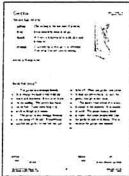



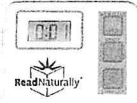
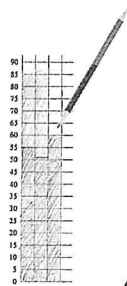




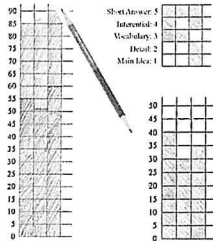
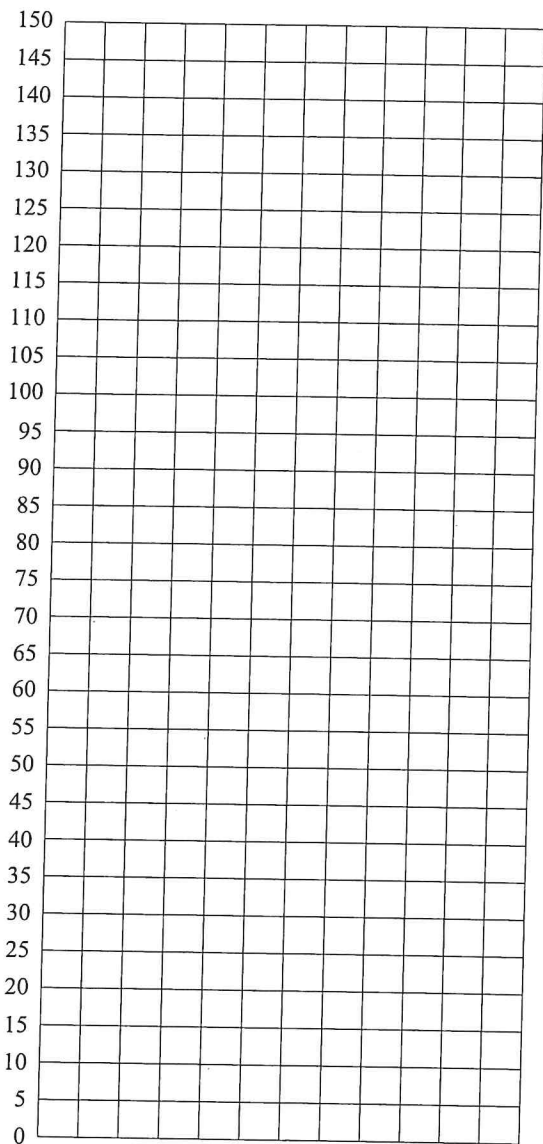


Read Naturally® Steps

1. Pick a story. 
2. Learn the key words. 
3. Write a prediction. 
4. Do your cold timing. 
5. Graph your score in blue. 
6. Read along to learn the story. 
7. Practice reading on your own. 
8. Answer the questions. 
9. Pass the story. 
10. Graph your scores in red. 
11. Retell the story, or practice the words. 

Read Naturally® Encore II

Fluency



Story
Goal

Words Read
Errors
Score

Practices

HOT	Words Read	Errors	Score
	1	10	2
2	12	3	75
3	15	4	73
4	18	5	72
5	20	6	70
6	22	7	68
7	25	8	68
8	28	9	68
9	30	10	67
10	32	11	66
11	35	12	66
12	38	13	66
13	40	14	65
14	42	15	64
15	45	16	64
16	48	17	64
17	50	18	64
18	52	19	63
19	55	20	63
20	58	21	63
21	60	22	62
22	62	23	61
23	65	24	62
24	68	25	63
25	70	26	62
26	72	27	62
27	75	28	62
28	78	29	62
29	80	30	61
30	82	31	61
31	85	32	61
32	88	33	61
33	90	34	61
34	92	35	60
35	95	36	61
36	98	37	61
37	100	38	60
38	102	39	60
39	105	40	60
40	108	41	60
41	110	42	59
42	112	43	59
43	115	44	59
44	118	45	59
45	120	46	58
46	122	47	58
47	125	48	58
48	128	49	58
49	130	50	57
50	132	51	57
51	135	52	57
52	138	53	57
53	140	54	56
54	142	55	56
55	145	56	56
56	148	57	56
57	150	58	55
58	152	59	55
59	155	60	55
60	158	61	55
61	160	62	54
62	162	63	54
63	165	64	54
64	168	65	54
65	170	66	53
66	172	67	53
67	175	68	53
68	178	69	53
69	180	70	52
70	182	71	52
71	185	72	52
72	188	73	52
73	190	74	51
74	192	75	51
75	195	76	51
76	198	77	51
77	200	78	50
78	202	79	50
79	205	80	50
80	208	81	50
81	210	82	49
82	212	83	49
83	215	84	49
84	218	85	49
85	220	86	48
86	222	87	48
87	225	88	48
88	228	89	48
89	230	90	47
90	232	91	47
91	235	92	47
92	238	93	47
93	240	94	46
94	242	95	46
95	245	96	46
96	248	97	46
97	250	98	45
98	252	99	45
99	255	100	45
100	258	101	44
101	260	102	44
102	262	103	44
10			

Expression

Date Passed

Name: _____

Level: _____ Set: odd / even (*circle one*)

Start Date: _____ Completion Date: _____

Comprehension

Short Answer: 5

Inferential: 4

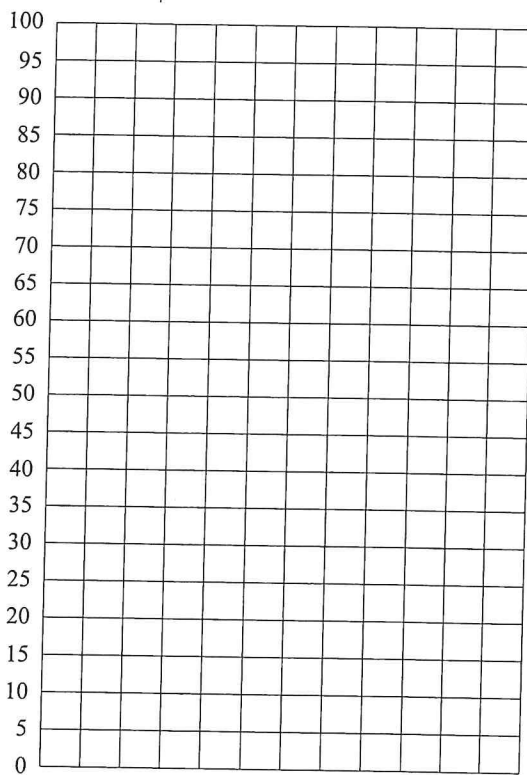
Vocabulary: 3

Detail: 2

Main Idea: 1

Story

Retelling of the Story



Story

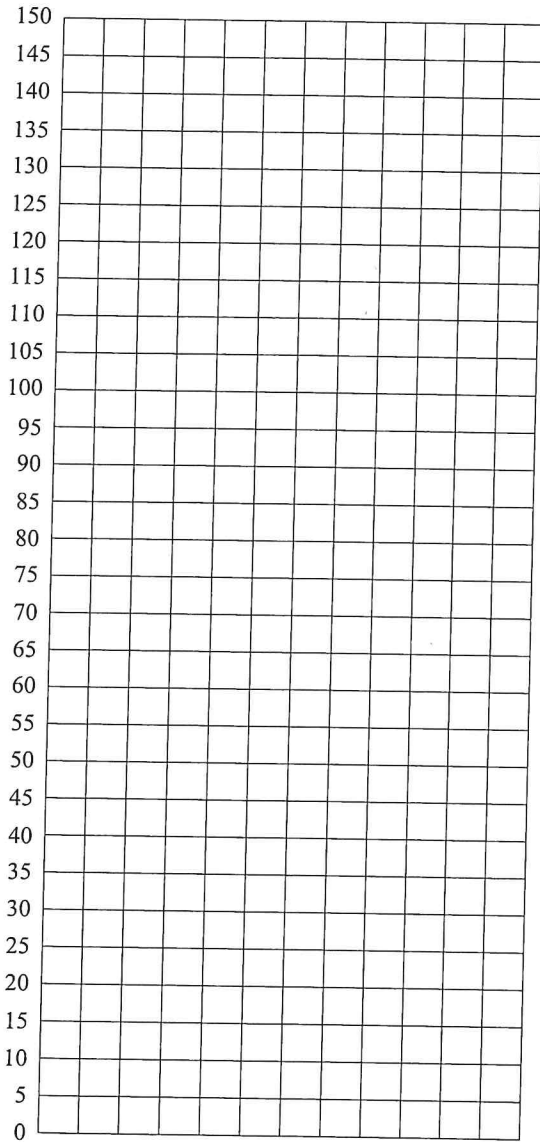
Word Count

For Teacher Use Only

- ___ Continue in level (odd / even) with current goal.
 ___ Continue in level (odd / even) with new goal ____.
 ___ Advance to level ____ with current goal.
 ___ Dismiss from Read Naturally Encore II.

