Reflection Questions
Modern Rice Breeding:

1. What inspired Dr. Sónia Negrão to pursue a career in STEAM?
a) A love for plant genetics sparked in high school
b) The opportunity to work in Portugal
c) A passion for biology and chemistry
d) An interest in physics and engineering

2. What are the key factors considered when breeding rice for improved agronomic performance?
a) Grain color and taste
b) Disease resistance, drought tolerance, and yield
c) Growth height and leaf size
d) Plant flowering time and color variation

3. What traits are typically targeted for improvement in modern rice breeding programs?
a) Height and color
b) Agronomic performance, disease resistance, and yield
c) Taste and texture
d) Water retention and soil adaptation

4. What breeding techniques are commonly used in rice research to improve crop performance?
a) Crossbreeding and selection of natural genetic variants
b) Genetic modification using CRISPR technology
c) Cloning and hybridization
d) Tissue culture and in vitro fertilization

5. How is the success of improved rice cultivars usually measured in agricultural research?
a) By measuring growth rate and leaf size
b) By evaluating yield, resilience to environmental stress, and pest resistance
c) By analyzing the DNA sequences of the plants
d) By testing the taste and market demand of the rice

Answers

1. What inspired Dr. Sónia Negrão to pursue a career in STEAM?
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Answer: b) Disease resistance, drought tolerance, and yield

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