Thomas Jefferson became the President of the United States in 1801. He had plans for the exploration of what is now the northwestern United States. He wanted to find a route to the Pacific Coast, and believed that the route could be found along the Missouri and Columbia Rivers. Jefferson began to plan an expedition through the Louisiana Territory and the Oregon region. President Jefferson’s plan included gathering scientific information about the regions, and establishing communications with the Native Americans who lived in them. Jefferson looked for explorers to lead this expedition. He chose his private secretary, Meriwether Lewis, to lead the expedition. Lewis chose William Clark, a former United States Army officer, to join him. Preparations for this expedition were soon under way. Lewis and Clark brought with them the skills needed to make a successful expedition.
ANSWER THE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION

1. What did Jefferson want to accomplish with this expedition?
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

2. What did Jefferson’s plan include? ___________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

3. Who did Jefferson choose to lead this expedition? ________________
   __________________________________________________________

4. What does the word expedition mean in this passage? ____________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

5. Who did Lewis chose to join him on this expedition? _____________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
MERIWETHER LEWIS  
(1774-1809)

Meriwether Lewis was born in Albemarie County, Virginia, in 1774. He joined the army in 1794 and became a captain in 1800. He was appointed as the private secretary of President Jefferson in 1801. Jefferson chose Lewis to lead what is now known as the Lewis and Clark expedition.

Meriwether Lewis spent the summer of 1803 in Philadelphia studying how to classify plants and animals. He learned how to determine his position by observing the stars. This training helped Lewis to prepare for the expedition, and to be able to gather the scientific information Jefferson wanted about the area to be explored.

Lewis was eager to begin work on this expedition and left the city in late August in a keelboat, or a large flat-bottomed boat, to join Clark near Louisville, Kentucky. In December of 1803, Lewis and Clark established camp at Camp Dubois, across the Mississippi River from St. Louis. It was at Camp Dubois that Lewis and Clark began to train their men for the upcoming exploration.
ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ABOUT MERIWETHER LEWIS

1. Paragraph 2 of this passage *mainly* discusses ____.
   a. the early life of Meriwether Lewis
   b. Lewis’s training for this expedition
   c. the keelboat
   d. life at Camp Dubois

2. The purpose of this passage is most probably to ____.
   a. entertain you with stories of Meriwether Lewis’ travels
   b. persuade you to become an explorer
   c. inform you about Meriwether Lewis and this expedition
   d. both b and c

3. Which of the following would be the BEST title for this passage?
   a. Meriwether Lewis and Camp Dubois
   b. Meriwether Lewis Learns About the Wilderness
   c. Meriwether Lewis and the Lewis and Clark Expedition
   d. Meriwether Lewis and President Thomas Jefferson

4. What training did Lewis have to prepare for this expedition?
   a. He learned to read detail maps.
   b. He learned about determining his position by observing stars.
   c. He learned how to classify plants and animals.
   d. both b and c

5. What is a *keelboat*?
   a. a large flat-bottomed boat
   b. a large ocean liner
   c. a large map of stars
   d. a large camp
American explorer William Clark was born in Caroline County, Virginia, in 1770. He was the brother of George Rogers Clark, who was a hero in the American Revolutionary War. William Clark was asked to join the exploration of the Louisiana Territory and the Pacific Northwest by Meriwether Lewis. Clark was a former U.S. Army officer, who had resigned in 1796. He re-enlisted in 1803 to join the expedition. Clark received the rank of lieutenant upon re-enlisting in the army. His rank was below the rank of Lewis, but the two men decided to lead the expedition jointly. Clark had experience in the wilderness, and map making skills. William Clark was in charge of recruiting men for this expedition. He chose skilled woodsmen and hunters who were trained in manual labor and had military experience. Most of the men chosen by Clark had been soldiers. Clark made most of the maps used by the men on this expedition. He was in charge of keeping records of their explorations. Clark was responsible for the publication of the expedition journals after Lewis’ death in 1809.
ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ABOUT WILLIAM CLARK

1. Who asked Clark to join this expedition?
   a. President Jefferson
   b. Meriwether Lewis
   c. George Rogers Clark
   d. The United States Army

2. Clark was in charge of all of the following EXCEPT __.
   a. recruiting men for the expedition.
   b. publishing the journals of the expedition.
   c. making the maps for the expedition.
   d. classifying plants and animals.

3. Clark chose men for this expedition that ______.
   a. were college graduates
   b. were trained in manual labor
   c. had military experience
   d. both b and c

4. Why did Clark re-enlist in the army in 1803?
   a. to become a captain
   b. to fight in the Revolutionary War
   c. to join Lewis on the expedition
   d. to become personal secretary to Jefferson

5. Lewis and Clark lead the expedition jointly because ___.
   a. they decided to do so.
   b. Jefferson told them to do so.
   c. Congress requested they do so.
   d. the Army made this request.
Sacagawea (sah kah guh wee uh) was a Shoshone woman who was part of the Lewis and Clark Expedition from 1805-1806. Her name means Bird Woman. Lewis and Clark met Sacagawea and her husband, Toussaint Charbonneau, in what is now North Dakota. Charbonneau was a French-Canadian trader.

