A decorative border of small pencil icons surrounds the entire page. The pencils are arranged in a rectangular frame, with some at the corners pointing towards the center and others along the sides pointing outwards.

Third Grade
Mid-Winter Recess
Homework Packet

Name: _____

Ancient China Travel Journal Part 1

Last night we landed in Shanghai. This 2000-year-old city is in the central eastern part of China. It is actually considered one of the *youngest* cities in the country! It is very hot here now, 105 degrees. In the winter, though, the weather is near freezing.

Today I learned so much about China! We visited one of Shanghai's most famous temples. It is called the Jade Buddha Temple. A temple is a religious building, like a church. The Jade Buddha Temple is used by people who practice Buddhism. Buddhism is the largest religion in China, but not the oldest. Taoism (*dow-ism*) is the oldest.

The temple was built in 1918. However, the two jade Buddhas the temple was named after were brought here from Myanmar in 1882. Jade is the most popular stone in China. It is green and smooth, and when you hold it in your hand, it is cool. In street markets, you can find many things made out of jade, such as jewelry, statues, and chops. Chops are stamps that have a person's **signature**¹ on them.

Today, I bought a beautiful necklace made out of jade. It had a tiger carved on it. I got it because I was born in 1998, the year of the tiger. The tiger is one of the 12 animals that go with the 12-year Chinese calendar. I had to laugh because my mom found out she was born in the year of the pig!

At the market, I also bought a pink silk shirt. It was made in a silk factory right here in Shanghai. China is famous for its silk. The Chinese have been making silk for thousands of years.

The silk-making process is very interesting. Silk comes from the **cocoon**² that silkworms make when they are **transforming**³ into moths. It takes a long time for people to make things out of silk. A three-foot by five-foot rug can take up to 11 months to make by hand.

I'm getting tired, so I'm going to sign off for today. Tomorrow we're taking a cruise down the Yangtze River. I can't wait!

¹ **signature:** a person's name as written by that person

² **cocoon:** a special wrapping that many insects form around themselves

³ **transforming:** changing from one thing into another

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. Shanghai is one of the _____ cities in China.
 - a. oldest
 - b. youngest
 - c. prettiest
 - d. most interesting

2. Which of these happened first?
 - a. Shanghai was founded.
 - b. The Jade Buddha Temple was built.
 - c. The jade Buddhas arrived from Myanmar.
 - d. The narrator bought a silk shirt.

3. What might have helped cause China to become famous for its silk?
 - a. There are many silkworms in China.
 - b. It takes a long time for people to make things from silk.
 - c. Jade is the most popular stone in China.
 - d. The silkworm is part of the 12-year Chinese calendar.

4. Read the following sentences: "In street markets, you can find many things made out of jade, such as jewelry, statues, and chops. Chops are stamps that have a person's signature on them."

The word chop in this context means

 - a. An object used to cut something in half
 - b. An object used to eat food
 - c. An object used to glue something together
 - d. An object used to sign a document

5. This passage is mainly about
 - a. the weather in Shanghai.
 - b. visiting Shanghai.
 - c. how silk is made.
 - d. the Jade Buddha Temple.

6. The author notes that China is famous for its silk. Where does silk come from?

7. Is Shanghai near the Yangtze River? Use evidence from the text to explain your answer.

8. The question below is an incomplete sentence. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence:

_____ exploring and discovering much about China on the first day of the trip, the author intends to keep learning about China by taking a cruise down the Yangtze River.

- a. So
- b. Despite
- c. Which
- d. Before

9. Read the following sentence.

Shanghai's Jade Buddha Temple was built in 1918 to serve as a place of worship for followers of Buddhism.

Answer the questions below based on the information provided in the sentence you just read. One of the questions has already been answered for you.

