

What's Your News IQ?

Directions: Read the Scholastic News Online article about the newly discovered fossil (“Ancient Fossil Makes Public Debut”). Then answer the questions below. For questions 1 through 7, fill in the circle next to the best answer. For question 8, write a brief response on the lines.

1. What is special about the fossil that scientists have named *Ida*?

- Ⓐ It is one of the oldest fossils ever found in Europe.
- Ⓑ It may represent the first human being.
- Ⓒ It is the most complete primate fossil ever found.
- Ⓓ Some scientists believe it may actually be a fake.

2. Where was *Ida* discovered?

- Ⓐ Washington, D.C.
- Ⓑ New York City
- Ⓒ Norway
- Ⓓ Germany

3. According to experts, how old was *Ida* when she died?

- Ⓐ 47 years Ⓒ 9 months
- Ⓑ 6 years Ⓓ 19 months

4. Which type of animal is NOT a primate?

- Ⓐ humans Ⓒ apes
- Ⓑ dinosaurs Ⓓ monkeys

5. The story says that “*Ida*’s debut has sparked a lot of debate among scientists.” In this context, **debut means _____.**

- Ⓐ thumbs Ⓒ name
- Ⓑ age Ⓓ appearance

6. You can infer from the story that scientists will

- Ⓐ keep studying the primate fossil.
- Ⓑ bring the fossil to museums all over the world.
- Ⓒ look for similar fossils in New York.
- Ⓓ bring the fossil back to the Messel Pit.

7. According to the story, what is one way in which *Ida* was similar to human beings?

- Ⓐ She had eyes that faced forward.
- Ⓑ She was able to write.
- Ⓒ She had hair instead of fur.
- Ⓓ She stood and walked on two legs.

8. What do scientists hope to learn from studying *Ida*?
