

Read the passage from the fiction book *Shattered, Not Broken*. Then answer questions 1 through 5.

Passage from
Shattered, Not Broken

by Rosie Bensen

September.
Somewhere somebody's
picking apples . . .
. . . maybe pears.
5 I don't care.
Me, I'm imprisoned
in my own private winter,
a dark deep-freeze of
pain in my leg and pain in my brain,
10 and nowhere to run.
No WAY to run.
See, soccer is my life.
Or was.
One rotten day, one rotten play
15 in a summer pick-up game
was all it took.

I launched a perfect shot.
Sure goal, I thought.
Sure, Russell. Sure trouble.
20 I tripped. Fell hard.
I heard the CRACK,
felt screaming pain. Agony.
But that break
wasn't the hardest
25 thing
to take.

Doctor shook his head, said,
"Worst compound fracture I've seen."
Bone jutting through skin

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30 meant surgery, plates, pins,
and last, a cast.
Friends drew goofy faces
out of step with how I felt,
which was down,
35 way down.
Only science nerd Melanie
drew a frown
and hissed
an almost shout,
40 "At least you can walk!"
What was that about?
Melanie's the one
who got caught
in science class last spring
45 mixing . . . what?
. . . *something*-phosphate?
One giant **WHOOF!**
and the teacher cried,
"Evacuate!"

Reading Comprehension

Now answer questions 1 through 5 by filling in the circle next to the best answer.

1. Read these lines from the passage.

**I tripped. Fell hard.
I heard the CRACK,
felt screaming pain. Agony.**

What is an antonym for *agony*?

- A silence
- B respect
- C bravery
- D comfort

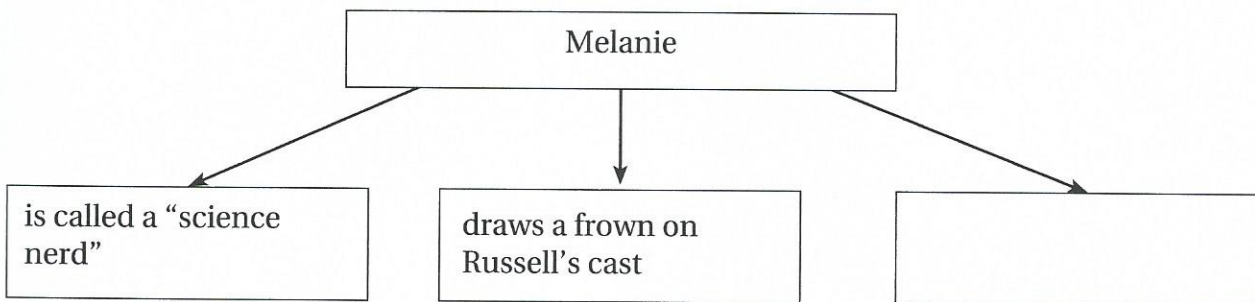
2. Read these lines from the passage.

**Me, I'm imprisoned
in my own private winter . . .**

What is the meaning of the prefix in *imprisoned*?

- A into
- B before
- C beyond
- D around

3. The chart below shows details about Melanie's actions and interests. First, read the chart.



What belongs in the empty box in the chart?

- A says, "Evacuate!"
- B says, "I don't care."
- C says, "At least you can walk!"
- D says, "Worst compound fracture I've seen."

4. According to the information in the passage, which description BEST fits Russell?

- A He feels sorry for himself.
- B He puts on a brave front for his friends.
- C He is embarrassed by how he broke his leg.
- D He appreciates everything others do for him.

5. How does the author convey Russell's feelings about being in a cast?

- A by telling what others are doing in lines 2–4
- B by comparing him to a prisoner in lines 6–10
- C by describing how he broke his leg in lines 20–22
- D by putting him in conflict with Melanie in lines 40–41

Read the passage from the nonfiction book *Jean Laffite: Pirate or Hero?* Then answer questions 1 through 15.

Passage from
Jean Laffite: Pirate or Hero?

by Jacqueline Adams

A Business Opportunity

1 In the early 1800s, Jean, in his 20s, and his older brother, Pierre, were living in New Orleans, Louisiana, which had recently become part of the United States. The brothers ran a good business, except for one thing: it was illegal. They smuggled British and European goods into the city. These foreign goods were banned, but people still wanted them and were willing to pay to have them.

