



Effigy Mounds, Iowa Reading Comprehension

Located in Iowa, effigy mounds are part of the Effigy Mounds National Monument. The monument preserves ancient mounds built by Native Americans. The area is considered sacred by many American Indian tribes.

Effigy mounds are not just any mounds – they are shaped like animals, birds, or even mythical creatures and represent a connection between ancient cultures and the natural world. There are over 200 different mounds here!

Built over 2,000 years ago, the meaning of the mounds remains a mystery, but they probably served as sacred sites, burial grounds, or to mark celestial events.

1. What question is answered in the passage?

- a) What do the mounds represent?
- b) Exactly how many mounds are there?
- c) Exactly how old are the mounds?
- d) Where in Iowa are the mounds?

2. What would you probably NOT see at Effigy Mounds?

- a) Mounds shaped like mythical creatures
- b) Mounds shaped like birds
- c) Mounds used as burial grounds
- d) Mounds built to represent native warriors.

3. What is the best definition of "sacred" as used in the following sentence?

The monument preserves ancient mounds built by Native Americans. The area is considered sacred by many American Indian tribes.

- a) Dangerous
- b) Holy
- c) Interesting
- d) Unfortunate

4. Why is Effigy Mounds mysterious?

- a) Because the meaning of the mounds is still not understood.
- b) Because some of the mounds represent birds.
- c) Because the mounds are considered an important site to many Native Americans.
- d) Because the mounds are located in Iowa.

5. What is not true?

- a) The mounds are more than 2,000 years old.
- b) The mounds are thought to represent a connection between ancient cultures and the natural world.
- c) The mounds may have marked celestial events.
- d) The mounds are like other mounds found in other places.

-----Key-----

1. (a)
2. (d)
3. (b)
4. (a)
5. (d)