



# **PASSAGE 1**

## **Your Job May Be Next!**

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### **Text**

[1] The mood in the conference room was light and festive. It was just two weeks before Christmas 2002 and many of the 300 or so Dell<sup>®</sup> employees were getting set for the holidays and year-end vacation time as they gathered at Dell's campus in Austin, Texas, for a "town hall" meeting. They were ill prepared for the message that senior vice president Jeff Clarke was about to deliver<sup>②</sup>. Meetings of this sort were usually big on awards, recognition, and introductions of new products and project teams. And despite the market drubbing of tech stocks in general, Dell had posted another banner year in sales balance, Mr Clarke noted. Then came the bad news. The company was announcing new personnel "attrition goals" of 10 percent per year, about double the normal attrition rate<sup>③</sup>. These positions would not be filled in the United States, Clarke explained. They would be filled by new hires in India, China, and other countries where Dell is shifting business.

[2] Audible gasps came from the employee audience, a hi-tech assemblage of Dell software engineers, electrical engineers, test engineers, group managers, and administrative talents. A Dell employee who attended the meeting told *The New American*<sup>④</sup>: "A definite pall came over the crowd. It did not make for a happy Christmas."

[3] Although Clarke's announcement came as a shock, there had been hints of



an impending axe-fall<sup>⑤</sup>. In 2000, Dell had announced the launching of its China Design Centre in the People's Republic of China (PRC). A steady trickle of Chinese engineers, project planners, and managers had been brought to Dell's Austin campus for training, and some US Dell employees had made the trek to China for four-to-six-month stints to train Chinese personnel there. Around the Dell headquarters in Austin, employees had begun wryly referring to the "Chinese invasion" as "training our replacements". Few expected that the replacing would start so soon.

[4] Dell's new China Design Centre in Shanghai joins similar research and design centres in China, Russia and India built by Microsoft, Motorola, Boeing, General Electric<sup>®</sup>, and other corporate titans. The hi-tech centres are a distinctly new development, in contrast to the huge number of foreign manufacturing plants—especially in Mexico and China built by US companies over the past couple of decades. These early rounds of "globalization" cost millions of US jobs, but various experts assured us that this should not concern us because these were blue collar "rust belt" jobs<sup>⑦</sup>. Old technology, they claimed. Manufacturing is passé and development—these would be the clean, high-paying jobs that would keep America on top<sup>⑧</sup>.

[5] But guess what? After years of stripmining America's industrial base, US corporate élitists and their political allies in Washington, DC, Beijing, Mexico, Moscow, and elsewhere are now looking to dispense with upscale white collar jobs as well. College graduates who obtained degrees in computer science and engineering are finding themselves replaced by Third World counterparts willing to work for 20~50 percent less pay. In global corporate this replacement process is euphemistically called "outsourcing"<sup>⑨</sup>. Adding insult to injury, many of the replacement foreign workers received tax-subsidized education in US universities.<sup>⑩</sup>

[6] According to *Business Week*<sup>⑪</sup>: In a recent PowerPoint presentation, Microsoft Corp. Senior Vice-President Brian Valentine—the No. 2 executive in the company's Windows unit—urged managers to "pick something to move offshore today". In India, said the briefing, you can get "quality work at 50% to 60% of the cost. That's two heads for the price of one".

[7] *Business Week* offered this forecast: Now, all kinds of knowledge work can be done almost anywhere. "You will see an explosion of work going overseas,"



says Forrester Research Inc. analyst John McCarthy. He goes so far as to predict at least 3.3 million white-collar jobs and \$136 billion in wages will shift from the USA to low-cost countries by 2015. (about 660 words)

