

Passage 2

Icebergs are among nature's most spectacular creations, and yet most people have never seen one. A vague air of mystery envelops them. They come into being somewhere-in faraway, frigid waters, amid thunderous noise and splashing turbulence, which in most cases no one hears or sees. They exist only a short time and then slowly waste away just a unnoticed.

Objects of sheerest beauty, they have been called. Appearing in an endless variety of shapes they may be dazzlingly white, or they may be glassy blue, green. or purple, tinted faintly or in darker hues. They are graceful, stately, inspiring-in calm, sunlit seas.

But they are also called frightening and dangerous, and that they are-in the night, in the fog, and in storms. Even in clear weather one is wise to stay a safe distance away from them. Most of their bulk is hidden below the water, so their underwater parts may extend out far beyond the visible top. Also, they may roll over unexpectedly, churning the waters around them.

Icebergs are parts of glaciers that break off, drift into the water, float about awhile, and finally melt. Icebergs afloat today are made of snowflakes that have fallen over long ages of time. They embody snows that drifted down hundreds, or many thousands, or in some cases maybe a million years ago. The snows fell in polar regions and on cold mountains, where they melted only a little or not at all, and so collected to great depths over the years and centuries.

As each year's snow accumulation lay on the surface, evaporation and melting caused the snowflakes slowly to lose their feathery points and become tiny grains of ice. When new snow fell on top of the old, it too turned to icy grains. So blankets of snow and ice grains mounted layer upon layer and were of such great thickness that the weight of the upper layers compressed the lower ones. With time and pressure from above, the many small ice grains joined and changed to larger crystals, and eventually the deeper crystals merged into a solid mass of ice.

1. Which of the following is the best title for the passage?
(A) The Melting of Icebergs
(B) The Nature and Origin of Icebergs
(C) The Size and Shape of Icebergs
(D) The Dangers of Icebergs
2. The author states that icebergs are rarely seen because they are
(A) surrounded by fog
(B) hidden beneath the mountains
(C) located in remote regions of the world
(D) broken by waves soon after they are formed
3. The passage mentions all of the following colors for icebergs EXCEPT
(A) yellow
(B) blue
(C) green
(D) purple
4. According to the passage, icebergs are dangerous because they
(A) usually melt quickly
(B) can turn over very suddenly
(C) may create immense snowdrifts
(D) can cause unexpected avalanches
5. According to the passage, icebergs originate from a buildup of
(A) turbulent water
(B) feathers
(C) underwater pressure
(D) snowflakes
6. The formation of an iceberg is most clearly analogous to which of the following activities?
(A) Walking on fluffy new snow, causing it to become more compact and icy
(B) Plowing large areas of earth, leaving the land flat and barren

- (C) Skating across a frozen lake and leaving a trail behind
 (D) Blowing snow into one large pile to clear an area
7. In line 23, the expression "from above" refers to
 (A) sunlit seas (B) polar regions
 (C) weight of mountains (D) layers of ice and snow
8. The attitude of the author toward icebergs is one of
 (A) disappointment (B) humor (C) disinterest (D) wonder

Passage 3

Born in 1830 in rural Amherst, Massachusetts, Emily Dickinson spent her entire life in the household of her parents. Between 1858 and 1862, it was later discovered, she wrote like a person possessed, often producing a poem a day. It was also during this period that her life was transformed into the myth of Amherst.

Withdrawing more and more, keeping to her room sometimes even refusing to see visitors who called, she began to dress only in white—a habit that added to her reputation as an eccentric.

In their determination to read Dickinson's life in terms of a traditional romantic plot biographers have missed the unique pattern of her life—her struggle to create a female life not yet imagined by the culture in which she lived. Dickinson was not the innocent, lovelorn and emotionally fragile girl sentimentalized by the Dickinson myth and popularized by William Luce's 1976 play, *The Belle of Amherst*. Her decision to shut the door on Amherst society in the 1950's transformed her house into a kind of magical realm in which she was free to engage her poetic genius. Her seclusion was not the result of a failed love affairs but rather a part of a more general pattern of renunciation through which she, in her quest for self—sovereignty, carried on an argument with the Puritan fathers, attacking with wit and irony their cheerless Calvinist doctrine, their stern patriarchal God, and their rigid notions of "true womanhood."

1. What is the author's main purpose in the passage?
 (A) To interpret Emily Dickinson's eccentric behavior
 (B) To promote the popular myth of Emily Dickinson
 (C) To discuss Emily Dickinson's failed love affair
 (D) To describe the religious climate in Emily Dickinson's time
2. According to the passage, the period from 1858 to 1862 was for Emily Dickinson a period of great
 (A) tragedy (B) sociability
 (C) productivity (D) frivolity
3. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as being one of Emily Dickinson's eccentricities?
 (A) Refusing to eat (B) Wearing only white
 (C) Avoiding visitors (D) Staying in her room
4. According to the passage, biographers of Emily Dickinson have traditionally
 (A) criticized most of her poems (B) ignored her innocence and emotional fragility
 (C) seen her life in romantic terms (D) blamed her parents for restricting her activities
5. Why does the author mention William Luce's play *The Belle of Amherst*?
 (A) To give an example of the sentimentalized Emily Dickinson myth
 (B) To show how popular Emily Dickinson's poems have become
 (C) To show that Emily Dickinson was also an actress

(D) To illustrate the theatrical quality of Emily Dickinson's poems

6. The author implies that many people attribute Emily Dickinson's seclusion to
- (A) physical illness
 - (B) a failed love affair
 - (C) religious fervor
 - (D) her dislike of people
7. The author suggests all of the following as reasons for Emily Dickinson's unusual behavior EXCEPT the
- (A) struggle to create a new female identity
 - (B) desire to develop her genius undisturbed
 - (C) search for her own independence
 - (D) attempt to draw attention to her poetry
8. It can be inferred from the passage that Emily Dickinson lived in a society that was characterized by
- (A) strong Puritan beliefs
 - (B) equality of men and women
 - (C) the encouragement of nonconformity
 - (D) the appreciation of poetic creativity