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## “Name That Brand!”



### ANSWERS TO ACTIVITIES AND PROMPTS IN THE MAGAZINE

#### Nike Triumphs

Ever wonder how a brand gets its name? Sometimes a name is meant to **imply** a trait or feeling. Take Nike, which is named after the ancient Greek goddess of victory. Employee Jeff Johnson came up with the name in 1971. He thought it **implied** triumph—perfect for a brand of sneakers worn by athletes around the world.

#### Amazon Goes Big

The name Amazon was chosen for what it **implies** about the brand: size. Amazon's name comes from the Amazon River in South America, one of the largest rivers in the world.

Originally, founder Jeff Bezos called the company Cadabra—a play on the magic word *abracadabra*. But he reconsidered this after a few people misheard *cadabra* as *cadaver*. (A cadaver is a dead body.) He didn't want customers to **infer** that the company sold corpses.

#### Gatorade Beats the Heat

In the summer of 1965, the players on the University of Florida's football team, the Florida Gators, were struggling in the extreme heat. So the assistant coach asked a team of scientists for help. A few months later, the scientists had

invented Gatorade, the now famous sports drink. As you may have **inferred**, the name Gatorade is a nod to the football team.

### ANSWERS TO ACTIVITY SHEET

#### IMPLY OR INFER?

1. implying
2. inferred
3. inferred
4. implied
5. inferred

## “Spy of the American Revolution”



### ANSWERS TO ACTIVITIES AND PROMPTS IN THE MAGAZINE

#### WRITING PROMPT, PAGE 10

Diary entries will vary.

### ANSWERS TO ACTIVITY SHEETS

#### FEATURED SKILL: KEY IDEAS AND DETAILS

Responses will vary.

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. James approached the British with a compelling story. He explained that he had been born into slavery nearby and had just escaped from his enslavers. He said he had valuable information to offer and wanted to join the British side. Because the British wanted the intelligence that James could offer, they were willing to take a chance on him. After proving himself by working as a servant or waiter for British commanders, James was promoted to working inside General Cornwallis's headquarters, where he was able to listen in on important meetings and sneak looks at secret information.
2. Knowing that American troops were at a low point and not strong enough to defeat the British through direct attacks helps readers understand the importance of James's role in outsmarting the

British. If James hadn't uncovered secret information, including Cornwallis's plan to move his force to Yorktown, the outcome of the war might have been different.

3. The map helps illustrate a major turning point in the war. It shows what is explained in the section "A Trick and a Race" about how French and American forces were able to surround Cornwallis on land and water and force him into surrendering.
4. Answers will vary. Students might say that as a double agent, James didn't have to sneak around as much in order to travel back and forth between sides. On the other hand, being a double agent added an extra layer of risk. Being a double agent also meant that James was under pressure from both sides of the war.
5. Answers will vary. Students may say that Seals is referring to the fact that James's efforts helped win the war, and as a result, helped America come into existence. Seals might also mean that James exemplifies the American spirit of working hard to achieve a goal, standing up for what you believe in, and fighting for change.
6. Answers will vary. Students might say stories like this one are important because they help us understand how our country came to be, and that it is important to remember and honor the people who have played a part in our country's story and who have fought for our freedom—especially people like James, who was not free himself.



**\*HIGHER LEVEL (HL) QUIZ**

1. C (author's purpose; R.6)
2. A, B (key ideas; R.2)
3. C (text features; R.7)
4. D (text structure; R.5)
5. C (key events; R.3)
6. B (evaluating evidence; R.8)
7. Sample response: America most likely could not have won the war without the help of spies like James Lafayette. After fighting for six years, American forces were losing. The government was deep in debt. The Continental Army did not have enough money to pay its soldiers, so it wouldn't have been possible to continue fighting for much longer. Additionally, George Washington's army was too small to defeat the British with direct attacks. Without the information James provided about Cornwallis's plans to move his entire force to Yorktown, Virginia, the Americans would not have been able to get Cornwallis to surrender, which was a major turning point in the war. (explanatory writing, supporting claims, text evidence; W.2, W.1 R.8)
8. Based on the article, I would describe James as fearless, bold, and strong. He proved that he was ready to take on any obstacle that came his way. Author Steve Sheinkin writes, "On a spring day in 1781, a man named James did just about the most dangerous thing a person can do in a time of war: He crossed into enemy territory." Sheinkin also writes that James walked "boldly" into the enemy's camp. These descriptions of James support the idea that he was strong and fearless. (explanatory writing, text evidence; W.2, R.1)

**\*LOWER LEVEL (LL) QUIZ**

1. C (author's purpose; R.6)
2. A (key ideas; R.2)
3. C (text features; R.7)
4. D (text structure; R.5)
5. C (key events; R.3)
6. B (evaluating evidence; R.8)
7. America most likely would have lost the war without the help of spies like James Lafayette. After fighting for six years, American forces were losing. The government was deep in debt. The Continental Army did not have enough money to pay its soldiers, so it wouldn't have been possible to continue fighting for

much longer. Additionally, George Washington's army was too small to defeat the British with direct attacks. Without the information James provided about Cornwallis's plans to move his entire force to Yorktown, Virginia, the Americans would not have been able to get Cornwallis to surrender, which was a major turning point in the war. (explanatory writing, supporting claims, text evidence; W.2, W.1, R.8)

