Cold Reads

Did you know that many things you use every day are made of glass? Look around you. What can you see that’s made from glass? Are there any windows around you? Those are glass. What about lights? Light bulbs are also made from glass. Some parts of lamps are glass, too.

Look at a television or computer screen. Those screens are made of glass. Do you wear eyeglasses? The lenses of eyeglasses are often made from plastic these days. However, they were once made of glass. How about the things that juice is served in? They’re called glasses, too, even if they’re not made from glass.

Did you know that many things you use every day are made of glass? It’s easy to take glass for granted!

Glass is made by melting together sand, washing soda, and limestone. Sand by itself can be melted to make glass. To melt, sand has to be heated to more than 3,000 degrees Fahrenheit! Washing soda is added to lower the melting point of sand to 1,650 degrees.

But glass made from only sand and washing soda will dissolve in water! Limestone is added to make the glass strong. Often, bits of broken glass are added as well. For thousands of years, people have used this recipe to make glass.

Glass is amazing! It’s made from natural materials and it’s fairly easy and cheap to produce. It can be recycled over and over. What’s more, glass objects can last for a very long time. Some have lasted for thousands of years!

Glass is all around us. It’s older than written history, and people are still finding new uses for it. What would the world be like without glass? It’s hard to imagine!
Answer the questions. You may reread parts of the passage to help you.

1. What is the MOST LIKELY reason the author wrote the article “Glass All Around”?
   - to describe how to make glass
   - to show how important glass is
   - to tell that glass lasts a long time
   - to explain that windows are made from glass

2. Why is limestone added to sand and washing soda when making glass?
   - to make it blue
   - to make it thinner
   - to make it heavier
   - to make it stronger

3. Which word is a clue to the meaning of the word produce as used in the sentence below?
   It’s made from natural materials and it’s fairly easy and cheap to produce.
   - cheap
   - easy
   - make
   - materials

4. How are light bulbs and eyeglasses ALIKE?
   - They are both cheap.
   - They can both be recycled.
   - They are both made from glass.
   - They have both been around for a short time.

5. Why does the author think glass is amazing? Use details from the passage to support your answer. Write your response on another sheet of paper.