, palms, and mosses.
- B. Both trees and many types of tropical plants are found in tropical forests.
- C. Tropical forests have mostly evergreen trees, although there are several other types of trees as well.
- D. Tropical forests consist of evergreen trees and many kinds of smaller tropical plants.

6 It can be inferred from the passage that -----

- A. temperate forests are larger than boreal forests
- B. temperate forests have fewer evergreen trees than boreal forests
- C. boreal forests are located on all continents
- D. boreal forests do not get any rain

READING THIRTY – FOUR

For 27 years, the great South African champion of democracy, Nelson Mandela lived in a prison cell on a small island. He had to perform difficult labor with the rest of the prisoners. It was a horrible life for a great man. However, while he was **imprisoned**, people began to find out more and more about his **struggles** for democracy and **justice**. When he was finally **released** in 1990, he was a worldwide hero. [A] Nelson Mandela was born in a small village in South Africa. He grew up in a poor family and was the first child in the family to go to school. He became interested in politics almost immediately and was **kicked out** of his first university for protesting. [B] At the time, South Africa was suffering from **apartheid**. That meant that the black and white residents of South Africa were separated from each other. People had to carry identity cards with their **race** on it, and black and white people were not allowed to marry each other. [C] Mandela saw how terrible this condition was and decided to fight against it. He joined a **rebel** group and attacked government and military targets. He was arrested in 1962 and imprisoned for the next 27 years. [D] Once he was released, he continued to fight against the ruling government. Finally, in 1994, Mandela's struggles were successful. He became the first democratically elected president of South Africa, and apartheid became a thing of the past.

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

1	release	a. a fairness in the way that people are treated under the law
2	justice	b. to put someone in jail
3	imprison	c. a political system where only white people had political rights
4	struggle	d. a difficult trial, a hard effort
5	race	e. to force someone to leave
6	apartheid	f. a person trying to change authority by using force
7	kick out	g. a group of people with the same skin color or other physical feature
8	rebel	h. to let go, to free

READING COMPREHENSION

1 What is the best title of the passage?

- A. Slaves Finally Freed
- B. The New Area of Black Movement In America
- C. A Hero Struggling for His Nation
- D. Mandela Became President

2 Why was Nelson Mandela arrested?

- A. For robbery
- B. For fighting against the government
- C. For mixing with white people
- D. For getting involved in politics

3 The word 'it' refers to -----

- A. the government B. race
- C. card D. identity

4 Which of the following is NOT the rule of apartheid?

- A. Black people were not allowed to carry money with them.
- B. Black people and white people could not marry each other.
- C. Everyone had to carry identity cards.
- D. Different races could not socialize in the same places.

5 Which is the best place for the following sentence?

Black people and white people couldn't even eat at the same restaurants.

- A. [A] B. [B] C. [C] D. [D]

6 Which of the sentences below best expresses the information in the underlined sentence?

- A. The new South African government introduced apartheid.
- B. Because the president of South Africa was democratically elected, apartheid was gone.
- C. Mandela removed apartheid after becoming president.
- D. Presidents usually don't like apartheid.

READING THIRTY – FIVE

The world's northern regions were once covered by giant glaciers. These glaciers extended south to what is now Pennsylvania in North America and covered much of northern Europe. So much of the planet's water was contained in these

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glaciers that the floor of the Bering **Strait**, which lies between Alaska and Northeastern Asia, was sometimes **exposed**. [A] This meant that there was a "land bridge" connecting the continents during these periods. Scientists believe this happened from about 40,000 to 32,000 years ago and again between 20,000 and 10,000 years ago. [B] Did the first Americans simply walk the fifty miles or so of this land bridge from Asia to the New World? Some archaeologists think the answer is yes, but others think that **they** could have walked across glaciers or traveled in boats during the summer. Researchers are eager to learn exactly how Asian immigrants first came to America in order to **determine** when and how many times the **migrations** occurred. [C] A popular **current** theory about the migrations of these early Indians is based on archeological **findings**, comparisons of American and Asian languages, and **genetic** studies of modern Native Americans and Asians. This theory states that the first Americans arrived in three separate **waves**, which occurred at widely -spaced times and involved three unrelated populations. The first wave came across the land bridge approximately 30,000 years ago and the second in boats about 8,000 years ago. [D] The third wave came between 10,000 and 5,000 years ago.

VOCABULARY CHECK. *Match the words with their definitions.*

1	strait	a. up to date, modern
2	migration	b. information obtained from research
3	current	c. to figure out, to find out
4	wave	d. an incoming group of people
5	genetic	e. relating to genes
6	findings	f. the act of moving from one area to another
7	determine	g. to uncover something
8	expose	h. a narrow body of water joining larger bodies of water

READING COMPREHENSION

1 Which of the following would be a good title for the reading?

- A. American Geography in Ancient Times
- B. Migration of the First Americans
- C. Characteristics of the First Americans
- D. The Relationship between Asians and the First Americans

2 Why are scientists interested in learning how the first Americans traveled?

- A. It will help them discover when the first Americans arrived.
- B. It will help them discover why the first Americans moved.
- C. It will help them discover how many Indians lived in America.
- D. It will help them discover how the first Americans ruled their society

3 Which is the best place for the following sentence?

These two groups of migrants appear to have blended with one another.

- A. [A] B. [B] C. [C] D. [D]

4 According to the "popular theory" described in the reading, which of the following is true?

- A. Not all of today's groups of Native Americans are genetically related to each other.
- B. All of the ancestors of today's Native Americans came to North America over the land bridge.
- C. Not all of the ancestors of today's Native Americans came from Asia.
- D. The first Americans arrived in two separate waves.

5 The word 'they' refers to .

- A. others B. miles C. archeologists D. first Americans

6 All of the following can be inferred from the reading EXCEPT that _____.

- A. some of the ice that covered the northern regions has melted
- B. the floor of the Bering Strait is not exposed today
- C. there is no "land bridge" connecting North America and Asia anymore
- D. the popular current theory is proven

READING THIRTY – SIX

Nearly all animals have some kind of communication system. One type of crab, for example, uses claw-waving movements to **signal to** other crabs. [A] Some spiders have a similar kind of gesture-based language. The male spider performs a **complex** series of movements to inform the female that he is a potential mate. [B] Birdcalls and bird songs are also ways of communicating. They are even like human language in that there may be various "**dialects**." Birdcalls are signals of one or more short **notes**. They are used to give information about danger, food, nesting, and so on. Longer and more **elaborate** patterns of notes are called bird songs. Many people buy tapes or CDs of bird songs both for enjoyment and to learn the different sounds. These songs serve to **warn away** rivals and to attract possible mates. While bird songs can, therefore, be said to have meaning, there seems to be no structure to **them**. That is, the songs are only meaningful as a whole and cannot be **analyzed** into meaningful parts like human sentences and words can be. They are also limited in the number and type of meanings that they can communicate. Unlike humans, birds do not **combine** signals in new and creative ways to send new kinds of messages. [C] When one bee finds a source of food, it returns to the hive and performs a "dance" to pass along the information to the other bees. [D] The dances differ according to the quality of the food source and its distance from the hive. Thus, bees are able to communicate many messages, but the messages are all about where to find food.

VOCABULARY CHECK. *Match the words with their definitions.*

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 1 complex | a. complicated, difficult |
| 2 note | b. to make others aware of certain dangers |
| 3 signal | c. to join, to mix together |
| 4 elaborate | d. detailed, precise |
| 5 combine | e. to sign, to gesture, to indicate |
| 6 warn away | f. to study or examine something |
| 7 dialect | g. the sound of a certain pitch |
| 8 analyze | h. a regional variety of language |

READING COMPREHENSION

1 Which of the following best states the main idea of the reading?

- A. Birds, bees, and other animals can communicate, but their systems of communication are limited.
- B. Birds, bees, and other animals can communicate in ways very similar to human language.
- C. Crabs, spiders, birds, and bees have very complex systems of communication.
- D. Crabs, spiders, birds, and bees can only communicate a very small number of messages.

2 Which is the best place for the following sentence?

Similar limits are found in the communication system of honeybees.

- A. [A] B. [B] C. [C] D. [D]

3 What is the difference between birdcalls and bird songs?

- A. Birdcalls are more complex.
- B. Bird songs are more complex.
- C. Birdcalls are communicative, while bird songs are not
- D. Bird songs are communicative, while birdcalls are not.

4 The word 'them' refers to

- A. structure B. birds C. songs D. meanings

5 How is bird communication similar to human communication?

- A. Both kinds have dialects.
- B. Both kinds can be analyzed into meaningful parts.
- C. Both kinds can combine signals in new and creative ways.
- D. Both kinds are beautiful.

6 Which of the following sentences does NOT belong in the reading?

- A. Birdcalls are signals of one or more short notes.
- B. Many people buy tapes or CDs of bird songs both for enjoyment and to learn the different sounds.
- C. These serve to warn away rivals, and to attract possible mates.
- D. Unlike humans, birds do not combine signals in new and creative ways to send new kinds of messages

READING THIRTY – SEVEN

Climate change has various causes which include both internal and external **factors**. Internal factors are part of the climate system itself, while external factors exist outside of it. External factors include sunspots, **variations** in the Earth's orbit, and human activity. [A] Although some scientists are **skeptical** about the effect of sunspots on the climate, many believe that there is a **link**. Sunspots are regions of the sun that are cooler and therefore appear darker than surrounding areas. They move through cycles of 11 to 22 years, and some people have used these cycles to predict rainfall and **drought**. For example, it has been observed that a drought has occurred in the American Midwest every 20 to 22 years since the 1870s. [B] A Serbian mathematician in the 1920's first proposed the idea that changes in the Earth's orbit have an effect on the occurrence of ice ages. Over geologic time scales of thousands of years, the orbit places our planet at different distances from the sun at a given time of year. Although it has not been proven, some scientists believe that these changes **alter** the climate. [C]

[D] Human impact on the planet has increased dramatically since the industrial age began in the 18th century. By burning coal, oil, and natural gas, societies have released large amounts of carbon dioxide into the air. **This** is, of course, one of the "greenhouse gases" that **trap** heat in the **atmosphere** leading to a rise in global temperatures. Other greenhouse gases include nitrous oxide used as a fertilizer by farmers, and chlorofluorocarbons used in spray cans.

