VERMONT ENGLISH 12 · UNIT 2

Informational Text and Research — Practice Test

Vermont English 12 • 5 questions

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Source I - Water in a Dry Town

Use this reading for questions 1 to 4.

The town of Red Mesa gets less than ten inches of rain in a typical year. For decades, residents watered lawns as if rain were plentiful, and the town's wells dropped lower each summer. In 2019, the council offered rebates for low water plants, fixed leaks in town pipes, and charged more for very high household use.

Five years later, total household water use had fallen by about one fifth, even though the town had grown. Supporters credit the rebates and the leak repairs. Critics point out that farms outside town still use far more water, and they argue that household savings alone will not secure the town's future supply. Both sides agree on one point: without a long term plan, a dry town cannot keep using water as if it were unlimited.

1 **According to Source I, what is the main idea of the passage?**

- **A** Red Mesa gets heavy rain every year
- **B** After rebates, leak repairs, and higher charges for heavy use, household water use fell, but critics say farms and long term supply still need a plan
- **C** Household savings alone solved the water problem
- **D** The council banned all lawns

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2 **If a household used 100 litres a day before the changes, about how much would it use after five years?**

- A 80 litres
- B 90 litres
- C 50 litres
- D 10 litres

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3 **According to Source I, what do both sides agree on?**

- A farms use no water
- B rebates were a failure
- C without a long term plan, a dry town cannot keep using water as if it were unlimited
- D household use rose after 2019

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4 **According to Source I, which action did the council take in 2019?**

A it banned all new houses

B it stopped charging for water

C it closed all wells

D it offered rebates for low water plants and fixed leaks in town pipes

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5 **Which is a primary source for a study of a school's history?**

A a new article summarizing the school's past

B the school's original 1960 yearbook

C a modern textbook chapter

D a review of the yearbook

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ANSWER KEY

1. B
2. A
3. C
4. D
5. B

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