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**VOCABULARY PRACTICE**

1. Answers will vary.
2. Answers will vary.
3. Answers will vary.
4. Larry James, known for his mischievous nature but also for his big heart, has retired as the football coach of Brownsville High School. (Answers will vary.)
5. Sensitive information that could be used to harm the U.S. was discovered on the phone of a spy arrested last month in Cleveland, Ohio. (Answers will vary.)
6. Members of the community will gather this Tuesday evening to honor Shane Maxwell, a local who competed in this past summer's Olympic Games in Paris. (Answers will vary.)

**CORE SKILLS WORKOUT: SUMMARIZING**

**\*Higher Level (HL)**

1. James Lafayette, a daring spy for the Continental Army during the American Revolution
2. The American Revolution was taking place in what would become the U.S. The former 13 Colonies were fighting against Great Britain to gain independence. The French army was also supporting the U.S. in its fight against Britain.



3. The article describes James's work as a spy and the lead up to and results of the battle of Yorktown, which was a turning point in the war.
4. After American and French troops were able to surround British troops on land and at sea at Yorktown, Great Britain surrendered and the U.S. went on to win the war.
5. America won its independence from Great Britain. But after the war ended, James was still enslaved. Finally, in 1787, he was granted his freedom.
6. Answers will vary.

**Summary:**

Author Steve Sheinkin's narrative nonfiction article "Spy of the American Revolution" tells the story of James Lafayette, who worked as a spy for the Continental Army during the American Revolution and helped America win its independence. In the spring of 1781, James met one of Washington's top generals, the Marquis de Lafayette, and offered to spy on the British. Working as a servant or waiter, James gained the trust of British commanders, including General Cornwallis, and passed the information he overheard back to the Americans. That summer, James gathered an extremely important piece of intelligence: Cornwallis was going to move his entire force to Yorktown, Virginia. Armed with this information, General Washington came up with a plan. He tricked the British into thinking the Americans were staying in New York. In reality, they moved on to Yorktown. There, French and American troops surrounded British forces. Cornwallis was forced to surrender, and America went on to win its fight for independence. James, however, was not free. It was not until 1787, after he submitted a petition to the Virginia government and the Marquis de Lafayette submitted a letter on his behalf, that James, spy and hero of the Revolution, was granted his freedom.

**CORE SKILLS WORKOUT: SUMMARIZING**

**\*Lower Level (LL)**

Author Steve Sheinkin's narrative nonfiction article "Spy of the Revolution" tells the story of James Lafayette, who **worked as a spy for the Continental Army during the American Revolution** and helped America **win its independence**. In the spring of 1781, James met **one of Washington's top generals, the Marquis de Lafayette**, and offered to **spy on the British**. Working as a servant or waiter, he gained the trust of British commanders, including General Cornwallis, and passed the information he overheard to the Americans. That summer, James gathered an extremely important piece of intelligence: **Cornwallis was going to move**

**his entire force to Yorktown, Virginia**. Armed with this information, General George Washington came up with a plan. He tricked the British into thinking the Americans were staying in New York. In reality, they **moved on to Yorktown**. There, French and American troops surrounded British forces. Cornwallis was forced to surrender, and America **went on to win its fight for independence**. James, however, was not free. It was not until 1787, after he submitted a petition to the Virginia government and the Marquis de Lafayette **submitted a letter on his behalf**, that James, a spy and hero of the Revolution, was granted his freedom.

**CORE SKILLS WORKOUT: TEXT FEATURES**

Answers will vary. Sample answers:

1. The mood created by the illustration and the title is dramatic and suspenseful. It suggests that the story is going to be about a daring and brave spy.
2. The American Revolution started because Great Britain imposed harsh laws and high taxes on the colonists, and the colonists were angry that they had no say or control in the matter.
3. The map shows French and American forces surrounding British troops on land and water.
4. The author might have included the sidebar to show that spying played a role in the American Revolution. The article is about one spy of the Revolution, James Lafayette, but the sidebar shows that there were many spies participating in various secretive operations throughout the war.

**VIDEO DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

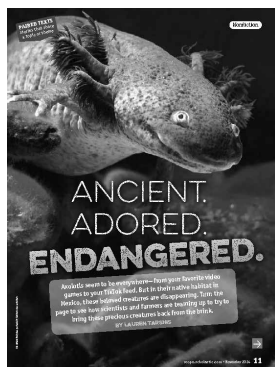
Answers will vary slightly. Sample answers:

1. A historical interpreter is someone who educates visitors to historical sites or museums by portraying people from the past. Seals says his goal as a historical interpreter is to humanize people from the past—in other words, to make people from the past seem real and relatable to people in the present.
2. A primary source is a firsthand record or document that is created either at the time of the event it is about, or afterwards by someone who experienced that event reflecting on their own experience. Primary sources include diary entries, letters, photographs, newspaper articles, and court documents.
3. Answers will vary, but students may say that Seals means that because James helped America win its war for independence, his story is directly related to



all of our stories as Americans. Students may also say that Seals is saying that people from history—their lives and their choices and what happened to them—still impact us and matter to us today.