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 1. drought | a. to make changes |
| 2. link | b. differences in amount, number, level, form, etc. |
| 3. factor | c. to capture something in a place |
| 4. skeptical | d. unwilling to believe; doubtful |
| 5. variation | e. relationship, connection |
| 6. alter | f. a long period of very dry weather |
| 7. trap | g. the air around the Earth or another planet |
| 8. atmosphere | h. a cause, an element |

READING COMPREHENSION

1 Which of the following would be a good title for the reading?

- A. How People Affect the Climate
- B. External Factors in Climate Change
- C. The Effects of Climate Change
- D. Three Theories of Climate Change

2 Why do sunspots appear darker than the rest of the sun?

- A. They consist of different gases.
- B. They have a higher temperature.
- C. They have a lower temperature.
- D. They are in periods of drought.

3 Which is the best place for the following sentence?

People have been changing the environment for millennia

A. [A] B. [B] C. [C] D. [D]

4 The word 'This' refers to -----.

A. natural gas B. carbon dioxide C. oil D. air

5 According to the reading, which of the following is true?

- A. Droughts have occurred in the American Midwest every year since the 1870's.
- B. Changes in the Earth's orbit have been proven to cause ice ages.
- C. Human activity has been altering the environment for many years
- D. People have rarely changed the environment.

6 It can be inferred from the reading that before the industrial age _____.

- A. greenhouse gases did not exist
- B. less greenhouse gas was released
- C. human beings did not affect the environment
- D. the environment did not change

READING THIRTY – EIGHT

You may think that listening is the same as hearing, but that is a dangerous **misconception**. One study has estimated that the average person spends 40% of his or her time at work listening yet only 35% as an effective listener. Failure to listen well can lead to **conflicts**, misunderstandings and lost **opportunities**. The good news is that effective listening is a skill that can be learned. Awareness of your listening behavior is the first step toward improvement. Experts have identified three levels of listening. [A]

Level one listeners are effective listeners who view the speaker with respect and **empathy**. [B] They see the conversation as an opportunity to gather interesting and useful information. As they listen, they make an effort to see the speaker's point of view, to predict what he or she will say next, to pay attention to body language, and to ask questions when necessary.

At level two, a person may appear to be listening but makes little effort to truly understand what is being said. He or she is focusing on the words of the message, but not on **nonverbal** cues and the **intent** of the speaker. Level two listeners may make sounds of agreement and nod while the speaker talks, but they fail to ask questions to ensure good communication. [c] Level three listeners "tune out" speakers. In other words, they **pretend** to be listening while they are actually daydreaming or thinking about something entirely different. In this case, the speaker may feel **insulted**, and the result can be an argument or even a breakdown of the relationship. [D]

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

1	misconception	a.	to make believe, to act
2	opportunity	b.	a plan in one's mind to do something
3	conflict	c.	a chance, a possibility
4	intent	d.	a misunderstanding of something
5	empathy	e.	the ability to understand another person's feelings
6	nonverbal	f.	to say or do something rude or offensive
7	pretend	g.	a disagreement or a clash
8	insult	h.	not using words

READING COMPREHENSION

1 Which of the following would be a good title for the reading?

- A. The Different Levels of Listening
- B. The Benefits of Being a Good Listener
- C. Three Steps to Becoming a Good Listener
- D. Why Some People Don't Listen

2 According to the reading, listening is different from hearing because of all of the following EXCEPT .

- A. listening is a skill
- B. listening requires effort
- C. listening has several levels
- D. listening is quite easy

3 Which is the best place for the following sentence?

This can give the speaker a false sense of being understood

A. [A] B. [B] C. [C] D. [D]

4 According to the reading, how many level three listener insult a speaker?

- A. by disagreeing with him/her
- B. by not paying attention
- C. by changing the subject
- D. by asking too many questions

5 The words 'he or she' refer to -----

- A. level one listener
- B. listener
- C. speaker
- D. the author

6 The author mentioned the underlined sentence in order to ----.

- A. indicate that listening is the same as hearing
- B. show that people spend too much time at work
- C. prove that there are too many effective listeners
- D. show that most people have some problems with listening

READING THIRTY – NINE

When the leaders of the new United States met in 1787 to write the United States Constitution, they wanted to create a strong central government. They also strongly believed in placing limits on that government so that it could not abuse its power. The three separate branches of government created by the Constitution were designed to achieve both goals. Congress is the legislative branch where laws are written, debated, and voted on by elected members. It consists of two houses, an

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upper called the Senate, and a lower called the House of Representatives. The Senate has two members from each of the fifty states. In addition to its legislative duties, it has to the power to approve or reject appointments made by the President and to approve or reject treaties. The number of representatives in the House of Representatives from each state depends on the state's population.

The executive branch, which enforces the laws, is headed by the President. The President is chosen by a nationwide election every four years. One of the President's most important powers is the veto, the power to reject a law. Even if a law has been passed by Congress, it does not become official until the President signs it. The President also appoints the heads of the government's major departments and acts as the commander of the nation's military.

The judicial branch is the court system. Its job is to interpret the laws. At the top of the judicial branch is the Supreme Court. Unlike lower courts, the Supreme Court decides whether federal and state laws are constitutional or not. The nine members, or justices of the Supreme Court are appointed by the President and approved by the Senate.

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

1.	abuse	a.	of the central government of a nation
2.	official	b.	to agree to, to permit
3.	representative	c.	a set of basic laws or principles for a country
4.	approve	d.	to make people obey a law or regulation
5.	constitution	e.	a person who is chosen to act for a group
6.	enforce	f.	to use something in a bad or harmful way
7.	appoint	g.	to put someone into a position
8.	federal	h.	formal, licensed

READING COMPREHENSION

1 Which of the following best states the main idea of the reading?

- A. Of the three branches of the US government created by the Constitution, the executive is the most powerful.
- B. Each of the three branches of the US government has different powers and they are all important.
- C. The writers of the Constitution had two goals: to create a strong central government and to put limits on that government.
- D. In the US government, the Congress makes the laws, and the Supreme Court decides whether they are constitutional.

2 Which of the following is a power of the President?

- A. The power to decide whether laws are constitutional
- B. The power to make laws
- C. The power to interpret the laws
- D. The power to reject a law

3 Which of the following has members who are NOT elected?

- A. The House of Representatives
- B. The Supreme Court
- C. The Senate
- D. President

4 The word 'it' refers to

- A. Senate
- B. House of Representatives
- C. Congress
- D. branch

5 What can be inferred from the reading?

- A. The Senate can be limited by the judicial branch.
- B. The three separate branches of government make the government strong but limited.
- C. The president acts as the commander of the nation's military only during a war.
- D. The Supreme Court checks the executive branch by revising laws.

6 Which of the sentences below best expresses the information in the underlined sentence in the passage?

- A. The leaders of the new United States met in 1787 to create a strong central government.
- B. A strong central government was born in 1787 by the leaders of the new United States.
- C. The leaders of the new United States wanted to create a strong central government in writing the Constitution.
- D. The leaders of the new United States created a strong central government to write the Constitution.

READING FOURTY

While most of us think of flowers as beautiful and sweet-smelling, there is more to them than that. Thanks to an **ingenious** design, the flower's pretty looks and **scent** allow plants to **reproduce**.

The flowers of most plants have both male and female reproductive **organs**. **These** are called "perfect flowers." Roses, for example, are perfect flowers. "Imperfect flowers," such as those found on the cucumber plant, have either male or female reproductive organs, but not both.

Both perfect and imperfect flowers usually have leafy structures called petals. These are often bright and colorful, and contain sweet-smelling **nectar** to attract animals, especially bees and other insects. As an insect takes nectar from a flower with male organs, a powder called **pollen** sticks to the insect. Pollen contains the male cells of the plant. The insect then moves on to other flowers. When it goes inside a flower with female organs, the pollen from the insect **fertilizes** that flower's ovule. The ovule is the female cell of the plant, and it is like the egg of an animal. The fertilized ovule will eventually become a seed.

Once a seed forms, a protective covering forms around it. This is the fruit. **In** this sense, fruits include not only the familiar apples, oranges, and so on, but also tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, corn, nuts, grains and many more. When the seed is ready, the fruit falls to the ground. It **rots** away or is eaten and allows the seed to enter the ground and grow into a new plant.

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

1	fertilize	a.	to make a plant or an animal start to produce a baby
2	rot	b.	a sweet liquid produced in the flowers
3	scent	c.	to get worse, to decay

READING SUPPLEMENTARY COLLECTION FOR BLSERS

4	reproduce	d. to produce young animals or plants
5	organ	e. very clever and skillful
6	pollen	f. a part of a body or plant which has a special function
7	nectar	g. smell, fragrance
8	ingenious	h. a powder produced by flowers

READING COMPREHENSION

1 What is the passage mainly about?

- A. How plants reproduce
- B. The parts of a plant
- C. The purpose of pollen
- D. Why insects are attracted to flowers

2 The word 'These' refers to -----

- A. male and female
- B. organs
- C. flowers
- D. plants

3 Which of the sentences below best expresses the information in the first underlined sentence?

- A. Cucumber plants are imperfect because they do not have male or female reproductive organs.
- B. Cucumber flowers are "imperfect flowers" which have only male or only female organs.
- C. The cucumber plant is unusual because it can be either male or female.
- D. Cucumber plants have flowers that are both male and female, so they are called "imperfect flowers."

4 Which of the following is true?

- A. Roses are either male or female.
- B. Bees go inside flowers in order to get pollen.
- C. Perfect flowers are more beautiful than imperfect flowers.
- D. Insects are attracted by nectar.

5 Why does the author include the information: **The ovule is the female cell of the plant, and it is like the egg of an animal?**

- A. To give the definition of ovule for readers' better understanding
- B. To add an interesting detail to the description of a flower
- C. To give an example of how flowers are animals
- D. To emphasize that flowers are important in plant reproduction

6 It can be inferred from the passage that

- A. all flowers have an ovule
- B. all flowers have pollen
- C. insects are important for all plants' reproduction
- D. all plants with flowers produce fruit

READING FOURTY – ONE

Elton John's song, The Blues, is about being in love. However, the musical style known as "blues" originally had very little to do with love. It was mostly about very real pain and suffering. Blues has its roots in Africa. Traditionally, African music has a lot of rhythm and singing. [A] This style of music came to the United States because of the slave trade.

