



These answers will vary. Examples given.

Page 39

Name _____

We the People

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. The U.S. Constitution was written _____.
 A by a single person
 B in the summer of 1787
 C in 13 days' time
2. The Preamble to the Constitution is the _____.
 A introduction
 B debate
 C conclusion
3. How would you interpret the meaning of Ben Franklin's comment?
*** The rising sun is a symbol of a new day.**
He was saying it was the dawn of a new nation.
4. Explain the purpose of the Preamble to the Constitution.
*** To introduce the Constitution and state some of its goals and ideas.**
5. Today, people can visit the meeting room of the Constitutional Convention. Why do you think this place has been saved and cared for?
*** It is an important place in American history.**
It is where the Constitution was born.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

Imagine you were there at the Constitutional Convention. Write a journal entry about the final day.



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Page 47

Name _____

Main Street, U.S.A.

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. Route 66 _____.
 A has completely disappeared
 B was 2,448 miles (3,940 km) long
 C opened in 1985
2. The word *motel* combines the two words _____.
 A motor + highway
 B motor + route
 C motor + hotel
3. What happened when automobiles became popular after 1908?
*** People wanted paved roads to drive on, and Route 66 was the first one to cross the country.**
4. What has happened to the businesses along Route 66 today? Why?
*** Most of them are closed because people no longer travel that way.**
5. How did it happen that Route 66 was no longer a U.S. highway?
*** It was used less and less when new highways were built that were wider, straighter, and safer.**

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

People traveled Route 66 for almost 60 years. Describe some of their reasons.



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A History of Route 66 47

Page 45

Name _____

U.S. Route 66

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. Route 66 started out as a _____.
 A railroad
 B U.S. highway
 C hunting trail
2. In 1926, Route 66 was _____.
 A made an official U.S. highway
 B only an unpaved route
 C discovered by mountain men
3. How does the author support the idea that Route 66 is famous?
It has been the subject of books, TV shows, and songs.
4. What is the connection between Henry Ford and Route 66?
*** People wanted to drive his cars on paved roads. Route 66 was paved from Illinois to California.**
5. Give two reasons that Route 66 changed over time.
*** 1. People needed a good route to travel west.
2. A safer highway than Route 66 was needed.**

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

The author says Route 66 carried a lot of history. Write to explain what that means.



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A History of Route 66 45

Page 49

Name _____

America's Main Street

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. U.S. Route 66 is a good example of _____.
 A how places change over time
 B why people need good jobs
 C when railroads didn't exist
2. Another name for *filling station* is _____.
 A railroad station
 B gas station
 C highway
3. From 1849 on, ordinary people wanted to go west to California. What were some of their reasons?
*** To find gold, to look for work, to enjoy traveling.**
4. What is the main idea of paragraph 3?
*** Route 66 was a popular highway because it was paved from east to west across the country.**
5. Support the idea that places change over time. Use U.S. Route 66 as an example.
*** It went from a hunting trail, to a wagon trail, to a paved U.S. highway, to a historic route.**

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

People traveled U.S. Route 66 for almost 60 years. Explain how it earned the name *Main Street of America*.



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A History of Route 66 49



These answers will vary. Examples given.

Page 55

Name _____

America's First Citizen

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. Ben Franklin learned the printer's trade _____.

A in school
 B when he was twelve years old
 C after he ran away to Philadelphia

2. Franklin made paper money with _____.

A his brother
 B vegetable prints
 C leaf prints

3. Did Ben Franklin value reading? Support your answer.

* Yes. Though he only went to school for two years, he saved up to buy books so he could learn.

4. Do you think Ben made the right choice when he ran away? Explain.

* Yes, because his brother wouldn't allow Ben to write and got angry when Ben proved he could.

5. What do you think of Franklin's ideas to prevent people from making fake paper money?

* He had clever ideas that would make it hard for someone to print fakes.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

"Lost time is never found again." Explain what you think this proverb means. Give an example.



