

Name _____

Skill: Reading Comprehension

Read the story and answer the questions.

Soccer

The most popular sport in the world is soccer. In most European and Latin American countries, it is the national sport. A game similar to soccer was probably played in China as early as 400 B.C. The Romans also played a game similar to soccer around the year 200 A.D. Around the year 1100, children in London began to play a game also similar to soccer. During the 1800's, many English school children played soccer. As the game developed, many rules were being added or changed. One of the problems with the game was that each school played by their own rules and they also interpreted rules differently from other teams. The first official rules of soccer were established in 1848. This happened when school representatives met at Trinity College in Cambridge, England. By the late 1800's, the game had begun to spread throughout the world. By 1900, official soccer associations had been established in Belgium, Chile, Denmark, Italy, the Netherlands and Switzerland. In 1904, an official international soccer association was founded. The first World Cup soccer championship was played in 1930 in Montevideo, Uruguay. The World Cup is now held every four years. The popularity of soccer will probably continue to thrive and grow as it has certainly stood the test of time thus far.

1. What is the purpose of this passage? (Circle the answer)
A. to trace the history of the game of soccer
B. to tell how soccer rules were developed
C. to convince the reader that soccer is the best sport ever

2. Around what year did children in London begin to play soccer?

3. Why were official soccer rules established in 1848?

4. Which countries had established official soccer associations by 1900?

5. Where and when was the first World Cup championship played?