Read Naturally® Encore II

Fluency



Story
Goal

COLD Words Read
Errors
Score

Practices

HOT	Words Read	Errors	Score

Expression

Date Passed

Name: _____

Level: _____ Set: odd / even (*circle one*)

Start Date: _____ Completion Date: _____

Comprehension

Short Answer: 5

Inferential: 4

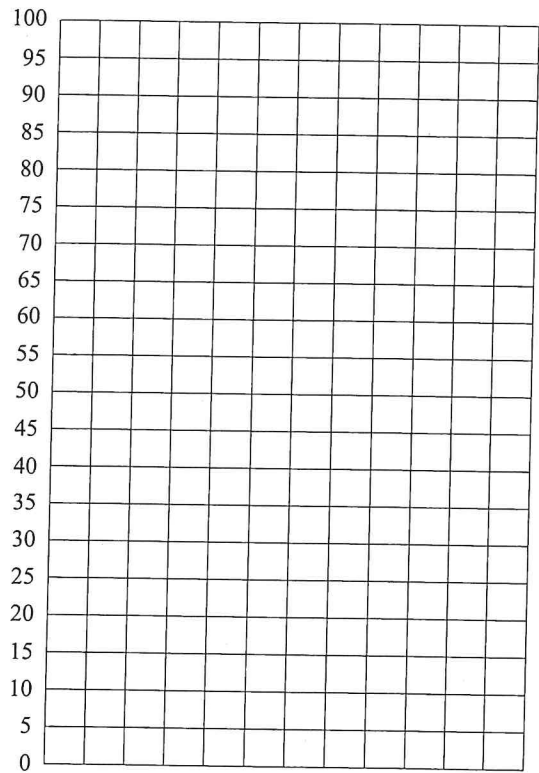
Vocabulary: 3

Detail: 2

Main Idea: 1

Story

Retelling of the Story



Story

Word Count

For Teacher Use Only

— Continue in level (odd / even) with current goal.

— Continue in level (odd / even) with new goal _____.

___ Advance to level ___ with current goal.

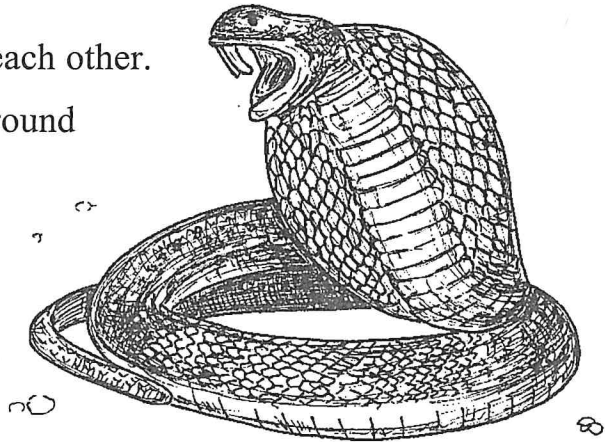
— Dismiss from Read Naturally Encore II.

Spitting Cobra

Story 1, Tracks 1-4
Spanish, Track 5

Review Key Words

- enemies** Enemies are people or animals that are not friendly to each other and may want to harm each other.
- hood** A hood is a wide body part around an animal's head or neck.
- trick** Trick means to make someone think something else is true.
- protects** Protects means keeps safe from danger.



Write a Prediction

Read the Story²⁻⁴

If you see a cobra that looks
7 dead, be careful! The cobra could
13 be **playing** dead. The spitting cobra
19 can play dead to **trick** its **enemies**.
26 It plays dead by rolling over with
33 its mouth open. Playing dead is one
40 way the cobra **protects** itself.

The other way is by spraying
45 venom. The spitting cobra can **spray**
51 venom up to eight feet away. Most
57 of the time, the venom does not kill
64

72 the enemy. But it can cause a lot
80 of pain. When the cobra is ready to
88 spray, it makes a **hood** around its
95 head. Then it lifts its head off the
103 ground. The cobra **aims** at the eyes
110 of its enemy. The venom can make
117 its enemy blind.

120 The spitting cobra's bite is **deadly**.
126 But it bites only what it wants to eat.
135 The spitting cobra lives in southern
141 Africa.
142

words read _____

- errors _____

= _____
cold score

words read _____

- errors _____

= _____
hot score

goal _____

expression date passed

Spitting Cobra

Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. The spitting cobra sprays venom into an enemy's eyes.
 - b. The spitting cobra has ways to protect itself.
 - c. The spitting cobra can roll over and play dead.
2. How does the spitting cobra trick its enemies?
 - a. by playing dead
 - b. by spraying venom
 - c. by lifting its head
3. What does the word **deadly** mean in this story?
 - a. able to kill
 - b. very painful
 - c. not living
4. How do you know when a spitting cobra is going to spray?
 - a. It rolls over and opens its mouth.
 - b. It makes a hood around its head.
 - c. It opens its eyes and moves closer.
5. What are two ways the spitting cobra protects itself?

_____ Number Correct: _____

Retell the Story

_____ Number of Words Written: _____

The Feat of Firewalking

Story 2, Tracks 6–9
Spanish, Track 10

Review Key Words⁶

feat	A feat is an act that takes strength, skill, or courage to do.
dangerous	Dangerous means unsafe or likely to cause harm.
pit	A pit is a hole in the ground.
coals	Coals are pieces of burned wood or coal.



Write a Prediction

Read the Story^{7–9}

In 1935, some scientists watched
an **amazing** feat. It happened in
England. They watched a man from
India walk across a **pit** of burning
hot **coals**. The firewalker's feet
were **bare**, and the pit was several
feet long. The firewalker walked
the **length** of the pit. Then he did
it again. Yet his feet were not
hurt. His feet were **checked** before
and after the walk. He hadn't put
anything on his feet to **protect** them.

There are firewalkers in many
parts of the world. And people

have been firewalking for hundreds
of years. Often it has been part of
religious rituals.

In the late 1970s, a man named
Tolly started teaching firewalking.
Many people wanted to learn.
Soon there were more firewalking
teachers. Lots of people have tried
firewalking. Many have said it made
them feel strong. Still, firewalking
is **dangerous**. People can get badly
burned. A person who falls in a
firewalking pit could even die.

words read _____

– errors _____

cold score

words read _____

– errors _____

hot score

expression

date passed

The Feat of Firewalking

Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. Firewalking has often been part of religious rituals.
 - b. Firewalking is dangerous because people can get burned.
 - c. Firewalking is a dangerous feat some people do.
2. How long have people been firewalking?
 - a. since 1935
 - b. hundreds of years
 - c. since the 1970s
3. What does the word **bare** mean in this story?
 - a. not covered with anything
 - b. simple or plain
 - c. a dangerous animal
4. Why is firewalking an amazing feat?
 - a. because many people can learn firewalking
 - b. because hot coals can burn bare feet
 - c. because firewalking is part of religious rituals
5. Why might people want to learn to do firewalking?

_____ Number Correct: _____

Retell the Story

_____ Number of Words Written: _____

Walt Disney

Story 3, Tracks 1–4
Spanish, Track 5

Review Key Words¹

- awards** Awards are things given for great work.
- cartoons** Cartoons are funny drawings.
- drew** Drew means made a picture of something.
- characters** Characters are people or animals in a story.



Write a Prediction

Read the Story²⁻⁴

Walt Disney had a big **imagination**. Sometimes it got him into trouble. When Walt was a little boy, his family moved to a farm. Walt quickly made friends with all the farm animals. He loved to draw animals. One day, he found some **tar**. He used it to draw pictures of his animal friends. He **drew** them on the side of the house. The tar would not come off!

In time, Walt's imagination helped him. When he grew up and moved away, he drew all the time.

He drew **cartoons**. Many of his cartoon **characters** became **famous**. One of his most famous characters is Mickey Mouse. Then Walt made movies like *Snow White* and *Bambi*. People loved his movies. He won many **awards** for them.

Walt also planned **special** parks where families could have fun. Disneyland opened in 1955, and Disney World opened 16 years later.

Walt Disney had a great imagination, and he shared it with the world.

words read _____

– errors _____ = _____
cold score

words read _____

– errors _____ = _____
hot score expression date passed

Walt Disney

Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. Walt loved to draw animals.
 - b. Walt became famous for using his imagination.
 - c. Walt's imagination got him into trouble.
2. What did Walt draw on the side of his house?
 - a. Bambi
 - b. farm animals
 - c. Snow White
3. What does the word **imagination** mean in this story?
 - a. ideas
 - b. cartoons
 - c. movies
4. Why did Walt win many awards?
 - a. He liked to draw.
 - b. He made great movies.
 - c. He planned Disney World.
5. How did Walt Disney share his imagination?

_____ Number Correct: _____

Retell the Story

_____ Number of Words Written: _____

Fantastic Flyers

Story 4, Tracks 6–9
Spanish, Track 10

Review Key Words⁶

- wingspan** Wingspan is the distance between the tips of the wings of an airplane, bird, or other animal with wings when its wings are stretched out.
- common** Common means ordinary, regular, normal, or not special.
- nest** Nest means to make a home or to use a place as a home.
- 99 percent** Ninety-nine percent means 99 out of 100.



Write a Prediction

Read the Story⁷⁻⁹

Common swifts are small birds. They are about six inches long. Their **wingspan** is about 16 inches. They weigh about as much as a **Hershey bar**. Each summer, common swifts **nest** in Europe and parts of Asia. They lay eggs. They fly to catch insects for food. They feed their chicks. When their chicks fly away, the swifts fly south to Africa.

