

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions:** Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

1. What purpose did the author have for writing *More Valuable Than Gold*?
  - Ⓐ to entertain and persuade
  - Ⓑ to inform and entertain
  - Ⓒ to persuade and inform
  - Ⓓ all of the above
2. Read this sentence:  
*Mercury is a **toxic** metal.*  
**Toxic** means \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Ⓐ a rock that has useful minerals or metals inside it
  - Ⓑ poisonous, or dangerous to life
  - Ⓒ a silver metal that is liquid at room temperature and very poisonous
  - Ⓓ makes something unsafe by adding a harmful substance
3. What has Brazil done to help protect the rainforest?
  - Ⓐ The government stopped buying gold so people won't mine it.
  - Ⓑ Its citizens now enforce the laws, making it illegal to mine there.
  - Ⓒ They closed the rainforest, and people can't get in.
  - Ⓓ The government has programs to improve the education and job skills of poor people.
4. Which of the following sentences from the book entertains readers?
  - Ⓐ The Amazon River flows for about 4,000 miles.
  - Ⓑ Farmers use land to grow soybeans, corn, and other crops.
  - Ⓒ Constant warm temperatures and large amounts of rain allow for amazing biodiversity.
  - Ⓓ Imagine walking through a beautiful forest with giant trees, vines, and large, colorful flowers.

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5. Which sentence tells what happens after the gold is mixed with the mercury?
  - Ⓐ Prospectors cut down or burn all the trees.
  - Ⓑ Miners loosen the ore from the walls.
  - Ⓒ The mercury is removed from the gold, often by burning it away.
  - Ⓓ Workers mix the mud with mercury, a toxic metal.
6. Which sentence tells an opinion?
  - Ⓐ The Amazon rainforest is more valuable than gold.
  - Ⓑ Tens of thousands of plant species, billions of insects, and many fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals live in the Amazon.
  - Ⓒ Many of the gold mines are small, illegal operations located in parts of the forest protected by governments.
  - Ⓓ Gold miners can earn more than \$70 per day.
7. Which of the following definitions tells the meaning of **biodiversity**?
  - Ⓐ a dense forest that receives a lot of rain and contains diverse animal and plant life
  - Ⓑ the clearing away of trees and other vegetation in an area
  - Ⓒ the variety of life forms on Earth or in a specific habitat or ecosystem
  - Ⓓ the protection of wild lands and the living things found there
8. How is gold mining different from logging?
  - Ⓐ Trees are cut down to gather something valuable.
  - Ⓑ Mercury is released into the soil.
  - Ⓒ Thousands of living creatures homes' are destroyed.
  - Ⓓ It causes deforestation.

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9. Read the following sentence:  
*Miners blast away the walls of the pit with powerful water cannons.* Does this sentence inform, persuade, or entertain?

- Ⓐ inform
- Ⓑ persuade
- Ⓒ entertain
- Ⓓ none of the above

10. What causes large fish to have high levels of mercury in their bodies?

- Ⓐ The miners blast out deep pits with dynamite.
- Ⓑ Large fish eat smaller fish that are contaminated with mercury.
- Ⓒ Mercury poisoning can cause many health problems.
- Ⓓ Workers remove mercury from the gold by burning it away.

11. **Extended Response:** What are five reasons why the author believes the Amazon rainforest is more valuable than gold?

12. **Extended Response:** How might the deforestation of the Amazon rainforest add to global climate change?

## Quick Check Answer Sheet

## More Valuable Than Gold

Main Comprehension Skill: Author's Purpose

1. Ⓒ Author's Purpose
2. Ⓑ Vocabulary
3. Ⓓ Main Idea and Details
4. Ⓓ Author's Purpose
5. Ⓒ Sequence Events
6. Ⓐ Fact or Opinion
7. Ⓒ Vocabulary
8. Ⓑ Compare and Contrast
9. Ⓐ Author's Purpose
10. Ⓑ Cause and Effect
11. Answers will vary but should include five facts from the book, such as the following: *amazing biodiversity is found in the rainforest, thousands of plant and animal species exist in the rainforest, many rainforest species may not have yet been discovered or studied, rainforest species may provide new medicines, rainforest plants remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, and so on.*
12. Answers will vary but should include facts from the book such as the following: *rainforest plants remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere for photosynthesis, the process by which they make their own food; with fewer plants, more carbon dioxide stays in the atmosphere; large amounts of carbon dioxide trap heat in Earth's atmosphere and contribute to global warming.*