

When we think of volcanoes, eruptions, lava, and smoke-filled air come to mind—all occurring on land. Most people are surprised to learn about the prevalence of underwater volcanoes on our planet. Because the lava and smoke spilling out of an active, underwater volcano is contained by the ocean, people generally do not take note of these eruptions. However, the largest underwater volcanoes are capable of creating huge tidal waves, threatening coastal communities.

- | | |
|---|--|
| A | Traditional volcanoes and underwater volcanoes are similar. |
| B | The lava and smoke from an underwater volcano is contained by the sea. |
| C | Most tidal waves are caused by underwater volcanoes. |
| D | Underwater volcanoes receive little attention but can be dangerous. |

Question 1 of 15

The main idea of the passage is that

Long thought to be a case of mistaken identity, the discovery of the Bornean rainbow toad by European explorers in 1924 was recently verified by scientists. The explorers had made a black-and-white sketch of an unusual toad they had found in the jungles of Southeast Asia, christening it the Bornean rainbow toad. Skeptical but curious, scientists recently went to look for the toad—and ended up finding three specimens.

- | | |
|---|--|
| A | Explorers discovered the Bornean rainbow toad almost a century ago. |
| B | There are only three Bornean rainbow toads left in the wild. |
| C | Scientists recently solved a long-standing mystery concerning a rare toad species. |
| D | Scientists never give up the search for rare and endangered species. |

Question 2 of 15

What is the main idea of this passage?

Billie Jean King, a professional women's tennis player in the 1960s and 1970s, won 12 Grand Slam titles during her career, but is better known for a non-tournament match she played in 1973. She played against former men's professional player Bobby Riggs in a "battle of the sexes" tennis match in front of more than 30,000 people and a huge TV audience. King quieted skeptics and scored a well-deserved victory for female athletes around the world, defeating the overconfident Riggs in three straight sets.

- | | |
|---|--|
| A | was popular with TV audiences |
| B | won 12 Grand Slam titles |
| C | played better tennis after 1973 than before 1973 |
| D | defeated a male player in a famous match |

Question 3 of 15

The main idea of this passage is that Billie Jean King

Directions

Thomas Edison is not primarily known as a film producer, but his 1910 *Frankenstein* is the earliest known film version of Mary Shelley's novel. Tame by today's standards, the film was considered shocking in 1910: it did not receive wide circulation in theaters, and only a small number of prints were struck for sale. It was considered "lost" for decades, but one surviving print was discovered in the 1970's in the private collection of Wisconsin collector Alois Detlaff.

Question 4 of 15

As it is used in the passage, "Tame" is closest in meaning to

Answers

A Boring

B Familiar

C Mild

D Domesticated

The main authors of The Declaration of Independence and the Constitution are usually thought of as America's "Founding Fathers." Other, less known personages also deserve the title, however, and Noah Webster was one of these. Through his writings, which include the still-influential dictionary that bears his name, Webster sought to legitimize an "American English" that was independent of British spelling and pronunciation. For instance, Webster removed the "u" from "colour," creating the distinct American version of the word.

A helped write the Constitution

B was a poor speller

C authored a new dictionary

D was unknown in his lifetime

Question 5 of 15

According to the passage, Noah Webster

Our bones grow continuously throughout our lives, with old bone cells dying and being discarded. However, for astronauts who are in space for a prolonged period, a lack of gravitational pull—which has a number of beneficial effects on the body, including supporting new bone growth—results in their bones adding less bone tissue to replace dying tissue. In fact, for every month in space, a person will lose 1.5 to 2% of his or her bone mass, with the hip bone and the lower leg bones most affected.

A replace dead bone tissue

B make up for a lack of exercise

C relieve stress on non-weight-bearing bones

D keep bone tissue from being discarded

Question 6 of 15

The human body adds bone mass in order to

The professor stated that students who miss more than four class meetings would fail the course. The course syllabus indicated that a class period missed due to a documented illness would not reflect negatively on a student's final grade.

Question 7 of 15

What does the second sentence do?

A	It provides an exception to the rule stated in the first.
B	It confirms the validity of information in the first.
C	It supports a theory that is explored in the first.
D	It makes the same point as the first, but uses different data.

Last year's increase in tuition and slowdown in building maintenance have negatively affected the university's reputation. This year has seen an increase in the number of students applying for admission to the university.

Question 8 of 15

Which describes the second sentence?