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Benjamin Franklin, Printer ■ ■ ■ 55

Page 59

Name _____

A Modest Man

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. Ben Franklin _____.

A went to college
 B had to work at a young age
 C had a wealthy father

2. Ben's brother taught him to _____.

A read and write
 B be a printer
 C write for a newspaper

3. Do you think Ben made the right choice when he ran away? Give your reasons.

* Yes, because he didn't get along with James, and he was able to open his own print shop.

4. Besides his work as a printer, what other things did Franklin accomplish?

* He was a Founding Father, a scientist, and an inventor. He helped write the Declaration.

5. Ben taught himself by reading a lot. Do you think that fact may have led him to print *Poor Richard's Almanack* for other people? Explain.

* Yes, maybe he wanted to help other people learn through reading the almanac.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

The noblest question in the world is, "What good can I do in it?" How does this proverb apply to Franklin's life?



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Benjamin Franklin, Printer ■ ■ ■ 59

Page 57

Name _____

Ben Works to Get Ahead

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. A proverb is a _____.

A clever saying
 B calendar
 C star chart

2. Franklin printed leaves on paper money to _____.

A make it look nice
 B save time
 C prevent fakes

3. What do you think people thought about Ben Franklin when they saw him with his wheelbarrow?

* That he was a hard worker and a good printer because he was always busy.

4. Did Ben make the right choice in running away to Philadelphia? Explain.

* Yes, because in a few years he was able to have his own print shop and his own newspaper.

5. Why do you think thousands of copies of *Poor Richard's Almanack* sold every year?

* It had interesting and useful things printed in it, and also clever sayings. Ben was a good writer.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

"Speak little, do much." Explain what you think this proverb means. How was Franklin an example of this?



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Benjamin Franklin, Printer ■ ■ ■ 57

Page 65

Name _____

Elephant Families

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. A matriarch _____.

A is the youngest adult male
 B lives on her own
 C keeps the herd from harm

2. The fact that elephants have long memories shows that they _____.

A take care of each other
 B are intelligent
 C are a family

3. Give an example of an adaptation, or feature, that helps elephants stay alive.

* The elephant's size scares away its enemies. It can flap its large ears out wide to look larger.

4. From which paragraph can you infer that elephants need a water supply? Write a sentence from the paragraph to support your answer.

* Paragraph 2. "A matriarch can remember where to find water even in a dry spell."

5. If you were a scientist, which feature of elephants would you like to study?

* I would like to study how elephants talk to each other.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

Imagine you are a baby elephant. Write about one day in your life. Give details that tell about life in a herd.



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Elephants Live Together ■ ■ ■ 65



These answers will vary. Examples given.

Page 67

Name _____

An Elephant Herd

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. Being part of a group helps elephants _____.
 A travel a long distance
 B defend themselves
 C live on their own
2. Two of the sounds made by elephants are _____.
 A trumpeting and rumbling
 B remembering and guarding
 C charging and flapping
3. Explain how memory is an adaptation, or feature, that helps elephants stay alive.

* The matriarch can remember where there is water and lead the herd to it.

4. What is the main idea of paragraph 3?

* Elephants warn each other if danger is near in order to guard their babies.

5. Write a sentence or two about what you think is most interesting about elephants.

* I think the way elephants take care of their families is most interesting.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.



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Elephants Live Together ■■■ 67

Page 75

Name _____

Coral Reefs in Danger

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. One danger to a coral reef is _____.
 A cleaner ocean water
 B the goby
 C ocean water that is too warm
2. Some living things benefit each other in _____.
 A an ecosystem
 B trouble
 C coral bleaching
3. Explain why algae and corals are an example of symbiosis.

* Both the algae and the corals give each other something they need in order to live.

4. If you were an ocean scientist, what is one way you could learn if a coral reef was healthy?

* I could look to see if the corals were colorful or if they were bleaching.

5. If you could interview an ocean scientist, what question would you ask about coral reefs?

* How many different kinds of corals have you seen?

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.



