

Passage 2

Steamships were first introduced into the United States in 1807, and John Molson built the first steamship in Canada (then called British North America) in 1809. By the 1830's dozens of steam vessels were in use in Canada. They offered the traveler reliable transportation in comfortable facilities—a welcome alternative to stagecoach travel, which at the best of times

could only be described as wretched. This commitment to dependable river transport became entrenched with the investment of millions of dollars for the improvement of waterways, which included the construction of canals and lock systems. The Lachine and Welland canals, two of the most important systems, were opened in 1825 and 1829, respectively. By the time that Upper and Lower Canada were united into the Province of Canada in 1841, the public debt for canals was more than one hundred dollars per capita, an enormous sum for the time. But it may not seem such a great amount if we consider that improvements allowed steamboats to remain practical for most commercial transport in Canada until the mid-- nineteenth century.

1. What is the main purpose of the passage?
(A) To contrast travel by steamship and stagecoach
(B) To criticize the level of public debt in nineteenth - century Canada -
(C) To describe the introduction of steamships in Canada
(D) To show how Canada surpassed the United States in transportation improvements
2. The word "reliable" in line 3 is closest in meaning to which of the following
(A) Quick (B) Safe (C) Dependable (D) Luxurious
3. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage about stagecoach travel in Canada in the 1831's?
(A) It was reasonably comfortable. (B) It was extremely efficient.
(C) It was not popular. (D) It was very practical.
4. According to the passage, when was the Welland Canal opened?
(A) 1807 (B) 1809 (C) 1825 (D) 1829
5. The word "sum" in line 10 is closest in meaning to which of the following?
(A) Size (B) Cost (C) Payment (D) Amount
6. According to the passage, steamships became practical means of transportation in Canada because of
(A) improvements in the waterways (B) large subsidies from John Molson
(C) a relatively small population (D) the lack of alternate means

Passage 3

Archaeology is a source of history, not just a humble auxiliary discipline. Archaeological data are historical documents in their own right, not mere illustrations to written texts. Just as much as any other historian, an archaeologist studies and tries to reconstitute the process that has created the human world in which we live—and us ourselves in so far as we are each creatures of our age and social environment. Archaeological data are all changes in the material world resulting from human action or, more succinctly, the fossilized results of human behavior. The sum total of these

constitute what may be called the archaeological record. This record exhibits certain peculiarities and deficiencies the consequences of which produce a rather superficial contrast between archaeological history and the more familiar kind based upon written records.

Not all human behavior fossilizes. The words I utter and you hear as vibrations in the air are certainly human changes in the material world and may be of great historical significance. Yet they leave no sort of trace in the archaeological records unless they are captured by a dictaphone or written down by a clerk. The movement of troops on the battlefield may "change the course of history", but this is equally ephemeral from the archaeologist's standpoint. What is perhaps worse, most organic materials are perishable. Everything made of wood. hide wool. linen. grass hair. and similar materials will decay and vanish in dust in a few years or centuries, save under very exceptional conditions. In a relatively brief period the archaeological record is reduced to mere scraps of stone. bone, glass. metal, and earthenware. Still modern archaeology, by applying appropriate techniques and comparative methods. aided by a few lucky finds from peat bogs. deserts. and frozen soils. is able to fill up a good deal of the gap.

1. What is the author's main purpose in the passage?
(A) To point out the importance of recent advances in archaeology
(B) To describe an archaeologist's education
(C) To explain how archaeology is a source of history
(D) To encourage more people to become archaeologists
2. According to the passage. the archaeological record consists of
(A) spoken words of great historical significance
(B) the fossilize results of human activity
(C) organic materials
(D) ephemeral ideas
3. The word "they" in line 13 refers to
(A) scraps (B) words (C) troops (D) humans
4. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as an example of an organic material?
(A) Stone (B) Wool (C) Grass (D) Hair
5. The author mentions all of the following archaeological discovery sites EXCEPT
(A) urban areas (B) peat bogs
(C) very hot and dry lands (D) earth that has been frozen
6. The paragraph following the passage most probably discusses
(A) techniques for recording oral histories
(B) certain battlefield excavation methods
(C) some specific archaeological discoveries
(D) building materials of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries