



Achieve3000 Literacy™ At Home

Lexile 400

1ST B • 2ND C

Lesson Tracker

Name: _____ Teacher: _____



Step One

Respond to the Before Reading Poll



Step Two

Read the Article



Step Three

Do the Activity Questions



Step Four

Respond to the After Reading Poll



Step Five

Answer the Thought Question

Watch me soar! Mark off each lesson step as you finish it. Use the back of this paper if you need more space to add more lessons.

| Lesson Title | Before Reading Poll | Article | First Try Activity Score | After Reading Poll | Thought Question |
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A Musical Pioneer (400L)

Step 1: Before Reading Poll (Write Your Answer)

In the world of classical music, most conductors are men. And there are few conductors of color. But South Africa's Ofentse Pitse stands out. She's a young, black, female conductor. What do you think?

People who are willing to stand out help to bring about change.

Do you agree or disagree?

Step 2: Article (Read the Article)



Photo credit: Courtesy Ofentse Pitse

This is a photo of Ofentse Pitse. Pitse is the conductor of Anchored Sound.

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (Achieve3000, January 14, 2020). Ofentse Pitse used to be an architect. But classical music was calling to her. And she listened! Now she's the 27-year-old leader of Anchored Sound. That's an orchestra and choir. She started the group in her home country of South Africa.

Why did Pitse start Anchored Sound? To change the lives of young black people. Pitse, who loved music as a child, put together a choir in 2017. She picked great young singers. They lived in poor communities. Pitse gave them a chance to use their gifts. And she kept going. In 2019, she put together the orchestra. It has 40 players. She's the conductor.

In the world of classical music, Pitse is a pioneer. In 2017, a study was done. It found that only 5 of the world's top 100 conductors were women. And there are few conductors of color. Pitse is a young black woman. So she stands out.

Pitse wants to bring African classical music to the world. At classical music concerts, you often hear music written long ago by European composers. Beethoven is one example. But Pitse's group plays pieces by African composers. This lets listeners know: Classical music is alive in Africa.

Video credit: Mesia Gumede

Dictionary

architect (*noun*) a person who designs buildings

choir (*noun*) a group of singers especially in a church

conductor (*noun*) a person who stands in front of people while they sing or play musical instruments and directs their performance

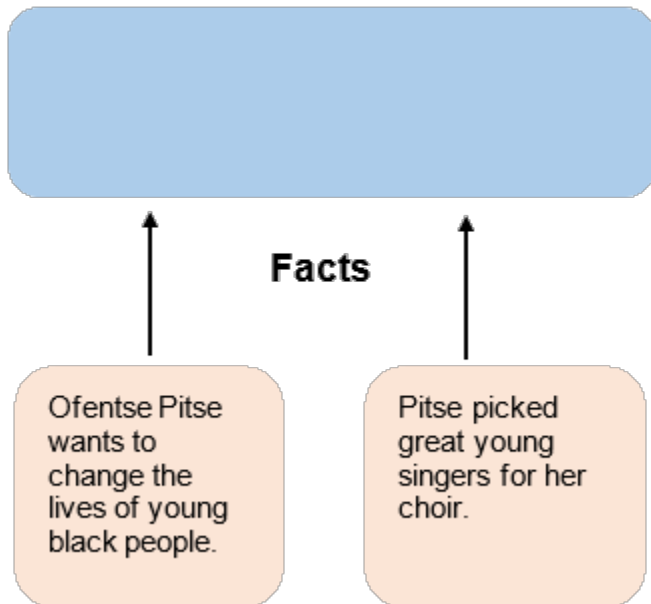
orchestra (*noun*) a group of musicians who play usually classical music together and who are led by a conductor

pioneer (*noun*) a person who helps create or develop new ideas, methods, etc.

Step 3: Activity (Answer the Questions)

Question 1

Main Idea of the Article



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

- Ⓐ People often hear music written by European composers.
- Ⓑ Pitse wants people to enjoy the music of African composers.
- Ⓒ Only 5 out of the world's top 100 conductors are women.
- Ⓓ Pitse gives young black singers a chance to use their gifts.

Question 2

Which of these is an opinion?

An opinion tells what a person thinks or feels. Others may not think this is right.

- Ⓐ The music of African composers sounds really good.
- Ⓑ Only 5 out of the top 100 conductors are women.
- Ⓒ Ofentse Pitse put together a youth choir in 2017.
- Ⓓ Beethoven is one example of a European composer.

Question 3

The Article says:

At classical music concerts, you often hear music written long ago by European composers. Beethoven is one example. But Pitse's group plays pieces by African composers. This lets listeners know: Classical music is alive in Africa.

Why is this passage in the Article? It helps the reader to know _____.

- Ⓐ why Pitse has written several classical works of music
- Ⓑ how Pitse is bringing African classical music to the world
- Ⓒ which European composer Pitse wants her orchestra to play
- Ⓓ how classical music has changed since the days of Beethoven

Question 4

Which two words have almost the **same** meaning?

Only some of these words are used in the Article.

- Ⓐ classical and beautiful
- Ⓑ picked and found
- Ⓒ start and begin
- Ⓓ leader and believer

Question 5

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that _____.

- Ⓐ Pitse doesn't like the works of Beethoven
- Ⓑ Pitse has written some classical works
- Ⓒ Pitse was not born in South Africa
- Ⓓ Pitse wants to help other people

Question 6

Which is **not** in the Article?

- Ⓐ What job Pitse used to have
- Ⓑ Why Pitse started Anchored Sound
- Ⓒ Why Pitse likes Beethoven
- Ⓓ When Pitse put together an orchestra

Question 7

The Article says:

Pitse, who loved music as a child, put together a choir in 2017. She picked great young singers. They lived in *poor* communities. Pitse gave them a chance to use their gifts.

Which means the **opposite** of *poor*?

- Ⓐ rich
- Ⓑ old
- Ⓒ small
- Ⓓ happy

Question 8

Read these passages from the Article. Which one shows that most classical conductors are men?

- Ⓐ Ofentse Pitse used to be an architect. But classical music was calling to her. And she listened! Now she's the 27-year-old leader of Anchored Sound.
- Ⓑ But Pitse's group plays pieces by African composers. This lets listeners know: Classical music is alive in Africa.
- Ⓒ In the world of classical music, Pitse is a pioneer. In 2017, a study was done. It found that only 5 of the world's top 100 conductors were women.
- Ⓓ At classical music concerts, you often hear music written long ago by European composers. Beethoven is one example.

Step 4: After Reading Poll (Did you change your mind?)

Now that you have read the article, indicate whether you agree or disagree with this statement.

People who are willing to stand out help to bring about change.

- Agree
- Disagree

Step 5: Thought Question (Write Your Response)

Imagine you are a reporter who is speaking with Ofentse Pitse. What questions might you ask her? What might her answers be? Include information from the Article, as well as vocabulary terms and describing words, in your answer.

Ancient Lines in the Sand (400L)

Step 1: Before Reading Poll (Write Your Answer)

In Southern Peru, there are big ground drawings. They're in the desert sand. They were put there more than 1,500 years ago. But scientists aren't sure what they were for. What do you think?

Some things should stay a secret.

Do you agree or disagree?

Step 2: Article (Read the Article)



Photo credit: Daniel Prudek/Shutterstock

A monkey geoglyph is seen from above. It's one of the many ground drawings known as the Nazca Lines.

NAZCA, Peru (Achieve3000, January 3, 2020). You're in an airplane that's flying over southern Peru. You look out the window. What do you see below? Big drawings on the ground! They're called geoglyphs. They're seen in the desert sands. They're of animals, plants, and more.

These geoglyphs are known as the Nazca Lines. They've been around for more than 1,500 years. And there are many of them. Some are as large as the Statue of Liberty! But people didn't notice them until 1927. That's when a Peruvian archaeologist first found some. Today, technology such as drones has found more geoglyphs. The best way to see them is from up above.

Who made the geoglyphs? The Nazca people. They lived before the Incas. How did they make them? By taking away some of the dark rocks that covered the ground to show the lighter-colored desert sand underneath.

But *why* were the geoglyphs made? Researchers aren't sure. They think they were part of rituals for rain and crops. Or they may have led people to where the rituals happened.

But these are all guesses. Only one thing is clear: The Nazcas drew lasting lines in the sands of time.

Video credit: Achieve3000 from footage by maxuser/Creatas Video+/Getty Images

Dictionary

archaeology (*noun*) a science that deals with past human life and activities by studying the bones, tools, etc., of ancient people

drone (*noun*) a type of small aircraft that flies without a pilot

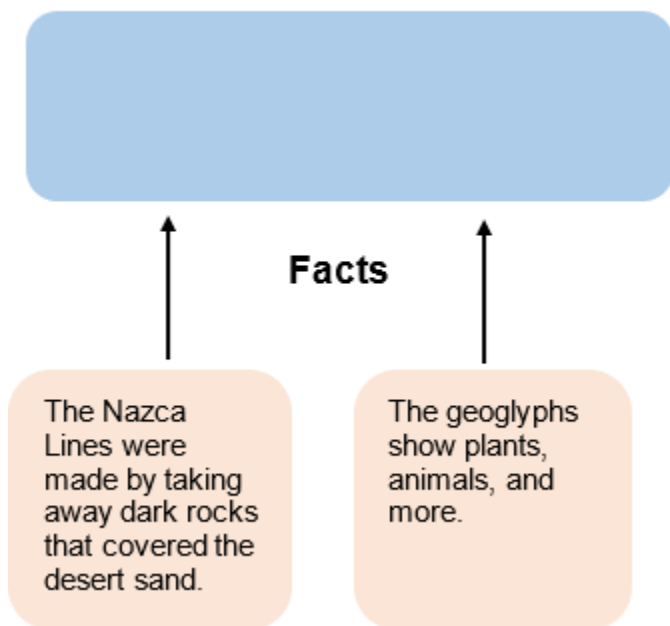
research (*verb*) to study (something) carefully

ritual (*noun*) an act or series of acts done in a particular situation and in the same way each time

Step 3: Activity (Answer the Questions)

Question 1

Main Idea of the Article



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

- Ⓐ The Nazca Lines are pictures made in the sands of Peru.
- Ⓑ The geoglyphs have been around for many years.
- Ⓒ The geoglyphs might have led people to rituals.
- Ⓓ The Nazca Lines were found by an archaeologist in 1927.

Question 2

Which of these is an opinion?

An opinion tells what a person thinks or feels. Others may not think this is right.

- Ⓐ The best way to see the Nazca Lines is from up above.
- Ⓑ It's a waste of time to figure out what the lines mean.
- Ⓒ The Nazca people of Peru lived before the Incas did.
- Ⓓ Some of the lines are as large as the Statue of Liberty.

Question 3

The Article says:

What do you see below? Big drawings on the ground! They're called geoglyphs. They're seen in the desert sands. They're of animals, plants, and more.

This helps the reader to know _____.

- Ⓐ what the Nazca Lines look like
- Ⓑ why the Nazca Lines were made
- Ⓒ that animals live in the desert
- Ⓓ that finding the lines is not easy

Question 4

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

Only some of these words are used in the Article.

- Ⓐ covered and filled
- Ⓑ desert and sand
- Ⓒ more and less
- Ⓓ technology and stories

Question 5

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that _____.

- Ⓐ the lines were made by moving sand around
- Ⓑ the Nazca Lines were created by an archaeologist
- Ⓒ some of the lines point to good places to grow crops
- Ⓓ it's hard to see the animal shapes from the ground

Question 6

Which is **not** in the Article?

- Ⓐ Who lived before the Incas
- Ⓑ What researchers think the lines were for
- Ⓒ Why researchers made the lines
- Ⓓ Who found the Nazca Lines in 1927

Question 7

The Article says:

Some are as large as the Statue of Liberty! But people didn't *notice* them until 1927. That's when a Peruvian archaeologist first found some.

Which means almost the **same** as *notice*?

- Ⓐ study
- Ⓑ build
- Ⓒ lose
- Ⓓ see

Question 8

Read these passages from the Article. Which one tells how the Nazca Lines were made?

- Ⓐ By taking away some of the dark rocks that covered the ground to show the lighter-colored desert sand underneath.
- Ⓑ You're in an airplane that's flying over southern Peru. You look out the window. What do you see below? Big drawings on the ground!
- Ⓒ But *why* were the geoglyphs made? Researchers aren't sure. They think they were part of rituals for rain and crops.
- Ⓓ These geoglyphs are known as the Nazca Lines. They've been around for more than 1,500 years. And there are many of them.

Step 4: After Reading Poll (Did you change your mind?)

Now that you have read the article, indicate whether you agree or disagree with this statement.

Some things should stay a secret.

- Agree
- Disagree

Step 5: Thought Question (Write Your Response)

Give three reasons why the Nazca Lines are interesting to visit and/or study? What's left to know about them? Use facts and details from the Article in your answer.

Animated Favorites Get Real (400L)

Step 1: Before Reading Poll (Write Your Answer)

Moviemakers are remaking old cartoon movies. The new movies have real people. *The Jungle Book* and *Beauty and the Beast* are two of these live-action remakes. What do you think?

Live-action remakes are more entertaining than the cartoon classics.

Do you agree or disagree?

Step 2: Article (Read the Article)



Photo credit: Tinseltown/Shutterstock

Many families love live-action remakes of animated movies. "Aladdin" is one of these movies. It stars Will Smith.

LOS ANGELES, California (Achieve3000, August 20, 2019). Like the Fairy Godmother waving her magic wand over a pumpkin, moviemakers have been bringing new life to old animated movies. Bibbidi-bobbidi-booyah! The movies are now live-action hits. They're made with real people.

Live-action remakes can make lots of money. They have a winning formula. It starts with stories fans love. Add characters who seem like old friends. Throw in big stars. Mix in special effects. And ka-ching! It's box office gold.

The power of nostalgia helps. Adults loved these movies growing up. So they like taking their kids to see them.

Moviemakers like these movies. They can add more diversity. So more kids see characters who look like them. That's not all: They can crank up the girl power! Many remakes have strong girl characters.

What do *you* think about live-action remakes? Whatever your take, these movies are a whole new world for fans.

Dictionary

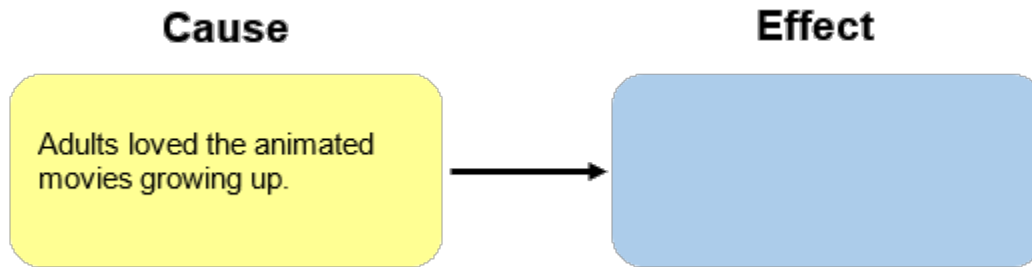
animated (*adjective*) produced by the creation of a series of drawings, pictures, etc., that are shown quickly one after another: produced through the process of animation

diversity (*noun*) the state of having people who are different races or who have different cultures in a group or organization

nostalgia (*noun*) pleasure and sadness that is caused by remembering something from the past and wishing that you could experience it again

Step 3: Activity (Answer the Questions)

Question 1



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

There is a box on the left that is labeled "Cause". The box says "Adults loved the animated movies growing up." There is an arrow pointing to a box on the right. It is labeled "Effect."

- Ⓐ The remakes have more diversity.
- Ⓑ Moviemakers crank up the girl power.
- Ⓒ Kids see characters who look like them.
- Ⓓ They take their kids to see the remakes.

Question 2

What is this Article mainly about?

- Ⓐ People love the new live-action remakes of animated movies.
- Ⓑ Kids still watch old animated movies.
- Ⓒ Adults love seeing movies with their kids.
- Ⓓ Some movie characters seem just like old friends.

Question 3

Which is **not** in the Article?

- Ⓐ What the "winning formula" for movies is
- Ⓑ Who adults take to the movies
- Ⓒ Which animated characters people like
- Ⓓ Why people like live-action films so much

Question 4

Which two words have almost the **same** meaning?

Only some of these words are used in the Article.

- Ⓐ strong and large
- Ⓑ hit and winner
- Ⓒ character and teacher
- Ⓓ old and funny

Question 5

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that _____.

- Ⓐ kids like movies with characters like them
- Ⓑ people want more animated movies
- Ⓒ some kids take their friends to the movies
- Ⓓ most people don't like the new remakes

Question 6

The Article says:

Live-action remakes can make lots of money. They have a winning formula. It starts with stories fans love. Add characters who seem like old friends. Throw in big stars. Mix in special effects. And *ka-ching!* It's box office gold.

Why is this passage in the Article? It helps the reader to know _____.

- Ⓐ why moviemakers remake animated movies
- Ⓑ why Hollywood actors can make so much money
- Ⓒ why fans don't always like live-action remakes
- Ⓓ why people still watch old animated movies

Question 7

Look at these passages from the Article. Which one shows why a parent might go and see today's live-action movies?

- Ⓐ What do *you* think about live-action remakes? Whatever your take, these movies are a whole new world for fans.
- Ⓑ The power of nostalgia helps. Adults loved these movies growing up. So they like taking their kids to see them.
- Ⓒ Bibbidi-bobbidi-*booyah!* The movies are now live-action hits. They're made with real people.
- Ⓓ Like the Fairy Godmother waving her magic wand over a pumpkin, moviemakers have been bringing new life to old animated movies.

Question 8

The Article says:

What do *you* think about live-action remakes? Whatever your take, these movies are a whole new world for fans.

Which means almost the **same** as *take*?

- Ⓐ history
- Ⓑ view
- Ⓒ need
- Ⓓ difference

Step 4: After Reading Poll (Did you change your mind?)

Now that you have read the article, indicate whether you agree or disagree with this statement.

Live-action remakes are more entertaining than the cartoon classics.

- Agree
- Disagree

Step 5: Thought Question (Write Your Response)

Write a summary of the Article. A summary tells what the main idea of a story is. To write a summary you should:

STEP 1: Read the Article.

STEP 2a: Look back at each paragraph. Find the main idea of each paragraph.

STEP 2b: Take out any facts that are not needed.

STEP 2c: Put everything—in your own words—into a few sentences.

