

Name:

Class:

Reading: Old Ways of the Inuit

The Inuit, like the Bedu and the Tuareg of Arabia, were Nomads. Then their lives changed. In the 1950s, the government of Canada stopped the Inuit from moving around with the seasons and moved them into modern houses. They stopped being nomads. Many Inuit stopped living in the old ways.

Food:

The Inuit were great hunters before 1950s. They had lots of sea and land animals to hunt. The most important of these were the caribou and the seal. These two animals were the Inuit's main food. Their oil was used for cooking and lamp. The Inuit ate mostly meat because plants are scarce in the Arctic. In the summer, they also gathered berries and other plants.

Clothing:

The Inuit needed clothing that was warm and waterproof. Seal and Walrus intestine are waterproof, so the Inuit used the intestines to make waterproof clothing. This kept the people dry, which was important because water freezes quickly in the North. People can get into a lot of trouble if they get wet in the Arctic and then, freeze. The Inuit also made large coats of Caribou fur to wear in the cold winter.

Shelter:

In the past, the Inuit had a summer home and a winter home. In the summer, the Inuit often lived in tents. They made the tents from caribou skin and wood. In the winter, many Inuit lived in sod homes. They would dig a hole in the ground and pile rocks and sod all around the outside to make walls. Pieces of wood or whalebone were used as a frame for the roof, which the Inuit then covered with sod. The Inuit also invented igloos. An igloo is built of snow shaped into a dome. They were mostly used as temporary shelter during winter hunting trips.

Transportation:

One of the ways Inuit used to go from a place to another was the Kayak. This boat was originally made from seal skins. It's perfectly balanced so that a person can sit in a hole in the middle. The Inuit used a single paddle that was wide at both ends. The kayak was used to catch seals and chase caribou.

An even larger boat the Inuit built was the umiaq. It was something like a large rowboat and could be used to catch whales and walrus.

Still another form of transportation was the dog sled. The Inuit travelled on a sled pulled by a dog team. They could travel long distances this way. The dog sled is not used very much anymore. It has been replaced by the snowmobile. Much like the dogsled, many of the old ways of the Inuit have been replaced with modern ways.

Questions

1. Where did the Inuit live?
 - A. Arabia
 - B. Canada
 - C. houses
 - D. America
2. What is a "nomad"?
 - A. a person who moves around
 - B. a person who lives in a house
 - C. a person who lives in Canada
 - D. a person who lives in old ways
3. What did Inuit people eat a lot?
 - A. oil
 - B. plants
 - C. berries
 - D. meat
4. What did the Inuit make for winter clothes?
 - A. intestines
 - B. fur
 - C. coats
 - D. walrus
5. What does "waterproof" mean?
 - A. water gets in easily
 - B. water goes out easily
 - C. water stays warm
 - D. water doesn't get in
6. What is an "igloo"?
 - A. an animal
 - B. a tent
 - C. a shelter
 - D. a hunting trip
7. An igloo is made of _____.
 - A. snow
 - B. sod
 - C. wood
 - D. whalebone

8. A kayak is a kind of _____ .
- A. shelter
 - B. animal
 - C. boat
 - D. seal
9. Which animal was not hunted from a kayak?
- A. seal
 - B. caribou
 - C. umiaq
 - D. dog
10. The Inuit way of life before the 1950's was _____ .
- A. fun
 - B. difficult
 - C. easy
 - D. expensive
11. What is the author's purpose of writing this passage?
- A. To amuse
 - B. To entertain
 - C. To inform
 - D. To express his opinion and feelings
12. "Then, their lives changed", this sentence is:
- A. Present
 - B. Past
 - C. Future