PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOL #25

SUMMER REVIEW PACKAGES FOR SIXTH GRADE STUDENTS

23-24

THIS PACKAGE INCLUDES:

SOCIAL STUDIES AND SCIENCES

MR.TAYLOR-KAMARA

Electromagnets

By Kathleen W. Redman

1 You know what a magnet is. It is a piece of metal, often iron or an iron alloy, that attracts and pushes other pieces of metal that contain iron. A magnet also attracts and repels other magnets. A magnet has many uses.

2 Let's say you want to lift something very heavy with a magnet. You want to move a car. You would need a really big, strong magnet for that. Once you get that big magnet to lift the car, how would you get it off the car? If it's strong enough to lift a car, you couldn't do it yourself. You would need a group of people, maybe fifty or a hundred people to move the magnet! So maybe a magnet isn't the right tool for the job.

3 That's only partially correct. A magnet is a great tool for lifting heavy things. However, a permanent magnet is not the solution. An electromagnet is what you need.

4 An electromagnet is made up of a few parts. There is an iron core, like an iron rod. A metal wire (usually copper) is wrapped around the iron core. The iron bar, like all other things, is made up of atoms. Iron atoms contain negatively charged particles called electrons. Electrons move around the atom. This creates a small magnetic field. In most atoms electrons are found in pairs. In pairs of electrons, the magnetic fields cancel each other out. Iron, however, is special. has four *unpaired electrons* , each of which has its own tiny magnetic field. Normally, these electrons are not organized. All magnetic fields are oriented in different directions. When an electric current passes through the electromagnet wire, the electricity in the wire aligns the electric charges on the iron. Everyone looks in the same direction. The charges add up to form a strong magnet.

5 The more electrical current flows in the coil of wire, the stronger the magnet will be. The more wire you wrap around the core, the stronger the magnet. There must be electric current running through the wire, because without it, there is no magnetism at all.

6 Can you think of how this type of magnet could be useful?

[7] Think about the car you want to move. If you had a big electromagnet, you could put it on top of the car. You could turn on the electromagnet and pick up the car. When you are done moving it, you could turn off the electromagnet. Then it wouldn't take a bunch of strong people to get the magnet out of the car!

[8] One of the largest electromagnets in the world was built in Ontario, Canada. While it was being tested, a worker walked by with a knife in his pocket. The electromagnet pulled the knife from his pocket seven feet away and slammed it into his side! It can lift up to two hundred and seventy tons. That's like lifting one hundred and thirty minivans and holding them on the ground!

[9] Electromagnets can be very large and strong. They can be very small and delicate. They can lift very heavy objects. They can help send sound waves out of the speakers. They are used in many electrical devices, such as the doorbell shown in the image. Electromagnets can be found in televisions, car starters, radio towers, microwave ovens, and computer hard drives. Electromagnets are a very important part of modern technology.

QUESTIONS

1). According to paragraph 5, what two things will make an electromagnet stronger? (Repeat the question)

_____
_____

2). What is the main idea of the last paragraph of the article? (Repeat the question)

_____
_____

3). When does the iron core of an electromagnet become magnetic? (Repeat the question)

_____
_____

4). Without the electric current passing through the coil, there would be no _____.

Ⓐ Light
Ⓑ Magnetism
Ⓒ Core
Ⓓ Noise

5). One of the largest electromagnets in the world was built in _____.

Ⓐ Paris, Texas
Ⓑ Provo, Utah
Ⓒ Sylva, North Carolina
Ⓓ Ontario, Canada

6). Electromagnets can be very large or very small.

Ⓐ False
Ⓑ TRUE

7). Name three places where electromagnets are used. (Repeat the question)

_____
_____

8). The large electromagnet described in the article could lift _____ tons and keep it suspended above the ground.

