

SMART STUFF

09.29.08

Directions: Have fun honing multiple-choice test-taking skills. Divide the class into two teams to play Smart Stuff, or have students find the answers themselves. Score 5 points for each correct answer. Smart Stuff is an ideal activity for students to practice their Internet research skills.

WORLD AND GEOGRAPHY

1. What is the world's smallest country? (Hint: Rome, Italy, surrounds it.)
A. Monaco
B. Singapore
C. Vatican City
2. Which country does not border the Arctic Ocean?
A. Antarctica
B. Greenland
C. Canada
3. Which U.S. mountain range's name means "snowy range" in Spanish?
A. Appalachian Mountains
B. Sierra Nevada
C. Cascade Range
4. Chihuahua—the state, not the dog—is in which country?
A. Guatemala
B. Costa Rica
C. Mexico
5. The world's largest volcano covers half the island of Hawaii. What is that huge volcano's name?
A. Mauna Loa
B. Haleakala
C. Mount St. Helens

HISTORY

1. In 1635, Boston became home to what is now the nation's oldest public school in continuous existence. Benjamin Franklin attended classes there. What is the name of the school?
A. Boston Latin School
B. Phillips Exeter Academy
C. Old Boston High

2. What sank the ocean liner *Lusitania* in 1915?
A. a German submarine
B. an iceberg
C. a whale
3. In 1981, who became the first female U.S. Supreme Court justice?
A. Shirley Chisholm
B. Sandra Day O'Connor
C. Ruth Bader Ginsburg
4. On Oct. 1, 1908, Henry Ford introduced the first mass-produced car. What was the car's name?
A. Oldsmobile
B. Studebaker
C. Model T
5. Who was the first U.S. astronaut in space?
A. Alan Shepard
B. Buzz Aldrin
C. Neil Armstrong

CULTURE AND SPORTS

1. How many gold medals did Michael Phelps win at the 2008 Olympic Games?
A. three
B. five
C. eight
2. In which Olympic sport do competitors lunge at one another with foils?
A. badminton
B. tae kwon do
C. fencing
3. What are manga?
A. Japanese comic books
B. Australian wild dogs
C. tiny blood-sucking worms found only in Italy

4. Which composer is not known for his operas?
A. Giuseppe Verdi
B. Ozzy Osbourne
C. Giacomo Puccini
5. Who is "Bonus Jonas"?
A. the Jonas Brothers' little brother, Frankie
B. a cartoon character
C. a U.S. senator from Utah

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

1. What does the acronym html, the simple form of coding used on Web pages, stand for?
A. hypertext markup language
B. hot typing machine links
C. haven't touched my lunch
2. What is the rain forest frog *Phylllobates terribilis* best known for being?
A. one of the most poisonous animals on Earth
B. the world's fattest frog
C. the world's tiniest reptile
3. What is the chemical symbol for oxygen?
A. Oxy
B. Gen
C. O
4. Which of the following celestial bodies is no longer considered a planet?
A. Mercury
B. Neptune
C. Pluto
5. How many minutes are in a non-leap-year year?
A. 4.5 million minutes
B. 525,600 minutes
C. 365 minutes