

<b>Name:</b> _____		<b>Section:</b> _____	<b>4th Grade Homework March 2-6, 2015</b>	
<b>EVERYDAY</b>	<b>Read for 30 minutes each night.</b>	<b>Spelling Words</b>		<b>Vocabulary Words</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading Plus 5 See Reader, 5 Read Around *Will be counted as a homework grade</li> </ul>	N/A		N/A
<b>Parent Initials:</b> _____		<b>Notes:</b>		
<b>Tuesday</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Text Based Comprehension worksheet “Letters Home from Yosemite”</li> </ul>	<b>Reading Plus lessons due on Sunday night.</b>		
<b>Parent Initials:</b> _____		<b>Test Dates:</b>		
<b>Wednesday</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Context Clues worksheet</li> </ul>	<b>Spelling:</b> N/A		
<b>Parent Initials:</b> _____		<b>Reading Skills:</b> 3/6/15		
<b>Thursday</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Text Based Comprehension worksheet “So You Want to Be President?”</li> </ul>			
<b>Parent Initials:</b> _____				
<b>Friday</b>				
<b>Parent Initials:</b> _____	<b>Have a great weekend!</b>			

**Text-Based Comprehension**

Directions: Read the following passage. Use information from the passage to answer the question below.

Letters Home from Yosemite by Lisa Halvorsen

**Giant Sequoias**

I saw a Grizzly Giant! No, it's not a huge person. It's an enormous sequoia tree! It's the largest species of tree in the world and it is found only on the western slopes of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. A sequoia tree can grow to over 300 feet tall and 40 feet around, and can live more than 3,000 years! . . .

**Yosemite Wildlife**

I'm so excited! This morning on our way to Glacier Point we saw a black bear and her two cubs. The young ones were as cute as teddy bears. The ranger reminded us how dangerous these bears really are. They have a very strong sense of smell and will rip open a tent or even break into a car to get food! That's why we put all our food—and even our toothpaste—in the bear-proof metal box at the campground.

An adult black bear can weigh as much as 500 pounds. The average size is about 300 pounds. Not all of them are black. They may be brown, cinnamon, or sometimes tan. Between 300 and 500 bears live in the park.

We have seen a ton of mule deer since we arrived. They like to graze along the roadsides and in the meadows in the early morning and late afternoon. They can be just as aggressive as bears when approached. Mule deer have long ears like mules. They can run up to 35 miles an hour and can jump 24 feet in a single leap. You'd never know it from looking at them!

The park is also home to mountain lions, bobcats, coyotes, black-tailed jackrabbits, yellow-bellied marmots, rattlesnakes, and California bighorn sheep. Thousands of sheep once roamed the slopes of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. They were nearly wiped out by hunters, disease, and lack of food. A ranger said they were successfully reintroduced to the park in 1986.

1. **Part A:** What is the main idea of the section of the passage titled "Yosemite Wildlife"?

- A. Yosemite is filled with a number of wild animals, all of whom need to be respected.
- B. Yosemite is a dangerous place for people and animals.
- C. Mule deer are the most dangerous animals in all of Yosemite National Park.
- D. People and animals coexist wonderfully in Yosemite National Park.

2. **Part B:** Which sentence from the passage provides a strong supporting detail for the main idea in question 1?

- A. "The young ones were as cute as teddy bears."
- B. "The ranger reminded us how dangerous these bears really are."
- C. "Mule deer have long ears like mules."
- D. "An adult black bear can weigh as much as 500 pounds."

3. **Part A:** Why do people need to be careful with their food in Yosemite?

- A. Litter is a significant problem in Yosemite.
- B. Feeding the animals will make them depend on visitors for food.
- C. There are no supermarkets in Yosemite National Park.
- D. Bears will break into tents or cars to get food.

4. **Part B:** Which detail from the passage best supports your answer to question 3?

- A. "They were nearly wiped out by hunters, disease, and lack of food."
- B. "They like to graze along the roadsides and in the meadows in the early morning and late afternoon."
- C. "That's why we put all our food . . . in the bear-proof metal box at the campground."
- D. "The young ones were as cute as teddy bears."

5. **Part A:** Which of the following can you infer from this passage?

