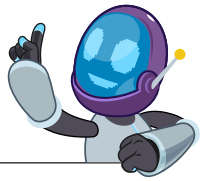
Grade 5+ • Lexile 1120L

Name _____ Date _____



Instructions: Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

1. What is the main idea of the section "Buildings Near the Water"?

Ⓐ Scholars believe the Maya chose the site for Chichén Itzá because of the presence of two underground wells.

Ⓑ Chichén Itzá was built on the Yucatan Peninsula many years ago.

Ⓒ The ancient Maya people in Chichén Itzá played a game with a rubber ball.

Ⓓ Chichén Itzá was one of many large cities built by the Maya.

2. What is one possible reason the author gives as to why the Maya built larger structures over existing ones?

Ⓐ to save money on building the structures

Ⓑ to use fewer supplies when building

Ⓒ to retain an old temple or palace's holiness or power

Ⓓ to keep the style of buildings the same

3. Why did the author write this book?

Ⓐ to inform the reader about the importance of Chichén Itzá

Ⓑ to entertain the reader with a story about tourists visiting Chichén Itzá

Ⓒ to persuade the reader that Chichén Itzá should become off limits to tourists

Ⓓ to inform the reader that scientists are done studying Chichén Itzá

4. What is one detail that supports the main idea of this book?

Ⓐ Chichén Itzá is the oldest city in Mexico.

Ⓑ The Maya lived in Chichén Itzá from around 450 ce to 1450 ce.

Ⓒ The Maya calendar systems show that they had an understanding of physics.

Ⓓ The Maya used horses and wagons to move the stones to build their buildings.

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5. Read this sentence: *While **excavation** at Chichén Itzá has revealed much, there is still a great deal to be learned.* What does **excavation** mean?

Ⓐ the remains of an old or destroyed building

Ⓑ the process of uncovering or digging out something

Ⓒ objects made or used by humans long ago

Ⓓ scientists who study the remains of ancient cultures

6. **Extended Response:** How do we know it was important for the ancient Maya to understand astronomy?

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Comprehension Quiz Answer Sheet

Chichén Itzá

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1. (A) Main Idea and Details
2. (C) Cause and Effect
3. (A) Author's Purpose
4. (B) Main Idea and Details
5. (B) Vocabulary
6. Answers will vary but should include information from pages 15–17 of the text.

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