## Exercises

### I. Tick off the best choice according to the information given in this passage.

- All the following words can be used to describe the mood of the Dell's employees in the conference room at the beginning Except \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. joyful      B. gloomy      C. gratifying      D. light-hearted
- The message delivered by senior vice president \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. brought happiness to everyone in the conference room  
B. made all the employees in the conference room very satisfied  
C. caused a great cheer among the employees in the conference room  
D. was entirely beyond expectation of the employees in the conference room
- The purpose of the "town hall" meetings held at Dell's campus used to include all the following contents but \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. analyze the situation of stock market  
B. award prizes to the excellent employees  
C. give recognition to those who made great achievements  
D. made the introduction of new products and project teams
- Though Dell did quite well in sales, growth, and profits last year, the new "attrition goals" this year has been \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. the same      B. doubled      C. tripled      D. reduced
- The news of 10 percent of attrition rate was a great \_\_\_\_\_ to all the employees at the meeting.  
A. joy      B. wonder      C. shock      D. crash
- With the shift of its business, Dell has launched its \_\_\_\_\_ in 2000.  
A. China Design Centre      B. China Training Centre  
C. China Personnel Centre      D. China Project Centre
- Many Dell's employees considered training Chinese personnel in Austin as "Chinese invasion" because \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. they envy anyone who can do better than them  
B. they don't want to be outworked by Chinese employees



- C. they dislike seeing foreign workers at their headquarters  
 D. they thought Chinese workers have taken their job away
8. Besides Dell, many other American companies have set up the hi-tech centres in China, Russia, and India as a result of \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. modernization                      B. globalization  
 C. industrialization                      D. standardization
9. In the USA, many experts believe that manufacturing is \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. uprising      B. blooming      C. outmoded      D. globalized
10. It can be inferred from the passage that many American hi-tech companies shifted their business abroad is because of the \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. low cost of the workforce      B. high cost of land at home  
 C. high quality of the workforce      D. lack of the intelligent people at home

## II. Guess the meaning of each of the following words.

1. The word "banner" (in Para. 1) denotes an idea of \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. leading                      B. foremost  
 C. outstanding                      D. symbolizing
2. The word "attrition" (in Para. 1) has the meaning of \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. contribution to strength      B. reduction in numbers  
 C. decrease in production      D. increase in quality
3. The word "assemblage" (in Para. 2) refers to \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. gathering of things      B. attendants at the meeting  
 C. sculptural composition      D. arrangement of objects
4. The word "dispense with" (in Para. 5) means "\_\_\_\_\_".  
 A. give up                      B. deal out  
 C. distribute                      D. administer

## III. Match the word with its synonym or definition.

- |                           |                                   |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. pall (in Para. 2)      | A. fixed periods of work          |
| 2. impending (in Para. 3) | B. giants                         |
| 3. stints (in Para. 3)    | C. persons who believe in élitism |
| 4. titans (in Para. 4)    | D. imminent                       |
| 5. élitists (in Para. 5)  | E. heavy covering of moods        |

## IV. Cloze test.

Birds use many different materials to 1 nests. Some 2 use bits of grass. The tailor-bird of Africa and India 3 grass to sew leaves together. 4



birds find twigs and pebbles useful.

Building a 5 takes time and effort. But some starlings 6 Australia have had human help. People in Inham, a town 7 northern Queensland, cut rope 8 short lengths. The 9 was frayed and dyed in bright colors. Then the pieces were left for the 10 to find.

The result pleased the people as 11 as the birds. In one week the starlings had 12 a large tree into a blaze of color.

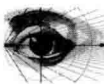
#### V. Fast reading.

Most people know that water is unevenly distributed over the earth's surface in oceans, rivers and lakes. Few realize, however, how very uneven the distribution actually is. It is important to think of the total amount of water on the planet Earth, the areas where the water occurs, and the long-term importance of the findings.

The oceans of the world cover 140 million square miles of the Earth's surface. The average depth of the ocean basins is about 12 500 feet. If the basins were shallow, seas would spread far onto the continents. Dry land areas would consist mainly of a few major island groups with high mountain ranges rising above the sea.