Ⓐ Four hundred
Ⓑ three hundred and twenty
Ⓒ Five hundred and seventy
Ⓓ Two hundred seventy

Attraction fields and poles

By Trista L. Pollard

1 A magnetic field is the area around a magnet where
You can feel the invisible force of the magnet. This field allows the magnet to attract steel and iron objects without touching them. This invisible field can be inferred based on how steel and iron objects react to the magnet from a distance. For example, if you place a paper clip on a table near a magnet, the paper clip will be attracted to the force field and therefore move towards the magnet. Attraction at a distance has occurred.

2 Magnets come in a variety of shapes and sizes. Common shapes are bars, letters (U and V), horseshoes, and cylinders. The force field, which is strongest at the poles or ends of the magnet, surrounds the entire magnet. Magnets that are shaped like horseshoes or the letters U or V are more powerful than other shapes of simple magnets. The two ends of the magnet still attract each other, just as they do with a bar magnet. Since the two poles are much closer together, the magnet's attraction is much stronger. How do we locate the limits of a magnet's force field? The magnetic field loses strength rapidly as the distance between an object and a magnet increases. However, the magnetic field is still there, even though we cannot observe it. For our purposes, we will say that the magnet's force field ends when we can no longer see its effect on steel and iron objects, such as a paper clip.

3 We know that the force field surrounds a magnet, but does that field travel through other materials to attract objects? What do you think would happen if you put a paper clip in the palm of your hand and held a strong magnet against the back of your hand? Well, if you said the clip would move, you'd be right. Magnetic fields can pass through many types of materials, such as your hand, without losing their power of attraction. Now you understand why people can wear magnetic earrings on their earlobes. Plumbers also use this scientific principle to help them locate iron pipes in closed walls.

4 The poles of a magnet are usually labeled with an "S" for south and an "N" for north. If you were to suspend or hang a magnet near another magnet, the similar poles (north-north or south-south) would repel or move away from each other. The opposite poles of the two magnets (north-south or south-north) would attract each

other. We can apply this same scientific principle to help understand the Earth's magnetic poles.

5 Scientists believe that the Earth is a giant magnet. If you were to suspend a magnet from a string in North America, the north end of the magnet would point to the magnetic north pole. If you did the same experiment in South America, the south end of the magnet would point toward the south magnetic pole. (Both experiments would work as long as there was no interference from nearby objects or metal deposits.) Why is this happening? One theory is that various parts of the Earth's interior portions rotate at different speeds. The friction that occurs from this rotation causes the electrons to be torn from the atoms. As a result, electric currents are produced and magnetic fields are created. Since the core or center of the Earth is believed to be made of nickel and iron, scientists think that the Earth is a huge electromagnet.

6 Remember the magnetic field lines of force we talked about earlier? Well, the lines of force of the Earth's magnetic fields run from north to south, extending into space and turning downward to concentrate at the north and south magnetic poles. Imagine if you sprinkled iron filings on a sheet of white paper and placed that paper over a bar magnet. You would see the iron filings rotating from one pole of the magnet to the other with the majority of the filings located on both poles. This is how the magnetic lines of force around the Earth would appear if you could see them.

7 We have our magnet spinning in North America, and it's pointing at the north magnetic pole. This freely oscillating magnet is aligned so that it is parallel to the Earth's magnetic field. The lines of force end at the magnetic poles, so the magnet would point to the magnetic north pole in North America. However, magnetic poles should not be confused with geographic poles. The northern geographic and magnetic poles are about 1,600 kilometers (1,000 miles) apart, and the southern magnetic and geographic poles are 2,400 kilometers (1,500 miles) apart. The location of the north magnetic pole is the upper Hudson Bay region of Canada, and the south magnetic pole is near Wilkes Land in Antarctica. In terms of compasses, they do not point to true north, but instead point to the magnetic north pole. These poles are constantly changing, so navigation charts must be changed periodically.