1. What is the subject of the sentence? the Jade Buddha Temple

2. The Jade Buddha Temple was what? _____

3. When? _____

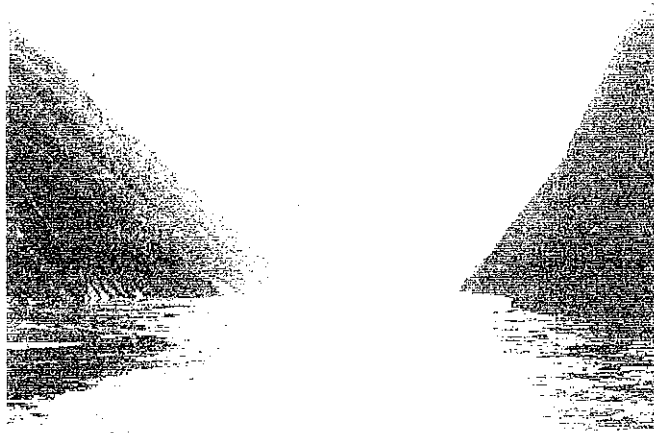
4. Where? _____

5. Why? _____

10. **Vocabulary Word:** factory: a building where machines are used to make things.

Use the vocabulary word in a sentence: _____

Ancient China Travel Journal Part 2



Photograph by Rebekah Hanousek-Monge

Today we started a long journey down the Yangtze River. The Yangtze is the third longest river in the world. I was shocked when we got here because the water is brown. It **resembles**¹ chocolate milk! Our guide told me that it is only brown during the rainy season. The brown is actually just **sediment**² that comes up from the bottom of the river. During the rest of the year, the water runs clear.

The Yangtze is lined by tall mountains. The people who live in these mountains farm and fish. You'd be amazed to see these farms because the hillsides they sit on are practically cliffs. If you tripped, you'd probably roll right down into the river.

We have seen a lot of animals along the river. There are water buffalo, mountain goats, birds, bats, cattle, and even monkeys. My favorites are the monkeys because they swing from tree to tree. They are a little shy though. The water buffalo swim in the water. The only part of them you can see are their heads **bobbing**³ up and down.

So far, this trip has been amazing. I can't believe we have three more days to travel down the Yangtze. I wonder what we'll discover next.

¹ **resembles**: looks like

² **sediment**: layers of dirt and small rocks and dust

³ **bobbing**: moving or floating up and down in water

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. The Yangtze River is

- a. The longest river in the world.
- b. The second longest river in the world.
- c. The third longest river in the world.
- d. The most famous river in the world.

2. Why is the Yangtze's water only brown during the rainy season?

- a. because of the animals in the water
- b. because sediment stays at the bottom of the river
- c. because the rain stirs up sediment
- d. because of the farmers that live along the river

3. Read the following sentence: "The Yangtze is lined by tall mountains."

The word **lined** in the sentence most nearly means

- a. drawn on with pencil or pen
- b. wrinkled
- c. underneath
- d. having on both sides

4. Why does the author describe the areas around the river?

- a. to inform the reader about farming on a mountain.
- b. to give the reader a full picture of the river.
- c. to explain to the reader why the water was brown.
- d. to entertain the reader with descriptions of animals.

5. This passage is mainly about

- a. monkeys and water buffalo.
- b. why clear water becomes brown.
- c. the Yangtze river and its surroundings.
- d. the author's visit to China.

6. Is the author enjoying her trip? How can you tell?

7. What animal does the author enjoy watching the most and why?

8. The question below is an incomplete sentence. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence:

The author has enjoyed her trip in China so far, _____ she remains excited by the thought of what she will discover next during her travels!

- a. because
- b. so
- c. until
- d. but

9. Read the following sentence.

Tomorrow, the author embarks on another adventure down the Yangtze River in the hope of discovering more about China.

Answer the questions below based on the information provided in the sentence you just read. One of the questions has already been answered for you.

1. Who is the subject of the sentence? the author

2. What will the author do? _____

3. When? _____

4. Where? _____

5. Why? _____

10. **Vocabulary Word:** shocked: being affected by sudden or violent commotion that startles you.