Slave traders kidnapped black Africans and sold them as slaves in America. These slaves were forced to work in fields all day and were rarely allowed to speak or express themselves in any way. They began singing to each other as a means of communication, and they used religious music as a secret code to tell other slaves how to escape. The songs also kept their spirits up and reminded them of Africa. [B]

Once slavery was abolished, former slaves had to find jobs. It was very hard for them since many of the white people feared and hated them. However, talented individuals could sometimes find work as singers, musicians and entertainers. [C] Some of these musicians used a type of spiritual called the "field holler." In a field holler, one person sings and another responds. Black musicians changed the field holler so that a singer sings a line and the guitar responds thus creating blues. [D] They tried adding different instruments and rhythms. These changes made blues one of the most important styles of music in North America. It has influenced and been influenced by jazz, country, rock and roll, and hip hop.

Even today, however, the most important influence on blues remains the music that slaves sang in the fields over 150 years ago.

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

1	spiritual	a. to hold someone prisoner illegally
2	religious	b. relating to a formal belief system
3	slavery	c. a system of words used for secrecy
4	kidnap	d. the act of forcing people to work against their will
5	abolish	e. to stop, to put an end to
6	holler	f. artistic, gifted
7	talented	g. a song sung in praise of one's beliefs
8	code	h. to shout loudly

READING COMPREHENSION

1. Which of the following best describes the reading?

- A. The blues: the most popular music before the Civil War
- B. The blues: the music of African-Americans' pain and suffering
- C. The blues: a secret code for communicating among African-American slaves
- D. The blues: the greatest influence to all kinds of music in the 21st century

2. According to the reading, which of the following is true?

- A. Africans came over to America with the American-dream.

- B. African music is highly dynamic, not sensitive.
 C. There were famous musicians of the blues in Africa.
 D. Field Holler was a code to be used in private communication.
3. Which is the best place for the following sentence? ***This type of music was called "Spirituals."***
 A. [A] B. [B] C. [C] D. [D]
4. Which of the sentences below best expresses the information in the underlined sentence in the passage?
 A. Blues became an important style of music in North America because of slavery.
 B. Musicians tried to create the American Blues.
 C. North American musicians didn't know about Blues before these changes.
 D. Blues finally became mainstream music in America after these changes.
5. It can be inferred from the passage that
 A. after slavery, many blacks were poor
 B. all music developed from the blues
 C. Elton John is a famous black musician
 D. Black culture became a root of American culture
6. The word 'This' in the passage refers to _____
 A. slavery B. finding Jobs C. former slave D. white person

READING FOURTY – TWO

Fashionable and cool. Those are two words used to **describe** jeans. People all over the world want jeans. Jeans weren't always about looking good though. When people started wearing jeans, it was all about work. [A] Jeans were invented in California in 1850. There was a **gold rush** at that time. Many men came to California to find gold and become rich. Other men came to sell **supplies** to the men **prospecting** for gold. Levi Strauss was one of those men. He came to California with a **stiff** material called canvas for men to build tents. [B] One old man asked Strauss what he was selling. When he heard it was canvas, he shook his head. "You should be selling pants," said the old man "I can't find a good pair of pants."

[C] Canvas is good, strong cloth. Strauss took his canvas and made pants for the gold diggers. They **purchased** the pants, but they didn't like them very much. The canvas material was too stiff. It rubbed the skin too hard. Strauss decided to use a French material called "serge de nime." It was very popular in the United States because it was cheap and strong. People used it to make slave clothes. Strauss used it to make new pants. The gold diggers liked the new pants, but they couldn't say serge de nime. They called it "denim" instead.

[D] Other people were already making pants with denim. What made Strauss' pants special? He made a new way of **sewing** the clothes together. Then he added special pockets in the back. Finally, he added a little red **tab** to the pocket. That's how everyone knows they're Levi's jeans.

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

1	sew	to say what someone or something is like
2	tab	a situation when many people race for limited resources
3	stiff	food or other items necessary for living
4	supplies	to search for oil or gold
5	prospect	not easily bent or folded
6	purchase	to buy
7	describe	to stitch, attach or repair with thread
8	gold rush	a small piece of paper or cloth used as a marker

READING COMPREHENSION

READING SUPPLEMENTARY COLLECTION FOR BLSERS

- 1 Which of the following best states the main idea of the reading?
- A story of the birth of jeans
 - One salesman invented Jeans accidentally.
 - Strauss made his Jeans special to add some unique parts.
 - Jeans are always attractive fashion items to us.
- 2 According to the reading, which of the following is true?
- The gold miners called new pants denim instead of serge de nime.
 - Serge de nime is the name of the trousers that came from France.
 - Levi Strauss was one of the miners who came to search for gold.
 - An old man told Strauss to make pants made of strong canvas.
- 3 Which is the best place for the following sentence?
Strauss got a good idea.
- [A]
 - [B]
 - [C]
 - [D]
- 4 The author mentioned the underlined sentence in order to -----
- explain why pants were so popular at that time
 - indicate that old men usually liked pants
 - show that it was not easy to find pants
 - describe how Strauss decided to make pants
- 5 It can be inferred that the most useful pants for miners were -----.
- strong and stiff
 - tough and flexible
 - rough and fashionable
 - hard and inexpensive
- 6 The word 'It' in the passage refers to -----
- cheap and strong
 - the United States
 - serge de nime
 - slave clothes

READING FOURTY – THREE

Ernest Hemingway was one of the most important writers of the 20th century. During World War I, he worked for the newspaper, The Kansas Star. Although Hemingway wanted to be a soldier, an eye problem prevented him, and he took the newspaper job because he hoped he could report on the war. Instead he was given the worst and most boring duties. However, the job helped him develop his highly **influential** writing style. The Star had a set of rules for **its** writers: "Use short sentences. Use short first paragraphs. Use active English. Be positive, not negative." This is a simple but excellent description of Hemingway's style.

The heroes of his stories and novels are very **manly** since he likely wanted to be this way himself. He greatly **admired** bravery and **enjoyed the types of things that his heroes enjoy, such as hunting and boxing.** In Hemingway's writing, life was full of cruelty and tragedy, and the most important thing was to face with honor and **courage.** As one critic wrote, the basis of his **morality** was "how one behaves in the presence of death."

While he was a reporter, one of his jobs was to write stories about the local train station. While at the station one day, he saw a man lying on the floor, wrapped in blankets. The man had smallpox, a **contagious** and deadly disease. Hemingway could not **persuade** a bystander to help him carry the man to a taxi since no one wanted to risk getting sick. Finally, he picked the man up and carried him to the hospital **single-handed.** When he wrote about the story later, he never mentioned his own actions. Hemingway thus acted like the type of man he admired; someone who helps others without fear for himself.

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

1	admire	a.	having a lot of power over people or events
2	manly	b.	having qualities thought to be typical of a man
3	single-handed	c.	to look up to someone or their behavior
4	morality	d.	the ability to control fear in a difficult situation
5	courage	e.	a personal or social set of standards for good or bad behavior
6	persuade	f.	spreading from person to person without control
7	contagious	g.	to make someone do by giving them a good reason to do it
8	influential	h.	by one's self, without help

READING COMPREHENSION

- 1 *What is the passage mainly about?*
 - A. Events in Hemingway's life
 - B. Hemingway's style and beliefs
 - C. Hemingway's major works
 - D. Hemingway's career as a reporter
- 2 *Which of the sentences below best expresses the information in the first underlined sentence in the passage?*
 - A. Hemingway wanted to become a reporter and write about the war instead of fighting in it
 - B. An eye problem prevented Hemingway from becoming a soldier.
 - C. Hemingway decided to try to report on the-war because he was unable to fight in it.
 - D. Hemingway had to become a reporter at the Kansas Star because of a problem with his eyes.
- 3 *Why does the author mention that Hemingway enjoyed the types of things that his heroes enjoy, such as hunting and boxing?*
 - A. To give examples of Hemingway's respect for manliness
 - B. To give examples of Hemingway's active writing style
 - C. To show why Hemingway's works are popular among men
 - D. To show that Hemingway had many interests besides writing
- 4 *The word 'its' in the passage refers to* _____.
 - A. writing
 - B. life
 - C. courage
 - D. cruelty
- 5 *Based on the information in the passage, it is likely that many of Hemingway's stories and novels* _____.
 - A. have happy endings
 - B. are about family life
 - C. are about manliness
 - D. are not sold well
- 6 *According to the passage, which of the following is true of Hemingway?*
 - A. He helped a sick stranger at a train station.
 - B. He wrote an article about saving a man's life.
 - C. He loved his job at the newspaper.
 - D. He often wrote stories about World War I.

READING FOURTY – FOUR

Not many people understand the causes behind the history of sun tanning. Most may assume it is only a reflection of fashion. Actually, the history of sun tanning tells us a lot about the history of western culture. It tells us how ideas about people and jobs change. [A] In the 19th century, nobody wanted to get a suntan. People who got suntans spent a lot of time outside, and those people were often farmers. Farmers usually lived in poverty, so it was often thought that people with suntans were poor people. Wealthy people stayed inside all day, so they had white skin. The whiter the skin, the richer they were. Women went to all kinds of trouble to be white.

They never went outside, and if they did, they carried umbrellas. They wore makeup that made their skin look pale. Sometimes the make-up slowly poisoned and killed them! They went to these extremes so they could look wealthy. [B] These ideas change around the beginning of the 20th century. Many poor people no longer worked in the country. Now they worked inside factories from early morning until late at night, and their skin was getting pale. At the same time, the world met a famous designer named Coco Chanel. She was wealthy, glamorous, exciting and had a rich, dark suntan. Suddenly, everyone wanted to be like Coco Chanel. Now, poor people had to sit inside all day while rich people could go outside and lie in the sun; [C].

[D] Ideas are still changing though. Medical studies have shown that sun tanning may lead to more skin cancer. This is a risk that many people choose not to take. Some people still like to get a suntan, but many prefer to stay pale. Sun tanning no longer means you are rich or poor. Now it means you like how a suntan looks or you don't.

