



Name _____

Date _____

LEISURE TIME IN AMERICA

In the early 1800s, Americans spent their whole day working. Sunday was the only day off, and the only vacation days were Christmas, New Year's Day, and the Fourth of July. People worked around 66 hours a week, which meant about 11 hours a day were spent at work.

By the 1950s, times had changed. People worked only 40 hours a week. The number of work hours per day was less, and most people had Saturdays and Sundays off each week. Most workers were also given two weeks of vacation time each year. People had a lot more free time.

Americans did lots of things with their free time. Many people watched movies. In the 1950s, the movies were now in color. People would drive their cars to a field with a big movie screen to watch a "drive-in" movie.

Many families also had their own television. TV was an amazing little box with pictures. Families sat down together at night to watch a TV show together. Shopping, sports, and traveling were other ways that people entertained themselves in their free time.

STORY QUESTIONS

- Which of the following statements is not found in the reading passage?
 - The 1950s was a time of prosperity in the United States.
 - People watched movies in their free time.
 - Americans were working fewer hours during this time.
 - People went to drive-in movies during their leisure time.
- What inferences can you make about life in the 1950s after reading this passage?
 - America was probably at war during this time.
 - Tensions were high in the United States.
 - The citizens were not happy with their president.
 - Americans were enjoying a time of peace and prosperity.
- Pick the answer choice that best completes the sentence, "Movies were now ____."

a. fashionable	c. in color
b. inverted	d. increasing in number
- The purpose of the first paragraph is to . . .
 - introduce the invention of color television.
 - explain the differences between the life of a worker in the United States at this time in history.
 - compare the amount of vacation days to present day.



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I HAVE A DREAM

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was a Baptist minister. He lived in the 1950s and noticed that equality among people did not exist. People of color were discriminated against and treated very poorly. During this time period, the Supreme Court ruled on the case *Brown v. Board of Education*. This case was about ending segregation in public schools.

King fought for civil rights for all people. He made many speeches and marched in protests. He was trying to get the government to allow freedom to all people. King was eventually arrested and thrown into jail.

When he got out, he organized a march in Washington, D.C. On the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, he delivered his most famous speech. This speech talked about his dream that one day all children could sit and work together regardless of the color of their skin. His speech also talked about all Americans deserving the same rights.

Thousands of people heard this speech. This speech helped lead to laws like the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was, and still is, an inspiration to many.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. What motivated Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.?
 - a. the treatment of the slaves
 - b. the lack of equal rights for all American citizens
 - c. the lack of representation for all Americans
 - d. the misunderstanding of the government
2. Which paragraph would help you answer the previous question?
 - a. second paragraph
 - b. first paragraph
 - c. fourth paragraph
 - d. third paragraph
3. Which of the following statements is not true about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.?
 - a. He was an inspiration to many.
 - b. He fought for civil rights.
 - c. He was an excellent physician.
 - d. He was arrested and put in jail.



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JUPITER

Jupiter is the biggest planet in our solar system. It is 1,000 times larger than the planet Earth. That is pretty big! Jupiter is bigger than all the other planets combined. Jupiter is described as a big ball of gas. That is because it is made up mostly of gases. Jupiter is mostly hydrogen with a little helium.

We see mostly the outer layer of clouds when we look at Jupiter. Gas planets do not have a solid surface. The inner core of Jupiter is rocky and solid. Jupiter is the fourth-brightest object in the sky. People have been seeing Jupiter in the night sky for many years.

Many years ago, people thought Jupiter was a “bright, wandering star.” A man named Galileo developed the telescope. The telescope helped him see Jupiter’s four large moons. This observation helped Galileo realize that Earth was not the center of the universe.

The great red spot on Jupiter has been seen for over 300 years. This spot is big enough to hold two Earths. Jupiter also has rings. They are made up of particles of rocky materials. The rings are dark in color. Jupiter is the fifth planet from the sun.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. What would be the best title for this passage?
 - a. “Jupiter: The Largest Planet”
 - b. “Outer Planets”
 - c. “Cool Planets”
 - d. “Planets with Moons”
2. Which of the following is not a fact about the planet Jupiter?
 - a. Jupiter is the largest planet.
 - b. Jupiter is one of the outer planets.
 - c. Jupiter has a great red spot.
 - d. Jupiter does not have rings like Saturn.
3. What was meant by the “bright, wandering star?”
 - a. Jupiter was at first a star that moved across the sky at night.
 - b. Jupiter couldn’t be found in the night sky.
 - c. Jupiter was located in a star’s position.
 - d. Jupiter was first thought to be a star that moved in the night sky.
4. How did the telescope change what people thought about Jupiter?
 - a. Jupiter was the first planet viewed through a telescope.
 - b. Galileo discovered that Jupiter had moons.
 - c. It was determined that Jupiter was not located in a star’s position.
 - d. Jupiter was discovered to be the center of the universe.