[8] You may be saying, "I thought like poles repelled each other and opposite poles attracted each other." Well, that's still true. The reason for the confusion with our oscillating magnet is due to history. People used magnets and compasses for a long time before understanding how they worked. Early scientists referred to the north-pointing end of the magnet as the North Pole. However, the more accurate term for that end of the magnet would be the north-seeking pole, and its opposite end would be the south-seeking pole.

[9] Try experimenting with the "laws of attraction." See if you can find ways to explore Earth's magnetic fields by designing a homemade needle compass. Who knows? You may be able to use it to travel to the ends of the Earth.

QUESTIONS

1). The force field of a magnet allows steel and iron objects to be repelled from a distance.

(A) False
(B) TRUE

2) The Earth's magnetic poles are located in different places than the geographic poles.

(A) False
(B) TRUE

3). Explain why horseshoe magnets are more powerful than bar magnets. (Repeat the question)

_____

4). How could you increase the power of a magnet without using electricity? Explain. (Repeat the question)

_____

Newton's three laws of motion

By Sharon Fabian

1 Isaac Newton was born in 1643. His family was wealthy, so in some ways he had advantages over other children his age, but in other ways he was at a disadvantage. Isaac's father had died before Isaac was born, and he was raised by his grandmother and other relatives. At first he probably didn't want to learn much at school. He didn't pay attention in school and was described as lazy. It was only after an uncle encouraged him to prepare for college that he began to take an interest in school and develop his talents. One of the skills he developed while still at school was making models of machines, including clocks and windmills. At university he began studying the latest theories in mathematics. He soon came up with his own theories, and today Sir Isaac Newton is well known for his three laws of motion, as well as other scientific breakthroughs.

2 These are Sir Isaac Newton's three laws of motion.

3 *Law 1* : An object moving in a straight line will continue to move in a straight line unless acted on by an external force. Furthermore, an object at rest will remain at rest unless an external force acts on it. The word for this is inertia.

4 *Law 2* - Force will cause a change in the motion of an object. The change in motion depends on the amount of force and the mass of the object. There is a formula for this: F = ma (force equals mass times acceleration).

5 *Law 3* - For every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction.

6 These three laws will make more sense and be much more interesting if you do some experiments to prove each law. Perhaps Sir Isaac did some similar experiments when he was testing his theories.

7 To demonstrate the first law, you may want to try the old trick of removing the tablecloth from under the plates on the table. If you do it right, you will remove the tablecloth without the dishes falling to the floor. On the other hand, you might not want to try that, although Newton's first law says that objects at rest, like plates, will stay at rest.

[8] Another way to demonstrate inertia is to show what can happen when you don't wear your seat belt. A sure way to demonstrate this is with a small toy truck, a clay figure, a ramp, and a brick. Place the small clay figure on the toy truck. Place the brick a short distance from the end of the ramp. The toy truck can roll down the ramp until it hits the brick. When you hit the brick, the truck will stop suddenly, but the clay figure will continue moving forward and fly off the truck due to inertia.

[9] For the second law, there are many proofs you can do. Anything that involves using a force to move an object would demonstrate Newton's second law. You may want to try an experiment where you change the amount of force you use or change the mass of the objects you are trying to move. For example, you could assemble a small seesaw, made with a ruler balanced on a pencil. Try objects of different weights on one end and drop something on the other end to see which object moves the furthest. Or try dropping objects from different heights.

[10] The third law is fun to demonstrate. One way is with a basketball and skates. Two boys, each wearing skates, stand facing each other and throw a basketball back and forth. As each child pushes the basketball forward, it will roll backwards on its skates. That is the equal and opposite reaction described in the third law. You can also build a balloon corridor to demonstrate the third law. Tie a rope between two chairs, spaced far apart. Place an empty pen case or a section of a straw on the string so it can slide along the string. Now blow up a balloon but don't tie it. Carefully stick the balloon to the pen case or straw and then release it. The action of the air expelled from the balloon causes a reaction of the balloon running through the rope to the opposite end.