Considered as a continuous body of fluid, the atmosphere is another kind of ocean. Yet, in view of the total amount of rain and snow on land areas in the course of a year, one of the most amazing water facts is the very small amount of water in the atmosphere at any given time. The volume of the lower seven miles of the atmosphere—the realm of weather events—is roughly four times the volume of the world's oceans. But the atmosphere contains very little water. It is chiefly in the form of invisible vapor, some of which is carried over land by air currents. If all vapor suddenly fell from the air onto the Earth's surface, it would form a layer only about one inch thick. A heavy rainstorm on a given area may use up only a small percentage of the water from the air mass that passes over. How, then, can some land areas receive more than 400 inches of rain per year? How can several inches of rain fall during a single storm in a few minutes or hours? The answer is that rain-yielding air masses are in motion and as the driving air mass moves on, new moist air takes its place.

The basic source of most water vapor is the ocean. Evaporation, vapor transport, and precipitation make up a major arc of the hydrologic cycle—the



continuous movement of water from ocean to atmosphere to land and back to the sea. Rivers return water to the sea along one chord of the arc. In an underground arc of the cycle, flowing bodies of water discharge some water directly into rivers and some directly in to the sea. (about 400 words)

1. What is the average depth of the ocean basins?  
A. 5 500 feet.      B. 12 500 feet.      C. 23 500 feet.      D. 24 000 feet.
2. How high in the atmosphere does the weather occur?  
A. Three miles.      B. Five miles.      C. Six miles.      D. Seven miles.
3. The atmosphere is described as a continuous body of \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. gases      B. fluid      C. particles      D. oil
4. The basic source of atmospheric water is \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. rivers      B. streams      C. lakes      D. oceans
5. How much annual rainfall do some areas receive?  
A. 60 inches.      B. 250 inches.      C. 400 inches.      D. 500 inches.
6. This article is concerned primarily with the \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. atmosphere      B. ecology of oceans  
C. water pollution      D. water cycle
7. According to the author, most people realize that \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. water is distributed unevenly on the earth  
B. precipitation never falls in some parts of the world  
C. some lakes are deeper than oceans  
D. water is rare
8. We may describe the author's style as \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. factual and informative      B. light-hearted and humorous  
C. instructive and helpful      D. ironical
9. The process of water returning to the atmosphere is called \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. condensation      B. evaporation      C. precipitation      D. running
10. According to the author, a change in the ocean's depth would have an effect on \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. the size and shape of dry land areas  
B. our water and food supplies  
C. the delicate balance of the water cycle  
D. climates



## PASSAGE 2

### Hitch-hikers

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#### Text

[1] Mr Machin felt somewhat<sup>①</sup> tired. He had been driving all day, and now, the evening drawing on, he could have done with a little nap. However, he was only a hundred miles away from his destination. The food-canning firm he worked for had a rule prohibiting salesmen from picking up hitch-hikers, but he often ignored it; therefore on seeing the two young men<sup>②</sup> thumbing a lift<sup>③</sup>, he immediately pulled up<sup>④</sup>.

[2] They seemed decent enough. The thinner one with the crew-cut had an engaging smile and a polite manner. While his pal<sup>⑤</sup>, harmonica in one hand, travel-bag in the other, looked shy but amiable. In any case, Mr Machin, totally ignorant of their intentions, was happy to have someone to chat with and keep him awake until he arrived home.

[3] "I can take you boys as far as Ashville," he said after introducing himself and learning that the one next to him was Paul and the one behind was David.

[4] "Thanks a lot, sir," Paul said. "Just where we were heading. Hoping to find a job, I'm a great carpainter. Mechanic, too. Made big money. Just come from Arizona. Anything doing in Ashville?"

[5] "Well, now. There might be something I could do for you," their host said.

[6] It was an ideal set-up—just what they had been looking for. They had been hitch-hiking for the last four days without coming across a likely victim. Mind



you, they had been given plenty of lifts from truckdrivers or soldiers; once two Negro prize-fighters<sup>®</sup> in a pink Cadillac had stopped for them. But Machin suited them to a T<sup>⑦</sup>. As they drove on, he and Paul made small-talk. David felt inside one of the pockets of the leather windcheater he was wearing. The pocket bulged with a bottle of pills<sup>®</sup>, and a jagged rock wrapped up in a handkerchief. He unfastened his belt, gold-buckled and studded with multicoloured beads. He took it off. He laid it across his lap. He waited, watching the landscape rolling by. He was waiting for Paul to say: "Hey, David, got a match?"