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Coral Reefs in Trouble ■■■ 75

Page 69

Name _____

How Elephants Live

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. The matriarch of a herd is _____.
 A forgetful
 B young
 C wise
2. Because of the elephant's great size, it can _____.
 A frighten its enemy
 B move quickly
 C learn from life
3. What is the importance of the herd's matriarch?

* The matriarch is the leader. She is intelligent and knows how to keep the herd safe.

4. How does an elephant's memory help it to live a long life?

* The elephant remembers what to do when it meets danger or needs to find water.

5. What do you think was the most interesting part of this text?

* The most interesting part was how elephants can hear with the soles of their feet.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.



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Elephants Live Together ■■■ 69

Page 77

Name _____

Saving Coral Reefs

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. A natural enemy of corals is _____.
 A the goby
 B a kind of seaweed
 C a special kind of algae
2. Coral bleaching can happen when _____.
 A there are not enough algae
 B corals take in algae
 C gobies eat corals
3. What facts from the text show symbiosis between two living things?

* Algae make food that corals need. Corals give nutrients to the algae.

4. Some gobies keep their enemies away by giving off poison. Based on what you know about gobies, how would you explain this?

* The goby is able to keep the corals safe because the goby's enemies are afraid of the poison.

5. What is the main idea of paragraph 4?

* There are things that people can do to keep coral reefs healthy.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.



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Coral Reefs In Trouble ■■■ 77



These answers will vary. Examples given.

Page 79

Name _____

Coral Reef Ecosystem

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. A natural enemy of corals is _____.

- Ⓛ the octopus
- Ⓜ shallow ocean waters
- Ⓝ the crown-of-thorns sea star

2. A lack of algae causes _____.

- Ⓛ the ocean to warm
- Ⓜ coral bleaching
- Ⓝ symbiosis

3. What state of balance is described in paragraph 3?

Symbiosis between algae and corals.

4. You are an ocean scientist looking at a coral reef. How can you determine if it is healthy?

* I could look to see if there were enough goby fish to keep the seaweed away from the corals.

5. Keeping ocean waters clean, limiting fishing, and cutting down on energy use will do what?

Help to keep a coral reef ecosystem healthy.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

Imagine you are a diver in a coral reef. Explain what you see to someone who has never dived before.

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Coral Reefs in Trouble ■■■ 79

Page 87

Name _____

Life in the Desert

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. Dark-colored mice survive _____.

- Ⓛ without adaptations
- Ⓜ on sandy soil
- Ⓝ in lava rock habitats

2. The spines of a cactus are _____.

- Ⓛ an adaptation
- Ⓜ for storing water
- Ⓝ camouflage

3. List three adaptations of a barrel cactus and tell what purpose they have in common.

Its adaptations are roots, folds, and waxy skin.

They help the cactus get and store water.

4. Why are two colors of rock pocket mice found in the same desert?

* Their color matches the color of the habitat where they live. It is an adaptation.

5. Do you think camouflage is important to both mice and owls in the desert? Explain your answer.

* Yes, because without it, all the mice would be gone, and the owls would have no food.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

You are a rock pocket mouse. Write to describe how you survive in the desert. Give details.

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Desert Adaptations ■■■ 87

Page 85

Name _____

Desert Life

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. Camouflage can help an animal _____.

- Ⓛ catch moisture
- Ⓜ survive in the desert
- Ⓝ find a juicy meal

2. Desert owls eat _____.

- Ⓛ cactus spines
- Ⓜ lava
- Ⓝ rock pocket mice

3. How is the coloring of the rock pocket mouse related to its habitat?

* The mouse's coloring is the same as the color of the rocks in its habitat.

4. In what way are the adaptations of the rock pocket mouse and a cactus alike?

* Their outer coverings help them stay safe from animals that would like to eat them.

5. What is the main idea of paragraph 4?

* Spines help a cactus survive in the desert.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

Write an interview with a rock pocket mouse. Show what you know about this mouse in your questions and answers.

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Desert Adaptations ■■■ 85

Page 89

Name _____

Adapting to Desert Life

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. A jumping cholla is _____.

