

# READING COMPREHENSION

**A** Skim the article. Then check the best description of the article.

- The article gives the author's opinion about the subject.
- The article gives information and facts.
- The article tells a story about a scientist.

## Toothache?

### Visit the rain forest!



*acmella oleracea*

**A** Nobody likes having a toothache, and not many people enjoy visiting the dentist's office. Exciting new research suggests that there is a different way to treat a toothache – one that doesn't need an appointment with a dentist.

**B** Scientists say that a very rare red and yellow plant from the Amazon rain forest could stop a toothache. It's more powerful than taking pain medicine, and it's more effective than most treatments you get in the dentist's chair. The plant, named *acmella oleracea*, has been used as a remedy for toothaches by the Keshwa Lamas, a Peruvian community, for many years.

**C** Dr. Françoise Barbira Freedman is an anthropologist – a scientist who studies humans. She learned about the plant 30 years ago on a trip to Peru. One day, she got a terrible toothache. The people in the village where she was living gave her the remedy and her pain disappeared.

**D** Now this amazing plant has been made into a gel. Many tests show that it really helps with the pain of toothaches and even helps babies who are getting their first teeth. To thank the Keshwa Lamas for this remedy, there is a plan to give some of the money from the gel back to the community. So it's good news for everyone.

**B** Read the article. Then answer these questions.

Write the letter of the paragraph where you find the answers.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ When did Dr. Freedman learn about the plant?
2. \_\_\_\_\_ What has the plant been made into?
3. \_\_\_\_\_ What is the plant's scientific name?

4. \_\_\_\_\_ Who gave Dr. Freedman the remedy?

5. \_\_\_\_\_ What will be given back to the Keshwa Lamas?

6. \_\_\_\_\_ Where can you find the plant?

**C** **GROUP WORK** What are some other reasons why rain forests are important?