



TopicReads For Middle School: Instructor Guide



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The Purpose of TopicReads

A message heard from blog writers and journalists is that as many as two thirds of American students in the middle grades are not reading at proficient levels and require foundational skill instruction (Hanford, 2019; Smith, 2023). These conclusions are incomplete and even inaccurate interpretations of results on the fourth- and eighth-grade National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP).

When students' reading is examined more closely, a different view emerges. When middle-school students are given shorter texts than the 700-word passages of the NAEP, they can read with surprising levels of accuracy. Their challenge lies in their lack of automatic or quick recognition of words. Slow reading means that students' cognitive resources while reading are concentrated on recognizing words, which leaves few resources to make sense of what they are reading.

The number of words read correctly (WCPM) and the accuracy percentages of sixth graders on a grade-level passage illustrate the automaticity obstacle for many middle-school students (University of Oregon, 2020):

55th percentile: 152 WCPM, 99% accuracy
35th percentile: 124 WCPM, 98% accuracy
15th percentile: 98 WCPM, 96% accuracy

On typical texts, 95% accuracy is deemed sufficient for comprehension. But rates of reading that fall below approximately 135 WCPM are likely to impede students' comprehension.

How do students become more automatic in recognizing words? Automaticity comes about as students read extensively, especially texts where words from the 2,500 most-frequent word families (e.g., help, helper, unhelpful). This is precisely the opportunity that TopicReads provides.

By reading the texts of TopicReads, middle-school students gain:

- **Automaticity in word recognition:** The 2,500 most-frequent families of words account for well over 90% of the words in texts. The texts of TopicReads provide repeated opportunities for students to increase their automaticity with the core vocabulary.
- **Comprehension:** As automaticity in word recognition increases, students will not have to devote the bulk of their cognitive resources to figuring out words and their comprehension will improve.
- **Vocabulary and knowledge:** As students' comprehension improves, they will learn meanings of previously unknown words and new meanings of known words. The knowledge that this vocabulary represents is a critical contributor to future comprehension.



The Components of TopicReads

- TopicReads consists of 72 sets of texts that are organized in two ways:
 1. Text sets are organized in 6 levels. The levels are determined on the presence of the core vocabulary in texts, as shown in Table 1. This critical component of proficient reading is not captured by text complexity systems like Lexiles or Guided Reading Levels.
 2. Text sets are organized around topics that fall into four main categories:
 - Science
 - Social Studies
 - Arts and Culture
 - Literature and Language.

Topics within these content areas align with national and state content-area standards. Topics are also ones that engage middle-school students and add substantially to their background knowledge, which is a critical ingredient in successful comprehension.

- Instructional Follow-Ups for Text Sets: Each text set is accompanied by follow-up vocabulary and comprehension activities. The instructional follow-ups can be found at textproject.org/topicreads. Answer keys are available in this Instructor Guide.
- Benchmark Texts: Each level of TopicReads is accompanied by two benchmark texts. These are for making choices about the right levels for students' reading of TopicReads.

Using TopicReads Benchmark Assessment for Placement

Each of the 6 levels of TopicReads has two passages to use for an assessment of the number of words a student accurately reads in a minute.

- Passage A: placing students at the right level in the program.
- Passage B: establishing students' progress, after they finish a level (or when you or the student believe they are ready to move to the next level).

Benchmark assessments are intended to be read aloud individually by a student, with the teacher taking notes and keeping track of time. The assessment of student's oral reading should extend no more than a minute (if a student finishes before a minute has ended, use number of seconds read). A digital watch or stopwatch can be useful to capture the length of a student's reading. The comprehension questions will take an additional minute or two.

Use your knowledge of a student's reading to select the level of the benchmark assessment. Passages for students to read are on the website at textproject.org/topicreads/. You can print them or have students read them directly from a digital device.

You will want a copy of the text so that you can keep notes on a student's performance (copies for your use are on pages 6 to 17 of this Instructor Guide). As students read, make note of any words which a student cannot read or omits. At the bottom of the assessment form, you will find information on establishing a student's accuracy and reading rate.



Use the information from the assessment, your professional judgment, and the guidelines in Table 1 to select an appropriate level for a student. Keep in mind that the biggest obstacle for middle schoolers who are struggling as readers is their lack of automaticity with the core vocabulary. Levels A and B of TopicReads consist of the 500 most frequent word families that make up about 75% of the words in texts. Placing students in these earlier levels can support them in vocabulary, content knowledge and increased word recognition automaticity.

Table 1. TopicReads Content & Benchmarks

Level	TopicReads Content	Student Performance on TopicReads Benchmark
A	500 most frequently used words + single-syllable words with regular short and long vowel patterns	Reading less than 95 WCPM
B	500 most frequently used words + single-syllable words with regular short, long, and r-controlled vowel patterns	Reading from 96 to 110 WCPM
C	1,000 most frequently used words + all vowel patterns in single-syllable words	Reading from 111 to 125 WCPM
D	1,000 most frequently used words + 2-syllable words (inflected endings and compound words)	Reading from 126 to 135 WCPM
E	2,500 most frequently used words + 2-syllable words	Reading from 136 to 145 WCPM
F	2,500 most frequently used words + 2- and 3-syllable words	Reading from 146 to 155 WCPM

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Student: _____

Date: _____

RAIN

You can often tell when it will rain. The sky fills with dark clouds. Those clouds hold water. When the clouds have too much water, the water falls as rain.

Some rain falls into lakes. Some rain falls on land.

When the sun warms the land, the land gets dry. The water goes from the land into the air. Lakes also warm up and water goes from them into the air.

The water in the air makes clouds. When the clouds have too much water, it rains once more.

Building Comprehension

1. How can you tell if it will rain?

- a. The land gets dry.
- b. The water goes from lakes into the air.
- ✓c. The sky fills with dark clouds.

2. How does water get into clouds? *[Sample answer: The sun warms the land. Water goes from the land into the air and then into clouds.]*

Number of words read per minute:	
Accuracy:	
Comprehension:	



Student: _____

Date: _____

SNOW

Snow and rain are the same in some ways. Both fall from clouds in the sky. Both are made from water.

However, snow is different from rain in one important way. Sometimes, the air in the sky gets very cold. The water in the clouds freezes. When the water freezes, it is no longer rain. It is snow.

Sometimes, water comes down as rain. As the water falls through the air to land, the rain freezes and turns into balls of ice. Those balls of ice are called hail.

Building Comprehension

1. How are snow and rain the same?

- ✓a. both are made of water.
- b. both are frozen water.
- c. both are balls of ice.

2. What is hail? *[Sample answer: Hail is balls of ice]*

Number of words read per minute:	
Accuracy:	
Comprehension:	



Student: _____

Date: _____

WIND

The Sun causes much of the wind on Earth. The Sun heats the Earth. The air gets heated, too. When air gets warmer, it rises. Cooler air rushes in where warm air was. That cooler air is wind.

The way the Earth spins can also cause wind. The spinning Earth moves cool air in different ways. The air becomes wind as it moves.

Air from different places has different temperatures. Air from the North Pole is cold. When that wind comes south, it brings cold wind. Warm winds blowing from the south can bring warmer temperatures to the north.

Building Comprehension

1. How can you tell if it will rain?

- a. The land gets dry.
- b. The water goes from lakes into the air.
- ✓c. *The sky fills with dark clouds.*

2. How does water get into clouds? [*Sample answer: The sun warms the land. Water goes from the land into the air and then into clouds.*]

Number of words read per minute:	
Accuracy:	
Comprehension:	



Student: _____

Date: _____

FOG

You may have been outside when all you see is white air. That white air is fog. When water dries, it goes into the air as vapor. The vapor in the air can change back into water, though. When that happens, there is fog.

In fog, tiny drops of water float in the air near the ground. Fog is a cloud near the ground.

Fog can be a problem. Car and bus drivers cannot see far ahead. They must drive slowly in fog. People in boats at sea have problems in fog, too. They cannot easily see the shore.

Building Comprehension

1. How are snow and rain the same?

- ✓a. *both are made of water*
- b. both are frozen water
- c. both are balls of ice

2. What is hail? [*Sample answer: Hail is balls of ice*]

Number of words read per minute:	
Accuracy:	
Comprehension:	



Student: _____

Date: _____

RAINBOWS

Light is made up of many colors. When you see a rainbow, you see the seven colors that make up light. Rays of sunlight land on Earth. First, they pass through what is in the sky. You might see blue sky. Then, the rays bounce off other gases in the air. The air that hits those gases bounces blue to our eyes.

Rainbows happen the same way. Sunlight passes through ice and water in the air. The rays then bounce off rain and ice. They split the light into seven colors. You may see a rainbow when there is a break in a storm, or right after a storm.

Building Comprehension

1. What is a rainbow?

- a. storm split into rain and ice.
- ✓b. rays of sun bounced off rain and ice
- c. sun rays bounced off colors in the sky
- d. rays of color within a storm

2. Why is the sky blue? [*Sample answer: Light rays bounce off other gases. The air that hits those gases seems blue to our eyes.*]

Number of words read per minute:	
Accuracy:	
Comprehension:	



Student: _____

Date: _____

THUNDERSTORMS

There is a black cloud above. It gets darker and darker. You run inside. You know that soon there may be a thunderstorm.

Thunderstorms happen when huge amounts of heated air rush up. They may happen on hot summer days after the land is heated by strong rays of sun. Cold air sweeps in. The hot air rises. For thunderstorms to happen, the hot air must be full of water.

Drops of water and ice are tossed in these huge, high clouds. That tossing causes electrical charges. The electrical charges cause thunder. As the rain falls, less warm, wet air rises. The thunderstorm dies down. Soon it is over.

Building Comprehension

1. When do thunderstorms happen?

- a. when cool air is full of water
- b. when huge amounts of cool, dry air rise
- c. when warm, dry air does not move
- ✓d. **when huge amounts of warm, wet air rise**

2. Why does a thunderstorm die down? **[Sample answer: As rain falls, less warm, wet air rises and the thunderstorm dies down.]**

Number of words read per minute:	
Accuracy:	
Comprehension:	



Student: _____

Date: _____

BLIZZARDS

Blizzards are serious winter storms with snow. In a blizzard, snow comes with strong winds of 35 miles per hour or more. The temperature is usually 20 degrees below freezing or lower. Because the wind is blowing, people can see less than a quarter of a mile. Sometimes, a blizzard is so strong that people can only see a few feet ahead. Blizzards with that kind of wind are called whiteouts.

Blizzards cause dangerous conditions. People in cars may be stranded on roads. Those who are outside may not be able to tell where they are. People can suffer frostbite. They may even die from exposure to the cold. When blizzards occur, the best advice is to stay indoors

Building Comprehension

1. Which best tells what a blizzard is?

- a. when the temperature is below 20 degrees, and the wind is blowing
- ✓ **b. a windy snowstorm with temperatures 20 degrees below freezing or lower**
- c. a snowy storm when winds are 20 miles an hour or more
- d. a storm with snow that blows a quarter of a mile or mor

2. What is the best advice for living through a blizzard? **[Sample answer: The best advice is to stay indoors.]**

Number of words read per minute:	
Accuracy:	
Comprehension:	



Student: _____

Date: _____

FLOODS

Floods happen when normally dry areas are covered by water. There are several kinds of floods. Coastal floods occur near the coasts of lakes and oceans. High water from storms can cause this kind of flooding. The storm creates a storm surge, a high wall of water that surges over the land and floods it.

Floods can also occur near rivers. A river can flood from heavy rain or snow melting. Water flows into the river and over its banks. Land around the river can sometimes flood for hundreds of miles. One very dangerous kind of flood is a flash flood, which happens after intense rainfall. Flash floods happen so quickly that people cannot always escape to higher ground.

Building Comprehension

1. What can cause a coastal flood?

- ✓ **a. high water from storms**
- b. water flowing over a river's banks
- c. melting snow
- d. a serious flood at a riverclouds at sea

2. Why are flash floods dangerous? [**Sample answer: Flash floods are dangerous because they happen so quickly. People do not always have time to escape to higher ground..**]

Number of words read per minute:	
Accuracy:	
Comprehension:	



Student: _____

Date: _____

WEATHER MAPS

During a weather report, you may have seen a map of the United States with curved lines. These weather maps can help a meteorologist, or weather expert, explain the weather. The weather expert may point to the map to show what weather is coming.

The curved lines on the map show weather systems. The curve shows the direction that weather is heading. An H or L labels the curves. The H stands for a high-pressure area. It often means the weather will be calm.

An L stands for a low-pressure area. Low pressure means the weather is not settled. If a meteorologist points to an area labeled L, he or she might tell about rain, wind, or snow. Those low-pressure areas are where storms happen.

Building Comprehension

1. What do the curved lines on a weather map show?

- a. temperature
- b. thunderstorms
- ✓c. *weather systems*
- d. winds

2. What does an *H* on a weather map mean? [*Sample answer: An H on a weather map means a high pressure area, where the weather is often calm.*]

Number of words read per minute:	
Accuracy:	
Comprehension:	



Student: _____

Date: _____

WEATHER FORECASTING

People always want to know about the weather. Forecasting, or predicting, the weather is important for people who go outside. It is also important for farmers and people who work outside. People who run airports need to know if planes can safely fly. People who run schools need to know if students can get to school.

