

MAIN IDEA QUESTION

PASSAGE ONE

Most of the ice on the earth, close to 90 percent of it, is covering the surface of the continent Antarctic. It does not snow very much in Antarctic, but whatever does snow fall remain and grow deeper and deeper. In some areas of Antarctic, the ice has perhaps been around for as much as million years and now is more than two miles deep.

1. The main idea of the passage is that
 - A. The Earth is a cold planet
 - B. Most of the Earth's ice is found in Antarctic
 - C. It snows more in Antarctic than in any other place on Earth
 - D. Antarctic is only two miles wide but is 90 percent of ice
2. The best title for the passage is
 - A. Snowfall in Antarctica
 - B. The Icy Earth
 - C. The Cold, Cold Snow
 - D. The Causes of Antarctica's Ice Park

PASSAGE TWO

The extremely hot and humid weather that occurs in the United States in July and August is commonly called the "dog days" of summer. This name comes from the star Sirius, which is known as the Dog Star. Sirius is the brightest visible star, and in the hot summer months, it rises in the east at approximately the same time as the sun. As ancient people saw this star rising with the sun when the weather was at its hottest, they believed that Sirius was the cause of the additional heat. They believed that this bright star added its heat of the sun, and these two together made summer weather soon unbearably hot.

1. The topic of this passage is
 - A. How dogs like to play during the summer
 - B. The cause of hot and humid weather
 - C. Why the hot summer days are known as the "dog days"
 - D. The days that dogs prefer
2. The main idea of this passage is that
 - A. The name for the summer days came from Sirius, the Dog Star
 - B. Dogs generally prefer hot summer days
 - C. The hottest days occur in the summer because of the movement of Sun and stars
 - D. Sirius rises at almost the same time as the Sun during the summer months