Name: _____ **QUIZ** Points: _____

Reading Explorer Foundations

Lewis and Clark

The United States became a country on July 4, 1776. At that time, it covered only a small area on the east coast. However, the new Americans decided to add more land to their country. No one had much knowledge of the land to the west. They knew that it was different from the east, but they had no clear idea of what it was like.

President Thomas Jefferson wanted a team to explore the area. After some discussion, Lewis and Clark were chosen as leaders. In 1804, these two men, along with 50 others, headed west.

In August, they met a group of Native Americans. Their meeting with representatives of the Missouri Indians went well, but they knew other groups, especially the stronger ones, might be different. By December, the team reached North Dakota. They chose a safe site and stayed for the winter. This was near a Hidatsa village, where Lewis and Clark asked Sacagawea to join the group. In the spring, they started moving west again.

Now the explorers were entering an area only Native Americans had ever seen. They faced many problems—wild animals, not enough food, and very bad weather. However, by November 1805, they reached the Pacific Ocean. It was only in September 1806 that they reached their starting point in St. Louis. It had taken them nearly two and a half years to return home, but they were welcomed as national heroes.

Questions

Choose the correct answers and write in the box below.

1. What is the main idea of the first paragraph?

a. The U.S. was a new country in 1776.

b. The new Americans did not know much about the land to the west.

c. The U.S. was a very small country in 1776.

d. The land to the west was very different from the east coast.

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2. In the second paragraph, what does the phrase *headed west* mean?

a. worried about the west b. started moving toward the west

c. crossed the west d. discovered the west

3. In the fourth sentence of the second paragraph, what does the word *they* refer to?

a. Lewis and Clark alone b. the President and Lewis and Clark

c. the Native Americans d. Lewis and Clark's team of men

4. In the second paragraph, what does the sentence *they knew other groups, especially the stronger ones, might be different* mean?

a. Not all Native Americans groups may be as welcoming.

b. Other groups of Native Americans are a lot stronger.

c. Other Native American groups speak a different language.

d. They may not have meetings with other Native American groups.

5. What could be another title for the passage?

a. Thomas Jefferson's Plan b. Meetings with Native Americans

c. Exploring New America d. Reaching the Pacific

True or False Statements

Put T for True and F for False to the statements below.

6. _____ The United States was already a large country in 1776.

7. _____ Lewis and Clark traveled with a group of 50 people.

8. _____ The explorers met only friendly Native American groups during their journey.

9. _____ Sacagawea joined the team in North Dakota.

10 . _____ The journey to the Pacific Ocean took Lewis and Clark less than a year.

Write your answers here.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Thanks

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