

Name: _____ Date: _____

Finding and Using Text Evidence

Directions: Read "Hunting a Monster" and "Monster of the Deep." Then complete the activity below.

1. Imagine that you are writing a paragraph explaining why some people might believe in Bigfoot despite the fact that there is no scientific evidence that the creature exists.

A. Which of the following would be the BEST topic sentence for your paragraph?

- Ⓐ People have been telling stories of a Bigfoot-like creature for thousands of years.
- Ⓑ Twenty percent of Americans still believe that Bigfoot exists.
- Ⓒ Some people still believe in Bigfoot despite a lack of scientific evidence because stories of some other fantastical creatures have turned out to be true.

B. Which information from the article BEST supports the sentence you chose in part A?

- Ⓐ "The kraken—a monster with a sharp beak and powerful tentacles—was thought to be a figment of sailors' imaginations until the discovery of the giant squid." (p. 22)
- Ⓑ "*The Epic of Gilgamesh*, one of the first written texts in history, tells of a man who lived in the woods among animals and had 'hair that sprouted like grain.'" (p. 21)
- Ⓒ "By the 1960s, the number of Bigfoot sightings in California had skyrocketed." (p. 22)

C. Which of the following BEST explains why the text evidence you chose in part B is relevant?

- Ⓐ It shows how long people have been telling stories about creatures similar to Bigfoot.
- Ⓑ It shows that there is a large number of people who claim to have seen Bigfoot.
- Ⓒ It provides an example of another fantastical creature whose existence was doubted at first, but was eventually confirmed.

2. Choose the piece of text evidence from “Hunting a Monster” that BEST supports the statement below. Then complete the sentence to explain your choice.

The existence of a creature like Bigfoot isn’t scientifically possible.

- Ⓐ “Not surprisingly, none of these enthusiasts have ever found Bigfoot.” (p. 22)
- Ⓑ “The famous footprints in Bluff Creek were later revealed to have been planted by a man named Ray Wallace as part of a giant hoax.” (p. 22)
- Ⓒ “Plus, if Bigfoot creatures did exist but were so few in number that they were rarely seen, how would they breed?” (p. 22)

I chose ____ because _____

3. A. Choose the THREE pieces of text evidence from “Hunting a Monster” that BEST support the statement below.

People are still interested in the legend of Bigfoot today.

- Ⓐ “The legend of Bigfoot took off in America in the late 1950s . . .” (p. 21)
- Ⓑ “Google ‘Bigfoot,’ and you will get more than 50 million hits.” (p. 21)
- Ⓒ “By the 1960s, the number of Bigfoot sightings in California had skyrocketed.” (p. 21)
- Ⓓ “The show *Finding Bigfoot* ran for six years, until 2018, and was one of Animal Planet’s most successful programs.” (p. 22)
- Ⓔ “And people pay to go on so-called Bigfoot hunts.” (p. 22)

B. Select one piece of INCORRECT evidence from above and explain why it does NOT support the statement.

Evidence ____ does not support the statement because _____

4. Choose the paragraph that correctly uses text evidence from “Hunting a Monster” in the form of a direct quotation.

- Ⓐ Scientists say we can safely assume that Bigfoot isn’t real. In her article “Hunting a Monster,” author Mackenzie Carro writes, “Humans inhabit virtually every corner of the planet. It’s unlikely that such a massive creature could elude us for so long” (22).
- Ⓑ Scientists say we can safely assume that Bigfoot isn’t real. In her article “Hunting a Monster,” author Mackenzie Carro writes, “Humans inhabit virtually every corner of the planet. It’s unlikely that such a massive creature could elude us for so long” (22). In other words, if Bigfoot were real, we would have found him by now.
- Ⓒ Scientists say we can safely assume that Bigfoot isn’t real. “Humans inhabit virtually every corner of the planet. It’s unlikely that such a massive creature could elude us for so long.” In other words, if Bigfoot were real, we would have found him by now.

Explain why the two answers you did NOT choose are incorrect: _____

5. Choose the paragraph that correctly uses text evidence from “Monster of the Deep” in the form of a paraphrase.

- Ⓐ Giant squid are difficult to find and study. For example, in his article “Monster of the Deep,” author David Grann writes, “They have enormous eyes—larger than those of any other animal—which enable them to flee at the first sign of trouble.” In other words, giant squid have certain features that help them to avoid humans.
- Ⓑ Giant squid are difficult to find and study. The giant eyes and highly developed nerves of giant squid enable the creatures to easily spot threats and then retreat quickly (25).
- Ⓒ Giant squid are difficult to find and study. In his article “Monster of the Deep,” author David Grann explains that the giant eyes and highly developed nerves of giant squid enable the creatures to easily spot threats and then retreat quickly (25). In other words, giant squid have features that help them to avoid humans.

