

Name: _____

Class: _____

Total: ____/30

Reading 1: Bhangarh Fort

Part A: Fill in each blank with ONE word that fits the context.

Bhangarh Fort was built in the 17th century in (1) _____ is now the Indian state of Rajasthan. It is about 150 miles southwest (2) _____ Delhi, but the ruins of Bhangarh Fort are in the middle of nowhere. (3) _____ is not much around it, and the area remains largely uninhabited. According to local legend, this is (4) _____ of a curse.

The story goes that a wizard skilled in the art of black magic (5) _____ in love with a princess who had many suitors. Knowing that he did not stand a (6) _____ with the beautiful princess, he tried to cast a spell on her. When he saw the princess's maid buying perfume for her in the village, he cast a spell on the perfume so that the princess (7) _____ fall in love with him. Fortunately, she found out about the spell and threw the bottle away. (8) _____ to the legend, it struck a boulder, (9) _____ then rolled toward the wizard and crushed him. With his last breath, he cursed the princess and the fort. The legend goes on to say that the Mughals later invaded, destroyed the fort, and killed many people, including the princess. It is said that (10) _____ has dared to rebuild the fort since.

Part B: Write TRUE, FALSE or NOT GIVEN.

1. _____ Despite its relatively short distance from Delhi, Bhangarh Fort is located in an area with very few inhabitants.
2. _____ The wizard decided to use black magic on the princess because she had already rejected his attempts to win her affection.
3. _____ The princess was unaware that the perfume had been enchanted when she threw it away.
4. _____ According to the legend, the wizard died before the invasion that supposedly destroyed the fort.
5. _____ The people who survived the invasion abandoned the fort because they feared the wizard's curse.

Reading 2: The Valley of the Kings

Part A: Fill in each blank with ONE word that fits the context.

Of all the world-famous landmarks, this may be (1) _____ of the most mysterious. Many of Egypt's most famous kings are (2) _____ in great tombs in the Valley of the Kings.

One of the first pharaohs to be buried in the Valley was Tuthmosis I. (3) _____ that, many pharaohs were buried in pyramids, along with valuable possessions that tomb robbers (4) _____ only dream of. However, pyramids were not safe places (5) _____ valuables, and many royal tombs were robbed. Tuthmosis I wanted to protect his (6) _____ and his possessions for the afterlife, so he had his tomb hidden and its location kept (7) _____.

The most famous tomb is that of Pharaoh Tutankhamun, sometimes called King Tut. According to legend, a tablet inside the tomb bore a curse that read: "Death shall come on swift wings to him that touches the tomb of a Pharaoh." (8) _____ had it that Howard Carter, the archaeologist who discovered the tomb, hid the tablet so that his workers would not know about the curse. (9) _____, there is no evidence that such a tablet ever existed, and the rumors of a curse were most likely made up. Although some people associated with the discovery died unexpectedly, studies have found no evidence that those who entered Tutankhamun's tomb were more (10) _____ to die than others.

Part B: Write TRUE, FALSE or NOT GIVEN.

6. _____ The decision to conceal royal tombs was partly influenced by the failure of earlier burial practices to protect valuable possessions.
7. _____ Tuthmosis I was the first Egyptian pharaoh to abandon the practice of burial in pyramids.
8. _____ According to the legend, Howard Carter deliberately kept information about the alleged curse from his workers.
9. _____ The passage presents the existence of the curse tablet as a historically verified fact.
10. _____ Studies have failed to find evidence that people who entered Tutankhamun's tomb faced a greater risk of death.