Yet lots of birds are small. And many do these same things. Lots of birds eat insects and care for

82 their **young**. Many fly south for the
89 winter too. So, common swifts might
95 seem, well, common. Yet they can
101 do a very **uncommon** thing.

106 Common swifts can fly for 10
112 months! Some of them never **land**
118 in that time, day or night. They keep
126 flying from when they leave their
132 nesting **site** after **breeding** until they
138 return the next year. Others do land,
145 but not for long. For 10 months,
152 common swifts are in the air over
159 **99 percent** of the time.

164

words read _____

– errors _____ = _____
cold score

words read _____

goal _____

– errors _____ = _____
hot score expression date passed

Fantastic Flyers

Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. Common swifts are small birds but have wide wingspans.
 - b. Common swifts are like many birds but can stay in the air for 10 months.
 - c. Common swifts are small birds that fly south for the winter.
2. Where do common swifts go when they fly south?
 - a. Europe
 - b. Asia
 - c. Africa
3. What does the word **site** mean in this story?
 - a. able to see something
 - b. a place where something happens
 - c. something that is seen
4. What is uncommon about the common swift?
 - a. It flies 99 percent of the time for 10 months.
 - b. It nests in Europe or parts of Asia.
 - c. It flies south for the winter.
5. How are common swifts like other birds?

Number Correct: _____

Retell the Story

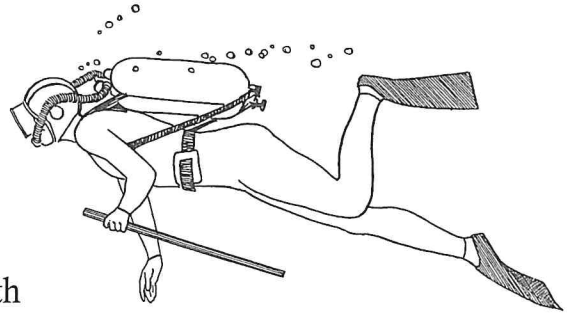
Number of Words Written: _____

Scuba Diving

Story 5, Tracks 1–4
Spanish, Track 5

Review Key Words¹

- face masks** Face masks are things that cover divers' mouths and noses. They help bring air from the tanks to the divers.
- scuba dive** Scuba dive means to use special clothing and other tools to swim underwater.
- wetsuits** Wetsuits are special types of clothing worn to keep warm in cold water.
- air tanks** Air tanks are containers filled with air; this air is used for breathing.



Write a Prediction

Read the Story^{2–4}

8 When you see a lake or an ocean,
16 do you want to know what is under
22 the water? Many people do. So
30 they learn how to **dive** down into the
36 water. They take lessons to **scuba**
43 **dive**. The lessons teach safe ways to
47 dive and swim underwater.

52 Scuba divers use scuba **gear**.
57 They wear **face masks**, **wetsuits**,
64 **belts**, and **swim fins**. They also use
70 **air tanks**. Scuba divers can dive
from 60 to 130 feet down. They can

78 stay underwater because they have
83 air tanks. They use the air in the
91 tanks to breathe. With one air tank,
98 a diver can stay underwater for one
105 hour.

106 There are many things to do
112 underwater. Some scuba divers work
117 under the water. They fix ships or
124 look for lost **treasures**. Other divers
130 study the ocean. Many dive just for
137 the fun of watching fish.
142

words read _____

– errors _____ = _____
cold score

words read _____

– errors _____ = _____
hot score expression date passed

Scuba Diving

Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. Scuba diving lets people do many things underwater.
 - b. Scuba divers learn how to use the air tanks.
 - c. Many people want to know about the ocean.
2. What do scuba lessons teach people?
 - a. how to look for treasures
 - b. how to study the ocean
 - c. how to swim safely underwater
3. What does the word **gear** mean in this story?
 - a. to put in working order
 - b. a part of a car
 - c. things needed to do a job
4. What does a diver need most when scuba diving?
 - a. swim fins
 - b. an air tank
 - c. a wetsuit
5. Why do people scuba dive?

_____ Number Correct: _____

Retell the Story

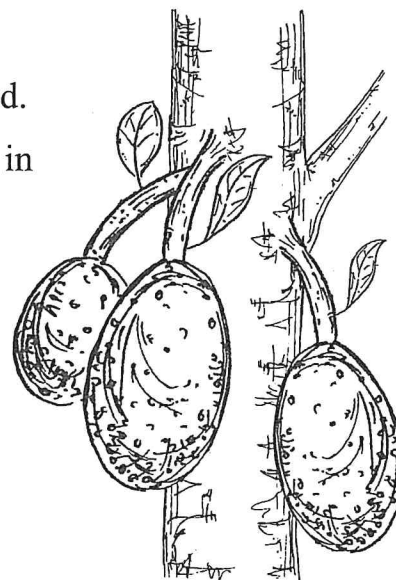
_____ Number of Words Written: _____

Jackfruit

Story 6, Tracks 6–9
Spanish, Track 10

Review Key Words⁶

- useful** Useful means helpful or able to be used.
- pick** When you pick something, you take it in your hand and pull it off of something else.
- sour** If something tastes sour, it has a sharp or tart taste, like the flavor of a lemon.
- common** Common means often seen or heard.



Write a Prediction

Read the Story^{7–9}

8 If you try to **pick** a jackfruit, you
14 might have a **problem**. The **fruit**
21 could be too big to lift! Jackfruits
29 can grow to be 80 pounds and three
36 feet long. They are the biggest fruits
40 that grow on trees.

46 A jackfruit is filled with many
52 seeds. Sweet fruit covers each seed.
59 Many people like to eat the fruit.
68 They say it tastes a bit like a **sour**
75 banana. Some people like to eat the
82 seeds. They also use the seeds in
soups and **stews**.

85 People use jackfruits for other
90 things too. A jackfruit has sticky **goo**
97 inside. Some people use it as glue.
104 Because of all the goo, cutting up a
112 jackfruit can be a messy job. Some
119 people put **oil** on their hands. The oil
127 makes the goo less sticky.

132 Jackfruits may be hard to pick,
138 but they are **useful**. They are
144 **common** in warm places like India
150 and Southeast Asia.
153

words read _____

– errors _____ = _____
cold score

words read _____

– errors _____ = _____
hot score expression date passed

Jackfruit

Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. The jackfruit is a large, useful fruit.
 - b. The jackfruit is messy to cut.
 - c. The jackfruit is used as food.
2. How do people use the goo inside a jackfruit?
 - a. for oil
 - b. as glue
 - c. in stews
3. What does the word **goo** mean in this story?
 - a. a sweet fruit
 - b. seeds
 - c. a thick and sticky liquid
4. Why is cutting up a jackfruit a messy job?
 - a. because it is filled with sticky goo
 - b. because it is very large
 - c. because people have oil on their hands
5. Name three ways people use the jackfruit.

_____ Number Correct: _____

Retell the Story

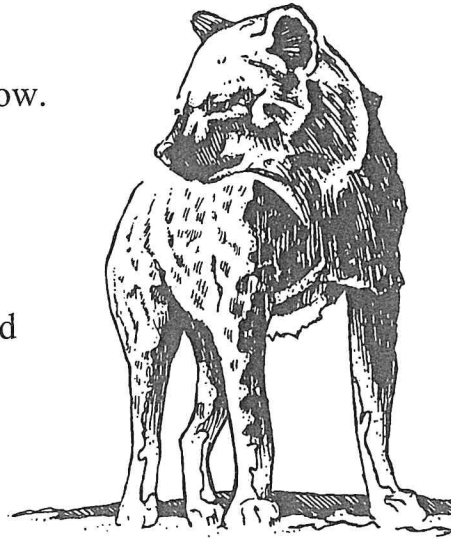
_____ Number of Words Written: _____

The Laughing Hyena

Story 7, Tracks 1–4
Spanish, Track 5

Review Key Words¹

leader	The leader is the one others follow.
den	A den is a place where some animals live.
young	Young are babies.
related	People or animals that are related to each other are in the same family.



Write a Prediction

Read the Story²⁻⁴

6 Have you ever laughed out loud
13 like a hyena? If you have, you
19 may have scared your friends. The
26 hyena's **cry** is loud. It sounds like
33 a **howl** or wild laugh. Hyenas are
40 **related** to cats, but their feet look
47 like dogs' feet. Hyenas are fast and
strong.

48 The hyena is a good hunter. It
55 can run 40 miles an hour, which is
63 fast enough to catch a zebra. Also,
70 the hyena is a garbage **collector**.
76 Food left behind by people and

82 animals is a treat for the hyena.

