NAME:_____ **DATE:**_____

DIRECTIONS   Read the text and then answer the questions.

   A few hundred years ago, it was very difficult to travel. There was no easy way to get from one place to another. If there was water nearby, people traveled in canoes or other boats. But traveling across the country was much harder. Some people traveled in horse-drawn wagons. But that was an expensive way to travel. Most people could not afford a good wagon and a team of horses. It also took a very long time to travel. Horses could not go very fast, so it could take months to go from New York to California. Traveling by horse and wagon was also dangerous. Bad weather and robbers made traveling very risky. So, most people didn't travel more than five miles from the place where they were born.

1. Ⓨ Ⓝ

2. Ⓨ Ⓝ

3. Ⓨ Ⓝ

4. Ⓨ Ⓝ

5. Ⓨ Ⓝ

1. What is this text mostly about?

Ⓐ   what travel was a few hundred years ago

Ⓑ   horses

Ⓒ   how to build a wagon

Ⓓ   boats and canoes

2. Which of these is **not** true about travel long ago?

Ⓐ   It was expensive.

Ⓑ   It was dangerous.

Ⓒ   It was quick.

Ⓓ   It was difficult.

3. Which two words in the text have the same root word?

Ⓐ   *afford* and *fast*

Ⓑ   *robbers* and *risky*

Ⓒ   *traveled* and *traveling*

Ⓓ   *horse* and *canoes*

4. Which is an antonym of *expensive*?

Ⓐ   costly

Ⓑ   economical

Ⓒ   pricey

Ⓓ   difficult

5. What is a *canoe*?

Ⓐ   a bird

Ⓑ   a boat

Ⓒ   a car

Ⓓ   a wagon

___ / 5

Total

NAME:_____ DATE:_____

DIRECTIONS   Read the text and then answer the questions.

> Traveling changed a great deal in the early 1800s when the train was invented. At first, trains only carried *freight* (freyt). But in the 1820s and 1830s, people began to travel by train. Trains made it possible to send goods quickly from one city to another. People who made and sold goods could sell more. Trains ran between cities such as New York and Chicago. And people could travel between those cities in just days. Trains brought settlers to the West, too. In 1869, two railroad companies completed a line all the way across the country. Finally, people could travel from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean by train. Railroads helped open up the West.

1. How did trains help people sell more goods?

Ⓐ People could travel more easily.

Ⓑ They made it hard to send goods.

Ⓒ People did not want trains.

Ⓓ They made it possible to send goods more quickly.

2. How did the railroads help open up the West?

Ⓐ People did not want to travel by train.

Ⓑ It was hard to send goods between cities.

Ⓒ People could travel all the way from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean.

Ⓓ It was very expensive to travel by train.

3. Which is a compound word?

Ⓐ companies

Ⓑ railway

Ⓒ traveling

Ⓓ freight

4. Which is a synonym for *freight*?

Ⓐ goods

Ⓑ passengers

Ⓒ people

Ⓓ trains

5. Which word describes the tone of this text?

Ⓐ informative

Ⓑ silly

Ⓒ funny

Ⓓ persuasive

NAME:_____ DATE:_____

| DIRECTIONS | Read the text and then answer the questions. |

The coming of railroads made some major changes in the United States. Cities grew because of railroads. Railroads supplied them with food and fuel. They supplied cities with goods, too. They also made it easy for goods produced in cities to be sent to other places. Railroads helped people who lived in small towns and rural areas, too. Now those people could order goods from many different places. Railroads played a major role in settling the West. Many cities and towns in the West were built around railroad stations. Not all of the effects of the railroad were good, though. When the railroad came, people wanted to move West. So many American Indians lost their land, and many animals, such as the buffalo and the bison, lost their habitats.

1. (Y)(N)

2. (Y)(N)

3. (Y)(N)

4. (Y)(N)

5. (Y)(N)

1. Which would be a good title for this paragraph?

(A) How Cities Grew

(B) Railroads Changed Everything

(C) Life in the West

(D) American Indian Lives

2. Which is **not** a way that railroads helped cities to grow?

(A) They supplied cities with food and fuel.

