

Voynich Manuscript

Named (23) _____ the Polish-American antiquarian bookseller Wilfrid M. Voynich, who acquired it in 1912, the Voynich Manuscript is a detailed 240-page book written in a language or script that is (24) _____ unknown. Its pages are also filled with colorful drawings of strange diagrams, odd events and plants that do not seem to (25) _____ any known species, adding to the intrigue of the document and the difficulty of deciphering it. The original author of the manuscript (26) _____ unknown, but carbon dating has revealed that its pages were made sometime (27) _____ 1404 and 1438. It has been called “the world’s most mysterious manuscript.”

Theories abound about the origin and nature of the manuscript. Some believe it was (28) _____ to be a pharmacological encyclopaedia, to address topics in medieval or early modern medicine. Many of the pictures of herbs and plants (29) _____ that it may have been some kind of textbook for an alchemist. The fact that many diagrams appear to be of astronomical origin, (30) _____ with the unidentifiable biological drawings, has even (31) _____ some fanciful theorists to propose that the book may have an alien origin.

One thing most theorists agree on is that the book is unlikely to be a hoax, given the (32) _____ of time, money and detail that would have been required to make it.

23	A	of	B	after	C	to	D	with
24	A	completely	B	especially	C	obviously	D	particularly
25	A	remind	B	match	C	correspond	D	suit
26	A	remains	B	leaves	C	keeps	D	stays
27	A	in	B	among	C	from	D	between
28	A	used	B	meant	C	done	D	bought
29	A	point	B	suppose	C	hint	D	direct
30	A	combined	B	united	C	joined	D	grouped
31	A	taken	B	carried	C	led	D	offered
32	A	number	B	amount	C	sum	D	lot

A Big Day for America!

America recognized the 400th anniversary in May, 2007! Colonists arrived at (33) _____ became Jamestown, Virginia, the first permanent English settlement in North America, (34) _____ May 13, 1607.

The English hoped they (35) _____ discover gold, silver, and a trade route to Asia. But their arrival meant trouble for the local Indians. The settlers moved onto the Indians’ land, and while (36) _____ two groups sometimes got along, they fought when food became scarce. The settlers never found riches or a shortcut to Asia, but they did (37) _____ the first representative government in the British colonies.

33	A	when	B	what	C	which	D	where
34	A	in	B	at	C	on	D	by
35	A	will	B	would	C	shall	D	should
36	A	the	B	a	C	this	D	that
37	A	created	B	creating	C	create	D	to create

Are All Deserts Hot?

The geological definition of a desert is a place that (38) _____ less than ten inches of rain each year. Low rainfall isn’t (39) _____ on heat, though. (40) _____ place on the planet isn’t the sand-swept Sahara, Kalahari, or even the Australian outback: it’s Antarctica, Earth’s southernmost continent (41) _____ the South Pole. In some parts of this giant frozen desert, it (42) _____ for two million years.

38	A	receive	B	is receiving	C	receives	D	has received
39	A	depending	B	dependence	C	depended	D	dependent
40	A	Driest	B	The driest	C	Drier	D	The drier
41	A	is overlying	B	overlying	C	overly	D	overlies
42	A	hasn’t rained	B	didn’t rain	C	doesn’t rain	D	hadn’t rained