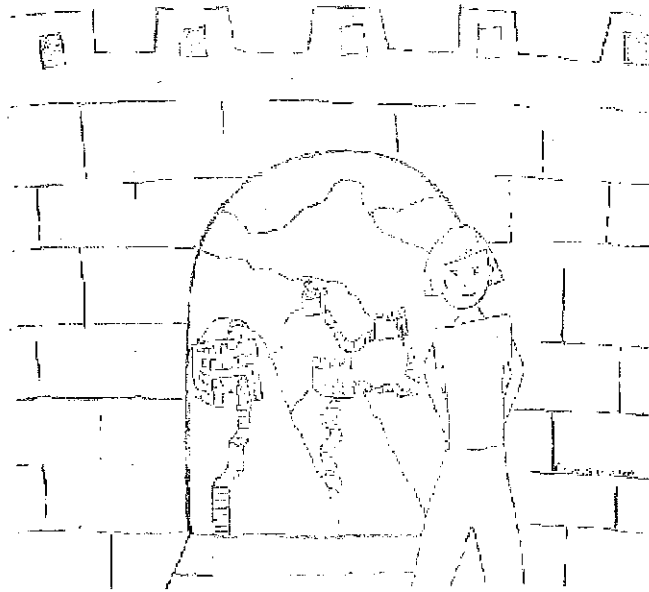
Use the vocabulary word in a sentence: _____

Ancient China Travel Journal Part 4

Today we took a bus ride out to the Great Wall of China. You wouldn't believe the size of this thing! With all of its branches included, the Great Wall is more than 13,000 miles long. I didn't see the entire wall, of course. But, what I did see was unbelievable.

The wall was started by Emperor Qin Shi Huang of the Qin Dynasty. He's the same emperor who built the terracotta warriors. He began building the Great Wall over 2000 years ago, but it was under **construction**¹ for hundreds of years. It was built to defend China from its enemies, namely the Huns and the Mongols. The section of the wall we climbed was on the Mongolian border. Today, the Great Wall is no longer used for defense. Thousands of tourists go to China every year to visit the wall. Chinese people visit and climb the wall as well. It's a very popular tourist **attraction**².

The wall is made of brick and it winds through beautiful mountains. There are thousands of stairs to climb on the wall. Some are very narrow and steep. The climb was difficult. At times it was so steep, I felt like I was climbing a ladder. On the way down, I was sure to use the railing on the sides.



¹ **construction:** the process of building something

² **attraction:** something that people want to see

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. What is the purpose of this passage?

- a. to inform
- b. to persuade
- c. to inform and entertain
- d. to inform and persuade

2. Why is the Great Wall likely such a popular attraction?

- a. it is a difficult climb
- b. it defended China from its enemies
- c. it is very old, very big, and has nice views
- d. it was under construction for hundreds of years

3. The Huns and the Mongolians were _____ of China

- a. Friends
- b. Enemies
- c. Peoples
- d. Tourists

4. How long did it take to build the Great Wall?

- a. ten years
- b. hundreds of years
- c. a thousand years
- d. two thousand years

5. Read the following sentence: "The section of the wall we climbed was on the Mongolian border."

The word **border** most nearly means

- a. dividing line
- b. tourist attraction
- c. construction
- d. branches

6. About how long is the Great Wall of China?

7. Why did it take so long to build the Great Wall? Provide supporting details from the text.

8. The question below is an incomplete sentence. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence:

The Great Wall of China has many steps to climb, _____ many are narrow and steep.

- a. so
- b. and
- c. yet
- d. for

9. Read the following sentence.

Thousands of years ago the Emperor Shi Huang began building the Great Wall of China to defend China from enemies.

Answer the questions below based on the information provided in the sentence you just read. One of the questions has already been answered for you.

1. Who is the subject of the sentence? Emperor Shi Huang

2. The emperor began what? _____

3. Where? _____

4. When? _____

5. Why? _____

10. **Vocabulary Word:** railing: a structure consisting of one or more rails used to provide a barrier or support while walking or climbing.

Use the vocabulary word in a sentence: _____

African American Newsmakers

In honor of Black History Month, meet some African Americans who inspire others.

Wynton Marsalis

Jazz legend **Wynton Marsalis** was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, in 1961. He started playing the trumpet when he was a child. Over the years, he has won many awards for his music. In 2005, Marsalis organized a concert to help the people of his hometown who were affected by Hurricane Katrina. The concert raised more than \$2 million!

Bryan Collier

Artist **Bryan Collier** uses pictures to bring history to life. His artwork can be seen in *Rosa*, a children's book published in 2007 that tells the story of Rosa Parks. Collier also illustrated *Martin's Big Words*, about Martin Luther King Jr., and *Visiting Langston*, about poet Langston Hughes.

