Directions: The passage below is followed by a number of questions about it. You are to choose the one best answer to each question.

Answer all questions about the information in the passage on the basis of what is stated or implied in it.

Linguistic anthropology is the study of how language influences social life. Linguistic anthropologists say language provides people with the intellectual tools for thinking and acting in the world. Linguistic anthropologists focus on how language shapes societies and their social networks, cultural beliefs, and understanding of themselves and their environments.

To understand how people use language for social and cultural purposes, linguistic anthropologists closely document what people say as they engage in daily social activities. This documentation relies on participant-observation and other methods, including audiovisual recording and interviews with participants.

Lera Boroditsky, a cognitive scientist, studies forms of communication among the Pormpuraaw, an Aboriginal community in Australia. Boroditsky found that almost all daily activities and conversations were placed within the context of cardinal directions. For example, when greeting someone in Pormpuraaw, one asks, "Where are you going?" A response may be: "A long way to the south-southwest." A person might warn another, "There is a snake near your northwest foot." This language enables the Pormpuraaw to locate and navigate themselves in landscapes with extreme precision, but makes communication nearly impossible for those without an absolute knowledge of cardinal directions.

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Linguistic anthropologists may document native languages that are in danger of extinction. The Enduring Voices Project at National Geographic aimed to prevent language extinction by embarking on expeditions that create textual, visual, and auditory records of threatened languages. The project also assisted indigenous communities in their efforts to revitalize and maintain their languages. Enduring Voices has documented the Chipaya language of Bolivia, the Yshyr Chamacoco language of Paraguay, and the Matugar Panau language of Papua New Guinea, among many others.

1. What is the primary purpose of this passage?

A. To compare and contrast linguistic anthropology with cognitive science.

B. To define linguistic anthropology, describe its methodology, and provide examples of its research applications.

C. To argue for increased funding for the Enduring Voices Project to prevent language extinction.

D. To illustrate the precise navigational abilities of the Pormpuraaw people.

2. Which of the following would be the best title for the passage?

A. Enduring Voices: The Fight Against Language Extinction.

B. The Cardinal Direction Language of the Pormpuraaw.

C. Language and Social Life: An Overview of Linguistic Anthropology.

D. Participant-Observation: The Primary Tool for Anthropologists.

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3. How is the information in the passage primarily organized?

A. A problem is presented, followed by several attempted solutions to that problem.

B. A central concept is defined, its methods are explained, and specific examples of its research are then provided.

C. A general theory is discussed and then refuted with contradictory evidence from two field studies.

D. Various historical figures are introduced chronologically to show the development of a field of study.

4. What specific feature of the Pormpuraaw language did Lera Boroditsky find remarkable?

A. The context of almost all conversations being placed within cardinal directions.

B. That they have a unique writing system that resembles a map.

C. Their reliance on visual cues over spoken words.

D. Their use of complex verb tenses.

5. According to the passage, what happens to communication for people who lack an absolute knowledge of cardinal directions when interacting with the Pormpuraaw language?

A. It relies entirely on contextual clues instead of cardinal directions.

B. It requires the use of sign language to convey spatial information.

C. It becomes slower but more precise.

D. It becomes nearly impossible.

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6. Which of the following is *NOT* listed in the passage as a method linguistic anthropologists use for documentation?

A. Interviews with participants.

B. Large-scale statistical surveys.

C. Participant-observation.

D. Audiovisual recording.

7. Based on the first paragraph, a linguistic anthropologist would be *most* interested in studying which of the following?

A. How the local grammar rules reflect a society's hierarchy and social networks.

B. The history of how a language evolved from its parent language.

C. The physical structure of the vocal cords used to produce different sounds.

D. The neurological processes in the brain that enable speech comprehension.

8. In the last paragraph, the word *embarking* is closest in meaning to...

A. finishing

B. beginning

C. competing

D. concluding

LIVEWORKSHEETS