Explain why the two answers you did NOT choose are incorrect: _____

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Finding Text Evidence

Directions: Read “Hunting a Monster” and “Monster of the Deep,” then complete the activity below.

1. Choose the TWO pieces of text evidence from “Monster of the Deep” that best support the statement below.

STATEMENT:

Giant squid have unique physical features that make them difficult to find and study.

- Ⓐ “[Giant squid] have enormous eyes—larger than those of any other animal—which enable them to flee at the first sign of trouble.” (p. 25)
- Ⓑ “They can weigh up to 1,000 pounds and grow to be almost 60 feet long.” (p. 25)
- Ⓒ “. . . thanks to their highly developed nerves, [giant squid] can react in an instant, darting away from a net or camera.” (p. 25)
- Ⓓ “About 80 percent of the ocean remains unexplored today.” (p. 24)

2. Choose the ONE piece of text evidence from “Monster of the Deep” that best supports the statement below. Then complete the sentence to explain your choice.

STATEMENT:

The existence of a creature like Bigfoot isn’t scientifically possible.

- Ⓐ “Not surprisingly, none of these enthusiasts have ever found Bigfoot.” (p. 22)
- Ⓑ “Plus, if Bigfoot creatures did exist but were so few in number that they were rarely seen, how would they breed?” (p. 22)
- Ⓒ “The famous footprints in Bluff Creek were later revealed to have been planted by a man named Ray Wallace as part of a giant hoax.” (p. 22)

I chose ____ because _____

3. Below are a statement and two pieces of supporting evidence from “Hunting a Monster.” Find one more piece of supporting evidence from the article and write it on the lines below.

STATEMENT:

People are still fascinated with the legend of Bigfoot today.

Ⓐ “Google ‘Bigfoot,’ and you will get more than 50 million hits.” (p. 22)

Ⓑ “. . . people pay to go on so-called Bigfoot hunts.” (p. 22)

Ⓒ _____

.....

4. Read the lines below from “Hunting a Monster” and “Monster of the Deep.” Then write a statement that they all support.

STATEMENT:

Ⓐ “Scientists find thousands of new species each year and speculate that millions more are still out there.” (p. 22)

Ⓑ “In truth, we don’t know what dazzling creatures might exist beyond our reach.” (p. 22)

Ⓒ “About 80 percent of the ocean remains unexplored today.” (p. 24)

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Synthesis

Directions: Read "Hunting a Monster" and "Monster of the Deep." Then follow the directions below to prepare for the writing prompt on page 25.

Part 1: The writer J.R.R. Tolkein said, "I believe that legends and myths are largely made of 'truth.'" What did Tolkein mean?

Part 2: Fill in the boxes below with information that supports the idea that there is "truth" behind the fantastical creatures mentioned in "Hunting a Monster" and "Monster of the Deep." Be sure to cite your sources. We filled in one box for you.

Bigfoot

The Kraken

The Dragon

- Stories of dragons may have been inspired by fossils of real prehistoric creatures such as dinosaurs. Also, ancient peoples may have seen crocodiles and thought they were the dragons about which they had heard stories ("Hunting a Monster," 22).

The Mermaid

The Loch Ness Monster

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Close-Reading Questions

"Hunting a Monster"

1. Consider the story that author Mackenzie Carro tells in the introduction. Why might she have started her article this way? (author's craft)
2. In the section "Bigfoot Mania," how does Carro support the idea that Bigfoot is not real? (key ideas and details)
3. On page 22, Carro writes that on Bigfoot hunts, "groups are led through the woods by a Bigfoot-hunting 'expert' to search for evidence of the creature." What does the author's use of quotes around the word expert suggest about her attitude toward Bigfoot hunts? (tone)

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Close-Reading Question

"Monster of the Deep"

1. Why are giant squid so difficult to find and study? (key ideas and details)

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Critical-Thinking Questions

“Hunting a Monster” and “Monster of the Deep”

1. Carro suggests that fascination with Bigfoot continues—even though there is no evidence that Bigfoot is real—because people simply want to believe in fantastical creatures. Do you agree with her? Explain.
2. Consider the illustrations that appear in both articles. What do the illustrations and captions suggest about the origin of fantastical creatures?

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Go to Scope
Online to listen
to the words
and definitions
read aloud!