Condoleezza Rice

Condoleezza Rice was the U.S. secretary of state. She is the first African American woman to hold that job. Rice gave President George W. Bush advice on working with other countries. She also worked with world leaders on important issues. "[The job is on] a 24-hour schedule, because while we're asleep, the rest of the world is awake," Rice told *Weekly Reader*.



Brendan Smialowski/AFP/Getty Images

U.S. Secretary of State
Condoleezza Rice

Oprah Winfrey

Oprah Winfrey is the first woman to own and produce her own television talk show. She uses her star power to help others. She recently received an award in honor of the work she does with her talk show and charity. Her charity helps children and families around the world. In 2011, Oprah started her own television network, OWN.

Muhammad Ali



house.gov

Muhammad Ali has devoted himself to charitable causes all over the world.

Boxing champion **Muhammad Ali** received 2005's Presidential Medal of Freedom. It is the highest award the government can give a person not in the military. President Bush praised Ali for his sports successes and goodwill toward others. Ali travels more than 100 days a year to help charities around the world.

Name:

Date:

Directions: Read the article "African American Newsmakers." Then answer the short answer and extended response questions.

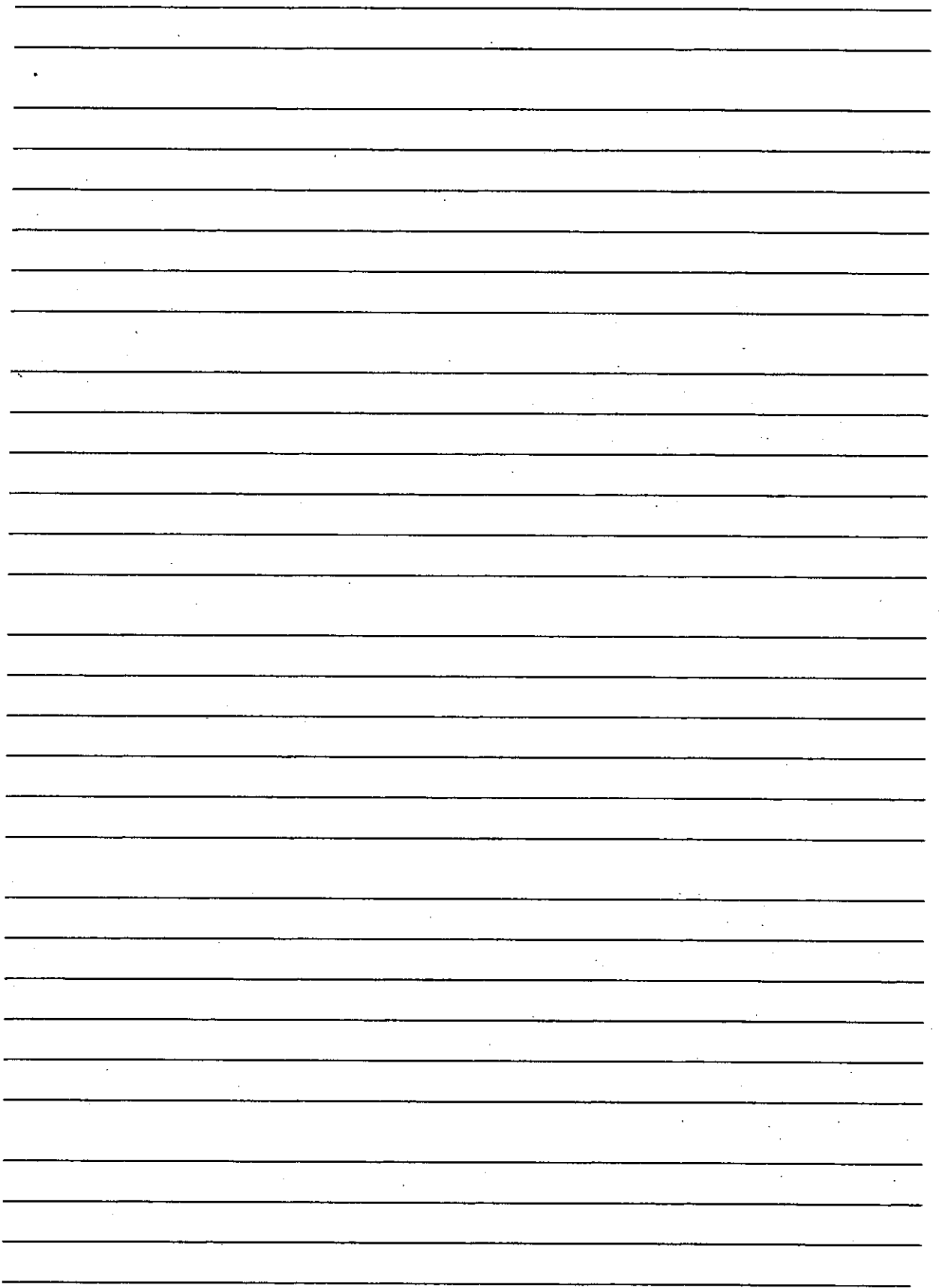
1.) What is the main idea of the article? Use two details from the article to support your response.