STEP 3: Read your summary again.

STEP 4: Check your work. Make any last changes to your summary.

Bubble Tea Is Blowing Up (400L)

Step 1: Before Reading Poll (Write Your Answer)

A fairly new drink called "bubble tea" is winning fans across the world. What do you think?

Newer is better.

Do you agree or disagree?

Step 2: Article (Read the Article)



Photo credit: jarenwicklund/iStock/Getty Images
A bubble tea shop is a sweet spot to hang out.

TAIPEI, Taiwan (Achieve3000, May 7, 2019). Have you heard of bubble tea? It's from Taiwan. It's like a drink and a snack in one. Shops that sell it are opening all over.

Bubble tea starts with milk tea. Then, treats are added. They usually rest at the bottom. Often, they're balls of tapioca. They're sweet. People call them "bubbles." Many times, there are also bubbles on top of the drink. They form when the drink is shaken.

Bubble tea was invented in Taiwan in the 1980s. It was a hit. Then it spread across Asia. In the 1990s, bubble tea shops started opening in the U.S. Now, they're found in other places, too.

Some bubble tea shops sell over a hundred flavors! Would you like mango? How about chocolate pudding? And don't forget the toppings. How about chia seeds or red beans?

Bubble tea shops can be great places to chill. In some places, kids go there to hang out with friends. They may play games or study.

Information for this story came from VOA.

Credit: Voice of America

Dictionary

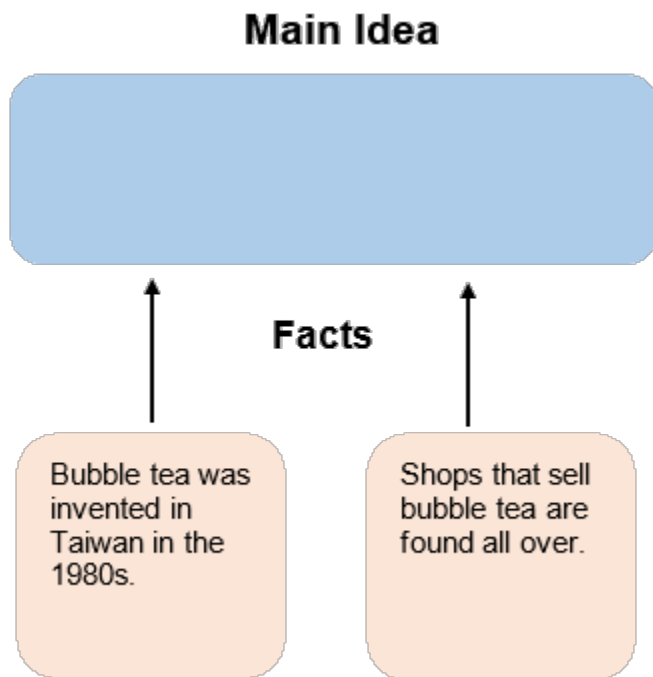
invent (*verb*) to make something that has never been made before

tapioca (*noun*) a food made from cassava, the root of a tropical plant

treat (*noun*) something good that you don't get very often

Step 3: Activity (Answer the Questions)

Question 1



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

There is a large, empty rectangle. Above the rectangle, it says "Main Idea of the Article." Under the rectangle, there are two smaller boxes with arrows pointing up to the rectangle. Each small box includes a fact from the Article. The box on the left says "Bubble tea was invented in Taiwan in the 1980s." The box on the right says "Shops that sell bubble tea are found all over."

- Ⓐ Bubble tea gets its name from the tapioca balls in the drink.
- Ⓑ Some bubble tea shops have over a hundred different flavors.
- Ⓒ Bubble tea shops are great places to hang out with friends.
- Ⓓ People now love bubble tea in Asia, the U.S., and beyond.

Question 2

Which word means almost the **same** as *invent*, as it is used in the Article?

- Ⓐ Create
- Ⓑ Need
- Ⓒ Drink
- Ⓓ Sell

Question 3

Look at the events below. Think about the Article. Which must have happened *first*?

This question asks about when events happened. It does not ask where in the Article the events show up. Look back at the Article for clues, like dates.

- Ⓐ People began adding treats to milk tea.
- Ⓑ Bubble tea shops opened in the U.S.
- Ⓒ Milk tea was made.
- Ⓓ Bubble tea spread across Asia.

Question 4

Which of these is an opinion?

An opinion tells what a person thinks or feels. Others may not think this is right.

- Ⓐ There are over a hundred flavors of bubble tea.
- Ⓑ Chocolate pudding is the tastiest flavor.
- Ⓒ In the 1980s, bubble tea was made in Taiwan.
- Ⓓ Some kids go to bubble tea shops to see friends.

Question 5

Rosa wants to know more about bubble tea flavors. She should look on a website about _____.

- Ⓐ The history of Taiwan
- Ⓑ How tapioca is made
- Ⓒ Making your own bubble tea
- Ⓓ Traveling in the U.S.

Question 6

The Article says:

Bubble tea shops can be great places to *chill*. In some places, kids go there to hang out with friends. They may play games or study.

Which word means almost the **same** as *chill*, as it is used above?

- Ⓐ Rest
- Ⓑ Cook
- Ⓒ Fight
- Ⓓ Work

Question 7

Look at these passages from the Article. Which one shows that bubble tea shops can be fun places to go?

- Ⓐ In the 1990s, bubble tea shops started opening in the U.S.
- Ⓑ Have you heard of bubble tea? It's from Taiwan. It's like a drink and a snack in one.
- Ⓒ Bubble tea starts with milk tea.
- Ⓓ Bubble tea shops can be great places to chill. In some places, kids go there to hang out with friends.

Question 8

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that _____.

- Ⓐ There are more bubble tea shops in the U.S. than anywhere else.
- Ⓑ Bubble tea shops ask people to finish their drinks quickly.
- Ⓒ More and more people like to drink bubble tea.
- Ⓓ The U.S. is where tapioca was first made.

Step 4: After Reading Poll (Did you change your mind?)

Now that you have read the article, indicate whether you agree or disagree with this statement.
Newer is better.

- Agree
- Disagree

Step 5: Thought Question (Write Your Response)

What is bubble tea? What can you tell about the people who visit bubble tea shops? Use facts and details from the Article in your answer.

Cooking Up Native Traditions (400L)

Step 1: Before Reading Poll (Write Your Answer)

Sean Sherman saw a problem in Native American communities. He came up with a plan to fix it. What do you think?

Don't sit back when you see a problem—find ways to fix it yourself.

Do you agree or disagree?

Step 2: Article (Read the Article)



Photo credit: AP/Amy Forliti

Sean Sherman cooks up Native American recipes.

Minneapolis, Minnesota (Achieve3000, January 17, 2020). Sean Sherman is Native American. He's part of the Lakota Sioux tribe. He grew up on a reservation in South Dakota. As a kid, he ate foods given to his family by the U.S. government. Like what? Canned beans and boxed rice. Their cupboards were packed with these foods. But later in life, Sherman wondered: Where were the foods from his Native culture?

So Sherman learned more about his culture. In the past, Native Americans grew and hunted different kinds of food. They had their own food traditions. Then the Europeans came. And many Native American food traditions were lost. Their food sources, like bison, were nearly wiped out.

Sherman had an idea: He wanted to bring back these traditions. So he started a cooking business. It's called The Sioux Chef. His recipes use plants and ingredients from nature. Like what? Mushrooms and wild rice. He skips ingredients brought by Europeans.

What's another reason Sherman is bringing Native foods back? The foods given to many Native Americans, like those in his cupboard growing up, aren't healthy. This causes health problems. Diabetes is one. But Native foods are good for people. They have less salt, sugar, and fats. Sherman hopes more people will eat these foods.

Video credit: The Sioux Chef

Dictionary

bison (*noun*) a large, hairy wild animal that has a big head and short horns

culture (*noun*) the beliefs, customs, arts, etc., of a particular society, group, place, or time

diabetes (*noun*) a serious disease in which the body cannot properly control the amount of sugar in your blood because it does not have enough insulin

recipe (*noun*) a set of instructions for making something from various ingredients

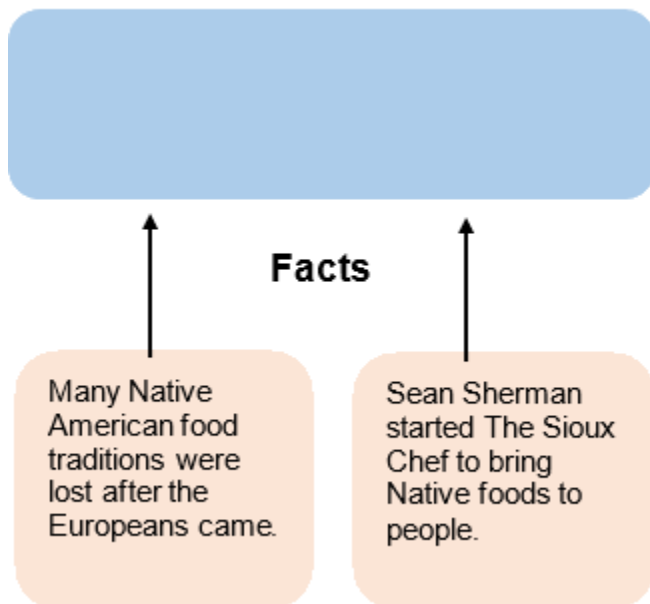
reservation (*noun*) an area of land in the U.S. that is kept separate as a place for Native Americans to live

tradition (*noun*) a way of thinking, behaving, or doing something that has been used by the people in a particular group, family, society, etc., for a long time

Step 3: Activity (Answer the Questions)

Question 1

Main Idea of the Article



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

- Ⓐ The U.S. government gives Native Americans canned beans and boxed rice.
- Ⓑ Native food sources, such as the bison, were nearly wiped out.
- Ⓒ Sherman is bringing back healthy Native American food traditions.
- Ⓓ Sherman's recipes use ingredients such as mushrooms and wild rice.

Question 2

Which of these is an opinion?

An opinion tells what a person thinks or feels. Others may not think this is right.

- Ⓐ Sherman is bringing back Native foods.
- Ⓑ Native foods have less sugar, fat, and salt.
- Ⓒ Sherman's recipes really taste great.
- Ⓓ The bison were nearly wiped out.

Question 3

The Article says:

The foods given to many Native Americans, like those in [Sherman's] cupboard growing up, aren't healthy. This causes health problems. Diabetes is one. But Native foods are good for people. They have less salt, sugar, and fats. Sherman hopes more people will eat these foods.

This helps the reader to know _____.

- Ⓐ why Sherman is bringing back Native foods
- Ⓑ who helps Sherman make Native foods
- Ⓒ why Sherman has some health problems
- Ⓓ which Native foods Sherman likes to eat

Question 4

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

Only some of these words are used in the Article.

- Ⓐ later and earlier
- Ⓑ asked and said
- Ⓒ different and good
- Ⓓ packed and made

Question 5

Think about the Article. Which is most likely to happen?

- Ⓐ Native American foods will cause health problems.
- Ⓑ Sherman will add more canned beans to his recipes.
- Ⓒ More people will learn about Native American foods.
- Ⓓ Sherman will stop using wild rice and mushrooms.

Question 6

Which is **not** in the Article?

- Ⓐ What foods were in Sherman's family cupboard
- Ⓑ Why it's hard to find ingredients like wild rice
- Ⓒ What problem some Native Americans have
- Ⓓ Why Native American foods are healthy

Question 7

The Article says:

Sherman had an *idea*: He wanted to bring back these traditions. So he started a cooking business. It's called The Sioux Chef.

Which means almost the **same** as *idea*?

- Ⓐ thought
- Ⓑ question
- Ⓒ problem
- Ⓓ difference

Question 8

Read these passages from the Article. Which one shows that Sherman's recipes can help people with health problems?

- Ⓐ Sherman had an idea: He wanted to bring back these traditions. So he started a cooking business. It's called The Sioux Chef.
- Ⓑ But Native foods are good for people. They have less salt, sugar, and fats. Sherman hopes more people will eat these foods.
- Ⓒ So Sherman learned more about his culture. In the past, Native Americans grew and hunted different kinds of food.
- Ⓓ Sean Sherman is Native American. He's part of the Lakota Sioux tribe. He grew up on a reservation in South Dakota. As a kid, he ate foods given to his family by the U.S. government.

Step 4: After Reading Poll (Did you change your mind?)

Now that you have read the article, indicate whether you agree or disagree with this statement.

Don't sit back when you see a problem—find ways to fix it yourself.

- Agree
- Disagree

Step 5: Thought Question (Write Your Response)

Describe something that Sean Sherman did. Explain what that tells about him. Use facts and details from the Article in your answer.

Defying Gravity (400L)

Step 1: Before Reading Poll (Write Your Answer)

Simone Biles has been called the greatest gymnast ever. However, her rise to the top has not always been easy. What do you think?

With enough hard work, anything is possible.

Do you agree or disagree?

Step 2: Article (Read the Article)



Photo credit: Marijan Murat/dpa via AP
Gymnast Simone Biles shows off some of her gold medals.

STUTTGART, Germany (Achieve3000, October 24, 2019). Simone Biles is a gymnast. She's been called the greatest ever. How did she get to be so great? With lots of hard work.

Biles was born on March 14, 1997. Her early life wasn't easy. Her mom and dad couldn't care for her. So she lived in foster care. In 2003, she was adopted by her grandparents.

Biles got into gymnastics at age 6. Even back then, she gave it her all. She never missed a practice. But in 2011, Biles didn't make the U.S. women's team. This made her sad. But she didn't give up. And in 2013, she made the team!

At age 19, Biles led Team U.S.A. at the 2016 Olympic Games. She and swimmer Katie Ledecky were the female athletes with the most medals. Biles won five. And in October 2019, Biles made history: She won her 25th world championship medal. That's more than any other gymnast in the world!

Credit: Video Credit: Team USA

Dictionary

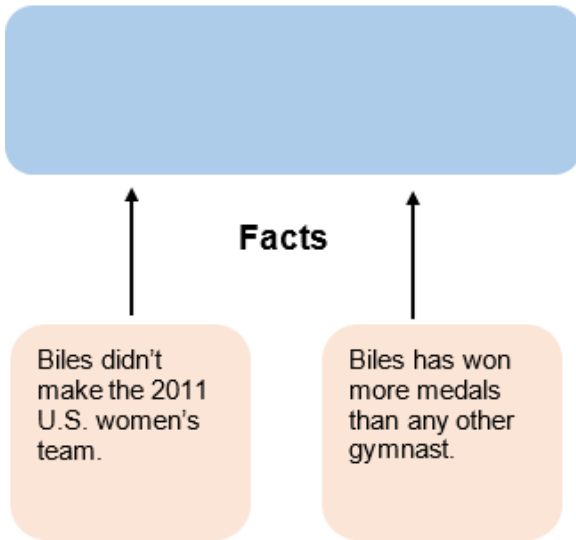
adopt (*verb*) to take a child of other parents legally as your own child

foster (*adjective*) used to describe a situation in which for a period of time a child lives with and is cared for by people who are not the child's parents

Step 3: Activity (Answer the Questions)

Question 1

Main Idea of the Article



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

There is a large, empty rectangle. Above the rectangle, it says "Main Idea of the Article." Under the rectangle, there are two smaller boxes with arrows pointing up to the rectangle. Each small box includes a fact from the Article. The box on the left says "Biles didn't make the 2011 U.S. women's team." The box on the right says "Biles has won more medals than any other gymnast."

- Ⓐ Biles was adopted by her grandparents in 2003.
- Ⓑ Biles got into gymnastics when she was just 6.
- Ⓒ Biles never gave up and became a great gymnast.
- Ⓓ Biles never missed a gymnastics practice as a child.

Question 2

Which of these is an opinion?

An opinion tells what a person thinks or feels. Others may not think this is right.

- Ⓐ Biles won her 25th world championship medal in 2019.
- Ⓑ Biles spent her early years in foster care.
- Ⓒ Biles led Team U.S.A. at the 2016 Olympic Games.
- Ⓓ Biles didn't try hard enough to make the 2011 team.

Question 3

The Article says:

But in 2011, Biles didn't make the U.S. women's team. This made her sad. But she didn't give up. And in 2013, she made the team!

Why is this passage in the Article? It helps the reader to know that _____.

- Ⓐ Biles has always been the best gymnast
- Ⓑ Biles should've made the 2011 team
- Ⓒ problems make Biles try harder
- Ⓓ people think that Biles is sad

Question 4

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

Only some of these words are used in the Article.

- Ⓐ easy and hard
- Ⓑ make and like
- Ⓒ missed and watched
- Ⓓ greatest and best

Question 5

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that _____.

- Ⓐ Biles never won a medal until age 19
- Ⓑ Biles hurt herself as a child
- Ⓒ Biles worked very hard to win
- Ⓓ Biles missed practice a lot

Question 6

Which is **not** in the Article?

- Ⓐ When Biles first got into the sport of gymnastics
- Ⓑ How many world championship medals Biles has won
- Ⓒ Who helped Biles train for the world championships
- Ⓓ How Biles felt when she didn't make the 2011 team

Question 7

The Article says:

At age 19, Biles led Team U.S.A. at the 2016 Olympic Games. She and swimmer Katie Ledecky were the female athletes with the most *medals*.

Which means almost the **same** as *medal*?

- Ⓐ prize
- Ⓑ game
- Ⓒ dollar
- Ⓓ point

Question 8

Look at these passages from the Article. Which one shows that Biles' life as a child was sometimes hard?

- Ⓐ At age 19, Biles led Team U.S.A. at the 2016 Olympic Games. She and swimmer Katie Ledecky were the female athletes with the most medals. Biles won five.
- Ⓑ Biles was born on March 14, 1997. Her early life wasn't easy. Her mom and dad couldn't care for her. So she lived in foster care.
- Ⓒ And in October 2019, Biles made history: She won her 25th world championship medal. That's more than any other gymnast in the world!
- Ⓓ Simone Biles is a gymnast. She's been called the greatest ever. How did she get to be so great?

Step 4: After Reading Poll (Did you change your mind?)

Now that you have read the article, indicate whether you agree or disagree with this statement.

With enough hard work, anything is possible.

- Agree
- Disagree

Step 5: Thought Question (Write Your Response)

Who is Simone Biles? And why has she been called the greatest gymnast ever? Use facts and details from the Article in your answer.

