

APPENDIX B: THE TOURIST TEST

The “official” title of the test you are about to take has changed several times. “Alien Test,” “Tourist Test,” and “Tracker’s Backyard Journey” are some of the names we have used to describe this experience. On some fronts, “Alien Test” has seemed harsh, while “Tracker’s Backyard Journey” hasn’t adequately captured the essence of what the test is creating for the person taking it. Perhaps “Tourist Test” is the best option, and recently it was decided to stick with that title for this experience.

See page 12 of the *Songline* section of this book for more background information on the Tourist Test.

If you don’t know the answer right off, just move on to the next question. It shouldn’t take you that long, maybe an hour. Enjoy the test and regardless of whether you feel you were able to answer many of the questions or not, take time to reflect upon this once you have finished. Have fun and enjoy taking...

THE TOURIST TEST

Name:

Today’s date:

Name of nearest town:

Simple description of the area:

INSTRUCTIONS : The first thing you should remember when taking this test is that honesty is the best policy. The object is not to prove anything, but simply to find out what you know and what you do not know. The test will illuminate for you what Wilderness

If you have already taken the Tourist Test in *Kamana One*, please proceed to the next section.



Awareness School is all about. If you find yourself interested in knowing the kinds of things that are on this test, then this school is for you.

Find a quiet place where you will be able to concentrate. Answer the questions in short, succinct phrases or with single word answers. If you do not know the answer, leave a blank. Quick guesses are fine. If you were asked, "What is 2+2?", in a second you would write "4." This is how we want you to treat this test.

When answering the questions on the following pages be sure to think of plants and animals that are specifically located in the area described above (only name animals and plants from the bioregion that you have chosen).

Have fun!

1. Name two species of ticks found in your area.
 - a)
 - b)
2. Describe these ticks by size, color and general characteristics.
 - a)
 - b)
3. What two diseases are carried by ticks?
 - a)
 - b)
4. How does one prevent tick infestation when traveling in the wilds?

5. Which wind in your area is the harbinger of heavy rains?

6. Which direction does the cold, clear air blow from?



7. What type of tree is lightning most likely to strike in your area?
8. What five plants in your area are most poisonous to eat?
- a)
 - b)
 - c)
 - d)
 - e)
9. Name one poisonous snake in your area. (If none, write “none”)
10. What is a sign in your area of a particularly cold winter to come?
11. Which plant growing locally is known to natives of the region for its effectiveness in cases of fever, colds or respiratory ailments?
12. Which plant growing locally is known to natives of the region for its effectiveness in aiding insect bites or stings?
13. How are they used?
- a)
 - b)
14. When is the best time of year or in their life cycles to gather these plants?
- a)
 - b)
15. Name two plants which are edible that have poisonous look-alikes growing in the same bioregion.



a)

b)

16. When people encounter bears in the wild, they sometimes do things which cause bears to become aggressive. Name two of the most dangerous and common situations where bears are known to attack people.

a)

b)

17. What time of day (during daylight hours) is least active for birdsong and calls?

18. When a mountain lion makes a kill, what does it do with the carcass after it has had its fill?

19. What are the symptoms of rabies in a wild animal?

20. Which mammal in your area does not have the potential to carry rabies?

21. What are the symptoms of distemper?

22. Name an animal in your area which commonly carries distemper.

23. Which trees are most dangerous in a wind storm? Name two species and explain why they are dangerous.

a)

b)