[11] If you don't feel like doing experiments, you can always observe Newton's laws of motion somewhere else, an amusement park. Roller coasters, merry-go-rounds, and bumper cars follow Newton's three laws of motion and are part of the science of force and motion.

QUESTIONS

1). Sir Isaac Newton's only discovery was the three laws of motion.

Ⓐ False
Ⓑ TRUE

2). According to the first law, an object that is still will remain stationary unless an external force acts on it.

Ⓐ False
Ⓑ TRUE

3). The formula F = ma means that "force equals motion times acceleration."

Ⓐ False
Ⓑ TRUE

4). The third law says that some actions will produce an equal and opposite reaction.

Ⓐ False
Ⓑ TRUE

5). Sir Isaac Newton probably never performed any experiments.

Ⓐ False
Ⓑ TRUE

6). A word that summarizes the first law is:

Ⓐ Inertia
Ⓑ Force
Ⓒ Motion
Ⓓ Acceleration

7). Bumper cars are an example of Newton's third law. Explain. (Repeat the question)

_____

Gravity

By Cindy Grigg

1 Gravity is a force that we experience every moment of every day. Gravity is the basic force of the universe. Every body (planet, moon, star, comet, asteroid, meteorite, etc.) in the solar system has a force that attracts things to itself. That's gravity,
the force of attraction between all objects in the universe.

2 On Earth, it prevents people and objects from flying into space. Gravity even prevents our air from floating into space! The weight of an object depends on the strength of the force of gravity. The pull of gravity is different on different bodies in space, so the weight varies on different planets or moons. For example, if you weigh 100 pounds on Earth, you would only weigh about 16 pounds on the Moon. The moon is a smaller body than the Earth, so its gravity is less.

3 Isaac Newton discovered in the 17th century that the force of gravity depends on the amount of matter (mass) in bodies and the distances between bodies.

4 The sun attracts the Earth. The Earth pulls back the sun. The sun is huge! If the sun were a hollow ball, a million Earths could fit inside it. The sun's gravity is very strong due to its large mass. However, because the sun is 93 million miles from Earth, the pull of gravity decreases in proportion to its distance. Earth's gravity pulls on the sun. The Earth remains in orbit around the sun because the forces are balanced.

5 Newton's Law of Universal Gravitation explains that there is a force of attraction between any two objects. The size of the force depends on the masses of the two objects and the distance between the two objects.

6 Newton was saying that *each* object in the universe exerts a force on all other objects. According to Newton, even your pencil and a piece of paper attract each other. You cannot feel this force because the masses of the pencil and paper are very small. Even you exert a gravitational force on other objects. Because your mass is much less than the mass of the Earth, you cannot feel its gravitational pull.

When the object is the Earth, the mass is very large. The gravitational force exerted by the Earth is what we call weight.

7 The force of gravity is what causes objects to fall to Earth. It keeps the Moon in orbit around the Earth. It keeps Earth and the other planets in orbit around the sun. Gravity holds us on Earth so we don't float away. Gravity also maintains our atmosphere. The moon's gravity pulls on Earth's oceans, causing tides to rise and fall.

8 Because Earth's gravity exerts the same pull on all objects, all objects fall at the same speed (in a vacuum). On Earth, we have air. Air resistance will cause some objects to fall more slowly than others. This works in our favor when we want to fall more slowly, for example when a skydiver jumps out of a plane. Use a parachute to create as much air resistance as possible to slow your fall. But if we drop two things into a vacuum chamber from which we remove all the air, the two things will fall at the same speed. This is true even if one of the objects is a feather and the other is a bowling ball. Earth's gravity accelerates objects as they fall. Gravity constantly pulls on a falling object, so the object constantly accelerates until it reaches its terminal velocity. Terminal velocity is the maximum speed that an object can reach. After an object reaches this maximum, the speed of the falling object remains constant.