VOCABULARY CHECK. *Match the words with their definitions.*

1	wealthy	a.	to lie in the sun in order to darken the skin
2	wear make-up	b.	rich, well off
3	sun tan	c.	to suppose, to guess, to imagine
4	glamorous	d.	evidence, expression, or signal
5	reflection	e.	poor, a lack of money
6	poverty	f.	attractive, exciting, or interesting
7	extreme	g.	a dangerous level or effort
8	assume	h.	to apply something to the skin in order to look better

READING COMPREHENSION

- 1 Which of the following best states the main idea of the reading?
 A. Only people with lots of free time can be sun tanned.
 B. There are various views on sun tanning.
 C. A person's social standing was a factor in being tanned.
 D. Sun tanning is not good because it can cause skin troubles.
- 2 According to the reading, which of the following is true?
 A. There was a time when pale skin was regarded as a symbol of being rich.
 B. Nowadays, tanning is gaining popularity.
 C. We have to spend more time indoors in our industrial society.
 D. Being a farmer is thought to be an underclass.
- 3 The word 'Most' in the passage refers to _____.
 A. people
 B. causes
 C. history
 D. sun tanning
- 4 Which is the best place for the following sentence?
Having a suntan now meant you were rich.
 A. [A] B. [B] C. [C] D. [D]
- 5 The author mentioned the underlined sentence in order to _____
 A. show that it was not safe to go out at that time
 B. stress that women at that time really wanted to be white
 C. indicate that woman used to work a lot at home
 D. explain why women wanted to be white
- 6 It can be inferred from the passage that _____
 A. history has never been changed as of yet
 B. an idea which is universally accepted is hard to change
 C. a fashion designer is the only one who can change the whole world
 D. opinions often change as society changes

READING FOURTY – FIVE

There are an estimated 3 billion American crows living in North America. Though they are often confused with their cousin, the raven, crows are smaller and more common. Once found only in rural areas, they now live just about everywhere. Their ability to live alongside humans has allowed **them** to thrive. [A] At night, crows may gather in huge flocks of a few thousand to roost in trees. The largest flock had an estimated 200,000 birds! Their ear-splitting calls of "caw, caw" fill the air. At dawn, the birds separate to search for food and return to roost at the end of the day. Their diet includes plants, animals, and handouts from humans. [B] Crows will crack open shellfish by dropping them on rocks, search cornfields for anything the farmer left behind, and explore people's back yards for insects, frogs, and eggs. Groups of crows will often roost in the same spot for several winters.

They are believed to mate for life, and both the male and the female share the task of nest-building. [C] When the young hatch and leave the nest, they do not set out on their own. Instead, the family sticks together.

Research has proven the American crow to be among the most intelligent of birds. They can count up to three or four, solve puzzles, retain information and recognize symbols. [D] In fact, these abilities have probably contributed to the crow's reputation as a clever pest which will often outwit human attempts to keep them away. More and more people, however, are recognizing potential benefits of these omnivorous birds which eat many kinds of harmful insects and chase away predators like hawks and owls.

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

1	predator	a. to do well, to develop
2	omnivorous	b. to rest or sleep (for a bird)
3	thrive	c. to find a partner for reproduction and survival
4	retain	d. to be able to keep ideas or information in mind
5	reputation	e. an opinion of an individual's character
6	mate	f. to use cleverness to get an advantage over someone
7	outwit	g. eating any kind or many different kinds of food
8	roost	h. an animal that hunts, kills, and eats other animals

READING COMPREHENSION

1 Which of the following best states the main idea of the reading?

- A. American crows are common birds with some unique and surprising characteristics.
- B. American crows used to be found only in rural areas, but now live almost everywhere.
- C. American crows are omnivorous and more intelligent than most other kinds of birds.
- D. American crows can live alongside humans which has allowed them to thrive.

2 Which is the best place for the following sentence?

They may even look after eggs together.

- A. [A] B. [B] C. [C] D. [D]

3 According to the reading, which of the following is true?

- A. Crows can often cause trouble for people.
- B. Families of crows roost alone.
- C. People enjoy hearing the calls of the crow.
- D. All of the people in America like crows.

4 The word 'them' refers to -----

- A. animals
- B. handouts
- C. crows
- D. shellfish

5 It can be inferred from the reading that crows

- A. live in populated areas
- B. are difficult to get rid of
- C. are not usually afraid to be near people
- D. All of the above

6 Which of the following characteristics of crows can be considered an advantage for humans?

- A. Intelligence
- B. Mating for life
- C. Eating insects
- D. Roosting together in large numbers

READING FOURTY – SIX

The Fisher King is a famous story. It comes from the legends of King Arthur and his Knights. There are many different versions of the Fisher King story, but all are fairly similar.

There was once a king of Britain named Bron. He was a great and powerful king. He had a magic pot that could cure people. Bron fought in a bad war, and he was **punished** for it. The pot was destroyed, and Bron was injured in his leg. The injury wouldn't heal, and Bron became sicker. Britain began to grow sicker at the same time. Bron had to become a fisherman to survive. Bron and Britain both seemed cursed forever. However, they were saved by Bron's grandson Perceval. He had a pure heart, so he was able to get the pot back, heal Bron's leg, and heal Britain.

There are several important lessons in the story of the Fisher King. The most obvious lesson is the importance of a pure heart. You should always do your best to be good and honest. Never do bad things or break any laws. As long as the people believed the lessons of the story, it was easy for the King to govern the people. He could make rules and subjugate the people.

Another lesson reflects the importance of the king's role. If the king is sick, then the whole country will be encompassed by suffering. That means the people must care for the king. They must never try to hurt him or depose him. If they do, then the whole country will suffer. At the same time, the king must be good. If he is not a good king, then he could hurt the whole country as well. The story tries to teach people how they should behave.

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

1	curse	a. to remove sickness and return someone to health
2	subjugate	b. to cause someone to suffer for her/his offence
3	cure	c. to cause bad luck to someone
4	depose	d. clear, evident, understandable
5	encompass	e. to rule, to lead
6	punish	f. to force under one's control
7	govern	g. to fill with, to cover, to take in
8	obvious	h. to get rid of, to remove

READING COMPREHENSION

1 Which of the following best states the main idea of the reading?

- A. The great power and the strength of King Bron
- B. The purpose of old stories in England
- C. That people should take care of their king
- D. The way people should behave as a nation

2 According to the reading, which of the following is the true?

- A. King Bron was so powerful that everybody was frightened of him.
- B. King Bron's magic pot was broken because of his defeat.
- C. The enemies of England made Bron a fisherman after their victory.
- D. Perceval healed King Bron's leg.

3 It can be inferred from the passage that

- A. The ruler used these kinds of instructive stories to control the public
- B. King Arthur was a greater ruler than King Bron
- C. This story was likely written by a famous writer
- D. There is positive proof of King Bron's actual existence

4 The word 'it' in the passage refers to

- A. fighting in a bad war

- B. having a magic pot
- C. healing people
- D. being a great king

5 According to the passage, which of the following lessons is NOT provided?

- A. A pure heart is of great consequence.
- B. People may resist and renew laws.
- C. A king should be healthy.
- D. A king should have a good personality.

6 Which of the sentences below best expresses the information in the underlined sentence in the passage?

- A. Different stories involve the Fisher King's misfortune.
- B. The Fisher King story includes various versions.
- C. Many Fisher King stories exist which include the same ideas.
- D. There are many different stories about the Fisher King, but this one is most popular.

READING FOURTY – SEVEN

Visitors to the American west are often introduced to a strange, mythical animal at souvenir shops and tourist attractions. With the body of a jackrabbit (an animal similar to a hare) and the horns of an antelope, this animal has earned the name 'jackalope.' In many towns, mounted heads and postcards of jackalopes are popular souvenirs, and jackalope legends are sometimes used by locals to play tricks on tourists. [A]

One famous jackalope hoax was played by an American president to fool reporters. In 1980, during a tour of his California ranch, Ronald Reagan had a rabbit head with antlers mounted on his wall. He calmly referred to the creature as a "jackalope." [B] Reagan claimed that he had caught the animal himself. Reagan's jackalope hangs on the ranch's wall to this day. Some local governments, such as Douglas, Wyoming, have issued jackalope hunting licenses to tourists. They are good for hunting during official jackalope season which occurs for only one day, February 30th. [C]

The idea of the jackalope perhaps comes from a species of jackrabbit that is common in the southwestern states of the USA. This jackrabbit is called the antelope jackrabbit because of its ability to run quickly like an antelope. People who heard of this jackrabbit may have visualized the animal with horns like an antelope, hence the story of the jackalope. [D]

The legend of the jackalope has given rise to many strange claims as to the creature's habits. For example, it is sometimes said to be half "killer-rabbit." Another legend is that female jackalopes can be milked as they sleep belly up and the milk can be used as a kind of medicine. Perhaps the most amazing legend is that the jackalope can imitate the human voice. It uses this ability to fool hunters, usually by saying "There he goes!" and "That way!"

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

1	hoax	a. a thing or a place set up to interest visitors
2	mount	b. to make into a statue using the skin of a real animal
3	local	c. a person who has lived in a certain area for a long time
4	attraction	d. a trick designed to fool the media
5	imitate	e. a horn of a deer, moose, or a similar animal
6	visualize	f. to give, to provide
7	issue	g. to see within the mind, to picture in imagination
8	antler	h. to pretend to be something else; to mock

READING COMPREHENSION

1 Which of the following best states the main idea of the reading?

- A. A mean hoax by the American people
- B. The discovery of a new type of animal
- C. A misunderstanding and the horrible problems it caused
- D. A fun legend and how it began and developed

2 According to the reading, which of the following is true?

- A. President Ronald Regan really caught a jackalope.
- B. The idea of a jackalope came from blending two animals.
- C. Jackalope tricks anger many tourists.
- D. Jackalope milk may be good medicine to fight spreading diseases.

3 Which is the best place for the following sentence? **To this day, none have been caught.**

- A. [A] B. [B] C. [C] D. [D]

4 Which of the sentences below best expresses the information in the underlined sentence in the passage?

- A. People have discovered many wonderful things about jackalopes.
- B. Many people have made up stories about jackalopes.
- C. Jackalopes appear in most traditional American legends.
- D. The strange behavior of jackalopes inspires many stories.

5 It can be inferred from the passage that _____.

- A. people continue this myth because they enjoy the idea of jackalopes

- B. the search for a jackalope will someday make an amazing discovery
- C. Americans are foolish and can be talked into believing anything
- D. many people have been killed or injured by jackalopes over the years

6 The word 'They' in the passage refers to _____.

- A. governments
- B. jackalopes
- C. licenses
- D. tourists

READING FOURTY – EIGHT

The wolf and the lamb

A wolf met a lamb that had gotten separated from its flock. He decided not to simply attack the lamb, but first to prove to the lamb that he had a right to eat *him*. He said to the lamb, "Sir, last year you insulted me." "Indeed," answered the lamb in a mournful voice, "I did not insult you last year since I had not yet been born." The wolf thought for a moment and said, "You feed on the grass in my field." "No," replied the lamb, "I have not yet tasted grass." Then the wolf said, "You drink from my well." "No, good sir," cried the lamb. "I have never drunk water since my mother's milk is still both food and drink to me." At that moment the wolf seized the lamb and ate him, saying, "Well, I won't go without supper even though you refute all of my accusations."

