Name:

Unit 8: OUR WORLD HERITAGE SITES

Read the passage and do the tasks that follow.

Japan's Mount Fuji became a World Heritage Site in June 2013. The United Nations decided on April 30th that year to recognise the famous mountain a UNESCO World Heritage. The United Nations said that Fuji was very important to Japanese religion and art. Fuji-san (as Japanese people call it) has been a sacred mountain for more than 1,000 years. In spiritual terms, Fuji is divided into three zones. The bottom, or Kusa-yama, is said to represent the everyday world. The forest line, or Ki-yama, represents the transition between the world of humans and the world of gods, and the "burned" area, or Yake-yama, at the top is said to represent the realm of the gods, Buddha and death. Thus, to climb Mount Fuji is to descend from the living world to the kingdom of the dead and then back, by which pilgrims can wash away their sins.

This 3,776-meter-high mountain, since being recognised as the World Heritage Site, has attracted more and more tourists. It is very popular with hikers, who want to walk all the way to see the rising sun from its peak. More than 318,000 hikers visited the mountain last summer, with up to 15,000 people climbing each day. Local residents are now worried the World Heritage status will mean more visitors, and also more litter and environmental problems. The local government has proposed a plan which requires people to pay to climb the mountain. Governor Shomei Yokouchi said: "It's likely we'll ask mountain climbers to help financially with keeping the mountain clean." Another idea the government has been discussing is to limit the daily number of hikers allowed to the top.

TASK 1: For each question, write the correct option (A, B, C, or D).

1. What is the best title for the passage?

A. UNESCO welcomes visitors to Fuji B. Heritage status means big changes
C. Fuji is a spiritual mountain D. Climbers help to keep Fuji clean

2. The word "it" in paragraph 1 refers to _____.

A. Japanese religion B. Japanese art C. the United Nations D. the mountain

3. The word "realm" in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to _____.

A. mountain B. top C. world D. years

4. The word "their" in paragraph 1 refers to _____.

A. three zones' B. human world's C. gods' D. pilgrims'

5. The word "hikers" in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to _____.

A. walkers B. officials C. residents D. tourists

TASK 2: For each question, decide if each statement is true (T), false (F), or not given (NG).

6. Mount Fuji is religiously meaningful to Japanese people.
7. Yake-yama is considered the transition area between the world of human and the realm of gods.
8. Before being awarded the World Heritage status, Mount Fuji received few visitors.
9. People around the world are concerned about the cleanliness of the mountain.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

10. Local authorities are discussing two possible solutions to protect Mount Fuji from environmental problems.

LIVEWORKSHEETS