Those who forecast the weather use a number of ways to do it. They check pictures taken by satellites above the Earth. The satellites tell about weather around the world. They check readings that tell the temperature of the air. They find out how hard the wind is blowing.

Weather forecasters put together all the information they gather. That helps them forecast what the weather will be like tomorrow or next week.

Building Comprehension

1. How do satellites help forecast the weather?

- a. Satellites know if planes can safely fly.
- b. Satellites put together information to forecast the weather.
- c. Satellites let weather experts travel to take readings.
- ✓d. **Satellites take pictures that tell about weather.**

2. How do satellites help forecast the weather? [*Satellites take pictures of the skies all over the world. Weather forecasters put the pictures together with other information and forecast the weather.*]

Number of words read per minute:	
Accuracy:	
Comprehension:	



Student: _____

Date: _____

HURRICANES

Hurricanes are the strongest and most dangerous storms. They are often enormous—an average hurricane might be 350 miles in diameter. Hurricanes can travel for thousands of miles. They may last a week or more. Hurricanes are defined as having continuing winds of at least 74 miles an hour, and many have much higher winds. These serious, unpredictable storms can be extremely destructive to property and human life.

Hurricanes begin over tropical waters. They are bands of thunderstorm clouds that spin around a calm area called the eye. Around the calm eye, though, are the hurricane's strongest winds. One hurricane may contain hundreds of thunderstorms. As the hurricane moves, it draws in warm air full of water. The warm air gives the storm energy. As the hurricane passes over cooler land, it loses its energy source and finally dies.

Building Comprehension

1. Which best tells what a hurricane is?

- a. huge tropical waves
- b. winds that get stronger as they pass over cooler land
- ✓c. ***bands of thunderstorm clouds that spin around a calm area***
- d. strong storms that begin over land and move to the sea

2. How do hurricanes get stronger and then die? [*Sample answer: Hurricanes get stronger as they take in warm air full of water and lose energy as they move over cooler land.*]

Number of words read per minute:	
Accuracy:	
Comprehension:	



Student: _____

Date: _____

TORNADOES

Rapidly spinning winds in tornadoes can be extremely destructive.

Although tornadoes are smaller than tropical storms that lash the coastal areas, the winds of some tornadoes are among the strongest on Earth. The wind speed of tornadoes can reach 300 miles per hour. What makes tornadoes especially dangerous is the speed with which they form. These whirling winds are unpredictable, which also increases the danger.

Tornadoes are often found with severe thunderstorms. They start when warm air rises quickly, and high winds set the column of air spinning. Air gets sucked into the column of air, fueling it to continue spinning thousands of feet from the cloud to the ground. The spinning air acts like a huge vacuum cleaner, sucking up everything on the ground, from dirt to cars. When tornadoes strike, people must take shelter to stay safe.

Building Comprehension

1. Why are tornadoes so dangerous?

- ✓a. *They are very fast and unpredictable*
- b. They cause severe thunderstorms.
- c. They destroy coastal areas.
- d. They are the largest storms.

2. How do tornadoes form? [*Sample answer: Tornadoes form when warm air rises quickly and high winds send that air into a fast-spinning column.*]

Number of words read per minute:	
Accuracy:	
Comprehension:	

**Level A-1: THE FIVE SENSES****Key Notes Sample Answers**

What do your five senses do? The five senses help you see, hear, smell, taste, and touch the world around you.

What happens when you hear a sound? When you hear a sound, that means sound has traveled through the air and hit your eardrum, which vibrates against three bones and sends the message to your brain that you are hearing.

How do your senses tell you if something is good to eat? Taste buds on your tongue send messages through your nerves to your brain, telling you if the food is good.

How is your sense of touch different from your other senses? The touch of sense is different from other senses because it happens all over your body

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. tongue; B. nerve; C. message; D. protect; E. layer; F. odors; G. vibrate; H. travel

2. Fill in the blanks

A. layer; B. travel; C. message; D. odors; E. vibrate; F. tongue; G. protect; H. nerve

Building Connections Sample Answers

Smelling and Tasting Food: Smell and taste work together to tell you when food is good to eat.

Touching the World: The sense of touch tells you whether something is hot or cold and protects you from harm.

Seeing the World: Light causes the eye to send messages through nerves to the brain, telling you what you're seeing.

Hearing the World: Sound causes parts of the ear to vibrate and send messages to the brain about what you're hearing.

Level A-2: STARS**Key Notes Sample Answers**

Why is the sun a star? The sun is a star because it is a large ball of gas in space that gives off heat and light.

Where can people see large numbers of stars? People have to be far from the bright lights of cities to see large numbers of stars.

How did children learn stories about star patterns? Children learned stories about star patterns from their parents.

In this reading, what does shooting mean? In this reading, shooting means a rock in space falling toward Earth.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. pattern; B. ago; C. shooting; D. falling

2. Fill in the blanks

A. pattern; B. shooting; C. ago; D. falling

Building Connections Sample Answers

What Is a Star?: Stars are large balls of gas in space. The Sun is a star.

Stars at Night: You can see stars at night because the Sun doesn't block their light. People who live far from cities can see more stars than people who live near cities because they are not near city lights that block out the stars' light.

Star Patterns: People long ago made patterns out of the stars and told stories about the patterns they saw.

Shooting Stars: Shooting stars are really space rocks that are falling toward Earth. The white line shows the rock burning up in the air around Earth.

**Level A-3: SOLIDS, LIQUIDS AND GASES****Key Notes Sample Answers**

Why do different forms of matter look different? Different forms of matter look different because they can be a gas, liquid, or solid.

What is solid matter? Solid matter is matter that keeps its shape even when pushed or pulled.

What is liquid matter? Liquid matter is matter that takes the shape of whatever it is in, but stays the same size.

How are gases different from solids? Gases are different from solids and liquids because they fill all the space of the container they are in.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. example; B. container; C. liquid; D. solid; E. heat; F. matter

2. Fill in the blanks

A. matter; B. heat; C. solid; D. container; E. liquid; F. example

Building Connections Sample Answers

Matter: Everything on Earth is made of matter. Matter can be in gas, liquid, or solid form.

Solids: Solids do not change their size or shape when they are pulled or pushed, or when they are moved. Solids can change shape if they are heated.

Liquids: Liquids take the shape of the container they are in, although they stay the same size. Heat can turn liquids into another form of matter.

Gases: Like liquids, gases take the shape of the container they are in. However, they can also change size, filling the container they are in.

Level A-4: DRUMS**Key Notes Sample Answers**

How does a drum make sound? A drum makes sound when someone hits it and the drum shakes, or vibrates.

How are drums used in celebrations? Drums are used to tell when babies are born, when crops are brought in, at celebrations for important people, and to dance to.

Why do you think drums were chosen to be used during wars? Drums were used during wars because they scared the enemy and were good for giving orders.

Why are drums made in different shapes and sizes? Drums are made in different shapes and sizes to make different sound waves to form.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. vibrate; B. event; C. enemy; D. celebrate; E. instruments; F. materials; G. soldier; H. percussion

2. Fill in the blanks

A. celebrate; B. soldier; C. materials; D. percussion; E. enemy; F. vibrate; G. instruments; H. event

Building Connections Sample Answers

Sounds of Drums: People around the world have played drums for many years and have used different drum materials to make different sounds.

Drums in Celebrations: People around the world play drums to celebrate many important events. They also dance to the drums' beat.

Drums in War: Drums have been used in war for a long time to scare the enemy and to give soldiers orders.

Drums Today: Drums are used in many ways today. There are different ways to hit a drum. Drum kits have many kinds of drums and take a lot of skill and speed to play well.

**Level A-5: FAMOUS PAINTINGS****Key Notes Sample Answers**

Describe the Mona Lisa. The Mona Lisa is an old painting of a woman who has a famous smile.

Create another title for The Scream. Explain your choice. Another title for The Scream might be Unhappy or Scared because that is how the person looks.

Why might an artist paint the same subject several times? Artists might paint the same subject several times to capture things they see

How does Water-Lily Pond look different when a person stands back from it? When a person stands back from Water-Lily Pond, it changes from dabs of paint into a scene of lilies.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. Claude Monet; B. volcano; C. Leonardo da Vinci; D. scene; E. capture; F. Vincent van Gogh; G. famous; H. Edvard Munch

2. Fill in the blanks

A. Leonardo da Vinci; B. Claude Monet; C. volcano; D. Vincent van Gogh; E. capture; F. scene; G. Edvard Munch; H. famous

Building Connections Sample Answers

The Mona Lisa: The Mona Lisa was painted about 500 years ago, and people today still don't know whether the woman was happy or sad.

The Scream: The Scream was painted by an artist who wanted to show how he felt about the way the sky looked after a volcano erupted.

Sunflowers: Sunflowers was painted to show the colors and brightness the painter saw in some sunflowers.

Water-Lily Pond: Water-Lily Pond doesn't show exactly how the flowers looked, but how they seemed to the painter.

Level A-6: OUTDOOR ART**Key Notes Sample Answers**

Why might someone make art to be placed outdoors? Artists might want to make art to be placed outdoors so their art can be enjoyed by everyone.

What kinds of animal sculptures have been shown in cities? Kinds of animal sculptures that have been shown in cities are of cows, pigs, horses, and other animals.

What are some things used in Richard Hunt's art? Some things used in Richard Hunt's art are pieces of trash like a car's lights, shopping carts, and parts from trucks.

Why do you think most outdoor art is made to last a long time? Most outdoor art is made to last a long time to become part of a setting

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. temporary; B. sculpture; C. artists; D. public; E. museum; F. metal

2. Fill in the blanks

A. museum; B. sculpture; C. artists; D. metal; E. public; F. temporary

Building Connections Sample Answers

What Is Outdoor Art?: Outdoor art can be found anywhere, on the sides of buildings and in parks. It is meant for many people to enjoy.

City Sculptures: Some outdoor sculpture is meant for fun, like the cows and other animals that many artists have painted and have been placed on city streets.

Richard Hunt: Richard Hunt has created many sculptures with metal. Sometimes he uses trash, such as old shopping carts and truck parts.

Temporary Outdoor Art: The artist Christo makes art that is only supposed to last for a short time. He wants people to see the setting in a new way, not just look at the art.



Level A-7: AMERICANS WHO DREAM

Key Notes Sample Answers

How did President Roosevelt's dream come true? President Roosevelt's dream came true when the laws he worked for saved millions of acres of land for parks.

How did Kristi Yamaguchi's dream come true? Kristi Yamaguchi's dream came true when she skated in the Olympic Games.

How did the Wright brothers' dream come true? The Wright brothers' dream came true when their airplane flew.

How did Charles Drew's dream come true? Charles Drew's dream came true when he became a doctor and saved lives

Building Vocabulary

1. Word Choice

A. nature; B. believed; C. skating; D. president; E. airplane; F. Olympics; G. doctor; H. African

2. Fill in the blanks

A. doctor; B. Olympics; C. African; D. airplane; E. skating; F. president; G. believed; H. nature

Building Connections Sample Answers

Theodore Roosevelt: President Roosevelt's dream was to save nature so that people could always enjoy it.

Kristi Yamaguchi: Kristi Yamaguchi's dream was to ice skate at the Olympics. She won a gold medal in 1992.

The Wright Brothers: The Wright brothers' dream was to fly, and they made the first airplane.

Charles Drew: Charles Drew's dream was to become a doctor. He found a way to keep blood fresh.

Level A-8: CAREERS

Key Notes Sample Answers

What should you think about when you're choosing a career? When you're choosing a career, you should think about what interests you have and what work you'll enjoy.

What kinds of problems do veterinarians treat? Veterinarians treat skin problems that pets have, and they also treat sick or hurt wild animals.

What kinds of careers in music could people choose? Some kinds of careers in music that people could choose are to compose, record, mix, or sell music, or be a radio DJ.

What kinds of careers in construction could people choose? Some kinds of careers in construction that people could choose are to build or fix homes, highways, or bridges.

Building Vocabulary

1. Word Choice

A. trade; B. record; C. compose; D. career; E. interest; F. veterinarian; G. construction; H. treat

2. Fill in the blanks

A. record; B. veterinarian; C. trade; D. treat; E. compose; F. construct; G. interest; H. career

Building Connections Sample Answers

Choosing a Career: It is important to pick a career that interests you. One career that many people enjoy is sales.

Working with Animals: There are many careers for people who want to work with animals. Veterinarians are people whose career involves treating animals.

Working in Music: Careers in music include composing and recording music, selling music, and playing music on the radio.

Working in Construction: Workers in the construction trades build homes, bridges, and buildings.

**Level A-9: THE STONE AGE****Key Notes Sample Answers**

How do scientists learn about early people? Scientists learn about early people by studying their bowls, spears, drawings, and tools.

