

Name _____

Date _____

Reference Sources

Definition

Reference sources are specialized resources designed to provide specific information quickly and efficiently without requiring readers to read entire texts from beginning to end.

Example

Source	Purpose	Information Provided
Dictionary	Word information	Definitions, pronunciations, parts of speech
Encyclopedia	Topic knowledge	Detailed information on specific subjects
Thesaurus	Word variety	Synonyms and antonyms
Atlas	Geographic data	Maps and geographical information
Almanac	Factual collection	Statistical information and facts

Part 1: Multiple Choice Questions

Select the most appropriate reference source for finding the specified information about Alaska's permafrost.

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1. To find the precise definition and etymology of the term "permafrost," you would most appropriately consult:
 - a) an atlas
 - b) a dictionary
 - c) an almanac
 - d) a biography

2. For comprehensive information about different types of permafrost formations in Alaska, including diagrams and detailed explanations, your best reference source would be:
 - a) a thesaurus
 - b) an encyclopedia
 - c) a dictionary
 - d) an autobiography

3. To locate the specific regions of Alaska where continuous permafrost exists, you would most effectively use:
 - a) an atlas
 - b) a dictionary
 - c) a thesaurus
 - d) a periodical index

4. For finding recent statistical data about the rate of permafrost thaw in Alaska over the past decade, the most suitable reference would be:
 - a) a dictionary
 - b) an atlas
 - c) an almanac
 - d) a thesaurus

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5. To discover related terms and alternative expressions for "thermokarst" (a land formation caused by permafrost thaw), you would best consult:

- a) an atlas
- b) an almanac
- c) a thesaurus
- d) a periodical index

Part 2: Fill in the Blank

Identify the most appropriate reference source for each research scenario related to Alaska's permafrost environment.

1. A student researching the geographical distribution of permafrost in different regions of Alaska would benefit most from a/an _____ for accurate location data.

2. To understand the precise meaning of specialized permafrost terminology like "talik" (unfrozen ground within permafrost regions), a researcher should consult a/an _____.

3. For comprehensive information about the ecological impact of permafrost on Alaska's biodiversity, a student would best refer to a/an _____.

4. A scientist tracking annual temperature changes in Alaska's permafrost regions over the past 20 years would find valuable data in a/an _____.

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Reference Sources – Answer Key

Part 1: Multiple Choice Questions

1. b) a dictionary
2. b) an encyclopedia
3. a) an atlas
4. c) an almanac
5. c) a thesaurus

Part 2: Fill in the Blank

1. atlas
2. dictionary
3. encyclopedia
4. almanac