89 Hyenas work well together. They
94 live in groups called **clans**. Each
100 clan has a **den**, which is where
107 the baby hyenas stay. The mother
113 hyenas work hard to keep the males
120 away from the babies in the den. If
128 the mothers do not keep the males
away, the males might kill the
135 **young**. The mothers are bigger than
141 the males. One mother is the **leader**
147 of the clan.
154
157

words read _____

words read _____

goal _____

- errors _____

= cold score

- errors _____

= hot score

expression

date passed

The Laughing Hyena

Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. A mother hyena is the leader of the clan.
 - b. Hyenas run fast and are good hunters.
 - c. Hyenas howl, hunt, and live together.
2. What does the hyena's cry sound like?
 - a. a loud scream
 - b. a howl or wild laugh
 - c. a cat's cry
3. What does the word **clans** mean in this story?
 - a. large families
 - b. dens of animals
 - c. loud howls of animals
4. Why can the mother hyenas keep the males away from the babies?
 - a. They howl louder than the males.
 - b. They hunt better than the males.
 - c. They are bigger than the males.
5. Why are hyenas called garbage collectors?

_____ Number Correct: _____

Retell the Story

_____ Number of Words Written: _____

Dedicated Doctor

Story 8, Tracks 6–9
Spanish, Track 10

Review Key Words⁶

- medical** Medical means having to do with medicine or things that help people feel better when hurt or sick.
- officials** Officials are people who enforce rules or have power.
- scholarship** A scholarship is money awarded to a student to help him or her pay for school.
- applied** Applied means asked for something, usually in writing.



Write a Prediction

Read the Story^{7–9}

7 Fe del Mundo was born in 1911.
14 She lived in the Philippines. She had
19 seven brothers and sisters. Sadly,
26 four of them died as children. Young
Fe decided she wanted to be a doctor.

34 Fe went to **medical** school. She
40 finished **at the top of her class** and
48 got a **scholarship** for more medical
54 training. So, Fe **applied** to **Harvard**
60 **Medical School**.

62 Harvard Medical School didn't
66 **take** women at the time. But
72 Harvard **officials** didn't know she
77 was a woman. They let her in by

85 mistake! Yet Fe had such a good
92 **record**, they let her stay.

97 Later, Fe went back to the
103 Philippines. She wanted to help
108 people in her home country. She
114 worked hard as a doctor, and she did
122 many important things. One of these
128 things was starting the first children's
134 **hospital** in the Philippines. She even
140 sold her house to help pay for it.

148 Fe won **awards** for her good
154 work. And she kept working for a
161 long time. She saw patients well into
168 her 90s!
170

words read _____

– errors _____ = _____
cold score

words read _____

– errors _____ = _____

goal _____

hot score expression date passed

Dedicated Doctor

Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. Fe was a good student and did important things as a doctor.
 - b. Fe started the first children's hospital in her home country.
 - c. Fe got into a medical school that did not take women.
2. Why did Fe sell her house?
 - a. to return to the Philippines
 - b. to help pay for the children's hospital
 - c. to go to Harvard Medical School
3. What does the word **take** mean in this story?
 - a. to accept
 - b. to pick up
 - c. to steal
4. What did Fe do that other women could not do at the time?
 - a. got a scholarship and awards
 - b. finished at the top of her class
 - c. went to Harvard Medical School
5. List two important things Fe del Mundo did.

Number Correct: _____

Retell the Story

Number of Words Written: _____

Interesting Orchids

Story 9, Tracks 1-4
Spanish, Track 5

Review Key Words¹

tropical	Tropical means from or in the hottest and rainiest parts of the world.
interesting	Interesting means exciting or unusual.
roots	Roots are the parts of plants that grow downward, often into the ground, and take in water and nutrients for the plant.
fruit	Fruit is the part of a flowering plant that holds the seeds, such as a pod or a nut.



Write a Prediction

Read the Story²⁻⁴

Orchids are **interesting** plants.
They have been around for millions
of years. They also make up one of
the largest flowering plant **families**.
There are well over 20,000 **species** of
orchids!

Many orchid flowers are **striking**.
They come in lots of colors, shapes,
and sizes. Some look like insects or
other animals. A number of them
look a little like slippers. Some
orchid species are large. The flower
of one kind can be a **foot** long from
tip to tip. Other orchid species are

84 tiny. A flower from one of these
91 plants is smaller than a fly.

97 Orchids are found on every
102 **continent** but Antarctica. Most
106 orchids grow in **tropical** places
111 though. Many tropical orchids grow
116 on trees. The **roots** of these orchids
123 get the water and **nutrients** they need
130 from the air.

133 Lots of people like orchids for
139 their beautiful flowers. Many people
144 like something else that comes from
150 orchids too. **Vanilla** is made from
156 the **fruit** of a few species of orchids.
164

words read _____

words read _____

goal _____

- errors _____

= cold score

- errors _____

= hot score

expression

date passed

Interesting Orchids

Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. The roots of some orchids get nutrients and water from the air.
 - b. People like beautiful orchids and the vanilla that is made from them.
 - c. Orchids are a large, old, and very interesting family of plants.
2. Where do most orchids grow?
 - a. in Antarctica
 - b. in tropical places
 - c. in interesting places
3. What does the word **families** mean in this story?
 - a. groups of species
 - b. groups of people
 - c. groups of words
4. Where do orchids that grow on trees get water?
 - a. from the tree
 - b. from the air
 - c. from the ground
5. What makes some orchid flowers so striking?

Number Correct: _____

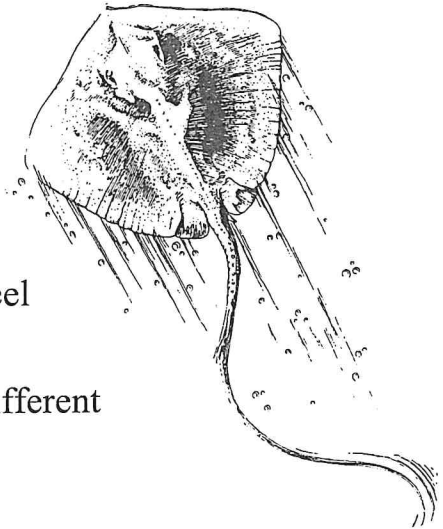
Retell the Story

Number of Words Written: _____

Stingray

Review Key Words⁶

- bays** Bays are areas filled with ocean or lake water that have land around all but one of their sides.
- shallow** Shallow means not deep.
- bothers** If something bothers you, it makes you feel mad or uncomfortable.
- unusual** If something is unusual, it is strange or different from what you see most of the time.



Write a Prediction

Read the Story^{7–9}

A stingray is an **unusual** fish. It has a wide, flat body and a long, thin tail. Its tail can have a sharp **spine**. Some stingrays are 14 feet long. Others can be as small as your hand.

This strange-looking fish can be **dangerous**. It protects itself with its sharp spine. By moving its tail around, the stingray can sting anything that **bothers** it. The sting can be **venomous**.

A stingray cannot see its food

while eating. The stingray's eyes are on the top of its body. Its mouth is on the bottom of its body. This strange fish finds **prey** with its **sense** of smell. It also uses **sensors** around its mouth to hunt. It can find prey buried in the sand.

Most of these unusual fish live on the bottom of oceans and ocean **bays**. They like warm, **shallow** water. There are some **freshwater** stingrays that live in rivers.

words read _____

– errors _____ = _____
cold score

words read _____

– errors _____ = _____
hot score expression date passed

Stingray

Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. Stingrays are unusual fish.
 - b. A stingray can be dangerous.
 - c. Some stingrays live in rivers.
2. How do stingrays find their food?
 - a. They smell it.
 - b. They see it.
 - c. They hear it.
3. What does the word **spine** mean in this story?
 - a. the side of a book
 - b. a sharp point of an animal
 - c. a backbone of an animal
4. Where are people most likely to be stung by stingrays?
 - a. in cold, deep water in a river
 - b. near the top of an ocean
 - c. in warm, shallow water in an ocean bay
5. How are stingrays unusual?

_____ Number Correct: _____

Retell the Story

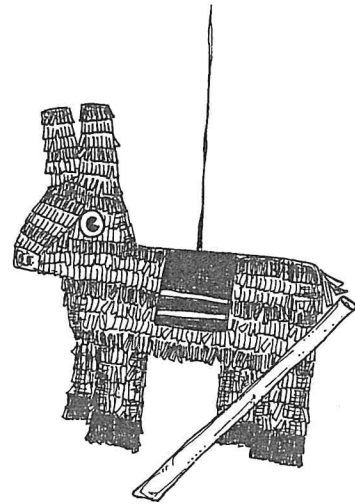
_____ Number of Words Written: _____

A Mexican Tradition

Story 11, Tracks 1-4
Spanish, Track 5

Review Key Words¹

special	Special means different from the rest.
tradition	A tradition is something that has been done in a special way for a long time.
claim	When you claim something, you take it and say it is yours.
figure	A figure is a shape, form, or outline.



Write a Prediction

Read the Story²⁻⁴

6 Breaking a piñata is a **tradition**
15 in Mexico. It is a fun thing to do
21 at a party. Children break piñatas
27 on **special** days like Christmas and
birthdays.

28 The piñata is a **hollow figure**
34 covered with bright paper. It might
40 look like a star. It might look like an
49 animal. People fill the piñata with
55 candy and small toys. Next, they
61 **attach** it to a rope. Then, they hang
69 it above the children's heads.

74 The children take turns trying

79 to break it. First, a child puts on a
88 **blindfold**. Then, the child tries to hit
95 the piñata with a stick. The others
102 watch and sing. Sometimes the
107 piñata breaks after a few hits. Other
114 times, it takes many hits. When it
121 breaks, the children **rush** to **claim**
127 the candy and toys.