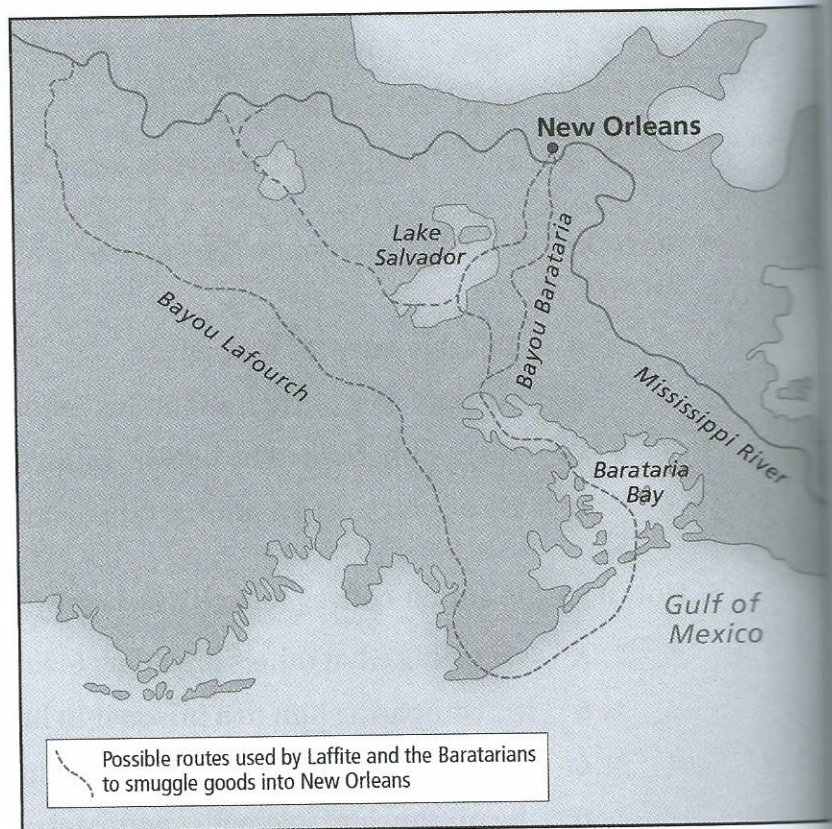
Stolen Goods

2 The Laffites' business was based in a hard-to-reach area called Barataria Bay. It was not far from New Orleans, but the only way to reach it by land was through swamps and **bayous** filled with alligators and snakes. Jean knew his way through the dangerous waters, but most people wouldn't dare follow him.

3 The Laffites and their crew stole **cargo** from foreign ships, and the goods were brought to Barataria. Jean then transported the goods in flat-bottomed boats through the bayous to New Orleans, where Pierre sold them.

4 Business boomed. The people of New Orleans loved the luxuries from Europe, and they liked Jean, too. People called this charming, handsome, and well-mannered man the "Gentleman Laffite." Passengers on the ships captured by Jean's men reported that they were treated with respect before being sent on their way.

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5 The governor of Louisiana at the time, William C. C. Claiborne, was not one of Jean's fans, however. Since the Laffites smuggled goods into the city without paying taxes, they were breaking the law.

A Price on His Head

6 Governor Claiborne asked citizens to stop doing business with the Laffites, but no one listened. Several months later, a government agent named Walker Gilbert **confiscated** goods that Jean's men were bringing into New Orleans.

7 Jean was angry. He and his men boarded Gilbert's boat and demanded the return of the goods. Gilbert fired his pistol, and one of Jean's men fired back, injuring Gilbert's assistant. Jean felt that he needed to find a doctor for the injured assistant; he was not a killer. But he also instructed his men to leave with the illegal goods. It is not known whether Jean fled or stayed to help the man who was shot.

8 When Claiborne heard about the Gilbert **incident**, he had had enough. He offered a \$500 reward to anyone capturing Jean Laffite.

9 Jean's response? He printed posters that offered an even larger reward to anyone delivering Claiborne to *him*. At the bottom, he added that he was only joking.

10 Claiborne was not amused, and the struggle between the smugglers and the authorities heated up. On one of Pierre's usual visits to New Orleans, he was arrested and thrown in jail. And soon Claiborne began planning a military attack on the Baratarians to stop them once and for all.

An Offer from the Enemy

11 At that moment, though, the smugglers weren't the problem keeping Claiborne up at night. His major problem was Great Britain. The tension between the United States and Britain had been building for years, and a long-feared invasion by the British was about to happen.