[7] It was getting darker. Ahead, the road was straight, with neither a building nor a human being in sight. All David could see was land stripped bare by the winter. "This is the time," he thought, "right now." He stared at Paul as if to communicate the fact. Paul's lips were quivering. Sweat was beginning to show above his mouth. A few such little signs indicated that Paul had already come to the same conclusion.

[8] Yet when Paul finally did speak, it was only to tell their host another joke. Mr Machin had a hearty sense of humour. David was getting edgy. He was impatient.

[9] Then: "Hey, David, got a match?"

[10] David raised his hand. The rock was on the verge of coming down<sup>®</sup>. But just at that moment something extraordinary happened. Out of the blue<sup>®</sup> there appeared another hitch-hiker, a G. I.<sup>®</sup> "The more the merrier," Machin said, braking his car. (about 520 words)

## Exercises

### I. Tick off the best choice according to the information given in this passage.

1. Mr Machin \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. was a food-canner
- B. fell asleep at the wheel
- C. stopped for a short nap
- D. didn't always observe the company regulations

2. Which statement is true?

- A. Paul and David were mechanics.
- B. Paul and David were not what they seemed.





- C. Paul and David were from Arizona.  
D. Paul and David made big money.
3. The boys had not attempted anything with the Negroes because \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. the Negroes had no money  
B. it would have been too risky  
C. Paul and David were not racially prejudiced  
D. the Negroes were driving a pink Cadillac
4. Mr Machin "suited them to a T" because \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. he probably had some money on him  
B. he was going to Ashville  
C. he would put up a fight  
D. he had given them a lift
5. "This is the time," David thought, "right now," because \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. he was becoming impatient  
B. he loved the winter-time  
C. the circumstances were perfect for an attack  
D. it was getting dark
6. Paul said, "Hey, David, got a match?" \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. to keep the conversation going    B. to make Mr Machin laugh  
C. as a signal for David to strike    D. because he wanted a light
7. Although Mr Machin didn't know it, the G. I. \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. appeared unexpectedly or suddenly  
B. wanted a lift  
C. came from out of the blue  
D. was extraordinary
8. "It was an ideal set-up" means \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. it was fine in theory    B. everything was fixed  
C. things couldn't have been better    D. it was the perfect crime
9. "David was getting edgy" means \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. he was sweating with fear    B. he was beginning to lose his nerve  
C. he was getting ready    D. he was becoming angry
10. "On the verge of coming down" means \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. on its way down    B. far from descending  
C. about to drop    D. almost at its target

**II. Fill in the blank with a suitable word of its correct form.**

1. to forbid, to prohibit

A. Children are \_\_\_\_\_ from smoking.

B. I \_\_\_\_\_ you to do so.

2. amiable, amicable

A. We came to an \_\_\_\_\_ agreement.

B. Mary is a sweet, gentle, \_\_\_\_\_ girl.

3. to communicate, communication

A. We have been \_\_\_\_\_ by mail.

B. The purpose of language is \_\_\_\_\_.

4. to ignore, ignorant, ignorance

A. Please forgive our \_\_\_\_\_.

B. She \_\_\_\_\_ his question.

C. Tom is quite \_\_\_\_\_ of Latin.

**III. Questions for discussion.**

1. Was the robbery successful? Why do you think so?

2. How should we deal with a robbery?

**IV. Cloze test.**

Once two boys 1 up their minds to play a 2 on Charles Darwin, the famous 3. With great care they glued together parts of several insects. 4 used the wings of a butterfly. They 5 the head of a bee and the legs of a grasshopper. At 6 the strange creature was ready. They took it to the great man. "What 7 of bug is this?" they asked him.

