

What Is Mining?

Name _____

Class _____

Date _____

Circle the letter of the best answer.

1. According to the episode, what are miners actually doing?

- ☐ (A) Solving one very hard equation
- ☐ (B) Digging up digital coins
- ☐ (C) Making guess after guess until one code lands below a target
- ☐ (D) Approving bank transfers

2. What does the winning miner get?

- ☐ (A) Newly created bitcoin plus the fees in that page
- ☐ (B) A share of every bank account
- ☐ (C) Nothing; mining is volunteer work
- ☐ (D) Ownership of the network

3. If more miners join and pages start coming too fast, what happens?

- ☐ (A) The prize doubles
- ☐ (B) Pages get bigger
- ☐ (C) The network shuts down for a day
- ☐ (D) The target drops, so winning gets harder

4. Why does mining make old pages hard to change?

- ☐ (A) Old pages are locked with a password
- ☐ (B) To rewrite one, you'd have to win all the later lotteries again, faster than everyone else combined
- ☐ (C) Only the first miner can edit them
- ☐ (D) Banks keep backup copies

5. About how much of the world's electricity does bitcoin mining use, according to the Cambridge estimate in the episode?

- ☐ (A) About half a percent
- ☐ (B) About 10 percent
- ☐ (C) About a quarter
- ☐ (D) Almost none