- Ⓛ a mouse
- Ⓜ a desert plant
- Ⓝ an owl

2. Light-colored mice survive _____.

- Ⓛ without camouflage
- Ⓜ in sandy-colored places
- Ⓝ in lava rock habitats

3. How are the roots of a barrel cactus related to its habitat?

* It lives in the desert, so it has shallow roots that spread out to soak up every drop of rain.

4. Can you explain how an animal's color helps it survive?

* Its color helps it blend in with its surroundings and escape from animals that want to eat it.

5. What is the main idea of this text?

* Desert animals and plants have adaptations that help them survive.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

You are a hungry desert owl. Write a narrative about the rock pocket mouse that got away. Explain why.



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Desert Adaptations ■■■ 89



These answers will vary. Examples given.

Page 95

Name _____

Pluto, a Dwarf Planet

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. Clyde W. Tombaugh discovered Pluto based on the work of _____.

- A New Horizons
- B Percival Lowell
- C a dwarf planet

2. Because Pluto is even smaller than Earth's moon, _____.

- A it is a dwarf planet
- B it is very far away from the sun
- C New Horizons flew by it

3. Why do you think it took sky watchers so long to find Pluto?

* Pluto is so small and far away that it couldn't be seen without a very strong telescope.

4. How long did it take New Horizons to reach Pluto? What do you conclude from this fact?

* It took about nine years, from 2006 to 2015.

This tells me that Pluto is very distant from Earth.

5. Do you think scientists could find a new planet? Support your answer.

* Yes, because they are always working on new discoveries and new tools like New Horizons.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

Write from the point of view of Pluto. Explain how you were found. Tell what happened after that.



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Pluto ■ ■ ■ 95

Page 99

Name _____

Pluto, Once a Planet

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. The Kuiper Belt is _____.

- A eight planets
- B a ring of icy objects
- C a mathematical model

2. In 2006, Pluto _____.

- A changed its orbit
- B shrunk in size
- C became a dwarf planet

3. Compare the size of Earth's orbit around the sun with that of a possible new planet nicknamed Planet Nine.

* Earth's orbit would look very tiny because it only takes a year. Planet Nine's orbit would look huge.

4. In your mind, which reason is the strongest one for not calling Pluto a planet anymore?

* I think the strongest reason is that some objects in the Kuiper Belt are the same size as Pluto.

5. Why do you think scientists make new definitions for objects in space?

* Scientists are always studying and learning new things about the natural world.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

Imagine you are a scientist who has found a new ninth planet. Describe your discovery in your science blog.



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Pluto ■ ■ ■ 99

Page 97

Name _____

Pluto, Not a Planet Anymore

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. Pluto is different from the eight planets because _____.

- A it travels around the sun
- B it is surrounded by other objects
- C it is made up of gases

2. Pluto became a dwarf planet in _____.

- A 2016
- B 2015
- C 2006

3. In your mind, which reason is the strongest one for naming Pluto a dwarf planet?

* I think the strongest reason is that Pluto is not rock or gas like the other planets.

4. What is your opinion about the discovery made in 2016?

* It would be exciting to have a new planet in my lifetime. I would like to be the one to find it!

5. What is the author's purpose in writing this text?

* To give some history of Pluto, and to bring the reader new information about planets.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

Write from the point of view of Pluto. Explain what happened in 2006, and what has happened since then.



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Pluto ■ ■ ■ 97

Page 105

Name _____

Listen Up!

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. A decibel is _____.

- A part of the inner ear
- B a loud noise
- C a unit of measurement

2. People who work in noisy places can protect their hearing by _____.

- A turning down the sound
- B wearing earplugs or earmuffs
- C working outside

3. What is the author's purpose in writing this text?

* To inform readers about the causes of hearing loss and how to prevent it.

4. What is the main idea of paragraph 5?

* There are a number of things you can do to protect your hearing.

