One of the most visited landmarks in America is the Grand Canyon. The Grand Canyon makes up almost all of northwest Arizona. The Colorado River runs through it for 277 miles. The park covers over a million acres. The Grand Canyon is famous for its steep hills, tall spires of rock, and beautiful scenery. The Grand Canyon is the result of rock being worn away by the river, or erosion.

The first Europeans arrived at the Grand Canyon’s South Rim in 1540. Major John Wesley Powell and a group of nine men made the first successful boat trip down the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon in 1869. The first Santa Fe passenger train arrived at the South Rim in 1901.

The Fred Harvey Company provided visitor services such as food and tours until 1968, when Amfac purchased the business. The Fred Harvey Company hired an architect, Mary E.J. Colter, to design buildings at the park with a Native American theme. Her designs include the Hopi House, the Lookout Studio, Hermits Rest, and the Bright Angel Lodge.

Today, over five million people visit the Grand Canyon annually. They are able to tour this park by car, mule, helicopter, or on foot. The breathtaking view of this park is certainly worth the trip, however you see it.
ANSWER THE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE GRAND CANYON

1. The Grand Canyon is located in the northwest section of ________.  
   a. Maryland  
   b. Alabama  
   c. Arizona  
   d. Colorado

2. What river runs through the Grand Canyon?  
   a. The Mississippi  
   b. The Potomac  
   c. The Nile  
   d. The Colorado

3. About how many people visit the Grand Canyon every year?  
   a. five thousand  
   b. five million  
   c. five hundred  
   d. five billion

4. Mary E.J. Colter was ________.  
   a. the architect for buildings at the Grand Canyon  
   b. the president of the Fred Harvey Company  
   c. the wife of Fred Harvey  
   d. the first European to visit the park

5. When did the first passenger train arrive at the South Rim?  
   a. 1968  
   b. 1901  
   c. 1540  
   d. 1860

6. The Grand Canyon is known for its ________.  
   a. steep hills  
   b. beautiful scenery  
   c. tall spires of rock  
   d. all of these
ANSWERS TO THE GRAND CANYON

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