Name: _____ Points: _____

Reading Comprehension

Unit 1A Mysteries

Project Blue Book

—An alien stole my homework,‖ a boy tells his third grade teacher. This might have been a common excuse in a 1950s American classroom. During this time, people were worried about UFOs—unidentified flying objects. They thought UFOs were dangerous aliens from outer space. The government began to research UFOs to see if there truly was any danger.

An organization called —Project Blue Book‖ began collecting information on UFO sightings. After 17 years of research, researchers had information on over 12,000 sightings. Six percent of these sightings were called —unidentified.‖ This meant that researchers did not have enough information to know what caused the sighting. The rest of the sightings, over 90 percent, were identified as natural events. For example, the sighting might have been a falling star or a person's hot air balloon—not a dangerous alien from outer space.

As a result of Project Blue Book, the government decided that UFOs were not something to be afraid of. Project Blue Book, and official research on UFOs, ended in 1969.

Read the passage and choose the correct answer for each question.

1. What is the passage mainly about?

a. American classrooms in the 1950s

b. UFO sightings around the world

c. Project Blue Book's research

d. People's fear of UFOs

2. In the fourth sentence of the first paragraph, what does the word They refer to?

a. aliens

b. UFOs

c. people

d. the government

3. In the first paragraph, what does the word excuse mean?

a. a subject of study (e.g. math, science, art, etc.)

b. a reason given for doing (or not doing) something

c. a normal childhood fear

d. a classroom rule

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4. What is a falling star an example of?

a. an unidentified sighting

b. a natural event

c. an alien

d. a UFO

5. In the second paragraph, which sentence is true?

a. Unidentified sightings were dangerous.

b. People watched UFOs from hot air balloons.

c. Most of the UFO sightings were natural events.

d. Six percent of the UFO sightings were from outer space.

6. What did the government start doing in the 1950s because people were worried about UFOs?

a) They started building secret spaceships.

b) They started a program to research UFO sightings.

c) They told people there was nothing to worry about.

d) They started capturing aliens.

7. About how many UFO sightings did Project Blue Book collect information on over 17 years?

a. Around 5,000 sightings

b. Around 10,000 sightings

c. Around 12,000 sightings

d. Around 15,000 sightings

8. What did the researchers say about most of the UFO sightings they investigated?

a. They were all real alien spaceships.

b. They were all just normal events.

c. They could not identify what caused most of them.

d. They were all part of a big government conspiracy.

9. What did the government decide about UFOs after the research done by Project Blue Book?

a. UFOs were very dangerous and should be shot down.

b. UFOs were real and people should be worried about them.

c. UFOs were not something people needed to be afraid of.

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d. UFOs were a hoax and the research was a waste of time.

10. What was one example given in the text of a normal event that people mistook for a UFO?

a. A falling star

b. An alien spaceship

c. A secret military plane

d. A weather balloon

Write your answers here.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Thanks!

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