## “Ancient. Adored. Endangered.” and “All About Axolotls”



### ANSWERS TO ACTIVITIES AND PROMPTS IN THE MAGAZINE

#### WRITING PROMPT, PAGE 16

Answers will vary slightly. Sample response:

Axolotls have been described as being both “everywhere and nowhere” because even though axolotls are popular and beloved creatures, particularly in pop culture, they are disappearing in the wild. As author Lauren Tarshis explains in her article “Ancient. Adored. Endangered,” axolotls have been popping up in many areas of pop culture, from video games to social media. Tarshis states that axolotls “seem to be everywhere” and writes, “On TikTok, axolotl videos have earned billions of views. In *Minecraft*, boxy cartoon axolotls battle underwater enemies. At Build-A-Bear stores, little kids can dress plush axolotls in sparkling outfits” (12). She also explains that images of axolotls, such as murals or parade floats, are common in Mexico City, where wild axolotls are naturally found (12) and that many axolotls can be found in home aquariums or labs around the world. In the infographic “All About Axolotls,” she provides the information that the axolotl even appears on the 50-peso bill in Mexico (16). However, despite this popularity, axolotls are on the verge of extinction in the wild. In her article, Tarshis explains that because of pollution and habitat destruction, axolotls are a

critically endangered species and that there are only an estimated 50-1,000 left in the wild (12-13). In other words, axolotls appear to be both everywhere and nowhere at the same time.

### ANSWERS TO ACTIVITY SHEETS

#### FEATURED SKILL: SYNTHESIS

Responses will vary. Sample responses:

##### 1. Article:

- “On TikTok, axolotl videos have earned billions of views. In *Minecraft*, boxy cartoon axolotls battle underwater enemies. At Build-A-Bear stores, little kids can dress plush axolotls in sparkling outfits. Last year, axolotls defeated zebras and sea otters to become a Girl Scout mascot.” (p. 12)
- “Stroll through Mexico City today, and you’ll find axolotl murals emblazoned on buildings. At parades, giant axolotl floats wind through city streets, cheered on by crowds of adoring fans. When Mexico City was choosing an official emoji, the axolotl was the natural choice.” (p. 12)
- “But there are hundreds of thousands of them in captivity. Many of them live in home aquariums around the world. Many more are living in laboratories, where scientists use them for researching new medicines.” (p. 13)



**Infographic:**

- “Fortnite, Pokémon, and Minecraft all have axolotl characters.”
- “Clips of axolotls on TikTok and YouTube get millions of views.”
- “In 2021, Mexico put an axolotl on the 50-peso bill.”
- “Around the world, there are roughly 1 million axolotls in labs and home aquariums.”

**2. Article:**

- “Today axolotls are critically endangered, according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature.” (p. 13)
- “Nobody knows exactly how many are left in the wild—estimates range from 50 to 1,000.” (p. 13)

**Infographic:**

- “Scientists estimate that between 50 and 1,000 axolotls remain in the wild.”

**“ANCIENT. ADORED. ENDANGERED.”**

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. As the population of Mexico City has grown, lakes have been drained and filled in to make room for buildings, roads, and houses. Lake Xochimilco, which used to be home to wild axolotls, is now polluted, full of poisonous chemicals and human waste. The ecology of the lake has also been damaged by the Mexican government, which filled it with carp and tilapia to help fishers. These invasive fish prey on axolotls. What used to be a vast network of lakes and wetlands has been reduced to a few bodies of polluted water. As a result, axolotls are unable to survive in their natural habitat and they are now critically endangered.
2. In Tenochtitlán, the Aztecs constructed a vast system of large floating gardens, called chinampas, in the lakes around the center of the city. This system enabled the Aztecs to grow dozens of different kinds of vegetables, fruits, and grains, while still allowing the marine life in the surrounding water to thrive. The Aztecs figured out a way to live in harmony with the land. In Mexico City, on the other hand, people opted to change the land. They reduced the size of the wetlands and added invasive fish to the waters. The vast majority of the floating gardens have been abandoned, and some that remain in use are farmed using chemical pesticides and fertilizers, which

pollute the water. Considering how Mexico City has damaged the ecosystem, you can conclude that Tenochtitlán had the better solution.

3. To help the wild axolotl population, people are working to restore parts of Lake Xochimilco and create sanctuaries where axolotls can once again thrive. Ecologist Luis Zambrano is trying to help local farmers restore chinampas and return to natural farming methods that do not pollute the waters. People are also planting native grasses and plants to naturally filter the water, and people have installed mesh grates around the floating gardens to keep invasive carp and tilapia out.
4. The sidebar helps readers understand how drastically the landscape of what is now Mexico City has changed over time. It emphasizes that the actions of humans can impact the environment in major ways, and helps us understand the negative consequences urban development and climate change can have on species.

