

Reading Comprehension

Directions: Read the following passages and choose the best answers.

Passage 1

Water shortage warning

State officials have announced that water restriction will be introduced starting next Monday. As a result of below average rainfall, lake reserves are now at their lowest levels in fifty years. The regional water management authority has issued the following water conservation measures:

- All water users are required to restrict their water use.
- Public and privately-owned water utilities shall restrict the monthly use of water by their customers. They may do this by interrupting supply or by advising their clients on procedures to reduce their consumption.
- Use of water for domestic gardens and yards is permitted on Wednesdays and Saturdays for residents with even house numbers, and on Mondays and Thursdays for residents with odd house numbers.
- For agricultural businesses, irrigation is now limited to the hours between 7 p.m. and midnight

1. What is the purpose of this notice?
 - a. To inform residents of water restrictions
 - b. To warn residents of weather conditions
 - c. To announce water pollution levels
 - d. To promote mineral water sales

2. Who is authorized to use water on Monday and Thursdays?
 - a. Residents who live in house number 15, 21 and 53
 - b. Residents who live in house number 20, 32 and 48
 - c. Residents with water permits
 - d. Residents with swimming pools



3. When can farmers water their crops?
- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| a. Anytime | b. Mornings |
| c. Afternoons | d. Evenings |

Passage B

The mosquito, at best is an insect we could do without, but some kinds of mosquitoes are so dangerous that they may have changed the course of history. Certain ancient Mediterranean civilizations are believed to have fallen because of epidemics of mosquito carried diseases. Early in this century, the building of the Panama Canal was almost **given up** because so many workers died of yellow fever and malaria. These are diseases **transmitted** by mosquitoes.

The male mosquito feeds on nectar from flowers, but the female must eat blood for the production of her eggs. When the female mosquito bites her victim, she pumps saliva into the bitten spot in order to make the blood flow more freely into her sucking tube. If the mosquito is one of the kinds which carries yellow fever or malaria, the germs of those diseases are carried with the saliva into the victim's bloodstream.

Fortunately, only a few of the more than 2,000 different kinds of mosquitoes can carry these diseases. Even the carrying kinds are harmless until they have bitten someone infected with the diseases they can transmit.

Two years of hard work and many millions of dollars were required to clean up the mosquito-breeding spots and free construction workers from the diseases which plagued the Panama Canal Zone. Only after these were done could the canal be finished.

1. What does the word "**given up**" mean?
- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| a. collapsed | b. changed |
| c. ruined | d. stopped |
2. What does the word "**transmitted**" mean?
- | | |
|-------------|-----------|
| a. produced | b. bitten |
| c. pumped | d. spread |



3. Which of the following statements is **NOT** true according to the passage?
- a. Mosquitoes carried diseases to ruin the building of the Panama Canal.
 - b. Many workers died of the diseases transmitted by mosquitoes.
 - c. Yellow fever and malaria are dangerous diseases.
 - d. Some kinds of mosquitoes are dangerous to human.
4. What is the main idea of the passage?
- a. The mosquito is a very small insect but some kinds of them are very dangerous to human beings.
 - b. The Panama Canal was almost ruined by the mosquitoes.
 - c. The mosquito is a small insect but it is so dangerous.
 - d. The female mosquito is very small but dangerous.
5. How many kinds of mosquitoes are there?
- a. almost 2,000
 - b. more than 2,000
 - c. 2,000 exactly
 - d. around 2,000
6. What will happen to the man bitten by the female mosquito?
- a. He pumps saliva into the bitten spot.
 - b. The saliva is pumped into her bitten spot.
 - c. His bloodstream flows rapidly.
 - d. The germs are carried with the saliva into the bloodstream.
7. What is the most suitable title of this passage?
- a. Dangers of Mosquito
 - b. Diseases Cause by Mosquito
 - c. Dead Mosquito
 - d. Female Mosquito