"Did it hum 8 you caught it?" Darwin asked them.

"Yes," 9 the boys, feeling sure they had fooled him.

"That's just 10 I thought," Darwin said. "It's a humbug."

**V. Fast reading.**

As soon as his plan had been approved by the men who had sent him to America, the young sculptor, Frederic Auguste Bartholdi, started working on the designs of the Statue of Liberty. By 1875, he had already made several small study models.

The most difficult problems were involved in the details of building. In solving them the sculptor had no guide but his own genius. The material must be light, easily worked, and of good appearance. It had to be strong enough to



withstand the stress of a long ocean voyage. It had to withstand the effects of the salty air of New York Harbor. Copper was chosen as the material. The framework would be of iron and steel.

To get the form for the statue, Bartholdi made a study model measuring about nine feet in height. Another model four times larger was made, giving the figure a height of 36 feet. This model was correct in every detail. Then the statue was divided into sections. Each of these was also to be made four times its size. These pieces, when joined together, would form the huge statue in its finished shape.

Only a small part of such a gigantic statue could be worked on at a time. Section by section, the 36-foot model was enlarged to four times its size. For each section of the enlarged model, it was necessary to take about 9 000 separate measurements. When a section was finished, the carpenters made wooden molds.

On these molds, thin copper sheets were pressed and hammered into shape. More than 300 separate sheets of copper, each hand-hammered over a single mold, went into the statue to form the figure.

The framework, too, is worthy of attention. It was designed and built by the great French engineer, Gustave Eiffel, who later constructed the famous Eiffel Tower in Paris. Four huge iron posts run from the base of the statue to the top, forming a pyramid that bears the weight of the whole structure. Out of this central tower is built a maze of smaller beams, each supporting many outer copper sheets. Each sheet is backed by an iron strap to give it stiffness. These iron straps are fastened to the supporting framework in such a way that each section is supported separately. Separately supported sections are part of the Eiffel Tower's elaborate structural design. (about 400 words)

1. The Statue of Liberty was constructed of \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. copper                      B. brass                      C. nickel                      D. iron
2. Bartholdi's first study model of the Statue was \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. three feet high                      B. six feet high  
C. seven feet high                      D. nine feet high
3. The framework of the Statue was made of \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. iron and steel                      B. iron and copper  
C. copper and tin                      D. copper and steel
4. Molds for the Statue were made of \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. lead                      B. sandstone                      C. wood                      D. copper



5. The man who designed the framework of the Statue later built \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. the Empire State Building      B. Big Ben  
C. the Eiffel Tower      D. Tall Tower
6. The Statue of Liberty is more than \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. fifty years old  
B. seventy-five years old  
C. one hundred years old  
D. two hundred years old
7. The selection suggests that, before building the Statue, Bartholdi \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. had achieved world-wide fame  
B. studied sculpture in Italy  
C. visited Washington  
D. visited New York Harbor
8. The author feels that Bartholdi \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. possessed creative genius  
B. was too young for such an important assignment  
C. learned a great deal from Eiffel  
D. was ambitious
9. According to the article, copper is \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. rigid and thick  
B. heavy yet easily worked  
C. light but strong  
D. light but weak
10. We can conclude that \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. New York City paid for the Statue  
B. the Statue of Liberty was the first of its type ever made  
C. the Statue has been repaired many times since it was built  
D. the Statue of Liberty will fall soon



## **PASSAGE 3**

### **Coping with Crisis**

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#### **Text**

[1] If I were asked to give what I consider the single most useful bit of advice for all humanity, it would be this: Expect trouble as an inevitable part of life and, when it comes, hold your head high, look it squarely in the eye and say, "I will be bigger than you. You cannot defeat me." Then repeat to yourself the most comforting of all words, "This too shall pass." ①

[2] To forgive oneself in the face of a devastating experience is perhaps the most difficult of life's challenges. Most of us find it much easier to forgive others.

