

Read the text below. Match choices (A–H) to (11–16). There are two choices you do not need to use. Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Six Most Mysterious Places on Earth

Travelling to Europe, Asia and other continents is top on most people's vacation list. However, outside of the usual gorgeous places to visit, there are a number of mysterious places, fact or legend, which intrigue scientists to this day. From strange strings of disappearances, to random lights, to enormous statues... nobody has the answer. Perhaps one of you folks will visit and make the discovery that changes history!

11 Easter Island

Off the coast of Chile, Easter Island doesn't boast any stories of people disappearing or black magic. It is, however, the home of these wicked warrior statues, some up to 50 feet high. The real question about this island is who carved them and how they got there. What mysterious force do you think made them appear? The only thing to do is to go ask one of the 200 native people living on the island.



12 Mystery Spot, Santa Cruz

Known for its many optical illusions, this cabin is an oddity like no other. Many a visitor has tried to channel their inner-most mad physicist to figure out why the cabin, seemingly on flat, level ground, will have you tipping over every which way. One simply can't stand straight. What's your take?



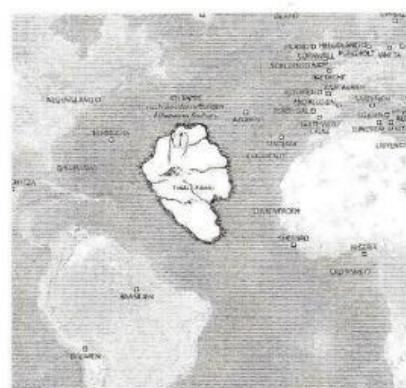
13 Bermuda Triangle

This part of the world is so mysterious (or large!) there aren't even any photos of it! This giant sea triangle off the coast of Florida has played host to countless ship and plane disappearances over the centuries. Sounds fishy undersea Sirens a la the *Odyssey* perhaps? Accounts ranging from natural disasters, to conspiracy theories, to abductions have been used to explain the region's fateful history.



14 Atlantis

Once again, so shrouded in mystery all we have is a map. The map, showing the world before the continents decided to play musical chairs with the globe, clearly shows a landmass between Africa and America. Nobody knows whether the island was submerged under water, spontaneously combusted, or decided to attach itself to another continent in a fight for space on Earth. Let's keep on searching, shall we?



15 The Brown Mountain Lights

One in a long series of ghost lights that have appeared in the USA and the world, the Brown Mountain Will-o'-the-wisp lights appear and disappear randomly. Like large strobes in the sky, they seem to pop up and disappear whenever convenient. Until we figure out exactly when they come around, we'll venture to say Harry Potter or some other wizard is playing tricks with our less magical human minds.

**16 Rio Tinto**

Rio Tinto is located in south-western Spain and originates from Sierra Morena mountains of Andalusia. The area around the river has been mined since ancient times, so a lot of minerals can be found in the water, especially iron, which makes the water red. Even some bacteria enjoy their life there, "exploiting" the iron. However, the weirdness of this river comes from its high acidity, which made some scientists say that such water was found in the underground waters of Mars.

**Which of the places...?**

- A** was used for religious rites
- B** is famous for visual images
- C** can be seen only on charts
- D** attracts with its mysterious brilliance
- E** is known for its massive stone pedestal
- F** has numerous graves of the warriors
- G** is very similar to the water body on another planet
- H** is connected with kidnapping