



**Achieve**3000 **Literacy**<sup>™</sup>  
At Home

**Lexile 150**

**1<sup>ST</sup> 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 (150L)

## 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). Meet Ofentse Pitse. She's 27. She lives in South Africa. She leads Anchored Sound. What's that? An orchestra and choir. They play classical music. She started the group.

Why did Pitse start Anchored Sound? To change young people's lives. First, she picked great singers. This was in 2017. Where did they live? In poor communities.

In 2019, she started the orchestra. She's the conductor.

Pitse is a pioneer. Most conductors are men. And there are few conductors of color. Pitse is a young black woman. So she stands out.

Anchored Sound plays songs by African composers. Why? Pitse hopes to bring African classical music to the world.

*Video credit: Mesia Gumede*

### **Dictionary**

**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

What is this Article mainly about?

- Ⓐ Pitse leads an orchestra and choir.
- Ⓑ Pitse is only 27 years old.
- Ⓒ There are few conductors of color.
- Ⓓ Most conductors are men.

#### Question 2

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that \_\_\_\_\_.

- Ⓐ Pitse was not born in South Africa
- Ⓑ Pitse lives in a poor community
- Ⓒ Pitse has written classical music
- Ⓓ Pitse wants to help other people

#### Question 3

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

- Ⓐ user
- Ⓑ singer
- Ⓒ driver
- Ⓓ leader

#### Question 4

Which is **not** in the Article?

- Ⓐ when Pitse started her choir
- Ⓑ why Pitse loves classical music
- Ⓒ why Pitse started Anchored Sound
- Ⓓ when Pitse put together an orchestra

#### **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.**

#### **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 (150L)

## 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. It's flying over southern Peru. You look out the window. What's below? Ground drawings! They're called geoglyphs. They're in the desert sand. They're of animals, plants, and more.

These geoglyphs are called the Nazca Lines. They've been around for more than 1,500 years. They're *big*! And there are many of them. But people didn't find them until 1927. A scientist saw some. Today, tools such as drones have found more geoglyphs.

Who made the geoglyphs? The Nazca people. How? By taking away some rocks that covered the ground. This showed the lighter sand underneath.

But what were geoglyphs for? Researchers aren't sure. But they think they were used in rituals.

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

### Dictionary

**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

What is this Article mainly about?

- Ⓐ The Nazca Lines are drawings in the sand.
- Ⓑ The Nazca Lines weren't found until 1927.
- Ⓒ The geoglyphs have been around for many years.
- Ⓓ The geoglyphs might have been used in rituals.

#### Question 2

Which of these is an opinion?

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

- Ⓐ It's very interesting to study the Nazca Lines.
- Ⓑ The Nazca people made the lines long ago.
- Ⓒ Drones have found some of the geoglyphs.
- Ⓓ The lines show animals, plants, and more.

#### Question 3

The Article says:

**What's below? Ground Drawings! They're called geoglyphs. They're in the desert sand. They're of animals, plants, and more.**

This helps the reader to know \_\_\_\_\_.

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

#### Question 4

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

*Only some of these words are used in the Article.*

- Ⓐ think and see
- Ⓑ flying and driving
- Ⓒ desert and ground
- Ⓓ lighter and darker

#### **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 (150L)

## 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). Moviemakers are trying something new. They're bringing new life to old animated movies. They've turned them into live-action hits. Real people are in them.

These remakes can do well. They can make lots of money. They have it all: Big stars. Special effects. Stories fans love.

Adults like looking back. They watched these movies growing up. They loved them. So they take their kids to see them.

Moviemakers like these movies. They can add diversity. More kids see characters who look like them. That's not all. They can add girl power. Many remakes have strong girl characters.

### 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

### Step 3: Activity (Answer the Questions)

#### Question 1

Think about the Article. Why do parents take their kids to see the remakes?

- Ⓐ They know the movies have made money.
- Ⓑ They loved the movies growing up.
- Ⓒ They can add diversity to the movies.
- Ⓓ They think girl power is funny.

#### Question 2

What is this Article mainly about?

- Ⓐ Kids watch old animated movies.
- Ⓑ Some remakes bring girl power.
- Ⓒ People love the live-action remakes.
- Ⓓ Adults watch movies with their kids.

#### Question 3

Which is **not** in the Article?

- Ⓐ Which characters people like
- Ⓑ Why adults love live-action movies
- Ⓒ Who adults take to the movies
- Ⓓ Why moviemakers like remakes

#### Question 4

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

*Only some of these words are used in the Article.*

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

#### **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)**

Retell this Article in your own words.

# Bubble Tea Is Blowing Up (150L)

## 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 a drink. But it's like a snack.

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." There can be bubbles on top of the drink, too. They form when the drink is shaken.

Bubble tea started out in Taiwan. This was in the 1980s. It was a hit. It spread. Now, many shops sell it. They're opening all over. Many kids go there. They hang out with friends. They play games or study.

*Information for this story came from VOA.*

*Credit: Voice of America*

### **Dictionary**

**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

Which of these is an opinion?

