A Mountain Dream

For years, Lisa Ricci had worked in her family’s New York City bakery. She had enjoyed learning about the baking business. She loved seeing how many customers came back week after week for more, and she often handed children free sugar cookies just to see the smiles on their faces.

But Lisa was ready for an adventure. She liked New York, but the tall buildings couldn’t hide the fact that the city was flat. Lisa yearned for a future that wasn’t laid out and stretched thin before her like rolled dough. Lisa dreamed of the Rocky Mountains. Her friend Cindy Hooper owned a bed and breakfast inn near Loveland, Colorado. Cindy invited Lisa to come work with her. Lisa imagined exploring the snow-capped peaks of the Rockies. She wanted to picnic in valleys filled with golden Aspen trees, dip her toes in cool, clear rivers, and watch elk feed at dusk.

In late summer, Lisa moved to Loveland and she and Cindy agreed on a work schedule. Lisa would work Wednesday through Sunday, which sounded perfect. On her days off, she would go hiking in the Rockies. Lisa was so excited! She could hardly believe her luck.

One week into her new job, the luck that brought her to Colorado seemed to change. While changing a light bulb, Cindy fell from a stepladder and broke her leg. Cindy’s leg would be a cast for three months. Lisa wouldn’t think of leaving her dear friend high and dry, so she toiled around the clock.

Lisa never complained. Months went by, and Lisa hadn’t gone to the mountains once. There was a chill in the air and soon winter would arrive. Lisa wouldn’t have another chance to hike until spring. She was so close to the Rocky Mountains, and yet she couldn’t seem to reach them.

Three months passed. Cindy’s leg healed, and her cast came off. Finally, Lisa felt she could go off and explore. She joined Happy Trails Hiking Club. The club had organized a day hike that Monday in Estes Park. All Lisa had to do was walk three blocks to the corner and board a bus by 10 a.m. That would work just fine. Lisa told Cindy she would serve breakfast on Monday, even though it was her day off. Breakfast always ended at 9:30, so she would still have time to catch the bus.

Lisa cleaned up the last of the breakfast dishes and wiped down the tables. At 9:45, she buttoned up her coat, filled her water bottle and laced up her hiking boots. Just as she was about to leave, two guests came downstairs. “Are we too late for breakfast?” they asked.

Cindy returned at 10:30 to find Lisa still there, cleaning up again. “You missed your bus!” she exclaimed, loud enough for the two guests to hear her. “It’s no big deal,” Lisa insisted. “Besides,” Lisa said, pointing at snow flurries out the window, “it’s not a great day to hike anyway.” But after Cindy explained to the guests all that Lisa had done for her, they made her an offer. “We’re going skiing today. We have an extra ticket for going skiing. Would you like to come with us?”

When Lisa got in the car, Cindy handed her a sealed envelope through the window. Halfway into the mountains, Lisa remembered to open it. Inside were a note and enough money for Lisa to buy a season pass and also pay for her ski and boot rentals. “Your mountain dream is finally coming true,” said the note. “Did you know that my dream of having a great friend came true as well?”

1. The following question has two parts. First, answer part A. Then, answer part B.

**Part A**

Which statement best explains why Lisa moves to Colorado?

* 

A.

Lisa wants to meet different people.

* 

B.

Lisa has a friend who has an inn in Colorado.

* 

C.

Lisa wants to climb the mountains in Colorado.

* 

D.

Lisa has a friend who needs her help to run her business.

**Part B**

Which sentence from the passage **best** supports your answer in part A?

* 

A.

"For years, Lisa Ricci had worked in her family's New York City bakery."

* 

B.

“Lisa yearned for a future that wasn’t laid out and stretched thin before her like rolled dough.”

* 

C.

"Her friend Cindy Hooper owned a bed and breakfast inn near Loveland, Colorado."

* 

D.

"Cindy’s leg would be in a cast for three months."