(B) They supplied cities with goods.

(C) They took people away from the cities.

(D) They made it possible to send goods to other places.

3. What does *produced* mean?

(A) made or created

(B) needed

(C) sent

(D) discovered

4. Which is a synonym for *supplied*?

(A) requested

(B) ordered

(C) took

(D) provided

5. What does *lost their land* mean in this text?

(A) They got lost.

(B) They sold their home.

(C) Their land was taken away by someone else.

(D) They didn't take care of their land.

___ / 5

Total

NAME:_____ DATE:_____

ALL ABOARD!

Until the 1920s, people mostly traveled long distances by train. Aside from horses, carriages, and boats, trains were the only way for people to get from one city to another. But in the early 1900s, cars became available. People wanted to drive cars. So, fewer people rode on trains. Today, passenger trains are not as popular as they were. But many people still take trains. Trains are still very important for transporting goods, too.

Today, people ride on Amtrak trains when they go from city to city. Amtrak is the name of the company that owns the railroad. Millions of people ride on Amtrak trains every year. Sometimes they go on short trips. Sometimes they travel across the country. Some Amtrak trains even go to Canada! When people ride on trains overnight, they ride in sleeper cars. Sleeper cars have small bunk beds in them. Trains also have restaurants so people can eat while traveling.

But people do not always travel from city to city. Sometimes they go from one part of a city to another part. Many people take trains to do that, too. Many of those trains are called *commuter trains*. That is because people who ride them are *commuting*, or traveling, to work. People often choose commuter trains because they can travel without having to drive. They can read, eat, do work, or listen to music. Sometimes, people do not have cars. Commuter trains allow them to get to work.

Trains are also very important for shipping goods all over the country. Trains ship food and cattle from farms. They also help transport goods from factories to stores. Trains also carry oil and gasoline. Sometimes, trains carry raw materials that factories need. You may not always see them or hear them, but trains do an awful lot of work.

NAME:_____ **DATE:**_____

> **DIRECTIONS**   Read "All Aboard!" and then answer the questions.

1. If a reader forgets what a commuter train is, what could he or she do?

(A) read the last sentence

(B) write the words

(C) read the title

(D) reread the third paragraph

2. Which of the following is a topic sentence?

(A) Trains ship food and cattle from farms.

(B) But many people still take trains.

(C) Some Amtrak trains even go to Canada!

(D) Trains are also very important for shipping goods all over the country.

3. What is a reason for reading this text?

(A) to learn about trains

(B) to buy a car

(C) to learn about a personal story

(D) to learn about cities

4. Why do you think trains became much less popular after the 1920s?

(A) There were not as many trains.

(B) People could buy cars.

(C) Trains became too expensive.

(D) People thought trains were too loud.

5. What does the author likely think about trains?

(A) They are frightening.

(B) They are boring.

(C) They are useful.

(D) They are not necessary.

6. Why might you travel by train?

(A) if you are going across the ocean

(B) if you are afraid of trains

(C) if you do not have a car

(D) if you are traveling by plane

7. Which question is **not** answered in this text?

(A) What is a commuter train?

(B) How many trains are there?

(C) Why are trains still important?

(D) What things are shipped by train?

8. What does riding a train allow people to do?

(A) get from one city to another

(B) go to work

(C) read while they are traveling

(D) all of the above

1. Ⓨ Ⓝ

2. Ⓨ Ⓝ

3. Ⓨ Ⓝ

4. Ⓨ Ⓝ

5. Ⓨ Ⓝ

6. Ⓨ Ⓝ

7. Ⓨ Ⓝ

8. Ⓨ Ⓝ

___ / 8
Total

NAME:_____ **DATE:**_____

DIRECTIONS Reread the text "All Aboard!" Then, read the prompt and respond on the lines below.

Have you ever ridden on a train? If you have, what was it like? If you haven't, what do you think it would be like? Explain your answer.

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