A Very Special Place

When Lily needed a place to think, she headed to the old house. It was built back in the 1600s. A guard stood outside the iron fence that separated the wooden house from the apartment buildings around it. He always smiled at Lily when she visited the house. It was a special place to him, and he knew that it was special to her, too.

To the side of the house, there was a huge tree--an oak. People said that the man who built the house had planted it when he arrived in America from Holland. So, the tree was about 400 years old. Or not. (Some people said even an oak wouldn't last that long.) Lily didn't care. Its highest branches danced below a third-story window of the apartment next door. The tree cast a lot of shade. It always took her eyes a few minutes to adjust. Even on hot July city days, the space under the tree was cool.

Lily often brought a book with her. And a flashlight. There, she could read and imagine anything. She could pretend that the ants walking up the bark of the tree were knights marching off to battle. When a breeze blew the branches, she could peek up at the sky. Then she pretended that she was in outer space and that the blue was Earth. Once, a squirrel came right up to her and sat on her backpack. She found a potato chip bag in a pocket and opened it. Then she passed a chip to the squirrel. She thought it would run away. But the squirrel stayed there, holding the chip in its tiny hands, and ate it.



Name:

Date:

Directions: Read the article "A Very Special Place." Answer the short answer and extended response questions.

1.) Why is the setting important to this story? Use **two** details from the story to support your response.



Famous African Americans Harriet Tubman and the Underground Railroad



Harriet Tubman lived during a time when it was illegal to help slaves escape to freedom, but she helped slaves escape anyway. Because of her efforts, she came to be known as “Moses,” referring to an important figure in the Bible. The Moses of the Bible led the Jews, his own ethnic group, out of slavery in Egypt. Similarly, Tubman led African Americans out of slavery in the American South. She became the most well-known leader of the Underground Railroad. The Underground Railroad was a system of secret **routes**¹ that helped slaves escape to free states.

Harriet Tubman was born a slave. She escaped slavery and made a promise to help others do the same. She made a total of 19 rescue trips back down south. She never lost one of the 300 slaves she saved. She was **skillful**² and brave. She even led her parents to freedom in 1857.

Harriet Tubman continued to help other African-American people. She was a nurse and a spy during the Civil War. In her later years, Tubman **established**³ a house for elderly African Americans who needed help. She was a beacon for the African-American community and the United States.

¹ **route:** path; road; way to get somewhere

² **skillful:** good at what she did

³ **establish:** to bring into existence

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. How was Harriet Tubman most like Moses?

- A** They are both important figures in the Bible.
- B** They both saved people from slavery.
- C** They are both famous Americans.
- D** They both lived in Egypt.

2. What does the author describe in the passage?

- A** slavery in the United States
- B** how Harriet Tubman escaped from slavery
- C** how Moses led the Jews out of Egypt
- D** the life and works of Harriet Tubman

3. Harriet Tubman helped African Americans in more ways than just her role in the Underground Railroad. What evidence from the passage supports this conclusion?

- A** She never lost one of the 300 slaves she led to freedom.
- B** She made a total of 19 rescue trips to the South.
- C** She established a house to help elderly African Americans.
- D** She became the most famous leader of the Underground Railroad.