1. Drag **three** events that happened after Cindy’s cast came off in the order they occurred.

* **Lisa imagined hiking in the Rocky Mountains.**
* **Lisa was given money to buy a season pass and ski and boot rentals.**
* **Lisa joined the Happy Trails Hiking Club.**
* **Lisa handed out sugar cookies to some of her favorite customers.**
* **Lisa moved to Loveland to help in the bed and breakfast inn.**
* **Lisa made plans to go on a day hike to Estes Park.**

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1. The following question has two parts. First, answer part A. Then, answer part B.

**Part A:**

How do the guests at the bed and breakfast help Lisa's dream finally come true?

* 

A.

They give her money for ski and boot rentals.

* 

B.

They offer her an extra ski ticket.

* 

C.

They make sure she misses her bus.

* 

D.

They ask if they are late for breakfast.

**Part B:**

Which sentence from the story supports your answer in part A?

* 

A.

"On her days off, she would go hiking in the Rockies."

* 

B.

"Finally, Lisa felt she could go off and explore."

* 

C.

"We have an extra ticket for going skiing. Would you like to come with us?”

* 

D.

"Just as she was about to leave, two guests came downstairs."

PreviousNext

1. Explain what the main problem is in “A Mountain Dream” and how it is solved. Use **two** details from the passage to support your answer.

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1. Read the sentence from the passage.

Lisa wouldn't think of leaving her dear friend **high and dry**, so she **toiled around the clock**.

Complete the chart by dragging **one** phrase from the list that **most closely** matches **each** idiom.

* **worked every single day with few breaks**

* **alone and frightened**

* **put out of sight for a while**

* **was on time for every shift she was assigned**

* **left alone without any help**
* **high and dry**

* **toiled around the clock**

1. Read the sentence from the passage.

All Lisa had to do was walk three blocks to the corner and **board** a bus by 10 a.m.

Which sentence uses the same meaning of the word board as in the sentence from the passage?

* 

A.

She pays for room and board.

* 

B.

He has to board the plane early.

* 

C.

They cut the board into many pieces.

* 

D.

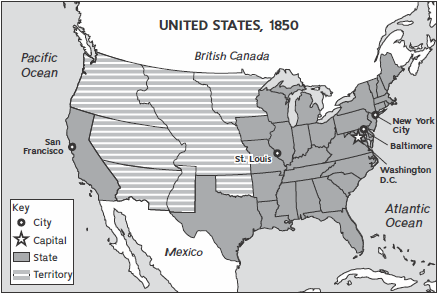
We will board up the broken window.

Communicating Coast to Coast

1 In 1850, the United States Congress passed a bill making California the thirty-first state. It took nine weeks for the news to reach California. Today, news like that would zoom across the country in an instant.

### ****Traveling to the West****

2 Gold was discovered in California in 1848. This caused many Americans to head to the West Coast in search of fortunes. It was known as the “gold rush,” but no one got there quickly. A wagon trip from St. Louis, Missouri, took about six months. Traveling by sea was faster but required sailing around South America. Although one ship made the trip from New York City to San Francisco in 89 days in 1851, people wanted faster ways to travel. More importantly, they wanted faster ways to send information.



### ****Carrying the Mail****

3 In 1858, stagecoaches began carrying mail. Letters traveled from St. Louis to San Francisco in just 25 days. Soon the mail traveled even faster when carried on horseback. The Pony Express was a series of stations across the West. A rider on horseback carried a pouch of mail from one station to the next, then handed the pouch to another rider, who rode off at great speed on a freshly rested horse. The pouch was handed off again at each station until it reached the final one.

4 The Pony Express helped information travel more quickly. However, a revolutionary change in the way messages traveled was already taking place. A man named Samuel Morse was leading the way.

### ****Connecting East and West****

5 Morse overheard people discussing whether it would be possible to send messages along a wire. The idea excited him. He knew electricity traveled along a wire in an instant. Imagine sending messages that way!

