

READING COMPREHENSION (SKILLS 3-5)

TOEFL TUTORIAL
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B.

DIRECTLY ANSWERED QUESTIONS

SKILL 3: ANSWER STATED DETAIL QUESTIONS CORRECTLY

The passage:






Line Williamsburg is a historic city in Virginia that was settled
(5) by English colonists in 1633, twenty-six years after the first
permanent English colony in America was settled at
Jamestown. In the beginning, the colony at Williamsburg was
named Middle Plantation because of its location in the middle
of a peninsula between two rivers, the York and the James.
The site for Williamsburg had been selected by the colonists
because the soil drainage was better there than at the
Jamestown location, and there were fewer mosquitoes.

The question:

The passage *indicates* that Jamestown

- (A) was settled in 1633
- (B) was settled twenty-six years after Williamsburg
- (C) was the first permanent English colony in America
- (D) was originally named Middle Plantation

Adopted from:
Deborah, P. (2003).
Longman
preparation course
for the TOEFL Test:
The Paper Test. New
York: Pearson
Longman

STATED DETAIL QUESTIONS  		
HOW TO IDENTIFY THE QUESTION	on both paper and computer tests  	<i>According to the passage,...</i> <i>It is stated in the passage...</i> <i>The passage indicates that...</i> <i>Which of the following is true...?</i>
	on computer test only 	<i>Click on the drawing that...</i>
WHERE TO FIND THE ANSWER	The answers to these questions are found in order in the passage.	
HOW TO ANSWER THE QUESTION	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Choose a key word in the question. 2. Skim in the appropriate part of the passage for the key word or idea. 3. Read the sentence that contains the key word or idea carefully. 4. Eliminate the definitely wrong answers and choose the best answer from the remaining choices. 	

Adopted from: Deborah, P. (2003). Longman preparation course for the TOEFL Test: The Paper Test. New York: Pearson Longman

B.

DIRECTLY ANSWERED QUESTIONS

SKILL 4: FIND “UNSTATED” DETAILS

The passage:

In English, there are many different kinds of expressions that people use to give a name to anything whose name is unknown or momentarily forgotten. The word *gadget* is one such word. It was first used by British sailors in the 1850s and probably came from the French word *gachette*, which was a small hook. In everyday use, the word has a more general meaning. Other words are also used to give a name to something unnamed or unknown, and these words tend to be somewhat imaginative. Some of the more commonly used expressions are a *what-d'ye-call-it*, a *whatsis*, a *thingamabob*, a *thingamajig*, a *doodad*, or a *doohickey*.

Which of the following is **NOT** mentioned in the passage as an expression for something that is not known?





- A what-is-it
- A gadget
- A thingamabob
- A doohickey

The question:

Which of the following is **NOT true** about the word *gadget*?

- (A) It is used to name something when the name is not known.
- (B) It was used at the beginning of the nineteenth century.
- (C) It most likely came from a word in the French language.
- (D) Its first known use was by British sailors.

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<p align="center">"UNSTATED" DETAIL QUESTIONS  </p>		
<p>HOW TO IDENTIFY THE QUESTION</p>	<p>on both paper and computer tests  </p>	<p><i>Which of the following is not stated...?</i> <i>Which of the following is not mentioned...?</i> <i>Which of the following is not discussed...?</i> <i>All of the following are true except....</i></p>
<p>WHERE TO FIND THE ANSWER</p>	<p>The answers to these questions are found in order in the passage.</p>	
<p>HOW TO ANSWER THE QUESTION</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Choose a key word in the question. 2. Scan the appropriate place in the passage for the key word (or related idea). 3. Read the sentence that contains the key word or idea carefully. 4. Look for answers that are definitely true according to the passage. Eliminate those answers. 5. Choose the answer that is not true or not discussed in the passage. 	

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B. DIRECTLY ANSWERED QUESTIONS
SKILL 5: FIND PRONOUN REFERENTS

Subject Pronoun	Object Pronoun	Possessive Adjective	Possessive Adjective	Reflexive Pronoun
I	Me	My	Mine	Myself
You	You	You	Yours	Yourself
We	Us	Our	Ours	Ourselves
They	Them	Their	Theirs	Themselves
He	Him	His	His	Himself
She	Her	Her	Hers	Herself
It	It	Its	-	Itself

The passage:

Carnivorous plants, such as the sundew and the Venus-flytrap, are generally found in humid areas where there is an inadequate supply of nitrogen in the soil. In order to survive, *Line* these plants have developed mechanisms to trap insects within *(5)* their foliage. **They** have digestive fluids to obtain the necessary nitrogen from the insects. These plants trap the insects in a variety of ways. The sundew has sticky hairs on its leaves; when an insect lands on these leaves, it gets caught up in the sticky hairs, and the leaf wraps itself around the insect. *(10)* The leaves of the Venus-flytrap function more like a trap, snapping suddenly and forcefully shut around an insect.







The question:

The pronoun **They** in line 5 *refers* to

- (A) humid areas
- (B) these plants
- (C) insects
- (D) digestive fluids

The pronoun “it” in line 8 refers to

- (A) A variety
- (B) The sundew
- (C) An insect
- (D) The leaf

PRONOUN REFERENTS  		
HOW TO IDENTIFY THE QUESTION	on paper test only 	<i>The pronoun "..."</i> in line X refers to which of the following?
	on computer test only 	Look at the word X. Click on the word or phrase that X refers to.
WHERE TO FIND THE ANSWER	on paper test only 	The line where the pronoun is located is given in the question. The noun that the pronoun refers to is generally found <i>before</i> the pronoun.
	on computer test only 	The pronoun is highlighted in the passage. The noun that the pronoun refers to is generally found <i>before</i> the pronoun.
HOW TO ANSWER THE QUESTION	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Locate the pronoun in the [']passage. 2. Look <i>before</i> the pronoun for nouns that agree with the pronoun. 3. Try each of the nouns in the context in place of the pronoun. 4. Eliminate any definitely wrong answers and choose the best answer from the remaining choices. 	

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REFERENCES

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