4. Why is Tubman most likely described as brave?

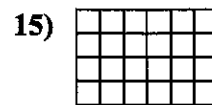
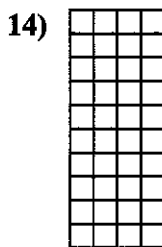
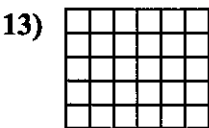
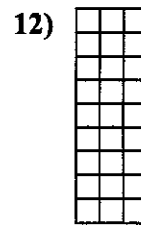
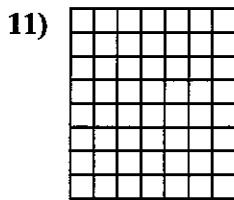
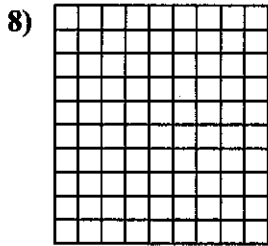
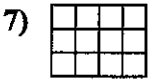
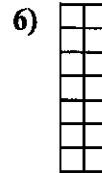
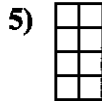
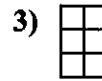
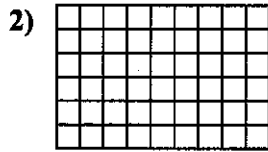
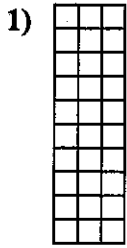
- A** She promised to help free slaves.
- B** She made 19 rescue trips back down south.
- C** She established a house for elderly African Americans who needed help.
- D** She is compared to Moses, an important figure in the Bible.

5. What is this passage mostly about?

- A** how Tubman helped slaves and other African Americans
- B** why the Underground Railroad was never discovered by police
- C** how Tubman trained to be a nurse in the Civil War
- D** similarities and differences between Tubman and Moses from the Bible



Determine the area. Each $\square = 1$ square unit (u^2).



Answers

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____

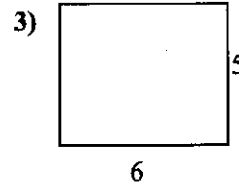
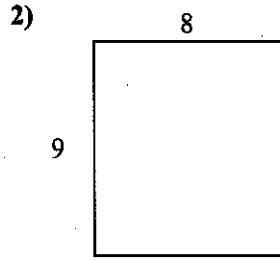
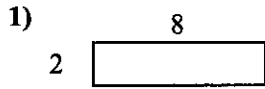


Finding Area

Name: _____

Find the area (in cm) of the rectangles shown.

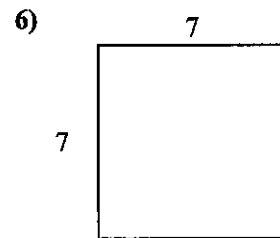
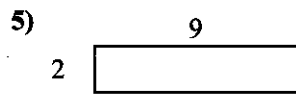
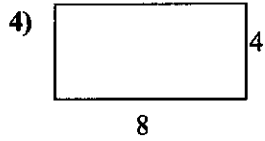
Answers



1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

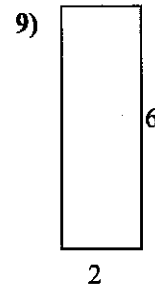
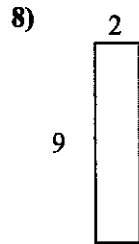
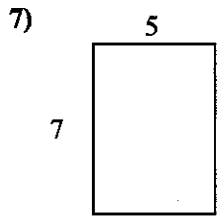


4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

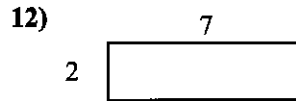
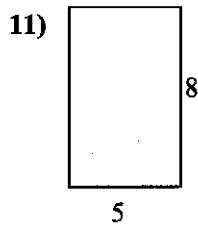
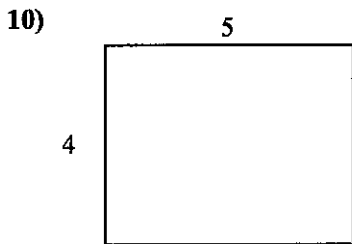