24. Name a tree that is good to hunker down by during a severe wind storm.

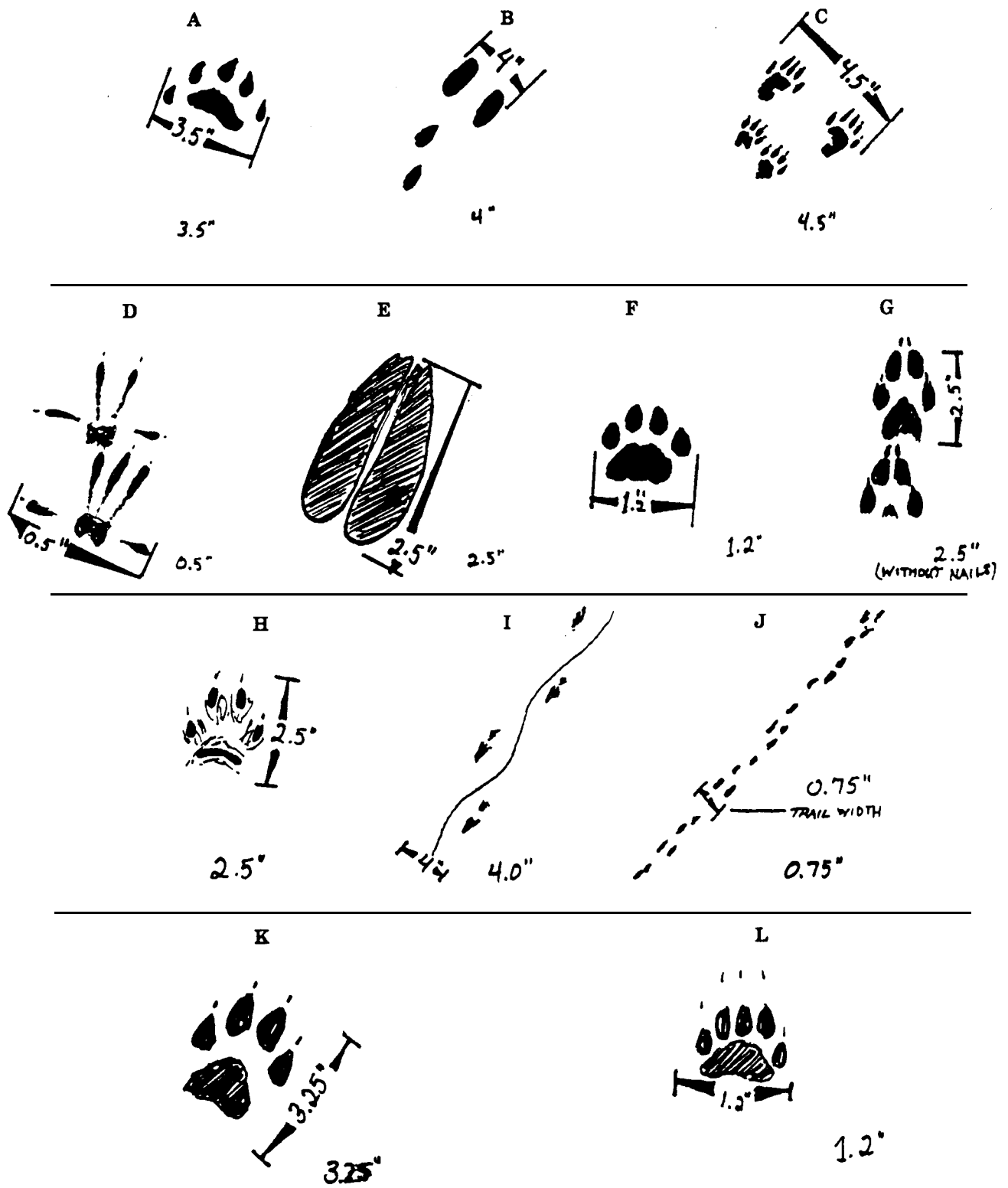


25. Which trees make the best products for use as insulation in a survival situation for building a temporary shelter.

26. Which trees in your area indicate an area of low sunlight, cold or wet situations which should be avoided in a cold emergency situation?

27. When a twig is ready to be harvested for burning there are ways to tell. How does one recognize twigs which are perfect for kindling?





Track Identification

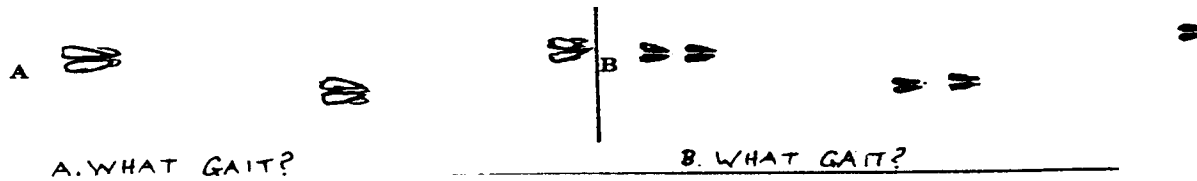
Use the illustrations A through L to answer question 28.