131 Breaking the piñata is fun. For
137 a long time, children in Mexico
143 have broken piñatas. Now, children
148 around the world do it too.
154

words read _____

words read _____

goal _____

- errors _____ = _____
cold score

- errors _____ = _____
hot score expression date passed

A Mexican Tradition

Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. Piñatas can take many hits to break.
 - b. Piñatas are filled with candy and small toys.
 - c. Breaking piñatas is a fun tradition.
2. Why do children rush when the piñata breaks?
 - a. They do not want to get hit by the stick.
 - b. They want to claim the candy and toys.
 - c. They want another turn to hit it.
3. What does the word **rush** mean in this story?
 - a. hurry
 - b. yell
 - c. take turns
4. Why is it hard for children to hit piñatas?
 - a. The children wear blindfolds.
 - b. Piñatas are very small.
 - c. The sticks are too short.
5. Why are piñatas good to have at parties?

_____ Number Correct: _____

Retell the Story

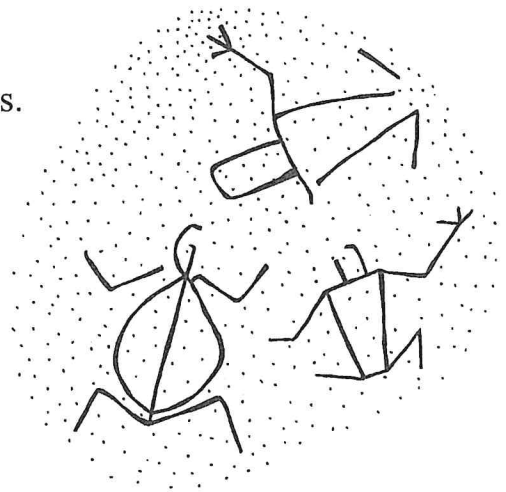
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Ancient Art

Story 12, Tracks 6–9
Spanish, Track 10

Review Key Words⁶

figures	Figures are shapes, forms, or outlines.
ancient	Ancient means very old.
eroded	Eroded means wore or washed away over time.
carvings	Carvings are shapes or designs made by scraping or cutting into something.



Write a Prediction

Read the Story^{7–9}

6 A man was walking near his
12 home in the Philippines. He noticed
19 pictures on a cave wall. The pictures
26 were cut into the rock. They showed
31 **human figures**, frogs, lizards, and
36 other shapes. **Scientists** later learned
42 that people had **carved** these pictures
thousands of years ago.

46 The man was not the first to
53 find old rock **carvings**. People
58 have found rock carvings in other
64 countries. They show many different
69 things. Some of the carvings show
75 fish, horses, and birds. Some
80 of them show people running or
86 hunting.

87 What do the carvings mean?
92 Some scientists think the carvings
97 show how people lived long ago.
103 Others think the carvings show what
109 people believed. We may never
114 know what the carvings mean or why
121 people made them.

124 Most rock carvings are **ancient**,
129 so they are often hard to see. Things
137 like rain and wind have **eroded** the
144 carvings. But now people try to
150 **protect** them. They are a **treasure**
156 to the **modern** world. The carvings
162 are a **glimpse** of life long ago.
169

words read _____

– errors _____ = _____
cold score

words read _____

– errors _____ = _____
hot score expression date passed

Ancient Art

Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. Wind and rain have made the old rock carvings hard to see.
 - b. Old rock carvings are a treasure that give a glimpse of life long ago.
 - c. People are trying to protect ancient rock carvings.
2. What is one thing the carvings show?
 - a. wind and rain
 - b. a treasure
 - c. animal shapes
3. What does the word **glimpse** mean in this story?
 - a. ancient human figures
 - b. an old carving on rocks
 - c. a quick look into something
4. Why might people never find answers to questions about the carvings?
 - a. They were made a long time ago.
 - b. People are trying to protect them.
 - c. They are cut into the rock.
5. Why are the carvings important?

_____ Number Correct: _____

Retell the Story

_____ Number of Words Written: _____

Babe Ruth

Story 13, Tracks 1–4
Spanish, Track 5

Review Key Words'

hit	In baseball, hit means to get to a base safely after hitting the ball with a bat.
Baltimore Orioles	The Baltimore Orioles are a baseball team from Baltimore, Maryland.
home runs	Home runs are hits by batters that let them run all four bases and score.
record	A record is information used to keep track of something.



Write a Prediction

Read the Story²⁻⁴

7 Babe Ruth was a boy who got
13 into trouble. His mother and father
20 could not do anything with him. So
27 they sent him to an **orphanage**. In
33 the orphanage, Babe learned to play
40 baseball. He was good at it, and
48 he loved to play. At last, there was
54 something he really wanted to do.

60 When he was 19, the **Baltimore**
67 **Orioles** asked Babe to play for them.
73 Before long, he was doing things
80 no one had ever done before. He
hit some of the longest **home runs**

87 on **record**. By the time he stopped
94 playing baseball, he had hit 714
100 home runs.

102 But Babe never forgot his early
108 years in the orphanage. He liked
114 to visit with poor little children
120 whenever he could. Once he **visited**
126 a **hospital**. He saw a little boy who
134 was very sick. So Babe told the boy
142 he would hit a home run for him that
151 day. And he did. Maybe the boy
158 **reminded** Babe of himself.
162

words read _____

– errors _____ = _____
cold score

words read _____

– errors _____ = _____

goal _____

hot score expression date passed

Babe Ruth

Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. Babe hit a home run for a sick boy in the hospital.
 - b. Babe hit some of the longest home runs on record.
 - c. Babe was a great baseball player who grew up in an orphanage.
2. What did Babe learn in the orphanage?
 - a. how to set records
 - b. how to play baseball
 - c. how to get into trouble
3. What does the word **orphanage** mean in this story?
 - a. a place to learn baseball
 - b. a place for some children to live
 - c. a place for sick boys and girls
4. Why might the little boy have reminded Babe of himself?
 - a. The boy was away from home.
 - b. The boy was very sick.
 - c. The boy got into trouble.
5. How did learning baseball help Babe?

_____ Number Correct: _____

Retell the Story

_____ Number of Words Written: _____

Paul Bunyan

Story 14, Tracks 6–9
Spanish, Track 10

Review Key Words⁶

character A character is a person or animal in a story.

loggers Loggers are people whose job is to cut down trees.

tall tales Tall tales are made-up stories that are told as if they were true. In tall tales, things are bigger, better, or worse than they are in real life.

imaginary Imaginary means made up or not real.



Write a Prediction

Read the Story^{7–9}

In the early 1900s, North American **loggers** worked long days. At night, they sat around fires telling **tall tales**. Many tales were about an **imaginary** logger named Paul Bunyan. This **character** was bigger and stronger than anyone could **actually** be.

Paul was the largest baby ever born. By two weeks old, he had to wear his father's clothes. For fun, Paul **wrestled** bears. He used a pine tree to brush his beard. He **picked** his teeth with logs.

Paul was the world's best logger. He could cut down an **acre** of forest with one swing of his **ax**.

One day, Paul found an **ox** in the snow. The ox was so cold, he had turned blue. Paul saved him. He named the ox Babe. Babe grew so big that his footprints became lakes.

Loggers liked tall tales about Paul and Babe. In these stories, Paul showed **qualities** the loggers **prized**. He was strong and worked hard. People still tell stories about Paul Bunyan and Babe the Blue Ox.

words read _____

– errors _____ = _____
cold score

words read _____

– errors _____ = _____
hot score expression date passed

Paul Bunyan

Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. Paul Bunyan was the largest baby ever born.
 - b. Paul Bunyan saved a blue ox and named him Babe.
 - c. There are many tall tales about Paul Bunyan.
2. Where did Paul Bunyan find an ox?
 - a. in the snow
 - b. in the forest
 - c. in a lake
3. What does the word **prized** mean in this story?
 - a. gave someone an award for trying hard
 - b. won something for being the best
 - c. thought something was important
4. How do you know Paul was imaginary?
 - a. people still tell stories about him
 - b. he was bigger than anyone could really be
 - c. he was the world's best logger
5. In what ways did Paul Bunyan show that he was strong?

_____ Number Correct: _____

Retell the Story

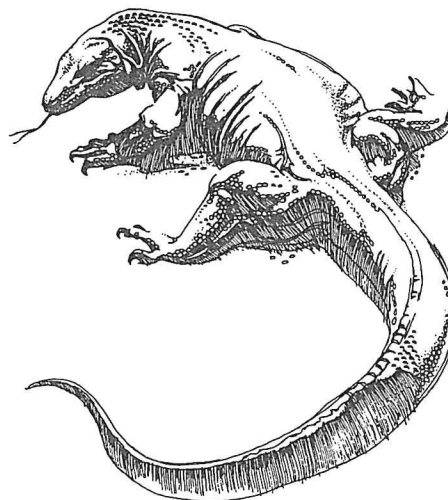
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Komodo Dragon

Story 15, Tracks 1-4
Spanish, Track 5

Review Key Words

lizard	A lizard is a reptile with scaly skin and a long tail.
forked	Forked means split in two.
claws	Claws are sharp nails on the feet of some animals.
burrow	A burrow is a hole in the ground dug by an animal for shelter.



