

Practice Paragraph

Read the passage below and answer the multiple choice questions that follow.

The ancient city was once a bustling metropolis, teeming with citizens and merchants from distant lands. Its streets were lined with vibrant markets, where traders sold spices, textiles, and precious metals. The city's architecture was grand and elaborate, featuring towering columns and intricate mosaics that reflected the culture's artistic achievements.

Today, however, the city lies in ruins, its grandeur only a vestige of the past. Crumbling columns and shattered statues are scattered across the site, remnants that evoke a sense of nostalgia for what once was. Despite the desolation, the area still attracts visitors who are fascinated by its mysterious history.

Archaeologists working at the site are elated to uncover artifacts buried beneath layers of earth. Each discovery offers a tantalizing glimpse into the city's illustrious history, revealing stories of its people, their daily lives, and their achievements. These findings help piece together the puzzle of a civilization long gone.

Although much of the city has been lost to time, the ruins continue to inspire awe and curiosity. The perseverance of those who study and preserve the site ensures that the legacy of this remarkable metropolis will endure for generations to come.

The climate around the city is arid and harsh, with scorching days and chilly nights. This environment has contributed to the preservation of many artifacts, as the dry air prevents rapid decay. However, it also makes excavation difficult, requiring archaeologists to work tirelessly under the blazing sun.

Local legends speak of the city's downfall, attributing it to a catastrophic earthquake that shattered its foundations. While these stories may be exaggerated, geological evidence supports the occurrence of seismic activity in the region centuries ago. Such natural disasters remind us of the fragile nature of human achievements.

In recent years, technology has revolutionized the study of the site. Using drones and ground-penetrating radar, researchers can explore areas previously inaccessible. These innovations have accelerated discoveries, deepening our understanding of the city's layout and the lives of its inhabitants.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. What does the word “**metropolis**” most likely mean in this passage?
 - 1. A small village
 - 1. A large, busy city
 - 1. A deserted area
 - 1. A marketplace
2. The word “**vestige**” in the passage means:
 - 1. A new beginning
 - 1. A remaining trace
 - 1. A loud noise
 - 1. A celebration
3. The word “**remnants**” refers to:
 - 1. Builders of the city
 - 1. Statues and columns left behind
 - 1. New buildings
 - 1. Citizens of today
4. The word “**elated**” as used in the passage means:
 - 1. Angry
 - 1. Confused
 - 1. Very happy
 - 1. Tired
5. What does the word “**illustrious**” suggest about the city’s history?
 - 1. It was unknown
 - 1. It was unimportant
 - 1. It was famous and admired
 - 1. It was short-lived
6. What does “**arid**” most likely mean in the passage?
 - 1. Wet and rainy
 - 1. Dry and harsh
 - 1. Cold and snowy
 - 1. Warm and humid
7. According to the passage, what caused the city’s downfall according to local legends?
 - 1. Flood
 - 1. Earthquake
 - 1. War
 - 1. Fire
8. How has technology helped archaeologists at the site?
 - 1. By building new structures
 - 1. By allowing exploration of inaccessible areas
 - 1. By cleaning the ruins
 - 1. By stopping natural disasters