

SMART STUFF

04.14.08

Directions: Have fun honing multiple-choice test-taking skills. Divide the class into two teams to play Smart Stuff. Score 5 points for each correct answer. Or, use Smart Stuff as a research activity. Students may research categories in groups or individually.

WORLD AND GEOGRAPHY

1. What happens in the Northern Hemisphere on the vernal equinox ?
A. The North Pole thaws.
B. Groundhog Day
C. Spring begins.
2. Which European country is landlocked?
A. Switzerland
B. Greece
C. Germany
3. Which U.S city is closest to Los Angeles?
A. Anchorage, Alaska
B. Atlanta, Georgia
C. Honolulu, Hawaii
4. What is Japan's highest mountain?
A. Mount Kilimanjaro
B. Mount Fuji
C. Mount Everest
5. Which body of water separates Russia and the United States?
A. the Bering Strait
B. the Black Sea
C. the Gulf of Alaska

HISTORY

1. What was buried in ash when Mount Vesuvius erupted in the year 79?
A. the island of Corsica
B. the Adriatic Sea
C. the city of Pompeii
2. Which of the following geological eras came first?
A. Mesozoic
B. Paleozoic
C. Cenozoic

3. Which U.S. president used a wheelchair because his legs had been paralyzed by polio?
A. Franklin Roosevelt
B. Harry Truman
C. Woodrow Wilson
4. What was completed at Promontory Point, Utah, in 1869 with a golden spike?
A. The Statue of Liberty
B. The first automobile
C. The transcontinental railroad
5. Who did the Marquis de Lafayette, a French general, help during the Revolutionary War?
A. American colonists
B. British soldiers
C. the Mohawk

CULTURE AND SPORTS

1. What did James Naismith invent using a fruit basket and a soccer ball?
A. foosball
B. basketball
C. peach cobbler
2. Which actress won the 2007 Teen Choice Award for television comedy?
A. Hillary Duff
B. Miley Cyrus
C. Miranda Cosgrove
3. The author behind the *A Series of Unfortunate Events* books uses the pen name Lemony Snicket. What is his real name?
A. Daniel Handler
B. Lewis Carroll
C. Tony Abbott

4. What did Henry Ford name the car that "put America on wheels"?
A. E Class
B. Studebaker
C. Model T
5. In Greek mythology, who flew too close to the sun while wearing wax wings?
A. Icarus
B. Apollo
C. Prometheus

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

1. What do levers, wheels, and pulleys have in common?
A. They were invented during the Iron Age.
B. They are simple machines.
C. They are parts of a car axle.
2. Salt makes up what percent of most ocean water?
A. about 3.5 percent
B. about 15.5 percent
C. about 30.5 percent
3. In the 1960s, Doug Engelbart invented the "x-y position indicator." What is his invention known as today?
A. global positioning
B. the computer mouse
C. the calculator
4. How many grams does a 50-kilogram machine weigh?
A. 500
B. 5,000
C. 50,000
5. Which type of bridge relies on cables for support?
A. arch
B. beam
C. suspension