A	It describes a consequence of the statement made in the first.
B	It provides the solution to a problem presented in the first.
C	It offers evidence challenging the claim made in the first.
D	It suggests a possible cause of the problem indicated in the first.

Many tenants at the monthly meeting voted against the proposal to allocate funds for the renovation of the building's fitness center. According to last year's records, less than five percent of the tenants in the building regularly used the fitness center.

Question 9 of 15

What does the second sentence do?

A	It notes a problem that the first dismisses.
B	It suggests a possible cause for the action described in the first.
C	It states a fact, while the first offers an opinion.
D	It offers a specific example supporting a claim made in the first.

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Swarms of locusts causing deadly plagues are usually thought of as the stuff of myths. However, the desert locust *Schistocerca gregaria* has been responsible for damage to populations across three continents. The desert locust does its damage by consuming its body weight in food each day, devouring virtually any type of vegetation it encounters. When millions of locusts swarm into an area, their effect on the food supply in that area and surrounding areas can be catastrophic. Fortunately, it takes a big, sustained rainstorm (a rare event in desert areas) to create the conditions in which desert locusts thrive.

A	destroying property and infrastructure
B	spreading dangerous diseases
C	directly attacking other insects
D	consuming other species' food supplies

Question 10 of 15

The passage implies that the *Schistocerca gregaria* does its greatest damage by

Our bones grow continuously throughout our lives, with old bone cells dying and being discarded. However, for astronauts who are in space for a prolonged period, a lack of gravitational pull—which has a number of beneficial effects on the body, including supporting new bone growth—results in their bones adding less bone tissue to replace dying tissue. In fact, for every month in space, a person will lose 1.5 to 2% of his or her bone mass, with the hip bone and the lower leg bones most affected.

A	astronauts rarely regain their lost bone mass
B	bone loss is not a problem for non-astronauts
C	the lower body typically experiences more bone growth than the upper body
D	astronauts seldom stay in space for more than a month

Question 11 of 15

It can be inferred from the passage that

When we think of volcanoes, eruptions, lava, and smoke-filled air come to mind—all occurring on land. Most people are surprised to learn about the prevalence of underwater volcanoes on our planet. Because the lava and smoke spilling out of an active, underwater volcano is contained by the ocean, people generally do not take note of these eruptions. However, the largest underwater volcanoes are capable of creating huge tidal waves, threatening coastal communities.

A	do not enjoy learning about underwater volcanoes
B	are not sufficiently aware of underwater volcanoes
C	do not live in coastal communities
D	have not witnessed an eruption of a traditional volcano

Question 12 of 15

The passage implies that most people

The main authors of The Declaration of Independence and the Constitution are usually thought of as America's "Founding Fathers." Other, less known personages also deserve the title, however, and Noah Webster was one of these. Through his writings, which include the still-influential dictionary that bears his name, Webster sought to legitimize an "American English" that was independent of British spelling and pronunciation. For instance, Webster removed the "u" from "colour," creating the distinct American version of the word.

A	To praise the Founding Fathers
B	To present information about an important American
C	To define and explain "American English"
D	To distinguish American dictionaries from British dictionaries

Question 13 of 15

What is the main purpose of this passage?

Billie Jean King, a professional women's tennis player in the 1960s and 1970s, won 12 Grand Slam titles during her career, but is better known for a non-tournament match she played in 1973. She played against former men's professional player Bobby Riggs in a "battle of the sexes" tennis match in front of more than 30,000 people and a huge TV audience. King quieted skeptics and scored a well-deserved victory for female athletes around the world, defeating the overconfident Riggs in three straight sets.

A	Admiring
B	Disbelieving
C	Indifferent
D	Awed

Question 14 of 15

Which word best describes the author's attitude towards King's victory over Riggs?

Pearl S. Buck, the Nobel- and Pulitzer Prize-winning author, achieved such fame that she was memorialized by the United States Postal Service with a postage stamp bearing her image. But Buck was by no means a traditional American writer; in fact, she lived over half of her life in China and wrote primarily about Chinese life in her works of fiction. Her best-known work, *The Good Earth*, published in 1931, is about a Chinese peasant family.

A	To analyze fiction written by Americans living overseas
B	To summarize the plot of <i>The Good Earth</i>
C	To inform Americans about life in China
D	To discuss a famous American writer's accomplishments

Question 15 of 15

What is the main purpose of this passage?