

Georgia
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6th Grade Reading Quiz

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Quiz

Practice Test

Name: _____

Date: _____

Instructions:

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The Meeting

Bailey and Jennifer had planned for their meeting and began it promptly at 4:00 P.M. First, they opened the meeting with roll call. Then they read the minutes from the last meeting. Next, they discussed the community clean-up project. They talked about the ways the group could help clean up. One method they considered was forming work teams. Each team would pick up litter and place trash containers in designated locations within the community.

After discussing several other alternatives for how they could help clean up their community, they finally decided that the idea of teams would be best. They voted to organize the teams and assign a starting date for the clean-up project at the meeting next week. Then the agenda was completed and the meeting was adjourned.

1. In the passage, *alternatives* means

- A. arguments
- B. dates
- C. choices
- D. votes

2. In the passage, *designated* means

- A. accomplished
 - B. selected
 - C. discussed
 - D. decorated
-

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Come on Down to the World Underground

“I’d heard myths that caves were spooky and terrifying—but this trip changed my view,” says Ingrid Shriver. “I experienced a whole new world.”

Ingrid recently joined seven other kids on a trip through a passage of a 15-mile-long cave in West Virginia. “For part of our trip we mapped the passage,” says leader Art Hanson, of Boonsboro, Maryland. “The kids also learned cave climbing skills, safety tips, and how to care for this fragile underground environment.”

Hanson is the chairman of the Tri-State Grotto, a regional branch of the National Speleological Society. Speleology (spee-lee-AH-luh-gee) is the science of caves. “On this trip I wanted my son Albert and his friends to appreciate the beauty of caves,” he adds.

They did. “It was neat—like going back in time,” says Jason Balderson, 13, of Woodsboro, Maryland.

The cave was formed many millions of years ago. Some of its stone sculptures, called speleothems, developed then. Others are hundreds of thousands of years old. Over time water dripping from the ceiling deposits a mineral called draperies, hollow “soda straws,” and rippled slabs called “bacon.” The students saw all these formations but didn’t touch.

“We practiced conservation by keeping our hands off,” says Chuck Williams, 14. “Oil from your skin can stop a stalactite from growing.”

The group got down to business, too, mapping a passage 500 feet long near the cave’s entrance. Hanson added their data to a computer program. When the entire cave has been surveyed, he will print a map for cavers.

Between mapping sessions the underground explorers followed a river, crossed a rock bridge, and discovered a rare waterfall. They saw cave crickets and bats, and they found a room filled with mud artwork—it’s a caver’s tradition to make mud sculptures and leave them behind.

At night the group camped beneath a ceiling of dangling stalactites. The next day they mapped for several hours more before climbing back up into the daylight.

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“We were all smiling and waving at the sun,” says Ingrid. “I was glad to be out, but proud of what we’d done. I knew that our mapping would help others explore this cave in the future. They’ll walk through it and say, ‘This is a beautiful work of art.’”

3. What were the children doing in the caves?
- A. They were reading a book about caves.
 - B. They were writing myths on spooky cave stories.
 - C. They were visiting the National Speleological Society.
 - D. They were mapping out a passage in the cave.
-

4. Why did Hanson take the children on the trip?
- A. to terrify them
 - B. to appreciate the beauty of the caves
 - C. to add data to the computer program
 - D. to make a mud sculpture
-

5. What is the definition for the word *speleology*?
- A. the science of caves
 - B. the study of stalactites
 - C. the study of stalagmites
 - D. the study of maps
-

6. The children learned all of these skills while in the cave EXCEPT
- A. cave climbing skills
 - B. safety skills
 - C. how to build a campfire
 - D. how to draw maps of the caves
-

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7. What is the main idea of this passage?

- A. how caves are spooky and terrifying
 - B. how eight children went on a trip to study caves
 - C. how eight children got lost in a cave
 - D. how caves are formed
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8. What is the topic sentence of this passage?

- A. "I'd hear myths that caves were spooky and terrifying—but this trip changed my view."
 - B. Ingrid recently joined seven other kids on a trip through a passage of a 15-mile-long cave in West Virginia.
 - C. "The kids also learned cave climbing skills, safety tips, and how to care for this fragile underground environment."
 - D. Hanson is the chairman of the Tri-State Grotto, a regional branch of the National Speleological Society.
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9. The author's purpose for writing this passage was

- A. to analyze
 - B. to debate
 - C. to entertain
 - D. to inform
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