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

- Ⓐ There can be bubbles on top of tea.
- Ⓑ Some shops sell bubble tea.
- Ⓒ Bubble tea tastes too sweet.
- Ⓓ Bubble tea started out in Taiwan.

#### Question 2

Rosa wants to know what tapioca is. How can she find out? She could use a \_\_\_\_\_.

- Ⓐ Calendar
- Ⓑ Newspaper
- Ⓒ Map
- Ⓓ Dictionary

#### Question 3

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

*Only some of these words are used in the Article.*

- Ⓐ Sell and buy
- Ⓑ Start and begin
- Ⓒ Add and take
- Ⓓ Open and close

#### Question 4

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

- Ⓐ Many kids go there. They hang out with friends.
- Ⓑ Bubble tea started out in Taiwan. This was in the 1980s.
- Ⓒ Bubble tea starts with milk tea.
- Ⓓ Have you heard of bubble tea? It's a drink.

#### **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 (150L)

## 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. As a kid, he and his family ate certain foods. Like what? Canned beans. Boxed rice. Sherman later wondered: Where were the foods from his culture?

So Sherman learned about his culture. In the past, many Native American food traditions were lost. When did this happen? When Europeans came. Before that? Native Americans grew and hunted different foods. They had their own traditions.

Sherman had an idea: He wanted to bring back those traditions. But how?

Sherman started a cooking business. It's called The Sioux Chef. He makes traditional Native American foods. They're from nature. They're good for people.

*Video credit: The Sioux Chef*

### **Dictionary**

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

**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

What is this Article mainly about?

- Ⓐ Sherman learned about his culture's past.
- Ⓑ Sherman makes recipes that are good for people.
- Ⓒ Sherman ate canned beans and boxed rice as a kid.
- Ⓓ Sherman is bringing back Native American foods.

#### 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 started his own business.
- Ⓑ Native American foods are good for people.
- Ⓒ Sherman's recipes taste great.
- Ⓓ Native Americans used to hunt for food.

#### Question 3

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

- Ⓐ asked and saw
- Ⓑ ate and tasted
- Ⓒ learned and wrote
- Ⓓ came and left

#### Question 4

Which is **not** in the Article?

- Ⓐ What foods the Europeans ate
- Ⓑ What foods Sherman ate as a kid
- Ⓒ What traditions Native Americans lost
- Ⓓ What kind of business Sherman has



#### **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.**

#### **Step 5: Thought Question (Write Your Response)**

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

# Defying Gravity (150L)

## 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.*

**STUTT GART, Germany** (Achieve3000, October 24, 2019). Simone Biles is a gymnast. Maybe the greatest ever. How did she get to be great? With hard work.

Biles got into gymnastics early. She was 6. But she gave it her all.

In 2011, Biles tried to make the U.S. team. She didn't. This made her sad. But did she give up? No way! And in 2013, she made the team.

Then, in 2016, Biles went to the Olympics. She won five medals. She led Team U.S.A.

And in October 2019, Biles made history. She was at the world championships. And she won her 25th medal: more than any other gymnast in the world!

*Credit: Video Credit: Team USA*

### **Dictionary**

**medal** (*noun*) a piece of metal often in the form of a coin with designs and words in honor of a special event, a person, or an achievement

### Step 3: Activity (Answer the Questions)

#### Question 1

What is this Article mainly about?

- Ⓐ Biles is a great gymnast.
- Ⓑ Biles won 5 Olympic medals.
- Ⓒ Biles began gymnastics at age 6.
- Ⓓ Biles led Team U.S.A.

#### Question 2

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

*Only some of these words are used in the Article.*

- Ⓐ early and late
- Ⓑ hard and easy
- Ⓒ greatest and best
- Ⓓ led and followed

#### Question 3

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that \_\_\_\_\_.

- Ⓐ Biles started gymnastics in 2011
- Ⓑ Biles will not win any more medals
- Ⓒ Biles doesn't like to give up
- Ⓓ Biles hurt herself as a child

#### Question 4

The Article says:

**In 2011, Biles tried to make the U.S. team. She didn't. This made her sad. But did she give up? No way! And in 2013, she made the team.**

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

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

#### **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.**

#### **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! (150L)

## 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). They're gooey. They're chocolatey. They're crispy. What are they? They're s'mores! Want to make some? Here's how:

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

S'mores are yummy. Who made them first? No one's sure. Maybe it was the Girl Scouts. The group put out a manual. It talks about the snack. It came out in 1927.

The question is: Who wants *s'more*?

*Information for this story came from AP.*

*Video credit: Hilah Cooking*

### **Dictionary**

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

### Step 3: Activity (Answer the Questions)

#### Question 1

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

- Ⓐ When chocolate was first made
- Ⓑ How to make a campfire
- Ⓒ When marshmallows were first made
- Ⓓ How to make a s'more

#### Question 2

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

*Only some of these words are used in the Article.*

- Ⓐ First and last
- Ⓑ Take and use
- Ⓒ Chocolate and cracker
- Ⓓ Yummy and crispy

#### Question 3

Look at these passages from the Article. Which one tells why some people think the Girl Scouts came up with the idea for s'mores?

