

NAME: _____ DATE: _____ CLASS: _____

PASSAGE ONE (Questions 1–5)

Cardamom is not as widely used as a spice in the United States as it is in other parts of the world. This fruit of the ginger plant provides an oil that basically has been used solely as a stimulant in American and English medicines. Other cultures have recognized the multipurpose benefits of this aromatic fruit. In Asia it is used to season sauces such as curry; in Middle Eastern countries it is steeped to prepare a flavorful, golden-colored tea; in parts of Northern Europe it is used as a spice in various types of pastry.

1. Click on the word in the passage that could best be replaced by "only."
2. The word "multipurpose" in line 3 is closest in meaning to
 - (A) health
 - (B) singular
 - (C) recognized
 - (D) varied
3. Which of the following is closest in meaning to the word "season" in line 4?
 - (A) Divide
 - (B) Forecast
 - (C) Spice
 - (D) Put a time limit
4. Look at the word curry in the passage. Curry is
 - ☐ the fruit of the ginger plant
 - ☐ a spicy type of sauce
 - ☐ a culture in the area of the Middle East
 - ☐ a type of golden-colored tea
5. Click on the word in the passage that could best be replaced by "steamed."

PASSAGE TWO (Questions 6–13)

The life span of an elephant that dies from natural causes is about sixty-five years. Of course, an elephant can perish from a number of "unnatural causes"; e.g., it can be killed by hunters, most probably for the valuable ivory in its tusks; it can die from diseases that spread throughout an elephant herd; or it can die from drought or from the lack of food that almost certainly accompanies the inadequate supply of water.

If, however, an elephant survives these disasters, it falls prey to old age in its mid-sixties. Around this age, the cause of death is attributed to the loss of the final set of molars. When this last set of teeth is gone, the elephant dies from malnutrition because it is unable to obtain adequate nourishment. In old age, elephants tend to search out a final home where there is shade for comfort from the sun and soft vegetation for cushioning; the bones of many old elephants have been found in such places.

6. Look at the word perish in paragraph 1. Click on another word in paragraph 1 that is close in meaning to perish.
7. The word "unnatural" in line 2 is closest in meaning to
 - (A) wild
 - (B) violent
 - (C) domesticated
 - (D) abnormal
9. Which of the following could be used to replace the word "survives" in line 6?
 - (A) Rises to
 - (B) Succumbs to
 - (C) Denies
 - (D) Lives through
10. Look at the word molars in paragraph 2. Click on the word in paragraph 2 that is close in meaning to molars.

8. Look at the word drought in paragraph 1. A drought means
- ☐ a drowning
 - ☐ a lack of food
 - ☐ an inadequate supply of water
 - ☐ an overabundance of animals
11. In line 8, “malnutrition” is used to describe a condition related to
- (A) good health
 - (B) illness
 - (C) poor eating
 - (D) dental problems

12. Look at the expression a final home in paragraph 2. This expression is closest in meaning to
- ☐ a place to die
 - ☐ a comfortable house
 - ☐ a place for sale
 - ☐ the only remaining place to live
13. The word “shade” in line 10 is closest in meaning to
- (A) color
 - (B) heat
 - (C) diminished light
 - (D) a front porch

PASSAGE THREE (Questions 14–21)

The American flag is the end product of a long evolution. Each of its component parts has its own history.

The very first American flag was hoisted in the skies over Boston on January 1, 1776, by the American forces there. This first flag consisted of thirteen red and white stripes representing the number of American colonies. It also included the British Cross of St. George and Cross of St. Andrew. It could be considered rather ironic that these symbols of British rule were included on the American flag in that the American colonists were fighting for independence from the British.

The origin of the stars on the current flag is obscure; that is, the stars could possibly have been taken from the flag of Rhode Island, or they could have been taken from the coat of arms of the Washington family. According to legend, this first flag with stars was sewn by Betsy Ross, a Philadelphia seamstress who was famous for her clever needlework. This version of the flag contained thirteen stars and thirteen stripes, one for each of the thirteen colonies battling for independence.