5. What will you do in the future to protect your hearing?

* Turn down the volume when I listen to music on my headphones.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

Make a list of the sounds you hear in the next ten minutes. Rate them for hearing safety.



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Protecting Your Hearing ■ 105



These answers will vary. Examples given.

Page 107

Name _____

Can You Hear Me Now?

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. The eardrum _____.
 A collects the sounds around you
 B vibrates when sound waves reach it
 C is filled with liquid that pulses with sound
2. Hearing can be hurt by _____.
 A going to rock concerts
 B moving away from a jackhammer
 C covering your ears when you hear a loud noise
3. Where are the tiniest bones in the human body? Explain what they do.
They are in the middle ear. They make sounds louder and pass the sounds into the cochlea.
4. Give your own example of an occasion when hearing is especially important.
* Hearing is important during a fire drill at school. You need to hear the fire alarm and the teacher.
5. What will you do in the future to protect your hearing?
* Walk away or cover my ears when I hear a loud noise like a leaf blower or lawn mower.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.



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Protecting Your Hearing ■■■ 107

Page 115

Name _____

Counting the Stars

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. In an observatory, you would find _____.
 A astronauts at work
 B astronomers at work
 C red giants at work
2. A prism can _____.
 A separate light into colors
 B take a photograph
 C cut through glass
3. What talents do you think Cannon possessed in order to do her job?
* She was good at putting things in order. She was a careful worker. She knew about stars.
4. How do you know Cannon's work was important? Give two reasons.
* Her star catalog is still used by astronomers. She had an award named after her.
5. If you could interview Annie Jump Cannon, what would you ask her?
* I would ask her why many women did not go to college as she did.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.



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Annie Jump Cannon, Astronomer ■ 115

Page 109

Name _____

Good Vibrations

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. A rocket launching is an example of a _____.
 A loud sound that damages hearing
 B hearing range
 C hearing loss
2. Sound vibrations cause _____.
 A a wide hearing range
 B the cochlea to fill with fluid
 C the eardrum to vibrate
3. What question do paragraphs 2 and 3 answer?
* How does the ear work? or How do we hear sounds?
4. Give your own example of an occasion when hearing is especially important.
* Hearing is important when you are learning in school and the teacher is talking.
5. Does this text explain how hearing can be regained if it is lost? Why do you think that is?
* No. I think it is because once a person's hearing is lost, it doesn't come back.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.



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Protecting Your Hearing ■■■ 109

Page 117

Name _____

Star Catalog

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. Annie Jump Cannon's system used letters to _____.
 A name the constellations
 B name the stars in the photographs
 C classify stars by their temperature
2. As a star gets older, it _____.
 A gets hotter
 B cools
 C grows smaller
3. What traits do you think Cannon possessed in order to do her job?
* She was good at putting things in order. She was a careful worker. She was smart.
4. What are some of the things an astronomer might do? Give three examples.
* Collect information about stars. Look at stars with a telescope. Classify stars by temperature.
5. Which idea from the text would you like to read a book about?
* I would like to read more about prisms and how they can be used.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.



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Annie Jump Cannon, Astronomer ■ 117



These answers will vary. Examples given.

Page 119

Name _____

Classifying the Stars

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. Cannon's system classified _____.

- ⓐ stars by temperature
- ⓑ prisms by color
- ⓒ stars by distance

2. A star's spectrum is _____.

- ⓐ how old it is
- ⓑ seen by separating its light
- ⓒ the same as its distance from Earth

3. How do you know that Cannon's work was important? Give two reasons.

* Her system of classifying stars is still used today.
She was honored with a degree from Oxford.

4. What are some traits of a good astronomer? List three of them.

* Knows a lot about stars. Pays attention to details. Good at putting things in order.

5. What was the author's purpose in writing this text?

* To give information about the life and work of an important scientist, Annie Jump Cannon.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.



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Annie Jump Cannon, Astronomer ■■■ 119

Page 127

Name _____

Car Models from Clay

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. Modeling a new car in clay _____.

