

SMART STUFF

11.03.08

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

- The Gobi desert is on which continent?
 - Asia
 - Australia
 - South America
- The vacation destinations of Lake Tahoe and Yosemite National Park are located in which U.S. mountain range?
 - the Rockies
 - the Sierra Nevada
 - the Appalachians
- Which country covers more than half of the western coastline of South America?
 - Ecuador
 - Chile
 - Peru
- What is a narrow waterway joining two larger bodies of water called?
 - a peninsula
 - an isthmus
 - a strait
- The Forbidden City, which was home to emperors for nearly five centuries, can be found in which country?
 - Israel
 - Egypt
 - China
- What was exhibited at the first World's Fair in London's Crystal Palace in 1851?
 - types of currency
 - works of industry
 - endangered species
- Which U.S. president was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1906?
 - Theodore Roosevelt
 - Woodrow Wilson
 - Herbert Hoover
- A fire destroyed much of which U.S. city in 1871?
 - Chicago
 - Los Angeles
 - Houston
- Under the feudal system, who were serfs?
 - land owners
 - priests
 - agricultural workers

CULTURE AND SPORTS

- What do William Carlos Williams and William Blake have in common?
 - They were poets
 - They were athletes
 - They were Irish
- What is the most common U.S. pet?
 - cat
 - dog
 - fish
- Where did ice skating originate?
 - England
 - the Netherlands
 - the United States

- Which country is home to the Prado Museum?
 - Italy
 - Spain
 - France
- Which baseball legend was born in 1931 and slugged 660 home runs? (His nickname was the "Say Hey Kid.")
 - Babe Ruth
 - Willie Mays
 - Joe DiMaggio

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

- What did Sir Alexander Fleming invent?
 - rubber
 - Penicillin
 - soccer
- Who was the first woman in space?
 - Valentina Tereshkova
 - Sally Ride
 - Betsy Ross
- What does the theory of plate tectonics describe?
 - wind patterns
 - crystalization
 - shifting of continents
- Which planet is closest to Earth?
 - Venus
 - Uranus
 - Saturn
- What common household appliance did U.S. inventor Percy Spencer create by accident in 1945?
 - the dishwasher
 - the microwave oven
 - the refrigerator

HISTORY

- The Koh-i-noor, which was fought over in India and seized as a spoil of war, is what type of gemstone?
 - pearl
 - diamond
 - ruby