

Name _____ Date _____

UNIT 1B READING

Reading Explorer 5, Third Edition Extra Comprehension Questions

Reading 1A: *Secrets of the Maya*

Choose the best answer for each question.

GIST

1. Which of the following is the main idea of the passage?
 - a. The caves and wells of the Yucatán tell us a great deal about the ancient Maya.
 - b. The Maya ceremony honoring the god Chaak is meant to encourage him to bring rain.
 - c. The Maya have found ways to grow their crops despite a lack of rainfall.
 - d. The Maya were able to create an incredibly accurate calendar hundreds of years ago.

DETAIL

2. The author does NOT say that the Holtún cenote _____.
 - a. was believed to be an opening to the world of a water god
 - b. provided water for the Maya milpa crops
 - c. was wider at the top, narrower at the bottom
 - d. may have been used by Maya priests as a place to make sacrifices

DETAIL

3. The author does NOT mention that Guillermo de Anda found _____ in the Holtún cenote.
- a. human bones
 - b. stone carvings
 - c. scripts written by priests
 - d. pieces of broken pots

SEQUENCE

4. Which of the following is the ideal sequence of rains for Maya farmers?
- a. light rain—dry weather—strong rain—gentle rain
 - b. no rain—some rain—gentle rain—heavy rain
 - c. dry weather—heavy rain—gentle rain—dry weather
 - d. strong rain—moderate rain—heavy rain—no rain

REFERENCE

5. The word *him* in paragraph L, line 12 refers to _____.
- a. one of the villagers
 - b. the hmem
 - c. Chaak
 - d. one of the two participants