8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

11. _____

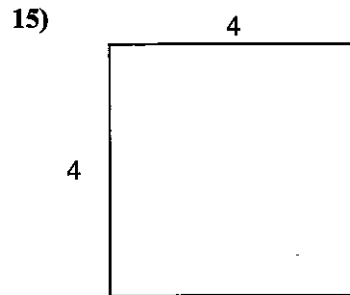
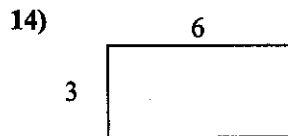
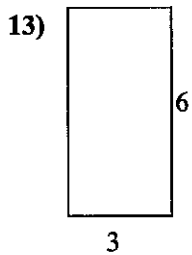


12. _____

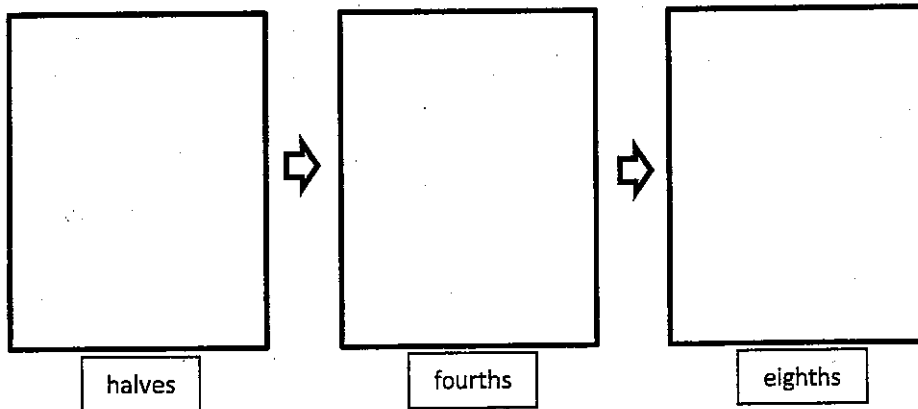
13. _____

14. _____

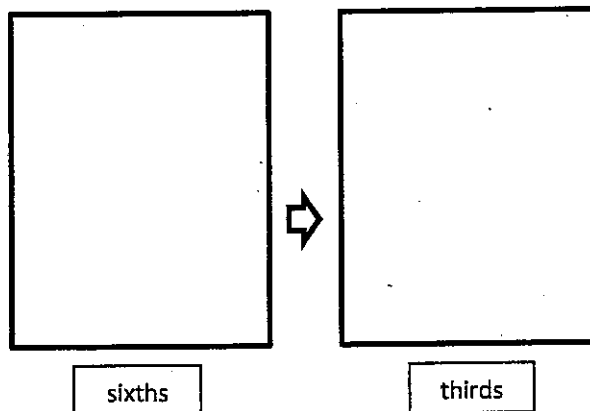
15. _____



4. Each rectangle represents 1 sheet of paper. Estimate to draw lines to show how you would cut the paper into fractional units as indicated below.



5. Each rectangle represents 1 sheet of paper. Estimate to draw lines to show how you would cut the paper into fractional units as indicated below.

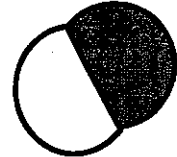
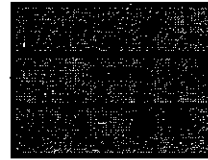
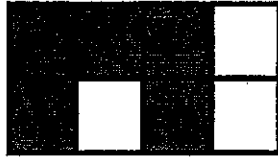


6. Yuri has a rope 12m long. He cuts it into pieces that are each 2m long. What fraction of the rope is one piece? (Use your yellow strip from the lesson to help you.) Draw a picture.
7. Dawn bought 12 grams of chocolate. She ate half of the chocolate. How many grams of chocolate did she eat?

Name _____

Date _____

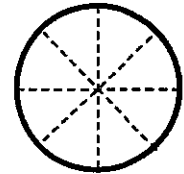
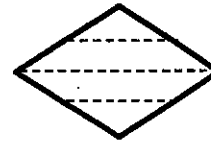
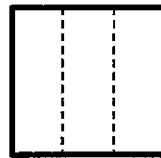
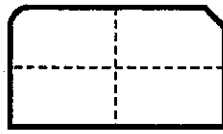
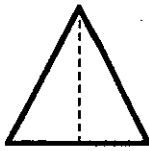
1. Each shape is a whole divided into equal parts. Name the fractional unit and then count and tell how many of those units are shaded. The first one is done for you.