- ⓐ is so easy that anyone can do it
- ⓑ probably isn't necessary now that there are computers
- ⓒ is an important step in making a new car

2. A clay car model _____.

- ⓐ cannot be changed
- ⓑ can be made life-size
- ⓒ has foam on the outside

3. How do car designers and clay modelers work together?

* The designer uses a computer to draw a car, and the clay modeler makes it out of clay.

4. What are some of the skills a clay modeler has?

* Can sculpt clay, read printed designs, follow measurements, talk with others, know cars.

5. What is one idea from the text that you would like to learn more about?

* I would like to see a wind tunnel in action to see how it works.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.



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Making a Car Model ■■■ 127

Page 125

Name _____

Modeling Cars

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. Working with clay _____.

- ⓐ allows the artist to change a model
- ⓑ is a quick way to make a model
- ⓒ can only be used for small models

2. In the first paragraph, the phrase *bringing it to life* means _____.

- ⓐ warming it to 160° Fahrenheit (71° Celsius)
- ⓑ making it real
- ⓒ drawing it on a computer

3. Why is it important for a clay modeler to measure carefully?

* If the model is four-tenths scale, then everything inside and out must be to the same scale.

4. List some tools and materials used in making a model of a new car.

* Computer, software, clay, millimeter ruler, foam, milling machine, artist's tools, oven.

5. Do you think clay modelers will ever be replaced by computers? Support your opinion.

* No, because modelers can talk to the designers, and they can work out problems together.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.



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Making a Car Model ■■■ 125

Page 129

Name _____

Automobile Models from Clay

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. A life-size model of a car is _____.

- ⓐ four-tenths scale
- ⓑ full scale
- ⓒ a smaller scale

2. A milling machine can be compared to _____.

- ⓐ an oven
- ⓑ a wind tunnel
- ⓒ a drill bit

3. Compare the work of an automobile designer and a clay modeler.

* Both make models of new cars. One uses computer software, the other uses clay.

4. Describe the kinds of math used in making clay automobile models.

* Measurement (millimeters), scale (fractions), temperature (of clay).

5. Do you think a car can be considered a work of art? Give your reasons.

* Yes, because artists work to make cars beautiful to look at, as well as useful.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.



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Making a Car Model ■■■ 129



These answers will vary. Examples given.

Page 135

Name _____

Calendar Changes

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. The unit of time equal to a thousand years is a _____.

A century
 B season
 C millennium

2. Julius Caesar _____.

A lived in the 16th century
 B was a ruler of ancient Rome
 C thought winter should be in September

3. Would you like to live in a world without a calendar? Why or why not?
Give an example of what would happen.

* No, because we would be mixed up about time.

I wouldn't know when summer vacation starts.

4. Imagine you could meet Julius Caesar. What would you be able to tell him about how his calendar worked?

* Your calendar worked pretty well, but by 1582 it was ten days off. Pope Gregory fixed it again.

5. What would be a way to test the Gregorian calendar to see if it works better than Julius Caesar's calendar?

* Find out if it is less than seven days out of step in 1,000 years, or less than 10 days in about 1,600 years.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

List four facts you know about calendar history.



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Calendars in History ■ ■ ■ 135

Page 139

Name _____

Calendar History

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. Julius Caesar was a Roman ruler who _____.

A ordered changes in the calendar
 B lived about 1,600 years after Pope Gregory
 C lived in ancient Egypt

2. _____ is a word that refers to the moon.

A Solar
 B Lunar
 C Holiday

3. In what way were the calendars of ancient Babylon and Rome alike?

* The calendars were both either too long or too short.
Both calendars got out of step with the seasons.

4. Do you think Pope Gregory was right to change the Roman calendar?
Support your answer.

* Yes, because it was ten days out of step with the seasons by that time. Yes, because it has lasted.

5. Why did some ancient people base their calendar on the moon instead of the sun?

* They could observe the moon changing shape, but they didn't know the earth orbits the sun.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

Imagine if your favorite holiday fell in the wrong season. What would change? Describe it in detail.