- Ⓐ The group put out a manual. It talks about the snack. It came out in 1927.
- Ⓑ What are they? They're s'mores!
- Ⓒ They're gooey. They're chocolatey. They're crispy.
- Ⓓ S'mores are yummy.

#### Question 4

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that \_\_\_\_\_.

- Ⓐ Very few Girl Scouts have made s'mores.
- Ⓑ S'mores are easy to make.
- Ⓒ Not many people like crispy food.
- Ⓓ Marshmallows are too sweet.

#### **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!**

#### **Step 5: Thought Question (Write Your Response)**

Retell this Article in your own words.

# Global Game Fame (150L)

## 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). There's a World Video Game Hall of Fame. It's in New York. It opened in 2015. Which games get in? Only the best! Some are old. But they're important. Take *Colossal Cave Adventure*. It's from 1976. It helped start computer gaming. *Microsoft Solitaire* is a computer card game. It's from 1991. It taught players how to use a mouse.

*Super Mario Kart* came out in 1992. Mario almost wasn't in the game. But people liked a drawing of the plumber. 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

What is the main idea of this Article?

- Ⓐ *Colossal Cave Adventure* is from 1976.
- Ⓑ The World Video Game Hall of Fame is in New York.
- Ⓒ The best video games go into a hall of fame.
- Ⓓ Mario almost wasn't in the game *Super Mario Kart*.

#### Question 2

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

- Ⓐ Actor
- Ⓑ Leader
- Ⓒ Fixer
- Ⓓ Player

#### 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 World Video Game Hall of Fame opened in 2015.
- Ⓒ *Super Mario Kart* is more fun than *Microsoft Solitaire*.
- Ⓓ Mario is a plumber in the *Super Mario Kart* game.

#### Question 4

Look at these passages from the Article. Which one tells about the World Video Game Hall of Fame?

- Ⓐ It's from 1976. It helped start computer gaming.
- Ⓑ Some are old. But they're important.
- Ⓒ It taught players how to use a mouse.
- Ⓓ It's in New York. It opened in 2015.

#### **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.

# Katherine the Great (150L)

## 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 worked for NASA. She started in the 1950s. She helped people go into space. She's a hero.

Have you seen *Hidden Figures*? The movie tells Johnson's story. She worked with other African American women. They did math. NASA called them "human computers."

John Glenn was an astronaut. In 1962, he was going into space. A programmed computer did the math. But Glenn wasn't sure. He asked Johnson to check it. She did. Glenn's trip went well.

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

Johnson's book is for kids. She says 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

### Step 3: Activity (Answer the Questions)

#### Question 1

What is the main idea of this Article?

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

#### Question 2

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

*Only some of these words are used in the Article.*

- Ⓐ Movie and story
- Ⓑ Anything and nothing
- Ⓒ Seen and watched
- Ⓓ Astronaut and person

#### Question 3

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

- Ⓐ In a math book
- Ⓑ In a book about NASA trips
- Ⓒ At a U.S. map
- Ⓓ At a picture of John Glenn

#### Question 4

Look at these passages from the Article. Which one shows that Katherine Johnson does more than math?

- Ⓐ The movie tells Johnson's story.
- Ⓑ Katherine Johnson worked for NASA.
- Ⓒ She wrote an autobiography.
- Ⓓ NASA called them "human computers."

#### **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 (150L)

## 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 on 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 froze in ice. It stayed covered until 1991. That's when his body was found. And guess what? It was well-preserved.

The man was given a name: Ötzi the Iceman. And scientists started studying him.

The scientists learned a lot. Like what? Ötzi was about 46 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 carried a bow and arrows. There's still a lot to learn from Ötzi!

### Dictionary

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

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

### Step 3: Activity (Answer the Questions)

#### Question 1

What is this Article mainly about?

- Ⓐ Ötzi wore clothes and carried a bow and arrows.
- Ⓑ Scientists think Ötzi was about 46 years old when he died.
- Ⓒ People are learning from Ötzi the Iceman's body.
- Ⓓ Ötzi's body was well-preserved in ice when it was found.

#### Question 2

The Article says:

**That's when his body was found. And guess what? It was well-preserved.**

What does this show?

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

#### Question 3

Which of these is an opinion?

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

- Ⓐ Ötzi died on a mountain in Italy.
- Ⓑ Ötzi's clothes were made from hides.
- Ⓒ Ötzi is the best find ever made.
- Ⓓ Ötzi's body was covered in ice.

#### Question 4

The Article says:

**It was about 5,300 years ago. A man was on a mountain in Italy.... But *today*, people are learning all about him.**

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

- Ⓐ now
- Ⓑ down
- Ⓒ here
- Ⓓ away

#### **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 (150L)

## 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 sniff things out. They have a super sense of smell. It's much stronger than a person's! It leads them to find things.

Sniffing dogs have helped police find missing people. And that's not all. Now they also help conservationists. To find what? Endangered species.

One species is the Baw Baw frog. It lives in Australia. But most of them died out. How many are left? Fewer than 1,200.