Give Me S'more! (400L)

Step 1: Before Reading Poll (Write Your Answer)

Many people like to make a dessert called s'mores. The gooey treats are made with marshmallows, chocolate, and graham crackers. What do you think of this well-known saying?

S'mores always leave you beggin' for s'more!

Do you agree or disagree?

Step 2: Article (Read the Article)



Photo credit: kellyvandellen/iStock/Getty Images

This is a s'more. It's made of chocolate, marshmallows, and graham crackers.

SAVANNAH, Georgia (Achieve3000, July 18, 2019). S'mores are yummy. Want to make some? Here's how:

1. Get a graham cracker. Break it in half. Place chocolate on one half.
2. Put a marshmallow on a stick. Hold it over a campfire.
3. Use the stick to set the hot marshmallow on the chocolate.
4. Take the other cracker half. Put it on the marshmallow.
5. Smoosh the crackers together. Pull out the stick.
6. Eat!

S'mores have three parts: the gooey, the chocolatey, and the crispy. The gooey? That's the marshmallow. Marshmallows used to be a luxury only for the rich. Today, they cost much less.

The chocolatey? That's a milk chocolate bar. Milk chocolate has been around since 1875. It's made with chocolate, sugar, and milk.

No one's really sure who first thought of putting marshmallows and chocolate between graham crackers. It might have been the Girl Scouts. A 1927 Girl Scouts manual talks about the snack.

What if you don't have a campfire? You can make a s'more in the oven or microwave.

S'more yumminess? Yes, please!

Information for this story came from AP.

Video credit: Hilah Cooking

Dictionary

luxury (*noun*) something that costs a lot and is nice to have but is not really needed

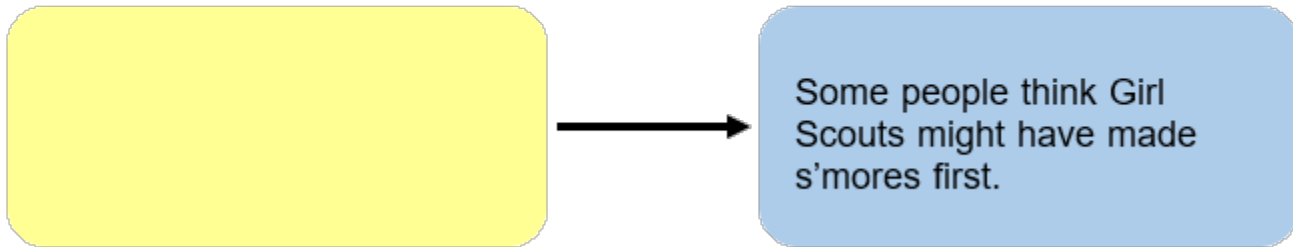
manual (*noun*) a small book that gives instructions or helpful information about something

Step 3: Activity (Answer the Questions)

Question 1

Since...

Then...



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

There is a box on the left that is labeled "Since". There is an arrow pointing to a box on the right. It is labeled "Then." The box says "Some people think Girl Scouts might have made s'mores first."

- Ⓐ A Girl Scouts manual talked about s'mores.
- Ⓑ S'mores are made with milk chocolate.
- Ⓒ Marshmallows were only for the rich.
- Ⓓ Girl Scouts learn how to make campfires.

Question 2

Let's say you are retelling this Article. It is **most** important to tell _____.

- Ⓐ How to make a s'more
- Ⓑ When milk chocolate was first made
- Ⓒ What milk chocolate is made of
- Ⓓ How much marshmallows cost

Question 3

Which word means almost the **same** as *manual*, as it is used in the Article?

- Ⓐ Rhyme
- Ⓑ Guide
- Ⓒ Painting
- Ⓓ Newspaper

Question 4

Which is **not** in the Article?

- Ⓐ Marshmallows were once eaten only by rich people.
- Ⓑ Milk chocolate has milk, sugar, and chocolate.
- Ⓒ A 1927 Girl Scouts manual talks about s'mores.
- Ⓓ Graham crackers were first made in the late 1800s.

Question 5

The Article says:

What if you don't have a campfire? You can make a s'more in the oven or microwave.

This helps the reader to know _____.

- Ⓐ That oven s'mores are best
- Ⓑ That there are different ways to make s'mores
- Ⓒ That campfires are not safe
- Ⓓ That microwaves are not very easy to use

Question 6

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

Only some of these words are used in the Article.

- Ⓐ Microwave and oven
- Ⓑ Hold and keep
- Ⓒ Less and more
- Ⓓ Between and with

Question 7

Look at these passages from the Article. Which one tells how milk chocolate is made?

- Ⓐ The chocolatey? That's a milk chocolate bar. Milk chocolate has been around since 1875. It's made with chocolate, sugar, and milk.
- Ⓑ The gooey? That's the marshmallow. Marshmallows used to be a luxury only for the rich. Today, they cost much less.
- Ⓒ What if you don't have a campfire? You can make a s'more in the oven or microwave. S'more yumminess? Yes, please!
- Ⓓ No one's really sure who first thought of putting marshmallows and chocolate between graham crackers. It might have been the Girl Scouts.

Question 8

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that _____.

- Ⓐ Marshmallows used to be too sweet.
- Ⓑ S'mores are easy to make.
- Ⓒ Very few Girl Scouts made s'mores after 1927.
- Ⓓ It costs a lot of money to make s'mores.

Step 4: After Reading Poll (Did you change your mind?)

Now that you have read the article, indicate whether you agree or disagree with this statement.

S'mores always leave you beggin' for s'more!

- Agree
- Disagree

Step 5: Thought Question (Write Your Response)

Write a summary of the Article. A summary tells what the main idea of a story is. To write a summary you should:

STEP 1: Read the Article.

STEP 2a: Look back at each paragraph. Find the main idea of each paragraph.

STEP 2b: Take out any facts that are not needed.

STEP 2c: Put everything—in your own words—into a few sentences.

STEP 3: Read your summary again.

STEP 4: Check your work. Make any last changes to your summary.

Global Game Fame (400L)

Step 1: Before Reading Poll (Write Your Answer)

In 2019, several video games were chosen for the World Video Game Hall of Fame. One game came out in 1976. Two others came out in the 1990s. What do you think?

Older video games are more fun to play.

Do you agree or disagree?

Step 2: Article (Read the Article)



Photo credit: The Strong National Museum of Play via AP
Each year, games are chosen for the World Video Game Hall of Fame.

ROCHESTER, New York (Achieve3000, May 10, 2019). *Super Mario Kart. Microsoft Solitaire. Colossal Cave Adventure.* What do these video games have in common? In 2019, they were chosen to be in the World Video Game Hall of Fame.

The hall of fame opened in New York in 2015. It's for the best and most important video games. Some of the games are from the past. But they have withstood the test of time.

Take *Colossal Cave Adventure*. It's from 1976. It helped start computer gaming. *Microsoft Solitaire* is a computer card game from 1991. It taught players how to use a computer mouse.

Super Mario Kart came out in 1992. It was the first *Mario Kart* racing game. Fun fact: Mario wasn't meant to be in the game, but a drawing of the plumber turned out to be a hit. The rest is history!

Information for this story came from AP.

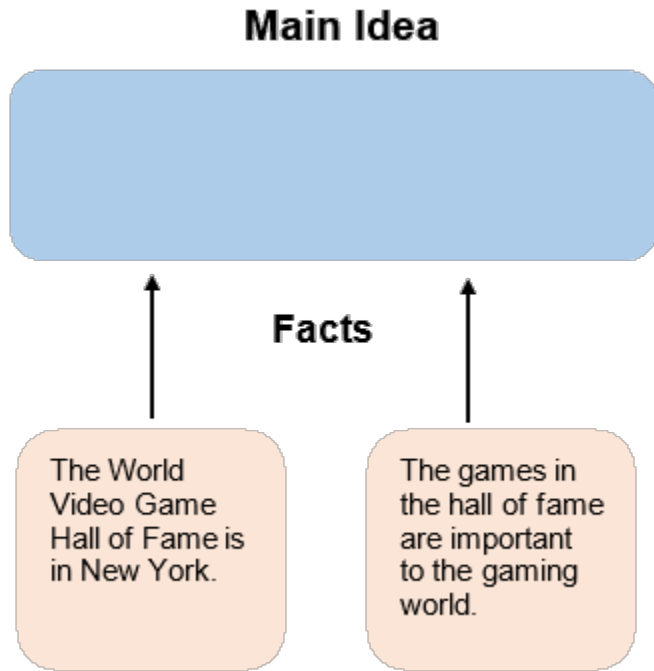
Dictionary

Hall of Fame (*noun*) a place to honor well-known people or things

plumber (*noun*) someone who works on pipes, bathtubs, sinks, toilets, and other things that carry water

Step 3: Activity (Answer the Questions)

Question 1



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

There is a large, empty rectangle. Above the rectangle, it says "Main Idea of the Article." Under the rectangle, there are two smaller boxes with arrows pointing up to the rectangle. Each small box includes a fact from the Article. The box on the left says "The World Video Game Hall of Fame is in New York." The box on the right says "The games in the hall of fame are important to the gaming world."

- Ⓐ Each year, the world's best video games enter the hall of fame.
- Ⓑ *Colossal Cave Adventure* is a video game that came out in 1976.
- Ⓒ *Microsoft Solitaire* is a game that taught players how to use a mouse.
- Ⓓ Mario wasn't meant to be in a racing game, but a drawing of him was a hit.

Question 2

Which word means almost the **same** as *plumber*, as it is used in the Article?

- Ⓐ Finder
- Ⓑ Fixer
- Ⓒ Farmer
- Ⓓ Fighter

Question 3

Which of these is an opinion?

An opinion tells what a person thinks or feels. Others may not think this is right.

- Ⓐ *Colossal Cave Adventure* helped start computer gaming.
- Ⓑ The winners of the hall of fame are not always new games.
- Ⓒ The World Video Game Hall of Fame began in 2015.
- Ⓓ *Super Mario Kart* is more fun than *Microsoft Solitaire*.

Question 4

Think about the Article. How is *Microsoft Solitaire* different from *Super Mario Kart*?

- Ⓐ *Microsoft Solitaire* taught players to use a mouse.
- Ⓑ *Microsoft Solitaire* is played by many people.
- Ⓒ *Super Mario Kart* came out in the 1990s.
- Ⓓ *Super Mario Kart* is a video game.

Question 5

Which two words have almost the **same** meaning?

- Ⓐ Cave and mountain
- Ⓑ Drawing and picture
- Ⓒ Teach and study
- Ⓓ Common and different

Question 6

The Article says:

The hall of fame opened in New York in 2015. It's for the best and most important video games. Some of the games are from the past. But they have withstood the test of time.

Why is this in the Article? It shows _____.

- Ⓐ Why people like the hall of fame
- Ⓑ How to find the hall of fame
- Ⓒ What the hall of fame is for
- Ⓓ Who goes to the hall of fame

Question 7

Look at these passages from the Article. Which one tells why a game went into the hall of fame?

- Ⓐ *Microsoft Solitaire* is a computer card game from 1991.
- Ⓑ Take *Colossal Cave Adventure*. It's from 1976. It helped start computer gaming.
- Ⓒ Fun fact: Mario wasn't meant to be in the game, but a drawing of the plumber turned out to be a hit.
- Ⓓ *Super Mario Kart*. *Microsoft Solitaire*. *Colossal Cave Adventure*. What do these video games have in common?

Question 8

Think about the Article. Which is most likely to happen?

- Ⓐ More games will go into the hall of fame next year.
- Ⓑ Mario won't be a plumber in the new *Super Mario Kart*.
- Ⓒ The hall of fame will open in a new place soon.
- Ⓓ *Colossal Cave Adventure* will win next year's hall of fame.

Step 4: After Reading Poll (Did you change your mind?)

Now that you have read the article, indicate whether you agree or disagree with this statement.

Older video games are more fun to play.

- Agree
- Disagree

Step 5: Thought Question (Write Your Response)

Write a story about visiting the World Video Game Hall of Fame. Which video game did you most want to see and why? Use describing words from the Article in your answer.

Good, Bad, or Ugly? (400L)

Step 1: Before Reading Poll (Write Your Answer)

Many fruits and veggies are wasted because they don't look "perfect." Now, some companies are selling "ugly" fruits and veggies. They ship them to people's homes. What do you think?

All "ugly" produce should be given away to people in need.

Do you agree or disagree?

Step 2: Article (Read the Article)



Photo credit: AP/Joshua McKerrow/The Baltimore Sun
Does this carrot have a tail? A company is selling it anyway.

URBANDALE, Iowa (Achieve3000, May 6, 2019). You know those ugly fruits and vegetables? Would you buy them? Many people say they wouldn't. And that's why supermarkets sell only the prettiest produce.

Now, some companies are selling the ugly produce. They don't want it to go to waste. They offer it at a low price.

That sounds great. But not everyone is happy.

The Ugly Truth?

Critics say ugly produce isn't really wasted. Farmers sell it. It's used in the food service industry, where it gets cut up. Ugly produce is also used on farms. It's fed to animals. It can be added back to the soil for nutrients.

Not So Bad, After All?

Ugly produce companies are defending themselves. Food waste *is* a big problem, they say. About 30 to 40 percent of the U.S. food supply is wasted.

The companies can help stop this waste. Farmers can, too.

Dictionary

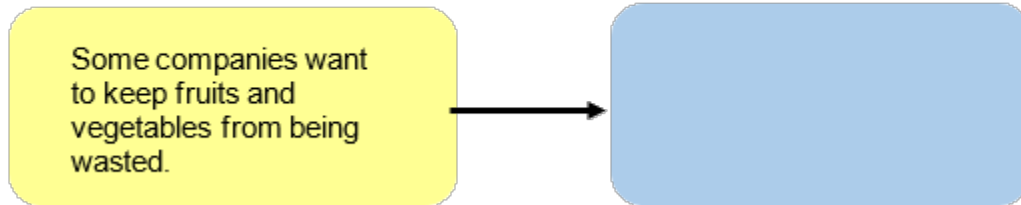
| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| critic (<i>noun</i>) | a person who finds something wrong in something or someone |
| defend (<i>verb</i>) | to argue or fight for something |
| industry (<i>noun</i>) | a type of trade or business |
| nutrient (<i>noun</i>) | what a living thing needs to live, such as water and minerals |
| produce (<i>noun</i>) | fruits and vegetables |

Step 3: Activity (Answer the Questions)

Question 1

Since...

Then...



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

There is a box on the left that is labeled "Since". The box says "Some companies want to keep fruits and vegetables from being wasted." There is an arrow pointing to a box on the right. It is labeled "Then."

- Ⓐ They sell the fruits and vegetables that supermarkets will not sell.
- Ⓑ They sell fruits and vegetables that farmers cannot add to the soil.
- Ⓒ They sell the fruits and vegetables that the food service industry cannot use.
- Ⓓ They sell fruits and vegetables that farm animals will not eat.

Question 2

Let's say you are retelling this Article. Which is **most** important to say?

- Ⓐ The food service industry cuts up ugly produce.
- Ⓑ Some companies are selling ugly produce so that it doesn't go to waste.
- Ⓒ Supermarkets sell only the prettiest produce.
- Ⓓ Ugly produce is used on farms to feed animals and add nutrients to the soil.

Question 3

Which of these is a fact?

- Ⓐ Supermarkets should only sell the prettiest produce.
- Ⓑ Wasting 30 to 40 percent of food is not a big problem.
- Ⓒ It is a terrible idea to buy and eat ugly fruits and vegetables.
- Ⓓ Some companies sell ugly fruits and vegetables at low prices.

Question 4

Which word means almost the **same** as *defend*, as it is used in the Article?

- Ⓐ Guard
- Ⓑ Ask
- Ⓒ Hurt
- Ⓓ Stop

Question 5

The author probably wrote this Article in order to _____.

- Ⓐ Explain why some companies sell ugly produce
- Ⓑ Get people in the U.S. to stop wasting food
- Ⓒ Tell readers to buy ugly fruits and vegetables
- Ⓓ Tell readers that ugly produce feeds farm animals

Question 6

Look at these passages from the Article. Which one shows why some companies sell ugly produce?

- Ⓐ You know those ugly fruits and vegetables? Would you buy them?
- Ⓑ Many people say they wouldn't. And that's why supermarkets sell only the prettiest produce.
- Ⓒ Ugly produce is also used on farms. It's fed to animals. It can be added back to the soil for nutrients.
- Ⓓ Food waste is a big problem, they say. About 30 to 40 percent of the U.S. food supply is wasted.

Question 7

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

Only some of these words are used in the Article.

- Ⓐ Think and visit
- Ⓑ Waste and save
- Ⓒ Empty and clean
- Ⓓ Sell and join

Question 8

Think about the Article. Which is most likely to happen?

- Ⓐ Farmers will give away all their ugly produce.
- Ⓑ Ugly produce companies will say it is OK to waste food.
- Ⓒ Ugly produce companies will sell food to farmers.
- Ⓓ People in the U.S. may continue to waste some food.

Step 4: After Reading Poll (Did you change your mind?)

Now that you have read the article, indicate whether you agree or disagree with this statement.

All "ugly" produce should be given away to people in need.

- Agree
- Disagree

Step 5: Thought Question (Write Your Response)

Are ugly produce companies a good idea? Write what people on both sides of the argument believe. Which side do you agree with and why? Use facts and details from the Article to back up your answer.

Katherine the Great (400L)

Step 1: Before Reading Poll (Write Your Answer)

One woman did math for NASA. She started in the 1950s. Back then, many African American women were told they could not have high-level jobs. What do you think?

If you can imagine it, you can achieve it.

Do you agree or disagree?

Step 2: Article (Read the Article)



Photo credit: Joseph Rodriguez/AP
Katherine Johnson made headlines.

HAMPTON, Virginia (Achieve3000, February 25, 2019). Katherine Johnson started working for NASA in the 1950s. She did math that helped people go into space. She's a hero.

The movie *Hidden Figures* is about Johnson and two other African American women. They worked at NASA as "human computers." One thing they worked on was trajectories.

Johnson's math was always right. In 1962, astronaut John Glenn was going into space. A programmed computer did the math. Glenn asked for Johnson to also do the math, just to be sure.

"If she says [it's] good, then I'm ready," Glenn said. The trip went well. Johnson's math helped other space trips go well, too.

