

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

DIRECTIONS

Read the text and then answer the questions.

“What time is it?” That sounds like an easy question to answer, but it isn’t. The answer depends on where you live. Earth rotates on its axis, so the sun strikes different parts of it at different times. There are twenty-four time zones in the world. As you go east, it gets later; as you go west, it gets earlier. So it is earlier in Chicago than it is in New York. But it is later in Chicago than it is in Los Angeles. When it’s the middle of the afternoon in Europe, people in California are just waking up. When it’s breakfast time in New York, it’s almost lunchtime in London. So, next time you’re sitting in class and feeling hungry because it’s lunchtime, think about it. Somewhere else in the world, kids are getting ready to go to bed. Other kids in other places are just waking up.

SCORE

1. (Y) (N)

2. (Y) (N)

3. (Y) (N)

4. (Y) (N)

5. (Y) (N)

___ / 5

Total

1. Which image would help a reader understand the text?
- (A) a globe of the Earth
 - (B) a map of the Earth’s oceans
 - (C) a map of the Earth’s time zones
 - (D) a map of Chicago and New York

2. Which sentence best summarizes the text?
- (A) As you go east, it gets later; as you go west, it gets earlier.
 - (B) The answer depends on where you live.
 - (C) There are twenty-four time zones in the world.
 - (D) Other kids in other places are just waking up.

3. Which word is **not** plural?

- (A) axis
- (B) kids
- (C) places
- (D) zones

4. Another word for *rotates* is

- (A) grows.
- (B) opens.
- (C) follows.
- (D) turns.

5. The phrase *the sun strikes* means that

- (A) the sun runs out of fuel.
- (B) the sun shines on.
- (C) the sun is violent.
- (D) the sun is round.

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Imagine you fly around the world starting from New York. You fly through all twenty-four time zones on Earth. You fly west, so it gets earlier as you go. You gain an hour each time you pass through a time zone. Now, imagine you have flown all around the world and you land back in New York. Remember that you lost an hour each time you flew through a time zone. Does that mean you land on the same day you left? No—you have been in the plane for twenty-four hours, so it is a day later. How can that be, if you lost an hour for each time zone? The answer is the International Date Line. The International Date Line is an imaginary line like the equator. It runs from north to south through the Pacific Ocean. This line divides one day from the next day. So if it is Wednesday on the east side of the line, it is Tuesday on the west side.

SCORE

1. (Y) (N)

2. (Y) (N)

3. (Y) (N)

4. (Y) (N)

5. (Y) (N)

___ / 5

Total

1. Which title best fits the text?

- (A) The International Date Line
- (B) Date Line
- (C) Same Day You Left
- (D) Arriving Where You Started

2. What happens as you fly west?

- (A) You get motion sickness.
- (B) You gain an hour at each time zone.
- (C) You fly too fast.
- (D) You go to the wrong place.

3. Which syllable is stressed in the word *imaginary*?

- (A) the first syllable
- (B) the second syllable
- (C) the third syllable
- (D) the fourth syllable

4. *Earlier* and *later* are

- (A) antonyms.
- (B) synonyms.
- (C) rhymes.
- (D) nouns.

5. The author most likely wrote this to

- (A) entertain an audience and talk about time.
- (B) inform an audience about the International Date Line.
- (C) talk about the Pacific Ocean and imaginary lines.
- (D) remind you to wear a watch when flying.

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DIRECTIONS

Read the text and then answer the questions.

How did time zones start? Why were they created? Long ago, each small community had a different way of using the sun to keep time. When people began to use trains, this became a problem. There was no good way to make a train schedule. And so each community kept time in a different way. Sir Sandford Fleming was a Canadian railroad planner. He came up with a solution to this problem. His idea was a system of time zones that everyone would use. Each town's time zone would depend on where it was located. In 1884, people from twenty-seven countries had a meeting in Washington, DC. They decided where those time zones would be. Now, the world is divided into twenty-four time zones. No matter where you are going, you can know what time it will be when you get there.

