Name_____

Pirates of the South China Sea

Cheng I led what may have been the largest pirating confederation in history. Chinese pirating peaked during the late 1700s. Cheng I organized six pirate fleets, each sailing under a different color flag: red, white, black, yellow, blue, and green. He commanded the red fleet and had over 200 sailing vessels, called junks. Shortly after the turn of the century, Cheng I had built his fleet to include 600 junks. Over 30,000 pirates sailed at his command, and his fighting force had over 150,000 men. To avoid conflict, Cheng I assigned each fleet its own territory. They were stationed over a massive area. His enterprise threatened the whole of southern China.

After Cheng I's death, his wife, Cheng I Sao, took over command. Cheng I Sao operated under strict rules. Pirates were required to buy, rather than steal, goods from coastal villages. In turn, villagers had to sell their goods to the pirates. Anyone who disobeyed was treated very harshly. All ships entering the South China Sea had to pay tribute to Cheng I Sao's command or suffer.

In some cases, Cheng I Sao took prisoners and sold them for ransom. British Chief mate John Turner was one of those taken prisoner. He returned to England alive with gory tales about how the Chinese pirates treated their prisoners.

The pirates were not particular about what they ate. It is said that, at times, pirates encouraged the rats on board ship to breed so they could eat them.

Cheng I Sao's rule, like most pirates, was short-lived. In 1809, the black flag fleet attacked Cheng I Sao's red fleet and won.

Text Questions

1. What does the word *confederation* mean as it is used in the text?
   a. independent nations with a common defense
   b. a group of associates in unlawful acts
   c. a group of soldiers
   d. organization of rogue vagabonds
2. What did Cheng I do to decrease the potential for conflict among his fleets?
   a. He assigned each to its own territory.
   b. He stationed them great distances from each other.
   c. He only sent out one fleet at a time.
   d. He had a fighting force to help keep the peace.
3. What is the main idea of the second paragraph?
   a. It gives details about Cheng I's pirate fleets.
   b. It describes the strict rules Cheng I's wife established when she took command.
   c. It tells about a British prisoner who escaped and returned to England.
   d. It summarizes the end of Cheng I's pirate command.
4. Which of the following is <u>not</u> true about Cheng I's pirate command?
   a. Over 30,000 pirates sailed with his fleets.
   b. He had 150,000 men in his fighting force.
   c. He commanded the black fleet.
   d. He led a large pirate confederation.
5. What might be some reasons for pirate leaders' commands to be short-lived?

_____

_____

_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Name_____

The Beginnings of Fountain Drinks

Soft drinks have been around for many years and have made a tremendous impact on society. Coca-Cola®, for example, was invented by Colonel John Pemberton in 1886. Some say he wanted to create a delicious new beverage. Others claim the invention happened by accident. What we do know is Pemberton created flavored syrup, and carbonated water was added to the syrup at a local pharmacy. As it had carbonated water in it, it was initially sold only at pharmacies for five cents a glass. During the first year of Coke, about nine servings per day were sold. Today, daily servings are estimated at 1.8 billion around the world.

Prior to Pemberton's death in 1888, the financial interests of the company were sold to various people. The majority went to an Atlanta businessman, Asa Candler. Four years later, Candler had acquired sole ownership. Today, the company is worth billions.

Candler expanded the distribution of the soft drink to soda fountains around the country. Meanwhile, Joseph Biedenharn installed bottling equipment in his Mississippi store in 1894 and began selling the first bottles of Coca-Cola to local farms and lumber camps. A few years later, a couple of businessmen from Tennessee proposed the large-scale bottling and distribution of Coca-Cola and were subsequently sold the worldwide rights to do so for one dollar. Over time, the drink became distributed throughout the country, and soon it was available around the world.

The popularity of soft drinks inspired many similar products. As Coca-Cola became more popular, the owners became more concerned with protecting their product from competitors. Consumers were reminded to settle for nothing less than the real Coca-Cola. This led to an advertising slogan still heard today, "It's the real thing."

Coca-Cola now has over 3,500 products, sold in over 200 countries. The company continues to thrive and seeks to inspire moments of fun and happiness while encouraging integrity and making a difference.