Johnson left NASA in 1986. She turned 100 in 2018. She also wrote an autobiography. It's called *Reaching for the Moon*. It comes out in 2019.

Johnson's book is for young readers. She wants kids to believe they can do anything.

Information for this story came from AP.

Video credit: NASA

Dictionary

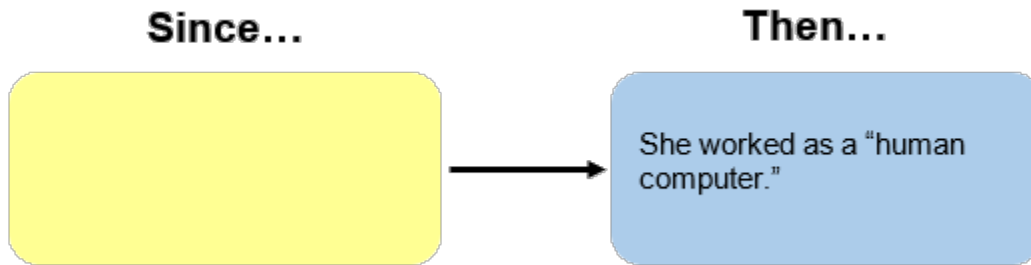
autobiography (*noun*) the story of someone's life written by that person

NASA (*noun*) a group that studies space; it is run by U.S. leaders

trajectory (*noun*) the path of an object through space

Step 3: Activity (Answer the Questions)

Question 1



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

- Ⓐ Katherine Johnson talked to John Glenn.
- Ⓑ Katherine Johnson left NASA in 1986.
- Ⓒ Katherine Johnson was great at math.
- Ⓓ Katherine Johnson wants kids to do well.

Question 2

What is the main idea of this Article?

- Ⓐ Katherine Johnson turned 100 years old in 2018.
- Ⓑ Katherine Johnson is a hero for her work at NASA.
- Ⓒ Katherine Johnson wrote an autobiography.
- Ⓓ Katherine Johnson worked with other women.

Question 3

Think about the Article. Which must have taken place *first*?

This question asks about when events happened. It does not ask where in the Article the events show up. Look back at the Article for clues, like dates.

- Ⓐ Katherine Johnson helped John Glenn go into space.
- Ⓑ Katherine Johnson wrote *Reaching for the Moon*.
- Ⓒ Katherine Johnson got a job at NASA.
- Ⓓ Katherine Johnson turned 100 years old.

Question 4

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

Only some of these words are used in the Article.

- Ⓐ Correct and wrong
- Ⓑ Trips and rides
- Ⓒ Also and too
- Ⓓ Sure and certain

Question 5

Kay wants to know more about going into space. She should look _____.

- Ⓐ In a dictionary, under the word "autobiography"
- Ⓑ In a book about different NASA trips
- Ⓒ At a photo of some "human computers"
- Ⓓ At a list of the actors in *Hidden Figures*

Question 6

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that _____.

- Ⓐ Katherine Johnson only likes numbers, not words.
- Ⓑ *Reaching for the Moon* is too hard for most kids to read.
- Ⓒ Working at NASA was probably simple in the 1950s.
- Ⓓ Some important people believed in Katherine Johnson.

Question 7

Look at these passages from the Article. Which one shows why Katherine Johnson is a math hero?

- Ⓐ In 1962, astronaut John Glenn was going into space. A programmed computer did the math.
- Ⓑ Johnson left NASA in 1986.
- Ⓒ Johnson's math helped other space trips go well, too.
- Ⓓ She turned 100 in 2018.

Question 8

The Article says:

Johnson's math was *always* right. In 1962, astronaut John Glenn was going into space. A programmed computer did the math. Glenn asked for Johnson to also do the math, just to be sure.

Which must mean almost the **opposite** of *always*, as it is used above?

- Ⓐ Openly
- Ⓑ Secretly
- Ⓒ Often
- Ⓓ Never

Step 4: After Reading Poll (Did you change your mind?)

Now that you have read the article, indicate whether you agree or disagree with this statement.

If you can imagine it, you can achieve it.

- Agree
- Disagree

Step 5: Thought Question (Write Your Response)

Describe Katherine Johnson's work at NASA. How did she help lead the way for women and African Americans to do well in math and other technical fields? Use facts and details from the lesson in your answer.

Ötzi the Iceman (400L)

Step 1: Before Reading Poll (Write Your Answer)

Ötzi the Iceman lived about 5,300 years ago. Scientists have been studying Ötzi since his body was found in 1991. What do you think?

Ötzi should be left alone.

Do you agree or disagree?

Step 2: Article (Read the Article)



Photo credit: Sergio Monti Photography/Shutterstock
This is what Ötzi the Iceman may have looked like.

BOLZANO, Italy (Achieve3000, November 21, 2019). It was about 5,300 years ago. A man was climbing up a mountain in Italy. He was hurt, and it was cold. Would he stay alive? He would not. But today, people are learning all about him. Here's why.

Soon after he died, his body was covered and frozen in ice. It stayed frozen until 1991, when two hikers found him. And, surprise. His body was in good shape! It was the first well-preserved body found in Europe from late-Neolithic times.

He was given the name Ötzi the Iceman, and scientists started studying him. What did they learn? He was about 46 years old when he died. And he was about 5 feet and 2 inches and 110 pounds (157 centimeters and 50 kilograms).

His clothes were made from hides and grass. And he had a copper ax, a bow, and arrows. Also, the materials used to make his tools came from other places that were far away. So did people trade goods back then? Probably so. There's still a lot to learn from Ötzi!

Dictionary

hide (*noun*) the skin of a usually large animal

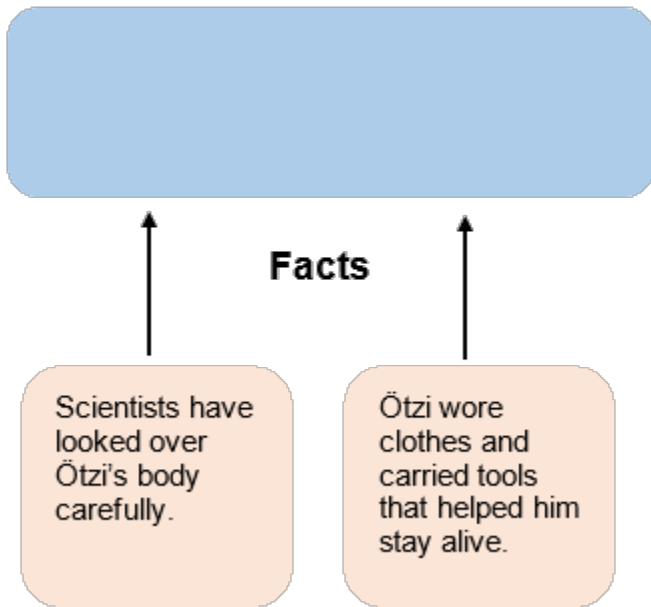
Neolithic (*adjective*) of or relating to the time during the Stone Age when people used stone tools and began to grow crops, raise animals, and live together in large groups but did not read or write

well-preserved (*adjective*) kept in good condition over a long period of time

Step 3: Activity (Answer the Questions)

Question 1

Main Idea of the Article



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

There is a large, empty rectangle. Above the rectangle, it says "Main Idea of the Article." Under the rectangle, there are two smaller boxes with arrows pointing up to the rectangle. Each small box includes a fact from the Article. The box on the left says "Scientists have looked over Ötzi's body carefully." The box on the right says "Ötzi wore clothes and carried tools that helped him stay alive."

- Ⓐ Scientists think Ötzi was about 5 feet and 2 inches tall and 110 pounds (157 centimeters and 50 kilograms).
- Ⓑ Clothes from the late-Neolithic period were made from grass and hides.
- Ⓒ The tools Ötzi carried came from other places that were far away.
- Ⓓ The world is learning about the past from a man frozen in ice for more than 5,000 years.

Question 2

The Article says:

Soon after he died, his body was covered and frozen in ice. It stayed frozen until 1991, when two hikers found him. And, surprise. His body was in good shape! It was the first well-preserved body found in Europe from late-Neolithic times.

What does this show?

- Ⓐ why scientists can study Ötzi
- Ⓑ what scientists found out about Ötzi
- Ⓒ what made Ötzi die long ago
- Ⓓ where Ötzi's body was found

Question 3

Which means almost the **same** as *well-preserved*?

- Ⓐ large
- Ⓑ borrowed
- Ⓒ forgotten
- Ⓓ saved

Question 4

Which of these is an opinion?

An opinion tells what a person thinks or feels. Others may not think this is right.

- Ⓐ Ötzi is the most interesting find ever because of what he has taught scientists.
- Ⓑ Ötzi died on a mountain in Italy and was found in 1991 by two hikers.
- Ⓒ Ötzi's clothes were made from animal hides and grass, and he carried a copper ax.
- Ⓓ Ötzi's body is the first well-preserved body from the late-Neolithic period found in Europe.

Question 5

Read these passages from the Article. Which one shows what Ötzi has taught scientists about late-Neolithic times?

- Ⓐ Also, the materials used to make his tools came from other places that were far away. So did people trade goods back then? Probably so.
- Ⓑ He was given the name Ötzi the Iceman, and scientists started studying him. What did they learn?
- Ⓒ Soon after he died, his body was covered and frozen in ice. It stayed frozen until 1991, when two hikers found him.
- Ⓓ And, surprise. His body was in good shape! It was the first well-preserved body found in Europe from late-Neolithic times.

Question 6

The Article says:

His clothes were made from hides and grass. And he had a copper ax, a bow, and arrows. Also, the *materials* used to make his tools came from other places that were far away.

Which means almost the **same** as *materials*?

- Ⓐ parts
- Ⓑ leaves
- Ⓒ wheels
- Ⓓ shovels

Question 7

Antonio wants to know more about Ötzi the Iceman. He should look _____.

- Ⓐ on a map of Italy during late-Neolithic times
- Ⓑ in an article about how people made their clothing long ago
- Ⓒ in a book about bows and arrows
- Ⓓ at a video on important findings of the late-Neolithic period

Question 8

Think about the Article. Which is most likely to happen?

- Ⓐ Scientists will stop sharing information about Ötzi.
- Ⓑ Scientists will keep studying Ötzi in hopes of learning more.
- Ⓒ People will try to make their own clothes from hides and grass.
- Ⓓ Many more bodies from the late-Neolithic period will be found.

Step 4: After Reading Poll (Did you change your mind?)

Now that you have read the article, indicate whether you agree or disagree with this statement.

Ötzi should be left alone.

- Agree
- Disagree

Step 5: Thought Question (Write Your Response)

Who was Ötzi the Iceman? What have scientists learned about Ötzi? And what have they learned about the time when he lived? Use facts and details from the Article in your answer.

Sniffing Out Extinction (400L)

Step 1: Before Reading Poll (Write Your Answer)

Trained dogs are now being used to help save endangered species. What do you think?

All endangered species are worth saving.

Do you agree or disagree?

Step 2: Article (Read the Article)



Photo credit: Marina Makouskaya/iStock/Getty Images Plus
This dog can sniff out the scent of different animals on land and in water.

MELBOURNE, Australia (Achieve3000, December 4, 2019). Dogs can sniff out lots of things. They have a super sense of smell. It's 10,000 to 100,000 times stronger than a person's! And that makes dogs pretty helpful. Dogs help police find everything: from missing persons to fake money.

Now dogs are using their sense of smell to help conservationists, too. What are they trying to sniff out now? Endangered species!

One of these species is the Baw Baw frog. It lives in southeastern Australia. Since 1980, 98 percent of the frogs have been wiped out. Fewer than 1,200 of them are left in the wild.

An Australian conservation group wants to help them. How? By breeding the frogs in zoos. Then, the frogs and their tadpoles will be put back in the wild.

The first step is to find the frogs. That's not easy. They live in hard-to-get-to forests. And they burrow deep under mud. That's why two border collies are helping. The dogs have learned the Baw Baw frogs' smell. They sniff around to find them. And they lead conservationists right to the animals.

The frogs aren't the only animals being sniffed out. Dogs are helping to track down other animals, too. On the list: Silverspot butterfly caterpillars. Snow leopards. Koalas. And killer whales! All the dogs have to do is smell the animals' droppings. Then, the search begins.

Information for this story came from VOA.

Video credit: Voice of America

Dictionary

breed (*verb*) to keep and take care of animals or plants in order to produce more animals or plants of a particular kind

conservationist (*noun*) someone who works to protect animals, plants, and natural resources or to prevent the loss or waste of natural resources: a person who is involved in conservation

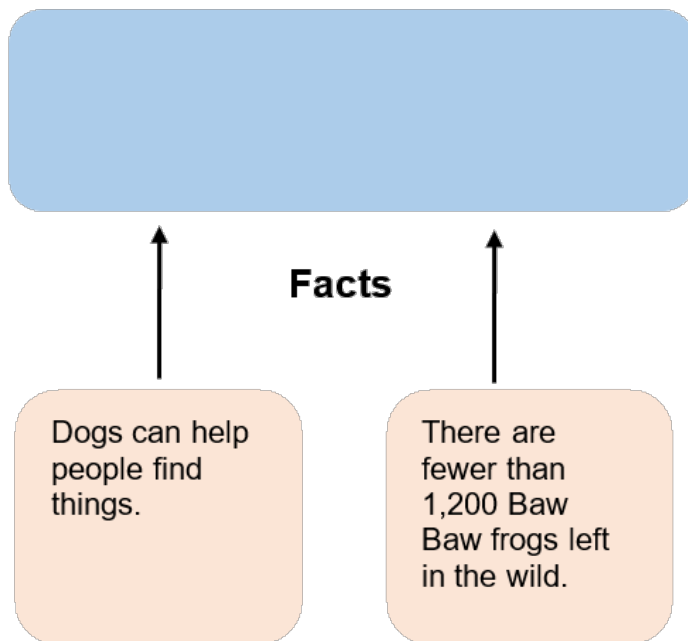
endangered (*adjective*) used to describe a type of animal or plant that has become very rare and that could die out completely

species (*noun*) a group of animals or plants that are similar and can produce young animals or plants

Step 3: Activity (Answer the Questions)

Question 1

Main Idea of the Article



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

- Ⓐ Many of the Baw Baw frogs in Australia have been wiped out.
- Ⓑ Dogs have been used to find fake money and missing persons.
- Ⓒ Dogs find endangered species so scientists can help them.
- Ⓓ Baw Baw frogs live in hard-to-get-to forests of Australia.

Question 2

Think about the Article. Why do conservationists want to help the Baw Baw frogs?

- Ⓐ Conservationists want to send the Baw Baw frogs to zoos.
- Ⓑ Baw Baw frogs live in southeastern Australia.
- Ⓒ Fewer than 1,200 Baw Baw frogs are left in the wild.
- Ⓓ Baw Baw frogs burrow deep under mud in hard-to-get-to forests.

Question 3

The Article says:

The first step is to find the frogs. That's not easy. They live in hard-to-get-to forests. And they burrow deep under mud.

This helps the reader to know _____.

- Ⓐ how many frogs are left in the wild
- Ⓑ why forests aren't good homes for frogs
- Ⓒ why it's hard to find Baw Baw frogs
- Ⓓ how dogs are helping to find animals

Question 4

Which two words have almost the **same** meaning?

Only some of these words are used in the Article.

- Ⓐ burrow and dig
- Ⓑ super and terrible
- Ⓒ smell and taste
- Ⓓ help and hurt

Question 5

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that _____.

- Ⓐ the dogs sniffed frog droppings before finding them
- Ⓑ snow leopards are harder to find than koalas
- Ⓒ not all kinds of dogs have a good sense of smell
- Ⓓ Baw Baw frogs can't live outside of the forest

Question 6

Which is **not** in the Article?

- Ⓐ Where the Baw Baw frog makes its home
- Ⓑ How conservationists are trying to help Baw Baw frogs
- Ⓒ How many Baw Baw frogs are left in the wild
- Ⓓ Which type of dog is best at finding missing persons

Question 7

The Article says:

The first step is to *find* the frogs. That's not easy. They live in hard-to-get-to forests. And they burrow deep under mud.

Which means the **opposite** of *find*?

- Ⓐ feed
- Ⓑ carry
- Ⓒ train
- Ⓓ lose

Question 8

Read these passages from the Article. Which one shows that Baw Baw frogs are in danger of dying out completely?

- Ⓐ The first step is to find the frogs. That's not easy. They live in hard-to-get-to forests. And they burrow deep under mud.
- Ⓑ [The Baw Baw frog] lives in southeastern Australia. Since 1980, 98 percent of the frogs have been wiped out. Fewer than 1,200 of them are left in the wild.
- Ⓒ The dogs have learned the Baw Baw frogs' smell. They sniff around to find them. And they lead conservationists right to the animals.
- Ⓓ An Australian conservation group wants to help them. How? By breeding the frogs in zoos. Then, the frogs and their tadpoles will be put back in the wild.

Step 4: After Reading Poll (Did you change your mind?)

Now that you have read the article, indicate whether you agree or disagree with this statement.

All endangered species are worth saving.

- Agree
- Disagree

Step 5: Thought Question (Write Your Response)

Explain how trained dogs help to save endangered species, such as the Baw Baw frog. Use facts and details from the Article in your answer.

Social Media, Pompeii Style (400L)

Step 1: Before Reading Poll (Write Your Answer)

Today, people write their thoughts on websites like Facebook. Long ago, in the ancient city of Pompeii, people scribbled their thoughts on the walls of homes and buildings. What do you think?

People should always find a way to share their thoughts.

Do you agree or disagree?

Step 2: Article (Read the Article)



Photo credit: Karl Allen Lugmayer/Shutterstock

More than 11,000 graffiti samples like this have been found at Pompeii.

POMPEII, Italy (Achieve3000, January 28, 2020). Today, people post messages on cyber walls. Facebook fans know how *that* works. But did you know that people who lived in the ancient Roman city of Pompeii also posted messages on walls? Real walls, that is.

Some of the messages were written using charcoal and paint. Others were scratched into the walls of buildings and homes.

And believe it or not, many of those walls still stand today. Yes, 2,000 years later! Some of the messages are still there, too. But how could this be?

In 79 CE, the volcano Mount Vesuvius hit. It destroyed Pompeii. The city was covered with stone and ash. But *under* all of this, Pompeii kept standing. It's as if it were frozen in time. Then came the mid-1700s. People started digging out the city. And the messages were found.