Paired Texts Vocabulary

"Hunting a Monster" and "Monster of the Deep"

1. **deduce (dih-DOOS)** *verb*; To deduce is to figure something out by thinking carefully about what you already know is true and then putting all the pieces together. Based on your brother's strange behavior and the small brown stain on his shirt, you might deduce that he is the one who ate your candy bar.

2. **elude (ih-LOOD)** *verb*; To elude is to escape or avoid something, usually by being quick, skillful, or tricky. A squirrel might manage to elude your cat by running up a tree. *Elude* can also mean "to fail to be understood or remembered by." If the name of an actor is eluding you, you can't think of that actor's name.

3. **enthusiast (en-THOO-zee-ist)** *noun*; Enthusiasm (en-THOO-zee-az-uhm) is a feeling of intense excitement, interest, or enjoyment. A friend's enthusiasm as he describes his favorite graphic novel might make you want to read it.

An enthusiast is a person who is brimming with enthusiasm for a particular activity or subject. A sports enthusiast is really passionate about sports. A dinosaur enthusiast has a strong interest in dinosaurs and spends a lot of time learning about them.

4. **fantastical (fan-TAS-tik-uhl)** *adjective*; Something that is fantastical is so odd and remarkable that it seems impossible, like something that could exist only in your imagination. Star Wars movies have fantastical characters and scenery.

5. **figment (FIG-muhnt)** *noun*; A figment is something imagined or made up. *Figment* is usually followed by *of the imagination* as in, "I could have sworn I heard someone say my name, but it must have been a figment of my imagination."

6. **lair (lair)** *noun*; A lair is the den or resting place of a wild animal.

7. **outlandish (out-LAN-dish)** *adjective*; Something that is outlandish is so out of the ordinary or strange that it's difficult to accept. Effie Trinket from *The Hunger Games* wears outlandish outfits. An outlandish story is very odd, and hard to believe.

8. scat (skat) *noun*; Scat is a name for the droppings (poop) of a wild animal.

9. sinewy (SIN-yoo-ee) *adjective*; Muscles are connected to bones with bands of strong tissue called tendons. *Sinew* (SIN-yoo) is another name for a tendon. Something that is sinewy is full of sinew, or looks like it is. A sinewy piece of steak is stringy and tough. A sinewy person or animal looks lean and strong.

10. specimen (SPES-uh-muhn) *noun*; As used in the article, *specimen* refers to an individual plant or animal that is collected and studied by scientists as an example of its species.

Directions: Below and on the back of this page, list any other words from the articles whose definitions you are not sure about. For each word, use context clues to try to figure out the meaning. Then look up the word in a few different dictionaries. Discuss the meaning of the word with your teacher or another adult. Then write a definition for the word and one example sentence.

Paired Texts Vocabulary Practice

Directions: Complete each sentence below in a way that makes the meaning of the boldfaced word clear.

1. My grandfather's arms were **sinewy** from years of _____

2. The cougars returned to their **lair** to _____

3. _____
_____ was just a **figment** of Ann's imagination.

Directions: Choose the word or phrase that is most similar in meaning to each word in bold.

4. **outlandish**

- Ⓐ common Ⓑ unusual

6. **fantastical**

- Ⓐ ordinary Ⓑ imaginative

5. **elude**

- Ⓐ attract Ⓑ avoid

7. **specimen**

- Ⓐ sample Ⓑ group

Directions: In each pair of boldfaced words, underline the word that best completes the sentence.

8. From the small white hairs on my teacher's clothes, I **deduced/eluded** that she must have a cat or dog.
9. **Enthusiasts/specimens** lined up outside the bookstore, eager for the release of their favorite author's new book.
10. The scientist was studying bear **scat/figment** to learn more about bears' diets.

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Paired Texts Quiz

Directions: Read “Hunting a Monster” and “Monster of the Deep.” Then answer the questions.