The Hidatsa tribe took Sacagawea from her tribe when she was 12 years old. She was later sold as a slave to Charbonneau, who married her. Sacagawea had a son, John Baptiste Charbonneau. Sacagawea and her husband became part of the expedition. Sacagawea was a translator for Lewis and Clark. The Indians they met on their journey were less afraid of the white men, because Sacagawea was with them. The explorers met a group of Shoshone in the Rocky Mountains in 1805. The chief of this tribe was Sacawega’s brother. She was able to help with the communication between Lewis and Clark and the Shoshone. The explorers were able to get horses from the tribe. Sacagawea’s contributions to this expedition have been memorialized in monuments and landmarks. A United States one dollar coin went into circulation in 2000 honoring her contributions.
ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ABOUT SACAGAWEA:

1. What is the meaning of Sacagawea’s name? ____________________
   _________________________________________________________

2. What happened to Sacagawea at the age of 12? _________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

3. In what way did Sacagawea and her husband become part of the expedition?
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

4. Name two ways Sacagawea helped Lewis and Clark on their expedition. ______________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

5. How long were Sacagawea and her husband with the expedition? ____________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

6. How has Sacagawea been honored for her work in the Lewis and Clark expedition? _________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION
PART 2

Lewis and Clark and the men chosen for this expedition were called the “Corps of Discovery”. Their job was to explore the lands purchased from France, known as the Louisiana Purchase. It was a large area of land, over 800,000 square miles. They were looking for the Northwest Passage, a water route across the country. Their expedition started in St. Louis on May 14, 1804. Their trip was difficult. The men lived outdoors, hunted for food, and traveled by rowing a keelboat. The Corps traveled only 12 to 14 miles per day. The Corps made contact with Native American tribes along the way. It took them from May until December to reach what is now North Dakota. Winter was upon them, and they decided to build a fort and stay with a local tribe until the spring. It was during this time that Lewis and Clark met Sacagawea and her husband. In the spring, the corps spent the next few months travelling to what is now Montana. They found that the Missouri River was becoming too rapid and the fierce waters were impossible to cross. They purchased horses from Sacagawea’s brother and made their way across the mountains. It took them a year and a half after leaving St. Louis, but the group reached the Pacific coastal area in early November. They built Fort Clatsop, named after a neighboring tribe, and spent a cold winter preparing for their trip home. On March 23, 1806, the group started home. They reached St. Louis on September 23, 1806.

Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery made important mapping discoveries about the United States. They also obtained great knowledge of the animal life, plant life, geography, and the people of this previously unexplored territory.
ANSWER THE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION:

1. What was the Corps of Discovery?
   a. Lewis and Clark and all the explorers on this trip
   b. the Missouri River
   c. Sacagawea and her husband
   d. The horses used on the expedition

2. What did the explorers do when the Missouri became too rapid to cross with the keelboat?
   a. They took a plane.
   b. They purchased horses.
   c. They went back to St. Louis.
   d. none of these

3. The Corps was able to travel about _________.
   a. 25 miles per day
   b. 25 miles per week
   c. 12 to 14 miles per day
   d. 12 to 14 miles per week

4. What did the Corps build when they reached the Pacific coastal area?
   a. a store
   b. a fort
   c. a plane
   d. a keelboat

5. What contributions were made as a result of this trip?
   a. mapping contributions
   b. knowledge of plant and animal life of the area
   c. knowledge of the people in the area
   d. all of these
WRITE A REPORT ABOUT THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION. PLEASE TAKE YOUR TIME AND WRITE NEATLY. IF YOU NEED MORE PAPER, STAPLE EXTRA SHEETS OF PAPER TO THIS PAGE.

______________________________
(TITLE)

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THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION

PAGE 2:
1. He wanted to find a water route to the Pacific Coast.
2. Jefferson wanted to get scientific information about the regions and to establish communications with the Native Americans living in that area.
3. Jefferson chose his secretary, Meriwether Lewis.
4. It means a journey or a trip.
5. Lewis chose William Clark.

PAGE 4:
1. b
2. c
3. c
4. d
5. a

PAGE 6:
1. b
2. d
3. d
4. c
5. a

PAGE 8:
1. Bird Woman
2. She was taken from her tribe and sold as a slave.
3. She was needed as a translator.
4. Her translation and her presence made it easier for Lewis and Clark to become accepted by the tribes they met on their journey.
5. 1805-1806 (one year)
6. She has been memorialized in monuments and landmarks. A US coin was produced and circulated in 2000, honoring her.

PAGE 10:
1. a
2. b
3. c
4. b
5. d

PAGE 11: REPORT: NO ANSWERS NEEDED