An Australian conservation group is helping. They find the frogs. They breed them in zoos. And they put them back in the wild.

But finding Baw Baw frogs isn't easy. Here's why: They live in forests. And they hide under mud. But two dogs are helping. They learned the frogs' smell. Now they find them.

*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

What is this Article mainly about?

- Ⓐ Dogs look for missing people.
- Ⓑ Baw Baw frogs live in Australia.
- Ⓒ Dogs can find endangered species.
- Ⓓ There aren't many Baw Baw frogs left.

#### Question 2

Think about the Article. Why does an Australian conservation group want to help the Baw Baw frogs?

- Ⓐ The group wants to send the Baw Baw frogs to zoos.
- Ⓑ Baw Baw frogs hide under mud.
- Ⓒ Baw Baw frogs live in forests in Australia.
- Ⓓ Fewer than 1,200 Baw Baw frogs are left.

#### Question 3

The Article says:

**But finding Baw Baw frogs isn't *easy*. Here's why: They live in forests. And they hide under mud.**

Which means the **opposite** of *easy*?

- Ⓐ noisy
- Ⓑ fun
- Ⓒ strange
- Ⓓ hard

#### Question 4

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that Baw Baw frogs\_\_\_\_\_.

- Ⓐ are much smaller than most other frogs
- Ⓑ can't live outside of their home in the wild
- Ⓒ don't want other animals to find them
- Ⓓ are often found and eaten by the dogs

#### **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 (150L)

## 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)

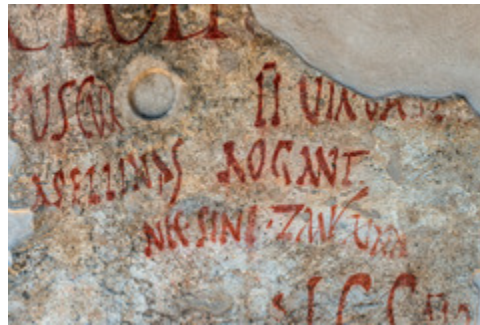


Photo credit: Karl Allen Lugmayer/Shutterstock

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

**POMPEII, Italy** (Achieve3000, January 28, 2020). Today, people write messages on cyber walls. (Just think of Facebook.) But get this: People in the ancient Roman city of Pompeii also wrote on walls. *Real* walls, that is.

This was 2,000 years ago. But guess what? Many of the walls are still there. So are some of the messages. Here's why:

In 79 CE, a volcano hit Pompeii. The city was covered with stone and ash. But *under* all of this? Pompeii kept standing!

Then came the mid-1700s. People started digging out Pompeii. And the messages were found. What were they about? People's thoughts and feelings.

Here's one message:

**Stronius Stronnius knows nothing!**

Now *everyone* knows.

*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  
**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

What is this Article mainly about?

- Ⓐ Some messages were written in ashes.
- Ⓑ A volcano hit Pompeii in 79 CE.
- Ⓒ There was a message about Stronius Stronnius.
- Ⓓ People in Pompeii wrote messages on walls.

#### Question 2

Which of these is an opinion?

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

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

#### Question 3

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

*Only some of these words are used in the Article.*

- Ⓐ covered and warmed
- Ⓑ hit and moved
- Ⓒ write and take
- Ⓓ found and lost

#### Question 4

Which is **not** in the Article?

- Ⓐ Who found out that a city was buried at Pompeii
- Ⓑ Where people write messages today
- Ⓒ What messages were written on Pompeii's walls
- Ⓓ When Pompeii was hit by a volcano

#### **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 (150L)

## 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 Shoichi Yokoi was a soldier in the Imperial Japanese Army. He was stationed on Guam. It had been taken over by Japan.

In 1944, U.S. soldiers came to free Guam. Yokoi was afraid. So he fled to the jungles. And he hid.

In 1945, Japan surrendered. WWII was over. But Yokoi didn't know.

In 1952, Yokoi learned that the war had ended. Did he stop hiding? He didn't! Why didn't he come out? It was about loyalty. Japanese soldiers were taught to never give up.

In 1972, Yokoi was found. He had been hiding for 28 years.

*Video Credit: AP Archive*

### Dictionary

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

**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. What made Yokoi hide in the jungle?

- Ⓐ He was afraid of U.S. soldiers.
- Ⓑ He heard Japan had surrendered.
- Ⓒ He was found in 1972.
- Ⓓ He liked the jungle.

#### Question 2

What is this Article mainly about?

- Ⓐ Yokoi didn't know the war ended.
- Ⓑ Yokoi hid for many years.
- Ⓒ Yokoi wanted to give up.
- Ⓓ Yokoi was stationed in Guam.

#### Question 3

A *soldier* is someone who \_\_\_\_\_.

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

#### Question 4

Which is **not** in the Article?

- Ⓐ What Yokoi was afraid of
- Ⓑ What happened in 1972
- Ⓒ Why Yokoi was on Guam
- Ⓓ Why World War II started



#### **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 (150L)

## 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 is a student. He's studying flying. But he already holds a flying record.