How did the earliest people use tools? The earliest people used tools to hunt for animals, catch fish, and make fire.

What kinds of food did early people eat? Early people ate seeds, plants, animals, and grains.

Why were animals important to people during the Stone Age? Animals were important to Stone-Age people for food and wool, and to keep safe and move things.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. store; B. earliest; C. scientists; D. stronger; E. horses; F. winter

2. Fill in the blanks

A. store; B. stronger; C. winter; D. horses; E. earliest; F. scientists

Building Connections Sample Answers

The Earliest People: The earliest people lived in a time called the Stone Age. Scientists don't know much about Stone-Age people because they haven't found their art and tools.

Tools: Once people could make tools, they could hunt and fish more easily. Tools also helped early people stay safe.

Food: The earliest people ate animals, but they later learned how to grow and store food so they could feed themselves all year.

Animals: Stone-Age people tamed animals to help them get food could and move do work.

Level A-10: REALISTIC FICTION**Key Notes Sample Answers**

How do the people in realistic fiction speak and act? The people in realistic fiction speak and act the way real people do.

What did Walter Dean Myers write about? Walter Dean Myers writes about teens living in cities.

What does Slam need to do to join a pro team? To join a pro team, Slam must get better grades, get along better with the other teens in his school, and take control of all parts of his life.

What is historical fiction? Historical fiction is realistic fiction set in the past.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. honors; B. decide; C. characters; D. events; E. realistic; F. fiction; G. control; H. historical

2. Fill in the blanks

A. events; B. decide; C. historical; D. realistic; E. honors; F. fiction; G. control; H. characters

Building Connections Sample Answers

What Is Realistic Fiction?: Realistic fiction shows people and things that may look real, but aren't

Walter Dean Myers: Myers grew up on the New York streets and used his experiences to help him become a famous writer.

A Realistic Character: *Slam!* is a book Myers wrote about a boy who wanted to be a basketball star, but had to solve some problems in his life.

Reading Realistic Fiction: Realistic fiction can be set in history or in the present.



Level A-11: WORD PLAY

Key Notes Sample Answers

How can word play help you express your ideas? Word play can help me express my ideas by comparing things that are not really alike, and bringing pictures to mind to help people see what I am saying.

What is a comparison? A comparison is a type of word play that says something is like something else.

What is an exaggeration? An exaggeration is a type of word play that describes something as being bigger than it really is.

What is an idiom? An idiom is a group of words that can't be understood from each word's literal, or word for word, meaning.

Building Vocabulary

1. Word Choice

A. express; B. purpose; C. exaggeration; D. effect; E. idiom; F. compare; G. literal; H. comparison

2. Fill in the blanks

A. comparison; B. compare; C. idiom; D. effect; E. express; F. literal; G. exaggeration; H. purpose

Building Connections Sample Answers

What Is Word Play?: Word play is a way of using words differently from their dictionary meanings. Playing with words can help you express your ideas in an interesting way.

Comparisons: Comparisons are ways to show how two things are alike and different.

Exaggerations: Exaggerations are comparisons that describe something as greater than it really is.

Idioms: Idioms are words that can't be understood from their literal meanings.

Level A-12: REAL WORLD READING

Key Notes Sample Answers

What words do you see around you every day? Every day, I see words on labels, signs, TV, and other things.

What are directions? Directions are words that tell how to make something.

What kinds of things can you read in restaurants? In restaurants, you can read the name of the restaurant, the menu, and signs that tell you where to throw things out.

What can you read when you watch a game? When you watch a game, you can read the score sign, and the numbers and words that players wear.

Building Vocabulary

1. Word Choice

A. score; B. labels; C. logo; D. measure; E. directions; F. signs; G. restaurant; H. menu

2. Fill in the blanks

A. directions; B. signs; C. restaurant; D. score; E. measure; F. menu; G. logo; H. label

Building Connections Sample Answers

Words All Around You?: Labels and signs can help you get around in the world

Making a Cake: Reading directions and following them step by step can help you make something that tastes good.

Eating Out: Signs and menus in restaurants tell you the name of the restaurant and what kinds of food it sells.

Watching a Game: Real-world words, like those on score signs and logos, can help you learn what is happening in a game.

**Level B-1: NATIONAL SYMBOLS****Key Notes Sample Answers**

What do people think when they see symbols of the United States? When people see symbols of the United States, they think about things that are important to our country.

Why is the U.S. flag called the Stars and Stripes? The U.S. flag is called the Stars and Stripes because the stars stand for the 50 states, and the stripes stand for the first 13 states.

How can colors be symbols? Colors can be symbols if they can stand for teams or countries.

What does the bald eagle show about the United States? The bald eagle shows that the United States is strong and beautiful.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. symbols; B. 1970s; C. eagle; D. July; E. 4th; F. freedom; G. colors; H. feathers

2. Fill in the blanks

A. 1970s; B. colors; C. freedom; D. July; E. symbols; F. feathers; G. eagle; H. 4th

Building Connections Sample Answers

Symbols of the United States: The flag and bald eagle are symbols of the United States. Symbols help people think about things that are important.

Stars and Stripes: The U.S. flag has one star for each state and one stripe for each of the areas that became the first 13 states.

Red, White, and Blue: Colors can be symbols for sports teams and countries. People wear red, white, and blue to show they love the United States.

Bald Eagle: The bald eagle is a symbol of the United States, too, because it is strong and beautiful. Bald eagles were saved because people passed laws that did not allow them to be hunted.

Level B-2: MONEY**Key Notes Sample Answers**

What can people do to get food or things they need or want? To get what people need or want, they can trade money or trade things.

Why might people use different things for money? People might use different things for money depending on what they have near to them.

What do marks on coins tell people ? Long ago, people used coins because they were easier to use than gold or silver, and they used paper money notes to show they had left heavy coins at a store.

Why do people use bank cards? People use bank cards so they don't have to carry much money around with them.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. coins; B. computers; C. feathers; D. island; E. plastic; F. silver; G. trade; H. weigh

2. Fill in the blanks

A. weigh; B. silver; C. plastic; D. island; E. feathers; F. computers; G. coins; H. trade

Building Connections Sample Answers

What Is Money?: Today, we use money to trade for things we buy. Long ago, people got things by trading items.

Different Kinds of Money: People have used different kinds of money, including big stones, feathers, salt, and beads

Coins and Paper Money: Coins and paper money make it easier to buy things because people know how much the things are worth. Coins and paper money are also easy to carry around.

Bank Cards: Today people often use bank cards to buy things. These cards allow people to carry around less money, but people still have to pay the bank for the things they buy.

**Level B-3: CARS: THEN & NOW****Key Notes Sample Answers**

How have cars changed over time? Cars cost less and are faster today.

How are cars today different from older cars? Cars today are different from older cars because they are made for comfort and safety.

What are energy-saving cars? Energy-saving cars are cars that run on energy from the sun or electricity, but not on gas.

What are race cars? Race cars are cars that have been designed just for racing.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. vehicle; B. design; C. battery; D. comfort; E. electric; F. safety; G. energy; H. engine

2. Fill in the blanks

A. vehicle; B. comfort; C. battery; D. energy; E. safety; F. design; G. engine; H. electric

Building Connections Sample Answers

Car History: People have had many ideas as to how to get from place to place. In the 1800s, cars were first made with gas engines.

Today's Cars: Cars today are designed for comfort and safety. They have heat, air bags, and seatbelts, and they run more smoothly.

Energy-Saving Cars: Problems with gas have led people to design cars that run on other kinds of energy.

Race Cars: Race cars are designed just for racing. People like watching them as the cars race to see which one is fastest.

Level B-4 Answers: WRITING DIARIES**Key Notes Sample Answers**

What is a diary? A diary is a book where people write their feelings and thoughts about themselves and the world.

What did Anne Frank write about? Anne Frank wrote about the war, growing up, and living in a small space with many people.

What did Pepys write about? Pepys wrote about what was happening in London in the 1600's.

What is a blog? A blog is a kind of diary on the Internet.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. Samuel Pepys; B. opinions; C. private; D. diary; E. Nazis; F. conversation; G. blog; H. London

2. Fill in the blanks

A. private; B. diary; C. Nazis; D. London; E. blog; F. Samuel Pepys; G. opinions; H. conversation

Building Connections Sample Answers

Writing for Yourself: You might write about feelings that you want to keep private, a problem that you want to solve or just things happening in the world around you..

Anne Frank's Diary: Anne Frank wrote in her diary about World War II, growing up and about hiding in a small space

Writing About the World: Some people like to write about the world around them. A man names Pepys write about a large fire that happened in the city of London.

Writing a Blog: Blogs are like diaries but they are not as private. They are published on the internet where anyone can read them.

**Level B-5: HOW THE NEWS GETS TO YOU****Key Notes Sample Answers**

What are three different ways you can learn about the news today? (any three) Different ways you can learn about the news today are newspapers, Web sites, radio, or TV.

How do reporters find out the news? Reporters find out the news by asking who, what, why, when, where, and how something happened.

How do photographs help people learn about the news? Photographs help people learn about the news by showing the who and where of the news.

What did Ida B. Wells report about? Ida B. Wells reported on African American rights and schools.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. African; B. newspapers; C. photographs; D. travel; E. radio; F. reporter; G. affect

2. Fill in the blanks

A. photographs; B. radio; C. affect; D. reporter; E. newspapers; F. African; G. travel

Building Connections Sample Answers

Choices in the News: Today you can hear news on TV, radio, or the Internet.

Reporting the News: People who report on the news ask questions like who, what, why and when.

Seeing the News: Photographers take pictures and movies that help us see the news.

Ida B. Wells Reports: Ida B Wells was a teacher and a reporter who showed readers that African Americans did not have many of the same rights as white people.

Level B-6: FROM BOOK TO MOVIE**Key Notes Sample Answers**

What are some things movie makers have to decide before they make a movie? Before they make a movie, some things movie-makers have to decide are the idea or book for the movie, how closely to follow the book, how the people and places in the book will look, and which parts of the story they will show.

What are fantasy books? Fantasy books are books written about a world of people and places that are not real.

What is the difference between telling about people's thoughts and showing them? The difference between telling about people's thoughts and showing them is that writers can tell what people are thinking in words, but in movies, actors must show people's thoughts.

How are comic books different from movies? Comic books are different from movies because movies show characters as living people, not drawings on a page. Also, comic books cost less than movies and can be read at any time.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. African; B. characters; C. mockingbird; D. comics; E. movie; F. imagine; G. fantasy; H. decide

2. Fill in the blanks

A. movie; B. mockingbird; C. decide; D. comics; E. fantasy; F. African; G. imagine; H. characters

Building Connections Sample Answers

Making Movies: When movies are made from books, movie-makers have to decide how the people and places will look and which parts of the story to show.

Making Fantasy Real: The *Lord of the Rings* is a series of books that was made into three movies. They show a fantasy world that the writer imagined.

Showing Ideas and Feelings: Writers tell things, but movies show them. The book and movie *To Kill a Mockingbird* were about a town in which white people were unfair to African Americans.

From Comics to Movies: Comic books and movies are different because the characters in movies can look real and can do fun things, like flying in cars.

**Level B-7: DO ANIMALS TALK?****Key Notes Sample Answers**

What is communication? Communication is giving information to others.

How do honeybees communicate with each other? Honeybees communicate with each other by dancing.

How do humpback whales communicate with each other? Humpback whales communicate to each other by singing.

How do people and animals use danger signals? People and animals use danger signals to tell each other to be careful.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. communicate; B. honeybee; C. signals; D. humpback; E. information; F. danger; G. nectar; H. prairie; I. language

2. Fill in the blanks

A. information; B. humpback; C. honeybee; D. language; E. communicate; F. signals; G. danger; H. prairie; I. nectar

Building Connections Sample Answers

How Animals Communicate: Even though animals don't have language like people do, they do communicate with each other. They use sounds and signals to give each other information.

The Honeybee Dance: Honeybees communicate with each other by dancing. Their dance shows other honeybees where to find nectar to eat.

Whales: Whales communicate with each other by singing. Humpback whales sing more than any other kind of whale.

Danger Signals: Like people, animals also give each other danger signals. Prairie dogs call to each other when they think danger is near.

Level B-8: WATER**Key Notes Sample Answers**

Why is water important to people, plants, and animals? Water is important to people, plants, and animals because they all need water to stay alive.

Where can you find fresh water? People need fresh water to drink.

What is the water cycle? The water cycle is the use of water on Earth again and again.

Why is it important for water to be clean? It is important for water to be clean because chemicals in water can hurt the people, plants, and animals that drink or use the water.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. salt water; B. chemicals; C. clouds; D. fresh water; E. cycle; F. factories; G. filtered; H. vapor

2. Fill in the blanks

A. cycle; B. chemicals; C. salt water; D. fresh water; E. vapor; F. filtered; G. factories; H. clouds

Building Connections Sample Answers

Water in Your Life: People, animals, and plants need water to live. People's bodies are made up mostly of water.

