

Name _____ Date _____

Instructions: Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

1. Scientists are collecting seeds in a fortress near the North Pole so they can _____.
 - (A) work on food crops far from big cities
 - (B) make sure that the food supply stays safe
 - (C) study how the seeds change due to the cold
 - (D) store all the seeds for countries that are going to war

2. One of the best reasons for the location of the seed vault is that _____.
 - (A) it is at sea level, which protects against flooding
 - (B) people can reach it on regular airplane flights
 - (C) the permafrost helps keep the seeds cold naturally
 - (D) the thick rock prevents fire from destroying the seeds

3. The author included "Diagram of the Svalbard Global Seed Vault" to _____.
 - (A) show the location of the seed vault in the Arctic Circle
 - (B) explain the process of preparing seeds for the vault
 - (C) point out the different areas inside the vault
 - (D) describe the kinds of seeds that can be stored in the vault

4. According to the text, which of the following may lead to a seed collection being lost?
 - (A) a freezer not working right
 - (B) ground that is always frozen
 - (C) storing seeds in an old coal mine
 - (D) a lack of heavy foil to store the seeds

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5. Which of the following provides unofficial security for the seed vault?
 - (A) security cameras
 - (B) locked doors
 - (C) polar bears
 - (D) people from each country

6. One significant effect of storing different kinds of rice and wheat is that some seeds may be _____ than others.
 - (A) more affordable
 - (B) less nutritious
 - (C) more affected by a disease
 - (D) less affected by a disease

7. Which of the following phrases from the text help readers understand the meaning of **food security**?
 - (A) *goal of the seed vault*
 - (B) *food they can count on*
 - (C) *that in the future*
 - (D) *people will have*

8. Norway decided to make more improvements to help keep seeds safe after permafrost melted, causing water to _____.
 - (A) collect at the vault's entrance
 - (B) reach into the vault's main tunnel
 - (C) be removed by water pumps
 - (D) put the seeds in danger

9. According to the sidebar "Global Warming," the main cause of global warming is _____.
 - (A) bad weather
 - (B) human activity
 - (C) animal communities
 - (D) carbon dioxide

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10. What was the author's main purpose for writing *The Arctic Seed Vault*?

- Ⓐ to persuade more countries to store seeds in the vault
- Ⓑ to describe how global warming is affecting different types of seeds
- Ⓒ to answer a question about which seeds can be stored in the vault
- Ⓓ to explain the purpose of storing seeds in the vault

11. **Extended Response:** Why does the author say, "The extinction of any form of life is a great loss to all of Earth"?

12. **Extended Response:** Explain three reasons why the location of the Arctic Seed Vault was chosen.

Quick Check Answer Sheet

The Arctic Seed Vault

Main Comprehension Skill: Main Idea and Details

1. Ⓑ Cause and Effect
2. Ⓒ Cause and Effect
3. Ⓒ Author's Purpose
4. Ⓐ Cause and Effect
5. Ⓒ Main Idea and Details
6. Ⓓ Cause and Effect
7. Ⓑ Vocabulary
8. Ⓐ Cause and Effect
9. Ⓑ Cause and Effect
10. Ⓓ Author's Purpose
11. Answers will vary. Example:
The author says this to help the reader see the importance of keeping seeds safe. Extinction is permanent and cannot be reversed, so it is important to protect all types of plants and animals.
12. Answers will vary. Example: *The location for the seed vault was chosen because the permafrost helps keep the seeds cold, the elevation helps protect the seeds from flooding, and it is far away from big cities but still reachable.*