[3] In many instances we can't control what happens to us, but we can control our reactions to what happens to us. We can stay down for the count and be carried out of the ring or we can pull ourselves back to our feet ②. If we are victimized by others, we must refuse to give them the power to break our spirit, make us physically ill, and perhaps even shorten our lives. Most doctors will tell you that worry, anxiety, tension and anger can make you sicker than a virus.

[4] The expression "nervous breakdown" suggested that nerves have broken down, but organically the nerves are healthy. The problem is purely emotional. A doctor on the staff of the Mayo Clinic has said the majority of patients in hospital beds today are there because of illnesses that were psycho-generated ③. This means the sickness was triggered by an unresolved problem.

[5] I believe in blind faith. I have known people who have suffered deep



personal tragedies, and this faith has helped them. But I also believe in the efficacy of positive action to overcome grief. Time is a healer, but those who help time, using it wisely and well make a more rapid adjustment.

[6] Grief, in part, is self-pity turned inside out<sup>④</sup>. The widow who cries, "He was everything to me. How can I go on without him?" is crying for herself, not for him. The mourner who refuses to let go of his grief eventually isolated himself from his friends. The world may stop for a few hours, or perhaps a few days, to hold a hand or to wipe away a tear, but friends and relatives have problems of their own. Life goes on—and those who refuse to go on with it are left alone to wallow in their misery.

[7] The best prescription for a broken heart is activity<sup>⑤</sup>. I don't mean plunging into a social whirl or running off on trips<sup>⑥</sup>. Too many people who try to escape by doing just that succeed only in taking their troubles with them. The most useful kind of activity involves doing something to help others<sup>⑦</sup>. I have told thousands of depressed people, "Enough of this breast-beating. No matter how bad things are with you, there is someone who is worse off—and you can help him."

[8] Most touching to me is the heroism, the courage and faith of the average people in the world. Often readers who write about a problem will add something about their personal lives. I am moved by the magnificent people who write such lines as "My husband lost his sight shortly after we married, but we manage beautifully." or, "I've had two operations for cancer, but I know I'll be able to attend my son's graduation in June and I'm so thankful for that."

[9] No one knows why life must be so punishing to some of God's finest creatures<sup>⑧</sup>. Perhaps it is true that everything has a price and we must sacrifice something precious to gain something else. The poets and philosophers say adversity, sorrow and pain give our lives as added dimension. Those who suffer deeply touch life at every point; they drain the cup to the dregs while others sip only the bubbles on top<sup>⑨</sup>. Perhaps no one can touch the stars unless he has known the depths of despair—and fought his way back. (about 690 words)

## Exercises

I. Are the following statements True or False according to the information given in the passage?

1. It is advisable for us all to face up to the trouble in life because it will



disappear sooner or later. ( )

2. It is a general belief among most doctors that a virus is not dangerous compared with one's emotional problems. ( )

3. Those who don't know how to use time properly may easily get sick and can hardly overcome their sickness. ( )

4. It is no use for those broken-hearted making a quick recovery just by escaping from the world. ( )

5. "No pains, no gains" is one of the author's attitudes toward life. ( )