The lion and the mouse

A mouse ran over the face of a sleeping lion and awakened him. Angrily, the lion caught the mouse and was about to kill *him*. The mouse began to beg, saying, "Please spare my life, and someday **I** will repay your kindness." The lion laughed at the idea that a mouse could do any favor for him, but let him go anyway. A few days later, the lion was caught by a hunter and tied up with ropes. The mouse, hearing the lion's roar, came and chewed the rope with his teeth until the lion was free.

The farmer and the snake

One winter's day, a farmer found a snake frozen and nearly dead from the cold. He felt pity for it, and picked it up and held it close to *him*. The snake was quickly revived by the warmth. Obeying its natural instincts, it bit the farmer, giving him a fatal wound.

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

1	fatal	a. a group of birds, sheep, or goats
2	mournful	b. expressing or feeling deep sadness
3	refute	c. to take hold of something quickly and firmly
4	favor	d. to prove something wrong by argument or evidence
5	accusation	e. a claim that someone has done something wrong
6	seize	f. something that you do for someone in order to help them
7	revive	g. to come or bring someone back to life
8	flock	h. causing death

READING COMPREHENSION

- 1 What was probably the author's purpose in writing these stories?
 - A. To teach the reader about human behavior
 - B. To teach the reader about animal behavior
 - C. To entertain the reader with interesting stories
 - D. To warn the reader to be careful with animals
- 2 Which of the following is true of "The Wolf and the Lamb"?
 - A. The wolf shows a lot of kindness.
 - B. The wolf makes a successful argument.
 - C. The lamb is very old.
 - D. The lamb is too young to eat the grass.
- 3 Which of the following is true of "The Lion and the Mouse"?
 - A. The lion helps the mouse.
 - B. The lion believes the mouse can repay him.
 - C. The mouse helps the lion.
 - D. The mouse is killed by the lion.
- 4 Which fable has a happy ending?
 - A. "The Wolf and the Lamb"
 - B. "The Lion and the Mouse"
 - C. "The Farmer and the Snake"
 - D. "The Wolf and the Lamb" and "The Lion and the Mouse"
- 5 The word 'I' in the passage refers to _____.
 - A. lion
 - B. mouse
 - C. hunter
 - D. wolf
- 6 Which of the sentences below best expresses the information in the underlined sentence in the passage?
 - A. The lamb failed to prove that he had a right to eat the wolf.
 - B. The wolf had the right to eat all of the animals in the forest.
 - C. The wolf failed to prove that he had a right to eat the lamb.
 - D. The wolf is a lawyer and defended the lamb's rights.

READING FOURTY – NINE

Hieronymus Bosch was a Dutch painter who lived from about 1450 to 1516. Most Dutch painters at this time, or any

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other time really, were known for their simple, realistic paintings. Bosch **stood out** because his paintings were very far from realistic. Most of his **complicated** paintings are **nightmarish** pictures of human **frailty**, sin and hell. There are also many symbols and influences in Bosch's paintings. Some are so difficult to interpret that they require a lot of research into religion to understand them. One symbol was **inspired** by a great fire that happened in 1463 when Bosch was only about 13 years old. The fire burned almost the entire town to the ground.

There were people running and screaming in fear everywhere. These scenes of horror seem to appear often in Bosch's paintings of hell. Even in Bosch's more **pastoral** paintings, one cannot escape hell. Sometimes it is found hidden in people's faces, in a background scene, or even in the clouds of the sky. Hell is always there. Another strong influence was the Brotherhood of Our Lady. This was a group from the Catholic Church that began because of a famous, miraculous statue of the Virgin Mary. Bosch's family belonged to this very strict group. It was the teachings of the Brotherhood that introduced Bosch to the complicated images and symbols in his paintings. Bosch was a popular painter throughout his life. He sold many paintings all over Europe even though he probably never traveled far from his hometown. Word of the unusual painter spread quickly. Bosch continued to be successful even after he died.

His **imaginative** style was very influential. The **Surrealists** of the early 20th century used his imagery in their paintings. Even George Lucas said he used some of Bosch's monsters to help him create the creatures in Star Wars. Hopefully, Bosch would approve of what his paintings mean to people today.

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

1	Surrealist	a. to be very noticeable
2	complicated	b. difficult to understand
3	frailty	c. to be extremely frightening and unpleasant
4	inspire	d. having the quality of being easily broken
5	imaginative	e. to encourage, to motivate
6	pastoral	f. related to the countryside or country life
7	nightmarish	g. creative, inventive
8	stand out	h. an artist expressing certain philosophical ideals

READING COMPREHENSION

1 Which of the following is the best title for the passage?

- A. Surrealistic Works of Hieronymus Bosch
- B. Realist Painters in the Late 15th Century
- C. A Famous Artist of the Strange
- D. Several Pastoral Paintings

2 According to the reading, which of the following is the true?

- A. Bosch's childhood was an endless chain of misfortunes.
- B. His images of hell were inspired by a great fire which he witnessed.
- C. There are easily understandable images in most of his paintings.
- D. Bosch was an activist for a severe religious group.

3 The word 'them' in the passage refers to _____

- A. research
- B. symbols
- C. paintings
- D. pictures

4 Which of the sentences below best expresses the information in the first underlined sentence in the passage?

- A. The Brotherhood of Our Lady helped Bosch do his work.
- B. Bosch always thanked to the Brotherhood because of its complicated images.
- C. Bosch's complicated symbols were influenced by the Brotherhood's lessons.
- D. Bosch's works were an effort to spread the teachings of the Brotherhood of Our Lady.

5 The author includes the second underlined sentence in order to -----

- A. include the popularity of one specific film
- B. show a famous film director's admiration to Bosch
- C. differentiate Bosch's monsters from creatures in Star Wars
- D. give an example of Bosch's extensive influence

6 It can be inferred from the passage that _____

- A. Bosch's parents were strict to their children
- B. Realism appeared because Surrealistic works were influenced by Bosch's work
- C. the world seems full of evil things in Bosch's works
- D. the Brotherhood of Our Lady was so extreme that they did many horrible things

READING FIFTY

Lake Victoria is the largest lake in Africa. It is also the second largest lake in the world. It is an important lake because it is one of the sources for the longest river in the world, the Nile River. Lake Victoria provides a source of water, food, and power for several African countries. [A] Unfortunately, Lake Victoria has a problem. It is **shrinking**. There are several power stations at Lake Victoria in Uganda. These are on the Nile River, and in addition to **generating** power, they keep the water levels of Lake Victoria **steady**. For the past forty years, that level has been 11.9 meters. Over the last several years, the water level has dropped by about 2.5 meters. [B] There appear to be several reasons for this drop.

[C] One **commonly blamed** reason is **drought**. Drought has been very bad in the area since 2000. Lake Victoria gets all of its water from rain, so the drought means less water in the lake.

However, some **environmentalists** believe that the real problem is the power plants on Lake Victoria. Uganda **relies on** those power plants for most of its power, and they made the power plants larger in 2000. Many people believe the power plants

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have been taking too much water off Lake Victoria. As a result, they have been ordered to use less water until Lake Victoria goes back to its old level. [D]

Whether the low water level is caused by drought or power plants, the result is the same. This is already a poor area of Africa, where many people struggle to survive. People, animals and plants around Lake Victoria will suffer even more from low water levels on the lake. Many people need Lake Victoria for fishing or growing food. Fish need the water to live, and animals need it for water. Plants around the lake will die without the water, and then more animals and people will suffer. Unless the lake fills soon, many people will suffer and die.

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

1	shrink	a. to make or become smaller in size or extent
2	steady	b. usually, frequently
3	drought	c. firmly fixed or balanced
4	commonly	d. a long-period of lack of rainfall
5	blame	e. someone who is concerned about the environment
6	rely on	f. to need and depend on something to live or work properly
7	environmentalist	g. to create, to produce
8	generate	h. to accuse, to condemn

READING COMPREHENSION

1 Which of the following best states the main idea of the reading?

- A. Every life around Lake Victoria is threatened.
- B. Lake Victoria is the source of water, food, and power for Africa.
- C. Drought is a threat to Lake Victoria.
- D. There is no means of helping Africa.

2 According to the reading, which of the following is true?

- A. The Nile River is the only source of water in Uganda.
- B. The water level of Lake Victoria has dropped by 11.9 meters.
- C. The only African power plants are located in Uganda.
- D. Lake Victoria has gotten smaller every year.

3 The word 'These' in the passage refers to

- A. the water levels of Lake Victoria
- B. Uganda
- C. the Nile River
- D. power stations

4 Which is the best place for the following sentence?

Lake Victoria is a big part of African life.

- A. [A] B. [B] C. [C] D. [D]

5 The author mentioned the underlined sentence in order to

- A. stress that water levels have dropped seriously all over the world
- B. explain why the water level dropped in Lake Victoria
- C. show how quickly the water problem in Lake Victoria developed
- D. indicate that the water level will soon rise

6 It can be inferred from the passage that in order to solve the problems around Lake Victoria

- A. more power plants are needed in the areas
- B. every country should offer financial assistance
- C. all the people living in the area should move to another place
- D. alternative sources of water must be found

READING FIFTY – ONE

"**Ultra**" means "beyond", so "Ultrasound" means "beyond sound." Ultrasound is a somewhat new medical tool. Ultrasound allows doctors to measure and check things inside the body. It takes a picture of what is happening inside. But, how does ultrasound work? Ultrasound would be impossible without something called the "piezoelectric effect" which means the pressure electricity effect. Pierre and Jacques Curie discovered this effect in 1880. They discovered that an electrical current **applied** to quartz crystals caused **them** to make sound waves. The **reverse** is also true.

Applying sound waves to quartz crystals causes an electrical current. In an ultrasound machine, quartz crystals are held in a **transducer probe**. The probe sends sound waves into the body through the crystals. The sound waves enter the body and **bounce** back. This is like an echo in a cave, only the echo bounces back off of things in the body. The waves come back to the probe at different times depending on what they bounce off. The probe receives the waves and turns them into electric currents which are sent to the central processing unit (CPU). This is like the CPU in your home computer. The CPU then makes a picture from the electric currents. An image is almost instant, and it can show movement. It is faster even than an X-ray. It is also safer than an X-ray since there is no radiation. Ultrasound examinations are most commonly used on **pregnant** women.