Text Questions

1. What is the main idea of the text?
   a. It provides an overview of the development of a particular product.
   b. It traces the story of one particular inventor.
   c. It describes the marketing strategy for a particular product.
   d. It focuses only on the invention of the product.
2. What role did the pharmacy play in the history of Coca-Cola?
   a. Its inventor worked for a pharmacy.
   b. One hundred years ago, we didn't have convenience stores or fast-food places.
   c. Carbonated water was available at pharmacies as a medicinal product.
   d. The inventor needed access to glass bottles.
3. What does the word *integrity* mean as it is used in the text?
   a. completeness
   b. perfection
   c. taste
   d. sincerity
4. What contributed to the growth and development of the product?
   a. The sale of the company by the original owner before his death.
   b. The ability to bottle and distribute it to a wider geographic area.
   c. The fact that it was first sold at pharmacies.
   d. The development of similar products by other companies.
5. How can we benefit from understanding the mission and values of popular products?

_____

_____

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

Name_____

The Louisiana Purchase

In the early 1800s, Americans were expanding westward. Pioneers such as Daniel Boone were navigating new trails and roads. Americans were moving into all areas of the continent.

At that time, the United States consisted of 17 states. The area of the Louisiana Purchase was comprised of what would eventually be 15 states and doubled the land size of the country.

Louisiana was a territory owned by the French. New Orleans may have been its biggest city, but many Americans lived in and around the city. As a result, American ships transported materials on the river. The federal government wanted to protect its citizens and settlements as well as expand the country.

France had recently been battling a revolt in Haiti that had been expensive, both financially and in loss of soldiers. Napoleon wanted to prepare for war in Europe and needed money. The Louisiana territory was far away, and France owed the United States money. President Jefferson wanted to purchase land, so the deal seemed profitable for both sides.

Initially, Jefferson sent Robert Livingston to France to buy New Orleans and the surrounding area, but Napoleon turned him down. President Jefferson then sent James Monroe as an envoy to France to complete the deal. At first, all President Jefferson wanted was to buy New Orleans for three million dollars. Napoleon offered the entire Louisiana Territory. On April 30, 1803, the deal was made to purchase the Louisiana Territory for a total of fifteen million dollars.

Of the purchase price, about 40 percent was paid. The remaining amount consisted of French debts cancelled by the United States government.

Immediately upon buying the territory, Jefferson commissioned Meriwether Lewis and William Clark to explore the territory. The total land purchased was 828,800 square miles and remains the most extraordinary land purchase in our history.

Text Questions

1. Which of the following statements is an opinion?
   a. The area of the Louisiana Purchase was comprised of what would eventually be 15 states and doubled the land size of the country.
   b. President Jefferson wanted to purchase land, so the deal seemed profitable for both sides.
   c. On April 30, 1803, the deal was made to purchase the Louisiana Territory for a total of fifteen million dollars.
   d. At first, all President Jefferson wanted was to buy New Orleans for three million dollars.

2. What does the word *envoy* mean as it is used in the text?
   a. a diplomat
   b. an ambassador of goodwill
   c. an agent sent by a government to complete a transaction
   d. a representative

3. Which of the following is <u>not</u> a reason the United States wanted to purchase the Louisiana territory?
   a. The federal government wanted to protect its citizens.
   b. It was an opportunity to continue westward expansion.
   c. Many Americans lived in New Orleans, so President Jefferson initially focused on purchasing the city.
   d. France owed the United States money.

4. How much of the purchase price was paid in cash?
   a. less than half b. half c. more than half d. all of it

5. Based on what you read and any background knowledge you have, how would you explain the significance of Lewis and Clark being commissioned to explore the new territory?

_____

_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TEST 29

0 **A** fixed **B** solid **C** firm **D** steady



The changing landscape

The landscape of the world is never **(0)** ..... but changes from year to year. While some of these changes are caused by human **(1)** ..... , most of them are natural. Snow and ice, for example, have a considerable **(2)** ..... on the environment in the northern hemisphere.

An ever-present problem in areas that **(3)** ..... harsh winters is the possibility of water pipes freezing. When they do, they crack and **(4)** ..... because of the expansion of the ice inside. Exactly the same thing happens in nature. On icy mountains, water **(5)** ..... into cracks in exposed rocks and when it freezes, the water turns into ice. The pressure of the ice **(6)** ..... the cracks, breaking the rocks apart. As a direct result of this **(7)** ..... action, broken blocks of stone can often be seen sloping downwards from high mountain **(8)** ..... .

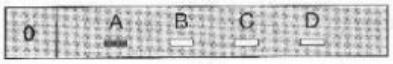
A similar process brings stones to the surface of the soil. Water beneath a buried stone freezes more easily than water in the **(9)** ..... soil because the stone **(10)** ..... heat more quickly. Ice **(11)** ..... beneath the stone expands and brings the stone upwards. In permanently cold regions, the whole soil surface is raised and the stones that have been **(12)** ..... to the surface lie in lines on the soil, making a ridged pattern.