The original idea was to add one star and one stripe for each state that joined the new, young country. However, by 1818, the number of states had grown to twenty, and it did not work well to keep adding stripes to the flag. As a result, Congress made the decision to revert to the original thirteen stripes representing the thirteen original colonies and adding a star each time a new state was admitted. This has been the policy ever since.

14. The word “product” in line 1 is closest in meaning to
- (A) goods
 - (B) merchandise
 - (C) banner
 - (D) result
15. Look at the word hoisted in paragraph 2. Something that is hoisted is
- ☐ created
 - ☐ found
 - ☐ raised
 - ☐ made
16. The word “ironic” in line 6 could most easily be replaced by
- (A) steellike
 - (B) normal
 - (C) unexpected
 - (D) nationalistic
17. Look at the word obscure in paragraph 3. Click on another word in paragraph 3 that is opposite in meaning to obscure.
18. In line 12, the word “seamstress” is used to describe someone who
- (A) works at home
 - (B) sews
 - (C) is a part of high society
 - (D) practices medicine

19. Click on the word in paragraph 4 that could best be replaced by "function."

20. Click on the word in paragraph 4 that could best be replaced by "continue."

21. The expression "revert to" in line 17 means

- (A) return to
- (B) add to
- (C) rejoice over
- (D) forget about

PASSAGE ONE (Questions 1–9)

Line Bigfoot is a humanlike creature reportedly living in the Pacific Northwest. Bigfoot sightings
(5) have been noted most often in the mountainous areas of Northern California, Oregon, and Washington in the United States. The creature has also been spotted numerous times in British Columbia in Canada, where it is known as Sasquatch.

The creature described by witnesses is tall by human standards, measuring 7 to 10 feet (2 to 3 meters) in height. It resembles an ape with its thick, powerful, fur-covered arms and short, strong neck; however, its manner of walking erect is more like that of *Homo sapiens*.

(10) Although there have been hundreds of reported sightings of Bigfoot, most experts have not seen enough evidence to be convinced of its existence. The fact that some purported evidence has been proven fake may have served to discredit other more credible information.

1. Which of the following best states the topic of the passage?

- (A) Differences between Bigfoot and Sasquatch
- (B) A description of Bigfoot
- (C) Where Bigfoot, or Sasquatch, can be found
- (D) The creature Bigfoot and its questionable existence

2. The word "noted" in line 2 is closest in meaning to which of the following?

- (A) Reported
- (B) Written in a letter
- (C) Refuted
- (D) Discussed

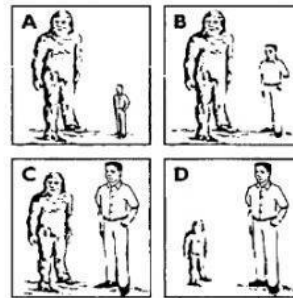
3. It is implied in the passage that Bigfoot would probably NOT like to live

- (A) in Oregon
- (B) in the Pacific Northwest
- (C) on coastal plains
- (D) in mountainous areas

4. Which of the following is NOT true about the appearance of Bigfoot?

- (A) Its arms and neck look like those of an ape.
- (B) Its arms are covered with fur.
- (C) It is short-necked.
- (D) It walks like an ape.

5. Click on the drawing that shows how Bigfoot compares in height to an average man.



6. Look at the word that in paragraph 2. Click on the word or phrase that that refers to.

7. The expression "Homo sapiens" in line 8 is closest in meaning to

- (A) apes
- (B) creatures
- (C) humans
- (D) furry animals

8. According to the passage, how do experts feel about the evidence concerning Bigfoot's existence?

- (A) They feel certain as to its existence.
- (B) They are not yet certain.
- (C) They are sure that it does not exist.
- (D) They feel that all the evidence is fake.

9. Click on the paragraph that explains how knowledgeable people feel about the existence of Bigfoot.