9 Gravity has the advantage of being able to work over long distances. The sun is 93 million miles from Earth, but its gravity is strong enough to keep Earth in its orbit. The solar system's gravity keeps everything in the system, including comets and asteroids, in orbit around the center of the system, the sun.

QUESTIONS

1). What is gravity?

Ⓐ The basic force of the universe
Ⓑ The force of attraction between all objects in the universe
Ⓒ A force we experience all the time
Ⓓ All of the above

2). The weight of an object:

Ⓐ Depends on the strength of the force of gravity

Ⓑ It would be the same everywhere in the universe

Ⓒ It has nothing to do with gravity

3). The amount of gravity between two objects depends on:

Ⓐ The distance of each object from the sun

Ⓑ The distance of each object from each other

Ⓒ The weight of the two objects

Ⓓ The amount of mass of the two objects and the distance between them

4). Who first established the laws of gravity? (Repeat the question)

_____

_____

5). The gravitational force that the Earth exerts on you is:

Ⓐ your buoyancy

Ⓑ your weight

Ⓒ It's time

Ⓓ Too small to be measured

6). Gravity causes:

Ⓐ Objects fall to the ground if there is nothing to hold them.

Ⓑ The moon orbits the Earth

Ⓒ tides on Earth

Ⓓ All of the above

7). A falling object:

Ⓐ Falls at the same speed throughout the fall

Ⓑ It constantly increases its speed throughout the fall until it reaches terminal velocity

Ⓒ Constantly slows down throughout the fall

8). The speed of a falling object (without air resistance):

Ⓐ Depends on the size of the object
Ⓑ Depends on the weight of the object
Ⓒ It is the same for all objects
Ⓓ Depends on the mass of the object

What is energy?

By Patti Hutchison

1 Energy is defined as the ability to do work. Every living thing needs energy. Most of it comes from the sun. Plants are producers. They capture the sun's energy. They use it to grow and reproduce. All energy that is not used by the plant is stored. Animals are consumers. They eat plants to obtain energy for their own life processes. We need energy to be able to do anything.

2 What did you eat this morning? Did you have a bowl of cereal? A piece of toast? These foods are made from grains, which come from plants. When you eat them, you are consuming the energy that the plants have stored from the sun. This energy is used by your body. It helps you get the job done.

3 Solar energy flows through the food chain. The food chain is a diagram that shows how producers use the sun's energy. It also shows how this energy is transferred to consumers in an ecosystem.

4 There is energy around us. What do we use it for? We use it to keep warm. We use it to power our vehicles. Have you ever stopped to think about where this energy comes from? If you heat with wood, it comes from plants. Even fossil fuels like gasoline come from decaying plants and animals. Where did they get this energy that we are now using? You guessed it, from the sun! Many forms of energy can be traced back to the sun, but there are also sources of energy that do not come from the sun. These include geothermal energy, hydroelectric energy, nuclear energy and wind energy.

[5] Energy sources are natural resources. They can be renewable or non-renewable. Solar energy is, of course, a renewable resource. The sun will continue to send solar energy towards us for a few more billion years.

[6] Plant energy is also a renewable energy source. Trees are cut down for firewood to heat our homes. New trees can be planted to replace those that are cut down. If our forests are managed this way, we will have wood to use for energy for years to come.

[7] Fossil fuels, on the other hand, took millions of years to form. It would take millions of years for them to form again. These are non-renewable energy sources. Some examples are coal, oil and natural gas.

[8] There is a scientific law that says that energy cannot be created or destroyed. However, it can change from one form to another. All types of energy can be classified as kinetic energy or potential energy. Potential energy is stored energy. Think Niagara Falls. The water at the top of the falls has potential energy. Kinetic energy is the energy of motion. As the water falls over the cliff, the energy changes from potential to kinetic. Gasoline, made from petroleum, is stored in a tank underground. At this point, it has potential energy. When burned in a car engine, it makes the car move. So it has kinetic energy.