**“ALL ABOUT AXOLOTLS”**

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. According to “Ancient. Adored. Endangered,” the ancient Aztecs believed axolotls had a spiritual connection to Xolotl, the god of fire and lightning, and the axolotl is still celebrated in Mexican culture today. Scientists are also fascinated by axolotls, in particular their ability to regenerate parts of their bodies. The amphibians are being used to research new medicines. As the infographic explains, axolotls are also modern-day celebrities, admired for their appearance, popular in video games, and huge on social media.
2. Programs such as the “Adopt an Axolotl” program at UNAM are helping raise money to restore the axolotl’s habitat in Mexico. The popularity of axolotls also helps raise awareness of the issues axolotls face.
3. Answers will vary. Some students may say that since axolotls are unable to survive in their natural habitat, it is OK to keep them in captivity. Others may say that we should be doing more to restore and protect the habitats of axolotls so they can return to their natural environments. We should learn from the past not to disrupt ecosystems.



### VOCABULARY PRACTICE

1. Scientists raced against the clock to control the invasive species.
2. We turned the lights off when we left the room to conserve energy.
3. The community workers planted crops that were indigenous to the region.
4. Studying ecology helps people recognize the importance of each plant and animal species.
5. The farmers tried to limit their use of pesticides to grow healthier food for people to eat.
6. A deer's habitat is in the forest, where it has the things it needs to survive.

### \*HIGHER LEVEL (HL) QUIZ

1. A, B, C (key ideas; R.2)
2. A (tone; R.4)
3. D (text evidence; R.1)
4. A, D (text features; R.7)
5. B (vocabulary; R.4)
6. B, C (synthesis; R.9)
7. Based on the photos and illustrations in the article and infographic, axolotl characters—such as the parade character and the video game characters shown in the article and infographic—have rounder, friendlier faces than real axolotls, and are sometimes able to walk upright on two legs, which real axolotls cannot do. As explained in one of the article's captions, wild axolotls are brown or black, with pink axolotls being found only in captivity; most of the axolotl characters are either pink or light blue. However, it's certainly not the case that the axolotl characters look nothing like the real animals. Real axolotls—both those in the wild and those in captivity—do have friendly-looking faces as well as the feathery gills that appear on all of the axolotl characters pictured. (text features, compare and contrast, synthesizing; R.7, R.9)
8. Summaries may include: Axolotls are native to lakes in Mexico and have lived there for over 10,000 years. Today there are only 50 to 1,000 axolotls living in the wild. These amphibians are sensitive to pollution and changes in water temperature. They are threatened by habitat loss, invasive fish that prey on them, and polluted water. They help their ecosystem by eating smaller species such as worms, insect larvae, and

small fish. They spend their lives in the water and have feathery gills to help them breathe underwater. They also have the ability to regenerate many parts of their body. (explanatory writing, summarizing, synthesizing information; W.2, R.2, R.9)

### \*LOWER LEVEL (LL) QUIZ

1. A, B (key ideas; R.2)
2. A (tone; R.4)
3. D (text evidence; R.1)
4. A (text features; R.7)
5. B (vocabulary; R.4)
6. B, C (synthesis; R.9)
7. Based on the photos and illustrations in the article and infographic, axolotl characters in video games have rounder, friendlier faces than real axolotls, and are sometimes able to walk upright on two legs, which real axolotls cannot do. As explained in one of the article's captions, wild axolotls are brown or black, with pink axolotls being found only in captivity; most of the axolotl video game characters are either pink or light blue. However, it's certainly not the case that the axolotl characters look nothing like the real animals. Real axolotls—both those in the wild and those in captivity—do have friendly-looking faces as well as the feathery gills that appear on all of the axolotl characters pictured. (text features, compare and contrast, synthesizing; R.7, R.9)
8. Summaries may include: Axolotls are native to lakes in Mexico and have lived there for over 10,000 years. Today there are only 50 to 1,000 axolotls living in the wild. These amphibians are sensitive to pollution and changes in water temperature. They are threatened by habitat loss, invasive fish that prey on them, and polluted water. They help their ecosystem by eating smaller species such as worms, insect larvae, and small fish. They spend their lives in the water and have feathery gills to help them breathe underwater. They also have the ability to regenerate many parts of their body. (explanatory writing, summarizing, synthesizing information; W.2, R.2, R.9)

### CORE SKILLS WORKOUT: EXPLORING TEXT STRUCTURE

#### \*Higher Level (HL) and Lower Level (LL)

Answers will vary slightly. Sample responses:



**Page 1:**

**Cause:** The lakes in Mexico City have been drained and filled in to make room for buildings, roads, and houses.

**Cause:** The remaining canals that crisscross Lake Xochimilco have been polluted with chemicals from pesticides.

**Cause:** The Mexican government released carp and tilapia into Lake Xochimilco to provide food for locals. The carp and tilapia damaged the ecology of the lake by preying on axolotls and other creatures.