However, there are other uses as well. Doctors can check the heart to see if everything is working properly. They can check blood to make sure it is moving well. Ultrasounds may find cancer **tumors**. They can find problems with other organs. They are also excellent for emergencies since ultrasound examinations are so fast.

Are there any problems with ultrasound? It is possible that ultrasound can make extra heat. If this is true, it may damage some organs or **infants**. However, there is no evidence that this happens. Ultrasound seems to be the best tool for seeing inside the body.

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

1	reverse	a. the opposite, backward
2	transducer	b. a long and slim instrument used by doctors
3	apply	c. to spring or jump back from a solid surface

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4	probe	d. a device that changes power from one type to another
5	bounce	e. to be carrying a growing child within one's womb
6	tumor	f. a very young child in the first period of life; a baby
7	pregnant	g. a swelling lump usually caused by cancer
8	infant	h. to put into, onto, or used in some way

READING COMPREHENSION

1 Which of the following is the best title for the passage?

- A. Both Advantages and Disadvantages of the Ultrasound's Device
- B. Communication between animals through Ultrasound in the Sea
- C. The World Beyond Sound; Ultrasound Explained
- D. The Next Generation's Choice: Ultrasound

2 According to the reading, which of the following is the true?

- A. Ultrasound has been proven to be a risk-free medical tool.
- B. The pressure electricity effect is created by currents applied to crystals.
- C. Recently, Jacques Curie has discovered the relationship between current and ultrasound.
- D. Sound waves are not able to go through the inside of a body.

3 The word 'them' in the passage refers to ' '

- A. crystals
- B. sound waves
- C. electrical current
- D. crystals and sound waves

4 The author includes "Ultra" means "beyond", so "Ultrasound" means "beyond sound" in order to .

- A. define basic terms
- B. introduce new created words
- C. argue over a misunderstood word
- D. attract readers' attention

5 According to the passage, which of the following is NOT related to the Curies' discovery?

- A. Electrical current converts to sound waves via quartz crystals.
- B. The pressure electricity effect
- C. The development of the ultrasound machine
- D. An echo in a cave is related to a transducer probe.

6 Which of the sentences below best expresses the information in the second underlined sentence in the passage?

- A. The pressure electricity effect was discovered using ultrasound.
- B. Ultrasound yielded the discovery of the pressure electricity effect.
- C. The pressure electricity effect was essential to give rise to ultrasound.
- D. Ultrasound could have been produced, but the pressure electricity effect was discovered.

READING FIFTY – TWO

Long before the first space flights, astronomers had dreamed of putting a telescope into space. A telescope in orbit above the Earth's atmosphere would be able get crystal-clear images of cosmic objects. After World War II, astronomers became more interested in the regions of the electromagnetic spectrum beyond visible light. They also realized that space-based telescopes would be able to map the sky in the **infrared** and ultraviolet regions blocked by the Earth's atmosphere. [A]

At first, space observations were made by "sounding rockets," which were fairly small space vehicles that could remain above the atmosphere for a short time. In 1946, a rocket **-launched** spectrometer obtained the first ultraviolet solar spectrogram, **revealing** features not previously observed in the radiation from any object in space. [B]

The development of balloons made of plastic in the postwar period gave astronomers another option for getting above the atmosphere to observe space. Pre-war research balloons had been made of rubberized silk or other cloth which made it expensive and, even worse, too heavy to reach high **altitudes**. The new, cheaper plastic balloons could reach much higher, up to about 32 kilometers, where the view was much better. Such balloons were identified as the real **culprits** in many of the "UFO" reports of the day. [C] Sounding rockets and balloons performed significant observations in astronomy and remain valuable tools for astronomers in the 21st century. **Artificial** Earth satellites promised much greater **capability**. The earliest space astronomical **observatories** were the US's "Orbiting Solar Observatory" (OSO), spacecraft for scientific studies of the sun. Nine were launched by NASA beginning in 1962. **They** carried solar power cells and instruments for continuous observation of the sun. [D]

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

1	reveal	a. a building with a telescope for studying the stars and planets
2	infrared	b. relating to a light that is warm but invisible
3	capability	c. to make something visible or known
4	altitude	d. to send a space vehicle into the air or space
5	culprit	e. the height of a place or thing above sea level
6	observatory	f. a cause of a problem
7	artificial	g. made by human beings rather than occurring naturally
8	launch	h. the potential to be used for a particular purpose

READING COMPREHENSION

READING SUPPLEMENTARY COLLECTION FOR BLSERS

- 1 Which of the following would be a good title for the reading?
- Space Observation in the Mid-1900's
 - Sounding Rockets and Research Balloons
 - The First Telescopes
 - NASA's Latest Inventions
- 2 Which is the best place for the following sentence? **This was a step forward, but it was difficult to steady a rocket to take clear measurements.**
- [A]
 - [B]
 - [C]
 - [D]
- 3 According to the reading, which of the following is true of plastic balloons?
- They rise higher than rubberized balloons.
 - They came into use after World War II.
 - They were mistaken for UFOs.
 - All of the above.
- 4 It can be inferred from the reading that _____
- astronomers had launched telescopes into space before World War II
 - sounding rockets and balloons are not used by astronomers today
 - other space astronomical observatories have been developed since the OSO
 - today, astronomers can clearly see everything in the universe
- 5 The word 'They' refers to _____
- satellites
 - NASA
 - studies
 - observatories
- 6 The paragraph following the passage would most probably discuss _____
- information on other artificial Earth satellites
 - what astronomers have learned from sounding rockets and balloons
 - the future of NASA
 - the latest design improvements in space telescopes

READING FIFTY – THREE

Macau is a small territory on the southern coast of China. It was the first European colony in China, having been first settled by the Portuguese in 1557. Broadly, "Macanese" refers to all **inhabitants** of Macau, but narrowly, **it** refers to an **ethnic** group in Macau of blended Portuguese and Chinese **heritage**. The place has been described as "a curious **anomaly** with a Chinese soul and a Portuguese heart." Although Macanese culture has always been a mixture of Chinese and Portuguese, this did not always come about peacefully. The efforts of the ethnic Chinese majority to establish their own identity sometimes ran against the aims of the Portuguese government. [A]

In 1966, residents tried to obtain a license for a private school in the city of Taipa. After being rejected many times, they started building without permission. On November 15th, 1966, the Portuguese police arrested the school officials and beat construction workers, residents, and press reporters. [B] As a result, Chinese teachers and students gathered peacefully at the Governor's house to protest, but on December 3rd, the government ordered them to be arrested. This stirred up the anger of the general public and more people came to protest. The Portuguese government sent riot police and declared martial law. In the **disturbance**, 11 people died and 200 were hurt.

As a nonviolent protest against the government, the Chinese people then **enacted** "three no's": no taxes, no service, no selling to Portuguese. [C] On January 29th, 1967, the Portuguese government of Macau signed a statement of apology. This marked the beginning of equal treatment and recognition of Chinese identity, and of de facto Chinese control of the colony.

[D] Evidence of Macau's Portuguese heritage remains. St. Paul's Church, for example, was built in the early 1600's and is one of the greatest Christian churches in Asia. It was destroyed by a fire in 1835 which left **only** the **majestic** facade and staircase that now comprise one of Macau's most popular landmarks. At the heart of old Portuguese Macau is the Largo do Senado, Senate Square where colored tiles cover the central square, and European-style buildings line the pedestrian Walkway.

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

1	enact	a.	relating to a group of people having the same traditions
2	majestic	b.	some things important to history and culture of a society
3	abnormally	c.	something strange or difficult to identify
4	ethnic	d.	the control of people by armed forces under the military rules
5	disturbance	e.	noisy and violent behavior in a public place
6	martial law	f.	to perform, to play
7	inhabitant	g.	impressive, large-sized
8	heritage	h.	a person that lives in a particular place or area

READING COMPREHENSION

- 1 Which of the following best describes the reading?
- How the Portuguese established their own identity
 - Macau's two cultural groups and the history of their interaction
 - A description of the most important historical and cultural sites in Macau
 - A history of Portuguese influence in Macau
- 2 The word 'it' refers to -----
- colony
 - Macau
 - Macanese
 - inhabitant
- 3 Which is the best place for the following sentence? **The protest achieved its goal.**

A. [A] B. [B] C. [C] D. [D]

4 *Why did Chinese teachers and students go to the Governor's house?*

- A. To ask permission to build a school
- B. To arrest the Governor
- C. To object to the recent arrests and beatings
- D. To enact the "three no's"

5 *The Chinese action against the Portuguese government was* _____

- A. very violent
- B. unsuccessful
- C. disorganized
- D. mostly peaceful

6 *What was the author's purpose in writing this essay?*

- A. To discuss the history of a unique ethnic group
- B. To encourage tourism to Macau
- C. To protest the Portuguese government's treatment of the Macanese
- D. To raise awareness of the difficulties facing schools in Macau

READING FIFTY – FOUR

Dogs originally came from wolves. Wolves look a lot like dogs, but **they** are bigger. They are also quite fierce. At some point, some wolves changed through evolution. Some of them were smaller and gentler. These nicer wolves were the first dogs. No one knows for sure when this happened or why. Some people say it happened naturally over 50,000 years ago. Others say people made it happen between 15,000 and 50,000 years ago.

However they came to be, people quickly saw that dogs were useful. Scientists who study humans say the first tame dogs appeared with humans about 13,000 years ago in the Middle East. Not long after, there were dogs in Asia, Africa, Europe and eventually, North America. These dogs were probably used mostly for hunting and traveling. They were also good companions.

Dogs were an important part of life in ancient Egypt. Egyptian dogs were used not only for hunting, but as guards and warriors as well. They believed the god that guarded hell was a dog. Ancient Egyptians also named their pet dogs. Some popular names meant Brave One, Reliable, North-wind, Blacky, and Useless.

Dogs were also good ancient Roman warriors. The Roman army used dogs all over Europe. Sometimes the dogs were attack dogs, but other times the dogs were messengers. The Chinese had dogs that they used for hunting and fighting as well. In addition to these large breeds of dogs, the Chinese had dogs that were strictly pets. These dogs were much smaller than other breeds, and they did little but entertain and provide company for people who could afford to keep them.

Dogs likely made their way to North America through Asia. Large breeds were often used as traveling animals, carrying or pulling things. This was especially true in North America. Some dogs were also used as food, but this usually happened only when there was a shortage of other food.

There are many different kinds of dogs today. How could they all come from wolves? There are many different explanations. Some scientists believe that dogs mixed with other animals from the canidae family. This includes coyotes, foxes and jackals. Most scientists also believe that evolution and breeding influenced the variation. Later, people found breeds of dogs they liked and combined them to make all new breeds. In this way, people are still helping new breeds to appear today!

