

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

DIRECTIONS

Read the text and then answer the questions.

As we learn more about our world, we understand it better. And when we learn more about something, we are often less afraid of it. For example, when cars were first invented, many people were afraid of them. They didn't want to ride in cars. But we have since learned a lot about cars and now understand them better. So most people have stopped being afraid of them. The same thing is true of electricity. In the early 1800s, many people were afraid of electricity. They didn't know how it worked. That made them afraid. Today, we know a lot about electricity. We know how it works, so most people are not afraid of it. If you use it safely, it won't hurt you. The more you know about things, the less scary those things are.

SCORE

1. (Y) (N)

2. (Y) (N)

3. (Y) (N)

4. (Y) (N)

5. (Y) (N)

___ / 5

Total

1. The first two sentences indicate that the text is about

- (A) fear and how the world is really large.
- (B) fear and how it is unstoppable.
- (C) fear and overcoming it through knowledge.
- (D) fear and why parachuting is scary.

2. Which of these could be a summary sentence of the text?

- (A) As we learn more about things, we become less afraid of them.
- (B) As we discover electricity, we slowly drive our cars better.
- (C) People drove scary cars in the 1800s, but now they do not.
- (D) The more we learn about things, the better.

3. Which is the root of *electricity*?

- (A) electrical
- (B) elec
- (C) electric
- (D) ele

4. Another word for *scary* is

- (A) boiling.
- (B) infuriating.
- (C) boring.
- (D) frightening.

5. What is the author's purpose?

- (A) to ask questions about fear and investigate how it can be fun
- (B) to explain a method for overcoming fear
- (C) to argue that driving is scary
- (D) to allow for the dispersal of electricity

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Life was very different in the early 1800s. For example, people did not have automobiles or trains. In the early 1800s, they rode on horses or in carriages. At that time, people didn't have electricity. Most people used candles and fireplaces to give them light and heat. With the invention of the steam engine, machines could make things faster and easier. There were factories, too. They used steam power. Some people at that time were very, very rich. Life was good for the wealthy. But most people were not wealthy. In fact, over half of England's people were poor. Life was very hard for them. Many poor people, even children, worked in factories. Yet the factories were not safe; many people who worked in factories got hurt, and some even died.

SCORE

1. (Y) (N)

2. (Y) (N)

3. (Y) (N)

4. (Y) (N)

5. (Y) (N)

___ / 5

Total

1. Which image would best help a reader preview the text?

- (A) a map of England in the 1800s
- (B) a diagram of an old train
- (C) a picture of kids playing in the 1800s
- (D) a picture of a factory in the 1800s

2. Which is **not** a way life was different in the early 1800s?

- (A) There were no cars.
- (B) People had fireplaces.
- (C) There was no electricity.
- (D) There were no trains.

3. The root word in *wealthy* is

- (A) weal.
- (B) we.
- (C) wealth.
- (D) healthy.

4. A synonym for *automobile* is

- (A) engine.
- (B) mobile.
- (C) train.
- (D) car.

5. To create hyperbole, which could replace *very, very rich*?

- (A) infinitely rich
- (B) somewhat rich
- (C) rich, but only a little
- (D) very rich

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In the early 1800s, life was changing very fast. Many people moved from farms to cities. People started to work in factories. Many people didn't like the big changes. They saw that there was a lot of sickness, pollution, and poverty. They thought life was becoming too dangerous and stressful. These people thought that humans had gone too far with technology. They were afraid of what would happen if there were any more machines. One woman wrote a book about this. Her name was Mary Shelley. Her book was called *Frankenstein* (FRANG-kuhn-stahyn). The book is about a man who makes a new creature. But when he sees what he has done, he realizes he has gone too far. The book became very popular. It is sometimes called the first science-fiction novel.

SCORE

1. (Y) (N)

2. (Y) (N)

3. (Y) (N)

4. (Y) (N)

5. (Y) (N)

___ / 5

Total

1. Which literary genre is *Frankenstein*?

- (A) nonfiction
(B) science fiction
(C) realistic fiction
(D) fairy tale

2. How did many people feel about the changes of the early 1800s?

- (A) happy
(B) excited
(C) bored
(D) afraid

3. How many syllables are in the word *Frankenstein*?

- (A) one syllable
(B) two syllables
(C) three syllables
(D) four syllables

4. A *novel* is a kind of

- (A) recipe.
(B) book.
(C) machine.
(D) person.

5. Comparing technology to a monster is an example of

- (A) imagery.
(B) a metaphor.
(C) alliteration.
(D) onomatopoeia.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

MARY SHELLEY



Mary Shelley

Mary Shelley was born on August 30, 1797. Her mother died soon after she was born, so Mary was raised by her father, William. Four years later, William married again. William's new wife, Mary Jane, had children of her own. So Mary grew up with four brothers and sisters.

William was friends with many great scientists, poets, and writers. Mary grew up with books, poems, and ideas. Mary was also lucky in another way. At the time she was growing up, girls usually did not go to school. But William thought that girls should learn just the same way boys did. So Mary got a good education.

One of William's friends was a poet. His name was Percy Shelley. Percy and Mary became friends and then fell in love. They got married

when Mary was only sixteen. In the summer of 1816, Mary and Percy took a trip with some friends. The weather was bad, so the group had to stay inside. One day, they decided to see who could write the best ghost story. Mary's idea for a story came to her in a dream. She would write a story about a man who wanted to create a new creature. But when he saw what he made, he realized he had gone too far. Mary's story was very scary. Everyone agreed that Mary's was the best ghost story.

Two years later, that story was made into a book called *Frankenstein*. The book became popular right away. At eighteen, Mary Shelley was a famous writer! Her book made people think a lot. It was also a good scary story. Mary wrote other books, too. She and Percy also had two children, Clara and William. After a few years, the family moved to Italy. There, Percy became a very famous poet. Sadly, Percy died in Italy. Mary went back to England with her children. She died there in 1851.

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Read "Mary Shelley" and then answer the questions.

1. Based on the first sentence, the reader can tell this text is

- (A) biographical in nature.
- (B) autobiographical in nature.
- (C) science fiction.
- (D) a scientific text on deserts.

2. What is the purpose for reading this text?

- (A) to gain biographical knowledge of an author
- (B) to learn about the character of Frankenstein
- (C) for entertainment
- (D) for entertainment and to learn about Shelley Percy

3. Shelley wrote *Frankenstein* because

- (A) she and her friends wanted to see who could write the best ghost story.
- (B) she wanted to make her father happy.
- (C) she had many dreams and wanted to write about them.
- (D) she wanted to make a new kind of creature, but realized she went too far.

4. Mary probably wrote with

- (A) a computer.
- (B) a typewriter.
- (C) a pen.
- (D) a piece of chalk.

5. Why did Mary go to school?

- (A) because her father thought she should
- (B) because it was required
- (C) to avoid her stepmother
- (D) to meet Percy Shelley

6. Which do you think helped Mary to become a writer?

- (A) She and Percy went to Italy.
- (B) Her father thought that girls should learn just the same as boys.
- (C) Her father married again after four years.
- (D) Mary had two children, Clara and William.

SCORE

1. (Y) (N)

2. (Y) (N)

3. (Y) (N)

4. (Y) (N)

5. (Y) (N)

6. (Y) (N)

___ / 6

Total

