

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Slippery Slope Taxonomy: A 6th Grade Kingdom Quest

Mid-expedition scientists must distinguish between slough-dwelling protists and deep-sea archaea while mapping the invisible lines that connect all living things.

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**1. A biologist discovers a multi-cellular organism growing on a fallen log. Under a microscope, she notices the cells have thick walls made of chitin and no chloroplasts. Which kingdom does this belong to?**

- A. Kingdom Plantae
- B. Kingdom Fungi
- C. Kingdom Protista
- D. Kingdom Animalia

**2. True or False: Organisms in the same 'Class' are more closely related than organisms in the same 'Family'.**

- A. True
- B. False

**3. The scientific name of the Great White Shark is *Carcharodon carcharias*. In this binomial nomenclature system, 'Carcharodon' represents the \_\_\_\_\_ level of classification.**

- A. Species
- B. Kingdom
- C. Genus
- D. Order

**4. You are analyzing a microscopic organism found in a sample of boiling volcanic water. It is single-celled and lacks a nucleus. This organism likely belongs to which group?**

- A. Archaea
- B. Protista
- C. Fungi
- D. Animalia

**5. Organisms that must consume other living things for energy, such as a Red Panda or a Blue Jay, are scientifically described as \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. Autotrophs
- B. Phototrophs
- C. Heterotrophs
- D. Lithotrophs

**6. True or False: Kingdom Protista is often called the 'junk drawer' of classification because it contains diverse eukaryotes that don't fit into plants, animals, or fungi.**

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- A. True
- B. False

**7. Which of the following is the correct order of the taxonomic hierarchy from the broadest group to the most specific?**

- A. Domain, Phylum, Kingdom, Class, Order, Genus, Family, Species
- B. Kingdom, Domain, Phylum, Order, Class, Family, Genus, Species
- C. Domain, Kingdom, Phylum, Class, Order, Family, Genus, Species
- D. Species, Genus, Family, Order, Class, Phylum, Kingdom, Domain

**8. A scientist finds a new organism that is multicellular, performs photosynthesis, and has cells containing a nucleus. This organism should be placed in Kingdom \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. Bacteria
- B. Protista
- C. Fungi
- D. Plantae

**9. True or False: Both Bacteria and Archaea are comprised of prokaryotic cells, meaning their DNA is not contained within a nucleus.**

- A. True
- B. False

**10. Why did scientists decide to create the 'Domain' level above the 'Kingdom' level?**

- A. To group animals based on what they eat.
- B. To reflect fundamental differences in cell chemistry and RNA.
- C. Because there were too many species of insects to count.
- D. To separate organisms that can swim from those that walk.