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

1. variation	a. kind, moderate
2. companion	b. lack, scarcity
3. combine	c. a friend, comrade or frequent associate
4. guard	d. person whose job is to provide protection
5. canidae	e. trustworthy; true to the original
6. reliable	f. the scientific family of dogs
7. gentle	g. alternative kinds or forms; difference
8. shortage	h. to join together, to unite

READING COMPREHENSION

1 *Which of the following best states the main idea of the reading?*

- A. No one knows for sure where dogs first appeared with humans.
- B. Human beings used dogs for many jobs, so dogs are the first tame animals.
- C. Evolution and breeding have made dogs what they are today.
- D. There are two theories about the evolution of dogs.

2 *According to the reading, which of the following is true?*

- A. Most people like to name their dogs Reliable, Blacky, and Useless.
- B. The first tame dogs appeared in ancient Egypt.
- C. According to some studies, dogs mixed with coyotes and jackals.
- D. Dogs have become people such as messengers, healers, guards and warriors

3 *The word 'they' in the passage refers to* _____

- A. dogs
- B. wolves
- C. people
- D. years

4 *According to the passage, the following sentences are probably true EXCEPT* _____

- A. ancient Egyptians believed that the guardian of hell was a dog
- B. Romans used dogs only for their military purposes
- C. some people traveled with their dogs but sometimes had to use them for food
- D. there are many similarities between wolves and dogs

5 It can be inferred that Egyptians thought of dogs as

- A. a entertaining animals
- B. sacred animals
- C. unaccepted animals
- D. brave animals

6 Which of the sentences below best expresses the information in the underlined sentence in the passage?

- A. A number of dog breeds were produced by human influence in breeding.
- B. People like to breed different kinds of dogs.
- C. New breeds are often preferable to human beings.
- D. People liked new breeds because they always want to combine them.

READING FIFTY – FIVE

American English is the name given to the form of the language used by the people of the United States. (Note that American English does not include Canadian English. The two nations use very similar pronunciation, but in other respects, Canadian English is more like British English.) British English, or **Commonwealth** English, is the variety used in the United Kingdom and its former colonies, including much of Africa, the Indian **subcontinent**, Australia, New Zealand, and parts of Southeast Asia. While American and British English are for the most part **mutually** intelligible, the differences are numerous enough to cause **awkward** misunderstandings and the occasional breakdown of communication. [A]

Some of the most obvious differences are in vocabulary. Many of these developed between the mid-19th and the mid-20th centuries. This was a period during which a variety of new concepts arose requiring new words. For example, a large number of words connected with automobiles and other modern vehicles are different in the two forms of English. The British use the Celsius temperature scale whereas Americans are more used to Fahrenheit. An American "trunk" is a British "boot." In the US, they put "gas" in their cars, but in the UK, it's "petrol." Americans say "subway" while the British say "underground" or "tube." [B] While many of these differences are well-known in both countries, there is an inequality in the **comprehensibility** of American terms for the British, compared with that of British terms for Americans. The use of many British words, such as "semi" (semi-detached house) or "busk" (to play music in public in the hope of getting donations from passersby) is likely to completely **baffle** an American. The global popularity of American movies and television shows, on the other hand, means that few Americanisms are unknown to British English speakers. [C]

[D] Less noticeable, though also numerous, are differences in grammar. The present perfect tense "I've gone" is more commonly heard in British English whereas Americans use the simple past "I went." "Did you eat yet?" is a normal question in the US while "Have you eaten yet?" is the only acceptable form for British speakers. **Collective** nouns, singular nouns that describe multiple people, are another point of difference. In British English, **they** are used with a plural verb: "The family are worried." Americans use them with a singular verb: "The family is worried."

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

1. commonwealth	a. a way, manner, point
2. respect	b. a group of countries with the same political interests
3. mutually	c. a large area that is an identifiably separate part of a continent
4. subcontinent	d. the same for two or more
5. awkward	e. embarrassing, troublesome
6. baffle	f. the ability to be understood
7. collective	g. to cause a feeling of confusion or helplessness
8. comprehensibility	h. jointed, combined, shared

READING COMPREHENSION

1 Which of the following best describes the reading?

- A. An explanation of how American English and British English are often confused
- B. A discussion of differences between American English and British English
- C. An argument for choosing British English over American English
- D. A listing of varieties of English and where they are spoken

2 According to the reading, Canadian English and American English are most alike in .

- A. grammar
- B. spelling
- C. pronunciation
- D. meaning

3 The word 'they' refers to

- A. nouns
- B. people
- C. speakers
- D. family

4 Which is the best place for the following sentence?

George Bernard Shaw famously joked that the Americans and the British were "divided by a common language."

- A. [A]
- B. [B]
- C. [C]
- D. [D]

5 Which of the sentences below does NOT belong in the second paragraph?

- A. Some of the most obvious differences are in vocabulary.
- B. The British use the Celsius temperature scale, whereas Americans are more used to Fahrenheit.

C. An American "trunk" is a British "boot."

D. In the US, they put "gas" in their cars, but in the UK, it's "petrol."

6 It can be inferred from the reading that in India, the "subway" might be called '

A. the tube

B. the underground

C. the train

D. both A and B

READING FIFTY – SIX

Fossil fuels are fuels made from animals and plants that lived millions of years ago. Coal is the most common fossil fuel. Many scientists believe there is enough coal in the ground to last over 200 years. That is a long time when compared with natural gas which is estimated to last only 70 years, and oil which will last only 30. Today's coal began millions of years ago as **peat**. Peat is created when plants die and fall to the ground. The dead plants fall on top of each other and form layers. You can find lots of peat today in places like Scotland and Ireland where people still burn it like wood. Ancient peat continued to make layer after layer until the end of the ice age. Then the ice **melted**, and many places in the world were covered with huge lakes and rivers. The rivers carried dirt and sand into the lakes where they covered the peat. The water eventually dried up, but the dirt and sand **remained**. The layers were very heavy. They **compacted** the peat for millions of years and slowly pushed it together. Eventually, the peat became coal.

There are four different types of coal. The first is anthracite which is the densest and has the most carbon. It burns the hottest. The second is bituminous which doesn't have as much carbon and doesn't burn as hot. Steel factories like to use this kind of coal because of the way it burns. The third is sub-bituminous which is softer and burns a little cooler. The softest and coolest burning coal is lignite. Power plants usually use these types of coal.

Coal is a lot like other fossil fuels. It is found in the ground. It is **combusted** for energy in factories and power plants. It also causes a lot of pollution. Scientists are trying to solve the problem of coal pollution. To begin with, they look for coal that has lots of carbon, but not other polluting elements such as sulfur. This depends mostly on where the coal came from. Making power plants more efficient cuts down on pollution since then they need less coal to do the same work. Scientists also experiment with other ideas such as **converting** coal into a gas or a liquid. Soon, coal may cause very little or no pollution. That is good news for everyone.

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

1. dense	a. a mass of dark-brown or black fibrous plant material
2. combust	b. a thickness or covering
3. remain	c. to make or become soft or liquid
4. melt	d. to be left after others
5. peat	e. to crush, to make smaller by using pressure
6. compact	f. thick, hard, heavy
7. layer	g. to burn, to incinerate
8. convert	h. to change from one form to another

READING COMPREHENSION

1 Which of the following is the best title for the passage?

- A. The Future of Coal
- B. Fossil Fuel Similarities
- C. The Advantages of Coal
- D. The Story of Coal

2 According to the reading, which of the following is true?

- A. Among the four types of coal, lignite is the softest and coolest burning.
- B. Coal had turned into peat through a pressure and heat.
- C. During the ice age, many layers of rocks were formed.
- D. We can find many coal mines in places like Scotland and Ireland.

3 It can be inferred from the passage that ____.

- A. coal needs to be exposed to melting ice
- B. if you squeezed peat in your hands, it would become coal
- C. burning peat does not pollute the atmosphere
- D. power plants do not want their fires to burn too hot

4 The phrase 'these types' in the passage refers to ____.

- A. anthracite and bituminous
- B. sub-bituminous and lignite
- C. anthracite and sub-bituminous
- D. bituminous and lignite

5 According to the passage, which is NOT a characteristic of fossil fuels?

- A. They are all converted from peat.
- B. They are all found in the ground.
- C. They are all used for energy sources.
- D. They all cause pollution.

6 Which of the sentences below best expresses the information in the underlined sentence in the passage?

- A. Different kinds of coal can be good news.
- B. New solutions will be a benefit for saving the environment.
- C. Environment pollution has to be solved to use coal.
- D. Coal is good news for people because it reduces the energy crisis.

READING FIFTY – SEVEN

There is little doubt that the house cat first evolved from ancient wild cats. The closest relative is the African wild cat which still lives in Africa today. This makes sense because the first house cats came from Africa.

Cats first started to live around people in Egypt about 6,000 ~ 7,000 years ago. [A] This is about the same time that Egyptians began storing grain in buildings. Scientists used to believe that people tamed cats to catch mice and protect the grain.

READING SUPPLEMENTARY COLLECTION FOR BLSERS

However, cats don't like to be told what to do! Now, scientists believe that cats followed the mice and gradually learned to accept people. Eventually, some of the cats began to grow comfortable around people. These were smaller cats that needed protection. As these cats and people got used to each other, they gradually moved in together. Around 5,000 years ago, cats started to live with people.

[B] Soon cats were in Greece, then the Middle East and China. They moved along Egyptian trade routes keeping away mice and keeping people company. After the Romans conquered Egypt, they also adopted the cat and brought it to Europe. [C] These cats likely bred with other wild cats to form the many kinds of housecats we have today. [D] Cats are relatively recent domestic animals. Domestic cats still have a lot in common with their wild relatives. Cats sleep a lot to save energy just like wild cats. **They** will often hunt at night as well. House cats are generally peaceful and friendly, but be careful! If a cat feels scared, it will fight back - just like wild cats!

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions

1	breed	a. to develop or change into different forms	
2	get used to	b. to be understandable	
3	adopt	c. to make an animal used to living or working with people	
4	make sense	d. to be familiar with, to be accustomed to	
5	tame	e. to accept into a family or social group	
6	evolve	f. to reproduce, to have offspring	
7	domestic	g. comparatively	
8	relatively	h. belonging or relating to the home, house or family	

READING COMPREHENSION

1 Which of the following best states the main idea of the reading?

- A. Some cats like people, but others don't.
- B. There are some differences between domestic and wild cats.
- C. It was a cat that played an important role in the victories of Romans.
- D. The evolution of the housecat was more about cooperation than domestication.