12 As New Orleans scrambled to prepare for battle, a British ship anchored off Barataria Bay. Two officers rowed ashore with a letter from the British commander to Jean Laffite. The letter offered Jean land and the title of captain if he would help the British defeat the United States.

Reading Comprehension

Now answer questions 1 through 15 by filling in the circle next to the best answer.

1. Read this sentence from paragraph 8 of the passage.

When Claiborne heard about the Gilbert incident, he had had enough.

Which sentence from paragraph 6 or 7 contains details that help you understand that *incident* means “an event or disturbance”?

- A Several months later, a government agent named Walker Gilbert confiscated goods that Jean’s men were bringing into New Orleans.
- B Jean was angry.
- C Gilbert fired his pistol, and one of Jean’s men fired back, injuring Gilbert’s assistant.
- D all of the above

2. Which is the correct way to divide the word *incident* into syllables?

- A in-ci-dent
- B in-cid-ent
- C inc-i-dent
- D inc-id-ent

3. Read these sentences from paragraph 12.

As New Orleans scrambled to prepare for battle, a British ship anchored off Baratavia Bay. Two officers rowed ashore with a letter from the British commander to Jean Laffite.

The word *anchored* means

- A set sail.
- B came ashore.
- C stayed in place.
- D moved from place to place.

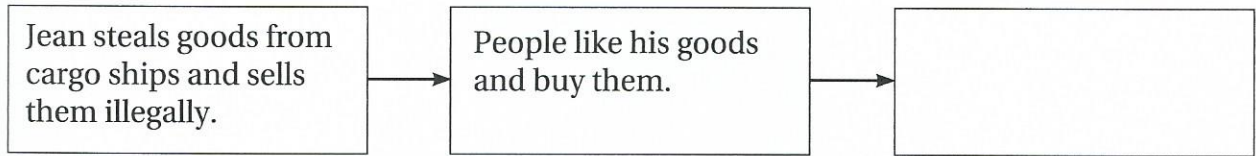
4. In paragraph 10, the word *authorities* is a plural noun that contains the suffix *-es*. What is the base word in *authorities*?

- A authors
- B authoriti
- C authority
- D authoritative

5. According to the map, how many bodies of water (including bayous) does Laffite cross to get stolen goods to New Orleans?

- A one
- B two
- C four
- D seven

6. The chart below shows events from the text in sequence. First, read the chart.



Which sentence MOST belongs in the third box?

- A Walker Gilbert's assistant is shot.
- B Pierre Laffite is arrested and jailed.
- C Walker Gilbert confiscates the goods.
- D Governor Claiborne asks citizens to stop doing business with the Laffites.

7. Which is the BEST word to describe Governor Claiborne?

- A tender
- B powerless
- C determined
- D adventurous

8. Many events in the passage take place in and around the swamps and bayous near New Orleans. Based on the information in paragraph 2, which words BEST describe most people's attitude toward this place?

- A fearful
- B casual
- C admiring
- D enthusiastic

9. A man is shot and injured by one of Jean Laffite's men. Based on the information in paragraph 7, which statement accurately describes Jean's reactions to this event?
- A Jean is pleased.
 - B Jean is filled with grief.
 - C Jean is concerned about the injured man.
 - D Jean is proud of the man who fired the shot.
10. Which of Jean Laffite's traits might have attracted the attention of the British commander and led him to ask for Laffite's help in defeating the United States?
- A his rebellious spirit
 - B his personal bravery
 - C his knowledge of New Orleans and the surrounding area
 - D all of the above
11. Which term BEST identifies the author's purpose in writing this text?
- A persuading the reader to see Jean Laffite as a hero
 - B persuading the reader to see Jean Laffite as a pirate
 - C sharing her personal opinions of Jean and Pierre Laffite
 - D informing and entertaining the reader about an interesting historical figure
12. This passage is biography. Because of this the reader can tell that
- A the subject is not the author.
 - B all of the people are fictional.
 - C the events happened very recently.
 - D the text contains many facts and no opinions.
13. Which sentence expresses a main idea from paragraph 1?
- A People are full of contradictions.
 - B The Laffite brothers were criminals.
 - C Louisiana was a new part of the United States.
 - D Americans are often interested in foreign goods.

