

Poinsettias

The poinsettia is a red and green plant that is popular in December. It was introduced to the United States by a man named Joel Roberts Poinsett. He found the plant in Southern Mexico. Then, he sent it back to his home in the United States in 1828. The poinsettia was named after Joel Roberts Poinsett. Nearly 100 years later, a man named Paul Ecke found a way to make the plant better. He discovered how to make the poinsettia plant have branches. People loved this new version of the poinsettia plant. So, Ecke started a business growing and selling poinsettias. Today, poinsettias are the most popular potted plant in the United States. Poinsettias mark the beginning of the holiday season. We can enjoy them each year thanks to Poinsett's discovery and Ecke's great idea!

1. Why did the author write this passage?

- A. To teach about December
- B. To explain the poinsettia business
- C. To share about the history of the poinsettia plant in the United States

2. When is the poinsettia popular?

- D. During the spring
- E. All year long
- F. In the winter

3. What did Joel Roberts Poinsett discover?

- A. A way to make the poinsettia plant better
- B. A red and green plant in Southern Mexico
- C. A place to display poinsettia plants

4. What did Paul Ecke discover?

- D. A way to make the poinsettia plant better
- E. A red and green plant in Southern Mexico
- F. A place to display poinsettia plants

5. What is the author's opinion of Paul Ecke?

- A. The author admires Ecke.
- B. The author dislikes Ecke.
- C. The author is angry at Ecke.

6. Based on this passage, it is the author's point of view that...

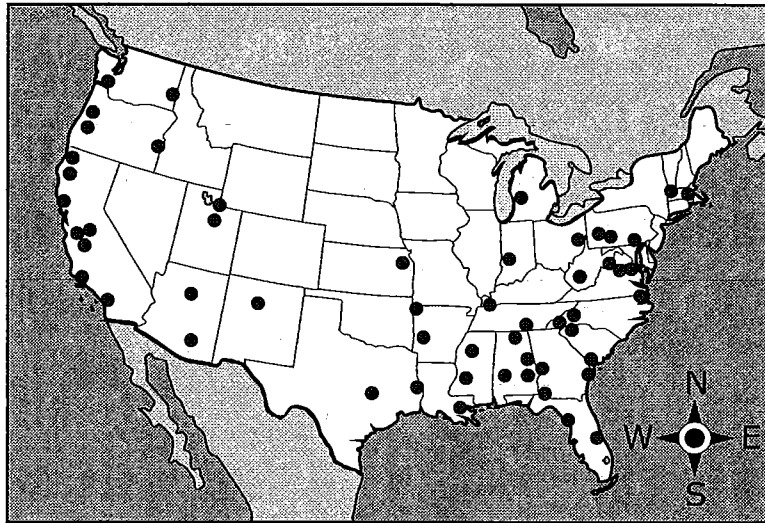
- D. Poinsettias will become less popular.
- E. People love the poinsettia plant.
- F. The author does not like poinsettias.

7. What is something you learned about poinsettias?

Read the passage "What on Earth are Moon Trees?" and then answer Numbers 8 through 15.

What on Earth are Moon Trees?

by Elaine M. Marconi



• Location of Moon Trees in the US

- 1 Anything having to do with the moon is still an unfolding mystery. And "Moon Trees" are part of that lunar mystique.
- 2 Are there actually trees on the moon? Not really . . . but tree seeds flown into space by NASA astronaut Stuart Roosa on the Apollo 14 mission in 1971, now grow strong and tall out of the Earth's soil.
- 3 It all began after Roosa was selected to pilot the Apollo 14 command module. As a former smoke jumper with the U.S. Forest Service, he was contacted by then chief of the Forest Service, Ed Cliff, and asked if he would be willing to take tree seeds into space.
- 4 As his way of paying tribute to the Forest Service, Roosa agreed and packed hundreds of seeds from redwood, loblolly pine, sycamore, Douglas fir and sweet gum trees into his personal travel kit. Roosa and his seeds orbited the moon 34 times while stationed in the command module "Kitty Hawk."

Now answer Numbers 8 through 15. Base your answers on the passage "What on Earth are Moon Trees?"

8. Read this sentence from the passage.

"After 20 years of growing side-by-side with their Earth-bound equivalent as controls, no one could tell the difference." (paragraph 8)

What does the word "equivalent" suggest about the two groups of trees?

- Ⓐ They were mixed together.
- Ⓑ They had similar characteristics.
- Ⓒ They were both experimented on.
- Ⓓ They came from the same collection of seeds.

9. Fill in the circle **before** the sentence that supports the inference that Stuart Roosa had a positive experience with the U.S. Forest Service.