- A. It will be difficult to keep the population of California bighorn sheep healthy at Yosemite.
- B. Mule deer's ears are adapted to the local surroundings.
- C. The Sierra Nevada Mountains play an important role in the lives of the plants and animals of Yosemite.
- D. Black bears get most of their food from careless campers.

6. **Part B:** Which detail from the passage best supports your answer to question 5?

- A. "They have a very strong sense of smell and will rip open a tent or even break into a car to get food!"
- B. "Mule deer have long ears like mules."
- C. "A ranger said they were successfully reintroduced to the park in 1986."
- D. "It's the largest species of tree in the world and it is found only on the western slopes of the Sierra Nevada Mountains."

7. **Part A:** What is the meaning of the word "enormous" in the passage?

- A. very large
- B. covered in bark
- C. very old
- D. rare

8. **Part B:** What context clue from the passage helped you determine the meaning of the word "enormous"?

- A. "tree."
- B. "huge"
- C. "can live more than 3,000 years!"
- D. "found only on the western slopes"

9. **Part A:** What does the word "average" mean as it is used in the following sentence?

"The average size is about 300 pounds."

- A. rare
- B. largest
- C. blackest
- D. typical

10. **Part B:** What context clue helped you answer question 9?

- A. "as cute as teddy bears."
- B. "how dangerous these bears really are."
- C. "can weigh as much as"
- D. "Not all of them are black."

11. **Part A:** What is the meaning of the word "reintroduced" in the passage?

- A. moved elsewhere
- B. made tame

- C. put back into an area where something used to live
- D. mixed with other species

12. **Part B:** Which of the following best helps you understand the meaning of "reintroduced"?

- A. the prefix "re-," which means "again"
- B. the word part "in," which means "without"
- C. the prefix "re-," which means "against"
- D. the word part "in," which means "not"

**Write about it!**

On a separate sheet of paper, write a paragraph (use TREE). Think about the ways the author describes Yosemite National Park in Letters Home from Yosemite. Does the author make a convincing argument for visiting this place? Which of the sites she describes are most appealing to you as a reader? Compare Yosemite to somewhere you have been or wish to go. Explain why you would choose to visit one over the other, using details from the text as support. Link your opinion and the reasons for it using words and phrases such as "for instance" and "in addition." Finish your response with a strong conclusion.

**Context Clues**

Directions: read each sentence and determine the meaning of the word using cross sentence clues or your prior knowledge. Then, explain what clues in the sentence helped you determine the word meaning.

1. **unpleasant**: Brian felt that Ms. Golding was much more **unpleasant** than usual and he suspected that she did not have her coffee this morning.

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

What clues in the sentence lead you to your definition?

2. **remedy**: The richest man in town was losing his hearing and he offered a large reward to anyone who could find a **remedy** for his condition.

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

What clues in the sentence lead you to your definition?

3. **singe**: The curling iron was so hot that Martha **singed** her hair when she tried using it.

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

What clues in the sentence lead you to your definition?

4. **quarrel**: Max was sick of **quarreling** with his wife about money when all he wanted to do was enjoy her company.

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

What clues in the sentence lead you to your definition?

5. **conclude**: After finding crumbs all over Fido's bed, Mom **concluded** that the dog had eaten the cookies.

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

What clues in the sentence lead you to your definition?

6. **enormous**: After taking the final exam, Felix felt as though an **enormous** burden had been lifted.

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

What clues in the sentence lead you to your definition?

7. **haughty**: Megan did not like the new girl because she was rich, **haughty**, and kept her nose up high.

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

What clues in the sentence lead you to your definition?

8. **dreary**: After the quarterback from the visiting team snuck in for another touchdown, the mood over the home team's bleachers grew quite **dreary**.

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

What clues in the sentence lead you to your definition?

9. **dispute**: My father and Mr. McClure, our neighbor, have had a **dispute** as to the property line separating our two houses ever since Mr. McClure planned to build a fence.

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

What clues in the sentence lead you to your definition?

10. **absurd**: Bobby thought that Clyde's theories about their substitute teacher being an alien were **absurd**.

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

What clues in the sentence lead you to your definition?

11. **involuntary**: As a student serving a detention, Derrick's participation on the school cleanup crew was **involuntary**, unlike Scott, who genuinely wanted to make the school a better place.