1	**A**	work	**B**	contribution	**C**	activity	**D** practice
2	**A**	development	**B**	impact	**C**	consequence	**D** power
3	**A**	experience	**B**	contain	**C**	receive	**D** bear
4	**A**	rip	**B**	peel	**C**	tear	**D** split
5	**A**	runs	**B**	slides	**C**	dashes	**D** slips
6	**A**	prolongs	**B**	explodes	**C**	widens	**D** swells
7	**A**	destructive	**B**	hurtful	**C**	disorderly	**D** rebellious
8	**A**	heads	**B**	crowns	**C**	tips	**D** peaks
9	**A**	bordering	**B**	enclosing	**C**	surrounding	**D** circulating
10	**A**	absorbs	**B**	sucks	**C**	holds	**D** occupies
11	**A**	creating	**B**	establishing	**C**	producing	**D** forming
12	**A**	stirred	**B**	removed	**C**	squashed	**D** pushed

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TEST 30

0 **A** create **B** compose **C** develop **D** invent



Sugar sculpture

Most artists who **(0)** ..... three-dimensional objects, rather than paintings or drawings, **(1)** ..... use of materials like stone or metal in their work. An exhibition has just opened at the Bowes Museum in England, however, where re-creations of sculptures carved from a very different material, sugar, are on **(2)** ..... .

To understand the **(3)** ..... of this art form, you must go back 500 years, to a time when sugar was very rare and was **(4)** ..... only to the very wealthy. In those days, it became popular for rich Europeans to show **(5)** ..... their wealth by decorating their dining tables with elaborate sugar sculptures to impress their guests on special occasions. The finest artists were employed to **(6)** ..... on these sculptures, which reflected the host's **(7)** ..... taste and position in society.

Although expensively decorated tables **(8)** ..... popular into the 19th century, the idea then went out of **(9)** ..... and was largely forgotten. This was partly because sugar sculptures only **(10)** ..... for a limited time – around 100 years at most – so eventually there were none in **(11)** ..... . The Bowes Museum has recently **(12)** ..... a collection of the wooden tools used in the production of sugar sculptures, together with some original designs, in an attempt to recreate the forgotten art form.

1	**A**	put	**B**	make	**C**	get	**D** take
2	**A**	presentation	**B**	display	**C**	viewing	**D** sight
3	**A**	development	**B**	outcome	**C**	arrangement	**D** circumstance
4	**A**	reserved	**B**	kept	**C**	preferred	**D** available
5	**A**	off	**B**	out	**C**	up	**D** in
6	**A**	carry	**B**	try	**C**	build	**D** work
7	**A**	happy	**B**	worthy	**C**	good	**D** positive
8	**A**	rested	**B**	continued	**C**	remained	**D** persisted
9	**A**	fashion	**B**	custom	**C**	habit	**D** trend
10	**A**	maintain	**B**	live	**C**	stay	**D** last
11	**A**	presence	**B**	existence	**C**	occurrence	**D** survival
12	**A**	acquired	**B**	earned	**C**	realised	**D** paid

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TEST 31

0 **A** have **B** encourage **C** request **D** bring



The importance of drawing

In the nineteenth century, John Ruskin, an English writer and art critic, made great efforts to **(0)** ..... people to draw. He believed that drawing was a skill that was greatly neglected in schools and **(1)** ..... that it was more important to the human **(2)** ..... than writing.

In order to do something to improve the **(3)** ..... , he published two books on drawing and gave a series of lectures at the Working Men's College in London. His books were **(4)** ..... read, and his lectures **(5)** ..... large audiences. This further **(6)** ..... Ruskin's belief that everybody should be given the opportunity to learn how to draw.

Ruskin's efforts were not **(7)** ..... at turning people into good artists but at making them happier. For him, drawings were of value even when they were done by people with no talent, as drawing teaches people to **(8)** ..... things rather than just to see them. He felt that when we are involved in the process of drawing something, we have to look at it very **(9)** ..... and become aware of the different parts which **(10)** ..... up the whole. It is in this way that we **(11)** ..... to a deeper appreciation and **(12)** ..... of the thing itself.

