

● Medical Treasures

Cross out the statements that **DO NOT** agree with the textbook.

1. Aspirin was originally developed from the bark of a willow tree.
2. Most medicines used to treat headaches were developed after aspirin's molecular structure was determined.
3. Many medicines used to treat heart disease were developed from a plant called the rosy periwinkle.
4. A medicine that reduces heart disease is made from Indian snakeroot.
5. Most of the medicines used today come directly from plants.
6. Ethnobotanists have found that a small percentage of plants used by native peoples are effective medicines.
7. It is possible that plants may yield a cure for AIDS.
8. Scientists estimate that between one and 40 species of plants become extinct every 10 years.

Answer the following questions using information from the textbook.

9. What is an ethnobotanist? _____

10. Why do ethnobotanists feel that efforts should be taken to stop the destruction of the rain forest? _____

11. Why do drug companies concentrate on developing synthetic drugs rather than investing in studies by ethnobotanists? _____

