INVESTIGATING CANCER AND ITS CAUSES

Answer each of the questions to follow. Use the provided reading as a reference to compose your answers.

1. What is cancer?
   cells multiplying and spreading in an uncontrolled way

2. What do you think is meant by the expression “cancer is mitosis gone wild”?
   mitosis is cells reproducing, and cancer causes it to happen very rapidly (wildly)

3. What is a carcinogen?
   something that causes cancer

4. What are some examples of carcinogens?
   chemicals, radiation, inherited (genetic factors), certain viruses and repeated damage

5. How might someone become exposed to carcinogens?
   working in certain jobs (asbestos, pesticide)

6. What is one strong link to getting lung cancer?
   smoking

7. What is one form of cancer commonly diagnosed in Canada?
   skin cancer (melanoma)

8. What are some recommendations to prevent this type of cancer?
   sunblock, protective clothing, stay out of the sun

9. What is chemotherapy?
   a chemical treatment that attempts to destroy cancerous cells

10. Why do you think it is important to visit your doctor regularly?
    treatments are most successful if cancer is diagnosed in an early stage

11. Why is research so important to cancer patients?
    there is currently no cure

12. What are some research techniques that might become popular in the future?
    gene therapy, vaccines or drugs to boost the immune system