1. A graph about the number of new animal species discovered over the past decade would BEST fit into which section of “Hunting a Monster”?
 - (A) “No Evidence”
 - (B) “Bigfoot Mania”
 - (C) “Magic and Mystery”
 - (D) the introduction
2. Pages 21 and 22 contain a section titled “Bigfoot Mania.” Based on the information in the section, what is the definition of *mania*?
 - (A) a risky or unexpected undertaking
 - (B) excessive interest or enthusiasm; an obsession
 - (C) the act of investigating something
 - (D) a lack of care or concern
3. On page 22, author Mackenzie Carro writes, “Google ‘Bigfoot,’ and you will get more than 50 million hits.” She likely includes this line to
 - (A) show that interest in Bigfoot is declining.
 - (B) encourage readers to research Bigfoot online.
 - (C) suggest that Bigfoot might really exist.
 - (D) emphasize that people today are fascinated by Bigfoot.
4. Which line helps readers understand what makes giant squid elusive?
 - (A) “They can weigh up to 1,000 pounds and grow up to 60 feet long.”
 - (B) “It had eight flapping arms and two long, sinewy tentacles.”
 - (C) “And thanks to their highly developed nerves, they can react in an instant, darting away from a net or camera.”
 - (D) “His plan was to raise them in captivity.”
5. The main purpose of “Hunting a Monster” is to _____, whereas the main purpose of “Monster of the Deep” is to _____.
 - (A) introduce readers to Robert Hatfield; teach about the fastest sailing voyage around the world
 - (B) spotlight the TV show *Finding Bigfoot*; describe new technology for deep-sea exploration
 - (C) explain what inspired dragon legends; compare ancient Babylonians and ancient Syrians
 - (D) explain the fact and fiction about Bigfoot; share scientists’ discovery about the giant squid
6. Which ideas are supported by information in both articles? Choose TWO.
 - (A) There is no scientific evidence that Bigfoot exists.
 - (B) Much of the world’s oceans are unexplored.
 - (C) Mythical creatures are often based on real animals.
 - (D) Giant squid have large eyes.

Constructed-Response Questions

Directions: Write your answer to each question in a well-organized response.

7. In the introduction to “Monster of the Deep,” how does author David Grann draw readers in? Use text evidence to support your answer.
8. How do both articles support the idea that humans are fascinated by the unknown? Use details from both texts to support your answer.

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Paired Texts Quiz

Directions: Read “Hunting a Monster” and “Monster of the Deep.” Then answer the questions.

- A graph about the number of new animal species discovered over the past decade would BEST fit into which section of “Hunting a Monster”?
 (A) “No Evidence”
 (B) “Bigfoot Mania”
 (C) “Magic and Mystery”
 (D) the introduction
- On page 21, author Mackenzie Carro writes, “In 1967, at the height of Bigfoot mania, someone released footage of Bigfoot strolling through the woods.” Context clues reveal that *mania* most closely means
 (A) confusion.
 (B) obsession.
 (C) boredom.
 (D) worry.
- On page 22, Carro writes, “Google ‘Bigfoot,’ and you will get more than 50 million hits.” She includes this line to
 (A) show that people’s interest in Bigfoot is declining.
 (B) encourage readers to research Bigfoot online.
 (C) suggest that Bigfoot might really exist.
 (D) emphasize that many people today are still fascinated by Bigfoot.
- On page 25, David Grann writes, “And thanks to their highly developed nerves, they can react in an instant, darting away from a net or camera.” This line supports the idea that giant squid are _____ creatures.
 (A) violent
 (B) mythical
 (C) elusive
 (D) sinewy
- The main purpose of “Monster of the Deep” is to
 (A) teach readers about Olivier de Kersauson’s sailing voyage.
 (B) describe new technology for deep-sea exploration.
 (C) explain what inspired mermaid stories around the world.
 (D) share scientists’ discovery about the giant squid.
- Which idea is supported by information in both articles? Choose TWO.
 (A) There is no scientific evidence that Bigfoot exists.
 (B) Much of the world’s oceans are unexplored.
 (C) Mythical creatures are often based on real animals.
 (D) Giant squid have larger eyes than any other animal.

Constructed-Response Questions

Directions: Write your answer to each question in a well-organized response.

- Consider the introduction to David Grann’s article “Monster of the Deep.” How does Grann use descriptive language to draw in readers?
- According to the photo captions in both articles, what is one way stories about fantastical creatures can be explained? Use details from both texts to support your answer.

Note: *Scope* does not accept Google Docs. If you are e-mailing your entry, please send a .pdf or .doc file.

Monster Contest

The writer J.R.R. Tolkien said, "I believe that legends and myths are largely made of 'truth.'" What does Tolkien mean? What is the "truth" in the legends and myths surrounding creatures like giant squid and Bigfoot? Answer both questions in an essay. Use text evidence. Three winners will get *The Language of Spells* by Garret Weyr.

Entries will be judged on:

- ⇒ use of information from both texts
- ⇒ grammar, spelling, and punctuation
- ⇒ clarity and good organization
- ⇒ creativity

My name: _____

My home phone number: _____ My grade: _____

My teacher's name: _____ My teacher's e-mail: _____

School name: _____

School address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

School phone number: _____

My parent or legal guardian consents
to my participation in this contest.

Parent's or legal guardian's signature: _____

Include this form with your entry and send both to: scopemag@scholastic.com
or mail them to: Monster Contest, c/o *Scope*, P.O. Box 712, New York, NY 10013-0712

ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY April 15, 2019!