Mason flew around the world. And he did it alone! He's the youngest pilot to do that. He was 18.

Mason left Louisiana in July 2018. He came back in October. His trip took 76 days.

Mason's trip wasn't easy. He flew 180 hours. And he often flew in very bad weather.

Now, Mason tells kids: "Anything is possible."

*Video Credit: Taylor Yakowenko*

*Published on Oct 6, 2018*

*Edited for length*

### Dictionary

**pilot** (*noun*) someone who flies a plane

**record** (*noun*) something that has never been done before

### Step 3: Activity (Answer the Questions)

#### Question 1

Think about the Article. Since Mason Andrews flew around the world, then \_\_\_\_\_.

- Ⓐ He holds a flying record.
- Ⓑ He learned how to fly.
- Ⓒ He wants to help kids.
- Ⓓ He left in July 2018.

#### Question 2

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

- Ⓐ Mason left in July 2018 and returned in October.
- Ⓑ Mason is the youngest pilot to fly around the world.
- Ⓒ Mason studies flying.
- Ⓓ Mason is a student.

#### Question 3

Which of these is a fact?

- Ⓐ Pilots can't be afraid of the weather.
- Ⓑ Pilots give good advice.
- Ⓒ Mason Andrews was brave to fly alone.
- Ⓓ Mason Andrews flew 180 hours.

#### Question 4

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

*Only some of these words are used in the Article.*

- Ⓐ Weather and rain
- Ⓑ Pilot and teen
- Ⓒ Youngest and oldest
- Ⓓ Easy and slow

#### **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 (150L)

## 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). Like to snooze? Here's good news! Some schools are starting later.

California passed a law. It sets new rules. High schools will start at 8:30 a.m. Middle schools will start at 8 a.m. Or even later!

How come? Because of research. Scientists studied adolescents. Teens sleep best between 11 p.m. and 8 a.m. And students need good sleep.

It helps them stay healthy. It helps them learn.

But some people think starting schools later isn't smart. Schools that start later finish later. Students have less free time. For what? Sports, jobs, and homework. Don't forget about fun!

What about you? Wanna 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

Think about the Article. Teens sleep best between 11 p.m. and 8 a.m. That's why \_\_\_\_\_.

- Ⓐ California high schools will start at 8:30 a.m.
- Ⓑ sleep helps students stay healthy
- Ⓒ scientists study adolescent sleep
- Ⓓ people think starting schools later isn't smart

#### Question 2

The Article talks mainly about \_\_\_\_\_.

- Ⓐ staying healthy, so students learn better
- Ⓑ starting school later, so students get enough sleep
- Ⓒ doing research about when adolescents sleep best
- Ⓓ what students do in their free time

#### Question 3

Which of these is an opinion?

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

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

#### Question 4

The Article says:

**California *passed* a law. It sets new rules.**

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

- Ⓐ made
- Ⓑ found
- Ⓒ met
- Ⓓ took

#### **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? Explain why or why not. Use facts and details from the Article to back up your answer.

# Good, Bad, or Ugly? (150L)

## 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). Would you buy ugly produce? Many people wouldn't.

But now, some companies are selling it. They don't want it to go to waste.

That sounds great. But not everyone is happy.

### **The Ugly Truth?**

Critics say ugly produce isn't wasted. Farmers sell it. They also use it. They feed it to animals. They put it back in the soil.

### **Not So Bad, After All?**

Food waste *is* a big problem, say the companies. They can help. Farmers can, too.

### **Dictionary**

**critic** (*noun*) a person who finds something wrong in something or someone

**produce** (*noun*) fruits and vegetables



### Step 3: Activity (Answer the Questions)

#### Question 1

Think about the Article. Why are some companies selling ugly produce?

- Ⓐ They do not want it to go to waste.
- Ⓑ They want to add it to the soil.
- Ⓒ They hope to feed animals on farms.
- Ⓓ They know farmers will not sell it.

#### Question 2

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

- Ⓐ Farmers feed ugly produce to animals.
- Ⓑ Many people will not buy ugly produce.
- Ⓒ Some companies are selling ugly produce.
- Ⓓ Food waste is a big problem.

#### Question 3

Which of these is an opinion?

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

- Ⓐ Some say food waste is a problem.
- Ⓑ Farmers feed ugly produce to animals.
- Ⓒ People should buy more ugly produce.
- Ⓓ Farmers add ugly produce to soil.

#### Question 4

Which two words have almost the **same** meaning, as they're used in the Article?

- Ⓐ Critic and farmer
- Ⓑ Produce and food
- Ⓒ Happy and ugly
- Ⓓ Use and waste

#### **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.

# The Last Generation? (150L)

## 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. One's Fiji. Samoa is another. But these islands share a problem. What is it? Climate change.

Climate change causes seas to rise. That's bad. Here's why: The islands have low elevations. They're harmed by rising seas.

But could they be wiped out? It's possible. And some young islanders wonder: Are *they* the last generation to live there?

But the islands are fighting the problem. They'll start with cargo ships. These bring in goods. But they put out carbon emissions. This makes climate change worse.