1	**A**	claimed	**B**	convinced	**C**	recommended	**D**	expressed
2	**A**	family	**B**	people	**C**	race	**D**	beings
3	**A**	state	**B**	condition	**C**	case	**D**	situation
4	**A**	vastly	**B**	broadly	**C**	immensely	**D**	widely
5	**A**	gained	**B**	collected	**C**	attracted	**D**	brought
6	**A**	strengthened	**B**	raised	**C**	ensured	**D**	grew
7	**A**	designed	**B**	aimed	**C**	pointed	**D**	intended
8	**A**	observe	**B**	regard	**C**	witness	**D**	look
9	**A**	closely	**B**	distinctly	**C**	definitely	**D**	exactly
10	**A**	work	**B**	set	**C**	make	**D**	take
11	**A**	arrive	**B**	come	**C**	reach	**D**	achieve
12	**A**	meaning	**B**	intelligence	**C**	understanding	**D**	significance

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TEST 29

Example: 0 | I | M | P | R | E | S | S | I | V | E |

Looking into the past

Some years ago, plans to build a shopping centre on a piece of land in Glasgow were delayed when photographs taken from the air showed that there were marks of ancient houses that had once stood on this land. Archaeologists found the photographs **(0)** ..... and were keen to carry out an **(25)** ..... on the land. They knew that once the shopping centre was built, the archaeological **(26)** ..... would be hidden forever. **(27)** ..... , building work was due to start just a few days after the **(28)** ..... of the houses was made. The archaeologists wanted to delay the start of building work and held urgent **(29)** ..... with the **(30)** ..... to request that the building work should not begin immediately. An agreement was reached and the archaeologists were given eleven weeks to find out more about the houses before building work began.

IMPRESS
INVESTIGATE
EVIDENT
FORTUNATE
DISCOVER
DISCUSS
DEVELOP

They found that the houses had been made of wood and were circular in shape. They had **(31)** ..... been surrounded by a deep ditch. What remained of the **(32)** ..... was some holes in the ground where the **(33)** ..... of the houses had built a fence some two metres in height, presumably to offer them some **(34)** ..... from attack.

ORIGIN
SETTLE
INHABIT
PROTECT

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TEST 30

Example: 0 | I | N | A | C | C | U | R | A | T | E | | | | | | | | | |

Koalas

Koalas are often called 'bears' but this is **(0)** ..... as a koala is not a bear but a marsupial – a mammal whose young are carried by the female in a pouch. Koalas are found in coastal regions of eastern and southern Australia, but can also be found a considerable **(25)** ..... from the sea, in areas with enough moisture to support the type of woodlands which are **(26)** ..... for them. A koala's average life expectancy is about twelve years, but if its habitat is quiet and **(27)** ..... , it will live longer than if it lives in a built-up area. The **(28)** ..... of a koala varies from about five to fourteen kilograms.

ACCURATE
DISTANT
SUIT
DISTURB
WEIGH

The habitat requirements of a koala include the **(29)** ..... of eucalyptus trees. The higher the **(30)** ..... of these trees, the better the habitat quality. Koalas can eat **(31)** ..... 350 grams of leaves a day. However, the leaves from the eucalyptus can be extremely **(32)** ..... . To overcome this problem, the koala removes any **(33)** ..... chemicals from the leaves with the aid of a specially adapted digestive system. As the leaves are not a very good source of calories, energy **(34)** ..... is a high priority for the animal. It achieves this by sleeping up to sixteen hours a day.

PRESENT
DENSE
APPROXIMATE
POISON
HARM
CONSERVE

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TEST 31

Example:	0	*unusual*	0

CAMERON PARK

At first light, there is nothing **(0)** .... about the town of Cameron Park in California but, as the day begins and the town comes to **(56)** .... , you can't help **(57)** .... that, among the cars, there are light aeroplanes moving along the roads towards the airport. — **USUAL** / **LIVE** / **NOTICE**

When the town was **(58)** .... built, a small airport was included for the **(59)** .... of people flying in to look at the properties which were for **(60)** .... , but it soon became clear to the developers that this was an attraction in itself. The streets were **(61)** .... so that planes could use them, the mailboxes near the road were made **(62)** .... to avoid passing wings, and all the electricity cables were buried **(63)** .... . — **ORIGIN** / **CONVENIENT** / **SELL** / **WIDE** / **SHORT** / **GROUND**

Now, there is every **(64)** .... that the residents will have a private plane in their garage and use it with the same **(65)** .... other people enjoy with their cars. — **LIKELY** / **FREE**

LIVEWORKSHEETS