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There are many legends regarding the origin of the Blarney Stone, and most of them are related to Bible stories. One says it was the rock that Moses struck with his staff to produce water for the Israelites, who were escaping from Egypt. Another says it had once been Jacob's Pillow and that the prophet Jeremiah had brought it to Ireland. Yet another says it was the Stone of Ezel, which David hid behind while escaping from King Saul. Still others claim it is from the Wailing Wall of the temple in Jerusalem. The most commonly accepted story of the stone, one not associated with the Bible, is that it is a portion of Scotland's ceremonial Stone of Scone and was presented to King Cormac MacCarthy I in 1314 by Robert the Bruce, King of Scotland, as a symbol of appreciation for Irish support in the struggle against English domination. Whatever its origin, the one thing historians are sure of is that the stone was set into the wall of Blarney Castle when Dermot MacCarthy rebuilt the castle in 1446.

設問1 この段落で扱われているテーマを本文中から抜き出さない。(20)

設問2 ~~そのテーマに関する著者の主張を表現している部分に下線を引かない。(20)~~

設問3 聖書に書いてある話とそうでない話の区切り目にスラッシュを入れなさい。(20)

設問4 下線部を和訳しなさい。(20)

設問5 最も適当なものを1つ選んで○で囲みなさい。(20)

According to the passage, we can say with certainty that the Blarney stone ().

- (A) is Biblical in origin
- (B) was carried to Ireland from Egypt
- (C) was a present from a Scottish King to an Irish king
- (D) has been part of the Blarney Castle wall for more than 500 years

設問6 最も適当なものを1つ選んで○で囲みなさい。(20)

From the passage we can conclude that King Saul is ().

- (A) an Irish king
- (B) a figure from the Bible
- (C) an ancestor of Robert the Bruce
- (D) the original owner of the Blarney Stone