So six Pacific Island countries teamed up. This was in 2019. Their plan: Cut carbon emissions from shipping. By how much? About 40 percent by 2030.

*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

**possible** (*adjective*) able to be done

### Step 3: Activity (Answer the Questions)

#### Question 1

Think about the Article. Why did six Pacific Island countries get together to cut shipping emissions?

- Ⓐ They want to stop all shipping.
- Ⓑ They know the oceans aren't clean.
- Ⓒ They want to fight climate change.
- Ⓓ They hope sea levels rise more.

#### Question 2

The Article talks mainly about \_\_\_\_\_.

- Ⓐ why island countries put out so many emissions
- Ⓑ why islanders will cut shipping emissions
- Ⓒ why other countries are helping the islanders
- Ⓓ why big ships come to islands like Fiji and Samoa

#### Question 3

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

*Only some of these words are used in the Article.*

- Ⓐ low and high
- Ⓑ bad and terrible
- Ⓒ harmed and hurt
- Ⓓ fighting and seeing

#### Question 4

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that \_\_\_\_\_.

- Ⓐ Fiji is the biggest of the Pacific Islands
- Ⓑ some Pacific Islands may go underwater
- Ⓒ the water in the ocean has too much trash
- Ⓓ it's easy to cut shipping emissions by 40 percent

#### **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 (150L)

## 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)

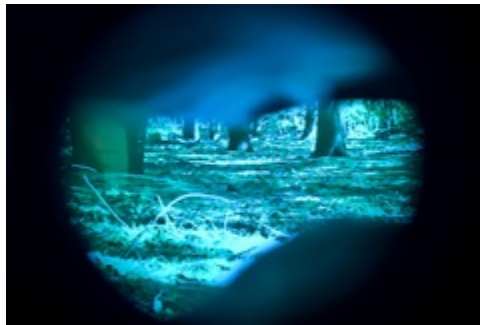


Photo credit: AP/Richard Vogel  
*People at the exhibition can learn how dogs see.*

**LOS ANGELES, California** (Achieve3000, May 5, 2019). Why do people love dogs? Why do dogs smell things?

One exhibition has answers. It's called "Dogs!" It opened March 2019. Here's what it teaches:

### **1. They have a pee-culiar interest.**

Dogs sniff fire hydrants. Why? They learn from smelling pee. They can tell if a place is safe.

### **2. They're doggone smart.**

Dogs do more than smell. They know when something moves. They can hear soft sounds.

### **3. They're heroic.**

Dogs are heroes. They can save people.

### **4. Yes, they love us, too.**

People and dogs love each other. It's a mutual affection.

### **5. They go way back with humans.**

When did dogs and people meet? Scientists don't know. But it was a long time ago.

Best friends fur-ever, it seems.

*Information for this story came from AP.*

## Dictionary

**exhibition** (*noun*) a show

**mutual affection** (*noun*) shared feeling of love

### Step 3: Activity (Answer the Questions)

#### Question 1

Think about the Article. Since dogs learn from smelling, then \_\_\_\_\_.

- Ⓐ Dogs know when something moves.
- Ⓑ Dogs are able to hear soft sounds.
- Ⓒ Dogs do more than smell.
- Ⓓ Dogs sniff fire hydrants to tell if a place is safe.

#### Question 2

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

- Ⓐ Dogs can hear soft sounds.
- Ⓑ There is an exhibition that teaches about dogs.
- Ⓒ Dogs can save people.
- Ⓓ Scientists don't know when dogs and people met.

#### Question 3

Which of these is an opinion?

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

- Ⓐ Dogs can tell how safe a place is by sniffing.
- Ⓑ "Dogs!" opened in March 2019.
- Ⓒ Smart dogs are the best dogs.
- Ⓓ People have been saved by dogs.

#### Question 4

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

*Only some of these words are used in the Article.*

- Ⓐ Heroic and brave
- Ⓑ Soft and loud
- Ⓒ Answers and facts
- Ⓓ People and 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 "Dogs!" What would you say? Use describing words from the Article in your answer.



# Welcome to Batuu (150L)

## 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). In 2019, Disney opened Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge. It's a new land. People who go feel like they're part of a Star Wars story!

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

And guess what? Galaxy's Edge is set up as a planet! It's called Batuu.

What's Batuu like? It's a hot spot for traders and explorers. And it has a story. The workers are part of that story. You can be, too!

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

### Dictionary

**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

What is this Article mainly about?

- Ⓐ Galaxy's Edge is set up like a planet called Batuu.
- Ⓑ Galaxy's Edge is in California and Florida.
- Ⓒ Disney opened a new land called Galaxy's Edge.
- Ⓓ Disney's Hollywood Studios is in Florida.

#### 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 is named Batuu.
- Ⓑ There are traders on Batuu.
- Ⓒ Batuu is now open for people.
- Ⓓ The Star Wars story is the best part of Batuu.

#### Question 3

The Article says:

**In 2019, Disney opened Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge. It's a *new* land. People who go feel like they're part of a Star Wars story!**

Which means the **opposite** of *new*?