1. After reading the first sentence, a reader might predict that

- (A) the text will be about how time zones were decided upon.
- (B) the text will discuss why time zones were needed.
- (C) the text will be about the creation of time zones.
- (D) all of the above

2. If this were found in a book on keeping time, what chapter might it be found in?

- (A) The Need for International Time
- (B) The Rise of the Digital Clock
- (C) Measuring Time with Precision
- (D) Trains Know the Time

3. The root word in *countries* is

- (A) count.
- (B) country.
- (C) county.
- (D) none of the above

4. *Came up with* means

- (A) did not like.
- (B) could not think of.
- (C) thought of.
- (D) asked for.

5. What is the author's purpose?

- (A) to persuade
- (B) to entertain
- (C) to instruct
- (D) to inform

SCORE

1. (Y) (N)

2. (Y) (N)

3. (Y) (N)

4. (Y) (N)

5. (Y) (N)

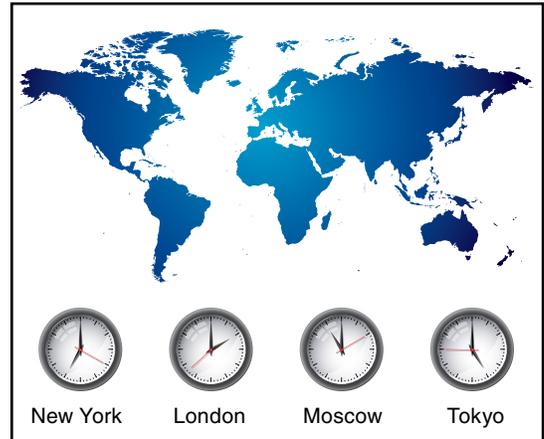
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Total

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WHAT TIME IS IT?

Today, cars, trains, and airplanes go all over the world. They cross every time zone. There are twenty-four standard time zones in the world. Those zones are divided by time zone lines. Time zone lines are imaginary, like the International Date Line. So you cannot see them when you cross them. But they separate one time zone from the next. Time zone lines run from north to south. Places that are in the same time zone have the same time. Even places that are far away from each other might have the same time if they are in the same time zone. For example, Mexico City is in Mexico, and Winnipeg is in Canada. They are very far apart. But it's the same time in Mexico City as it is in Winnipeg; they are in the same time zone.



Many places change their clocks twice a year. In the spring, clocks are moved forward by one hour. That's called *daylight saving time*. In the autumn, people set their clocks back again to standard time. People do this because in many parts of the world, days get longer during the summer. Setting clocks ahead allows people to have more daylight at the end of the day.

This chart shows the time in some other places when it is noon on Thursday in Los Angeles.

City, Country	Day	Time
Los Angeles, United States	Thursday	12:00 P.M.
Mexico City, Mexico	Thursday	2:00 P.M.
New York, United States	Thursday	3:00 P.M.
La Paz, Bolivia	Thursday	3:00 P.M.
London, England	Thursday	8:00 P.M.
Cairo, Egypt	Thursday	9:00 P.M.
Moscow, Russia	Thursday	11:00 P.M.
Auckland, New Zealand	Friday	8:00 A.M.

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Read "What Time Is It?" and then answer the questions.

1. What does the chart at the end of the article show?

- (A) only cities in North America
- (B) a train schedule
- (C) the times at different locations
- (D) a calendar

2. The purpose for reading this text is mostly

- (A) to learn about the different time zones in the world.
- (B) to learn about the International Date Line.
- (C) to learn about moving clocks forward in the springtime.
- (D) to learn about clocks.

3. When are clocks moved forward an hour?

- (A) in the spring
- (B) at standard time
- (C) in the winter
- (D) on Thursdays

4. If there were no time zones, then

- (A) it would only cause small problems during travel.
- (B) no one could tell what time it was as they traveled the globe.
- (C) discussing when to do things with people who live far away would be easier.
- (D) nothing would change; they aren't very useful.

5. What is the main idea?

- (A) Airplanes travel all over the world.
- (B) It is Thursday in Mexico City.
- (C) Daylight savings time happens in the spring.
- (D) There are twenty-four hour time zones.

6. From the chart, it is _____ in Cairo than it is in London.

- (A) later
- (B) cooler
- (C) earlier
- (D) sooner

SCORE

1. (Y) (N)

2. (Y) (N)

3. (Y) (N)

4. (Y) (N)

5. (Y) (N)

6. (Y) (N)

___ / 6

Total