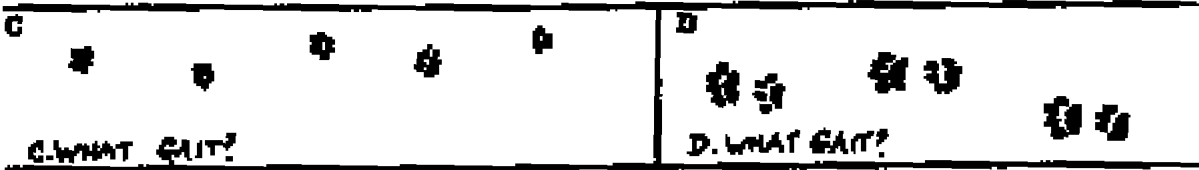
28. Pick 10 of the 12 tracks from the previous page and identify the animal, or a close relative that lives near to you (non-human that is). Identify the species (or at least family) of animal for each of the 10 that you have chosen. Place the letter of each track next the name.

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)
- 5)
- 6)
- 7)
- 8)
- 9)
- 10)

Trail Interpretation for Gaits and Body Mechanics

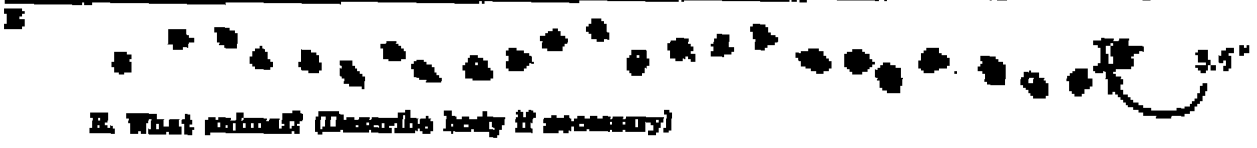
Use the illustrations/questions A through L to answer question 29.





C. WHAT GAIT?

D. WHAT GAIT?



E. What animal? (Describe body if necessary)



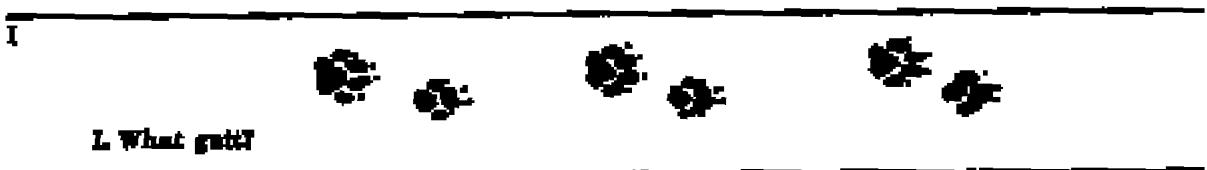
F. What happened at 4:37



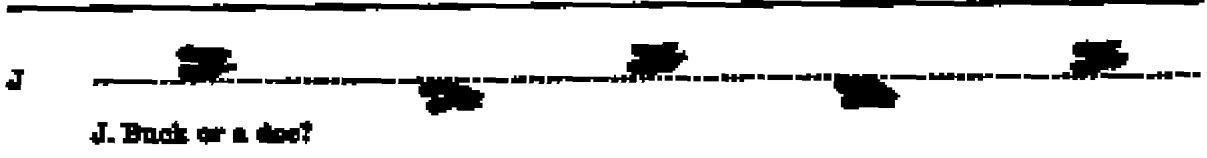
G. What gait? →



H. What gait?



I. What gait?



J. Buck or a doe?



K. Increase or decrease in speed?



L. If head turns, which way?



29. Look at the track and trail patterns on the previous two pages and choose 10 which you can interpret. Place the letter of the track pattern next to your brief interpretation.

1)

2)

3)

4)

5)

6)

7)

8)

9)

10)

30. What is the relationship between the rate at which a track ages and sunshine?

31. What is the relationship between the rate at which a track ages and:

a) sand content?

b) clay content?

32. When a bird is singing from a low perch, how will a feeding deer respond?

33. What predator leaves its droppings at the base of large trees or on logs?

34. What predator leaves its droppings concisely at the intersection of two trails but only in places in open country or with open sky above?



35. What predator marks its droppings, or those of another of the same species, with urine?
36. What animal sometimes fills hollow trees or caves with its bean-shaped droppings?
37. What is a deer's most likely response to approaching humans?
38. Why do deer respond to approaching humans in this fashion?
39. Think of a deer's most common response to approaching humans. How do jays respond to the deer's actions?
40. Describe the odor of red fox urine.
41. What predator will eat a bird and leave feathers which are cut neatly at the base—especially of the larger feathers?
42. What predator will eat a bird and leave the feathers mangled and matted with saliva?
43. There is a large tree on the edge of a dense thicket bordering a field. There is a slight breeze blowing from the southwest to the northeast. There are many intact dove feathers in a northeast-southwest line with the smallest the furthest out into the field, the largest right beneath the tree. It is afternoon. That morning at dawn there was no wind, last night a south breeze blew. What is the predator most likely to be?



