



# “Money”

## Reading Comprehension – Informational Passages <sup>(4)</sup>

Directions: Read the passage. Then answer questions about the passage below.

Nine thousand years ago, people did not have money. They traded animals for things they wanted. A little later, people traded crops for what they wanted.

In China, in about 1200 B.C., people used shells for money. Chinese people also traded metal **tools** for things they wanted. For example, they traded metal knives and shovels for what they wanted. Later in China, people made metal money. In about 100 B.C., the Chinese made money of animal skin. The first bank notes were white **deer** skin. The first paper money came from China about 900 years later.

In about 700 B.C., people made round metal **coins**. The coins were made of gold and silver. They looked almost like today’s coins. The first coins came from Lydia. Lydia is in today’s Turkey. People in Rome, Iran, and Greece also made coins.

Wampum was **beads** made from white shells. The beads had holes in them. People put beads on strings. American Indians used wampum for money in the 1500’s.

Money changes with time. No matter what it looks like, money is an **idea**. It is the thought that people can trade something they have for something they want. Money makes trading easier.

### Questions:

1) Before people had money, they traded...

- A. crops for what they wanted.
- B. animals for what they wanted.
- C. metal tools for what they wanted.
- D. All of the above

2) The first paper money was made in...

- A. the year 1200 B.C. in China.
- B. the year 700 B.C. in Lydia.
- C. the year 800 in China.
- D. the 1500’s in North America.

3) What were the first bank notes made of?

- A. Metal
- B. Paper
- C. Animal skin
- D. White shells

4) The first metal coins came from...

- A. Iran
- B. Lydia
- C. Rome
- D. Greece



5) All money is based on the idea that...

- A. gold and silver are good money.
- B. people can trade what they have for what they want.
- C. people can trade things for animals.
- D. coins are the best kind of money.

### Vocabulary:

1) **Tools** are things you...

- A. use for money.
- B. use to do work.
- C. put in the bank.
- D. trade for something.

2) A **deer** is...

- A. a kind of money.
- B. a kind of animal.
- C. made of shells.
- D. gold or silver.



3) What are **coins**?

- A. Round, flat, metal pieces of money
- B. Beads made of white shells
- C. Paper bank notes
- D. Metal knives

4) What are **beads**?

- A. Small objects worn as jewelry
- B. Paper things used as money
- C. Animals used as money
- D. None of the above.

5) An **idea** is a...

- A. coin.
- B. trade.
- C. string.
- D. thought.