14. What causes Governor Claiborne to plan a military attack on the Baratarians?

- A Walker Gilbert's assistant is shot.
- B He is eager to get the nation involved in a military conflict.
- C The people of New Orleans loved the luxuries from Europe.
- D A variety of measures have failed to stop them from smuggling.

15. Which term identifies the way the author has organized the text?

- A description
- B causes and effects
- C problems and solutions
- D comparison and contrast

Read the nonfiction passage “Junko Tabei Conquers Everest.” Then answer questions 1 through 5.

Junko Tabei Conquers Everest

1 A loud rumble jolted Junko Tabei awake. It was half past midnight on May 4, 1975. Tabei and fourteen other mountain climbers, all Japanese women, had been sleeping at their camp over 21,300 feet above sea level. They were on a journey to be the first women to reach the top of Mount Everest, Earth’s highest mountain. Tabei knew the rumble she heard could ruin their plans and even take their lives. It was an avalanche!

2 Tabei and the four other women in her tent were thrown out of bed. They were soon trapped under a sea of snow and ice that had come crashing down on them. After what seemed like forever, the rumbling stopped. Incapable of moving, Tabei feared this would be a sad end to her journey. Then she blacked out.

3 When she woke up, she was in a great deal of pain but glad to be alive. The native Sherpa guides had dug the women out. Luckily, none of the climbers had life-threatening injuries, but Tabei was covered with bruises and had wrenched her back and legs. She had to rest a few days before she could even get out of bed. Even so, she was determined to remain the group’s climbing leader. The women continued their ascent, with Tabei at the front of the line. The climb was so difficult for her that she often had to crawl on her hands and knees.

4 With sheer willpower, Tabei led her team to the summit of the mountain twelve days later. She had become the first woman to conquer Everest. Because she was in such pain, any joy she might have felt was eclipsed by relief. The thrill of success was also dampened by the thought that she still had to make her way down. But nothing could dampen her love of climbing. In 1992, she became the first woman to climb the tallest mountains in all seven of the world’s major regions.

Reading Comprehension

Now answer questions 1 through 5 by filling in the circle next to the best answer.

1. Read these sentences from paragraph 4 of the passage.

Because she was in such pain, any joy she might have felt was eclipsed by relief. The thrill of success was also dampened by the thought that she still had to make her way down.

A synonym for *eclipsed* is

- A produced.
- B maintained.
- C strengthened.
- D overshadowed.

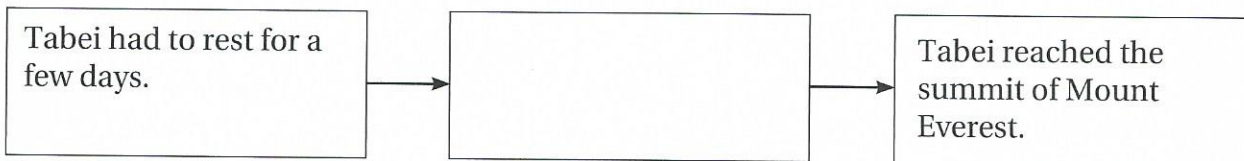
2. Read this sentence from paragraph 2 of the passage.

Incapable of moving, Tabei feared this would be a sad end to her journey.

What does the prefix mean in the word *incapable*?

- A not
- B very
- C also
- D again

3. The chart below shows events in sequence. First, read the chart.



Which event belongs in the empty box in the chart?

- A Tabei was trapped under snow and ice.
- B Tabei heard the rumble of an avalanche.
- C Tabei often had to crawl in order to climb.
- D Tabei was thrown from her bed in her tent.

4. Which word BEST describes Junko Tabei?

- A inventive
- B agreeable
- C good-hearted
- D strong-minded

5. This passage is the type of nonfiction meant to

- A explain an idea.
- B relate a true story.
- C describe a location.
- D persuade the reader.

Read the nonfiction passage “The Planets of Our Solar System.” Then answer questions 1 through 15.

