



## PASSAGES

**Read the passages and choose the correct answers.**

Strictly speaking, cartography is the drawing or compiling of maps. The explorers and surveyors go out and make measurements and gather the information from which the cartographers draw their maps. Sometimes the fieldwork and the creation of the map are done by the same person. But when the scope is broad and the sources of information many, maps are more often a compilation of that information. They represent the accumulated work of many people, brought together under the supervision of one person, the compiler. The value of maps depends, of course, on the expertise of the compiler, who must sift through available information, select the most accurate data, and come up with a thoughtful and accurate synthesis of the geographic knowledge of the region.

1. What is the main idea of the passage?
  - A. The definition of cartography is the drawing or compiling of maps.
  - B. Maps are the product of a group effort brought together usually by one person.
  - C. Not all of the information initially compiled for maps is accurate.
  - D. The compiler's task is more important than that of the explorers and surveyors.



The first expedition down the Colorado River was made by John Wesley Powell and his party in 1869. Powell had made long trips down the Ohio and the Mississippi and its tributaries during his twenties, when his lifelong interest in natural history developed. In 1867 he led his first expedition to the Rockies, a collecting trip for the museum he had founded in Illinois. While on Pike's Peak, near Colorado Springs, Powell conceived his great plan to explore the Colorado River. On May 24, 1869, he and his party set off down the upper Colorado and nothing was heard from them for 37 days. During that time Powell and party braved uncharted territory, encounters with the natives, fierce rapids, and 20-foot waterfalls, as they followed the Colorado through the grand Canyon to the Gulf of California.

2. What is the main idea of the passage?
  - A. Powell was uniquely qualified to lead an expedition down the Colorado.
  - B. Powell was inspired to explore the Colorado while on Pike's Peak.
  - C. People were concerned when nothing was heard from Powell and his party for over a month.
  - D. Powell and his party faced daunting challenges on the first Colorado River expedition.



Birds have two basic types of sounds: songs and calls. Songs are usually more complex than calls and are utilized primarily by adult males during the breeding season to establish territories or attract mates. Calls are normally simple notes, single or repeated, vocalized by males and females in all seasons to express alarm or maintain contact with mates, offspring, or other birds of the same species. All songs and most calls are distinctive, and with concentrated study and practice, bird watchers can learn to identify many birds by their sounds and to call them as well.

3. What does the passage mainly discuss?
  - A. Bird calls and songs are distinctive, meaningful and identifiable.
  - B. Bird songs are complicated and used mainly by males to attract mates.
  - C. Birds have their own language by which they maintain contact.
  - D. Birdwatchers can identify many bird calls and their meanings and learn to mimic them as well.