[9] We use energy to light our homes, run our machines and cars, keep us warm in winter and cool in summer, and much more. We use batteries, motors, electricity and fire, as well as other energy sources. Each of these uses different forms of energy. There are many different forms of energy, but they all have one thing in common: they have the ability to do work.

QUESTIONS

1). What is the definition of energy? (Repeat the question)

_____

_____

2). Most of our energy comes from:

Ⓐ Niagara Falls
Ⓑ Sun
Ⓒ Automobiles

3). What is a food chain? (Repeat question)

_____
_____

4).Resources such as solar energy and wood are called:

Ⓐ Fossil fuels
Ⓑ Non-renewable
Ⓒ Renewable

5).Resources such as oil, natural gas and coal are:

Ⓐ Nuclear energy
Ⓑ Non-renewable
Ⓒ Renewable

6). Mention the two major categories of energy. (Repeat the question)

_____
_____

SOCIAL STUDIES
to the Romanian Republic

Students learn about the history of the Roman Empire. Studying ancient Rome is important because much of the culture of Europe and the United States was greatly influenced by the culture of ancient Rome. When the Roman Empire was at its highest point in history, the Roman Emperor was the ruler of the area surrounding the Mediterranean Sea. Rome was not always ruled by emperors; At first Rome was ruled by a king.

Kings usually belong to a royal family and the eldest son of the current king ascends the throne and becomes the next king when his father dies. Even today, this is how the ceremonial king of England is chosen. However, the kings of Ancient Rome were not necessarily members of a royal family. Ancient Rome had a council of elders who advised the king and selected a new king when necessary. This council was called senes in Latin. This is where we get the term Senate and Senators to describe a part of our Congress.

Eventually, the Etruscans migrated to Roman territory and peacefully became the dominant society in Rome. The Etruscan kings ruled for many years until the last king, Tarquinius Superbus, Tarquin the Proud. Tarquin murdered the previous king, seized power without being selected by the council, and became a tyrannical ruler. The Romans eventually ousted him from power.

Historians call the next period of time in Ancient Rome the Roman Republic. Many people think that the term republic means the same as democracy, especially since the Pledge of Allegiance calls the United States a republic. A republic is a form of government where citizens elect their leaders and some members of society have a say in how this leader governs. The Senate elected two consuls to rule Rome for only one year.

Roman society was divided into two main classes: patricians and plebeians. Patricians were descendants of the heads of the richest and most powerful families in ancient Rome, a form of Roman nobility. Everyone else was commoner, except the slaves. The 300 Roman senators had to be patricians. The commoners eventually rebelled and were allowed to form a Plebeian Council that participated in the government. Finally, a commoner was selected to be consul.

Name_____ Date: _____

The Roman Republic Multiple Choice Questions

circle the correct answer.

1. The Roman Empire controlled the lands surrounding the
to. Mediterranean Sea
B. Black Sea
c. Caspian Sea
d. Arabian Sea

2. The next king of ancient Rome was selected by
to. Being the eldest son of the current king
b. Being the grandson of the current king
c. A vote of the people
d. A council of elders

3. Over time, Roman society passed into the hands of a new people called
The. cocks
b. the Etruscans
w. Goths
d. Carthaginians

4. The last Roman king
to. Died without a son to become the next king
b. He died without a grandson to become the next king
c. He was expelled from power
d. None of the above

5. After the last Roman king
to. Rome is called a republic
b. Rome was ruled by two consuls
c. Both a. and B. above
D. None of the above

6. The descendants of the heads of the richest and most powerful families of early Rome were called a. Senators B. Consuls c. patricians d. Commoners

The geography of Asia

Asia is the largest continent in the world. This land mass technically includes the continent of Europe, which is a giant western peninsula of Asia. Because of the great cultural differences between Eastern and Western countries, geographers are willing to consider the two areas as separate continents. Together, Asia and Europe are called Eurasia. The islands in the Pacific Ocean that lie east of the Asian continent are considered part of the Asian continent. These include the countries of Japan, the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, New Guinea and Papua New Guinea. There are about fifty countries in Asia, including the huge countries of China and Russia.

