

Name _____

Fold back the paper along the dotted line. Use the blanks to write each word as it is read aloud. When you finish the test, unfold the paper. Use the list at the right to correct any spelling mistakes.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. _____ | 1. gram |
| 2. _____ | 2. clash |
| 3. _____ | 3. dense |
| 4. _____ | 4. dread |
| 5. _____ | 5. prank |
| 6. _____ | 6. strict |
| 7. _____ | 7. drill |
| 8. _____ | 8. swan |
| 9. _____ | 9. prod |
| 10. _____ | 10. shrunk |
| 11. _____ | 11. scuff |
| 12. _____ | 12. clutch |
| 13. _____ | 13. threat |
| 14. _____ | 14. dwell |
| 15. _____ | 15. fund |
| 16. _____ | 16. text |
| 17. _____ | 17. rank |
| 18. _____ | 18. brink |
| 19. _____ | 19. mock |
| 20. _____ | 20. plaid |
| Review Words 21. _____ | 21. stuff |
| 22. _____ | 22. batch |
| 23. _____ | 23. sense |
| Challenge Words 24. _____ | 24. guest |
| 25. _____ | 25. cleanse |

Name _____

gram	prank	prod	threat	rank
clash	strict	shrunk	dwelt	brink
dense	drill	scuff	fund	mock
dread	swan	clutch	text	plaid

A. Write the spelling words that contain the matching short vowel sound.**short *a*, as in *cap***

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

short *i*, as in *pin*

11. _____
12. _____
13. _____

short *o*, as in *hot* (spelled *a* or *o*)

14. _____
15. _____
16. _____

short *e*, as in *pen*

6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

short *u*, as in *but*

17. _____
18. _____
19. _____
20. _____

**B. Compare the words *dread* and *threat*. How are they alike?
How are they different?**

Name _____

consolation	glimmer	indispensable	perception
phobic	sarcastic	threshold	heinous

Use each pair of vocabulary words in a single sentence.

1. perception, heinous

2. sarcastic, phobic

3. glimmer, threshold

4. consolation, indispensable

1. Pass the Salt

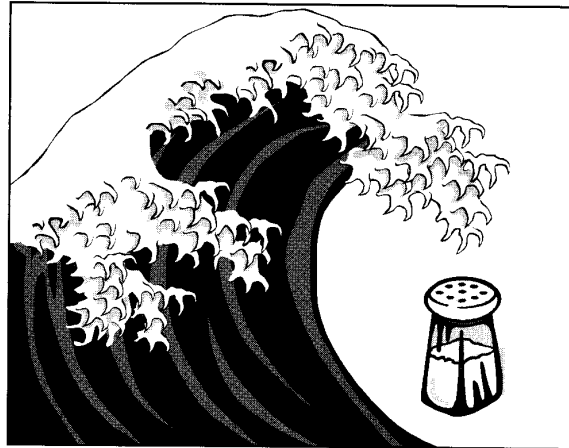
by Christine Broz

A ¹What comes from water but makes you thirsty? ²Salt. ³You may think those tiny crystals are no big deal. ⁴However, salt has been one of the most valuable minerals in the history of man.

B ⁵The human body needs salt to survive. ⁶Salt helps send nerve signals to and from the brain. ⁷Salt helps nutrients move around the body. ⁸It helps muscles work properly, and it aids digestion.

C ⁹In ancient times, you could not buy salt at the local store. ¹⁰People found it near coastal areas where ocean water evaporated and left salt deposits on the ground or underground. ¹¹It was also found in the meat of animals and fish. ¹²Many of the first cities began in areas where there was a natural supply of salt.

D ¹³Salt allowed people to keep food longer. ¹⁴It was used to preserve meat, fish, and vegetables so they could be stored and eaten later. ¹⁵Storing food made it possible for large groups of people to survive. ¹⁶The stored-up food kept them from starving during a poor harvest. ¹⁷Some of the foods we eat today—such as sausage, cheese, olives, corned beef, and soy sauce—were invented long ago by using lots of salt.



E ¹⁸Salt was so precious in some areas that it was used like money to trade goods and services. ¹⁹Marco Polo, the explorer, noted the importance of the salt trade routes that crossed China. ²⁰In Tibet, he saw tiny pressed cakes of salt used as coins. ²¹Greek slave traders traded salt for slaves. ²²African traders crossed the Sahara Desert to trade salt for gold. ²³Roman soldiers were even paid with salt. ²⁴This is where the word *salary* comes from.

F ²⁵At different times in history, people had to pay the government a tax on salt. ²⁶These salt taxes paid for wars and built empires. ²⁷As early as 2200 B.C., a Chinese emperor taxed salt. ²⁸The British empire was supported by a salt tax. ²⁹Napoleon brought back the salt tax after the French Revolution to pay for his European wars. ³⁰The Erie Canal in New York was paid for in part by a salt tax.

G ³¹The value of salt is often taken for granted, just as the water we drink and the air we breathe. ³²But without salt, we could not live.

DIRECTIONS: Circle the letter next to the correct answer or write the answer on the lines given. When asked for evidence, write the number of the sentence or the letter of the paragraph that best supports the answer.