**II. Choose a correct word to fill in the blank. Use the right tense or form.**

1. to depress, depressed, depressing, depression

A. She is in a state of deep \_\_\_\_.

B. How \_\_\_\_ she looks now!

C. Rainy weather always \_\_\_\_ me.

D. Newspapers are full of \_\_\_\_ news nowadays.

2. to devastate, devastating, devastation, devastator

A. It was a \_\_\_\_ storm.

B. The bomb \_\_\_\_ a large part of the city.

C. The \_\_\_\_ caused by the typhoon left thousands of people homeless.

D. The \_\_\_\_ were invaders.

3. to isolate, isolated, isolating, isolation, isolator

A. Some people live in \_\_\_\_.

B. It is an \_\_\_\_ barrier.

C. The bricks serve as \_\_\_\_.

D. That law served to \_\_\_\_ the black people.

E. They lived \_\_\_\_ lives in their small world.

4. to mourn, mourner, mournful, mourning

A. It is a \_\_\_\_ song.

B. That's a sign of \_\_\_\_ for the dead.

C. The whole nation \_\_\_\_ the death of the beloved king.

D. The \_\_\_\_ were in black.

**III. Questions for discussion.**

1. Do you agree with the author in coping with crisis?

2. How do you usually cope with crisis?



#### IV. Cloze test.

Few animals other 1 monkeys have handlike paws. The 2, like man, has an opposable thumb, that is, it can place its 3 opposite its other fingers. By pressing its first 4 against its thumb a monkey can pick 5 things as tiny as a flea. Because other animals lack this 6, it is difficult for them to 7 up small things and carry them.

The monkey's 8 to grasp rice with its paw often 9 to its capture. Hunters bait a coconut with a handful of 10, leaving a hole in the shell nut. The monkey has no 11 sliding its paw through the 12. But it can't draw the 13 out while it is holding a fistful of rice.

Since it is often too stupid or greedy to open its hand, the monkey is unable to 14 itself from this simple trap.

#### V. Fast reading.

The mammals that live in Dinosaur National Monument in Colorado are almost never seen. Almost all of them come out at night, are small, and are very shy.

In spite of their retiring habits, they show themselves in a number of ways. Patches of bare earth under sagebrush and nearby sandy slopes are crisscrossed with tiny paths beaten into the dust by deer mice. Along the riverbank, gnawed tree stumps, a few fresh chips, and perhaps a webbed footprint tell us beavers have been active during the night. The paired hind footprints of the kangaroo rat are common on the hillside. Freshly fallen snow records the previous night's activities in great detail.

Were it not for the ground squirrels, our proof of mammals would be mostly indirect. But these little fellows are seen all day long as they play around the visitor center and in the picnic areas. They are handsome, too, with their alert black eyes, cinnamon neck and shoulders, and dark side patches with white stripes.

The water problem is an ever-present one for the mammals, as well as for the plants. At first this may seem strange with the Green River close by and several springs in the hills. But most of the smaller animals do not travel far from their homes. A deer mouse, for example, seldom travels more than 100 feet from his home burrow in his entire lifetime. The kangaroo rat and the desert wood rat also have limited ranges although theirs are a bit larger than those of deer mice. A





large number of such animals must meet their water needs without springs or seeps. How do they do it?

The food they eat has some water in it. The green vegetation in springtime contains large amounts. Even air-dried foods such as seeds contain some. Through the thousands of years that these little creatures have lived in dry lands, natural processes have changed their bodies and life patterns to fit the conditions under which they must live. Surely one of the most useful and interesting of their abilities is that of using metabolic water. During the digestive process these animals are able to make water from the chemical portions of their food and the oxygen in their blood. Thus some animals are able to live a normal life-span without ever taking a drink, and many of them probably do. (about 400 words)

1. Most mammals near Dinosaur National Monument are not seen because they are \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. nocturnal      B. hibernating      C. migratory      D. shy
2. The mammals that live near Dinosaur National Monument are \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. dangerous      B. threatened      C. small      D. large
3. The animal providing the most direct evidence about mammals is the \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. mongoose      B. kangaroo      C. squirrel      D. cat
4. What is the greatest distance a deer mouse travels from its home?  
A. 100 feet.      B. 500 feet.      C. 1 000 feet.      D. 1 500 feet.
5. The mammals of Dinosaur National Monument obtain their water from \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. springs      B. meat      C. vegetation      D. rivers
6. The mammals of Dinosaur National Monument demonstrate \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. survival of the fittest  
B. the importance of instinct  
C. the effects of evolution  
D. the importance of climates
7. One type of mammal at Dinosaur National Monument is often seen by \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. scientists involved in ecology research  
B. naturalists looking for rare animals  
C. foreigners  
D. picnickers in the visitor area
8. The author mentions the beaver as an example of \_\_\_\_\_.