Fresh Water and Salt Water: Much of Earth's water is the salt water that is in the oceans. People need to use fresh water carefully so there will be enough for all life on Earth.

The Water Cycle: In the water cycle, the Sun heats water and turns it into water vapor. The water vapor forms into clouds, and then rain falls and returns the water to Earth.

Clean Water: Chemicals can hurt the people, animals, and plants that use water, so people have to be sure that water has been filtered before they drink it.

**Level B-9: FORCES AROUND US****Key Notes Sample Answers**

What does force do? Force moves things.

What two things are needed for work? The two things needed for work are energy and force.

What does gravity do? Gravity is the force that pulls us back to Earth.

What is friction? Friction is a force between objects and surfaces.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. weigh; B. rough; C. mass; D. object; E. gravity; F. force; G. energy; H. friction

2. Fill in the blanks

A. rough; B. weigh; C. energy; D. object; E. force; F. mass; G. friction; H. gravity

Building Connections Sample Answers

Push and Pull: It takes force to make things move.

Energy and Work: When you use force to make something happen that is called work. Work takes energy.

Up and Down: Gravity is the force that pulls us back to earth. Things that have more mass can't be moved as high because of gravity.

Smooth and Rough: Friction is the force that makes it hard to move one thing over another. If something has a rough surface it makes more friction than a smooth surface.

Level B-10: POPULAR FOODS**Key Notes Sample Answers**

What does *popular* mean in this reading? In this reading, *popular* means foods that people love to eat.

What is flat bread? Where was it first made? Flat bread is bread that is flat and does not rise or puff up. It was first made in the Middle East.

Why do people in the United States like hot dogs? People in the United States like hot dogs because they are easy to eat and low in cost.

What are tacos? Tacos are meat, cheese, or other fillings in bread or a corn cake.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. Italy; B. popular; C. taco; D. Mexico; E. waffle; F. Germany; G. pizza; H. sandwich

2. Fill in the blanks

A. pizza; B. Mexico; C. Germany; D. Italy; E. sandwich; F. popular; G. waffle; H. taco

Building Connections Sample Answers

Foods That People Love: Many popular foods were first made when people wanted something that didn't take much time to make or eat. Ice-cream cones were made when an ice-cream seller rolled up a waffle and scooped ice cream into it.

Pizza: Something like pizza was first made in the Middle East. However, what we know as pizza was created in the late 1800s when a cook wanted to make a food that had the colors of the Italian flag.

Hot Dogs: While something like a hot dog was first made in Greece long ago, a food that looks like today's hot dog was first made in Germany. Hot dogs became popular in the United States when they were served at a fair and at ball games.

Tacos: Tacos are eaten in Mexico like sandwiches are eaten in the United States. People put different kinds of fillings in them and sometimes eat them while they do other things.

**Level B-11: DANCE****Key Notes Sample Answers**

Why did Greek people like to dance long ago? Greek people liked to dance long ago because they thought dancing was good for the body and the mind.

What are two reasons for African dances? (any two) Reasons for African dances are for fun and as part of a large event, such as a dance to help crops grow, bring good luck, tell a story, or win a contest.

How has tap dancing changed? Tap dancing has changed from boots to tap shoes, and from the streets to shows

What is hip-hop dance? Hip-hop is dancing with jumping, rolling, spinning, and stepping based on the beat of the music

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. music; B. Egypt; C. contest; D. attached; E. modern; F. Africa; G. Greek; H. create

2. Fill in the blanks

A. attached; B. music; C. Egypt; D. modern; E. contest; F. Greek; G. Africa; H. create

Building Connections Sample Answers

Dance Long Ago: People in Egypt danced to help people get to the afterlife. People in Greece thought dancing was good for people.

African Dances: Some African dances are done for luck and some are done to test people's skills.

Tap dance: Early tap dancers used shoes or boots with hard bottoms. Today, people put taps on the heels and toes of their shoes.

Hip-Hop: Hip-hop dance was created from the strong beat of hip-hop music. Some hip-hop steps come from African dance, and some come from tap dance.

Level B-12: WEARABLE ART**Key Notes Sample Answers**

What things can be part of wearable art? Gems, pins, paper clips, or other things can be part of wearable art.

Why is some jewelry called wearable art? Some jewelry is called wearable art because it is art made from gold, gemstones, or things that are in the house.

What was flower power? Flower power was clothing that showed that the people who wore it were against war.

What does Jennifer Stern do? Jennifer Stern teaches sewing and makes wearable art.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. flowers; B. jewelry; C. museum; D. artist; E. wearable; F. machine; G. computer; H. colorful

2. Fill in the blanks

A. machine; B. flowers; C. colorful; D. computer; E. wearable; F. museum; G. jewelry; H. artist

Building Connections Sample Answers

What Is Wearable Art?: Wearable art may be made with many things that can be found in the house. Some people create wearable art so they look different from everyone else.

Jewelry as Art: Wearable art jewelry can be made from many things. People can see wearable art jewelry from many years ago in museums.

Flower Power: Wearable art can show others what people think. In the 1960s, some people wore flowers on their clothes and in their hair to show they were against the war.

An Artist of Wearable Art: Jennifer Stern is a sewing teacher who makes wearable art clothing. She uses her sewing machine to make clothes. Then she adds beads by hand.

**Level C-1: EXERCISE AND YOUR BODY****Key Notes Sample Answers**

What happens when you exercise several times a week? When you exercise several times a week, you develop a stronger heart, lungs, and muscles, and get your body into shape.

What are two ways to keep the skeleton flexible? Two ways to keep the skeleton flexible are to stretch and exercise.

How does exercise help your muscles? Exercise helps your muscles because they get more oxygen and grow stronger.

What is sweat? Sweat is a liquid that forms on your skin when you exercise.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. activity; B. responses; C. evaporates; D. muscles; E. flexible; F. liquid; G. oxygen; H. skeleton

2. Fill in the blanks

A. oxygen; B. responses; C. liquid; D. flexible; E. activity; F. skeleton; G. evaporates; H. muscles

Building Connections Sample Answers

What Happens to Your Body?: People's systems work harder during exercise, making their bodies stronger.

Exercise and the Skeleton: Exercise makes bones denser and keeps the body flexible.

Exercise and Muscles: Exercise helps muscles, including the heart, become stronger.

Exercise and Skin: Sweat is a liquid the body uses to help it cool down.

Level C-2: EARTHQUAKE**Key Notes Sample Answers**

What are Earth's plates? The Earth's plates are the pieces the Earth's crust is broken into.

What is the Richter scale? The Richter scale measures the ground's vibrations to see how big the earthquake is.

How do the three rules of Earthquake safety keep people safe? The three rules of earthquake safety keep people safe by telling them how to protect themselves from earthquakes.

What causes waves to form in a tsunami? In a tsunami, vibrations that move through the water cause waves to form.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. predict; B. Japan; C. earthquake; D. sidewalk; E. vibrations; F. Richter; G. tsunami; H. harbor

2. Fill in the blanks

A. earthquake; B. vibrations; C. harbor; D. Richter; E. Japan; F. sidewalk; G. predict; H. tsunami

Building Connections Sample Answers

What Is an Earthquake?: Earthquakes are caused when the plates on Earth's crust move, shaking the ground. Some quakes are too small to feel, while others knock buildings down.

Predicting and Measuring Earthquakes: Scientists can't yet predict earthquakes, but they can measure them. They measure the vibrations of the earth during an earthquake to tell how strong it was.

Duck, Cover, and Hold: To stay safe in an earthquake, people should duck under a table, cover themselves, and stay where they are for a while after the shaking stops.

Underwater Earthquakes: Earthquakes can cause tsunamis, which are big waves that can do a lot of harm on land.

**Level C-3: INVENTIONS****Key Notes Sample Answers**

What is one reason people invent things? One reason people invent things is to solve problems.

What problem did Arthur Fry have? Arthur Fry's problem was that he often lost his place in his songbook at church.

What is Kevlar? Kevlar is a material five times stronger than steel.

Why might an invention keep changing? An invention might keep changing because people find less expensive ways to make it or ways to make it smaller.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. create; B. calculator; C. helmet; D. invention; E. Kevlar; F. expensive; G. hospital; H. researcher

2. Fill in the blanks

A. helmet; B. researcher; C. expensive; D. Kevlar; E. hospital; F. create; G. calculator; H. invention

Building Connections Sample Answers

What Is an Invention?: Inventions are new ways of doing things and solving problems.

Finding the Right Use: A researcher named Arthur Fry used a weak glue to invent sticky notes.

An Invention That Saves Lives: A woman invented Kevlar, a useful and very strong material that is used in tires and helmets.

An Invention That Keeps Changing: Calculators keep changing as people find ways to make them smaller, less expensive, and more useful

Level C-4 Answers: MASKS**Key Notes Sample Answers**

Why do some dancers wear masks? Dancers may wear masks for important ceremonies or to tell stories.

How were ancient Egyptian death masks made for kings? A king's death mask in ancient Egypt was made by making a wax mold of the king's face, then a mask, and covering the mask with gold and gems if the king was important.

Why might people make masks of powerful animals? People might make masks of powerful animals to honor their spirits and ask for help.

What did the theater masks of ancient Greece and Rome show? Theater masks of ancient Greece and Rome showed the feelings of the characters.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. actors; B. Egypt; C. spirit; D. ancestors; E. honor; F. artist; G. theater; H. ceremonies

2. Fill in the blanks

A. actors; B. artist; C. spirit; D. honor; E. theater; F. Egypt; G. ancestors; H. ceremonies

Building Connections Sample Answers

Masks Through Time: For thousands of years, people have used masks for ceremonies and to tell stories.

Egyptian Death Masks: Ancient Egyptians made death masks for kings to help the kings make it to the afterlife.

African Masks: Masks are an important part in some Africans' lives because they honor their ancestors' spirits.

Theater Masks: Masks have been used in theater from the beginning, from ancient Greek plays to shows people see today.

**Level C-5: JAZZ****Key Notes Sample Answers**

What are the two parts of music that blend to make jazz? The two parts of music that blended to make jazz are rhythm and tunes.

How did African and European music combine to make jazz? African and European music combined to make jazz when slaves brought their music to North America and musicians combined it with European pianos and horns.

Write a new title for this reading. Explain your choice. A new title for this reading might be "A Life of Jazz," because Wynton Marsalis grew up with lots of music and is a jazz musician.

Jazz Changes: People can experiment with music by bringing different sounds into their music.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. musicians; B. combined; C. classical; D. piano; E. trumpet; F. rhythm; G. jazz; H. Wynton Marsalis

2. Fill in the blanks

A. rhythm; B. trumpet; C. jazz; D. Wynton Marsalis; E. musicians; F. classical; G. piano; H. combined

Building Connections Sample Answers

Jazz Begins: The music of Africans and whites mixed to make jazz.

Making Jazz: Jazz instruments are drums from Africa mixed with instruments such as pianos and horns from Europe.

Wynton Marsalis: Wynton Marsalis is one of the most famous jazz musicians today.

Jazz Changes: Jazz has kept changing since it began.

Level C-6: Answers: POSTERS**Key Notes Sample Answers**

What did early posters show? Early posters showed the news.

How are posters used in advertising? Posters are used in advertising to advertise products and events.

Why is the Uncle Sam poster important? The Uncle Sam poster is important because it helped people decide to join the armed forces in World War I.

Underline the sentence that tells how Neiman's work shows action. Explain your choice. "His quick, colorful strokes catch the action of a boxing match or a baseball game." I chose that sentence because it tells how Neiman shows action by painting with quick, colorful strokes.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. advertise; B. decorate; C. popular; D. LeRoy Neiman; E. image; F. designed; G. invented

2. Fill in the blanks

A. LeRoy Neiman; B. invented; C. image; D. design; E. decorate; F. advertise; G. popular

Building Connections Sample Answers

Early Posters: Posters are an old art form that began as advertisements.

Posters as Art: French artists were the first to make posters as art, and they are now used as decoration.

"I Want You!": A famous poster of Uncle Sam helped get soldiers to sign up in World Wars I and II.

LeRoy Neiman: LeRoy Neiman, who paints posters of sports, is one of the most popular artists in history.

**Level C-7: OUR NATIONAL GOVERNMENT****Key Notes Sample Answers**

How does the U.S. president work with other leaders? The U.S. president works with members of the legislative and judicial branch to make laws and make sure people follow them.

What is the executive branch of the U.S. government? The executive branch of the U.S. government is led by the president and does jobs such as planning how to spend money, pass new laws, handle the army and law enforcement, and work with other countries.

What are the houses of Congress? The houses of Congress are the part of national government that makes the laws.

What is the judicial branch of government? The judicial branch is the part of national government that decides what the laws mean.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. Supreme Court; B. legislative; C. executive; D. elect; E. Congress; F. enforcement; G. pitcher; H. judicial

2. Fill in the blanks

A. legislative; B. enforcement; C. Congress; D. pitcher; E. judicial; F. Supreme Court; G. executive; H. elect

Building Connections Sample Answers

Who's in Charge of Our Government: The U.S. president works with other leaders who have different jobs in other branches. They all work together to help run the country.