44. At the base of a pine tree there are several egg-shaped gray masses of fur, skulls and feathers littered about that are of varying ages. The masses are about golf-ball-sized in diameter. What are these most likely to be?

45. Name an insect that becomes very abundant during late summer and early fall in the grasslands and meadows and that provides an important staple food for many ground feeding mammals and birds.

46. What do green, shiny flies in large concentrations indicate?

47. What type of caterpillar feeds on cherry and makes visible webs that are commonly seen in spring?

48. What is one of the most dangerous spiders of your area and what markings identify it?

49. What four-legged animal has five toes on the rear foot, four on the front, and leaves footprints in the snow around the base of berry or seed sources in the snow showing a predominately hopping gait, with tail mark in the powder and a trail width of 1.5”?

50. What animal is so strong that it can hardly contain its energy when it moves across the level ground and must jump extra far every so many bounds just to use up that extra energy? Hint: It is quite dense in body mass, it has bark colored fur and speaks with its tail.

51. The tracks of this animal are in a pattern often confused with the animal in #50, as they are similar in width and in the number of tracks together. But it is almost its opposite in body density: light, almost bird-like in its build, especially its bones and skull. It uses its tail in a different way. It is colored like the ground it lives next to and uses almost no trails in its usual forays for food—that is, unless one considers the whole of its environment a trail.



52. Where would one most likely encounter a network of vole trails (Describe the environment especially concerning the relative height and species make-up of the vegetation)?

53. What is a small mammal that feeds beneath the leaves and litter but above the soil, either moving incessantly in its search for insects and other invertebrates, or going into a state of torpid rest? Its remains are often found in the pellets of owls.

54. What small mammal feeds on insects, insect larvae, and other invertebrates by wedging the root mass of surface vegetation into a continuous trap for its prey?

55. Deer trails in the wilderness (away from the influences of the modern world) appear and disappear as one follows them through the forest. What is the reason for this?

56. What are two common rocks of your area (by name or description)?

a)

b)

57. What are three basic soils of your area?

a)

b)

c)

58. What can you predict about the whereabouts and/or exposure of deer regarding their winter daytime bedding areas in relation to the four directions, weather, and position of the sun?



59. How do squirrels and birds behave before a cold weather pattern arrives in the winter or fall?

60. What did the settlers of the region do to the area that created a major impact on the life of the area?

61. How did this change in the land effect the rivers, lakes and/or bays of the area?

62. What is the single most important factor affecting a deer herd's choice of trails in a suburban setting?

63. What animal leaves a dropping, or series of droppings, in one location composed entirely of one food type including all yellow jackets, all berries, all animal products or all acorns?

64. List two mast (nut producing) trees of your area.

a)

b)

65. List four types of edible berries of your area.

a)

b)

c)

d)

66. If there were no sun shining (cloudy sky) and you needed to walk in a straight line for several hundred yards through a thicket, how would you do it? List three ways.

a)

b)

c)



67. Describe three methods that you can use to find your way back through trackless wilderness in a situation where there is no snow or sand and where tracking is difficult (such as through a forest)—in other words, back tracking is not an option.

a)

b)

c)

68. Where in the sky is the sun at noon?

69. In the summer, the sun rises _____ (North, East, South, or West) of _____ (North, East, South, or West).

70. The most reliable part of an herb to be studied as far as identification is concerned is which structure or part?

71. What is a compound leaf? (Draw one.)

72. What is an irregular flower? (Draw one.)

73. Name two ways you can be sure you are looking at a leaf on a tree and not a leaflet.

a)

b)

74. Draw a simple map below and simply place a check mark next to the letter if you have completed that task as indicated by the instructions and letters below.



If you were flying above your neighborhood at the altitude of a high-flying hawk, could you easily map out the waterways (a.), the forests (b.), the thickets (c.) and the other features of your neighborhood for a one mile radius (d. indicate the four directions)?

a)

b)

c)

d)

75. Name five plants that are extremely common in your area:

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

76. How did the native people ensure that there would be enough plants for medicines, crafts and other uses of herbs, in their area?

