Name:

**Ask Smithsonian Guided Reading: What is Beneath the Temple Mount**

Directions: Read the following article and respond to the questions below **in complete sentences.**

1. What was difficult for the archeologist when he first arrived at the Temple Mount? What kind of qualities would you need to have in order to be a successful archeologist?
2. What significance does the Temple Mount hold within Judaism?
3. What significance does the Temple Mount hold within Islam?
4. Who controls the Temple Mount? Why have archeological excavations been prohibited?
5. Explain the controversy behind the creation of an emergency exit for the El-Marwani Mosque. Why were Israelis upset?
6. What did Gaby Barkay and his team of staffers learn from their research and excavation? (Provide the evidence that corresponds with your statement)
7. Why did the Waqf’s chief archeologist criticize Barkay’s findings? Do you agree with his criticism? Explain
8. Describe the impact of Ariel Sharon’s visiting of the Temple Mount in September 2000.
9. Describe the importance of the Beit Hamikdash. What purpose did it serve?
10. Describe former Palestinian leader Yasir Arafat’s views on the Temple Mount
11. Why did Muslims and Jews alike oppose the plan to build a permanent bridge that leads to the Mughrabi Gate?
12. **Write a paragraph describing your knowledge and understanding about the controversy regarding the Temple Mount. How do you think these issues should be resolved? Explain**