- 3 Ⓐ It all began after Roosa was selected to pilot the Apollo 14 command module. Ⓑ As a former smoke jumper with the U.S. Forest Service, he was contacted by then chief of the Forest Service, Ed Cliff, and asked if he would be willing to take tree seeds into space.
- 4 Ⓒ As his way of paying tribute to the Forest Service, Roosa agreed and packed hundreds of seeds from redwood, loblolly pine, sycamore, Douglas fir and sweet gum trees into his personal travel kit. Ⓓ Roosa and his seeds orbited the moon 34 times while stationed in the command module "Kitty Hawk."

FSA ELA Reading Practice Test Questions

11. This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

What is the author's purpose for writing the passage?

- Ⓐ to argue that scientists should make more journeys into space
- Ⓑ to explain that the effect of seed contamination is still uncertain
- Ⓒ to describe an interesting experiment involving seeds in space
- Ⓓ to share information about why people should protect Moon Trees

Part B

Which detail from the passage supports the purpose in Part A?

- Ⓐ "It all began after Roosa was selected to pilot the Apollo 14 command module." (paragraph 3)
- Ⓑ "Scientists were curious to know if the seeds, after their journey into the microgravity of space, would sprout and look the same as Earth-grown trees." (paragraph 5)
- Ⓒ "Unfortunately, after returning to Earth the seed canister burst open during the decontamination process and all the different species of seeds, not only were mixed together, but thought to be no longer useful and able to germinate." (paragraph 6)
- Ⓓ "A moon sycamore graces Roosa's grave at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia." (paragraph 13)

FSA ELA Reading Practice Test Questions

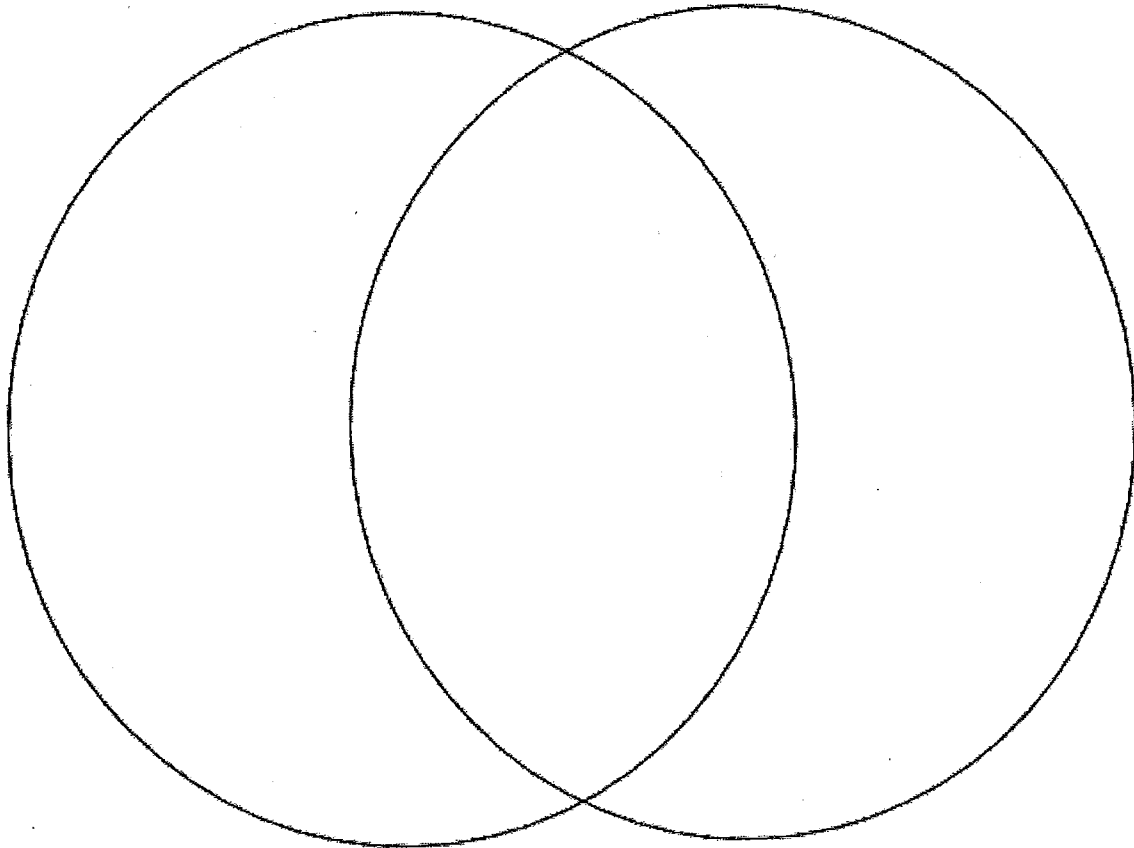
13. Which **two** sentences from the passage support the claim that "Moon Trees" are part of what makes the moon mysterious?