**Effect:** Axolotls are on the verge of extinction in the wild.

**Page 2:**

**Problem:** The axolotl's native habitat has been destroyed by human activity and modern farming practices, like the use of chemical pesticides.

**Solution:** Dr. Zambrano and other UNAM scientists are helping local farmers return to the natural farming methods of the Aztecs.

**Page 3:** Answers will vary.

**VIDEO DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. According to the video, axolotls are currently facing several threats to their habitat in Mexico City. One threat is the invasive carp and tilapia that people introduced to the waters where axolotls live. These fish compete with the axolotls for food and also eat axolotl eggs. Another threat is water pollution. The water quality in the Lake Xochimilco area is too poor for axolotls to survive in it.
2. Zambrano is working to save the axolotls' habitat by encouraging a return to the natural farming methods of the Aztecs and restoring the chinampas farming system. The chinampas system was in use during a time when the axolotls thrived; it is not harmful to axolotls as modern farming methods are. Zambrano hopes that by restoring the chinampas, he can restore the axolotls' habitat too.

## "The Treatment"



### ANSWERS TO ACTIVITIES AND PROMPTS IN THE MAGAZINE

#### ROOT CHALLENGE

Answers will vary. Sample responses:

1. **indicate:** to point out or be a sign of  
**dedicated:** committed to a cause or purpose  
**predicament:** a difficult or confusing situation  
**verdict:** a decision or judgment
2. Answers will vary. Words might include: *dictator, dictate, contradict, dictionary, predict.*
3. Sentences and drawings will vary.

### ANSWERS TO ACTIVITY SHEET

#### ROOT POWER

Answers will vary. Sample responses:

##### Part 1:

- indicate:** to point out or be a sign of  
**dedicated:** committed to a cause or purpose  
**predicament:** a difficult or confusing situation  
**verdict:** a decision or judgment

##### Part 2:

1. indicate
2. dedicated
3. verdict
4. predicament
5. Answers will vary.
6. Answers will vary.

**Part 3:** Answers will vary.

## “Voting in the Wild”



### ANSWERS TO ACTIVITIES AND PROMPTS IN THE MAGAZINE

#### WRITING PROMPT, PAGE 19:

Answers will vary slightly. Sample response:

African wild dogs cooperate by coming together to make important decisions as a group. As Lauren Tarshis explains in her article “Voting in the Wild,” African wild dogs decide whether to hunt as a group (19). During a gathering referred to as a “rally,” the wild dogs come together to play, wrestle, and chase each other around (19), explains Tarshis. But, writes Tarshis, scientists observed that the wild dogs also appeared to sneeze a lot during these rallies. The scientists believe the sneezing is the dogs’ way of voicing their opinions on whether or not the pack should hunt (19). Depending on what the group decides, they either run off to hunt down their prey or they stay put. In this way, the African wild dogs worked together, or cooperated, to make a decision.

### ANSWERS TO ACTIVITY SHEETS

#### VOCABULARY PRACTICE

- a
- b
- b
- a

#### \*HIGHER LEVEL (HL) QUIZ

- A (text evidence; R.1)
- C (vocabulary; R.4)
- B, C, D (text evidence; R.1)
- C (inference; R.1)
- Cooperation is important for many species because it helps increase their chance of survival. For example, African wild dogs hunt in packs so they are able to hunt and kill much larger animals. Other animals, such as gazelles and wildebeests, work together to keep themselves safe from lions and other predators. Additionally, some species work together to make important decisions. Honeybees, for example, vote on the best spot to build a hive. Through cooperation, many species ensure their survival. (explanatory writing, citing text evidence; W.2, R.1)

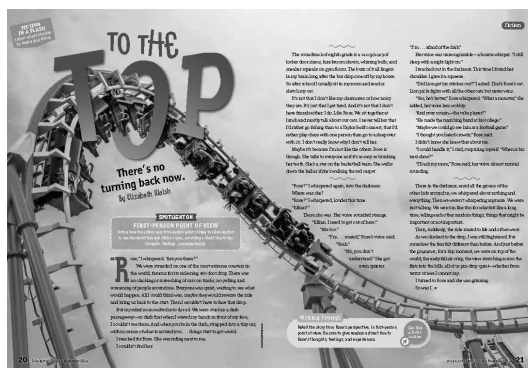
#### \*LOWER LEVEL (LL) QUIZ

- A (text evidence; R.1)
- C (vocabulary; R.4)
- C, D (text evidence; R.1)
- C (inference; R.1)
- Cooperation helps many species increase their chance of survival. For example, African wild dogs hunt in packs so they are able to hunt and kill much larger animals. Other animals, such as gazelles and wildebeests, work together to keep themselves safe from lions and other predators. Additionally, some



species work together to make important decisions. Honeybees, for example, vote on the best spot to build a hive. Through cooperation, many species ensure their survival. (explanatory writing, citing text evidence; W.2, R.1)

## "To the Top"



### ANSWERS TO ACTIVITIES AND PROMPTS IN THE MAGAZINE

#### WRITING PROMPT, PAGE 21:

Stories will vary.

