



Read the science passage carefully. Then answer the questions below.

Pompeii's Silent City: The Day Vesuvius Awoke



Long ago, in the year 79 AD, a beautiful city called Pompeii sat peacefully near a large mountain in Italy. This mountain was Mount Vesuvius. People lived their lives, not knowing that deep inside the mountain, a powerful force was building. One hot summer day, with almost no warning, Mount Vesuvius suddenly awoke with a terrifying roar!

Hot ash, rocks, and gas exploded from the volcano's top. This deadly mix, called a "pyroclastic flow," rushed down the mountain at incredible speeds.



It covered the entire city of Pompeii in a thick blanket of ash and volcanic debris. Everything was buried in a matter of hours. The ash hardened over time, perfectly preserving houses, streets, and even people exactly as they were.

Today, Pompeii is a silent city, a window into the past. Scientists and historians have learned so much about ancient Roman life by studying the preserved city. Mount Vesuvius is still an active volcano, meaning it could erupt again. Scientists watch it closely to keep people safe, reminding us of the powerful forces hidden beneath Earth's surface.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

(1) What city was completely covered by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 AD?

- (A) Rome (B) Pompeii (C) Naples (D) Florence



(2) How did the ash and volcanic debris from Mount Vesuvius help preserve the city of Pompeii?

- A It melted everything into new rock.
- B It washed the city clean, making it last longer.
- C It covered the city quickly and hardened, keeping everything in place.
- D It made the buildings stronger and taller.

(3) In the passage, the word "eruption" means...

- A A quiet period when a volcano is sleeping.
- B A sudden and violent bursting out of a volcano.
- C The process of building a mountain.
- D A type of ancient Roman building.

(4) If a volcano like Vesuvius erupted today near a busy city, what would be one important thing people would need to do?

- A Go to the volcano to watch the eruption.
- B Build new houses closer to the mountain.
- C Quickly move away from the danger zone to a safe place.
- D Try to stop the lava with water.

(5) Why is it important for scientists to study volcanoes like Vesuvius, even after a long time?