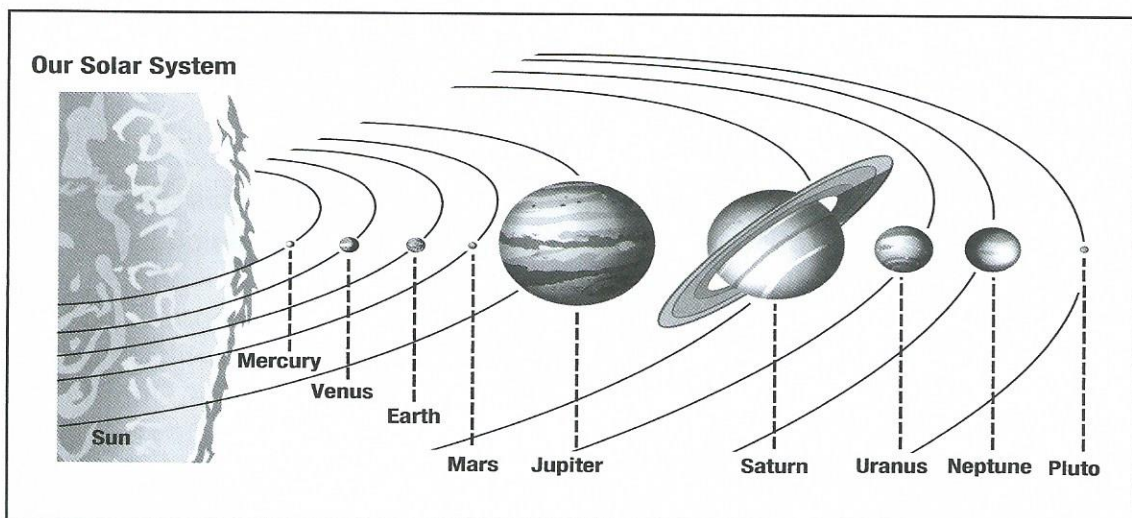
The Planets of Our Solar System

- 1 Long ago, stargazers observed points of light that seemed to move among the stars. They called these objects **planets**, meaning “wanderers.” The planets were named after Roman gods—Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn. Later, with the aid of telescopes, astronomers discovered Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto.

The Inner Planets

- 2 All planets orbit the sun as part of our solar system. The inner planets are the four closest to the sun—Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars. With their solid rocky surfaces, they are also called **terrestrial planets**.
- 3 Closest to the Sun is Mercury, the smallest inner planet. It has almost no atmosphere, and its surface is roasted by the Sun. That surface is covered with craters like the surface of our moon. Mercury’s fast orbit around the Sun gives it the shortest year of any planet—only eighty-eight Earth days. While its years are short, its days are long. Mercury takes almost fifty-nine Earth days to rotate once on its axis.
- 4 The next planets out from the sun are Venus and Earth, sometimes called twins. They’re alike in that they have almost the same size and mass. Both have volcanoes, mountains, and flat plains, also. But Venus has a very dry surface, whereas Earth features many oceans. The thick, poisonous atmosphere on Venus keeps its surface even hotter than Mercury’s. On the other hand, Earth’s atmosphere is perfect to support life. And though Earth can boast the largest

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moon of any of the planets, Venus has the longest planetary day—243 Earth days. Its year is only 224.7 Earth days. A day on Venus lasts longer than a year!

5 The last of the inner planets is Mars. This planet's atmosphere is very thin—200 times thinner than Earth's. The surface of Mars includes giant volcanoes, canyons, and valleys. It also has ice caps made of a mixture of water and carbon dioxide. Mars has two moons, which are tiny compared to most of the moons in the solar system. Mars has a short day, like Earth's. However, its year is very long at 687 Earth days.

The Outer Planets

6 Beyond the orbit of Mars are the outer planets. They are Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune. These large planets are composed mostly of gas surrounding a small solid core. It's no surprise that they are also called **gas giants**.

7 Jupiter is the largest planet in the solar system. Its atmosphere is very thin for its size. Clouds and powerful currents create swirling bands of color. These colorful bands produce quite a dramatic sight. Jupiter is also surrounded by faint rings made from tiny dust particles. The gas giant takes almost twelve Earth years to orbit the sun, but it completes a spin in just nine hours and fifty-five minutes. It has more moons than any other planet—sixty-seven at last count!

8 Next out from the sun is Saturn, the second-largest planet. Saturn has pale orange cloud bands in its atmosphere. It also has a spectacular ring system made of billions of ice chunks. Saturn takes 29.5 Earth years to complete one orbit. On the other hand, it spins very quickly, rotating on its axis in just ten hours and forty minutes. Like Jupiter, Saturn has many moons. To date, sixty-two of them have been discovered.

9 Uranus is smaller than Jupiter and Saturn but still four times as wide as Earth. The planet has an atmosphere much deeper than the first two gas giants. The whole planet is a hazy blue-green. Uranus has a faint ring system made from dark, rocky material. Its year lasts almost eighty-four Earth years, and its day is about seventeen Earth hours. The planet has twenty-seven rather small moons.