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Calendars in History ■ ■ ■ 139

Page 137

Name _____

Ancient Calendars

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. A lunar calendar _____.

A is based on the sun
 B is based on the moon
 C matches the seasons

2. A unit of time having four seasons is a _____.

A millennium
 B day
 C year

3. What question does paragraph 3 answer?

* Why didn't the lunar calendar work very well?

4. What fact shows how important the new year was to ancient Egyptians?

* The new year began when the river started to rise because it brought rich soil for planting.

5. Why did the people of ancient Egypt need a calendar? How did it help them?

* They needed to know when the river would flood so that they could plant crops.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

Imagine what would happen if we didn't have a calendar. What kinds of mix-ups would there be?



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Calendars in History ■ ■ ■ 137

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Name _____

Weather Ahead

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. The job of a meteorologist is to _____.

A search and rescue
 B control air traffic
 C predict weather

2. A hurricane is an example of _____.

A magnetic energy
 B severe weather
 C a forecast

3. What is the connection between forecasting severe weather quickly and saving lives? Explain your thinking.

* The sooner people know about a storm, the more time they have to get to safety.

4. Based on what you read, could an airplane pilot lose radio contact with the ground? How?

* Magnetic energy storms from the sun can block the radio signal on some air routes.

5. In what ways would weather forecasting be different without supercomputers? Explain your thinking.

* It would be slower and not as exact because of the large amount of satellite data to consider.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

Use information from the text to support the view that weather satellites are important to people's safety.



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Weather Satellites ■ ■ ■ 145



These answers will vary. Examples given.

Page 147

Name _____

A Bird's-Eye View

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. A meteorologist is a weather _____.
 A measurement
 B satellite
 C scientist
2. Another word for prediction is _____.
 A pattern
 B forecast
 C data

3. Describe how a weather satellite might be helpful to wildland firefighters.
*** Satellite pictures could show where the fire is in hard-to-reach areas, and where it is moving.**

4. How do you suppose weather forecasting would be different without computers or supercomputers? Explain your idea.
*** It would be much slower to make a model. People would have to do the math on paper.**

5. In your opinion, what is the most important reason that meteorologists should make the best forecasts possible?
*** To warn people of severe weather and save their lives.**

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

Write to support the view that weather satellites are important for more than just predicting a rainy day.



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Weather Satellites ■ ■ ■ 147

Page 155

Name _____

The Plow

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. The plow is a farming tool _____.
 A first invented by John Deere
 B that was used in ancient Rome
 C that pulls a tractor
2. A furrow is a _____.
 A mule
 B blade
 C rut
3. Describe a sulky plow and the advantage it had over plows that came before it.
*** A sulky plow was a riding plow. It had wheels and was pulled by a team. It made work easier.**
4. What idea in the text would you like to read a book about? Why?
*** I would like to read a book about ancient Roman farming to see what they planted.**
5. What information would you use to support the view that it was better to have plows pulled by tractors than by mules?
*** Farmers could produce more food because the work went faster.**

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

If you went back in time, would you like to farm with a good team of horses or a 1920s tractor? Explain why.



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Changes in Farm Machinery ■ ■ ■ 155

Page 149

Name _____

Weather Watching

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. An example of severe weather is _____.
 A a hurricane that causes flooding
 B using an umbrella on a rainy day
 C enough snow to make a snowman
2. A synonym for forecast is _____.
 A data
 B predict
 C process

3. Do you agree that weather forecasts are important for people's safety? Explain your answer.
*** Yes. They might have time to move out of a hurricane area or take cover from a tornado.**

4. What are some advantages of a supercomputer to meteorologists?
*** It can process data from many satellites and work rapidly to make mathematical models for prediction.**

5. Weather satellites watch wildfires and volcanoes. How do you suppose smoke or ash could affect weather on Earth?
*** They could allow less sunshine to reach certain areas, cause clouds to form, or pollute the air.**

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

Argue for building a new satellite that provides more data, takes better pictures, and circles the Earth faster.