- Ⓐ sad
- Ⓑ old
- Ⓒ small
- Ⓓ cold

#### Question 4

Look at these passages from the Article. Which one shows that anyone can be part of the story at Galaxy's Edge?

- Ⓐ The workers are part of that story. You can be, too!
- Ⓑ It's a hot spot for traders and explorers. And it has a story.
- Ⓒ In 2019, Disney opened Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge.
- Ⓓ Galaxy's Edge is set up as a planet! It's called Batuu.

#### **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 (150L)

## 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 sail around the world. They go to space. They have many adventures. But not hundreds of years ago. Back then? Women mostly had to stay home. Not these three women.

**Jeanne Baret (1740-1807):** Baret was a French scientist. And she was the first woman to sail around the world! She wanted to travel on a French navy ship. But women weren't allowed to travel on these ships. So, guess what? Baret disguised herself. She dressed as a man. And she set sail!

**Lady Hester Stanhope (1776-1839):** Stanhope was from England. She traveled to the Middle East. There, she led an archaeological dig. She was the first woman to do this.

**Nellie Bly (1864-1922):** Bly was a journalist. In 1887, she set a world record. She traveled around the world. She did it 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

**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

Think about the Article. Which took place *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.*

- Ⓐ A woman traveled to the Middle East.
- Ⓑ A woman traveled around the world in 72 days.
- Ⓒ A woman set sail on a French navy ship.
- Ⓓ A woman dressed as a man and sailed the world.

#### Question 2

The author probably wrote this Article in order to \_\_\_\_\_.

- Ⓐ show that women cannot do as much as men
- Ⓑ show that women can dress up as men
- Ⓒ tell readers about the adventures of some women
- Ⓓ tell about the problems of all women

#### Question 3

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.
- Ⓑ Jeanne Baret sailed all the way around the world.
- Ⓒ Jeanne Baret should not have dressed herself as a man.
- Ⓓ Nellie Bly traveled around the world in 72 days.

#### Question 4

The Article says:

**Women mostly had to *stay* home. Not these three women.**

Which means the **opposite** of *stay*?

- Ⓐ stop
- Ⓑ sit
- Ⓒ miss
- Ⓓ leave

#### **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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**ANSWER KEY**

# A Musical Pioneer

## Answer key

### Question 1

What is this Article mainly about?

A Pitse leads an orchestra and choir.

### Question 2

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that \_\_\_\_\_.

D Pitse wants to help other people

### Question 3

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

D leader

### Question 4

Which is **not** in the Article?

B why Pitse loves classical music



# Ancient Lines in the Sand

## Answer key

### Question 1

What is this Article mainly about?

A The Nazca Lines are drawings in the sand.

### Question 2

Which of these is an opinion?

A It's very interesting to study the Nazca Lines.

### Question 3

The Article says:

**What's below? Ground Drawings! They're called geoglyphs. They're in the desert sand. 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?

D lighter and darker

# Animated Favorites Get Real

## Answer key

### Question 1

Think about the Article. Why do parents take their kids to see the remakes?

B They loved the movies growing up.

### Question 2

What is this Article mainly about?

C People love the live-action remakes.

### Question 3

Which is **not** in the Article?

A Which characters people like

### Question 4

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

C hit and winner

# Bubble Tea Is Blowing Up

## Answer key

### Question 1

Which of these is an opinion?

C Bubble tea tastes too sweet.

### Question 2

Rosa wants to know what tapioca is. How can she find out? She could use a \_\_\_\_\_.

D Dictionary

### Question 3

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

B Start and begin

### Question 4

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

A Many kids go there. They hang out with friends.

# Cooking Up Native Traditions

## Answer key

### Question 1

What is this Article mainly about?

D Sherman is bringing back Native American foods.

### Question 2

Which of these is an opinion?

C Sherman's recipes taste great.

### Question 3

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

D came and left

### Question 4

Which is **not** in the Article?

A What foods the Europeans ate

# Defying Gravity

## Answer key

### Question 1

What is this Article mainly about?

A Biles is a great gymnast.

### Question 2

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

C greatest and best

### Question 3

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that \_\_\_\_\_.

C Biles doesn't like to give up

### Question 4

The Article says:

**In 2011, Biles tried to make the U.S. team. She didn't. This made her sad. But did she give up? No way! And in 2013, she made the team.**

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

D problems make Biles try harder

# Give Me S'more!

## Answer key

### Question 1

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

D How to make a s'more

### Question 2

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

A First and last

### Question 3

Look at these passages from the Article. Which one tells why some people think the Girl Scouts came up with the idea for s'mores?

A The group put out a manual. It talks about the snack. It came out in 1927.

### Question 4

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that \_\_\_\_\_.

B S'mores are easy to make.

# Global Game Fame

## Answer key

### Question 1

What is the main idea of this Article?

C The best video games go into a hall of fame.

### Question 2

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

C Fixer

### Question 3

Which of these is an opinion?

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

### Question 4

Look at these passages from the Article. Which one tells about the World Video Game Hall of Fame?

