Read the questions then read the passage. Use the information from the passage to respond to the questions. Remember to "quote" means to give the EXACT words.

Crazy for Coconuts...and More!

Coconut shrimp, coconut rice, coconut tart, coconut jimmy and coconut water...Mmmm mmmm! Makes your mouth water, right? Numerous festivals are held annually in The Bahamas and if you want to sink your teeth into coconut goodies, you'll definitely go "coo coo for coconuts" at these events.

Each year, tourists and locals on various islands of The Bahamas make the festivals the hottest spots for great fun and good food. For example, the Fox Hill Day Festival has energized the Fox Hill community year after year. Thousands of residents make their home in this still charming area of New Providence that was once called "New Guinea". Fox Hill is a place where liberated Africans lived from as early as the 1600s, and the festival celebrates the emancipation of slavery.

Bahamian culinary delights made from the coconut are a hit with visitors to our festivals, no matter where they are held. At these festivals visitors also get to sample our guava duff, pineapple tart, crab and dough, conch salad, scorched and cracked conch, cracked lobster, conch fritters, fried fish and good ol' macaroni and cheese. Many walk around with what looks like a cup of milk. But that is noooo milk!!! It's a unique Bahamian drink called Gully Wash – made from coconut water, sweet coconut jelly and a secret ingredient that leads some people to compete in the Gully Wash bottle sucking contest!

Although you can purchase an abundance of appetitizing coconut, conch, crab or pineapple cuisine at Bahamian festivals, they have become much more than just food fests. Instead, these festivals offer an authentic Bahamian experience, all in one place, for our visitors. Tourists who have sampled scruptuous Bahamian food and beverages also watch or take part in greasy-pole-climbing, conch-shell-cracking, crab-catching and crab-clipping contests, coconut leaf-plaiting and tart-eating battles, and coconut bowling and coconut barking competitions, just to name several. And barking a coconut has nothing to do with a dog. It is the process of removing the outer shell of the coconut in order to get to the refreshing, natural water of the coconut and sweet jelly. This only requires two hands, a very hard surface and maybe some good old island teeth!

At the festivals, visitors listen to sweet rake 'n' scrape and Junkanoo music. It's also not unusual to see us friendly Bahamians persuading tourists to join us in a jump-in, heel and toe polka or a quadrille dance. Many times we simply converse with them at length, delighting and sometimes puzzling them with our Bahamian dialect. "I'ne ga lie 'bout dat!"

Moreover, the natural talents of Bahamian craftspersons are always on full display at our festivals. Customers are fascinated by the unique handcrafted souvenirs that artisans make from materials such as the raw coconut and conch shells, and straw. Take Kathy Laing, for example. A resident of Grand Bahama, she is one of the most well-known craftspersons in The Bahamas. She turns the gifts of Mother Nature, such as sand, seashells and rocks, into beautiful, much admired masterpieces that she often sells at festivals. "What many people look at as trash, we turn into treasures," says Laing.

Like Kathy Laing, Gina Marche-Duncanson also uses the gifts of her hands, designing, making and painting necklaces, Christmas ornaments, bangles, cups and ponytail holders from the coconut bark. The vibrant colours pop out from the unique pieces she creates and attract tourists to her stall.

Combined, these special features at the festivals capture some of the exciting and rich culture of the Bahama islands, creating a family-friendly atmosphere for all to sink their teeth into. Festivals are indeed unique cultural events in The Bahamas, causing people to go "coo coo", or crazy, for them.

Adapted from Crazy for Coconuts by Vanessa Rolle
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9. Quote the two-word phrase from paragraph 2 of the passage that refers to the popularity of Bahamian festivals rather than to high temperatures.

_____

_____ [1]

Answer question 10 by circling the letter next to the phrase that indicates the best answer.

10. Which **ONE** of the following phrases in paragraph 2 best indicates how long the Fox Hill community has existed?

(a) year after year

(b) once called "New Guinea"

(c) as early as the 1600s

(d) the emancipation of slavery [1]

11. What is meant by the phrase "to sink their teeth into", as it is figuratively used in line 38 of the passage?

_____

_____ [1]

12. Using your own words as far as possible, explain the phrase, "What many people look at as trash, we turn into treasures" (line 33).

_____

_____

_____ [2]

13. Read the last sentence in paragraph 1: "Numerous festivals…at these events" (lines 2–3). Then use the lines below to write **ONE** opinion and **ONE** fact stated in this sentence.

Opinion: _____

_____ [1]

Fact: _____

_____ [1]

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