WORDS DRILL

Time: 8 minutes

Questions 34–44 are based on the following passage.

Uncovering Dinosaurs in Scotland

In 2015, as they hiked along the coast of Scotland's Isle of Skye, Steve Brusatte and his team were on the lookout for signs of dinosaurs. Brusatte, a paleontologist, studies the history of life through fossils. Paleontologists had not considered Scotland a fossil-rich site (compared to areas like Mongolia and China), but the unearthing of a dinosaur bone changed all that: the discovery by Dr. Neil Clarke and Dougie Ross wasn't made until 1995, so much of 34 there has gone unexplored. The discovery was exciting since the fossils in Scotland were older than 35 the first human civilizations, giving paleontologists another glimpse into life before humans. Discoveries of small bits of dinosaur teeth and bones, along with footprints, prompted an optimistic Brusatte to move to Scotland to explore the area in search of more evidence of ancient life. "Right now is the best time in the history of dinosaur research," he said.

34

A) NO CHANGE
B) the region
C) that
D) it

35

A) NO CHANGE
B) the age of the
C) those of the
D) that of the

Brusatte and another researcher, Tom Challands, stumbled upon a barely **36** understandable site full of dinosaur tracks. Many of the features of the footprints, such as location and size, were similar to **37** tidal creatures. The location of the track site on the island's coast made fieldwork challenging, as the team had to contend with the elements. **38** However, they couldn't use drones to capture overhead images because of the cold winds, and they also had to be constantly mindful of the tides as the rising water routinely flooded the track site.

36

A) NO CHANGE
B) plain
C) obvious
D) perceptible

37

A) NO CHANGE
B) those of tide pools.
C) the formation of tide pools.
D) tide pools.

38

A) NO CHANGE
B) Therefore,
C) In other words,
D) Regardless,

Enduring the cold and wet of the island led to several significant discoveries. In 2015, the team **39** found a site full of tracks from sauropods (a group of dinosaurs **40** known as its large size). During field work in 2017, one of Brusatte's students found a dinosaur bone on Eigg, another Scottish island, marking the first dinosaur discovery in Scotland that wasn't on the Isle of Skye. Evidence of the stegosaurus was found in 2020; the team discovered that **41** those had walked among the other dinosaurs on the Isle of Skye.

39

A) NO CHANGE
B) stumbled upon a site full of sauropod tracks
C) came upon sauropod tracks filling a site
D) became aware of a site filled with sauropod tracks

40

A) NO CHANGE
B) knows that
C) knows
D) known for

41

A) NO CHANGE
B) we
C) it
D) they

These discoveries provide a wealth of new information about dinosaurs of the Middle Jurassic period that both 42 have encouraged further studies and have given some answers about how and where these animals lived. The Middle Jurassic species have not been studied as well as other dinosaurs have since their fossils are not found as often, so the research in Scotland greatly increases the knowledge about 43 it. Initially scientists thought sauropods spent most of their time in water until the discovery of their footprints on land disproved that theory. The footprints on the coast of the Isle of Skye suggest that they both walked on land and spent time in water.

Through these findings, 44 we paint a clearer picture of the lives of dinosaurs in the Middle Jurassic period. "Each new dinosaur fossil we find, whether it's a footprint on the Isle of Skye or a fossil bird in China, is a clue that helps fill in the picture of dinosaur evolution," Brusatte said.

42

A) NO CHANGE
B) encourages further studies and gives
C) encourages further studies and give
D) encourage further studies and give

43

A) NO CHANGE
B) them.
C) one.
D) him or her.

44

A) NO CHANGE
B) ancient sauropods
C) modern paleontologists
D) they