10 Neptune is very similar to Uranus in size and substance. However, Neptune has a much more active atmosphere with many storm systems. Its icy clouds give it a bright blue color. Like other gas giants, Neptune has a set of rings and many moons—thirteen at last count. The planet's year is almost 165 Earth years, and its day is sixteen Earth hours, seven minutes.

Pluto

11 Little Pluto was considered a planet until 2006. Then its status was changed to a dwarf planet. Like planets, **dwarf planets** are roundish objects other than moons that orbit the Sun. But dwarf planets are much smaller and have more nearby neighbors in the same orbit. Pluto's orbit takes 248 Earth years and is very elongated. It actually moves closer to and farther from the sun as it orbits. It also rotates quite slowly, taking six days and nine hours to complete a spin. One of Pluto's three moons is very large compared to the planet's small size. It's half of Pluto's width!

Reading Comprehension

Now answer questions 1 through 15 by filling in the circle next to the best answer.

1. Read these sentences from paragraph 3 of the passage.

While its years are short, its days are long. Mercury takes almost fifty-nine Earth days to rotate once on its axis.

In this passage, *rotate* means

- A stop.
- B speed up.
- C spin in a circle.
- D glide soundlessly.

2. The word *spectacular* is spoken with extra stress on the

- A first syllable.
- B second syllable.
- C third syllable.
- D fourth syllable.

3. Read these sentences from paragraph 11 of the passage.

Little Pluto was considered a planet until 2006. Then its status was changed to a dwarf planet.

Which definition from the following dictionary entry fits the way *status* is used above?

status (stā' təs or stat' əs) *noun* **1** high social standing; prestige
2 legal condition of a person **3** position relative to that of others
4 level of progress in a particular situation

- A definition 1
- B definition 2
- C definition 3
- D definition 4

4. What is the base word in *elongated*?

- A el
- B long
- C gate
- D ate

5. The chart below shows information about time on two planets. First, read the chart.

	Jupiter	Saturn
planetary day	nine hours, fifty-five minutes on Earth	
planetary year	almost twelve years on Earth	29.5 Earth years

What description belongs in the empty box?

- A ten hours, forty minutes
- B sixteen hours, seven minutes
- C six days and nine hours
- D fifty-nine days

6. How are Neptune and Uranus alike?

- A They have active atmospheres.
- B They are exactly the same color.
- C They have twenty-seven moons.
- D They are similar in size and substance.

7. Based on information in the passage, what can you infer about a planetary day?

- A The smaller a planet is, the longer its day will be.
- B The faster a planet orbits the sun, the shorter its day will be.
- C The faster a planet spins on its axis, the shorter its day will be.
- D The denser a planet's atmosphere is, the longer its day will be.

8. Which word BEST describes the planets as a group?
- A drab
 - B varied
 - C stormy
 - D gigantic
9. Why is it appropriate that the author does not mention the surfaces of the outer planets?
- A The surfaces of the other planets are not at all noteworthy.
 - B Being so far away, the outer planets are unknown to astronomers.
 - C Composed mostly of gases, the outer planets don't have surfaces.
 - D The surfaces of the other planets are just like the surfaces of the inner planets.
10. From the passage, you can tell that astronomers
- A know a great deal about the planets.
 - B were wrong about many things in the past.
 - C have learned all they can about the planets.
 - D do not always use telescopes for observation.
11. Which is MOST LIKELY true of the outer planets compared to the inner planets?
- A They are much hotter.
 - B They are much colder.
 - C They orbit the sun in the reverse direction.
 - D They are able to support more forms of life.
12. Which pattern of organization is used in paragraph 4?
- A cause and effect
 - B question and answer
 - C problem and solution
 - D compare and contrast

13. Which aspect of the planets can be seen and compared in the diagram "Our Solar System"?

- A their relative sizes
- B their contrasting surfaces
- C their relative planetary years
- D their contrasting atmospheres

14. Which sentence from the passage contains an opinion of the author?

- A That surface is covered with craters like the surface of our moon.
- B Beyond the orbit of Mars are the outer planets.
- C These colorful bands produce quite a dramatic sight.
- D Little Pluto was considered a planet until 2006.

15. The author indicates a new technical term by setting it off with

- A dashes.
- B commas.
- C bold type.
- D italic type.