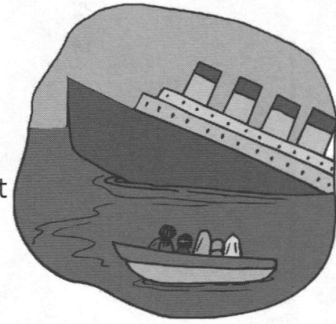
1. Which of the following is the main idea of the story?
 - A. Salt was not always easy to find.
 - B. Salt was used as money to trade goods and services.
 - C. Salt has been valuable to man throughout history.
 - D. Salt makes you thirsty.
2. What is the main idea of paragraph B?

3. What is the main idea of paragraph C?
 - A. Salt used to be scarce.
 - B. People built villages near salt.
 - C. People found salt in nature.
 - D. Salt is found in fish and animal meat.
4. Sentence 17 supports the main idea of paragraph D that
 - A. salt made food taste better.
 - B. salt preserved food for storage.
 - C. salt could be preserved.
 - D. salt made food more valuable.
5. How does paragraph E best support the idea that salt was very valuable to people in the past? It tells
 - A. where salt is found.
 - B. that salt is found in the Sahara Desert.
 - C. where the word salary comes from.
 - D. how salt was used as money.
6. Which sentence is the topic sentence in paragraph F?
Sentence _____

Which two sentences are the best evidence? _____, _____

1. Shipwrecked

¹I looked around feeling a bit dazed and confused. ²How did I get here? ³Where was I anyway? ⁴I wanted to get up, but my head was throbbing with pain, so I just laid there. ⁵Suddenly, I heard someone frantically calling, "Jacob! Jacob, where are you?" ⁶I managed to blurt out the words, "Over here." ⁷I heard footsteps running my way. ⁸It was my little sister, Melanie, shouting, "We've got to go right now, Jacob!"



⁹I rolled onto my knees and felt two people pick me up by my arms and put me into the small lifeboat. ¹⁰I overheard them talking about some sharp rocks while I slowly regained my wits. ¹¹I began to feel somewhat normal again. ¹²I looked around and saw that we were in the middle of the ocean next to a large ship that was almost capsized. ¹³There were five of us in the small lifeboat and none of us were over 13 years old.

¹⁴As the ship completely capsized, I looked once again at those in the lifeboat with me. ¹⁵"Where is Captain Smith?" I asked. ¹⁶My sister put her head in her hands and gave out a quiet whimper. ¹⁷I knew what had happened to the captain of the ship. ¹⁸"Where is everyone else, Melanie?"

¹⁹"I don't know, Jacob. ²⁰We are not sure what happened to everyone else. ²¹All we know is that we have to make it to that island over there before dark. ²²If not, we may drift off course in the middle of the night and end up even farther away from land."

²³I looked around for something that could help us as the lifeboat floated haphazardly over the cold, choppy water. ²⁴There was nothing inside the boat except three life jackets. ²⁵Luckily, I spotted a half-broken oar floating next to the boat.

Circle **T** if you are certain this sentence is true. Circle **F** if you are certain it is false. Circle **U** if it is unknown because you need more information. Add the sentence number(s) that best supports your true or false answer.

1. Jacob could have used his cell phone to call for help. T ____, F ____, or U
2. No one in the lifeboat was old enough to legally drive a car. T ____, F ____, or U
3. Jacob is 14 years old. T ____, F ____, or U

Circle the letter next to the correct answer or write the answer on the lines given.

4. Where was Jacob in paragraph 1?
 - a. in the water
 - b. on the lifeboat
 - c. in Hawaii
 - d. on the ship.

5. Number the events in order.

- _____ Jacob spotted a half-broken oar.
_____ Melanie ran over to Jacob.
_____ Jacob sees the ship sinking.
_____ Jacob doesn't get up because his head hurts.

6. In paragraph 1, Jacob felt _____, while in paragraph 2, he was a bit more _____.

- a. astonished, relaxed c. stunned, clear-headed
b. perplexed, careful d. awake, confused

7. What is the next major challenge facing the group in the lifeboat?

Circle **PT** for probably true or **PF** for probably false. Be sure to supply the best evidence that supports your answer: sentence number(s) and/or personal knowledge.

8. Jacob hit his head.

PT or PF Sentences _____ Personal knowledge: _____

9. The oar will help the children make it to the island.

PT or PF Sentence _____ Personal knowledge: _____

10. Captain Smith is in another lifeboat.

PT or PF Sentences _____ Personal knowledge: _____

11. Pirates caused the ship to sink.

PT or PF Sentence _____ Personal knowledge: _____

Finding Common Attributes

What does each group of things have in common?

1. bottle, jar, box, bin _____
2. mirror, bottle, window, spectacles _____
3. web, fishnet, lace, basket _____
4. plate, tire, coin, CD _____
5. sandpaper, burlap, bark, concrete _____
6. snow, cloud, foam, baby powder _____
7. fog, steam, smoke, cloud _____
8. cork, feather, leaf, apple _____
9. perfume, flower, vanilla, lavender _____
10. tape, staple, pin, rubber band _____
11. fur, feather, skin, scales _____
12. artichoke, cactus, rose, porcupine _____
13. river, tree, college, science _____
14. diatom, cell, bacteria, plankton _____
15. idiom, metaphor, simile, hyperbole _____