So, what did Pompeians write about? They shared their feelings and thoughts. They also shared news and helpful tips.

Here are some of their messages:

Health to you, Victoria. And wherever you are, may you sneeze sweetly.
Stronius Stronnius knows nothing!
A copper pot went missing from my shop...
The man I am having dinner with is a barbarian.

Forget sites like Facebook. This was social media, the Pompeii way.

Video credit: Achieve3000

Dictionary

ancient (*adjective*) of, coming from, or belonging to a time that was long ago in the past

ash (*noun*) the soft gray powder that remains after something (such as a cigarette or wood) has been completely burned and destroyed by fire

barbarian (*noun*) a person who does not behave in a proper way: a rude or uneducated person

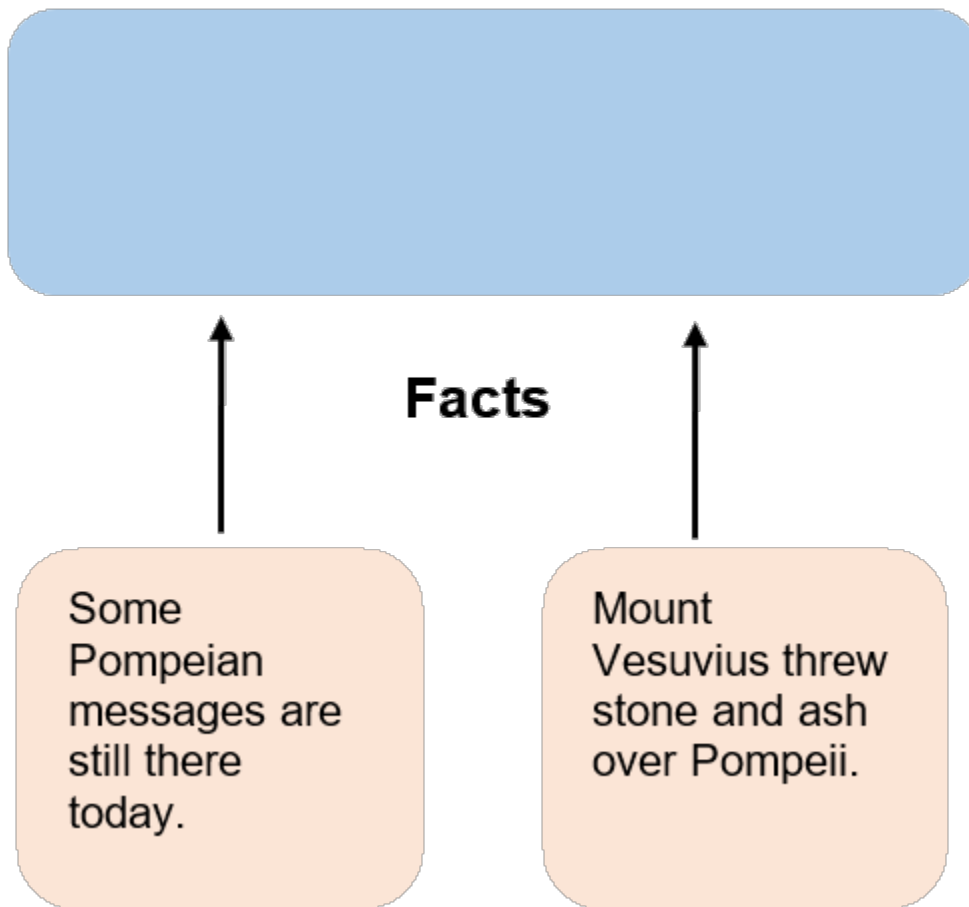
cyber (*adjective*) computer

volcano (*noun*) a mountain with a hole in the top or side that sometimes sends out rocks, ash, lava, etc., in a sudden explosion (called an eruption)

Step 3: Activity (Answer the Questions)

Question 1

Main Idea of the Article



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

- Ⓐ The people of Pompeii wrote messages on walls.
- Ⓑ Pompeians shared news and helpful tips.
- Ⓒ Mount Vesuvius hit Pompeii in 79 CE.
- Ⓓ People began digging out Pompeii in the mid-1700s.

Question 2

Which of these is an opinion?

An opinion tells what a person thinks or feels. Others may not think this is right.

- Ⓐ Some of Pompeii's messages were written in paint.
- Ⓑ Pompeians wrote down their thoughts on walls.
- Ⓒ It's fun to read the messages on Pompeii's walls.
- Ⓓ In 79 CE, Mount Vesuvius hit and covered Pompeii.

Question 3

The Article says:

In 79 CE, the volcano Mount Vesuvius hit. It destroyed Pompeii. The city was covered with stone and ash. But *under* all of this, Pompeii kept standing. It's as if it were frozen in time.

This helps the reader to know _____.

- Ⓐ why Pompeii was saved for so long
- Ⓑ where Pompeii can be found
- Ⓒ who first found the city of Pompeii
- Ⓓ why people wrote on Pompeii's walls

Question 4

Which means the **opposite** of *ancient*?

- Ⓐ wrong
- Ⓑ fun
- Ⓒ new
- Ⓓ strange

Question 5

Camila wants to know more about the people who lived in Pompeii before the volcano hit. She should look _____.

- Ⓐ at a TV show called *Life in Old Pompeii*
- Ⓑ at a movie about the world's largest volcano
- Ⓒ in a book about the person who found Pompeii
- Ⓓ on a map showing where Mount Vesuvius is

Question 6

The Article says:

Today, people post messages on cyber walls. Facebook fans know how *that* works.

Which means almost the **same** as *post*?

- Ⓐ lose
- Ⓑ write
- Ⓒ find
- Ⓓ read

Question 7

Read these passages from the Article. Which one shows why many buildings in Pompeii are still there today?

- Ⓐ So, what did Pompeians write about? They shared their feelings and thoughts.
- Ⓑ Today, people post messages on cyber walls. Facebook fans know how *that* works.
- Ⓒ The city was covered with stone and ash. But *under* all of this, Pompeii kept standing. It's as if it were frozen in time.
- Ⓓ But did you know that people who lived in the ancient Roman city of Pompeii also posted messages on walls? Real walls, that is.

Question 8

Which is **not** in the Article?

- Ⓐ Who found out that a city was buried at Pompeii
- Ⓑ When Pompeii was hit by Mount Vesuvius
- Ⓒ Why Pompeii is like a city frozen in time
- Ⓓ What messages were posted on Pompeii's walls

Step 4: After Reading Poll (Did you change your mind?)

Now that you have read the article, indicate whether you agree or disagree with this statement.

People should always find a way to share their thoughts.

- Agree
- Disagree

Step 5: Thought Question (Write Your Response)

Tell what happened to Pompeii in 79 CE and what's been found thousands of years later. Use facts and details from the Article in your answer.

Soldier in the Wild (400L)

Step 1: Before Reading Poll (Write Your Answer)

A Japanese soldier stayed hidden on Guam 28 years after World War II ended. When he finally returned to Japan, he was given a hero's welcome. What do you think?

All soldiers are heroes.

Do you agree or disagree?

Step 2: Article (Read the Article)



Photo credit: AP Photo

This photo of Shoichi Yokoi was taken shortly after his hiding ended in 1972.

TALOFOFO, Guam (Achieve3000, August 27, 2019). It was 1943. World War II (WWII) was going strong. And 27-year-old Shoichi Yokoi was a soldier in the Imperial Japanese Army. He was stationed on Guam, which had been taken over by Japan.

In 1944, U.S. soldiers came to free Guam. Afraid for his life, Yokoi fled to the jungles to hide.

In 1945, Japan surrendered to the Allied Forces. WWII was over. But Yokoi didn't know. He stayed in hiding for the next seven years.

And that's just the half of it.

In 1952, Yokoi learned that the war had ended. But he kept hiding for another 20 years! Why not surrender and go home? It was about loyalty. Japanese soldiers were taught to fight to the death. They believed surrendering was shameful.

In 1972, Yokoi was found by two fishermen. He felt ashamed to return home to Japan. But he got a hero's welcome.

Video Credit: AP Archive

Dictionary

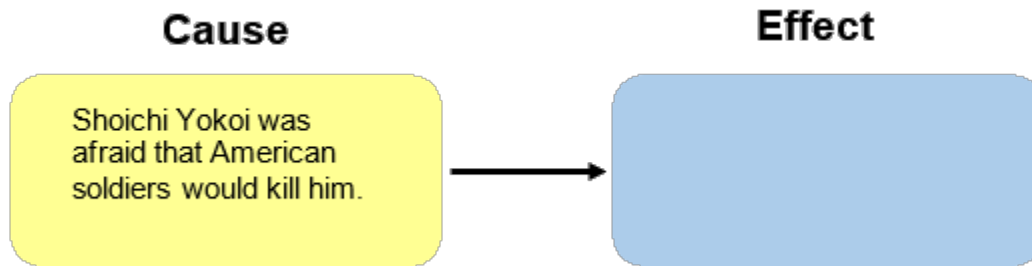
loyalty (*noun*) a loyal feeling : a feeling of strong support for someone or something

shameful (*adjective*) very bad : bad enough to make someone ashamed

surrender (*verb*) to agree to stop fighting, hiding, resisting, etc., because you know that you will not win or succeed

Step 3: Activity (Answer the Questions)

Question 1



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

There is a box on the left that is labeled "Cause". The box says "Shoichi Yokoi was afraid that American soldiers would kill him." There is an arrow pointing to a box on the right. It is labeled "Effect."

- Ⓐ Yokoi fled to the jungles of Guam.
- Ⓑ Yokoi fought the American soldiers.
- Ⓒ Yokoi was ashamed to go back to Japan.
- Ⓓ Yokoi got a hero's welcome in Japan.

Question 2

What is this Article mainly about?

- Ⓐ Yokoi hid in the jungles of Guam for many years.
- Ⓑ Yokoi felt ashamed to go back to Japan.
- Ⓒ Yokoi didn't know, in 1945, that Japan surrendered.
- Ⓓ Yokoi was stationed on the island of Guam.

Question 3

Look at the events below. Think about the Article. Which must have happened *last*?

This question asks about when events happened. It does not ask where in the Article the events show up. Look back at the Article for clues, like dates.

- Ⓐ Yokoi fled to the jungles of Guam.
- Ⓑ Yokoi heard the war had ended.
- Ⓒ Yokoi was stationed on Guam.
- Ⓓ Yokoi became a hero in Japan.

Question 4

Which two words have almost the **same** meaning?

Only some of these words are used in the Article.

- Ⓐ end and finish
- Ⓑ soldier and brother
- Ⓒ death and life
- Ⓓ hide and block

Question 5

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that _____.

- Ⓐ Yokoi fought with many American soldiers.
- Ⓑ Yokoi didn't feel good about going back to Japan.
- Ⓒ Yokoi didn't want to become a Japanese soldier.
- Ⓓ Yokoi tried to go home sometime in 1952.

Question 6

The Article says:

Why not surrender and go home? It was about loyalty. Japanese soldiers were taught to fight to the death. They believed surrendering was shameful.

Why is this passage in the Article? It helps the reader to know _____.

- Ⓐ that Yokoi really didn't want to fight
- Ⓑ that Yokoi wasn't happy with his country
- Ⓒ the reason why Yokoi stayed on Guam
- Ⓓ the reason why Japanese soldiers surrendered

Question 7

A *soldier* is someone who _____.

- Ⓐ goes to Japan
- Ⓑ fights in a war
- Ⓒ lives on an island
- Ⓓ lived long ago

Question 8

Which is **not** in the Article?

- Ⓐ How Yokoi felt about going home
- Ⓑ Why Yokoi stayed hidden after 1952
- Ⓒ How Yokoi learned the war had ended
- Ⓓ Why Yokoi fled into the jungle

Step 4: After Reading Poll (Did you change your mind?)

Now that you have read the article, indicate whether you agree or disagree with this statement.

All soldiers are heroes.

- Agree
- Disagree

Step 5: Thought Question (Write Your Response)

Who was Shoichi Yokoi? And why did he remain hidden on Guam until 1972? Use facts and details from the Article in your answer.

Teen Pilot Breaks World Record (400L)

Step 1: Before Reading Poll (Write Your Answer)

In April 2019, Mason Andrews became the youngest pilot to fly alone around the world. Here's what Mason wants kids to know. What do you think?

"Anything is possible."

Do you agree or disagree?

Step 2: Article (Read the Article)



Photo credit: Used with permission from Mason Andrews
Mason Andrews flew this plane around the world.

MONROE, Louisiana (Achieve3000, April 12, 2019). Mason Andrews studies aviation in college. But he already holds a flying record.

Mason flew alone around the world. In April 2019, Guinness World Records named him the youngest pilot to do that.

Mason left Louisiana in July 2018. His trip took 76 days. He landed back home in October 2018. He was 18 years and 163 days old.

Mason flew 180 hours during his trip. It wasn't easy. There was a sandstorm. It was during a flight from Egypt to Dubai. He also flew through a scary monsoon. It was over the Bay of Bengal. And in the Philippines, there were bad typhoons. They kept Mason grounded for nearly three weeks.

Mason asked sponsors to pay for the trip. He also raised over \$30,000 for MedCamps of Louisiana. The group helps kids with special needs.

Now, Mason has some advice for kids. What is it?

"Anything is possible."

Video Credit: Taylor Yakowenko

Published on Oct 6, 2018

Edited for length

Dictionary

aviation (*noun*) the flying, designing, or making of aircraft

monsoon (*noun*) a wind that carries heavy rains to southern Asia

sandstorm (*noun*) a desert storm in which strong winds blow clouds of sand

sponsor (*noun*) a person or group that gives money to support an event or a person

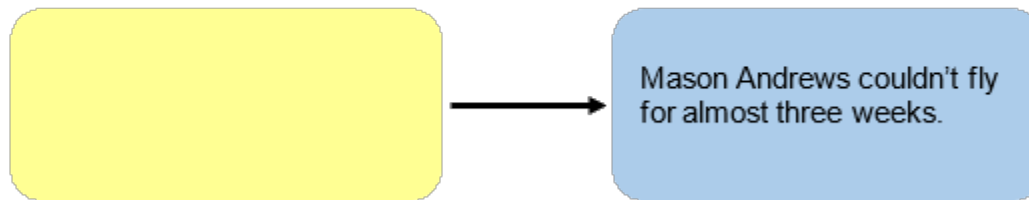
typhoon (*noun*) a very strong storm that forms in the western Pacific or Indian Oceans

Step 3: Activity (Answer the Questions)

Question 1

Since

Then



Based on the Article, which fits best in the empty box above?

- Ⓐ Mason asked sponsors to pay for his trip.
- Ⓑ There was a monsoon over the Bay of Bengal.
- Ⓒ There were bad typhoons in the Philippines.
- Ⓓ Mason was studying aviation in college.

Question 2

Let's say you are retelling this Article. Which is most important to say?

- Ⓐ Mason Andrews landed in Louisiana in October 2018.
- Ⓑ Mason Andrews became the youngest pilot to fly around the world.
- Ⓒ Mason Andrews raised money for MedCamps of Louisiana.
- Ⓓ Mason Andrews studies aviation in college.

Question 3

Which of these is a fact?

- Ⓐ Mason was brave to fly around the world when he was 18 years old.
- Ⓑ Mason flew through a sandstorm between Egypt and Dubai.
- Ⓒ A monsoon is the scariest kind of storm to fly through.
- Ⓓ Advice from young people is usually the best advice for kids.

Question 4

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

Only some of these words are used in the Article.

- (A) Easy and slow
 (B) Pilot and teen
 (C) Youngest and oldest
 (D) Sponsors and companies

Question 5

The Article says:

There was a sandstorm. It was during a flight from Egypt to Dubai. He also flew through a scary monsoon. It was over the Bay of Bengal. And in the Philippines, there were bad typhoons. They kept Mason grounded for nearly three weeks.

Why is this passage in the Article? It helps the reader to understand _____.

- Ⓐ Why it wasn't easy for Mason to fly around the world
- Ⓑ How a sandstorm is different from a monsoon
- Ⓒ How long it takes to fly from Egypt to Dubai
- Ⓓ Why people like Mason love flying through storms

Question 6

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that _____.

- Ⓐ It's unlikely that Mason Andrews will stop dreaming big.
- Ⓑ It's probably easier to fly through a typhoon than a sandstorm.
- Ⓒ Most flying records are very easy to break.
- Ⓓ Mason Andrews must have a lot of money.

Question 7

The Article says:

[Mason] also flew through a scary monsoon. It was *over* the Bay of Bengal.

Which must mean almost the **same** as *over*?

- Ⓐ Between
- Ⓑ Under
- Ⓒ Inside
- Ⓓ Above

Question 8

Look at these passages from the Article. Which one shows that Mason's trip did more than break a flying record?

- Ⓐ Mason flew alone around the world. In April 2019, Guinness World Records named him the youngest pilot to do that.
- Ⓑ He also raised over \$30,000 for MedCamps of Louisiana. The group helps kids with special needs.
- Ⓒ His trip took 76 days. He landed back home in October 2018.
- Ⓓ Mason flew 180 hours during his trip. It wasn't easy.

Step 4: After Reading Poll (Did you change your mind?)

Now that you have read the article, indicate whether you agree or disagree with this statement.

"Anything is possible."

- Agree
- Disagree

Step 5: Thought Question (Write Your Response)

Describe Mason Andrews. What did he do? Use facts and details from the Article in your answer.

The Early-Late Debate (400L)

Step 1: Before Reading Poll (Write Your Answer)

Some people want later start times for middle schools and high schools. These people want start times pushed back until 8 a.m. or later. What do you think?

Middle schools and high schools should start later.

Do you agree or disagree?

Step 2: Article (Read the Article)



Photo credit: Tom Wang/Shutterstock.com

Too tired to learn? Some people think schools should start later.

SACRAMENTO, California (Achieve3000, October 30, 2019). Good news for students who like to snooze! Some schools are starting later.

High schools in Seattle start at 8:45 a.m. Or even later! And California passed a law. It sets new rules. High schools won't start before 8:30 a.m. Middle schools won't start before 8 a.m.

Why? Because of research about how adolescents sleep. Most teens sleep best between 11 p.m. and 8 a.m. If they get up at 6 a.m., they miss out on some good z's!