Leading the Way: The executive branch of the U.S. government is led by the president and does jobs such as planning how to spend money, pass new laws, handle the army and law enforcement, and work with other countries.

Making the Laws: The houses of Congress are the part of national government that makes the laws.

Deciding What the Laws Mean: The judicial branch is the part of national government that decides what the laws mean.

Level C-8: OCEANS**Key Notes Sample Answers**

What are the continents? The continents are the seven large land masses that rise above the oceans.

What happens to the land at the end of the continental shelf? The land at the end of the continental shelf ends in a steep cliff.

What is a coral reef? A coral reef is piles of stuck-together coral shells that grow very high.

What is a coast? A coast is the place where the ocean meets the land.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. continents; B. particles; C. species; D. habitat; E. constant; F. valley; G. islands

2. Fill in the blanks

A. valley; B. species; C. habitat; D. constant; E. continents; F. particles; G. islands

Building Connections Sample Answers

The Ocean: Most of Earth is covered by water, although there are seven continents in the oceans.

The Ocean Floor: Scientists once thought the ocean floor was flat, but now they know that it has mountains, valleys, and plains just as the land does.

Coral Reefs: Coral is a species of tiny animal that lives in the ocean. When corals die, new corals grow on top of them, forming coral reefs.

Coasts: Sandy beaches are created by waves that pound rocks into tiny particles over a very long time.

**Level C-9: ANCIENT EGYPT****Key Notes Sample Answers**

How did flooding of the Nile affect ancient Egyptians? In ancient times, Egypt was a rich country on the Nile River, which flooded every year and left rich soil to grow crops. The Nile River helped people travel and easily buy and sell things.

Why was it difficult to learn to write with hieroglyphics? It was difficult to learn to write with hieroglyphics because each word had its own picture or sign. It took twelve years to learn what the pictures meant.

What new things about mummies did you find out? The new thing about mummies I found out is that the priests took out most of the body's internal organs.

What is a pyramid? A pyramid is a special building that has four slanting sides that meet in a point at the top.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. priest; B. pyramid; C. hieroglyphics; D. internal; E. alphabet; F. refrigerator; G. occurred; H. Egypt

2. Fill in the blanks

A. internal; B. occurred; C. alphabet; D. Egypt; E. refrigerator; F. hieroglyphics; G. pyramid; H. priest

Building Connections Sample Answers

Egypt in Ancient Times: The Nile River flooded yearly in ancient times, making the soil rich. Good crops and easy travel made Egypt a rich country.

Writing in Ancient Egypt: People in ancient Egypt wrote using hieroglyphics, which are pictures and signs.

Mummies: The dead bodies of kings and queens were wrapped and preserved so they would last a long time.

The Pyramids: The pyramids were built to hold the mummies of ancient Egyptian kings and queens. The largest pyramid is the Great Pyramid.

Level C-10: ADVENTURE WRITING**Key Notes Sample Answers**

Why do people like to read adventure stories? People like to read adventure stories because the stories are exciting and they like to imagine themselves as the hero.

Why is Buck an adventure hero? Buck is an adventure hero because he overcomes dangers and solves problems.

Write a new title for this reading. Explain your choice. I would title this reading "A Life of Adventure," because Jack London lived a life of adventure.

What does the word fantastic mean in this reading? In this reading, fantastic means exciting but not true.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. Alaska; B. entertain; C. career; D. adventure; E. hero; F. magazine; G. fantastic

2. Fill in the blanks

A. magazine; B. adventure; C. Alaska; D. hero; E. entertain; F. career; G. fantastic

Building Connections Sample Answers

What Is Adventure Writing?: Adventure writing tells true and created stories about heroes solving problems.

The Call of the Wild: The Call of the Wild tells about a hero named Buck who eventually learns how to survive in the cold Alaskan winters.

Jack London: The writer of The Call of the Wild, Jack London went to Alaska during the gold rush and returned home to become a successful writer.

True Adventures: Some stories are written about adventures that really happened. Both real and fantastic adventure stories can be very exciting.

**Level C-11: MANY WAYS TO COMMUNICATE****Key Notes Sample Answers**

What is the Braille system? The Braille system is a pattern of raised dots that blind people use to read and write.

Why was Germany's secret code a problem for the English and U.S. forces? Germany's secret code was a problem for the English and U.S. forces because the code was very hard to break.

What is American Sign Language? American Sign Language is a language in which people use gestures as words to communicate.

What is Morse code? Morse code is a code of dots and dashes that communicate letters and numbers.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. Germany; B. deaf; C. transmit; D. gesture; E. communicate; F. secret; G. represent

2. Fill in the blanks

A. deaf; B. communicate; C. Germany; D. gesture; E. represent; F. secret; G. transmit

Building Connections Sample Answers

The Braille System: Louis Braille invented a system that blind people could use to read and write by using an army code.

Germany's Secret Code: During World War II, Germany invented a secret code that helped it attack English and U.S. ships. Breaking the code helped England and the United States win the war.

American Sign Language: A system called American Sign Language, or ASL, was developed to allow deaf people to communicate by using gestures instead of speech.

Morse Code: In the 1830s, Samuel Morse created a special machine that allowed information to be sent over electric wires. Some ships still use the system today to communicate with one another.

Level C-12: COMICS AND CARTOONS**Key Notes Sample Answers**

Write another phrase for the term "speech bubble." Explain your choice. Speech bubbles show the words that people speak. The text tells the reader what speech bubbles are.

How has anime changed over the years? Anime has changed over the years from stories just for children to stories for adults.

What are graphic novels? Graphic novels look like comic books because they have drawings, but they tell stories like those in novels.

What is computer animation? Computer animation is animation done by computers instead of being hand-drawn by people.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. computer; B. imaginary; C. fiction; D. graphic novel; E. balloons; F. anime; G. comics; H. animated

2. Fill in the blanks

A. anime; B. balloons; C. imaginary; D. comic; E. animated; F. computer; G. fiction; H. graphic novel

Building Connections Sample Answers

The Comic Strip: Comic strips began to appear in newspapers at the end of the 19th century and are still in newspapers today.

Anime: Anime is a kind of cartoon from Japan that is in books, on TV, and in films. Today, it is read and watched by both children and adults.

Graphic Novels: Like novels, graphic novels tell long stories, but they also use drawings to tell their story.

Computer Animation: Although artists once drew film animation by hand, today they use computers.

**Level D-1: IMMIGRATION TO THE UNITED STATES****Key Notes Sample Answers**

Why do immigrants come to the United States? Some immigrants come to the United States to seek better jobs and some seek opportunities to live their lives as they wish.

What was life like for immigrants who traveled to the United States between 1900 and 1920? Some immigrants who came to the United States on ships many years ago were brought as slaves. All immigrants faced difficult conditions on the ships.

What was the first thing that happened to immigrants on Ellis and Angel Islands? The first thing that happened to immigrants on Ellis and Angel Island was a medical check.

What must immigrants know to become U.S. citizens? People who want to become U.S. citizens must know English and pass a test about the history and laws of the United States.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. liberty; B. opportunity; C. statue; D. conditions; E. immigrants; F. require; G. voyages; H. citizens

2. Fill in the blanks

A. statue; B. citizens; C. conditions; D. require; E. liberty; F. opportunity; G. immigrants; H. voyages

Building Connections Sample Answers

Land of Immigrants: Immigrants come from around the world to live in the United States.

Getting to the United States: Immigrants once came to the United States on difficult ship voyages. Today, most come by plane.

Ellis and Angel Islands: Many immigrants had to pass medical and background tests at Ellis and Angel Island to be allowed to stay in the United States.

Becoming a U.S. Citizen: Immigrants who want to become U.S. citizens now have to learn English and pass a test on U.S. history and laws.

Level D-2: OUR NORTH AMERICAN NEIGHBORS**Key Notes Sample Answers**

How are Canada, Mexico, and the United States different in size? The three countries are different in size because Canada has 4 million square miles, Mexico is one-fifth the land area of Canada, and the United States has more land than Mexico and less than Canada.

How do the people of the United States and Canada choose their leaders? The people of the United States elect a president, while people in Canada elect representatives who choose the country's leader.

Why is Spanish the primary language of Mexico? Many people in Mexico speak Spanish because many of Mexico's settlers were from Spain.

What did the Spanish settlers find when they arrived in North America? When they arrived in North America, the Spanish settlers found a city that the Aztecs had built.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. neighbor; B. Canada; C. population; D. Mexico; E. pyramids; F. Aztec; G. representatives

2. Fill in the blanks

A. population; B. Mexico; C. pyramids; D. neighbor; E. Canada; F. Aztec; G. representatives

Building Connections Sample Answers

Three North American Countries: The three North American countries are Canada, the United States of America and Mexico.

Comparing Canada & the US: The United States and Canada are the same in that they both speak English, have parts of the Great Plains and the Rocky Mountains and they elect their leaders.

Mexico & its North American Neighbors: Mexico is different from Canada and Mexico in that Mexico is smaller, has more mountains and its people speak Spanish.

Mexico City: Mexico City is the oldest city in North America. It is the highest and fifth largest city in the world.

**Level D-3: ANCIENT ROME****Key Notes Sample Answers**

What was Rome like in ancient times? In ancient times, Rome was an important city located on seven hills, so it was safe. Citizens had rights and laws.

How was the Roman army different from other armies? The Roman army was different from other armies because it was organized into smaller groups and it did not destroy the places it conquered.

What did ancient Roman engineers build? Ancient Roman engineers built roads, bridges, aqueducts, and cities.

How did rich and poor Roman families live? Rich Roman families lived in large houses with servants and many of their children went to schools. Poor Roman families lived in apartments and the children worked in family businesses instead of going to school.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. conquered; B. location; C. engineer; D. citizenship; E. merchants; F. apartments; G. aqueducts; H. organization

2. Fill in the blanks

A. location; B. engineer; C. organization; D. merchants; E. apartments; F. citizenship; G. aqueducts; H. conquered

Building Connections Sample Answers

Rome in Ancient Times: The ancient Roman Empire was built in a secure location, and some Romans could become citizens and have rights..

The Roman Army: The Roman army was well organized. It also added the places it conquered to the Roman Empire, making the empire very large.

Roman Engineering: Roman engineers built roads that made it easy for people to travel and aqueducts that carried water to cities.

Daily Life in Ancient Rome: The rich people in ancient Rome lived in large houses and had servants, and their children went to school. Poor people lived in apartments and their children went to work in their family's business.

Level D-4: MYSTERY WRITING**Key Notes Sample Answers**

What can happen in mystery stories? In mystery stories, anything can happen. There is suspense, danger, and sometimes a riddle or surprise ending.

What kinds of mysteries are popular today? Today, mysteries with police detectives, sweet older people who solve crimes, and cat detectives are popular.

What did Edgar Allan Poe write? Edgar Allan Poe wrote mystery poems and stories.

What is the mystery in "The Tell-Tale Heart"? The mystery in "The Tell-Tale Heart" is in finding out what the narrator will do and in finding out that he is mad.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. authors; B. detective; C. obsession; D. narrator; E. suspense; F. poetry; G. magazine; H. mystery

2. Fill in the blanks

A. suspense; B. mystery; C. magazine; D. narrator; E. obsession; F. author; G. poetry; H. detective

Building Connections Sample Answers

What Is Mystery Writing?: In mystery writing, the thrill is in the suspense of not knowing what happened and in solving a riddle.

Mystery History: Edgar Allan Poe was the first person to write a modern mystery story. Mysteries are very popular today.

Edgar Allan Poe: This famous writer of mystery stories also wrote poetry. His death is a mystery, too.

"The Tell-Tale Heart": This short story by Poe has a mad narrator who draws readers into his strange world of obsession.

Level D-5: THE INTERNET

Key Notes Sample Answers

Why was the Internet created? The Internet was created so people in college and government could communicate with each other through their computers and keep in touch if the United States was attacked.

What is an e-mail message? An e-mail message is small pieces of information called packets that are sent through a network of computers.

How has the internet changed the way people buy and sell things? The Internet has changed the way people buy and sell things because people don't have to leave their homes and can buy or sell without ever meeting.

Why is it important to think of safety on the internet? Safety on the Internet is important because virus programs can enter a computer and destroy information.

Building Vocabulary

1. Word Choice

A. destroy; B. Internet; C. company; D. computer; E. virus; F. purchase; G. identified; H. message

2. Fill in the blanks

A. purchase; B. virus; C. company; D. message; E. identified; F. Internet; G. computer; H. destroy

Building Connections Sample Answers

History of the Internet: In 1969, the Internet was a small group of computers, but today, computers are linked around the world through the Internet.

Sending E-Mail: When you send an e-mail message, the information is broken into packets that are put back together at the computer you are sending the message to.

Buying and Selling on the Internet: In the past few years, more and more people are buying and selling on the Internet, both from companies and from each other.

Safety on the Internet: Viruses can destroy information on a computer, but you can do some things to keep your computer safe

Level D-6: CREATING ADS

Key Notes Sample Answers

What are some ways that ads are used? Ads help sell things, give people information, and are an important part of the economy.