6 His inventive mind got right to work. Morse soon had a working model of a telegraph. This machine started and stopped the flow of electricity. This created long and short bursts of energy that represented letters and numbers. This alphabet is called Morse code.

7 Morse dreamed of the day when messages could travel thousands of miles in minutes. But it would not be easy to string telegraph wires across the nation. Morse needed a lot of money to get it done. He decided to ask the United States government for help. When Morse first presented his idea to Congress, they thought his idea seemed impossible. Eventually, Congress gave Morse enough money to get started. He demonstrated how the telegraph worked by sending a message from Baltimore, Maryland, to Washington, D.C. It worked! Those who had made fun of him were convinced. They regretted having ridiculed him.

8 Connecting the nation from coast to coast by telegraph was a big job. Finally, in 1861, wires from the East joined wires from the West and the transcontinental telegraph was complete! This led to the end of the Pony Express because even the fastest horses were no match for the telegraph. News now traveled at lightning speed. The telegraph paved the way for today’s high-speed world of telephones, cell phones, text messages, television, radio, and the Internet.

1. The following question has two parts. First, answer part A. Then, answer part B.

### Part A:

What does the map in the passage help the reader understand?

* 

A.

how methods of communication have changed

* 

B.

how long it took a ship to go around South America

* 

C.

how far away the new state of California was from the rest of the states

* 

D.

how dangerous the job of being a Pony Express rider was

### Part B:

What sentence in the passage **best** supports your answer in Part A?

* 

A.

"It took nine weeks for the news to reach California."

* 

B.

"Traveling by sea was faster but required sailing around South America."

* 

C.

"A man named Samuel Morse was leading the way."

* 

D.

"The Pony Express was a series of stations across the West."

1. The following question has two parts. First, answer part A. Then, answer part B.

**Part A:** What is the main idea of the passage?

* 

A.

Many people participated in the gold rush.

* 

B.

Methods of communication improved after 1850.

* 

C.

It took a long time for people to travel around in 1850.

* 

D.

The telegraph replaced other means of communication.

**Part B:** Which sentence from the passage **best** supports your answer in part A?

* 

A.

“This caused many Americans to head to the West Coast in search of fortunes.”

* 

B.

“The trip from New York City to San Francisco was more than 16,000 miles.”

* 

C.

“Finally, in 1861, wires from the East joined wires from the West and the transcontinental telegraph was complete!”

* 

D.

“This led to the end of the Pony Express because even the fastest horses were no match for the telegraph.”

Helping Others Through Business

Do you ever notice things your neighbors need and ways you can make their lives easier? If you do, then you might want to start your own business. Many businesses offer products or services that help others. With help from an adult, you can too! You need to offer services or products that people need or want for your business to succeed. Here are a few ideas for services that you could provide, along with tips to make your business succeed.

### ****Childcare****

Many parents are tired after a full day. They might like help caring for their young children. They might be grateful to have someone play with their children while they make dinner. Also, little children love looking at picture books, but they might not be able to read them yet. Consider starting a Parent’s Helper service if you like playing with little kids and reading to them.

If you’re offering a Parent’s Helper service, you might need some training. The Red Cross and other local neighborhood organizations offer courses for young people to learn how to care for young children. If you want your business to succeed, you must know how to take care of children safely.

### ****Garden Care****

Pulling weeds and planting flowers takes a lot of work. Some people need help with their yards and gardens. Some neighbors are too busy to rake leaves. If you open a garden care service, you can help your neighbors care for their homes.

Begin by practicing on your own yard, if you have one. You can also practice in a friend’s garden. You may be able to use your customers’ tools. However, you may need to bring your own tools. Talk to your parents or another adult about borrowing their shovels and rakes. For your first jobs, you may want an adult to come with you in case you need any help.

### ****Pet Care****

When people leave town, who takes the dog for a walk? Who changes the kitty litter? Who feeds the goldfish? If you love animals, this is where you come in. Pet care is big business, and every pet owner needs assistance.

