Name: Date: Score: / 6

Niagara Falls: Reading Comprehension

Nonfiction: Places · about 195 words

Read the passage. Then answer each question. Circle the best answer or write your answer on the lines.

💦 Niagara Falls

On the border between the United States and Canada, the Niagara River plunges over a cliff with a thunderous roar. This is Niagara Falls, one of the most famous waterfalls in the world.

Niagara Falls is actually made up of three waterfalls. The American Falls and the smaller Bridal Veil Falls are in New York. The largest, Horseshoe Falls, is shaped like a giant curve and lies mostly in Canada. During the busy summer season, more than 700,000 gallons of water rush over the falls every second.

The falls formed at the end of the last Ice Age, about 12,000 years ago. Melting glaciers filled the Great Lakes, and water from Lake Erie began flowing north to Lake Ontario through the Niagara River. Over thousands of years, the rushing water has slowly worn away the rock, and the falls have moved several miles upstream.

The powerful water is also useful. Huge power plants on both sides of the river turn the moving water into electricity for millions of people. Visitors can ride boats close to the bottom of the falls, where the mist soaks everyone on board. Many visitors call it an unforgettable experience.

1. **Main idea:** What is this passage mostly about?

   A. the Great Lakes only B. the history of Canada

   C. Niagara Falls: what it is, how it formed, and how it is used D. how boats work

2. **Detail:** How many waterfalls make up Niagara Falls?

   A. ten B. one C. three D. two

3. **Detail:** Which falls is the largest?

   A. Bridal Veil Falls B. American Falls C. Lake Erie Falls D. Horseshoe Falls

4. **Detail:** When did the falls form?

   A. 100 years ago B. 1 million years ago C. last century D. about 12,000 years ago

5. **Inference:** Why have the falls moved upstream?

   A. An earthquake shifted them. B. The river changed direction. C. The water slowly wore away the rock. D. People moved them.

6. **Detail:** Name one way people use the power of the falls.

ANSWER KEY

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