Why does an ad campaign start with an idea about a product? An ad campaign starts with an idea about a product because that idea will help people remember and buy the product.

What is the difference between movies and commercials? The difference between movies and commercials is that people make movies to entertain, but people make commercials to sell things.

Why do ad campaigns have TV and print ads? Ad campaigns have TV and print ads to help reach different people and help them remember the product.

Building Vocabulary

1. Word Choice

A. entertain; B. theme; C. commercial; D. advertising; E. economy; F. magazine; G. campaign; H. agency

2. Fill in the blanks

A. economy; B. magazine; C. agency; D. campaign; E. advertising; F. theme; G. entertain; H. commercial

Building Connections Sample Answers

What's an Ad For?: Ads help sell products and are an important part of the economy.

The Ad Campaign: An ad campaign is a plan to help sell a product.

Making TV Commercials: Commercials are like full-length movies; however, the point is not to entertain, but to sell.

Making Print Ads: Print ads are ads in magazines and newspapers that help sell a product.

Level D-7: TAKING CARE OF THE HUMAN BODY

Key Notes Sample Answers

How is the human body like a machine? The human body is like a machine because it has ten systems that do special jobs.

What is the circulatory system? The circulatory system is the veins, arteries, heart, and lungs that carry blood through the body.

What is in the body's repair kit? The body's repair kit has white blood cells to kill germs and scabs that form over a cut.

What kind of help does the body need to stay healthy? To stay healthy, the body needs the right food, plenty of water, sleep, and exercise.

Building Vocabulary

1. Word Choice

A. repair; B. veins; C. protective; D. combination; E. complex; F. restore; G. arteries; H. involve; I. circulatory

2. Fill in the blanks

A. repair; B. complex; C. veins; D. combination; E. circulatory; F. arteries; G. involve; H. protective; I. restore

Building Connections Sample Answers

The Systems of the Human Body: The body has ten systems that all have special jobs. One system keeps you breathing while another moves blood throughout the body.

The Circulatory System: The body's circulatory system keeps the blood flowing to and from the heart and throughout the body.

The Body's Repair Kit: The body has ways of protecting and repairing itself. Eyelids and lashes protect the eye, and white blood cells kill harmful germs.

Keeping the Body Going: People can help keep their body healthy by eating the right food, drinking plenty of water, exercising, and sleeping.

Level D-8: VOLCANOES

Key Notes Sample Answers

What are two kinds of volcanoes? Two kinds of volcanoes are extinct volcanoes and active volcanoes.

How does a volcano's cone form? A volcano's cone forms from magma that escapes from Earth's crust and forms layers of lava.

What happens when volcanoes erupt? When volcanoes erupt, hot poisonous gases can escape and lava erupts that can burn plants and trees in its path. Ash can fall for miles.

How were the islands of Hawaii formed? The islands of Hawaii were formed by volcanoes that erupted, spilling lava in layers that built the islands.

Building Vocabulary

1. Word Choice

A. poisonous; B. Fahrenheit; C. repeated; D. volcano; E. erupt; F. mantle; G. Hawaii; H. magma; I. extinct

2. Fill in the blanks

A. erupt; B. magma; C. Hawaii; D. poisonous; E. extinct; F. Fahrenheit; G. volcano; H. mantle; I. repeated

Building Connections Sample Answers

Kinds of Volcanoes: Two kinds of volcanoes are extinct and active volcanoes. Extinct volcanoes will never erupt again, whereas active volcanoes might.

How Volcanoes Form: Volcanoes form when plates in Earth's crust crack and magma escapes. They also form when plates move together and overlap, bringing magma to the surface.

When Volcanoes Erupt: When magma is forced through a volcano, there is an eruption, and the lava and poisonous gases can kill people and animals miles away.

Volcanic Islands: Islands like those of Hawaii formed when lava flowed out of hot spots on the ocean floor. Once the rock rose above the surface of the ocean, it formed an island.

**Level D-9: WIND AND SOLAR ENERGY****Key Notes Sample Answers**

How can wind make energy? Wind makes energy when wind blows through turbines that turn a generator, which produces electricity.

Where are wind farms built? Wind farms are built in areas that have strong, steady winds with a speed of at least 13 miles per hour.

How can solar energy be used? Solar energy can be stored, used indirectly to heat a house, or used directly when it is turned into energy to run machines.

How do solar cars work? Solar cars run on batteries that store the sun's energy.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. solar; B. California; C. calculators; D. distance; E. turbine; F. pollute; G. generator; H. battery

2. Fill in the blanks

A. battery; B. turbine; C. pollute; D. California; E. generator; F. calculators; G. solar; H. distance

Building Connections Sample Answers

Wind and Solar Energy: Kinds of energy, will not run out, not used much today, are being developed by scientists;

Wind Energy: Turbines make energy from wind, wind farms can make energy, more and more wind farms today;

Solar Energy: Solar cells store energy, must be stored in batteries, can be used to run cars.

Solar Cars: Solar cells stored on the roof of the car store the sun's energy. That energy is used to power the car.

Level D-10: THE ORIGINS OF SPORTS**Key Notes Sample Answers**

What is streetball? Streetball is a sport like basketball, except it has no nets, no refs, and a group of people decide on the rules.

What is snowboarding? Snowboarding is a sport like snow skiing where people go down hills, but instead of two skis, snowboarders use a single board.

How is double Dutch jump rope different from other kinds of rope jumping? Double Dutch jump rope is different from other kinds of rope jumping because there are two ropes turning at the same time in different directions, and the jumpers say rhymes

What is stock car racing? Stock car racing is racing in which drivers drive around an oval track to see who can go the fastest.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. tournament; B. rhymes; C. daughter; D. double; E. origins; F. organized; G. association; H. Michigan

2. Fill in the blanks

A. association; B. double; C. daughter; D. rhymes; E. Michigan; F. tournament; G. origins; H. organized

Building Connections Sample Answers

Streetball: play it like basketball, New York City

Snowboarding: go down snowy hills quickly

Double Dutch Jump Rope: say rhymes while you jump over two ropes

Stock Car Racing: try to race your car faster than the other cars, the southern United States

**Level D-11: ART & TECHNOLOGY****Key Notes Sample Answers**

How has technology changed the arts? Technology has changed the arts so people create their work in new ways. Artists can paint with beams of light and musicians can write music with computers

What is digital photography? Digital photography is photography done with cameras that store photos on memory chips, not on film. The images are put on a computer.

How can musicians use computers? Musicians can use computers by programming in sounds and rhythms, arranging those sounds, and writing music.

How can computers be used in art? Artists can use computers to change and create images on a computer screen.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. musicians; B. computer; C. stylus; D. technique; E. technology; F. photography; G. digital; H. synthesizer

2. Fill in the blanks

A. stylus; B. computer; C. technique; D. musicians; E. digital; F. synthesizer; G. technology; H. photography

Building Connections Sample Answers

Technology Changes the Arts: New technologies have changed the way people create art. Artists can paint with beams of light, and musicians can write music with computers.

Digital Photography: At first, people didn't think photography was really art, but then they saw that photographers arrange pictures like painters do. Today, digital photographs can let people store pictures as computer files.

Music and Computers: Computers can be used to create and compose music. Synthesizers can also make many different kinds of sounds.

Computer Art: Computers can also be used to create art. In digital painting, artists paint with a stylus that transfers their work to a computer screen.

Level D-12: FASHION**Key Notes Sample Answers**

How did the T-shirt come into fashion? The T-shirt came into fashion when United States soldiers in Europe saw them being used as undershirts, took them back to the United States, and began wearing them.

Where Fashion Comes From: Fashion comes from all over the world, with people copying different styles for clothing.

What does a fashion designer do? A fashion designer comes up with ideas for clothes, sketches the ideas, and turns those ideas into patterns for clothing.

Why did FUBU choose that name for the company? The people who started FUBU® wanted to design clothing for people who wanted to look good in comfortable clothing—they wanted clothing "For Us, By Us."

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. entrepreneur; B. imagination; C. career; D. designer; E. kimono; F. fashion; G. influence; H. urban

2. Fill in the blanks

A. kimono; B. fashion; C. urban; D. designer; E. influence; F. imagination; G. entrepreneur; H. career

Building Connections Sample Answers

What Is Fashion?: Fashion always changes. An example is how the T-shirt went from underwear to clothing many people wear as shirts.

Where Fashion Comes From: Styles from countries around the world influence fashion.

The Fashion Designer: The fashion designer comes up with the ideas for clothes we wear.

"For Us, By Us": Several friends began a company called FUBU that sets the style for hip-hop clothing.

**Level E-1: EATING FOR ENERGY****Key Notes Sample Answers**

What is healthful eating? Healthful eating is eating fruits, vegetables, grains, and other good sources of calories

What is MyPlate? MyPlate shows the kinds of foods that make up a balanced diet.

What do nutrition labels show? Nutrition labels show the amount of nutrients in a serving of food and how much of each nutrient you need each day

What are vitamins and minerals? Vitamins and minerals are two kinds of nutrients you get from food.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. nutritionists; B. nutrients; C. carbohydrates; D. vitamin; E. mineral; F. calorie; G. nutrition; H. myPlate

2. Fill in the blanks

A. nutrients; B. nutrition; C. calorie; D. myPlate; E. mineral; F. vitamin; G. nutritionists; H. carbohydrates

Building Connections Sample Answers

Healthful Eating: Food provides energy for everything you do. A nutritious diet in which you choose and prepare food wisely helps you keep up your energy levels.

MyPlate: MyPlate shows what kinds of foods make up a balanced diet.

Nutrition Labels: Nutritional labels tell us how a food meets our nutritional needs.

Vitamins and Minerals: Vitamins help your body change food into energy and build energy. Minerals build strong bones and teeth and keep your muscles and nerves healthy.

Level E-2: EARTH'S MOON**Key Notes Sample Answers**

What is a satellite? A satellite is a body that orbits a larger body.

What is the difference between high and low tides? A high tide is when you see more water at the beach and low tide is when you see less water.

What do we see during a full moon? During a full moon, we see an entire side of the moon.

How easy would it be to live on the moon? Living on the moon would be difficult because there is no oxygen, water, or food on the moon

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. missions; B. tide; C. gravity; D. orbits; E. astronauts; F. satellite; G. phases; H. lunar

2. Fill in the blanks

A. lunar; B. missions; C. satellite; D. phases; E. gravity; F. tide; G. astronauts; H. orbits

Building Connections Sample Answers

Earth's Satellite: The Moon is a satellite of Earth, and it orbits Earth as Earth orbits the Sun. The Moon also spins as it orbits Earth.

The Moon and Tides: The tides in Earth's oceans are largely caused by the Moon. The height of the tides is affected by the shape of the coastline and the depth of the ocean.

The Changing Moon: The Moon's light comes from the Sun. It takes about one month for the Moon to orbit Earth. During this time, the Moon goes through lunar phases. We see different amounts of the Moon in each phase

Humans on the Moon: From 1969 to 1972, American astronauts flew missions to the Moon. The astronauts had to carry with them everything they needed to survive.

**Level E-3: HEAT & ENERGY****Key Notes Sample Answers**

How does rubbing your hands together make them warm? Rubbing your hands together makes them warm because rubbing creates friction, which creates heat.

What is a thermometer? A thermometer is a tool that measures temperature.

Underline the most important sentence in the passage. Explain your choice. "This is because white clothes make you feel cooler, while black clothes make you feel warmer." This sentence is the most important because it tells why people wear these clothes.

How does a coat keep you warm? A coat keeps you warm because the coat becomes an insulator against the cold.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. generated; B. thermometers; C. insulator; D. absorb; E. conductor; F. molecules; G. climates; H. friction

2. Fill in the blanks

A. insulator; B. friction; C. thermometers; D. molecules; E. climates; F. generated; G. conductor; H. absorb

Building Connections Sample Answers

Generating Heat: When you walk or ride your bike, your body generates energy, which causes heat.

Temperature: Liquid in a thermometer expands when the temperature is warm because heat causes the molecules in the liquid to expand, or move farther apart.

Colors and Heat: On a hot summer day, white or light-colored clothing can make you feel cooler because light bounces off white or light-colored material.

How Heat Moves: Insulators keep heat from moving from place to place. Conductors let heat move from place to place.

Level E-4: GUITARS**Key Notes Sample Answers**

How are guitars different from one another? Guitars are different based on the number of strings they have and if the strings are made of bronze, steel, or plastic.

How did one musician change the way people thought about guitars? A Spanish musician changed the way people thought about guitars by playing classical music that had never been played on guitars and writing his own music for the guitar.

How does an acoustic guitar make sound? An acoustic guitar makes sound when the guitar strings vibrate, which causing the soundboard to vibrate. The hollow body of the guitar amplifies that sound.