### ANSWERS TO ACTIVITY SHEETS

#### FEATURED SKILL: POINT OF VIEW

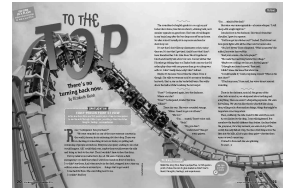
Answers will vary. Sample responses:

1. Rose might describe being absolutely terrified, hearing Jillian whisper her name but being too scared to answer.
2. Rose might say that she values her friendship with Jillian and how they talk about their cats but also about their families and other important things. Rose might say she knows Jillian doesn't always say everything she's thinking—and that she doesn't need to. Rose might explain that sometimes she likes to tell Jillian about things that she, Rose, enjoys, even though she knows Jillian doesn't feel the same about them. Maybe Rose would talk about how she and Jillian are different in some ways but how they also have a lot in common.
3. Rose might talk about how she admires Jillian for being independent, or how Jillian is a good listener, or how Jillian is kind and thoughtful.

4. Rose might talk about her own insecurities. She might, for example, talk about how hard she's worked to be good at basketball but how now, she's not sure she wants to keep doing it. Maybe she would say that being popular has its downsides—that everyone expects her to be cheerful and friendly all the time, or that most people don't know the real her. Rose might talk about how she's terrified of the dark and how embarrassing it would be if anyone knew.
5. Rose would likely describe how terrified she felt. Perhaps she would say that it was embarrassing to admit her fear to Jillian but that it was also a relief.
6. Rose would say that at the end of the story, she felt a lot less scared, thanks to Jillian distracting her. Maybe Rose would say how grateful she was to Jillian, or how she felt closer to her after their time stuck in the dark together.

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In these paragraphs, Jillian shares her feelings about school and her classmates, names some of her preferences and interests, and discusses her insecurities. The author probably includes these paragraphs to give the reader insight into Jillian's character—to help the reader better understand who Jillian is and how she feels about herself and Rose. By the end of the story, these paragraphs also help the reader see how Jillian grows and changes as a result of her experience on the roller coaster.

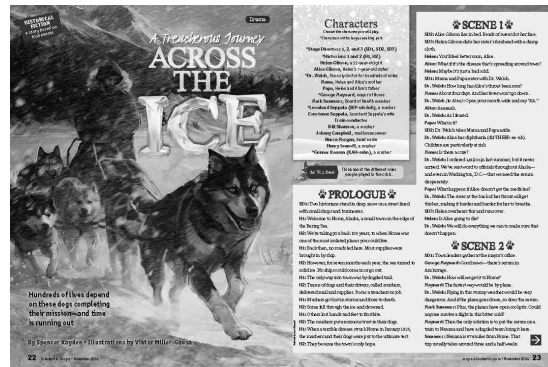


2. At first, Rose and Jillian are both filled with fear as they sit in the dark. Jillian becomes more confident in herself as she distracts Rose from her fear of the dark. Jillian even surprises herself and offers to go to a football game, even though she doesn't like crowds. Rose's fear lessens as she talks with Jillian, as demonstrated by the changes in the sound of her voice.
3. Seeing Rose's vulnerability helps Jillian realize that everyone feels afraid at times, even people who are confident, talented, and well-liked. Although Jillian had always thought of herself as someone who isn't "like the others" because she prefers quiet activities and doesn't have what she perceives as Rose's ease and confidence, on the roller coaster, Jillian is able to converse easily and calm Rose down. Jillian realizes that she has more in common with others than she thought, and that she has the power to overcome fear and help others do the same.

**VOCABULARY PRACTICE**

1. dread
2. cacophony
3. plummet

# A Treacherous Journey Across the Ice



## ANSWERS TO ACTIVITIES AND PROMPTS IN THE MAGAZINE

### WRITING PROMPT, PAGE 27

News programs will vary.

## ANSWERS TO ACTIVITY SHEETS

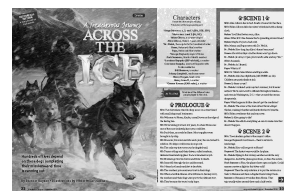
### FEATURED SKILL: KEY IDEAS AND DETAILS

Answers will vary.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. The Prologue establishes that during the time of the story, Nome was extremely isolated. There were no roads that led to Nome, so most supplies had to be delivered by ship. But for seven months a year, the sea froze and was not accessible by ship. During this time, the town was solely dependent on teams of dogs and mushers. These teams had to navigate the treacherous terrain and risk getting lost in storms, losing limbs to frostbite, and falling through the ice. These details are important because they help readers understand why, when there was a diphtheria outbreak in Nome and no medicine there to treat it, getting the medicine to Nome quickly was such an enormous challenge. In other words, the details about the setting help set up the main conflict of the play.