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Weather Satellites ■ ■ ■ 149

Page 157

Name _____

How Plows Have Changed

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. Wheat and other dry goods can be measured in _____.
 A inches
 B meters
 C bushels
2. A furrow is a _____.
 A place to plant seeds
 B part of a plow
 C type of tractor
3. John Deere's plow was called "the plow that broke the plains." In your opinion, is that a good description? Explain.
*** Yes. Other plows didn't work in the sticky soil of the plains. His steel plow broke through.**
4. Give evidence that ancient farming methods were used into the 20th century.
*** Ancient Romans used plows pulled by mules and so did American farmers in the 1900s.**
5. How would you summarize what occurred in farming during the 19th and 20th centuries?
*** New farm machinery such as plows and tractors saved time and produced more food.**

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

Use data from the text to support the idea that new farm machines changed farming.



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Changes in Farm Machinery ■ ■ ■ 157



These answers will vary. Examples given.

Page 159

Name _____

History of the Plow

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. The first plow was invented _____.
 A in the 20th century
 B by John Deere
 C in ancient times
2. The purpose of a plow is to _____.
 A plant seeds
 B prepare soil for planting
 C power a tractor
3. Would you say that farming changed for better or worse in 19th century America? Give your reasons.

* Worse, because it was hard to plow prairie soil.
Better, because new plows made plowing faster.

4. What fact would you need to know in order to measure whether farms produce more today than farms did in times past? What would you do?

* Fact: Number of people one farmer fed last year. Compare it to 129 in 1990 and 10 in 1930.

5. "Necessity is the mother of invention." How is the plow an example of this saying?

* Wooden plows didn't work on the prairies.
So John Deere invented a better plow of steel.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.



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Changes in Farm Machinery ■ ■ ■ 159

Page 167

Name _____

Liberty's Poet

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. A book of poetry contains _____.
 A stories
 B essays
 C poems
 2. "The New Colossus" was written _____.
 A in 1903
 B with strong feeling
 C onboard a ship
 3. Explain why the Statue of Liberty became a symbol of welcome.
 4. Why is Emma Lazarus an important poet?
 5. What inspired Emma Lazarus to write "The New Colossus?"
- * It stood in New York Harbor, where millions of people arrived looking for a better life in America.
- * Her poem "The New Colossus" is famous because it is on a wall of the Statue of Liberty.
- * She was inspired by the people who struggled through difficult times and came to America.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.



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A Poem for America ■ ■ ■ 167

Page 165

Name _____

Poet of Liberty

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. Liberty is another word for _____.
 A praise
 B welcome
 C freedom
 2. The Statue of Liberty stands _____.
 A on a pedestal in New York Harbor
 B in France
 C in places such as Ireland and Russia
 3. How do you think Emma Lazarus came to know about the struggles of people new to America? Which fact from the text supports your idea?
 4. In your opinion, what kind of person was Emma Lazarus? Support your opinion with a fact from the text.
 5. What was the author's purpose in writing this text?
- * I think she met some of the people who arrived on ships because she lived in New York City.
- * She was a caring person. I know this because she wrote about people's struggles.
- * To tell something about the life of Emma Lazarus and about her famous poem.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.



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A Poem for America ■ ■ ■ 165

Page 169

Name _____

For Liberty

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. The Statue of Liberty is _____.
 A called the New Colossus
 B a poem by Emma Lazarus
 C a symbol of France
 2. Emma Lazarus cared about _____.
 A a plaque for the Statue of Liberty
 B becoming famous
 C people who faced difficult times
 3. In your opinion, what kind of person was Emma Lazarus? Support your opinion with facts from the text.
 4. How would you summarize the poem "The New Colossus"?
 5. What was the author's purpose in writing this text?
- * She was smart and a good poet. Facts: She had a good education. Her poem is still famous.
- * The Statue of Liberty welcomes people who hope for a better life in America.
- * To give facts about the poet Emma Lazarus and about her famous poem, "The New Colossus."

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.



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A Poem for America ■ ■ ■ 169