2 According to the reading, which of the following is the true?

- A. Cats are easy to train.
- B. Cats were first domesticated for food.
- C. Cats moved along Egyptian trade routes.
- D. Cats hunt at night to save energy.

3 Which is the best place for the following sentence?

From Egypt, cats started to move around the world.

- A. [A] B. [B] C. [C] D. [D]

4 Which sentence would NOT fit in the second paragraph of the reading?

- A. The Egyptian people were happy to have cats protecting their grain.
- B. It is unlikely that wild cats could be trained to work for people.
- C. Store d grain often attracts mice.
- D. Cats tend to obey the commands of man.

5 It can be inferred from the passage that Egyptians

- A. worshipped cats as gods
- B. had laws protecting cats
- C. enjoyed the company of cats
- D. considered cats very religious

6 The word 'they' in the passage refers to

- A. people
- B. cats
- C. Egyptians
- D. Romans

READING FIFTY – EIGHT

These days, high heel shoes are very fashionable. Women wear them to look taller and to make their legs look longer. However, many people complain that high heel shoes are getting a little too high and too **fancy**. Some people even say they look **ridiculous**. However, those people may be surprised to 5" hear that ridiculous high heel shoes are not new. In fact, some very old high heel shoes were far more **outrageous** than anything you see today. They were so ridiculous that they even started a war!

There have been high heel shoes far back in history, even back to the ancient Egyptians. Queen Catherine of Medici wore heels that were about 8cm high when she got married. Queen Mary Tudor, also known as "Bloody Mary," wore high heels as much as possible. The most famous high heel shoes came from the French King Louis XN in 1660. King Louis XN had a famous shoemaker named Nicholas Lestage. Lestage was so good at making shoes that some people said he must be a sorcerer. King Louis XN was short. He was the shortest person in the royal court. He wanted to be much taller, so he asked Lestage to make higher heels. At first this seemed to help, but when everyone else saw the king wearing heels, they wanted heels, too. Then Louis XN was the shortest person again. He kept asking Lestage to make higher and higher heels. Soon, the heels were over 12.5cm tall! But every time King Louis XN made his heels higher, the people in the court made theirs higher, too. Finally, King Louis XN gave up and made his heels lower again. The women, however, liked the way the heels made them look. They kept their heels high.

How did high heel shoes start a war? Well, the French Kings and **nobility** kept wearing high heel shoes. Then they tried taping their feet and wearing tight shoes to make their feet smaller. Shoes seemed more important to the French nobility than anything. The people of France couldn't get enough food to eat, but all the royalty could think about was their feet! This foot **fetish** was a symbol of how **corrupt** the French nobility had become. When the people finally started the famous French Revolution, it was partly because they hated how the nobility cared more about shoes than about the French people. After the Revolution, no one wore high heel shoes anymore, but by the 20th century, people had **rediscovered** them. There was the distinction of classes among people the most honorable job was a shoemaker high heel shoes were high fashion for everyone there was a lot of food and many comforts for the people.

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

READING SUPPLEMENTARY COLLECTION FOR BLSERS

1	sorcerer	a.	special, overly beautiful
2	outrageous	b.	silly, nonsensical
3	rediscover	c.	shocking, extreme
4	fancy	d.	a person who performs magic; a wizard
5	nobility	e.	the class of people of noble birth
6	ridiculous	f.	obsession, mania, craze
7	corrupt	g.	spoiled, ruined, not trustworthy
8	fetish	h.	to become aware of something good or valuable again

READING COMPREHENSION

- 1 Which of the following best states the title of the reading?
- Louis XIV and the Popularity of High Heels
 - Use of High Heel shoes in European History
 - Causes of the French Revolution
 - French Nobilities and High Heel Shoes
- 2 According to the reading, which of the following is true?
- One of the best modern inventions is high heels.
 - Queen Mary wore the highest high heel shoes in Britain.
 - The French thought cleanliness was most important, so they always had clean feet.
 - Queen Catherine probably wanted to look taller at her wedding.
- 3 The phrase 'those people' in the passage refers to .
- people who complain about high heel shoes
 - people who wear high heel shoes
 - people who want to make their legs look longer
 - people who do not think high heels have a long history
- 4 Which of the sentences below best expresses the information in the underlined sentence in the passage?
- The women wanted to possess high heels as a souvenir.
 - The women kept wearing high heel shoes after King Louis XIV stopped.
 - High heels kept being high.
 - King Louis XIV wore high heel shoes forever after.
- 5 Which of the following is NOT true?
- The origin of high heels is ancient Egypt.
 - Nicholas Lestage made some of the most fabulous high healed shoes in France.
 - Modern high heels are highest and most luxurious in history.
 - People's desire of looking taller was the origin of high heels.

READING FIFTY – NINE

One of the oldest mysteries in the world lies in southern England. That mystery is Stonehenge. Even the name is ancient. The word "henge" comes from Old English which was used in England over a thousand years ago. The word meant "hanging," so Stonehenge means "hanging stones." However, the hanging stones go back much further than **that**.

Most recent research has found that Stonehenge was built in three stages and took at least 1,400 years to build. The first stage was started about 5,000 years ago and took 50 years to complete. In this first construction, the people who built Stonehenge dug a ditch and some holes. Historians believe these holes held long wooden poles. They don't know if there was a round building there or if the log poles were connected together more like the stones that are there today. However, they have found some digging tools made from animal bones there which has told them how old this stage is.

The second stage lasted for approximately the next 500 years. In this phase, it seems that some new holes were made and some of the old holes were filled in. One of the most interesting things is that the old holes were usually filled with burnt materials, often human ashes! [A] These ashes and other building tools help historians tell the age of the second phase. The new holes also held wooden poles, but once again, no one seems to know how these poles worked together. Did they make buildings, or were they some other kind of construction? No one knows. [B]

The final phase took the longest time; almost 1,000 years. [C] Some of the stones were brought by water, while others came over land. These stones are terribly large and would be difficult even for modern machines to move. How did the ancient people manage to move them? No one can say for certain, but it seems most likely that they were moved through simple machines and willpower. [D]

How the stones got into place is only one of the mysteries surrounding Stonehenge. Who built the massive monument? Why did they build it? Was it for an ancient religion? Was it a tomb for a great person? Was it a calendar that told people when they should plant and harvest their crops? Does Stonehenge actually have magical qualities? Is it the gateway to another world? No one can answer these questions, but there is one thing people agree on whenever they see it. Stonehenge is one of the most impressive ancient mysteries anyone has ever seen.

VOCABULARY CHECK. Match the words with their definitions.

- | | | |
|---|------------|--|
| 1 | connect | a. a narrow channel dug in the ground for water flow |
| 2 | impressive | b. to link, to join |
| 3 | harvest | c. a stage or period in growth or development |
| 4 | willpower | d. determination, persistence, self-discipline |
| 5 | ditch | e. any ancient building preserved for its historical value |
| 6 | phase | f. to gather, to collect |
| 7 | gateway | g. an entrance with a fence-like door across it |
| 8 | monument | h. inspiring, remarkable |

READING COMPREHENSION

- 1 Which of the following is the best title for the passage?
- Stonehenge: Its Mystery and History
 - The Newest Seven Wonders of the World
 - Some Interpretations of Stonehenge
 - Ridiculous Theories and Facts about Stonehenge
- 2 According to the passage, which of the following is NOT true?
- The first stage took 1,400 years to complete.
 - In the first construction, there were digging tools made from animal bones.
 - Old holes were filled with materials such as human ashes during the second phase.
 - Immense stones were brought by during the third stage.
- 3 The word 'that' in the passage refers to .
- a thousand years ago
 - Southern England
 - the word
 - the world
- 4 Which is the best place for the following sentence?
This is when the ancient Stonehenge builders brought stones to the site.
- [A]
 - [B]
 - [C]
 - [D]
- 5 It can be inferred that when the mysteries of Stonehenge are settled, –
- we can communicate with aliens from outer space
 - we can learn more about ancient times
 - we can learn more about the timing of farming
 - we can make modern construction techniques better
- 6 Which of the sentences below best expresses the information in the underlined sentence in the passage?
- Whenever people see Stonehenge, people want to see it again.
 - Stonehenge is one of the great mysteries.
 - People cannot see Stonehenge because it is mysterious.
 - Many people feel that Stonehenge is a great mystery

READING SIXTY

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Cats first started to live around people in Egypt about 6,000 ~ 7,000 years ago. [A] This is about the same time that Egyptians began storing grain in buildings. Scientists used to believe that people tamed cats to catch mice and protect the grain. However, cats don't like to be told what to do! Now, scientists believe that cats followed the mice and gradually learned to accept people. Eventually, some of the cats began to grow comfortable around people. These were smaller cats that needed protection. As these cats and people got used to each other, they gradually moved in together. Around 5,000 years ago, cats started to live with people.

[B] Soon cats were in Greece, then the Middle East and China. They moved along Egyptian trade routes keeping away mice and keeping people company. After the Romans conquered Egypt, they also adopted the cat and brought it to Europe. [C] These cats likely bred with other wild cats to form the many kinds of housecats we have today. [D] Cats are relatively recent domestic animals. Domestic cats still have a lot in common with their wild relatives. Cats sleep a lot to save energy just like wild cats. They will often hunt at night as well. House cats are generally peaceful and friendly, but be careful! If a cat feels scared, it will fight back - just like wild cats!

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READING COMPREHENSION

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 - There are some differences between domestic and wild cats.
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 - The evolution of the housecat was more about cooperation than domestication.
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- Cats are easy to train.
 - Cats moved along Egyptian trade routes.
 - Cats were first domesticated for food.
 - Cats hunt at night to save energy.
- 3 Which is the best place for the following sentence? ***From Egypt, cats started to move around the world.***
- [A]
 - [B]
 - [C]
 - [D]
- 4 Which sentence would NOT fit in the second paragraph of the reading?
- The Egyptian people were happy to have cats protecting their grain.
 - It is unlikely that wild cats could be trained to work for people.
 - Stored grain often attracts mice.
 - Cats tend to obey the commands of man.
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- worshipped cats as gods
 - had laws protecting cats
 - enjoyed the company of cats
 - considered cats very delicious
- 6 The word 'they' in the passage refers to
- people
 - cats
 - Egyptians
 - Romans