Subject: Resource & Technology

Name: _____

Read the story below and answer the questions that follow.

Marcus sat at the kitchen table, staring at a crisp, purple $500 bill he received for his birthday. He rubbed his fingers over it. It felt smooth, tough, and completely different from the paper in his school exercise book. On the front, he saw the faces of the Right Excellent Nanny of the Maroons and The Right Excellent Samuel Sharpe looking back at him.

"Hey Daddy," Marcus asked, "how do they actually make money? If I used our computer to print out a bunch of $500 bills, could we go to the shop and buy some patties and banana chips?"

His dad laughed and shook his head. "No, Marcus! That is illegal. That would be fake money, which is called **counterfeit** money. Real money can only be issued by the government, through the **Bank of Jamaica (BOJ)**."

"The BOJ makes all of this?" Marcus asked, holding up the bill.

"Well, the BOJ is in charge of it," his dad explained. "But our bank notes are actually printed by high-security printing companies overseas. And guess what? They aren't even made of regular paper. Newer Jamaican bills are made from a special material called **polymer**, which is a very durable type of plastic. That's why if you accidentally leave a bill in your school uniform pocket and it goes through the washing machine, it doesn't tear up or ruin!"

Marcus held the bill up to the light. "Look, Daddy, there's a shiny ribbon right here that changes colour when I move it, and a see-through window!"

"Yes, details like the shiny holographic stripes, clear windows, and hidden watermarks are there to stop criminals from copying the money," his dad said.

"What about the coins, like the $10 with The Right Excellent George William Gordon on it and $20 with the Right Excellent Marcus Garvey?" Marcus asked, shaking his piggy bank.

"Coins are different," his dad said. "They are made of strong metals like nickel and steel. They are made at a special factory called a **mint**. Giant machines take sheets of metal, punch out round blanks, and then use a massive, heavy press to stamp the faces of our National Heroes and the Jamaican Coat of Arms right into the metal."

Marcus smiled, tucking his purple bill safely into his pocket. "Wow. So a lot of giant machines and security guards have to work together just so

LIVEWORKSHEETS

I can buy my lunch at school."

"Exactly," his dad smiled. "Every single dollar has a long journey before it reaches your hand!"

Read each question carefully and click on the correct answer.

1. Which Jamaican National Heroes are on the front of the purple $500 bill?

- A) Nanny of the Marrons
- B) Nanny of the Maroons and Samuel Sharpe
- C) Samuel Sharpe
- D) Sir Alexander Bustamante

2. Which organization is in charge of issuing Jamaica's money?

- A) The Jamaica Patty Shop
- B) The Bank of Jamaica (BOJ)
- C) The Ministry of Schools
- D) The Kingston Grocery

3. Why don't modern Jamaican bank notes tear easily when they get wet?

- A) They are covered in clear household tape.
- B) They are made from a durable plastic material called polymer.
- C) They are made from dried coconut leaves.
- D) They are sprayed with regular hairspray.

4. What is the legal word used for fake money?

- A) Counterfeit
- B) Polymer
- C) Minted
- D) Carbon copy

5. What kind of material is used to make Jamaican coins like the $10 and $20 pieces?

- A) Cardboard
- B) Hard plastic
- C) Metal (like nickel and steel)
- D) Thick glass

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Write True or False on the lines.

6. True or False: It is perfectly legal to print Jamaican dollars on your home computer if you run out of cash.

(Answer: _____)

7. True or False: Jamaican coins feature the faces of National Heroes and the Jamaican Coat of Arms.

(Answer: _____)

8. True or False: Holographic stripes and clear windows are put on bills just to make them look pretty.

(Answer: _____)

Fill in the Blanks.

9. The special factory where metal coins are stamped and made is called a _____.

10. Modern Jamaican bills are made from a durable plastic material called _____.

LIVEWORKSHEETS