2. In Scene 2, town leaders try to find a way to get serum needed to treat diphtheria, a life-threatening disease that is affecting many of the town's children, from Anchorage to Nome as quickly as possible. Because it is too cold and stormy to have a plane deliver the serum, town leaders come up with a plan to have the serum brought to the town of Nenana by train and then have a relay of dogsled teams pick up the serum and bring it to Nome.
3. These statements show that Seppala is willing to take risks in order to save as much time, and as many lives, as he possibly can, even if it means putting himself in risky situations. He takes his responsibility very seriously and he will do whatever it takes to get the job done.
4. Answers may vary. Some students might say yes, Dr. Welch and the mayor made the right call. It was extremely risky to travel during the blizzard and if one of the mushers had died or gotten lost on the journey, many people would have suffered. Other students might say no, Dr. Welch and the mayor did not make the right call. Too many children and families were depending on the serum, and lives were put at risk by delaying the delivery of the serum. Kaasen did not wait for the storm to pass because he never received the message to wait—although he admits that he probably wouldn't have waited anyway.
5. According to the caption, Balto and Kaasen received the most recognition. As to whether they deserved that recognition, some students might say yes: Balto



and Kaasen pushed through a blizzard and delivered the serum much sooner than expected. Others might say no: Delivering the serum was a team effort by all the mushers and dogsled teams, who completed a 25-day journey in just 5 and a half days. Also, Seppala's team, led by his dog Togo, covered a longer and more difficult route than any other team—so, students might argue, if anyone deserved special recognition, it was Togo and Seppala.

### VOCABULARY PRACTICE

1. terrain
2. roadhouse
3. antitoxin
4. intact

### \*HIGHER LEVEL (HL) QUIZ

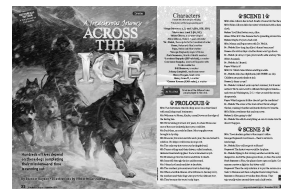
1. B (central conflict, plot; R.3)
2. D (text structure; R.5)
3. D (plot; R.3)
4. D (text evidence; R.1)
5. D (vocabulary; R.4)
6. C (author's craft; R.5)
7. The dogs and mushers who raced to deliver the antitoxin to Nome were selfless in that they pushed themselves to their limits and put themselves at great risk to save the people of Nome. As the historians explain in the prologue, dogsled teams and their drivers faced risks constantly: getting lost in storms and freezing to death, falling through ice and drowning, and losing hands and feet to frostbite. The mushers and dogs who took part in the serum run faced even greater danger than usual as they completed a trip that would normally take about three and a half weeks in only five and a half days. In Scene 5, Leonhard Seppala decides to cross the frozen Norton Sound to save time, even though this route is riskier than going around the Sound would be. In Scene 4, Bill Shannon decides to start the journey to Tolovana immediately after receiving the serum even though it would be warmer and safer to wait until the morning. In Scene 10, Gunnar Kaasen decides to push forward to Nome despite the blinding snow and wind. In all of these situations, the mushers put the needs of Nome's children ahead of

their own comfort and safety. (explanatory writing, text evidence; W.2, R.1)

8. The mushers have a relationship of respect and trust with their dogs. The mushers rely on the dogs to navigate the terrain and know when it is safe to cross over ice. Illustrating the respect and trust between mushers and their dogs is the moment when Mark Summers says that Seppala knows the trails better than anyone and Seppala responds, "It's my lead dog, Togo, who really knows the trails." Later in the play, Seppala looks to Togo to help determine whether the frozen Norton Sound is stable enough to cross. Another example of a musher including his dog in an important decision is when Kaasen says to his dog, "It's up to you, Balto! . . . Shall we push on a few more hours to Nome?" (explanatory writing, character, text evidence; W.2, R.3, R.1)

### \*LOWER LEVEL (LL) QUIZ

1. B (central conflict, plot; R.3)
2. D (text structure; R.5)
3. D (plot; R.3)
4. D (text evidence; R.1)
5. D (vocabulary; R.4)
6. C (author's craft; R.5)
7. The dogs and mushers who raced to deliver the antitoxin to Nome were selfless in that they pushed themselves to their limits and put themselves at great risk to save the people of Nome. As the historians explain in the prologue, dogsled teams and their drivers faced risks constantly: getting lost in storms and freezing to death, falling through ice and drowning, and losing hands and feet to frostbite. The mushers and dogs who took part in the serum run faced even greater danger than usual as they completed a trip that would normally take about three and a half weeks in only five and a half days. In Scene 5, Leonhard Seppala decides to cross the frozen Norton Sound to save time, even though this route is riskier than going around the Sound would be. In Scene 4, Bill Shannon decides to start the journey to Tolovana immediately after receiving the serum even though it would be warmer and safer to wait until the morning. In Scene 10, Gunnar Kaasen decides to push forward to Nome despite the blinding snow and wind. In all of these situations, the



mushers put the needs of Nome's children ahead of their own comfort and safety. (explanatory writing, text evidence, W.2, R.1)