D It's in New York. It opened in 2015.

# Katherine the Great

## Answer key

### Question 1

What is the main idea of this Article?

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

### Question 2

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

B Anything and nothing

### Question 3

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

B In a book about NASA trips

### Question 4

Look at these passages from the Article. Which one shows that Katherine Johnson does more than math?

C She wrote an autobiography.



# Otzi the Iceman

## Answer key

### Question 1

What is this Article mainly about?

C People are learning from Ötzi the Iceman's body.

### Question 2

The Article says:

**That's when his body was found. And guess what? It was well-preserved.**

What does this show?

D why scientists can study Ötzi

### Question 3

Which of these is an opinion?

C Ötzi is the best find ever made.

### Question 4

The Article says:

**It was about 5,300 years ago. A man was on a mountain in Italy.... But *today*, people are learning all about him.**

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

A now

# Sniffing Out Extinction

## Answer key

### Question 1

What is this Article mainly about?

C Dogs can find endangered species.

### Question 2

Think about the Article. Why does an Australian conservation group want to help the Baw Baw frogs?

D Fewer than 1,200 Baw Baw frogs are left.

### Question 3

The Article says:

**But finding Baw Baw frogs isn't *easy*. Here's why: They live in forests. And they hide under mud.**

Which means the **opposite** of *easy*?

D hard

### Question 4

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that Baw Baw frogs \_\_\_\_\_.

C don't want other animals to find them

# Social Media, Pompeii Style

## Answer key

### Question 1

What is this Article mainly about?

D People in 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

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

D found and lost

### Question 4

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

Think about the Article. What made Yokoi hide in the jungle?

A He was afraid of U.S. soldiers.

### Question 2

What is this Article mainly about?

B Yokoi hid for many years.

### Question 3

A *soldier* is someone who \_\_\_\_\_.

A fights in a war

### Question 4

Which is **not** in the Article?

D Why World War II started

# Teen Pilot Breaks World Record

## Answer key

### Question 1

Think about the Article. Since Mason Andrews flew around the world, then \_\_\_\_\_.

A He holds a flying record.

### Question 2

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

B Mason is the youngest pilot to fly around the world.

---

### Question 3

Which of these is a fact?

D Mason Andrews flew 180 hours.

### Question 4

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

C Youngest and oldest

# The Early-Late Debate

## Answer key

### Question 1

Think about the Article. Teens sleep best between 11 p.m. and 8 a.m. That's why \_\_\_\_\_.

A California high schools will start at 8:30 a.m.

### Question 2

The Article talks mainly about \_\_\_\_\_.

B starting school later, so students get enough sleep

### Question 3

Which of these is an opinion?

B Students in California will like going to school later.

### Question 4

The Article says:

**California *passed* a law. It sets new rules.**

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

A made

# Good, Bad, or Ugly?

## Answer key

### Question 1

Think about the Article. Why are some companies selling ugly produce?

A They do not want it to go to waste.

### Question 2

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

C Some companies are selling ugly produce.

### Question 3

Which of these is an opinion?

C People should buy more ugly produce.

### Question 4

Which two words have almost the **same** meaning, as they're used in the Article?

B Produce and food

# The Last Generation?

## Answer key

### Question 1

Think about the Article. Why did six Pacific Island countries get together to cut shipping emissions?

C They want to fight climate change.

### Question 2

The Article talks mainly about \_\_\_\_\_.

B why islanders will cut shipping emissions

### Question 3

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

A low and high

### Question 4

Think about the Article. The reader can tell that \_\_\_\_\_.

B some Pacific Islands may go underwater



# The Truth About Dogs

## Answer key

### Question 1

Think about the Article. Since dogs learn from smelling, then \_\_\_\_\_.

D Dogs sniff fire hydrants to tell if a place is safe.

### Question 2

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

B There is an exhibition that teaches about dogs.

### Question 3

Which of these is an opinion?

C Smart dogs are the best dogs

### Question 4

Which two words have **opposite** meanings?

B Soft and loud

# Welcome to Batuu

## Answer key

### Question 1

What is this Article mainly about?

C Disney opened a new land called Galaxy's Edge.

### Question 2

Which of these is an opinion?

D The Star Wars story is the best part of Batuu.

### Question 3

The Article says:

**In 2019, Disney opened Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge. It's a *new* land. People who go feel like they're part of a Star Wars story!**

Which means the **opposite** of *new*?

B old

### Question 4

Look at these passages from the Article. Which one shows that anyone can be part of the story at Galaxy's Edge?

A The workers are part of that story. You can be, too!

# Women Adventurers

## Answer key

### Question 1

Think about the Article. Which took place *last*?

B A woman traveled around the world in 72 days.

### Question 2

The author probably wrote this Article in order to \_\_\_\_\_.

C tell readers about the adventures of some women

### Question 3

Which of these is an opinion?

C Jeanne Baret should not have dressed herself as a man.

### Question 4

The Article says:

**Women mostly had to *stay* home. Not these three women.**

Which means the **opposite** of *stay*?

D leave