

THE FOSSIL HUNTERS

Tim and Dean were great fossil hunters. They were the very best at finding dinosaur bones. Although Tim and Dean were quite similar, they were **outright** enemies. The two men got into **vicious** arguments all the time. They couldn't **coexist** peacefully because their **egos** were too large. Tim thought he was the best fossil hunter, while Dean was sure that he was much better than Tim.

One day, Tim was searching for fossils on the **periphery** of the city when he discovered a huge bone. He had never seen anything like it! He took his **shovel** and carefully **excavated** the dirt around it. As he dug, he uncovered more **jagged** bones. He realized that he had found an entire dinosaur **skeleton**! Tim couldn't **conceive** a plan to remove the huge skeleton all by himself. Such an **endeavor** would be too **arduous**. He needed help. He tried to think of people who would be capable of helping him remove the skeleton without breaking it. The only person Tim could think of was Dean, his enemy.

Tim ran into the city to find Dean. Tim found him and said, "Dean, I've found the **skeletal** remains of a huge **terrestrial** animal. But I can't get the skeleton out by myself. Will you please help me?"

Dean thought that Tim's claim might be **dubious**. He replied, "If you're serious about the skeleton, I'll help."

Tim excitedly showed Dean the skeleton's **locale**. They worked together to carefully remove each bone. And to keep the bones together, they tied them with **elastic** strips. When they were finished, they had **attained** a perfect skeleton. They used **plaster** to make a **mold** of the dinosaur's skull. They **engraved** their initials into it and gave it to the curator of a local museum.

Tim and Dean found out that they could work very well together. They decided to end their feud and become friends. By combining their talents, the men became even greater than they were before.

DIRECTIONS: Part A: Mark each statement T for true or F for false.

Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

_____ 1. Tim and Dean were outright enemies who got into vicious arguments.

_____ 2. Tim and Dean removed the jagged bones and used elastic to attain them.

_____ 3. Tim couldn't conceive a plan to remove the bones because the endeavor would be too arduous. _____

_____ 4. Dean thought that Tim's ego might be dubious.

_____ 5. When Tim excavated the land, he uncovered many engraved bones.

Part B: Answer the questions.

1. Why couldn't Tim and Dean coexist peacefully?
2. What did Tim use his shovel to do?
3. What was Tim doing on the periphery of the city?
4. What did the fossil hunters do to the plaster mold before they gave it to the curator?
5. What did Dean say before he went to the locale of the terrestrial animal's skeletal remains?