Students who don't get enough sleep can have health problems. They have trouble learning, too.

But some people think starting schools later isn't so smart. It could be hard to have enough buses and drivers. Schools that start later finish later, too. That leaves students with less free time. For what? Sports, jobs, and homework. And of course...fun!

Would you rather start school early? Or snoozzzzzzzzzzzze?

Dictionary

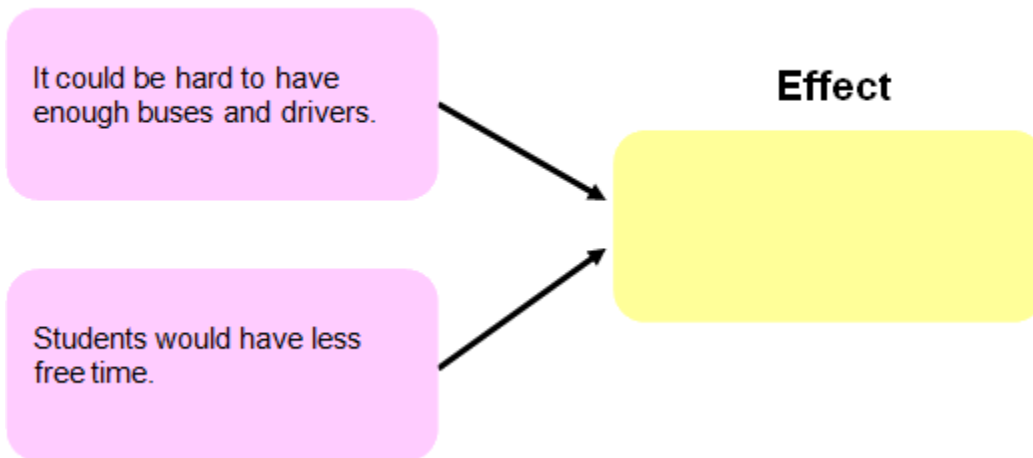
adolescent (*noun*) a young person who is developing into an adult : a young person who is going through adolescence

research (*noun*) careful study that is done to find and report new knowledge about something

Step 3: Activity (Answer the Questions)

Question 1

Causes



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

There two boxes on the left. They are labeled "Causes." The top box says "It could be hard to have enough buses and drivers." The bottom box says "Students would have less free time." Two arrows are pointing from these boxes to a box on the right. This box is labeled "Effect."

- Ⓐ Not getting enough sleep can cause health problems.
- Ⓑ High schools in Seattle start at 8:45 a.m.
- Ⓒ Students who don't sleep enough can have trouble learning.
- Ⓓ Some people think it's not smart to start school later.

Question 2

What is the Article mainly about?

- Ⓐ Students who don't get the sleep they need can have health and learning problems.
- Ⓑ Starting school later leaves less time for sports, jobs, chores, homework, and fun.
- Ⓒ Scientists are studying how much adolescents should sleep and when they sleep best.
- Ⓓ Some people are talking about starting schools later and if it's smart to do so.

Question 3

Which of these is an opinion?

An opinion tells what a person thinks or feels. Others may not think this is right.

- Ⓐ California middle schools won't start before 8 a.m.
- Ⓑ Teens sleep best between 11 p.m. and 8 a.m.
- Ⓒ Getting enough sleep helps students learn.
- Ⓓ Students in California will like going to school later.

Question 4

Which means almost the **same** as *adolescent*?

- Ⓐ woman
- Ⓑ man
- Ⓒ twin
- Ⓓ teen

Question 5

The Article does **not** say _____.

- Ⓐ What students think about schools starting later
- Ⓑ why people think starting schools later isn't smart
- Ⓒ where later school start times are happening
- Ⓓ what times adolescents get their best sleep

Question 6

The Article states:

Students who don't get enough sleep can have health problems. They have trouble learning, too.

This passage helps the reader to know _____.

- Ⓐ why it's hard for students to get enough sleep
- Ⓑ how important sleep is for students
- Ⓒ how sleep research is being done on students
- Ⓓ what problems all students have

Question 7

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

- Ⓐ trouble and problem
- Ⓑ law and rule
- Ⓒ good and smart
- Ⓓ start and finish

Question 8

Read these passages from the Article. Which one shows that some schools believe the research about how adolescents sleep best?

- Ⓐ But some people think starting schools later isn't so smart. It could be hard to have enough buses and drivers. Schools that start later finish later, too. That leaves students with less free time.
- Ⓑ Students who don't get enough sleep can have health problems. They have trouble learning, too.
- Ⓒ High schools in Seattle start at 8:45 a.m. Or even later! And California passed a law. It sets new rules. High schools won't start before 8:30 a.m. Middle schools won't start before 8 a.m.
- Ⓓ Why? Because of research about how adolescents sleep. Most teens sleep best between 11 p.m. and 8 a.m. If they get up at 6 a.m., they miss out on some good z's!

Step 4: After Reading Poll (Did you change your mind?)

Now that you have read the article, indicate whether you agree or disagree with this statement.

Middle schools and high schools should start later.

- Agree
- Disagree

Step 5: Thought Question (Write Your Response)

Do you think middle schools and high schools should start later in the day? Why or why not?

Use facts and details from the Article to back up your answer.

The Last Generation? (400L)

Step 1: Before Reading Poll (Write Your Answer)

Some people from the Pacific Islands are working to stop climate change. Rising seas could take away their homeland. What do you think?

Everyone should work together to stop climate change.

Do you agree or disagree?

Step 2: Article (Read the Article)



Photo credit: maloff/Shutterstock

This is the city of Majuro. It's in the Marshall Islands, a Pacific Island nation.

MAJURO, Marshall Islands (Achieve3000, November 7, 2019). There are 11 countries in the Pacific Islands. But they all have one big problem. That problem is climate change.

Climate change causes seas to rise. That's bad news for the islands. Here's why: They have low elevations. They'd be among the first harmed by rising seas.

But could the Pacific Islands ever be wiped out? Islands like Fiji and Samoa? It's possible. Some young islanders wonder: Could *they* be the last generation to live on those islands?

But the islanders are fighting the problem. Change can start with cargo ships. Most of the islands' goods are brought in on these ships. But they put out almost 3 percent of the world's carbon emissions. This makes climate change worse.

So six Pacific Island countries joined forces. This was in 2019. Together, they pledged to cut carbon emissions from shipping by 40 percent by 2030. By 2050, they want zero-carbon shipping.

How will they do it? By using carbon-free technologies. These could be powered by the wind and sun.

Sea levels are rising. But hopes aren't sinking in the Pacific Islands.

Video credit: United Nations

Dictionary

elevation (*noun*) the height of a place

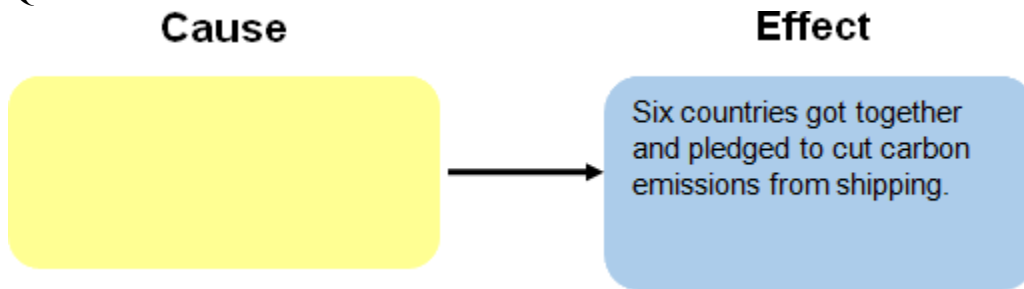
emission (*noun*) something sent out or given off

generation (*noun*) a group of people born and living during the same time

pledge (*verb*) to formally promise to give or do (something)

Step 3: Activity (Answer the Questions)

Question 1



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

There are two boxes. The box on the left is labeled "Cause." There is an arrow pointing to a box on the right. The box on the right is labeled "Effect," and it says "Six countries got together and pledged to cut carbon emissions from shipping."

- Ⓐ The Pacific Islands are made up of 11 different countries.
- Ⓑ Pacific Islanders know that the oceans are not clean.
- Ⓒ Sea levels are falling around the Pacific Islands.
- Ⓓ Pacific Island countries want to fight climate change.

Question 2

The Article talks mainly about _____.

- Ⓐ why Pacific Island countries put out so many emissions
- Ⓑ how Pacific Islanders will cut shipping emissions
- Ⓒ how the Pacific Islands are making carbon-free technologies
- Ⓓ why other countries are helping the Pacific Islanders

Question 3

Which two words have almost the **same** meaning?

Only some of these words are used in the Article.

- Ⓐ harmed and hurt
- Ⓑ problem and secret
- Ⓒ worse and better
- Ⓓ possible and wonderful

Question 4

Which is **not** in the Article?

- Ⓐ Which emissions from shipping are causing problems
- Ⓑ What some of the names are of the Pacific Island countries
- Ⓒ Why climate change is a threat to the Pacific Islands
- Ⓓ Why only some of the countries are working together

Question 5

The Article says:

So six Pacific Island countries joined forces. This was in 2019. Together, they pledged to cut carbon emissions from shipping by 40 percent by 2030. By 2050, they want zero-carbon shipping.

This helps the reader to know _____.

- Ⓐ that zero shipping emissions is not possible
- Ⓑ how dangerous climate change is
- Ⓒ that shipping to the islands will be stopped
- Ⓓ how islanders plan to fight climate change

Question 6

The Article says:

There are 11 countries in the Pacific Islands. But they all have one big *problem*. That problem is climate change. Climate change causes seas to rise. That's bad news for the islands.

Which means almost the **same** as *problem*?

- Ⓐ trouble
- Ⓑ beginning
- Ⓒ wonder
- Ⓓ difference

Question 7

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that _____.

- Ⓐ most of Fiji and Samoa are already underwater
- Ⓑ too much trash is in the Pacific Ocean
- Ⓒ there can never be zero emissions from shipping
- Ⓓ wind energy doesn't make climate change worse

Question 8

Read these passages from the Article. Which one tells who is working to fight climate change?

- Ⓐ So six Pacific Island countries joined forces. This was in 2019. Together, they pledged to cut carbon emissions from shipping by 40 percent by 2030. By 2050, they want zero-carbon shipping.
- Ⓑ Climate change causes seas to rise. That's bad news for the islands. Here's why: They have low elevations. They'd be among the first harmed by rising seas.
- Ⓒ How will they do it? By using carbon-free technologies. These could be powered by the wind and sun.
- Ⓓ But could the Pacific Islands ever be wiped out? Islands like Fiji and Samoa? It's possible. Some young islanders wonder: Could *they* be the last generation to live on those islands?

Step 4: After Reading Poll (Did you change your mind?)

Now that you have read the article, indicate whether you agree or disagree with this statement.

Everyone should work together to stop climate change.

- Agree
- Disagree

Step 5: Thought Question (Write Your Response)

How is climate change harming the Pacific Islands? What are some Pacific Island nations doing about this problem? Use facts and details from the Article in your answer.

The Truth About Dogs (400L)

Step 1: Before Reading Poll (Write Your Answer)

A new exhibit teaches about dogs. What do you think of this quote by Josh Billings?

"A dog is the only thing on Earth that loves you more than he loves himself."

Do you agree or disagree?

Step 2: Article (Read the Article)



Photo credit: AP/Richard Vogel
People at the exhibition can learn how dogs see.

LOS ANGELES, California (Achieve3000, May 5, 2019). Why do dogs smell things? Why do people and dogs get along so well?

The California Science Center answers these questions and more in an exhibition called "Dogs! A Science Tail." The exhibition opened in March 2019. It will go to museums around the U.S. in 2020. Here's what it teaches us about dogs:

1. They have a pee-culiar interest.

Dogs sniff around fire hydrants. Visitors to the exhibition can find out why. But here's the answer: Dogs learn from smelling pee. They can tell how safe the area is.

2. They're doggone smart.

Dogs use their other senses, too. They notice movement better than people do. And they can hear very soft sounds.

3. They're heroic.

Dogs aren't just smart. They can be heroes. A movie at the exhibition shows dogs saving people.

4. Yes, they love us, too.

People love dogs. But do dogs love people?

"It's a mutual affection," says Diane Perlov. She helped with the exhibition.

5. They go way back with humans.

Scientists don't know when people and dogs first connected. But dogs are related to wolves. And humans and wolves crossed paths thousands of years ago, says Perlov.

It seems we've been best friends fur-ever.

Information for this story came from AP.

Dictionary

connect (*verb*) to link with someone or something

exhibition (*noun*) a show

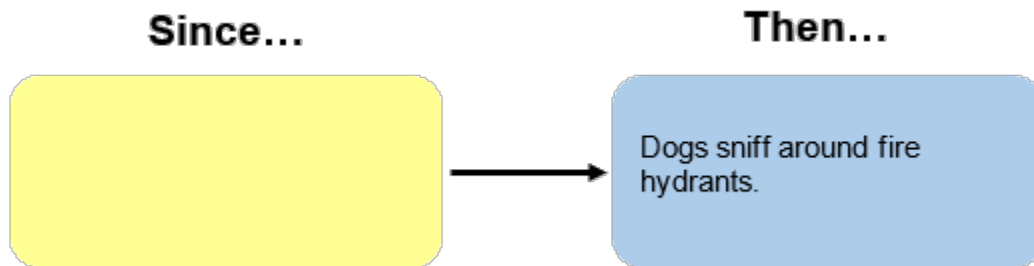
movement (*noun*) the act of moving

mutual affection (*noun*) shared feeling of love

related (*adjective*) to be part of the same family

Step 3: Activity (Answer the Questions)

Question 1



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

- Ⓐ Dogs notice movement better than people do.
- Ⓑ It's one of the ways dogs act like wolves.
- Ⓒ It's one of the ways dogs can tell how safe an area is.
- Ⓓ Dogs are able to hear very soft sounds.

Question 2

Let's say you are retelling this Article. It is **most** important to tell _____.

- Ⓐ The California Science Center has an exhibition about dogs.
- Ⓑ Dogs are able to see movement better than people.
- Ⓒ Scientists do not know when dogs and people first became friends.
- Ⓓ Humans and wolves crossed paths thousands of years ago.

Question 3

Which of these is an opinion?

An opinion tells what a person thinks or feels. Others may not think this is right.

- Ⓐ A movie shows dogs saving people.
- Ⓑ Smart dogs are the best pets to have.
- Ⓒ Scientists know that dogs are related to wolves.
- Ⓓ Dogs can tell how safe an area is by sniffing.

Question 4

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

Only some of these words are used in the Article.

- Ⓐ Heroic and brave
- Ⓑ Questions and answers
- Ⓒ Connected and related
- Ⓓ People and humans

Question 5

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that _____.

- Ⓐ As dogs spend more time with people, they will stop sniffing fire hydrants.
- Ⓑ Most people notice things in an area before their dogs do.
- Ⓒ People were closer to their dogs thousands of years ago.
- Ⓓ People like dogs partly because dogs are helpful.

Question 6

The Article says:

Scientists don't know when people and dogs first connected. But dogs are related to wolves. And humans and wolves crossed paths thousands of years ago, says Perlov.

What does this show?

- Ⓐ People and dogs have likely been together for a very long time.
- Ⓑ Dogs connect with wolves better than they do with people.
- Ⓒ Perlov doesn't know very much about dogs.
- Ⓓ Scientists think dogs were around before wolves.

Question 7

The Article says:

Dogs sniff around fire hydrants. Visitors to the exhibition can find out why. But here's the answer: Dogs learn from smelling pee. They can *tell* how safe the area is.

Which must mean almost the **same** as *tell*, as it is used above?

- Ⓐ Wonder
- Ⓑ Know
- Ⓒ Remember
- Ⓓ Forget

Question 8

Which passage from the Article best supports the idea that dogs have good senses other than a great sense of smell?

- Ⓐ And they can hear very soft sounds.
- Ⓑ Dogs learn from smelling pee.
- Ⓒ Dogs sniff around fire hydrants.
- Ⓓ They go way back with humans.

Step 4: After Reading Poll (Did you change your mind?)

Now that you have read the article, indicate whether you agree or disagree with this statement.

"A dog is the only thing on Earth that loves you more than he loves himself."

- Agree
- Disagree

Step 5: Thought Question (Write Your Response)

Think about telling a friend about the "Dogs!" exhibition. What would you share? Use descriptive words from the Article in your answer.

Welcome to Batuu (400L)

Step 1: Before Reading Poll (Write Your Answer)

It's been said that Disney parks are "the happiest" and "most magical" places on Earth. Now, the Disney parks in California and Florida have added an attraction from "a galaxy far, far away"—Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge. What do you think?

Disney parks are "the happiest" and "most magical" places in the galaxy.

Do you agree or disagree?

Step 2: Article (Read the Article)



Photo Credit: Disney Parks

This starship can be found at Disney's Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge.

ORLANDO, Florida (Achieve3000, September 26, 2019). It's a dream come true for Star Wars fans! In 2019, Disney opened Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge. It's a fun new land where people can feel like they're part of a Star Wars story.

Galaxy's Edge is open at Disneyland in California. There's one at Disney's Hollywood Studios in Florida, too.

Galaxy's Edge sits on 14 acres of land. And guess what? It's set up as a new planet! The planet is called Batuu. And it was built from the ground up. Some parts even look like real places. Take Batuu's forest. It's like Arizona's Petrified Forest National Park.

What else is cool about Batuu? It's a hot spot for traders and explorers. And it has a story. The workers, food, and goods are all part of that story. You can be, too. You might even be questioned by a stormtrooper. It's like being on an alien planet.