Asia is surrounded by water on three sides. The Arctic Ocean lies to the north, the Pacific Ocean to the east, and the Indian Ocean to the south. With an extensive coastline, Asia has many seas, including the Barents Sea in the north, the Bering Sea near Alaska, the Sea of Japan, the East China Sea, the South China Sea, the Arabian Sea, and the Red, besides the Bay of Bengal. and the Persian Gulf. Europe lies to the west and geographers established the boundary between Europe and Asia at the Ural Mountains of Russia, the Black Sea, the Caspian Sea and the Caucasus Mountains that stretch between the Black and Caspian Seas. The Middle Eastern countries are all located on the Asian continent, so Asia also borders the easternmost coasts of the Mediterranean Sea and the Red Sea.

An important feature of Asia is its mountains, the highest in the world. With an elevation of around 30,000 feet, the Himalayan Mountains dominate southern central Asia. Mount Everest, the highest mountain in the world, is located in the Himalayas. In fact, Asia overall is the tallest of the seven continents. The continent is characterized by high plateaus.

The two most famous rivers in Asia are the Ganges of India and the Yangtze of China. China is also known for cold deserts where temperatures drop well below zero degrees F. China's deserts include the Gobi Desert of Mongolia and northern China, the Chang Tang on the Tibet Plateau in China, and the China's Taklimakan Desert.

Name_____ Date: _____

The Geography of Asia Multiple Choice Questions

circle the correct answer.

1. Asia content includes
to. hawaiian islands
b. japanese islands
c. Aleutian Islands
d. All of the above

2. Eurasia is
to. Another name for the Middle East
b. The combined landmass of Europe and Asia
c. An Asian peninsula
d. None of the above

3. What ocean forms the northern border of Asia?
a. Atlantic Ocean
B. Pacific Ocean
w. Indian Ocean
D. Arctic Ocean

4. A part of Asia borders the
to. Red Sea
B. Black Sea
c. Caspian Sea
d. Sea of ireland

5. Mount Everest, the highest mountain in the world, is in
to. Ural mountains
b. Himalayan Mountains
c. Caucasus Mountains
d. Andes mountains

6. The Ganges River is located in the country of
to. China B. Japan c. India D. Indonesia

The rise and fall of the Roman Empire

At its peak, the Roman Empire controlled all the lands around the Mediterranean Sea. The Empire stretched from Britain and Spain in the west to Turkey in the east, south through Syria and Israel, and included the entire Mediterranean coast of Africa. The area of the former Roman Empire is today home to thirty countries. Although the Romans had a technologically advanced civilization for their time, they of course did not have the communication and transportation that we have today. Eventually, the empire collapsed because the amount of territory became too large for one ruling body to govern and control.

The city of Rome, now in the heart of the country of Italy, had its beginnings around 1000 BC. C., about 3000 years ago. A group of people known as Latins settled along the Tiber River. Historians do not know where the Latin people originally came from. As nearby small Latin towns grew in size, they eventually joined together to form the city of Rome. Rome was ruled by a king.

Around 264 BC. In 200 BC, Rome defeated other tribes, including the Etruscans, Gauls, Samnites, and Greek city-states, and controlled the entire Italian peninsula. Their civilization had already come into contact with the advanced Greeks and the Romans adopted many of the Greek ways. At that time another great empire ruled the coast of Africa, the Carthaginian Empire. Soon these two empires clashed for control of trade in the Mediterranean region in a series of three wars, known as the Punic Wars, that lasted one hundred years. The Romans needed to develop a navy to fight the Carthaginians. When the Romans finally conquered Carthage, they controlled Spain and North Africa. In 168 BC C., the Romans conquered the state of Macedonia in northern Greece and in 146 BC. C. Rome controlled the entire Greek peninsula. Rome now ruled the Mediterranean region.