8. The mushers trust and respect their dogs. The mushers rely on the dogs to navigate the terrain and know when it is safe to cross over ice. Illustrating the respect and trust between mushers and their dogs is the moment when Mark Summers says that Seppala knows the trails better than anyone and Seppala responds, "It's my lead dog, Togo, who really knows the trails." Later in the play, Seppala looks to Togo to help determine whether the frozen Norton Sound is stable enough to cross. Another example of a musher including his dog in an important decision is when Kaasen says to his dog, "It's up to you, Balto! . . . Shall we push on a few more hours to Nome?" (explanatory writing, character, text evidence; W.2, R.3, R.1)

#### CORE SKILLS WORKOUT: MAKING INFERENCES

1. You can infer that Helen is scared and worried. She fears that Alice will not get the medicine in time and will die.
2. You can infer that Seppala and Togo have a very strong bond. Seppala has confidence in Togo and trusts him to lead the team through a challenging environment.
3. Seppala is determined, courageous, and selfless. This is demonstrated not only by his acceptance of the dangerous mission of transporting the serum, but also by his decision to cross the treacherous Norton Sound. Seppala feels responsible for helping the people of Nome and is willing to take risks to save lives.
4. Shannon has a strong sense of duty. Knowing that many lives depend on the dogsled teams' success, he traveled in dangerous temperatures for an extended period of time. You can also infer that Shannon cares about and has a strong sense of responsibility for his dogs.
5. Kaasen was driven to deliver the serum and help the people of Nome as soon as possible. Understanding the urgency of the situation, Kaasen pushed past the handoff to another team and continued on through a dangerous storm. Kaasen was deeply committed to his cause, prioritizing the well-being of others over

his own safety.

#### OPTIONAL EXTENSION: COMPARE TWO TEXTS DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In the nonfiction, the authors are able to simply explain to readers what happened, providing background information and details as needed. In the play, what happened is revealed mostly through dialogue and action.
2. Students might suggest that Kayden had to communicate a lot of complex information and logistics of the relay through dialogue while making sure that characters' conversations sound natural. She couldn't just have characters rattle off long passages of expository information that people wouldn't have really said to one another.
3. Answers will vary.

# “Are Pro Athletes Overpaid?”



## ANSWERS TO ACTIVITIES AND PROMPTS IN THE MAGAZINE

Answers will vary, but an excellent response to the prompt *Are professional athletes overpaid?* on page 29 should include some of the following points:

### YES!

1. Pro athletes make far more than people who have important jobs in medicine and education.
2. Other people have dangerous jobs and aren't as well paid for them.
3. Athletes can make money through other means, like coaching and commenting.
4. Even minimum salaries in some pro sports are incredibly high.

### NO!

1. Pro athletes have short careers. (Answer provided.)
2. Not all athletes have the high salaries that megastars like Mahomes and Tatum do.
3. Without athletes, there would be no pro sports to watch.
4. No one else can do what pro athletes do.

## ANSWERS TO ACTIVITY SHEET

### VOCABULARY PRACTICE

1. b
2. b
3. b
4. a

## “Enter If You Dare!”



### ANSWERS TO ACTIVITIES AND PROMPTS IN THE MAGAZINE

#### WRITE LIKE A PRO CHALLENGE, PAGE 31:

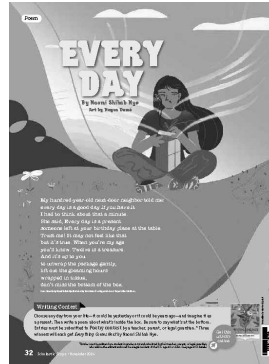
Answers will vary.

### ANSWERS TO ACTIVITY SHEET

#### ANCHOR CHART AND PRACTICE: COORDINATE AND NON-COORDINATE ADJECTIVES

1. sweet older
2. Three large black-and-white
3. friendly, generous, funny
4. delicious homemade
5. salty, crunchy

## “Every Day”



### ANSWERS TO ACTIVITY SHEET

#### FEATURED SKILL: POETRY ANALYSIS

1. You can infer that the speaker of the poem is a 12-year-old. The speaker's neighbor tells the speaker "twelve is a treasure," and you can infer the neighbor says this because the speaker is 12.
2. The speaker is getting advice from their 100-year-old next-door neighbor. The neighbor tells the speaker "Trust me!" and refers to their age and experience as a reason to do so ("When you're my age/you'll know.").
3. Students might offer that the neighbor is saying we are lucky to have every day that we are alive—that there is something important or valuable to be found in every single day.
4. In the poem, Nye compares each day of one's life to a birthday present. Nye uses this metaphor to express the idea that every day contains something special that we should be grateful to receive.
5. The neighbor is acknowledging that some days feel like anything but a present—that some days in fact seem quite awful. The neighbor may be letting the speaker know that any doubts the speaker has about the idea of every day being a present are understandable. But at the same time, when the neighbor says "it's true," the neighbor may be suggesting that their age and experience have given them a perspective that the speaker should consider.

6. Answers will vary.