Video credit: Courtesy Disney, with music by Valeriano Chiaravalle/proudmusiclibrary.com

Dictionary

alien (*adjective*) from somewhere other than the planet Earth

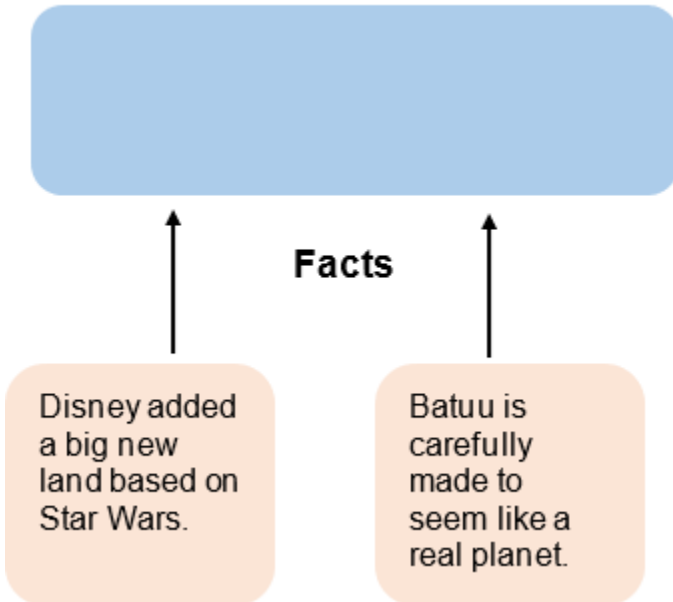
explore (*verb*) to travel over or through (a place) in order to learn more about it or to find something

trader (*noun*) a person who buys, sells, or exchanges goods

Step 3: Activity (Answer the Questions)

Question 1

Main Idea of the Article



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

There is a large, empty rectangle. Above the rectangle, it says "Main Idea of the Article." Under the rectangle, there are two smaller boxes with arrows pointing up to the rectangle. Each small box includes a fact from the Article. The box on the left says "Disney added a big new land based on Star Wars." The box on the right says "Batuu is carefully made to seem like a real planet."

- Ⓐ Galaxy's Edge is at Disneyland in California and Disney's Hollywood Studios in Florida.
- Ⓑ At Disney's Galaxy's Edge, the planet of Batuu is a hot spot for traders and explorers.
- Ⓒ Galaxy's Edge is built to look like such real places as Petrified Forest National Park.
- Ⓓ Disney opened Galaxy's Edge where visitors feel like they're part of a Star Wars story.

Question 2

Which of these is an opinion?

An opinion tells what a person thinks or feels. Others may not think this is right.

- Ⓐ The planet in Galaxy's Edge is named Batuu.
- Ⓑ There are traders and explorers on Batuu.
- Ⓒ The Star Wars story is the best part of Galaxy's Edge.
- Ⓓ Galaxy's Edge is open for people to see now.

Question 3

The Article says:

**It's a dream come true for Star Wars fans! In 2019, Disney opened Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge.
It's a fun new land where people can feel like they're part of a Star Wars story.**

This passage helps the reader to know that _____.

- Ⓐ Star Wars fans will really want to go to Galaxy's Edge
- Ⓑ Galaxy's Edge will not stay open for very long
- Ⓒ Disney built the new land for people to spend the night there
- Ⓓ people who go to Galaxy's Edge must act out a story

Question 4

Which means almost the **same** as *explore*?

- Ⓐ climb
- Ⓑ throw
- Ⓒ race
- Ⓓ hunt

Question 5

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that _____.

- Ⓐ Disney believes many people will want to go to Galaxy's Edge
- Ⓑ the next Star Wars movie will take place on the planet of Batuu
- Ⓒ the Batuu forest is based on a place from the Star Wars movies
- Ⓓ more people will go to Galaxy's Edge in California than in Florida

Question 6

Anna Maria wants to know what an *acre* is. She could find this out by using a _____.

- Ⓐ globe
- Ⓑ dictionary
- Ⓒ calendar
- Ⓓ newspaper

Question 7

The Article says:

The workers, food, and goods are all part of that story. You can be, too. You might even be *questioned* by a stormtrooper.

Which means the **opposite** of *questioned*?

- Ⓐ whispered
- Ⓑ believed
- Ⓒ answered
- Ⓓ joked

Question 8

Look at these passages from the Article. Which one shows that acting is part of the job for people who work in Galaxy's Edge?

- Ⓐ It's a dream come true for Star Wars fans! In 2019, Disney opened Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge. It's a fun new land where people can feel like they're part of a Star Wars story.
- Ⓑ The workers, food, and goods are all part of that story. You can be, too. You might even be questioned by a stormtrooper.
- Ⓒ Galaxy's Edge sits on 14 acres of land. And guess what? It's set up as a new planet! The planet is called Batuu. And it was built from the ground up.
- Ⓓ Take Batuu's forest. It's like Arizona's Petrified Forest National Park. What else is cool about Batuu? It's a hot spot for traders and explorers.

Step 4: After Reading Poll (Did you change your mind?)

Now that you have read the article, indicate whether you agree or disagree with this statement.

Disney parks are "the happiest" and "most magical" places in the galaxy.

- Agree
- Disagree

Step 5: Thought Question (Write Your Response)

Imagine that you are telling a friend about Disney's new Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge in California and Florida. What would you say? Use describing words and phrases from the Article in your answer.

Women Adventurers (400L)

Step 1: Before Reading Poll (Write Your Answer)

Centuries ago, women were expected to stay home and raise families. But some brave women chose to take off on amazing adventures around the world. What do you think?

People should live life the way they want to, not how they're expected to.

Do you agree or disagree?

Step 2: Article (Read the Article)

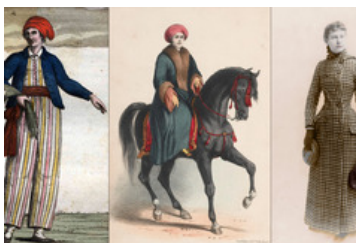


Photo credit: Left to right: Cristoforo Dall'Acqua, Wellcome Collection, Library of Congress

Left to right: Jeanne Baret, the first woman to sail around the globe. Lady Hester Stanhope, who led an archaeological dig. And Nellie Bly, who traveled around the world in 72 days.

RED BANK, New Jersey (Achieve3000, January 31, 2020). These days, women go to space. They sail around the world. They have all kinds of adventures. This wasn't true hundreds of years ago. Back then, women were expected to stay home. But that didn't stop these three women from taking off and doing big things.

Jeanne Baret (1740-1807): Baret was a French scientist. She studied plants. *And*, she was the first woman to sail around the world. In 1766, Baret wanted to set sail with a group of scientists. But they were all men. Women weren't allowed to travel on French navy ships. So, Baret disguised herself as a man. And she sailed away!

Lady Hester Stanhope (1776-1839): Stanhope was from England. But she wanted to travel. She traveled throughout the Middle East by herself. And she led an archaeological dig there. She was the first woman to do this.

Nellie Bly (1864-1922): Bly was a journalist. In 1887, she wrote a story about hidden problems at a mental hospital. She disguised herself as a patient at the hospital. Then she wrote an alarming six-part report. The story made Bly well-known. It also led the way for other women journalists. Two years later, Bly set a world record. She traveled around the globe in 72 days!

Dictionary

archaeology (*noun*) a science that deals with past human life and activities by studying the bones, tools, etc., of ancient people

disguise (*verb*) to change the usual appearance, sound, taste, etc., of (someone or something) so that people will not recognize that person or thing

journalism (*noun*) the activity or job of collecting, writing, and editing news stories for newspapers, magazines, television, or radio

mental (*adjective*) of or relating to the mind

navy (*noun*) the part of a country's military forces that fights at sea using ships, submarines, airplanes, etc.

Step 3: Activity (Answer the Questions)

Question 1

What Happened Next?

A scientist was the first woman to sail around the world.

A journalist wrote a story about the problems at a hospital.



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

This question asks about when events happened. It does not ask where in the Article the events show up. Look back at the Article for clues, like dates.

- Ⓐ A woman disguised herself as a man and sailed around the world.
- Ⓑ A woman traveled through the Middle East and dug for treasures.
- Ⓒ A woman was asked to study plants on a French navy ship.
- Ⓓ A woman set a record traveling around the world in 72 days.

Question 2

Let's say you are retelling this Article. It is **most** important to tell _____.

- Ⓐ that Nellie Bly's six-part report about life inside a hospital made her a well-known reporter
- Ⓑ that people thought women should stay at home years ago, but some took off on their own
- Ⓒ that French scientists traveled all around the world in 1766 to learn more about plants
- Ⓓ that women today go into space, sail around the world, and have all kinds of adventures

Question 3

The Article says:

In 1766, Baret wanted to set sail with a group of scientists. But they were all men. Women weren't allowed to travel on French navy ships. So, Baret disguised herself as a man. And she sailed away!

The author uses this passage mostly to _____.

- Ⓐ point out that the best scientists in France were men
- Ⓑ explain that dressing like a man made Baret a scientist
- Ⓒ describe the danger of sneaking onto a navy ship
- Ⓓ show that a scientist can be a man or a woman

Question 4

Which of these is an opinion?

An opinion tells what a person thinks or feels. Others may not think this is right.

- Ⓐ Lady Stanhope traveled throughout the Middle East by herself.
- Ⓑ It wasn't a good idea for Jeanne Baret to disguise herself as a man.
- Ⓒ Jeanne Baret studied plants and sailed around the world with scientists.
- Ⓓ Nellie Bly set a world record traveling around the world in 72 days.

Question 5

Which means the **opposite** of *navy*?

- Ⓐ pond
- Ⓑ rock
- Ⓒ army
- Ⓓ office

Question 6

Read these passages from the Article. Which one tells how some women live today?

- Ⓐ Bly was a journalist. In 1887, she wrote a story about hidden problems at a mental hospital.
- Ⓑ Women weren't allowed to travel on French navy ships. So, Baret disguised herself as a man.
- Ⓒ These days, women go to space. They sail around the world. They have all kinds of adventures.
- Ⓓ Two years later, Bly set a world record. She traveled around the globe in 72 days!

Question 7

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

Only some of these words are used in the Article.

- Ⓐ woman and lady
- Ⓑ sail and travel
- Ⓒ ship and boat
- Ⓓ true and false

Question 8

The Article does **not** say _____.

- Ⓐ how long it took Baret to sail around the world
- Ⓑ where Nellie Bly wrote her six-part report
- Ⓒ how long it took Nellie Bly to set a world record
- Ⓓ why Jeanne Baret disguised herself as a man

Step 4: After Reading Poll (Did you change your mind?)

Now that you have read the article, indicate whether you agree or disagree with this statement.

People should live life the way they want to, not how they're expected to.

- Agree
- Disagree

Step 5: Thought Question (Write Your Response)

What's one word that describes Jeanne Baret, Lady Hester Stanhope, and Nellie Bly? What actions by these women back up your answer? Use facts and details from the Article in your answer.



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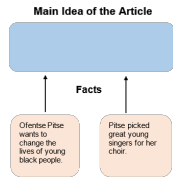
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ANSWER KEY

A Musical Pioneer

Answer key

Question 1



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

D Pitse gives young black singers a chance to use their gifts.

Question 2

Which of these is an opinion?

A The music of African composers sounds really good.

Question 3

The Article says:

At classical music concerts, you often hear music written long ago by European composers. Beethoven is one example. But Pitse's group plays pieces by African composers. This lets listeners know: Classical music is alive in Africa.

Why is this passage in the Article? It helps the reader to know _____.

B how Pitse is bringing African classical music to the world

Question 4

Which two words have almost the **same** meaning?

C start and begin

Question 5

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that _____.

D Pitse wants to help other people

Question 6

Which is **not** in the Article?

C Why Pitse likes Beethoven

Question 7

The Article says:

Pitse, who loved music as a child, put together a choir in 2017. She picked great young singers. They lived in *poor* communities. Pitse gave them a chance to use their gifts.

Which means the **opposite** of *poor*?

A rich

Question 8

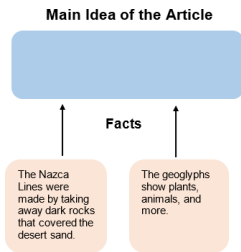
Read these passages from the Article. Which one shows that most classical conductors are men?

C In the world of classical music, Pitse is a pioneer. In 2017, a study was done. It found that only 5 of the world's top 100 conductors were women.

Ancient Lines in the Sand

Answer key

Question 1



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

A The Nazca Lines are pictures made in the sands of Peru.

Question 2

Which of these is an opinion?

B It's a waste of time to figure out what the lines mean.

Question 3

The Article says:

What do you see below? Big drawings on the ground! They're called geoglyphs. They're seen in the desert sands. They're of animals, plants, and more.

This helps the reader to know _____.

A what the Nazca Lines look like

Question 4

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

C more and less

Question 5

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that _____.

D it's hard to see the animal shapes from the ground

Question 6

Which is **not** in the Article?

C Why researchers made the lines

Question 7

The Article says:

Some are as large as the Statue of Liberty! But people didn't *notice* them until 1927. That's when a Peruvian archaeologist first found some.

Which means almost the **same** as *notice*?

D see

Question 8

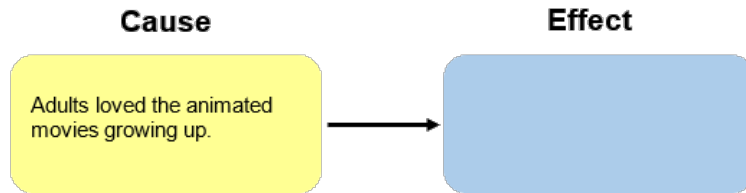
Read these passages from the Article. Which one tells how the Nazca Lines were made?

A By taking away some of the dark rocks that covered the ground to show the lighter-colored desert sand underneath.

Animated Favorites Get Real

Answer key

Question 1



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

There is a box on the left that is labeled "Cause". The box says "Adults loved the animated movies growing up." There is an arrow pointing to a box on the right. It is labeled "Effect."

D They take their kids to see the remakes.

Question 2

What is this Article mainly about?

A People love the new live-action remakes of animated movies.

Question 3

Which is **not** in the Article?

C Which animated characters people like

Question 4

Which two words have almost the **same** meaning?

B hit and winner

Question 5

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that _____.

A kids like movies with characters like them

Question 6

The Article says:

Live-action remakes can make lots of money. They have a winning formula. It starts with stories fans love. Add characters who seem like old friends. Throw in big stars. Mix in special effects. And ka-ching! It's box office gold.

Why is this passage in the Article? It helps the reader to know _____.

A why moviemakers remake animated movies

Question 7

Look at these passages from the Article. Which one shows why a parent might go and see today's live-action movies?

B The power of nostalgia helps. Adults loved these movies growing up. So they like taking their kids to see them.

Question 8

The Article says:

What do *you* think about live-action remakes? Whatever your take, these movies are a whole new world for fans.

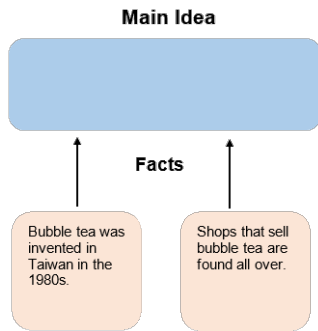
Which means almost the **same** as *take*?

B view

Bubble Tea Is Blowing Up

Answer key

Question 1



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

D People now love bubble tea in Asia, the U.S., and beyond.

Question 2

Which word means almost the **same** as *invent*, as it is used in the Article?

A Create

Question 3

Look at the events below. Think about the Article. Which must have happened *first*?

C Milk tea was made.

Question 4

Which of these is an opinion?

B Chocolate pudding is the tastiest flavor.

Question 5

Rosa wants to know more about bubble tea flavors. She should look on a website about _____.

C Making your own bubble tea

Question 6

The Article says:

Bubble tea shops can be great places to *chill*. In some places, kids go there to hang out with friends. They may play games or study.

Which word means almost the **same** as *chill*, as it is used above?

A Rest

Question 7

Look at these passages from the Article. Which one shows that bubble tea shops can be fun places to go?

D Bubble tea shops can be great places to chill. In some places, kids go there to hang out with friends.

Question 8

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that _____.

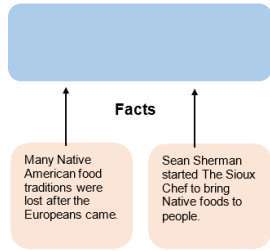
C More and more people like to drink bubble tea.

Cooking Up Native Traditions

Answer key

Question 1

Main Idea of the Article



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

C Sherman is bringing back healthy Native American food traditions.

Question 2

Which of these is an opinion?

C Sherman's recipes really taste great.

Question 3

The Article says:

The foods given to many Native Americans, like those in [Sherman's] cupboard growing up, aren't healthy. This causes health problems. Diabetes is one. But Native foods are good for people. They have less salt, sugar, and fats. Sherman hopes more people will eat these foods.

This helps the reader to know _____.

A why Sherman is bringing back Native foods

Question 4

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

A later and earlier

Question 5

Think about the Article. Which is most likely to happen?

C More people will learn about Native American foods.

Question 6

Which is **not** in the Article?

B Why it's hard to find ingredients like wild rice

Question 7

The Article says:

Sherman had an *idea*: He wanted to bring back these traditions. So he started a cooking business. It's called The Sioux Chef.

Which means almost the **same** as *idea*?

A thought

Question 8

Read these passages from the Article. Which one shows that Sherman's recipes can help people with health problems?

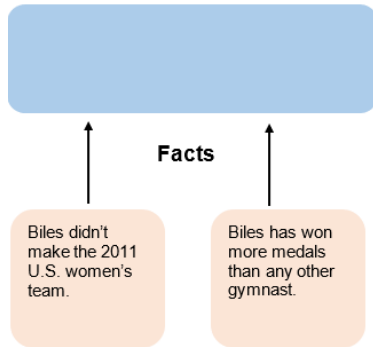
B But Native foods are good for people. They have less salt, sugar, and fats. Sherman hopes more people will eat these foods.

Defying Gravity

Answer Key

Question 1

Main Idea of the Article



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

C Biles never gave up and became a great gymnast.

Question 2

Which of these is an opinion?

D Biles didn't try hard enough to make the 2011 team.

Question 3

The Article says:

But in 2011, Biles didn't make the U.S. women's team. This made her sad. But she didn't give up. And in 2013, she made the team!

C problems make Biles try harder

Question 4

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

A easy and hard

Question 5

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that _____.

C Biles worked very hard to win

Question 6

Which is **not** in the Article?

C Who helped Biles train for the world championships

Question 7

The Article says:

At age 19, Biles led Team U.S.A. at the 2016 Olympic Games. She and swimmer Katie Ledecky were the female athletes with the most *medals*.

Which means almost the **same** as *medal*?

A prize

Question 8

Look at these passages from the Article. Which one shows that Biles' life as a child was sometimes hard?

B Biles was born on March 14, 1997. Her early life wasn't easy. Her mom and dad couldn't care for her. So she lived in foster care.

Give Me S'more!