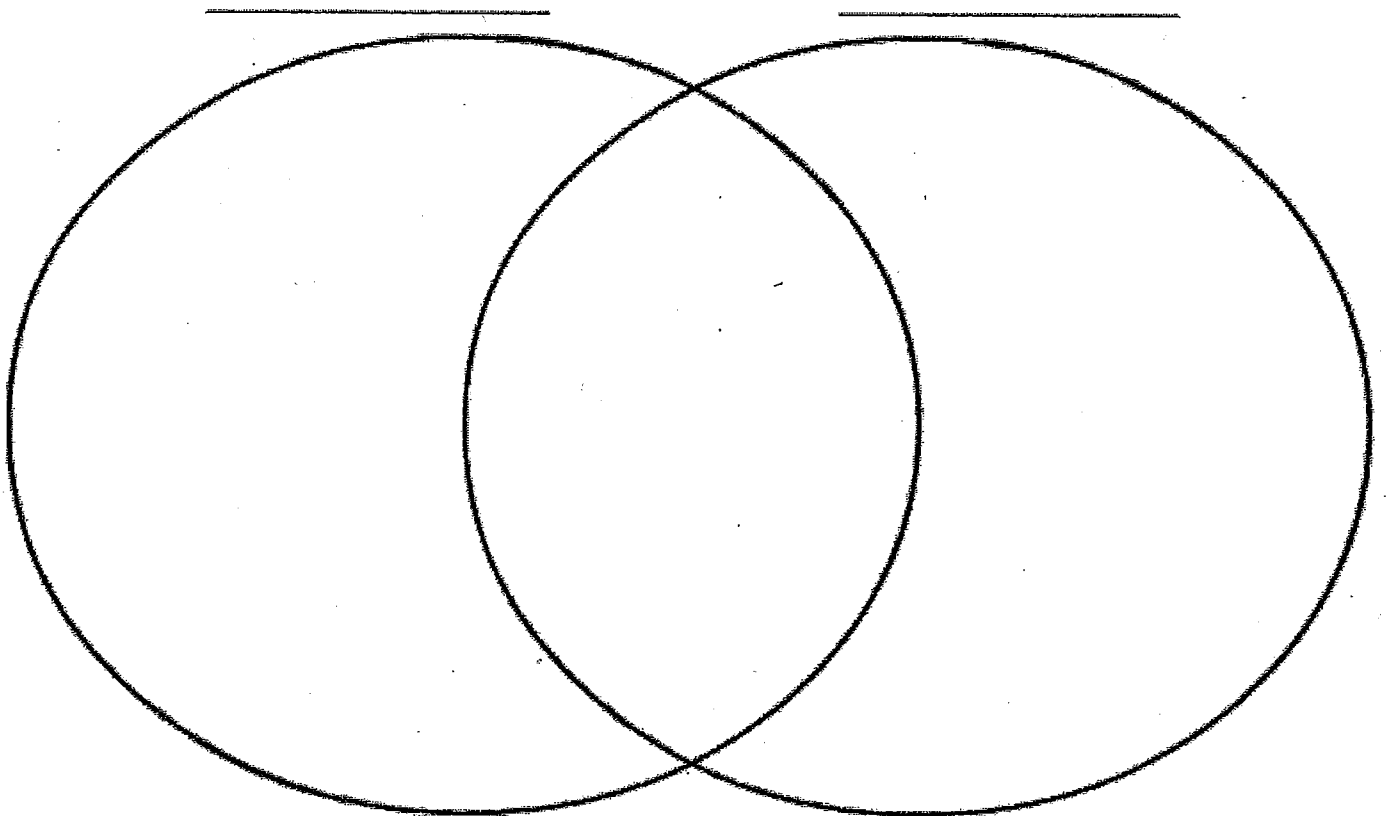
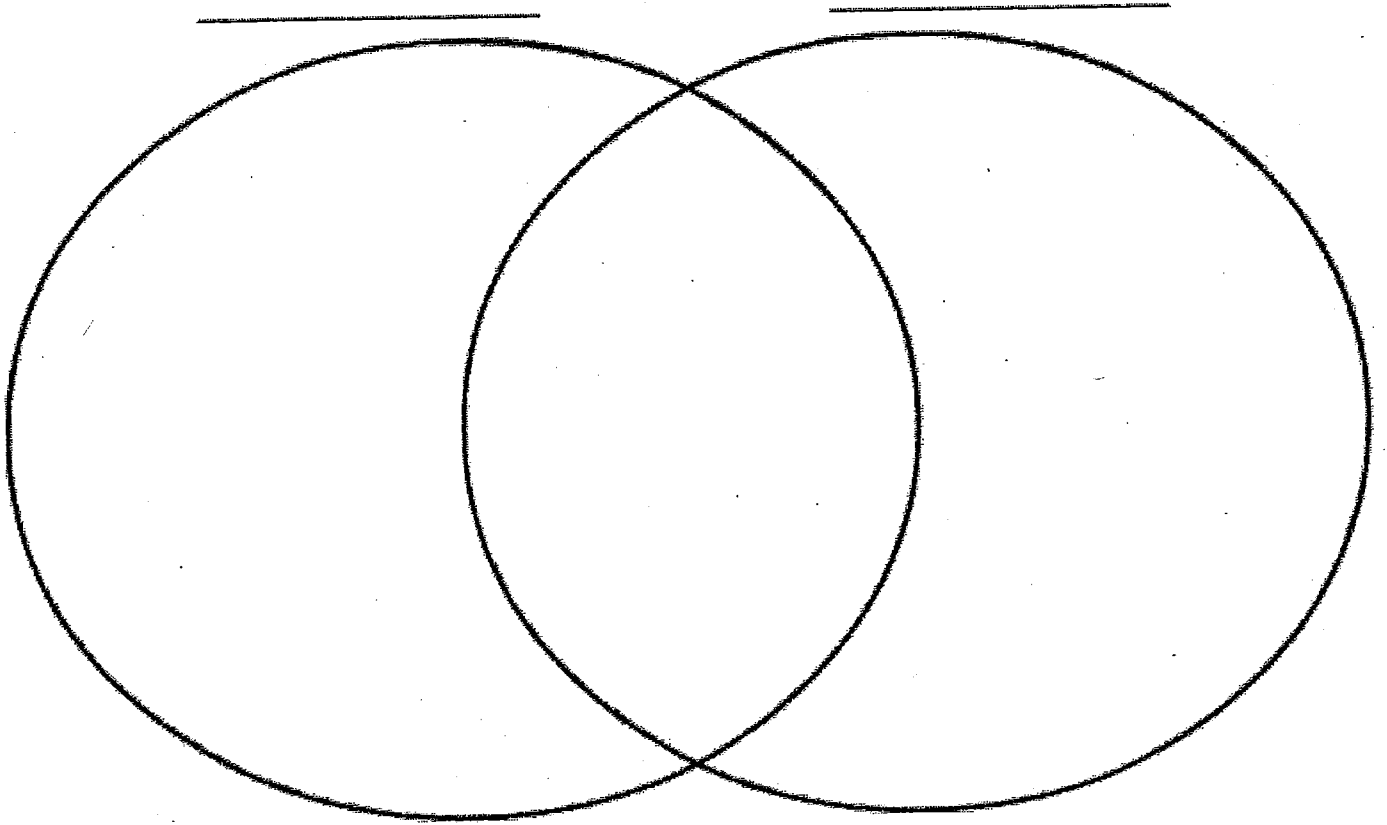
- Ⓐ "Roosa and his seeds orbited the moon 34 times while stationed in the command module 'Kitty Hawk.'" (paragraph 4)
- Ⓑ "Scientists were curious to know if the seeds, after their journey into the microgravity of space, would sprout and look the same as Earth-grown trees." (paragraph 5)
- Ⓒ "In the early 70s there were very few experiments done in space." (paragraph 5)
- Ⓓ "After being shipped to the Forest Service labs, it was found that most of the seeds did survive and ultimately were planted." (paragraph 7)
- Ⓔ "Many were planted as part of the nation's bicentennial celebration in 1976 and grow at national landmarks, such as the White House, Independence Square in Philadelphia, state capitols and university campuses." (paragraph 9)

Name:

Compare the following two inequalities:

$$x \leq 6 \text{ and } x \geq 3$$





Writing/Graphing Inequalities Homework:

Write an inequality for the following situations and then graph the inequality on a numberline.

Name: _____

Situation	Written Inequality	Graphing Inequality	Solution Set
1. Rob scored more than 7 points at the soccer game.			
2. I need 25 minutes or more to get ready.			
3. The height limit of the underpass is 16 feet.			
4. Anyone 16 or older can drive a car.			
5. Jim read more than 120 books.			
6. The puppy weighs less than 3 pounds			
7. Children 2 or under get in free.			
8. Andy has less than \$10 in his pocket.			
9. You must be at least 48 inches tall to ride the Raptor.			
10. Children 7 and under must ride in a car seat.			