

A. Skim the newspaper article below. Then answer the following questions.

PLANT LIFE DISCOVERED BEYOND EARTH

By Leonard Estrada

Astronauts recently discovered a type of plant growing on the planet Venus. The strangely colored plant was brought back to Earth on Atlantis III, when it returned home from its monthlong mission last Friday. The huge plant resembles a Sago palm; it is hunter green in hue with deep shades of purple and yellow running down the center of each leaf. When broken, the leaves emit a sweet, viscous liquid, that smells very much like coconut milk. Scientists are using great caution during the plant's examination process. Protective suits, gloves, and goggles must be worn at all times. It is believed that the plant's juice can cause hallucinations if it is ingested or absorbed through the skin. Only scientists with Level 5 security clearance are permitted to view the plant. It is being housed at an undisclosed military facility until further tests can be completed.

1. Think of another title for the article.
2. Who is the author of the article?
3. What precautions are taking place?
4. What part of the body do goggles protect?
5. Why do you think precautions are necessary?
6. What are hallucinations?
7. What does the word ingest mean?
8. What might be an appropriate name for the new plant?
9. Why do you think strict security measures are being taken?
10. Who might have use for the plant and why?