

Student's name: _____ **Group:** _____

Date: _____

Reading. Click on the correct answer.

Today's space artists have more to guide them than speculation. The U.S. planetary science program sent orbiters to the moon in the late sixties, and the Mariner and Pioneer flights to Mars and Venus in the seventies. Voyager 1 and Voyager 2, the spacecrafts of the eighties, completed a grand tour of all the planets. The first two decades of planetary exploration yielded a wealth of images still being translated to canvas, including photographs from 1986, when Voyager 2 passed Uranus. The results are incomparably more realistic, and therefore more breathtaking, than the technological imagining of the forties and fifties. Informed art reveals more than mere fantasy can.

1. According to the passage, how long has the United States been sending orbiter flights?
 - a) Since the middle of the twentieth century.
 - b) Since the end of the 1960s.
 - c) For three decades.
 - d) Since the 1940s.

2. Look at the phrase translated to canvas in the passage. The phrase is closest in meaning to
 - a) explained to viewers
 - b) analyzed by artists
 - c) rendered as paintings
 - d) interpreted to painters

3. According to the passage, what happened in the forties and fifties?
 - a) Realistic images of planets were produced.
 - b) The planetary-science program was initiated.
 - c) Space artists didn't depend on speculation.
 - d) Planetary images could only be imagined.

4. Which of the following is not true?
 - a) All of the planets have been photographed.
 - b) Space artists in the fifties used planetary photographs.
 - c) The Voyagers have yielded a wealth of images.
 - d) The Voyager spacecrafts orbited the planets.

5. In what order does the author present the space flights?
- a) U.S. moon orbiters, Voyager 1, Voyager 2, Mariner.
 - b) U.S. moon orbiters, Voyager 1, Mariner, Voyager 2.
 - c) U.S. moon orbiters, Mariner, Voyager 1, Voyager 2.
 - d) Voyager 2, Mariner, Voyager 1, U.S. moon orbiters.

Families moving to Oregon or California in the late 1840s had one main rule on the long journey west: Keep moving. **They** stopped for a day or two at such places as Fort Laramie or Fort Bridger in Wyoming to repair equipment and supplies. But usually the wagons halted only at noon and at nightfall. By keeping on the move, a wagon train could travel 15 or 20 miles (24 or 32 kilometers) a day. If the oxen hauling the wagons became exhausted, they were shot or simply left to die where they fell. They were replaced by animals herded behind the wagon train.

The “keep moving” rule killed many animals, but **it** saved many human lives. Almost all westward journeys started in spring. A spring departure gave the settlers time – if they kept moving – to get through the western mountains before the snow blocked the passes.

As long as the pioneers of the 1840s kept moving westward, the Plains Indians allowed them to pass through **their** hunting grounds. Some tribes guided the early pioneers, or helped them at difficult river crossings. The Indians even supplied some wagon trains with vegetables and buffalo meat in exchange for tobacco, whiskey, or pieces of iron.

1. With what topic is paragraph 1 mainly concerned?
- a) Stopping for repairs and supplies on the move west.
 - b) Shooting the exhausted oxen.
 - c) The wagon train routine of the late 1840s.
 - d) Wagon train mileage.
2. Look at the word halted in paragraph 1. What is the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the word “halted”?
- a) kept
 - b) repaired
 - c) stopped
 - d) shot

3. What does the word "they" in paragraph 1 refer to?
- a) nightfall
 - b) equipment
 - c) supplies
 - d) oxen
4. What does the word "it" in paragraph 2 refer to?
- a) Killed
 - b) saved many human lives
 - c) blocked the passes
 - d) The "keep moving" rule
5. Look at the phrase "as long as" in paragraph 3. The phrase could be best replaced by...
- a) provided that
 - b) since
 - c) during the time
 - d) because
6. What does the word "their" in paragraph 3 refer to?
- a) hunting grounds
 - b) pioneers
 - c) Plains Indians
 - d) tribes
7. Which of the following is NOT TRUE about the wagon train experience?
- a) Spring departures were commonplace.
 - b) The wagon train stopped twice daily.
 - c) The Indians traded with the pioneers.
 - d) Oxen were buried in Indian hunting grounds.

The horse of 50 million years ago, called the Dawn Horse, was a little animal the size of a fox terrier. It had four toes on each front foot and three toes on each hind foot. Its toenails were little hooves. When this creature lived, there were no grasslands. Its home was the forest, where it fed on tender shoots and leaves.

There is proof that this little creature was an ancestor of the horse of today. Scientists have excavated fossils of certain animals that lived a few million years after the Dawn Horse. They found that these fossils of bigger animals than the animals of earlier times resembled both the Dawn Horse and the modern-day horse.

The horse family survived when many other animals died out because it had two advantages. The little horse was swift, as we can guess from its slim body and slender legs. It also was fairly intelligent; its skull shows that its brain was large in proportion to its body.

1. The Dawn Horse had a total of how many toes?
a) 7 b) 12 c) 14 d) 28
2. According to the passage, it is assumed that the Dawn horse was a fast runner due to its...
a) brain size
b) similarity to the modern-day horse.
c) trim body and legs.
d) number of toes.
3. According to the passage, what feature of the Dawn Horse enabled the horse family to survive?
a) It resembled the fox terrier.
b) It ate tender shoots and leaves.
c) It was relatively smart.
d) It had little hooves for toenails.
4. It can be inferred from the passage that...
a) three species of horse have existed.
b) the horse of 50 million years ago has survived.
c) scientists have found fossils of the Dawn Horse.
d) horses needed grasslands to survive.
5. It can be inferred from the passage that...
a) many contemporaries of the Dawn Horse are extinct.
b) many modern animals have 50-million-year-old ancestors.
c) after a few million years the Dawn Horse was the same size.
d) the Dawn Horse resembled a fox terrier.