How are guitars used in rock music? Electric guitars are used in rock music to keep the music's rhythms.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A guitar; B. vibrate; C. rhythm; D. musicians; E. acoustic; F. teenagers; G. amplify; H. classical

2. Fill in the blanks

A. amplify; B. classical; C. vibrate; D. acoustic; E. teenagers; F. musicians; G. guitar; H. rhythm

Building Connections Sample Answers

Guitars Past and Present: Guitars are a stringed instrument. Guitars were first played in Egypt 3,000 years ago. Today, guitars are played in countries around the world.

Spanish Guitars: A Spanish guitar maker made the guitar into the shape it is today. A Spanish musician showed that the guitar could be used to play classical music.

Acoustic and Electric Guitars: The sound on an acoustic guitar is made when guitar strings vibrate and makes the soundboard vibrate. The sound in an electric guitar comes when a signal is sent to a speaker.

Rock-and-Roll Music: Many musicians who made rock and roll popular played electric guitars.

**Level E-5: PEOPLE IN PICTURES****Key Notes Sample Answers**

What can portraits show? Portraits can show an entire person or just a face.

What are realistic paintings? Realistic paintings show people as they really looked.

How do photographers help people learn about their subjects? Photographers help people learn about their subjects by choosing the background or what things will be in the photograph.

What is a caricature? A caricature is a kind of portrait that uses exaggeration to tell about a person.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. photograph; B. portrait; C. realistic; D. exaggerate; E. invention; F. artist; G. subject; H. caricature

2. Fill in the blanks

A. photograph; B. artist; C. subject; D. invention; E. portrait; F. exaggerate; G. realistic; H. caricature

Building Connections Sample Answers

What Is a Portrait? A portrait, which is a picture of a person, can be a drawing, painting, or photo.

Paintings: Many years ago, most portraits were painted. Because it was expensive to have a portrait painted, many portraits were of rich or famous people.

Photographs: Once cameras were invented, it was faster and easier for people to have photographs of themselves taken, rather than paintings.

Caricatures: A caricature is a portrait made by an artist that exaggerates something about a person, such as unusual eyes.

Level E-6: MUSIC IN THE MOVIES**Key Notes Sample Answers**

How can music change the way you think during a movie? Music can change the way you think during a movie by having the music set a scene or play a theme when a certain character is on the screen.

How can music convey information in a movie? Music can convey information in a movie by using music to convey the movie's time and place, or to help explain the action on the screen.

Describe the kind of music that might be used in an exciting movie scene. The music in an exciting movie scene would be loud and fast.

Why is John Williams famous? John Williams is famous because he has written music for more than 200 movies and television programs.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. romantic; B. theme; C. rhythm; D. convey; E. director; F. Academy Award; G. conscious; H. jazz

2. Fill in the blanks

A. Academy Award; B. romantic; C. jazz; D. conscious; E. rhythm; F. theme; G. convey; H. director

Building Connections Sample Answers

Music in the Movies: Music is used to help a director tell a story and to help the audience guess what's coming next.

Music Sets the Scene: Music can convey the time or place of the action and explain what's happening in the movie.

Music Tells the Story: Music can contribute to the mood of the movie and help an audience follow the plot.

John Williams: Williams is a very successful writer of movie music, and he's written music for Star Wars, Harry Potter, and many other movies.

**Level E-7: CIVIL RIGHTS LEADERS****Key Notes Sample Answers**

What are civil rights? Civil rights are certain private rights such as the right to vote in elections and to be treated fairly.

What did Susan B. Anthony do to help women get the right to vote? Susan B. Anthony held meetings, gave speeches, and took 100,000 names of people who wanted equality for women to the U.S. Senate.

What did Thurgood Marshall work for? Thurgood Marshall worked for the civil right of all children to equal education.

Break the word unlawful into three parts. How do all three parts help you define the word? "Un" means not, law means the laws we have, and ful means "full of", so unlawful means something is not lawful.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. genders; B. unlawful; C. argued; D. practices; E. Senate; F. facilities; G. amendments; H. equality

2. Fill in the blanks

A. unlawful; B. facilities; C. amendments; D. genders; E. unlawful; F. Senate; G. equality; H. argued

Building Connections Sample Answers

Civil Rights: All Americans have the right to vote, whatever their race, gender, or religion.

Equal Rights for Women: It took many years but women such as Susan B. Anthony helped make it possible for American women to have the right to vote.

Equal Education: In the 1950s, the Supreme Court of the U.S. ruled that all children should have the same education, at the same time, and in the same place.

Government Budgets: The Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 made it the law that all Americans would be treated equally

Level E-8: MANAGING MONEY**Key Notes Sample Answers**

How can budgets help people manage money? Budgets can help people manage money by having a record of what money is coming in and what money is going out.

How did Jamie find out how much money she could spend? Jamie found out how much money she could spend by counting what she had from working for her neighbor, then subtracting what she had already spent.

What are two ways people can invest their money? Two ways people can invest their money are to put it in a savings account at a bank or to invest in stocks.

Name two ways governments earn revenue. (any two ways): Two ways governments earn revenue are from sales tax, income tax, and property tax.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. ticket; B. expenses; C. revenue; D. budget; E. increase; F. decrease; G. debt; H. invest; I. neighbor

2. Fill in the blanks

A. increase; B. invest; C. expenses; D. ticket; E. neighbor; F. budget; G. decrease; H. revenue; I. debt

Building Connections Sample Answers

Personal Budgets: Every budget has two parts: a record of money coming in and a record of money going out.

Creating a Budget: To make your own budget, you need to show your income and your expenses for a period of time.

Investing Money: If you want money to increase in value, you need to put your money in something like a savings account.

Government Budgets: Governments, like individual people, have budgets with two parts: income or revenue and expenses.

**Level E-9: THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR****Key Notes Sample Answers**

What were the two sides in the Civil War? The two sides in the Civil War were the Confederate States of America and the Union.

Who did President Lincoln honor at Gettysburg? In Gettysburg, President Lincoln honored the soldiers of both armies who fought and died there.

How were the Union army and the Confederate army different? The Union army and the Confederate army were different because they wore different colored uniforms and the Union had enough supplies while the Confederate army did not.

How did General Grant want the Union soldiers to act after the war? General Grant wanted the Union soldiers to treat the Confederate soldiers as fellow Americans after the war.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. enlist; B. Gettysburg; C. celebrate; D. Confederate; E. surrendered; F. weapons; G. invaded; H. slavery; I. Pennsylvania

2. Fill in the blanks

A. invaded; B. weapons; C. Gettysburg; D. surrendered; E. celebrate; F. Pennsylvania; G. Confederate; H. slavery; I. enlist

Building Connections Sample Answers

The Civil War Begins: The North and the South argued about slavery. The South's income came mostly from businesses that used slaves, but the North's income came from businesses that did not use slaves.

The Battle of Gettysburg: Most of the fighting in the Civil War took place in the Southern states. The two armies fought at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, which became a turning point in the war.

Civil War Soldiers: At first, soldiers in both armies had enough food and weapons, but the Confederacy began to run out of supplies. Many freed and runaway slaves enlisted in the Union army and fought bravely, but they were not treated well.

After the War: After the surrender, General Grant told the Union soldiers to treat the Confederate soldiers as their fellow Americans. Less than a week after the South surrendered, President Lincoln was killed.

Level E-10: SCIENCE FICTION**Key Notes Sample Answers**

What are science fiction stories about? Science fiction stories are about strange events based in science that could not really happen.

What does Ray Bradbury write about? Ray Bradbury writes about trips through space and time, strange beings, and surprising events..

In *Fahrenheit 451*, what happens to people who read? In *Fahrenheit 451*, people who read are arrested.

What is censorship? Censorship is when people are not allowed to read what others have written.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. Fahrenheit; B. fiction; C. memorize; D. inspired; E. censored; F. alien; G. strange; H. edit

2. Fill in the blanks

A. alien; B. fiction; C. censored; D. Fahrenheit; E. memorize; F. edited; G. inspired; H. strange

Building Connections Sample Answers

What is Science Fiction: Science fiction, which is fiction based on science, has many kinds of stories. Some are stories about time and space travel, aliens, and perfect societies.

Ray Bradbury: Ray Bradbury is one of the greatest science fiction writers. He was inspired by magic, movies, adventure books, and comic strips.

***Fahrenheit 451*:** Bradbury's most popular book is about a future in which people are arrested for reading books.

Censorship: Sometimes books, including *Fahrenheit 451*, are censored. This means that pieces were taken out of them that others didn't want readers to see.

**Level E-11: ALL ABOUT ENGLISH****Key Notes Sample Answers**

How did the English language evolve? The English language began in England. It borrowed words from Greek, and then borrowed more words from the Vikings and French invaders.

Why do some English and Spanish words look similar? Some English and Spanish words look similar because both languages have words that came from Latin.

What are idioms? Idioms are expressions that mean something other than what the words actually mean.

Why are words added to English? Words are added to English because we need to name new things in science or new problems that happen.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. Vikings; B. idiom; C. smog; D. e-mail; E. translate; F. altered; G. resemble; H. evolved

2. Fill in the blanks

A. translate; B. Vikings; C. idiom; D. altered; E. e-mail; F. smog; G. evolved; H. resemble

Building Connections Sample Answers

English Roots: Many English words are borrowed from other languages, including French, Greek, and Latin. Many words were added to English when new people arrived in England.

English and Spanish Words: Many English and Spanish words look similar because both languages have roots in Latin. Some of these words people can recognize, even if they don't understand both languages.

Idioms: Idioms are expressions that mean something different from what the actual words mean. Every language has idioms, and they can make learning the language a bit difficult.

New English Words: When new things are created or discovered, they need to be named. Some new words are combinations of existing words.

Level E-12: NEWSPAPERS**Key Notes Sample Answers**

What are some of the main steps in publishing a newspaper? Some of the main steps in publishing a newspaper are writing stories, creating the pages or layouts, and making a printing plate for each page, then printing, folding, and delivering the newspaper.

What are the sections in a newspaper? The sections in a newspaper organize stories into different kinds of news like sports and feature stories, or local, state, national, and international news.

Where do newspapers print opinions? Newspapers print opinions in reviews of movies, books, plays, and TV shows; the editorial page; and the letters page.

Describe one way newspapers make money. (only one way needed): One way newspapers make money is to sell advertising. Newspapers also make money by selling copies of the newspaper.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. finances; B. rotary; C. metropolitan; D. feature; E. review; F. cylinders; G. editorial; H. circulation

2. Fill in the blanks

A. metropolitan; B. editorial; C. finances; D. feature; E. review; F. circulation; G. cylinders; H. rotary

Building Connections Sample Answers

Publishing a Newspaper: To publish a newspaper (or book), involves many steps that begin with written stories and then getting the stories into a layout.

That's Your Opinion: Newspapers can print readers' opinions as well as those of other people, like the editors.

The Newspaper Business: To stay in business, newspapers need to sell ads.

What's in a Newspaper: Newspapers can have many different sections, including information about the world or local area, sports, and stories about people in a town or city.

**Level F-1: SPEECHES THAT INSPIRE****Key Notes Sample Answers**

How can speeches affect people? Speeches can affect people deeply to calm, anger, or inspire them.

What did President Roosevelt tell Americans in his speech? President Roosevelt told Americans that they must work together to prevent future attacks.

What did President Kennedy ask the people of the United States and the world to do? President Kennedy asked the people of the United States and the world to work for freedom and human rights.

What did Dr. King say he wanted in the speech "I Have a Dream?" In his speech, Dr. King said he wanted equal rights for all people.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. challenged; B. inspire; C. inaugural; D. memorial; E. video; F. audience; G. Hawaii; H. infamy

2. Fill in the blanks

A. inaugural; B. video; C. inspire; D. challenged; E. Hawaii; F. infamy; G. memorial; H. audience

Building Connections Sample Answers

The Power of Speech: The words in a speech can calm, anger, or inspire the people in an audience.

A Day of Infamy: The day after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt spoke to Congress. In that speech, he described a "date which will live in infamy."

A Call to Service: In President John F. Kennedy's inaugural speech as president of the U.S.A., he asked people to work on their shared problems, not their differences. The phrases that he used were: "ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country."

I Have a Dream: In Dr. Martin Luther King's speech calling for equal rights for all people, he repeated the phrase "I have a dream." Dr. King used this phrase to describe his hopes for the future.

Level F-2: PURCHASING POWER**Key Notes Sample Answers**

What does the word currency mean? "Currency" describes the paper money and coins that are "current" in a country.

What does circulate mean in this passage? "Circulate" means "to use" in this passage.

How did the euro change the way people travel in Europe? The euro made traveling easier because there is one currency in European countries instead of many.

What or who pays for a purchase when a credit card is used? When a credit card is used, a financial institution pays for the purchase and the person pays the institution back, plus fees and interest.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. institution; B. currency; C. value; D. application; E. purchase; F. exchange; G. euro; H. circulate

2. Fill in the blanks

A. exchange; B. value; C. institution; D. application; E. currency; F. purchase; G. circulate; H. euro

Building Connections Sample Answers

The Value of Money: Although \$100 bills and \$1 bills cost the same to make, they have different values. Both paper money and coins are called currency.

