

"FUN FACTS ABOUT GOLD: WEIGHT, MAGNETISM, VALUE, AND MORE"

Directions: Oooo, sparkly! Get ready to embark on a golden adventure as we dive into the glittering world of gold. From shiny treasures to fascinating history, we're about to unlock the secrets of this precious metal. Read the article below. Use close reading strategies like highlighting, underlining, and small note-taking (annotating) as often as possible to prepare to complete the coordinating tasks.

Gold is a fascinating metal that has captivated humans for centuries. Its shimmering yellow-golden color and unique properties make it a highly sought-after and much-prized material.

One of the most interesting things about gold is that it's one of the heaviest metals on Earth. A single bar of gold, which is about the size of a chocolate bar, weighs an astonishing 27.5 pounds. That's about as heavy as a two-year-old toddler! Carrying multiple bars of gold would make for one hefty load.

Another intriguing fact about gold is its lack of magnetism. Unlike many other metals, gold is *not* magnetic. Surprising, for sure. If you were to place a magnet near a gold object, it would not be attracted to it. Nothing would stick or click. The idea that gold is magnetic is a common misconception.

Of course, more people are likely to understand that gold is extra valuable. Throughout history, gold has been treasured for its beauty, durability, and scarcity. Gold is a precious metal that is not easily found or obtained. It's been used to create detailed jewelry—crowns, necklaces, rings, bracelets, and the like! It's been a treasured material for decorating palaces and

temples. And finally, as you may know, it's also been used as a form of currency—especially one that pirates like! Its value is also influenced by supply and demand. The limited availability of gold makes it highly prized by people all over the world.

Gold is so malleable, or flexible, moldable, and pliable, that a single ounce of gold can be stretched into a wire that is 50 miles long. Overall, gold's malleability allows it to be shaped into various forms.

Gold is also an excellent conductor of electricity. It is widely used in electronic devices like smartphones and computers because of its ability to transmit electrical signals efficiently. So the next time you're using your favorite gadget, remember that gold is playing a crucial role in powering it. It's like knowing there's a little bit of treasure hidden inside your favorite tablet, computer, or other device.

Gold is a remarkable metal that possesses extraordinary qualities. Its weight, non-magnetic nature, and versatility contribute to its attractiveness. Whether you're marveling at a piece of gold jewelry or using a device powered by gold, remember the wonders of this amazing metal.

"INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT GOLD: WEIGHT, MAGNETISM, VALUE, AND MORE" MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

1. How much does a bar of gold weigh?

- a) 1 pound
- b) 5 pounds
- c) 20 pounds
- d) 27 pounds

2. Is gold magnetic?

- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) Only in small quantities.
- d) It depends on the shape.

3. Why is gold valuable?

- a) It is easy to find.
- b) It is a common metal.
- c) It is beautiful and scarce.
- d) It is not valuable.

4. How long can a single ounce of gold wire be stretched?

- a) 1 mile
- b) 50 miles
- c) 80 miles
- d) 100 miles

5. The article states, "Throughout history, gold has been treasured for its beauty, durability, and scarcity. Gold is a precious metal that is not easily found or obtained."

The word "scarcity" for a form of the word "scarce" which most nearly means:

- a) scary
- b) rare
- c) valuable
- d) strange

"INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT GOLD: WEIGHT, MAGNETISM, VALUE, AND MORE" MULTIPLE CHOICE ANSWER KEY

Answer Key:

- 1.D
- 2.A
- 3.C
- 4.B
- 5.B

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

Writing Prompt: Imagine you discovered a hidden treasure chest filled with gold! Write a short story about what happens next. Where did you find the treasure? What adventures did you have? How did the gold change your life? Use your imagination and let the golden possibilities inspire your story!

The Weight of Gold: Compare the weight of a gold bar to familiar objects. Create a chart or list that includes the weight of a gold bar (27 pounds) and the weight of different objects in your classroom or school.

Gold Home Design: Illustrate or use a digital program to generate a picture of a home that incorporates gold in unique ways. Where is gold found throughout the home and why? How does it add to the “feel” and look of the home? You may focus on *one* room in particular or the *entire* home’s layout. Be prepared to share your creation and explain your design choices and how much you think it would cost to buy this home.

CONNECTION TO THE UNITED NATIONS' SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS)

The United Nations (UN) is an international organization composed of countries working together to address global issues. One important focus of the UN is sustainability, which means taking actions to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. To promote sustainability, the UN developed "The 17 Goals," also known as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These goals will help us create a better world by the year 2030. These goals are essential for all people because they address the challenges our planet and people face.

Gold can be connected to the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) number 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth.

The responsible and sustainable mining of gold poses environmental challenges. Extracting gold can have negative impacts on ecosystems, water resources and local communities. To access gold, large areas of land are often dug up, leading to the destruction of natural habitats for plants and animals. Mining can also cause pollution. Sometimes, harmful chemicals called toxins, like cyanide, are used to separate gold from the rocks and soil. These toxins can leak into nearby rivers and streams, harming fish, plants, and animals that depend on these water sources.

In the article, it's clear that gold is very valuable and many people have enjoyed it for centuries. However, the mining of gold clearly has harmful effects.

Task: In the space below, write a short speech in which you explain why you think we should either continue to or completely stop mining gold. You may complete some additional research to expand your knowledge of gold and gold mining.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND GOLD

The world is becoming more and more digitized each day. Our devices are very much part of our day-to-day lives. Before you become an active social media or web user, it's important to practice with some of the skills related to digital communication. Create a script for a 30-second informational video about gold mining or interesting facts about gold. With a classmate, time yourselves! Make sure your script communicates important facts at an appropriate pace for potential social media viewers.