Write a Prediction

Read the Story²⁻⁴

5 You may have read about
12 **dragons in fairy tales.** But did you
18 know there are real animals called
25 dragons? One of these animals is the
Komodo dragon.

27 The Komodo dragon is a very
33 large **lizard.** In fact, it is the
40 **heaviest** living lizard. It can weigh
46 300 pounds. It can grow to be 10
54 feet long.

56 The Komodo dragon has about
61 60 teeth. These teeth are very sharp.
68 It has a **forked** tongue. Its tongue
75 helps it smell **prey.** This lizard eats
82 wild pigs and deer. Sometimes it

88 eats **young** Komodo dragons.

92 The Komodo dragon has a long,
98 strong tail. The tail can knock down
105 an animal with one **blow.**

110 This large lizard digs a **burrow**
116 with its strong **claws.** During the
122 day, it hunts. At night, it sleeps in a
131 burrow. The burrow keeps it warm
137 during the night.

140 The Komodo dragon lives on a
146 few **islands** of Indonesia. One of
152 these islands is called Komodo. The
158 Komodo dragon is named after that
164 island.
165

words read _____

words read _____

goal _____

- errors _____ = _____ cold score

- errors _____ = _____ hot score expression date passed

Komodo Dragon

Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. The Komodo dragon digs with its strong claws.
 - b. The Komodo dragon is a large, strong lizard.
 - c. The Komodo dragon hunts during the day.
2. What does the Komodo dragon eat?
 - a. deer
 - b. plants
 - c. burrows
3. What does the word **blow** mean in this story?
 - a. a loud blast
 - b. a rush of air
 - c. a hard hit
4. Why is the Komodo dragon dangerous to other animals?
 - a. It has a strong tail.
 - b. It digs a burrow.
 - c. It is heavy.
5. What are some ways Komodo dragons are like dragons from fairy tales?

_____ Number Correct: _____

Retell the Story

_____ Number of Words Written: _____

Tiny but Tough

Story 16, Tracks 6–9
Spanish, Track 10

Review Key Words*

- survive** Survive means to keep living.
- conditions** Conditions means the way things are.
- millimeter** A millimeter is a very small unit of measurement.
- microscope** A microscope is an instrument that makes small things look larger.



Write a Prediction

Read the Story⁷⁻⁹

There are over 1,000 different kinds of water bears. Even so, many people have never seen or heard of them. What are water bears?

Water bears are **among** the world's smallest animals. It's hard to see them without a **microscope**. Most are less than a **millimeter** long.

Being tiny isn't the only special thing about water bears. They are also really **tough**. They can **survive** in **conditions** that other animals can't. In bad conditions, many water bears will roll into a ball and dry out. Then they "wake up" when things

get better. Many water bears have survived being out in space. Many have lived through being **boiled** or **frozen**. Some are still living after **decades** without food or water.

Being so tough means water bears can live all over. They live on all of the **continents**. Many live in **moss**. People have found them in puddles. Some live on the highest mountains. Others live deep in the sea. Water bears have been around a long time too—maybe more than 500 million years.

words read _____

– errors _____

cold score

words read _____

– errors _____

hot score

expression

date passed

Tiny but Tough

Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. Water bears have lived on earth for more than 500 million years.
 - b. Water bears are some of the world's smallest animals.
 - c. Tiny, tough water bears have survived a long time and live in a lot of places.
2. How do you know water bears are tough?
 - a. Water bears are very small animals.
 - b. There are over 1,000 kinds of water bears.
 - c. Water bears can survive bad conditions.
3. What does the word **tough** mean in this story?
 - a. hard to destroy
 - b. hard to do
 - c. hard to chew
4. What do water bears do to survive bad conditions?
 - a. get boiled or frozen
 - b. roll into a ball and dry out
 - c. go into space
5. List two things water bears can survive that most other animals can't.

_____ Number Correct: _____

Retell the Story

_____ Number of Words Written: _____

Mammoth Site

Story 17, Tracks 1-4
Spanish, Track 5

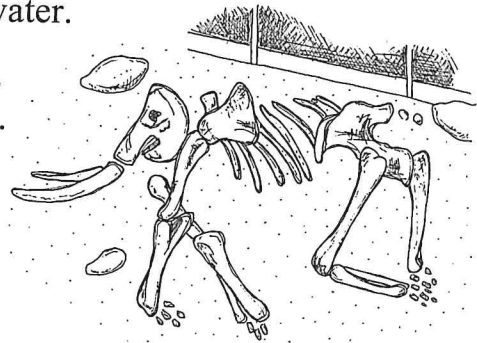
Review Key Words¹

site A site is the place or location of something.

sinkhole A sinkhole is an opening in the ground. A sinkhole is often deep and filled with water.

museum A museum is a place that has beautiful, interesting, or unusual things to look at.

fossils Fossils are what is left of plants and animals that have been dead a very long time.



Write a Prediction

Read the Story²⁻⁴

6 The **sinkhole** was about 60 feet
13 deep. It was filled with warm water
18 and plants. Large animals walked
25 into the sinkhole to eat and drink.
32 The animals could not get out, so
38 they died there. The sinkhole filled
45 with mud and dried up. The animals
51 stayed buried for about 26,000 years.

56 In 1974, some workers **uncovered**
62 the animals. Scientists came to the
68 **site** to study them. The scientists
73 learned many things about the
74 animals.

What kind of animals were

79 they? They were **Ice Age** animals.
85 Many of them were mammoths.
90 Mammoths were huge **mammals**.
94 They looked a little bit like
100 elephants. They had big trunks and
106 long **tusks**. But mammoths **died out**
112 thousands of years ago.

116 The site where people found the
122 mammoths is now part of a **museum**.
129 Many people visit the Mammoth Site
135 each year. They come to see the
142 **fossils** of these **extinct** animals. This
148 museum is in Hot Springs, South
154 Dakota.
155

words read _____

- errors _____

= cold score

words read _____

- errors _____

= hot score

goal _____

expression date passed

Mammoth Site

Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. Many people visit the Mammoth Site in Hot Springs, South Dakota.
 - b. Ice Age animals called mammoths died in a sinkhole that is now part of a museum.
 - c. Animals that went into a sinkhole could not get out, so they died there.
2. About how long did the animals stay buried?
 - a. 1,974 years
 - b. 60 years
 - c. 26,000 years
3. What does the word **extinct** mean in this story?
 - a. long tusks
 - b. uncovered
 - c. died out
4. Why did mammoths go to the sinkhole?
 - a. to get stuck in the mud
 - b. to drink water and eat plants
 - c. to see if elephants were there
5. How are elephants of today like the mammoths of long ago?

_____ Number Correct: _____

Retell the Story

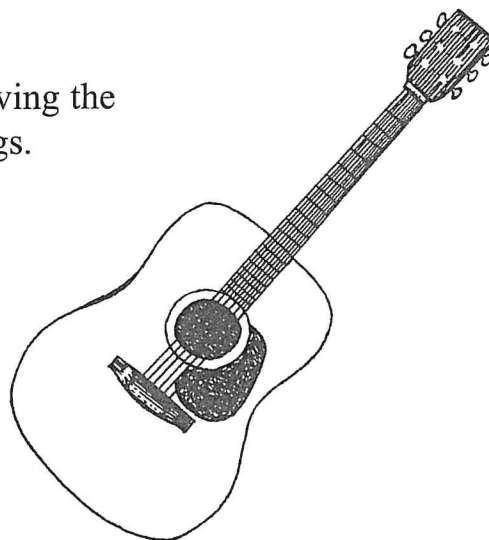
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Playing Guitars

Story 18, Tracks 6–9
Spanish, Track 10

Review Key Words⁶

strums	A person strums an instrument by moving the fingers or a pick lightly over the strings.
strings	Strings are the wires on some musical instruments.
plucks	A person plucks the string of an instrument by pulling the string and then quickly letting go.
note	A note is a musical sound or tone.



Write a Prediction

Read the Story⁷⁻⁹

Most **guitars** are made of wood.
 6 They also have **strings**. The strings
 12 are usually made of **metal** or **nylon**.
 19 Some of the strings are thin. They
 26 make high sounds. The thick strings
 32 make low sounds.

Both hands are used to play a
 35 guitar. The fingers of one hand
 42 press down on the strings. The other
 48 hand **plucks** or **strums** the strings.
 55 A string is plucked by pulling on
 61 the string and then letting go of it
 68 quickly. Plucking a string makes the
 76

82 sound of one **note** at a time. Strings
 90 are strummed by running the fingers
 96 or a **pick** across them. Strumming
 102 makes the sound of many notes at
 109 one time. This sound is called a
 116 **chord**.

117 A guitar can be played by itself or
 125 as part of a **band**. People like to sing
 134 with a guitar because it helps them
 141 stay **on key**. They also like the way
 149 a guitar sounds when people sing
 155 with it.
 157

words read _____

– errors _____

= cold score

words read _____

– errors _____

= hot score

expression

date passed

Playing Guitars

Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. The strings of guitars can be made from metal or nylon.
 - b. Guitars have strings that people pluck or strum to make music.
 - c. Some people like to sing with the guitar to stay on key.
2. What kind of sound does plucking a string make?
 - a. a note
 - b. a chord
 - c. a key
3. What does the word **chord** mean in this story?
 - a. a metal or nylon string
 - b. a group of instruments
 - c. two or more notes played together
4. Why do guitars have thin strings and thick strings?
 - a. so the guitar can make high and low sounds
 - b. so the strings can be strummed or plucked
 - c. so the guitar can be part of a band
5. If you want to play the guitar, what are some things you should learn to do?