Dollars, Pesos, and Yen: Each country's government controls the value of its money. When people visit other countries, they must exchange their money for the money of that country.

A Common Currency: In 2002, 12 European countries began to use the same currency, which was called the euro. The euro has made it easier to travel and do business in European Union countries.

Credit Cards: When people use credit cards, their financial institution pays for the goods or services purchased. Then, the person pays the institution back. Credit cards are costly because the interest on unpaid bills can make things cost much more than their original price.

**Level F-3: ANCIENT GREECE****Key Notes Sample Answers**

Describe the city-state government of ancient Greece. The city-state of ancient Greece had its own democratic government and ruled the land around it.

What is a myth? A myth is a story that explains why some things happen in the world.

Who was Homer? Homer was the most famous ancient Greek writer.

How do we know the ancient Greeks valued athletics? We know athletics were important to the ancient Greeks because training began when children were young and wars were stopped during Olympic Games.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. myth; B. compete; C. Olympics; D. athlete; E. classic; F. democracy; G. *Iliad*; H. goddesses

2. Fill in the blanks

A. democracy; B. *Iliad*; C. myth; D. classic; E. athlete; F. goddesses; G. compete; H. Olympics

Building Connections Sample Answers

The Ideas of Ancient Greece: Many important ideas came from ancient Greece, including democracy and the Olympics.

Greek Myths: The Greeks created myths to help them explain their world and why things happened. One myth was about Atlas, who was punished by having to carry the world on his back.

Greek Classics: Classics are stories that are still read long after they were written. One Greek classic is the *Iliad*, which tells about a war between the Greeks and a city called Troy.

Olympic Athletes: The Olympics were created in ancient Greece and were held near Mount Olympus, which is where the Greeks thought their most important gods lived. The Olympics were very important to the Greeks.

Level F-4: MYTHS**Key Notes Sample Answers**

What might you find in a myth? In myths, you might find stories that answer questions about the world.

What is Roman mythology? Roman mythology tells stories about ancient Roman divinities and Roman history.

How did the ancient Egyptians believe the world was created? Ancient Egyptians believed the world was created by a god from a huge ocean.

Where do you hear the names from ancient Greek myths today? Today, we hear names of ancient Greek myths in a "Pandora's box" and the "Midas touch."

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. mythology; B. Pandora; C. myths; D. Zeus; E. divinities; F. crocodiles; G. divine; H. Midas

2. Fill in the blanks

A. Pandora; B. Midas; C. divinities; D. mythology; E. crocodiles; F. divine; G. Zeus; H. myths

Building Connections Sample Answers

What Are Myths?: Myths helped ancient people explain what was happening in the world around them. Many of these myths were about the divinities.

Roman Myths: Roman myths told about ancient Roman divinities and about Roman history. One myth tells how Rome was started.

Egyptian Myths: The ancient Egyptians believed that the world was created out of a huge ocean and that a god created people with his tears.

Greek Myths: Some ancient Greek myths are part of English today. One was about Pandora, who opened a box that let trouble into the world.

**Level F-5: ALL ABOUT ADVERTISING****Key Notes Sample Answers**

Who uses advertising? Businesses, people, political parties, candidates, groups, organizations, and the government use advertising.

What are three forms of advertising? (any three of these): Forms of advertising are television commercials, radio commercials, newspaper and magazine advertisements, and the Internet.

What is smart advertising? Smart advertising is making the right decision about how and where to advertise.

How can ads manipulate people? Ads can manipulate people into spending too much money or by not telling the truth.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. Internet; B. campaigns; C. sponsor; D. deceptive; E. manipulate; F. endorsement; G. diverse; H. encourage

2. Fill in the blanks

A. endorsement; B. manipulate; C. campaigns; D. sponsor; E. deceptive; F. diverse; G. encourage; H. Internet

Building Connections Sample Answers

What is Advertising: The purpose of advertising is to tell people about products and services. People use ads to encourage others to act in certain ways.

Forms of Advertising: Television ads reach a lot of people because most people watch television. Companies choose the magazines they advertise in so certain readers will see their ads.

Smart Advertising: One kind of smart ad uses an endorsement from a famous person. Another kind is a sponsor that pays part of a program's cost so it can advertise its products on the program.

Advertising and You: You have to think about what's advertised because advertising can be deceptive. You should think about the ad and the product before you decide to buy it.

Level F-6: CAREERS IN LANGUAGE**Key Notes Sample Answers**

Describe what writers and editors do. Writers create many different kinds of materials and editors assign articles and book ideas, determine if a writer's work meets their needs, and work with writers.

What do translators do? Translators put words from one language into another.

What does ESL mean? ESL means English as a Second Language.

What is a speech therapist? A speech therapist helps people who have speech and language disorders.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. translate; B. determine; C. ESL; D. therapists; E. interpreter; F. career; G. disorders; H. specialize

2. Fill in the blanks

A. therapists; B. interpreter; C. determine; D. disorders; E. ESL; F. career; G. translate; H. specialize

Building Connections Sample Answers

Writing and Editing: Two careers in language are writing and editing. Writers create books and other materials, and editors help them make their work easy to understand.

Translating: Translators put words into another language. Interpreters put words into another language as people are speaking

Teaching English: Some English teachers specialize in ESL, or English as a Second Language, teaching. They teach people around the world to speak, read, and write English.

Speech Therapy: Speech therapists help people who have speech and language disorders.

**Level F-7: THE HUMAN NERVOUS SYSTEM****Key Notes Sample Answers**

What is your brain's job in your nervous system? The brain is the control center of the body.

What does the human brain do? The human brain thinks about what is going on around it and plans what to do in response.

What are the two kinds of neurons? The two kinds of neurons are sensory neurons and motor neurons.

What does the spinal cord do? The spinal cord connects the nerves of the body to the brain.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. neurons; B. nervous; C. cerebrum; D. conscious; E. sensory; F. cerebellum; G. unconscious; H. brainstem; I. paralyzed

2. Fill in the blanks

A. neurons; B. cerebrum; C. sensory; D. cerebellum; E. nervous; F. conscious; G. paralyzed; H. brainstem; I. unconscious

Building Connections Sample Answers

What Does the Nervous System Do? The nervous system manages the other systems of the body by carrying information from inside and outside your body to the brain. The nervous system also carries information from your brain to your muscles, allowing you to respond to what is happening to and around you.

The Control Center: The brain is the control center of the human body. It thinks about what is going on around it and it plans what to do in response.

Sending Messages: Nerves are made up of neurons. One kind of neuron, sensory neurons, sends information from the senses to the brain. The other kind of neuron, motor neurons, send messages from the brain to the muscles, telling them how to respond to information.

The Super-Highway: The human nervous system is like a super highway that runs through the body, starting at the brain and connecting to the legs.

Level F-8: ENVIRONMENTAL DISASTERS**Key Notes Sample Answers**

What can cause an environmental disaster? Oil-spilling ships and forest clearing can cause environmental disasters.

What is smog? Smog is mixed fog and smoke.

How did people know something was wrong in the Japanese town? People knew something was wrong in the Japanese town because animals and people were acting strangely and some people died.

What caused the environmental disaster in Chernobyl? Several large explosions and a fire at a nuclear power plant caused the environmental disaster in Chernobyl

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. radiation; B. Chernobyl; C. Pennsylvania; D. nuclear; E. Haiti; F. compounds; G. disaster; H. environmental

2. Fill in the blanks

A. Pennsylvania; B. compounds; C. radiation; D. Chernobyl; E. Haiti; F. nuclear; G. disaster; H. environmental

Building Connections Sample Answers

What Causes Environmental Disasters?: Environmental disasters can occur suddenly, such as a ship spilling into the ocean. Environmental disasters can also result from activities that happen over many years, such as when too many trees in an area are cut down.

Killer Smog: The combination of fog and smoke from factories in the air caused an environmental disaster, which resulted in laws that control the quality of the air.

Deadly Substances: When toxic substances get into the water of oceans and lakes, sea animals can get sick and even die. When people eat these sea animals, they can get sick too.

Nuclear Accidents: A nuclear explosion can be harmful to people, animals, and the environment because of the radiation that enters the air

**Level F-9: COMPUTERS****Key Notes Sample Answers**

What tasks are done by computers? Computers organize, process, store, and display information.

What is computer hardware? Computer hardware is the processor and memory, input and output devices, and wiring that connects components.

What does computer software do? Computer software controls what happens inside a computer.

What are three types of computer-related jobs? (any three of these): Types of computer-related jobs are hardware engineer, programmer, technical support worker, network administrator, systems administrator, data entry, and information processing.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. technical; B. programmed; C. processor; D. application; E. engineers; F. components; G. memory; H. compatible

2. Fill in the blanks

A. components; B. compatible; C. technical; D. programmed; E. memory; F. engineers; G. processor; H. application

Building Connections Sample Answers

What is a Computer: A computer is a machine that can be programmed to organize, process, store, and display information.

Computer Hardware: Computer hardware refers to the parts that make it work.

Computer Software: Software controls what happens inside a computer, such as showing information on the screen and also playing music and movies.

Computer Jobs: There are many kinds of jobs related to computer. Some of the most common are engineers who work to make computers and more dependable and programmers who create and test software.

Level F-10: MURALS**Key Notes Sample Answers**

How have murals changed over time? Murals have changed over time from pictures of animals on walls of caves to paintings that are works of art or show history.

Who was Diego Rivera? Diego Rivera was an artist who made murals popular in Mexico.

What kinds of murals can be seen in San Francisco? In San Francisco, you can see Diego Rivera murals and murals that show California history and life.

Why was the women's mural painted? The woman's mural was painted to honor women.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. landmarks; B. mural; C. portrayed; D. exterior; E. tribute; F. interior; G. historical; H. depict; I. contributions

2. Fill in the blanks

A. depict; B. tribute; C. exterior; D. portrayed; E. contributions; F. mural; G. landmarks; H. historical; I. Interior

Building Connections Sample Answers

What Are Murals?: Murals are pictures created for interior or exterior walls. They are meant to be seen by many people and have been painted since people lived in caves.

Diego Rivera: Diego Rivera was a Mexican artist who painted murals showing Mexican life and history.

Murals in San Francisco: There are more than 600 murals on the interior and exterior walls of the buildings of San Francisco.

A Mural for Women: A mural in San Francisco honors women's contributions to society. It stretches across two walls of a building, and more than 100 women worked on it.

**Level F-11: AMAZING ARCHITECTURE****Key Notes Sample Answers**

What do architects do? Architects design buildings and other structures.

What kind of dwellings did Pueblo Indians build? The Pueblo Indians built dwellings several stories high with many rooms.

What kinds of unusual modern homes have architects designed? Modern architects have designed unusual homes that are A-frames and domes.

How are new sports stadiums different from older stadiums? New sports stadiums are different from older stadiums because they may have a retractable roof.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. envision; B. pueblo; C. erected; D. stadium; E. retractable; F. consult; G. architecture; H. dwellings

2. Fill in the blanks

A. retractable; B. dwellings; C. architecture; D. pueblo; E. erected; F. envision; G. consult; H. stadium

Building Connections Sample Answers

What Is Architecture?: Architecture is the art and science of designing buildings.

Pueblo Dwellings: A group of native Americans designed buildings made of earth mixed with straw and water. The buildings were named after them—Pueblos.

Modern Homes: Two unusual designs of homes are A-frames, which are shaped like As, and domes, which are circular.

Sports Stadiums: Stadiums are large buildings where sports and events like concerts take place. Today, most stadiums have roofs that are retractable, which means that sometimes that they can be both open and closed.

Level F-12: DESIGNING FOR ALL**Key Notes Sample Answers**

What is universal design? Universal design is the creation of products and environments that everyone can easily use.

How can universal design be used in homes? Universal design can be used in homes so there are no steps, wide doorways, special faucets, switches in accessible places, and grab bars.

How can design help people with disabilities in school and at work?: Design can help people with disabilities in school and at work by providing ramps, lifts, large print or Braille books, computers with audio and visual information, and telephones for deaf people.

How can technology help people with and without disabilities? Technology can help all people by giving them voice-activated access to phones, lights, and computers, and letting them operate equipment with remote controls.

Building Vocabulary**1. Word Choice**

A. audio; B. Braille; C. obstruction; D. activated; E. accessible; F. summon; G. disabilities; H. install

2. Fill in the blanks

A. obstruction; B. disabilities; C. Braille; D. summon; E. accessible; F. activated; G. install; H. audio

Building Connections Sample Answers

What is Universal Design?: Universal design is the creation of products and environments that can easily be used by everyone, regardless of their physical abilities.

At Home: Homes can be made more accessible. New houses can be built so that they're accessible to everyone. Houses that are already built can be made more accessible by making some changes.

In School and at Work: Schools can help students with disabilities by installing wheelchair lifts and buying books in Braille. Offices can help workers with disabilities by providing computers that present information in audio and visual form, telephones with audio controls, and telephone systems for deaf people.

Technology Helps: Modern technology is creating many things that help all people, including those with disabilities, do things in their daily life.