77. Why did the forests flourish as result of the interaction of the people and the land?



78. Name four non-flowering more primitive plants of your area.
- a)
 - b)
 - c)
 - d)
79. What was the indigenous culture of your area?
80. What was their primary staple food in winter?
81. What was their primary staple food in the autumn?
81. What was the most important food in the summer?
82. Did they migrate?
82. From where to where?
83. What time of year is the time of most rapid plant growth?
84. What is the time of year where plants add wood to their structures?
85. What key animal and/or plant species are missing today from your local forests (name three)?
- a)
 - b)
 - c)



86. Describe second growth forest.
87. What in an aquifer is the recharge zone? Describe it.
88. What does an established river otter population indicate about an ecosystem?
89. What does the presence of many frogs indicate about an ecosystem?
90. What does the presence of many kinds of vines and thorns indicate in a forest?
91. Name local ecosystems of at least six types.
- a)
 - b)
 - c)
 - d)
 - e)
 - f)
92. Where in your area can you:
- a) find sand?
 - b) clay soil?
 - c) really rich soil?
93. What is the first type of tree to move into a newly cleared area (name two)?
- a)
 - b)



94. What is the most common soaring hawk of your area?

All animals have certain strategies which they follow. Their bodies and behaviors are a reflection of this. For instance, a house cat has large eyes, as that is the dominant sense, and therefore its strategy is to walk slowly, and to look around often during a short pause. Considering that, answer the following questions:

95. Coyote:

- a) What is the dominant sense of a coyote?
- b) What is its *hunting* strategy?
- c) How does this strategy influence a coyote's choice of trails?

96. Weasel:

- a) What is the dominant sense of a weasel?
- b) What is its *hunting* strategy?
- c) A weasel has a concern that a coyote does not, which greatly affects its behavior. What is this concern?
- d) How does this affect a weasel's behavior?

97. Deer:

- a) What is the dominant sense of a deer?
- b) What is its *feeding* strategy?



98. What is the *activity* strategy of a typical, suburban house dog?

99. Where are the descendants of the native people who once inhabited the area located today (What states or reservations primarily)?

100. Describe the difference in forest cover between a North slope and a South slope in natural-timbered areas. What species really gets more numerous on the north side?

101. What herbs grow in the winter on southern exposures in local parks, yards and roadsides (name three)?

a)

b)

c)

102. Draw a fast and effective shelter for emergencies (label materials in a cut away view showing some detail of structure, insulation and other important aspects of practical shelter building).

103. What tinder works fastest in your area under:

a) dry conditions?

b) wet conditions?



104. What trees in your area have opposite branching with compound leaves (name two)?

a)

b)

105. What are the most common native trees in your area growing in wetlands (name two)?

a)

b)

106. Name three more shrubs not mentioned in the previous questions that are common in your area.

a)

b)

c)

107. What is a common creekside plant in your area?

108. What are three native grasses of the area?

a)

b)

c)

109. Name four plants which are used for making baskets in the area.

a)

b)

c)

d)



110. Name three plants good for making cordage in the area.

a)

b)

c)

111. What wood in the area makes good bows (name two)?

a)

b)

112. What wood in the area is good for arrows?

113. What wood is really hard in your area (name two)?

a)

b)

114. Which are the hottest burning woods (name two)?

a)

b)

115. Which tree grows really fast?

116. Which tree grows really slow?

117. Name five animals that can be physically or strategically imitated in your area which would help you in a survival situation. Give the behavior you would mimic from each next to the animal's name.

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)



118. Name one type of call (a sound emitted by wildlife) that affects many species of birds or animals.

119. Name two kinds of insects which call in your area.

a)

b)

120. What common bird in your area has a crest on its head?

121. What common bird of your area has a white eye-ring?

122. What common bird of your area has white wing bars?

123. What common bird of your area feeds on the ground and has white in its tail feathers?

124. What common bird of your area lives in thickets and will not usually be seen in tree tops?

125. What common bird of your area loves the tree tops?

126. What are five really common birds in your area that you haven't named yet?

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

127. Name two kinds of common woodpeckers in your area.

a)

b)



128. Name two birds that will tell on a stalking hunter or animal in your area.

a)

b)

129. Name a bird that will tell of the presence of a large soaring hawk or owl by mobbing the predatory bird.

130. What is the most common snake in your area?

131. What is a common turtle of the water in your area?

132. What is the first frog, toad or treefrog chorus to sing in your area in spring?

133. What is a common salamander in your area?



TOURIST TEST REFLECTION

After you finish all four levels of the Kamana program, we will ask you to go back and take the test again so you can compare the differences. Take a few minutes to reflect on your experience before writing.



Name: _____

Date: _____