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

What clues in the sentence lead you to your definition?

12. **native**: Unlike most of the college students, who came to DeKalb from many different parts of the state and nation to attend the university, Cletus was a **native** of the town, born and raised.

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

What clues in the sentence lead you to your definition?

**Text-Based Comprehension**

Directions: Read the following passage. Use information from the passage to answer the question below.

So You Want to Be President? by Judith St. George

It's said that people who run for President have swelled heads. It's said that people who run for President are greedy. They want power. They want fame.

But being President can be wanting to serve your country—like George Washington, who left the Virginia plantation he loved three times to lead the country he loved even more.

It can be looking toward the future like Thomas Jefferson, who bought the Louisiana Territory and then sent Lewis and Clark west to find a route to the Pacific. (They did!)

It can be wanting to turn lives around like Franklin Roosevelt, who provided soup and bread for the hungry, jobs for the jobless, and funds for the elderly to live on.

It can be wanting to make the world a better place like John Kennedy, who sent Peace Corps volunteers around the globe to teach and help others.

Every single President has taken this oath: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

Only thirty-five words! But it's a big order when you're President of this country. Abraham Lincoln was tops at filling that order. "I know very well that many others might in this matter as in others, do better than I can," he said. "But . . . I am here. I must do the best I can, and bear the responsibility of taking the course which I feel I ought to take."

That's the bottom line. Tall, short, fat, thin, talkative, quiet, vain, humble, lawyer, teacher, or soldier—this is what most of our Presidents have tried to do, each in his own way. Some succeeded. Some failed. If you want to be President—a good President—pattern yourself after the best. Our best have asked more of themselves than they thought they could give. They have had the courage, spirit, and will to do what they knew was right. Most of all, their first priority has always been the people and the country they served.

1. **Part A:** Based on the passage, which President do you think served at a time when the country was very poor?

- A. George Washington
- B. Thomas Jefferson
- C. Franklin Roosevelt
- D. John Kennedy

2. **Part B:** What detail from the passage best supports your answer to question 1?

- A. "looking toward the future"
- B. "hungry," "jobless"
- C. "make the world a better place"
- D. "swelled heads"

3. **Part A:** Which of the following details from the passage is an opinion?

- A. "Thomas Jefferson, who bought the Louisiana Territory and then sent Lewis and Clark west to find a route to the Pacific."
- B. "Only thirty-five words!"
- C. "But being President can be wanting to serve your country"
- D. "Abraham Lincoln was tops at filling that order."

4. **Part B:** What word from the passage best supports your answer to question 3?

- A. tops
- B. bought
- C. wanting
- D. Only

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

- A. Abraham Lincoln was the best President.
- B. All the great Presidents share the same characteristics.
- C. All the great Presidents put the country over themselves.
- D. Being President is overrated.

6. **Part B:** Which detail from the passage best supports your answer to question 5?

- A. "Most of all, their first priority has always been the people and the country they served."
- B. "Abraham Lincoln was tops at filling that order."
- C. "Some succeeded. Some failed."
- D. "If you want to be President—a good President—pattern yourself after the best."

7. **Part A:** What is the meaning of the word "vain" in the passage?

- A. having or showing a very high opinion of oneself
- B. loud
- C. below average
- D. poorly dressed

8. **Part B:** What antonym helps you uncover the meaning of "vain"?

- A. short
- B. talkative
- C. humble
- D. quiet

9. **Part A:** What is the meaning of the word "route" in the following sentence?

"It can be looking toward the future like Thomas Jefferson, who bought the Louisiana Territory and then sent Lewis and Clark west to find a route to the Pacific."

- A. part of a plant that lives below the ground
- B. a way to go
- C. a plan
- D. a tribe

10. **Part B:** What context clue from the sixth sentence helped you answer question 9?

- A. "to the Pacific"
- B. "future"

C. "looking"

D. "bought"

11. **Part A:** What is the meaning of the word "priority" in the passage?

A. message

B. before

C. something you really do not want to do

D. something regarded as more important than another

12. **Part B:** Which context clue from the passage helped you answer question 11?

A. "always"

B. "country"

C. "first"

D. "served"