_____ Number Correct: _____

Retell the Story

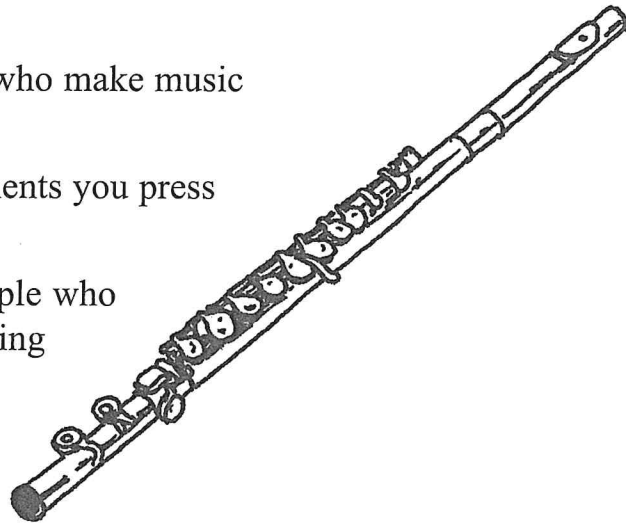
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The Flute

Story 19, Tracks 1–4
Spanish, Track 5

Review Key Words¹

- bands** Bands are groups of people who make music together.
- keys** Keys are the parts of instruments you press down to make music.
- orchestras** Orchestras are groups of people who make music together by playing instruments.
- instrument** An instrument makes music.



Write a Prediction

Read the Story²⁻⁴

6 The flute is a very old
12 **instrument**. In fact, flutes were used
19 in **ancient** times. They were made of
25 wood, bones, **reeds**, or stones. They
32 had a few **finger holes**. Now flutes
39 are often made of **metal**. They are
45 long, thin **tubes**. Some flutes have
52 holes and **keys** for the players to
59 press while they blow into the flutes.

35 A player holds the flute straight
72 out to the right. The player blows
77 air across the **mouthpiece**. The
air moves through the flute. This

83 moving air makes a musical sound.
89 The player presses different keys on
95 the flute to make different musical
101 sounds or **notes**.

104 A short, thin flute is called a
111 piccolo. It makes a very high sound.
118 The bass flute is wider and longer
125 and makes a lower sound. Flutes
131 are played in **bands** and **orchestras**.
137 Sometimes they are played **solo**.
142 Solo means they are played alone,
148 without other instruments.
151

words read _____

– errors _____ = _____
cold score

words read _____

– errors _____ = _____
hot score expression date passed

The Flute

Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. Flutes were used in ancient times.
 - b. Piccolos play very high notes.
 - c. Flutes are musical instruments.
2. What were ancient flutes made of?
 - a. wood
 - b. metal
 - c. notes
3. What does the word **solo** mean in this story?
 - a. in a band or orchestra
 - b. with other people
 - c. without other instruments
4. How are bass flutes different from piccolos?
 - a. Bass flutes make higher sounds.
 - b. Bass flutes make lower sounds.
 - c. Bass flutes can be played solo.
5. How do flutes make musical sounds?

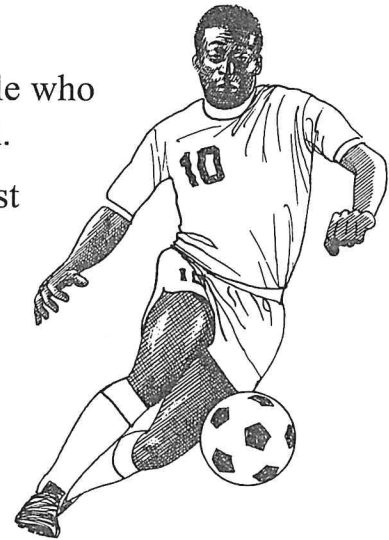
_____ Number Correct: _____

Retell the Story

_____ Number of Words Written: _____

Review Key Words⁶

soccer	Soccer is a game played on grass by people who try to kick a ball into the other team's goal.
championship	A championship is a game or sports contest to decide who will win first place.
professional	A professional player is a person who plays a sport for money.
Hall of Fame	A Hall of Fame is a group of people who are the very best at something.



Write a Prediction

Read the Story^{7–9}

7 The year is 1945. The place is
 16 a town in Brazil. It is the poor part
 23 of town. A little boy is kicking
 28 something around. If you look
 36 closer, you see it is a man's **sock**
 44 full of rags. Is the boy angry at
 50 something? Has he **lost his mind**?
 57 No, the boy is learning to play
 58 **soccer**.
 63 That boy's name was Pelé.
 69 Pelé was always good at soccer.
 78 By the time he was 15, he was a
 83 **professional** player. He played for
 90 a team in Brazil called **Santos**. Pelé
 also played on Brazil's **national**

95 **team**. He helped Brazil win the
 101 **World Cup** three times. In 1975,
 107 Pelé started playing for the **New**
 113 **York Cosmos**. The Cosmos were
 118 not a very good team. But Pelé
 125 helped them win a **championship**.
 130 Pelé became one of the most
 136 famous soccer players in the world.
 142 People loved to watch him play.
 148 Soccer is a **low-scoring** game. But
 155 Pelé scored almost 1,300 points
 160 as a **pro**! In 1993, he made it into
 169 the **Hall of Fame** for soccer in the
 177 United States.
 179

words read _____

words read _____

goal _____

– errors _____ = _____
cold score

– errors _____ = _____
hot score expression date passed

Pelé

Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. Pelé was a great soccer player.
 - b. Pelé scored many goals as a pro.
 - c. Pelé helped the Cosmos win a championship.
2. What happened in 1993?
 - a. Pelé made it into the United States Hall of Fame for soccer.
 - b. Pelé helped Brazil win the World Cup for the third time.
 - c. Pelé started playing for the New York Cosmos.
3. What does the word **pro** mean in this story?
 - a. someone who is angry
 - b. soccer team
 - c. professional player
4. Why did little Pelé kick around a sock full of rags instead of a ball?
 - a. He was angry about something.
 - b. He was too poor to have a ball.
 - c. He did not like playing with a ball.
5. How do we know Pelé was one of the best soccer players in the world?

_____ Number Correct: _____

Retell the Story

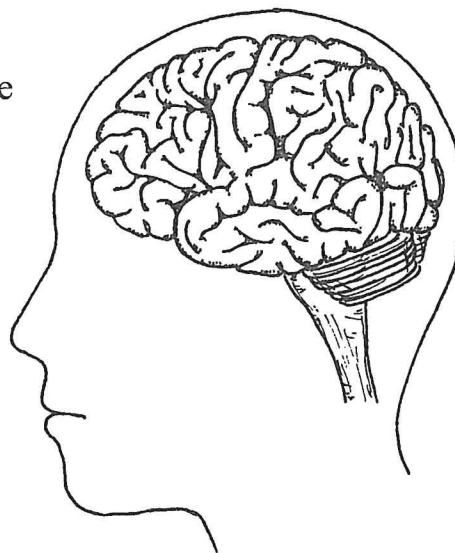
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The Brain

Story 21, Tracks 1–4
Spanish, Track 5

Review Key Words¹

brain	The brain is the part of the body inside the head that controls how a person or animal thinks, feels, and moves.
command center	A command center is a place where orders are given out.
signals	Signals tell you what is going on around you.
complex	Complex means hard to understand; not simple.



Write a Prediction

Read the Story²⁻⁴

5 The **brain** is the **command**
 11 **center** of the body. Your eyes,
 18 ears, nose, tongue, and skin tell your
 25 brain what is going on around you.
 32 Other parts of your body tell your
 40 brain what is going on inside of you.
 47 Your brain takes in the **signals**. It
 54 tells your body what to do about
 61 them. When you touch a fire, your
 68 skin tells your brain that your finger
 76 is too hot. Your brain tells you to
 move your finger. All of these things

83 happen very fast. Your brain also
 89 **controls** your breathing, blinking,
 93 and **heartbeat**. It controls your
 98 feelings and thoughts too.

102 The **human** has the most **complex**
 108 brain of all animals. Yet it is not
 116 the largest brain. The human brain
 122 weighs about 3 pounds. The brain of
 129 an elephant weighs about 11 pounds.
 135 So, the largest brain is not the most
 143 complex. But no matter what the
 149 size, the brain controls the body.

155

words read _____

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goal _____

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hot score expression date passed

The Brain

Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. The brain controls the body.
 - b. The brain takes in signals.
 - c. The brain works very fast.
2. What happens after the brain takes in signals from the body?
 - a. The brain becomes more complex.
 - b. The brain tells the body what to do.
 - c. Body parts tell the brain what is going on.
3. What does the word **controls** mean in this story?
 - a. is the most complex one
 - b. makes a person or thing do something
 - c. takes in signals from many places
4. Which brain is the largest?
 - a. the elephant's brain
 - b. the most complex brain
 - c. the human brain
5. What are some things that the human brain does?

