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Choosing a Title

Many stories and articles have **titles**. A good title will make a reading sound interesting. It may also tell the main idea. The title “How Old Is It?” told you something about the last passage.

Read the passage. Then answer the question that follows.

Maya’s parents never let her stay up late. But tonight was special. It was December 31. Tonight would be the start of a new year. And Maya begged her parents to let her stay up. Maya made paper hats. She made noise makers. And she tried as hard as she could to stay up until midnight. She played with her cat, read a book, and made a blanket fort. A few hours before midnight, her parents found her sleeping in her blanket fort. Maya fell asleep hours before midnight. She missed the New Year again!

Which is the *best* title for this passage?

- A “Sleeping in the New Year”
- B “Sleeping in a Blanket Fort”
- C “Up Until Midnight”
- D “Up and Making Noise”



The story is mostly about a girl falling asleep before the New Year started. So choice A is the best answer.

2 How many people were left homeless after the Great Chicago Fire?

- A 30,000
- B 90,000
- C 300
- D 9,000

Salt tastes pretty good on food. But salt has over 14,000 different uses. Salt can help you when you itch. If you have a mosquito bite, soak it in salt water. Then put vegetable oil on it. That should stop the itch. If you have poison ivy, salt can help, too. You can sit in a bathtub full of salt water to make the itch go away.

Salt can help make food last longer. You can put a pinch of salt in milk to make it stay fresh longer. You can make slices of apples and pears last longer, too. Dip them in cold, salty water, and they will not turn brown. These are just a few uses of salt. There are thousands more!

1 What is this article *mostly* about?

- A when salt was first used
- B where salt can be found
- C why people need salt
- D how salt has different uses

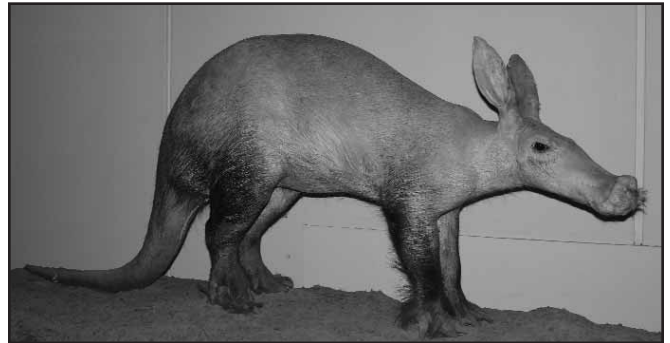
2 What would be the *best* title for this article?

- A “Salt and You”
- B “Salt and Pepper”
- C “A Pinch of Salt”
- D “Uses for Salt”



- 2 What would be a good title for this paragraph?
Explain why.

What a strange animal the aardvark is! It has the skin of a pig. It has the ears of a donkey. And its nose looks like a giraffe's. Scientists took a long time to figure out what animal family the aardvark belongs to. The aardvark eats ants. So at first, scientists put this animal in the anteater family. But the aardvark has teeth. Real anteaters do not. The aardvark did not belong with them. Finally, the scientists put the aardvark in a family all by itself.



- 1 What is the *best* title for this paragraph?
- A “The Anteater Family” C “The Donkey’s Ears”
B “A Puzzling Animal” D “Skin of a Pig”
- 2 Which sentence *best* tells the main idea of the paragraph?
- A What a strange animal the aardvark is!
B At first, scientists put this animal in the anteater family.
C The aardvark has teeth.
D It has the ears of a donkey.