Short Articles for Reading Comprehension 3 Midterm Test

Name: _____ **Score: _____**

Unit 1-10

A. Fill in the blanks with the correct word(s).

1. The year 2000 marked the start of a new _____.

a. millennium* b. era c. history d. event

2. Count Dracula is thought to be a _____.

a. killer b. vampire* c. bat d. werewolf

3. The nearly drowned man needed mouth-to-mouth _____.

a. kiss b. touch c. relay d. resuscitation*

4. Hercule Poirot is a _____ hero.

a. fictional* b. war c. police d. murder

5. Edison invented the _____.

a. train b. bicycle c. telephone d. phonograph*

B. Fill in the blanks with the correct word(s).

1. It was so cold outside _____ we stayed inside.

a. which b. as c. that* d. what

2. There are dangerous animals such as lion, hyena, cheetah, and _____.

a. so on* b. others c. what d. so and so

3. Tom worked really hard. _____, he needs a good rest.

a. Sometimes b. Therefore* c. As a result d. As far as

4. Mary took off her gloves and _____ them on the counter.

a. laid* b. lied c. lay d. lain

5. I'm getting _____ to the life in the foreign country.

a. use b. easy c. happy d. used*

C. Choose the best answer.

The first recorded instance of someone using a lens to assist sight is in Roman times. The Roman dramatist Seneca used to read by looking at books through a globe of water which acted as a lens and magnified the writing. However, it was not until around 1000 CE that the glass blowers in Italy produced reading stones made of solid glass. Those who learned how to produce these reading stones later made them into shapes that could be held in a frame in front of the eyes. This design was similar to modern magnifying glasses, which make things appear larger than they actually are.

The first mention of glasses appears in an Italian manuscript dated 1289. It is thought by most historians that glasses were first invented in Italy between 1285 and 1289 by monks or craftsmen, such as glass blowers. However, the Italian Salvino D'Armate is credited with inventing the first form of eyeglasses around 1284, although this claim has not been proven.

In 1305 or 1306, Giordano da Rivalto of Pisa said in a sermon that he knew about spectacles being invented about twenty years before. He did not say who the inventor was. Another monk, Alessandro da Spina of Pisa, is also credited as being the first inventor of spectacles, along with D'Armate, but no concrete evidence supports this idea. The name of true inventor of spectacles remains lost in history.

1. Who was the first to use lens of a sort?

a. Alessandro

b. Salvino

c. Seneca*

d. Giordano

2. When were reading stones invented?

a. Around 1000*

b. 1284

c. 1285

d. 1289

3. When are glasses thought to have been invented?

   a. 1000-1284

   b. 1284-1285

   c. 1285-1289*

   d. 1289-1305

4. When did the first written mention of glasses appear?

   a. Around 1000

   b. 1284

   c. 1285

   d. 1289*

5. Who is the true inventor of glasses?

   a. Alessandro

   b. Salvino

   c. Not known*

   d. Giordano

D. Choose the best answer.

Garlic is important ingredient in many culinary traditions. Originally cultivated in Asia, it eventually made its way to Europe and finally to Americas in the sixteenth century. The spread of garlic was helped by the fact that it is easy to grow and can survive in harsh conditions. A garlic bulb is made up of cloves, which have been used in food and for medicinal purposes for thousands of years.

Garlic has a long history of medicinal use. It is believed that Egyptians fed garlic to the slaves building the great pyramids to keep up their strength and stamina and to ward off disease. The Greeks and Romans believed that garlic cured many diseases and helped heal wounds. It is also noted in ancient literature that Greeks gave garlic to athletes during the Olympic Games in order to increase their strength.

More recently, garlic has been mentioned as being used as a treatment for battle wounds in both World Wars. In fact, even today garlic is eaten for its supposed medicinal properties such as fighting colds, coughs, and viral infections. Garlic is also claimed to prevent high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and even cancer. A different use for garlic in the past was to keep away evil spirits.

1. Where did garlic originate?

   a. Africa

   b. Americas

   c. Asia*

   d. Europe

2. What helped garlic spread throughout the world?

   a. The fact that it is easy to grow*

   b. Its medicinal use

   c. Its power to ward off evil

   d. Culinary demands

3. Why did Egyptians feed garlic to their slaves?

   a. To cure wounds

   b. To keep away evil

   c. To make up for the lack of grains

   d. To keep up their strength and stamina*

4. Why did the ancient Greeks feed garlic to their athletes?

   a. to cure diseased athletes

   b. to increase their strength*

   c. to make up the lack of food

   d. to stimulate their body functions

5. Which is NOT one of garlic's supposed medicinal properties?

   a. Fighting colds

   b. Fighting coughs

   c. Fighting viral infections

   d. Fighting evil spirits*