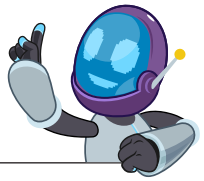
Grade 5+ • Lexile 1220L

Name _____ Date _____



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

1. Why was Black Canyon chosen as the site for Hoover Dam?

Ⓐ It was the only canyon on the Colorado River available to build Hoover Dam.

Ⓑ Its canyon walls were made of granite, which is the strongest type of rock.

Ⓒ Its canyon walls were andesite breccia, a type of rock without cracks.

Ⓓ It was the tallest canyon on the Colorado River to build Hoover Dam.

2. Why did the government build Boulder City?

Ⓐ to establish a city where desert animals would be protected from Hoover Dam

Ⓑ to provide improved living conditions for Hoover Dam construction workers and their families

Ⓒ to force construction workers to work 24 hours a day to speed up the completion of Hoover Dam

Ⓓ to establish a new capital of the western half of the United States

3. What made Hoover Dam an engineering feat at the time it was built?

Ⓐ It was built in three years.

Ⓑ It was the first dam built in the United States.

Ⓒ It was the only gravity dam built on the Colorado River.

Ⓓ Its design combined features of a gravity dam and an arch dam.

4. What had to happen before Hoover Dam could be built?

Ⓐ Workers had to lower huge buckets of wet concrete into block-shaped molds.

Ⓑ Spillways had to be built to carry high water around the dam in case the Colorado River ever flooded.

Ⓒ President Roosevelt had to dedicate the dam and give a motivational speech to the workers.

Ⓓ The Colorado River's water had to be diverted in order to dry the dam site.

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5. What is another word for **innovative**?

Ⓐ original

Ⓑ old

Ⓒ worn

Ⓓ traditional

6. **Extended Response:** How has Hoover Dam affected the lives of those living in the southwestern part of the United States?

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Comprehension Quiz Answer Sheet

Hoover Dam

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1. (C) Cause and Effect
2. (B) Cause and Effect
3. (D) Main Idea and Details
4. (D) Sequence Events
5. (A) Vocabulary
6. Answers will vary but should include the idea that Hoover Dam brought water and electricity to people in the southwestern part of the United States.

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