Get the word out! Print flyers and business cards with help from an adult. Give your flyers and business cards to people you already know, like family, friends, and close neighbors. The ones who have furry, feathered, or scaly friends will start calling you, and soon you’ll have more business than you can handle.

Why not start planning your business today? People are thankful for pet, garden, and childcare services and will come to depend upon you. You can be glad to run a business that helps others, teaches you job skills, and even makes money. Good luck!

1. Read the sentence from the passage.

They might be **grateful** to have someone play with their children while they make dinner.

If the root word **grat** indicates "pleased or appreciative," what does **grateful** mean?

* 

A.

beautiful

* 

B.

careful

* 

C.

thankful

* 

D.

thoughtful

1. Which of these is an example of an **expository text**? Select **two** choices.

* 

A.

a story about Abraham Lincoln's life that was written by Abraham Lincoln

* 

B.

a text about the planets that has different headings for the different topics

* 

C.

a passage that includes dialogue between two characters

* 

D.

a piece of writing that includes facts about different types of trees with illustrations

* 

E.

the legend of a local town that is passed down from generation to generation

1. Which of these is an element of **realistic fiction**? Select all that apply.

* 

A.

tells about events that could happen in real life

* 

B.

has a setting that could be real

* 

C.

is meant to give facts and information

* 

D.

includes dialogue

* 

E.

told from generation to generation

Kayla and the Twins

(1) Kayla was reading a story to two squirmy twins their names were Jerome and Ella. (2) The story was about a little monkey named Chester. (3) Always getting into trouble.

(4) Jerome and Ella started to giggle. (5) The story was so funny. (6) Kayla just kept on reading. (7) Jerome giggled and squirmed so much that he fell off the bed. (8) Ella gasped, and Kayla stopped reading.

(9) Luckily, the pillows that were usually on the bed were on the floor. (10) After Jerome got over his surprise, he said, "That was fun!" (11) Everybody laughed. (12) He climbed back up on the bed and rolled off onto the pillows again.

(13) "You are a lot like Chester," said Kayla.

(14) “I’m a monkey!” shouted Jerome. (15) “Monkeys like bananas so do I.”

(16) They all went to the kitchen, they found a bunch of bananas in a bowl. (17) "You need to calm down before you can eat," said Kayla. (18) Jerome did not agree. (19) He started to grab a banana Kayla got there first. (20) She held the bowl high in the air. (21) "Close your eyes and count slowly to ten." (22) Jerome calmed down. (23) Ate half a banana before bed.

12. Which of the following sentences from the passage has a compound subject **or** a compound predicate? Select the **two** correct choices.

* 

A.

sentence 2

* 

B.

sentence 4

* 

C.

sentence 6

* 

D.

sentence 8

* 

E.

sentence 12

* 

F.

sentence 13

* + 1. Which of these is a run-on sentence?
* 

A.

Sentence 1

* 

B.

Sentence 2

* 

C.

Sentence 3

* 

D.

Sentence 7

* + 1. Which sentence from the draft is a compound sentence?
* 

A.

Sentence 6

* 

B.

Sentence 7

* 

C.

Sentence 8

* 

D.

Sentence 9

* + 1. Which sentence contains a subordinate clause?
* 

A.

Sentence 8

* 

B.

Sentence 10

* 

C.

Sentence 11

* 

D.

Sentence 18

* + 1. Which sentence from the draft is a sentence fragment because it **does not** have a subject?
* 

A.

Sentence 18

* 

B.

Sentence 20

* 

C.

Sentence 22

* 

D.

Sentence 23

* + 1. Use the drop-down menus to select the correct word to complete each sentence.

Our             were delivered to us on the field trip.

The light             were turned off when we left the house.

Yesterday we             to the park before it rained.

We are all             to the movies together.

* + 1. Drag each set of letters to make a word with a long vowel sound.
* **ai**
* **ol**
* **ow**
* **in**

k

d

m

t

t

w

t