

Quick Check

The Panama Canal

Name _____ Date _____

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

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| <p>1. Which event happened before the French tried to build a Central American canal?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ President Theodore Roosevelt took office. Ⓑ Panamanian revolutionaries overthrew the government. Ⓒ People traveled west for the California Gold Rush. Ⓓ The first steam shovel arrived in Central America. <p>2. Why did de Lesseps leave Panama disgraced?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ The canal project lost \$287 million and 20,000 lives with no success. Ⓑ France had to sign a treaty with Colombia. Ⓒ The project stalled for more than 10 years. Ⓓ The United States recognized the importance of the canal. | <p>3. What was the main similarity between France and the United States?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ Both wanted to build a Central American canal. Ⓑ Both completed canals in Central America. Ⓒ Both helped Panamanian revolutionaries. Ⓓ Both completed canals in Egypt. <p>4. What caused the death rate from malaria to fall to less than 1 percent by early 1910?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ Stevens built churches, hospitals, mess halls, and schools. Ⓑ Dr. Gorgas organized workers to construct new roads and fix the railway. Ⓒ Stevens assembled a skilled and motivated workforce. Ⓓ Dr. Gorgas organized workers to empty barrels with still water, fumigate homes, and sleep under netting. |
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5. Which of the following defines **engineering**?
 - Ⓐ business or trade
 - Ⓑ a long and challenging journey
 - Ⓒ the work of designing and building things
 - Ⓓ confidence or enthusiasm
6. Which detail supports the main idea that John Stevens saved the canal project?
 - Ⓐ Wallace's replacement was a hard-driving engineer named John Stevens.
 - Ⓑ Much of Stevens work up to that point had involved setting up systems, fixing problems, and starting to excavate the landscape.
 - Ⓒ To do that, they would have to dig through the mountains, which would have added years to the project.
 - Ⓓ Stevens directed workers to dig at both ends of the lock site and meet in the middle.
7. Which word best describes the Panama Canal?
 - Ⓐ unfair
 - Ⓑ latest
 - Ⓒ steady
 - Ⓓ sturdy
8. Which event happened first?
 - Ⓐ Thousands of workers flocked to Panama.
 - Ⓑ Dr. Gorgas reduced mosquito-borne diseases.
 - Ⓒ The steam shovel arrived in Panama.
 - Ⓓ The United States signed a treaty with the Republic of Panama to begin work on the canal.
9. *Gated sections in rivers or canals in which the water level is raised and lowered are called _____.*
 - Ⓐ commerce
 - Ⓑ ingenuity
 - Ⓒ locks
 - Ⓓ isthmus

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10. The author of this book believes that _____.
- Ⓐ the Panama Canal is a wonder of the modern world
 - Ⓑ President Roosevelt attacked France by building the Panama Canal
 - Ⓒ President Roosevelt was determined to take over Colombia
 - Ⓓ risks were not worth the effort put forth to build the canal
11. **Extended Response:** Why did the author discuss mosquitos in the book? Cite details that support your answer.
12. **Extended Response:** How did John Stevens boost the morale of the workers? Why do you think this was necessary?

Quick Check Answer Sheet

The Panama Canal*Main Comprehension Skill: Cause and Effect*

1. Ⓒ *Sequence Events*
2. Ⓐ *Cause and Effect*
3. Ⓐ *Compare and Contrast*
4. Ⓓ *Cause and Effect*
5. Ⓒ *Vocabulary*
6. Ⓑ *Main Idea and Details*
7. Ⓓ *Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions*
8. Ⓓ *Cause and Effect*
9. Ⓒ *Vocabulary*
10. Ⓐ *Author's Point of View*
11. Answers will vary but should express that the author discussed mosquitos in the book to provide details of the hardships that Panama Canal workers faced. Students should include information about malaria, yellow fever, and the effects of Dr. Gorgas's work.
12. Answers will vary but should include that John Stevens improved workers' morale by creating churches, hospitals, mess halls, and schools. Students should explain that by providing workers with these basic services, they were more likely to feel a sense of belonging, community, and support, which in turn would lift their morale and increase work production.