Answer key

Question 1

Since...

Then...



Some people think Girl Scouts might have made s'mores first.

Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

A A Girl Scouts manual talked about s'mores.

Question 2

Let's say you are retelling this Article. It is **most** important to tell _____.

A How to make a s'more

Question 3

Which word means almost the **same** as *manual*, as it is used in the Article?

B Guide

Question 4

Which is **not** in the Article?

D Graham crackers were first made in the late 1800s.

Question 5

The Article says:

What if you don't have a campfire? You can make a s'more in the oven or microwave.

This helps the reader to know _____.

B That there are different ways to make s'mores

Question 6

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

C Less and more

Question 7

Look at these passages from the Article. Which one tells how milk chocolate is made?

A The chocolatey? That's a milk chocolate bar. Milk chocolate has been around since 1875. It's made with chocolate, sugar, and milk.

Question 8

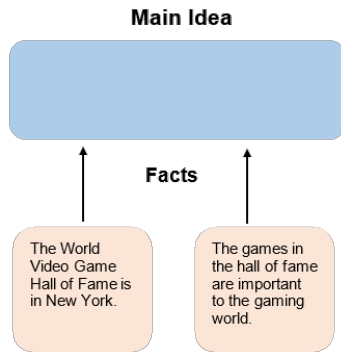
Think about the Article. The reader can tell that _____.

B S'mores are easy to make.

Global Game Fame

Answer key

Question 1



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

A Each year, the world's best video games enter the hall of fame.

Question 2

Which word means almost the **same** as *plumber*, as it is used in the Article?

B Fixer

Question 3

Which of these is an opinion?

D *Super Mario Kart* is more fun than *Microsoft Solitaire*.

Question 4

Think about the Article. How is *Microsoft Solitaire* different from *Super Mario Kart*?

A *Microsoft Solitaire* taught players to use a mouse.

Question 5

Which two words have almost the **same** meaning?

B Drawing and picture

Question 6

The Article says:

The hall of fame opened in New York in 2015. It's for the best and most important video games. Some of the games are from the past. But they have withstood the test of time.

Why is this in the Article? It shows _____.

C What the hall of fame is for

Question 7

Look at these passages from the Article. Which one tells why a game went into the hall of fame?

B Take *Colossal Cave Adventure*. It's from 1976. It helped start computer gaming.

Question 8

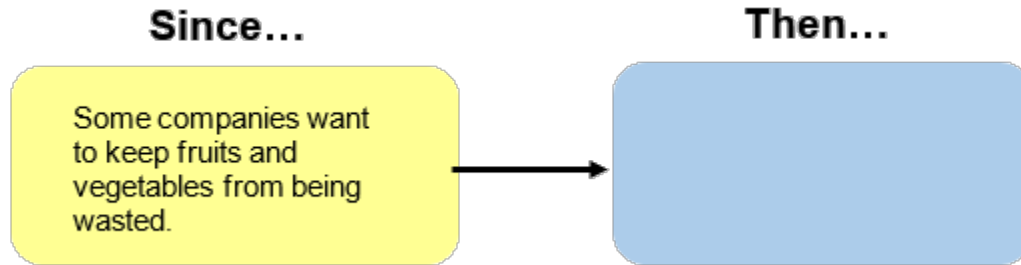
Think about the Article. Which is most likely to happen?

A More games will go into the hall of fame next year.

Good, Bad, or Ugly?

Answer key

Question 1



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

A They sell the fruits and vegetables that supermarkets will not sell.

Question 2

Let's say you are retelling this Article. Which is **most** important to say?

B Some companies are selling ugly produce so that it doesn't go to waste.

Question 3

Which of these is a fact?

D Some companies sell ugly fruits and vegetables at low prices.

Question 4

Which word means almost the **same** as *defend*, as it is used in the Article?

A Guard

Question 5

The author probably wrote this Article in order to _____.

A Explain why some companies sell ugly produce

Question 6

Look at these passages from the Article. Which one shows why some companies sell ugly produce?

D Food waste is a big problem, they say. About 30 to 40 percent of the U.S. food supply is wasted.

Question 7

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

B Waste and save

Question 8

Think about the Article. Which is most likely to happen?

D People in the U.S. may continue to waste some food.

Katherine the Great

Answer key

Question 1

Since...

Then...



She worked as a "human computer."

Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

C Katherine Johnson was great at math.

Question 2

What is the main idea of this Article?

B Katherine Johnson is a hero for her work at NASA.

Question 3

Think about the Article. Which must have taken place *first*?

C Katherine Johnson got a job at NASA.

Question 4

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

A Correct and wrong

Question 5

Kay wants to know more about going into space. She should look _____.

B In a book about different NASA trips

Question 6

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that _____.

D Some important people believed in Katherine Johnson.

Question 7

Look at these passages from the Article. Which one shows why Katherine Johnson is a math hero?

C Johnson's math helped other space trips go well, too.

Question 8

The Article says:

Johnson's math was *always* right. In 1962, astronaut John Glenn was going into space. A programmed computer did the math. Glenn asked for Johnson to also do the math, just to be sure.

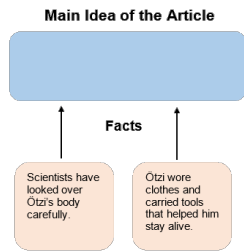
Which must mean almost the **opposite** of *always*, as it is used above?

D Never

Otzi the Iceman

Answer key

Question 1



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

D The world is learning about the past from a man frozen in ice for more than 5,000 years.

Question 2

The Article says:

Soon after he died, his body was covered and frozen in ice. It stayed frozen until 1991, when two hikers found him. And, surprise. His body was in good shape! It was the first well-preserved body found in Europe from late-Neolithic times.

What does this show?

A why scientists can study Ötzi

Question 3

Which means almost the **same** as *well-preserved*?

D saved

Question 4

Which of these is an opinion?

A Ötzi is the most interesting find ever because of what he has taught scientists.

Question 5

Read these passages from the Article. Which one shows what Ötzi has taught scientists about late-Neolithic times

A Also, the materials used to make his tools came from other places that were far away. So did people trade goods back then?

Probably so.

Question 6

The Article says:

His clothes were made from hides and grass. And he had a copper ax, a bow, and arrows. Also, the *materials* used to make his tools came from other places that were far away.

Which means almost the **same** as *materials*?

A parts

Question 7

Antonio wants to know more about Ötzi the Iceman. He should look _____.

D at a video on important findings of the late-Neolithic period

Question 8

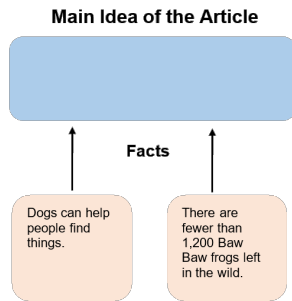
Think about the Article. Which is most likely to happen?

B Scientists will keep studying Ötzi in hopes of learning more.

Sniffing Out Extinction

Answer key

Question 1



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

C Dogs find endangered species so scientists can help them.

Question 2

Think about the Article. Why do conservationists want to help the Baw Baw frogs?

C Fewer than 1,200 Baw Baw frogs are left in the wild.

Question 3

The Article says:

The first step is to find the frogs. That's not easy. They live in hard-to-get-to forests. And they burrow deep under mud.

This helps the reader to know _____.

C why it's hard to find Baw Baw frogs

Question 4

Which two words have almost the **same** meaning?

A burrow and dig

Question 5

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that _____.

A the dogs sniffed frog droppings before finding them

Question 6

Which is **not** in the Article?

D Which type of dog is best at finding missing persons

Question 7

The Article says:

The first step is to *find* the frogs. That's not easy. They live in hard-to-get-to forests. And they burrow deep under mud.

Which means the **opposite** of *find*?

D lose

Question 8

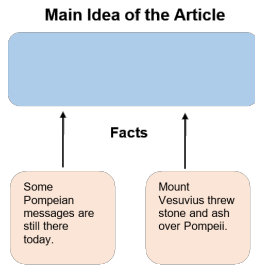
Read these passages from the Article. Which one shows that Baw Baw frogs are in danger of dying out completely?

B [The Baw Baw frog] lives in southeastern Australia. Since 1980, 98 percent of the frogs have been wiped out. Fewer than 1,200 of them are left in the wild.

Social Media, Pompeii Style

Answer key

Question 1



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

A The people of Pompeii wrote messages on walls.

Question 2

Which of these is an opinion?

C It's fun to read the messages on Pompeii's walls.

Question 3

The Article says:

In 79 CE, the volcano Mount Vesuvius hit. It destroyed Pompeii. The city was covered with stone and ash. But *under* all of this, Pompeii kept standing. It's as if it were frozen in time.

This helps the reader to know _____.

A why Pompeii was saved for so long

Question 4

Which means the **opposite** of *ancient*?

C new

Question 5

Camila wants to know more about the people who lived in Pompeii before the volcano hit. She should look _____.

A at a TV show called *Life in Old Pompeii*

Question 6

The Article says:

Today, people post messages on cyber walls. Facebook fans know how *that* works.

Which means almost the **same** as *post*?

B write

Question 7

Read these passages from the Article. Which one shows why many buildings in Pompeii are still there today?

C The city was covered with stone and ash. But *under* all of this, Pompeii kept standing. It's as if it were frozen in time.

Question 8

Which is **not** in the Article?

A Who found out that a city was buried at Pompeii

Soldier in the Wild

Answer key

Question 1

Cause

Shoichi Yokoi was afraid that American soldiers would kill him.



Effect

Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

A Yokoi fled to the jungles of Guam.

Question 2

What is this Article mainly about?

A Yokoi hid in the jungles of Guam for many years.

Question 3

Look at the events below. Think about the Article. Which must have happened *last*?

D Yokoi became a hero in Japan.

Question 4

Which two words have almost the **same** meaning?

A end and finish

Question 5

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that _____.

B Yokoi didn't feel good about going back to Japan.

Question 6

The Article says:

Why not surrender and go home? It was about loyalty. Japanese soldiers were taught to fight to the death. They believed surrendering was shameful.

Why is this passage in the Article? It helps the reader to know _____.

C the reason why Yokoi stayed on Guam

Question 7

A *soldier* is someone who _____.

B fights in a war

Question 8

Which is **not** in the Article?

C How Yokoi learned the war had ended

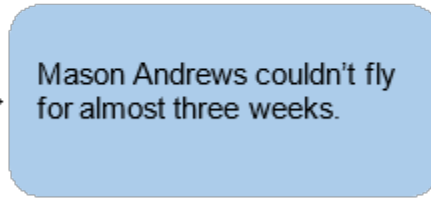
Teen Pilot Breaks World Record

Answer key

Question 1

Since

Then



Based on the Article, which fits best in the empty box above?

C There were bad typhoons in the Philippines.

Question 2

Let's say you are retelling this Article. Which is most important to say?

B Mason Andrews became the youngest pilot to fly around the world.

Question 3

Which of these is a fact?

B Mason flew through a sandstorm between Egypt and Dubai.

Question 4

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

C Youngest and oldest

Question 5

The Article says:

There was a sandstorm. It was during a flight from Egypt to Dubai. He also flew through a scary monsoon. It was over the Bay of Bengal. And in the Philippines, there were bad typhoons. They kept Mason grounded for nearly three weeks.

Why is this passage in the Article? It helps the reader to understand _____.

A Why it wasn't easy for Mason to fly around the world

Question 6

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that _____.

A It's unlikely that Mason Andrews will stop dreaming big.

Question 7

The Article says:

[Mason] also flew through a scary monsoon. It was *over* the Bay of Bengal.

Which must mean almost the **same** as *over*?

D Above

Question 8

Look at these passages from the Article. Which one shows that Mason's trip did more than break a flying record?

B He also raised over \$30,000 for MedCamps of Louisiana. The group helps kids with special needs.

The Early-Late Debate

Answer key

Question 1

Causes

It could be hard to have enough buses and drivers.

Students would have less free time.

Effect

Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

D Some people think it's not smart to start school later.

Question 2

What is the Article mainly about?

D Some people are talking about starting schools later and if it's smart to do so.

Question 3

Which of these is an opinion?

D Students in California will like going to school later.

Question 4

Which means almost the **same** as *adolescent*?

D teen

Question 5

The Article does **not** say _____.

A What students think about schools starting later

Question 6

The Article states:

Students who don't get enough sleep can have health problems. They have trouble learning, too.

This passage helps the reader to know _____.

B how important sleep is for students

Question 7

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

D start and finish

Question 8

Read these passages from the Article. Which one shows that some schools believe the research about how adolescents sleep best?

C High schools in Seattle start at 8:45 a.m. Or even later! And California passed a law. It sets new rules. High schools won't start before 8:30 a.m. Middle schools won't start before 8 a.m.

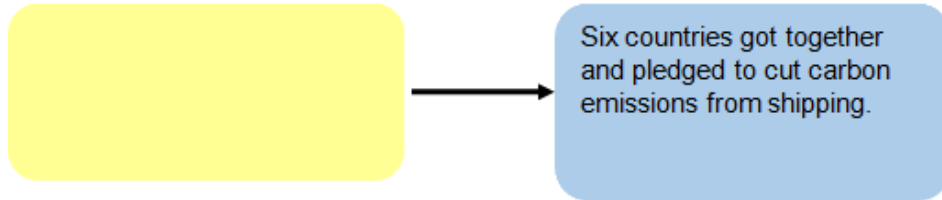
The Last Generation?

Answer key

Question 1

Cause

Effect



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

D Pacific Island countries want to fight climate change.

Question 2

The Article talks mainly about _____.

B how Pacific Islanders will cut shipping emissions

Question 3

Which two words have almost the **same** meaning?

A harmed and hurt

Question 4

Which is **not** in the Article?

D Why only some of the countries are working together

Question 5

The Article says:

So six Pacific Island countries joined forces. This was in 2019. Together, they pledged to cut carbon emissions from shipping by 40 percent by 2030. By 2050, they want zero-carbon shipping.

This helps the reader to know _____.

D how islanders plan to fight climate change

Question 6

The Article says:

There are 11 countries in the Pacific Islands. But they all have one big *problem*. That problem is climate change. Climate change causes seas to rise. That's bad news for the islands.

Which means almost the **same** as *problem*?

A trouble

Question 7

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that _____.

D wind energy doesn't make climate change worse

Question 8

Read these passages from the Article. Which one tells who is working to fight climate change?

A So six Pacific Island countries joined forces. This was in 2019. Together, they pledged to cut carbon emissions from shipping by 40 percent by 2030. By 2050, they want zero-carbon shipping.

The Truth About Dogs

Answer key

Question 1

Since...

Then...



Dogs sniff around fire hydrants.

Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

C It's one of the ways dogs can tell how safe an area is.

Question 2

Let's say you are retelling this Article. It is **most** important to tell _____.

A The California Science Center has an exhibition about dogs.

Question 3

Which of these is an opinion?

B Smart dogs are the best pets to have.

Question 4

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

B Questions and answers

Question 5

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that _____.

D People like dogs partly because dogs are helpful.

Question 6

The Article says:

Scientists don't know when people and dogs first connected. But dogs are related to wolves. And humans and wolves crossed paths thousands of years ago, says Perlov.

What does this show?

A People and dogs have likely been together for a very long time.

Question 7

The Article says:

Dogs sniff around fire hydrants. Visitors to the exhibition can find out why. But here's the answer: Dogs learn from smelling pee. They can *tell* how safe the area is.

Which must mean almost the **same** as *tell*, as it is used above?

B Know

Question 8

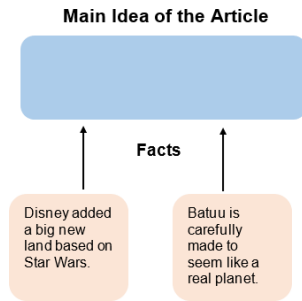
Which passage from the Article best supports the idea that dogs have good senses other than a great sense of smell?

A And they can hear very soft sounds.

Welcome to Batuu

Answer key

Question 1



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

There is a large, empty rectangle. Above the rectangle, it says "Main Idea of the Article." Under the rectangle, there are two smaller boxes with arrows pointing up to the rectangle. Each small box includes a fact from the Article. The box on the left says "Disney added a big new land based on Star Wars." The box on the right says "Batuu is carefully made to seem like a real planet."

D Disney opened Galaxy's Edge where visitors feel like they're part of a Star Wars story.

Question 2

Which of these is an opinion?

C The Star Wars story is the best part of Galaxy's Edge.

Question 3

The Article says:

It's a dream come true for Star Wars fans! In 2019, Disney opened Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge. It's a fun new land where people can feel like they're part of a Star Wars story.

This passage helps the reader to know that _____.

A Star Wars fans will really want to go to Galaxy's Edge

Question 4

Which means almost the **same** as *explore*?

D hunt

Question 5

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that _____.

A Disney believes many people will want to go to Galaxy's Edge

Question 6

Anna Maria wants to know what an *acre* is. She could find this out by using a _____.

B dictionary

Question 7

The Article says:

The workers, food, and goods are all part of that story. You can be, too. You might even be *questioned* by a stormtrooper.

Which means the **opposite** of *questioned*?

C answered

Question 8

Look at these passages from the Article. Which one shows that acting is part of the job for people who work in Galaxy's Edge?

B The workers, food, and goods are all part of that story. You can be, too. You might even be questioned by a stormtrooper.

Women Adventurers

Answer key

Question 1

What Happened Next?

A scientist was the first woman to sail around the world.

A journalist wrote a story about the problems at a hospital.



Think about the Article. Which fits best in the empty box above?

D A woman set a record traveling around the world in 72 days.

Question 2

Let's say you are retelling this Article. It is **most** important to tell _____.

B that people thought women should stay at home years ago, but some took off on their own

Question 3

The Article says:

In 1766, Baret wanted to set sail with a group of scientists. But they were all men. Women weren't allowed to travel on French navy ships. So, Baret disguised herself as a man. And she sailed away!

The author uses this passage mostly to _____

D show that a scientist can be a man or a woman

Question 4

Which of these is an opinion?

B It wasn't a good idea for Jeanne Baret to disguise herself as a man.

Question 5

Which means the **opposite** of *navy*?

C army

Question 6

Read these passages from the Article. Which one tells how some women live today?

C These days, women go to space. They sail around the world. They have all kinds of adventures.

Question 7

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

D true and false

Question 8

The Article does **not** say _____.

A how long it took Baret to sail around the world