Around the year 150 AD. C., Rome was at the height of its power, but in the mid-3rd century AD. Civil wars broke out between rival generals, with the Persians attacking from the east and the Germans attacking from the north. However, the Roman Empire survived, ruled by harsh emperors who imposed high taxes. This series of emperors retained control of the empire until 408 CE when the Goths of modern-day Germany conquered the city of Rome. The last Roman emperor was defeated in 476 AD and the empire divided into many small kingdoms.

Name_____ Date: _____

The rise and fall of the Roman Empire

Multiple Choice Questions Circle the correct answer.

1. The Roman Empire controlled the lands surrounding the
to. Black Sea
B. Arabian Sea
c. Mediterranean Sea
D. Caspian Sea

2. The city of Rome began approximately
to. 100 years ago
B. 1000 years ago
c. 2000 years ago
D. 3000 years ago

3. The people who established Rome were known as
to. latinos B. the Etruscans c. greeks D. Carthaginians

4. The Roman army defeated the
to. etruscans
b. galos
c. samnity
d. All of the above

5. Rome needed a navy to fight against the
to. etruscans b. carthaginians w. Goths d. Galos

6. Towards the end of the Roman Empire
to. Emperors were generally weak rulers
b. Taxes were high
c. Both a. and B. above
D. None of the above

Chinese and Western culture

Five thousand years of civilization make China one of the oldest cultures on earth. While European civilizations were experiencing what we call the Middle Ages (400-800 AD), culture in China was flourishing. For example, Chinese artisans were already making porcelain, an advanced form of pottery, in the 9th century, but the techniques for making porcelain were not known in Europe until the 18th century.

Western culture is based on Christianity and its principles. Western culture emphasizes the individual, the ambition for wealth and power, and freedom. Traditional Chinese culture values family, harmony, wisdom, and loyalty to authority. Western culture has changed many times over the centuries and there was a constant mixing of ideas between countries. Meanwhile, China steadfastly maintained an isolationist policy so its culture has not changed over the centuries until the modern era from about 1950.

Historically, Chinese folk religion is full of gods, demons, and spirits that remain in today's culture. Chinese holiday parades still feature colorful dragons and other ancient symbols. The communist regime banned all religion in 1949, but finally allowed people to practice religion again in 1982.

Ancient Chinese architecture is unique in the world. Although the cities now feature modern skyscrapers, elements of Chinese architecture are still appreciated. Chinese architecture is just one element of Chinese art that differs greatly from Western art. The stylized traditional Chinese art is shown in the porcelain plates image on this page. Chinese artists were creating this intricate work of art when the art was lost in Europe.

Since 1949, when communism came to power, not much music was played in China. While urban people listen to Western music, there is now interest in traditional Chinese music that sounds strange to Americans because it is not based on the same musical scale we are familiar with.

China also has a long tradition of outstanding acrobatic performances. This legacy of agility has made Chinese athletes top contenders for Olympic gold and world gymnastics titles.

Name_____ Date: _____

Multiple Choice Questions: Chinese and Western Culture

Circle the correct answer.

1. During the Middle Ages in Europe, what was happening to the culture of China?
a. China was also experiencing the Middle Ages
b. Chinese culture was flourishing
c. China was isolated so we don't know what was happening
d. Chinese culture did not exist during that time period

2. Chinese culture stayed the same for thousands of years because
to. China was isolated
b. The Chinese were stubborn
c. Both a. and b.
d. None of the above

3. Values of traditional Chinese culture
to. family b. Wisdom c. harmony D. All of the above

4. Colored dragons in China are symbols of
to. Communism b. Popular religion w. Christianity
D. None of the above

5. Traditional Chinese art emphasizes
to. intricate patterns
b. Simple patterns
c. Elements of Chinese architecture
d. All previous

6. Given Chinese performance traditions, Chinese athletes do well in
to. Pole vault b. Alpine skiing c. Gym
D. None of the above