_____ Number Correct: _____

Retell the Story

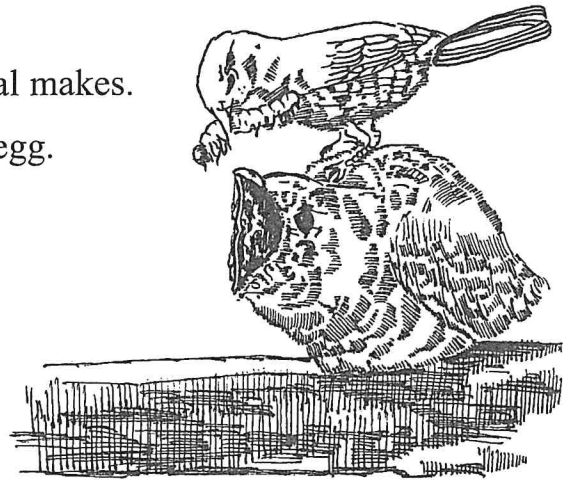
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Cuckoo Birds

Story 22, Tracks 6–9
Spanish, Track 10

Review Key Words*

call	A call is a special sound an animal makes.
hatch	Hatch means to be born from an egg.
cuckoo	Cuckoo means crazy or strange.
sit	Sit means to keep eggs warm by covering them with the body until they hatch.



Write a Prediction

Read the Story⁷⁻⁹

Have you ever called a friend **cuckoo**? The word cuckoo sounds like the **call** of the cuckoo bird. A cuckoo bird does some **strange** things. So when you call a friend cuckoo, you are saying your friend is strange.

What are some strange things the cuckoo bird does? It **lays** its egg in the nest of smaller birds. It waits for the birds to leave the nest. Then it lays an egg. The smaller birds take care of their own eggs. They **sit**

on the cuckoo egg too. The **chicks hatch** in about two weeks.

The baby cuckoo is larger than the other chicks. It tries to push them out of the nest. The baby cuckoo may get bigger than its **foster parents**. They may have to sit on the cuckoo's head to feed it. When the cuckoo is three weeks old, it leaves the nest. It lives with other cuckoo birds. Later, it will lay eggs in the nests of the same kind of bird that cared for it.

words read _____

words read _____

goal _____

– errors _____ = _____
cold score

– errors _____ = _____
hot score expression date passed

Cuckoo Birds

Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. The cuckoo bird got its name from its call.
 - b. A cuckoo chick is larger than other chicks.
 - c. The cuckoo bird does some strange things.
2. What do other birds do for cuckoo birds?
 - a. push them out of their nests
 - b. care for their eggs and chicks
 - c. lay their eggs
3. What do the words **foster parents** mean in this story?
 - a. mother and father birds that care for the chicks of other birds
 - b. mother and father birds that are smaller than their chicks
 - c. mother and father birds that are strange
4. How is the baby cuckoo different from the other chicks?
 - a. It is bigger.
 - b. It lays eggs.
 - c. The mother feeds it.
5. What strange things does the cuckoo bird do?

_____ Number Correct: _____

Retell the Story

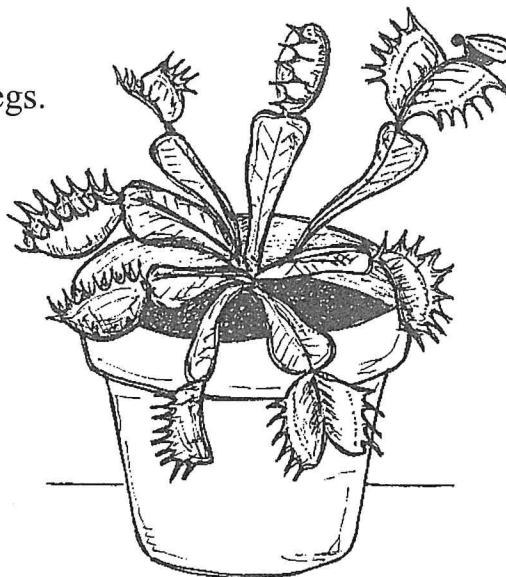
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Meat-Eating Plant

Story 23, Tracks 1–4
Spanish, Track 5

Review Key Words

insects	Insects are small animals with six legs. Insects often have wings.
trap	A trap is something that catches animals and keeps them from getting away.
lock	Lock means to shut in or out.
inside	The inside of something is the part that faces in or faces the center.



Write a Prediction

Read the Story²⁻⁴

7 Have you ever heard of a meat-
12 eating plant? The Venus **flytrap**
20 is one kind of meat-eating plant. It
catches and eats **insects**.

24 This plant grows a **trap** on the
31 tip of each leaf. The trap is made of
40 two smaller leaves. These leaves are
46 connected so they can **fold** together.
52 The trap has **hairs** on the **inside**. It
60 also has sweet, sticky juice. An
66 insect touches the hairs on the leaves
73 when it tries to get to the sweet juice.

82 This **pressure** tells the leaves to shut.
89 The leaves fold together. The **spines**
95 on the sides of the trap **lock** in the
104 insect. The insect dies and is food
111 for the flytrap.

114 When the flytrap gets hungry
119 again, it opens its leaves to catch
126 another insect. The trap dies after
132 catching three or four insects. Then
138 the plant grows a new leaf with a
146 new trap.
148

words read _____

words read _____

goal _____

– errors _____ = _____
cold score

– errors _____ = _____
hot score expression date passed

Meat-Eating Plant

Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. Venus flytraps have little hairs on their leaves.
 - b. Venus flytraps have sticky, sweet juice inside.
 - c. Venus flytraps are meat-eating plants.
2. What happens before the leaves of the flytrap shut?
 - a. The insect touches the hairs on the leaves.
 - b. The insect dies and is eaten.
 - c. The insect is locked in by the spines.
3. What does the word **flytrap** mean in this story?
 - a. a plant that eats insects
 - b. an insect that looks like a fly
 - c. a flower with sticky leaves
4. Why does the Venus flytrap have sweet juice on the insides of its leaves?
 - a. to help the flytrap grow its leaves
 - b. to help the leaves of the trap fold together
 - c. so that insects will try to get the juice and become trapped
5. How does a Venus flytrap trick insects?

_____ Number Correct: _____

Retell the Story

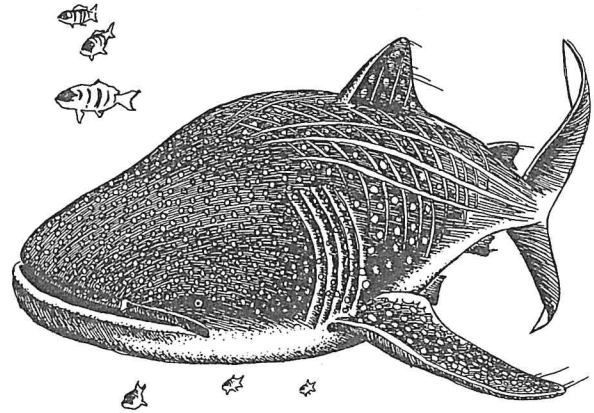
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The Gentle Shark

Story 24, Tracks 6–9
Spanish, Track 10

Review Key Words⁶

diver	A diver is a person who wears special gear to swim down into deep ocean water.
gills	Gills are body parts that help an animal breathe underwater.
search	A search is a careful check in order to find something.
swallow	Swallow means to make something go through the mouth and into the stomach.



Write a Prediction

Read the Story⁷⁻⁹

7 Do you think a shark could be
gentle? If you do, then you are right.
15 The whale shark can be gentle. Just
22 ask a **diver** who has taken a ride on
31 this shark's back.

34 The whale shark is very large.
40 It is about 40 feet long and weighs
48 about 15 **tons**. It spends its time
55 swimming through the ocean in
60 **search** of food. It swims about three
67 miles an hour.

70 The whale shark needs a lot of

77 food to keep alive. So, this huge
84 fish swims with its mouth wide
90 open. Water and food flow into the
97 open mouth. The shark's mouth has
103 **bristles** called gill rakers. These gill
109 rakers catch food. They **trap** the fish
116 and **plankton** that are in the water.
123 The water goes out the shark's **gills**
130 and back into the ocean. But the
137 food stays inside the shark's mouth.
143 Once the food has been trapped, all
150 the shark has to do is **swallow**.

157

words read _____

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= cold score

words read _____

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The Gentle Shark

Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. The large, gentle whale shark traps its food.
 - b. A whale shark is about 40 feet long and weighs about 15 tons.
 - c. Divers have taken rides on the whale shark's back.
2. How many miles can a whale shark swim in one hour?
 - a. 40
 - b. 3
 - c. 15
3. What does the word **plankton** mean in this story?
 - a. many sharp teeth
 - b. gill rakers
 - c. tiny animals and plants
4. Why does the whale shark need bristles?
 - a. to kill other fish
 - b. to trap its food
 - c. to chew its food
5. Why must the whale shark spend so much time searching for food?

_____ Number Correct: _____

Retell the Story

_____ Number of Words Written: _____