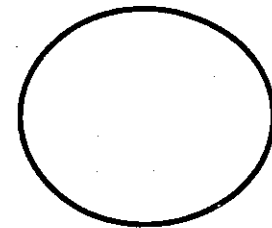
The unit is 1 fourth.

2 fourths are shaded.

2. Circle the shapes that are divided into equal parts. Write a sentence telling what "equal parts" means.

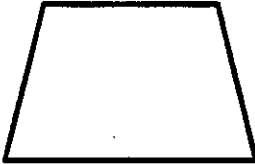


3. Each shape is 1 whole. Estimate to divide each into 4 equal parts. Name the fractional unit below.



4. Each shape is 1 whole. Divide and shade to show a fractional unit of:

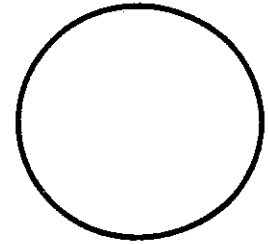
A half



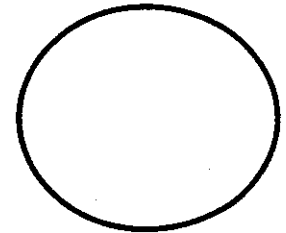
A sixth



A third



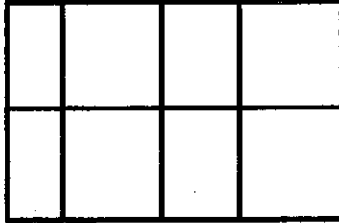
5. Each shape is 1 whole. Estimate to divide each into equal parts (Do not draw fourths.). Divide each whole using a different fractional unit. Write the name of the fractional unit on the line below the shape.



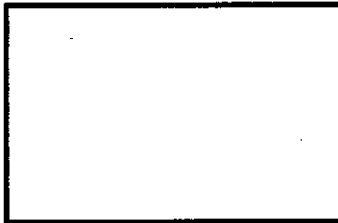
6. Charlotte wanted to equally share a candy bar with her 4 other friends. Draw Charlotte's candy bar. Show how she can divide her candy bar so that Charlotte and her 4 friends each get an equal share. What fraction of the candy bar does each girl receive?

Each girl receives _____.

2. Andre’s mom baked his 2 favorite cakes for his birthday party. The cakes were the exact same size. Andre cut his first cake into 8 pieces for him and his 7 friends. The picture below shows how he cut it. Did Andre cut the cake into eighths? Explain your answer.



3. Two of Andre's friends came late to his party. They decide they will all share the second cake. Show how Andre can slice the second cake so that he and his nine friends can each get an equal amount with none leftover. What fraction of the second cake will they each receive?



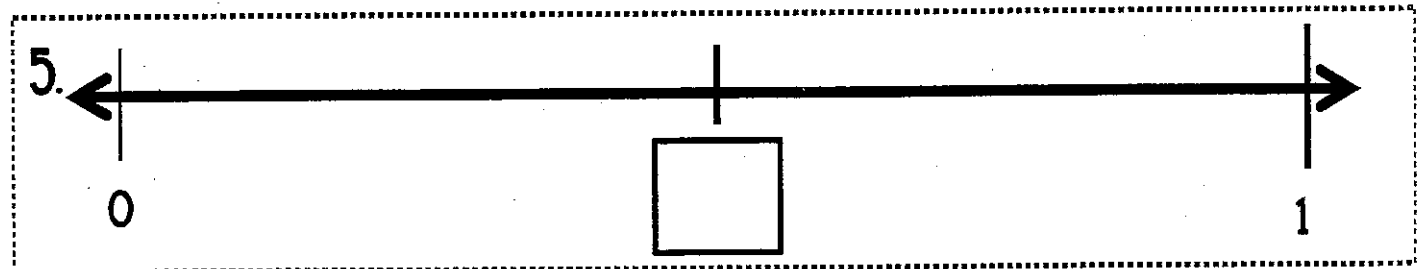
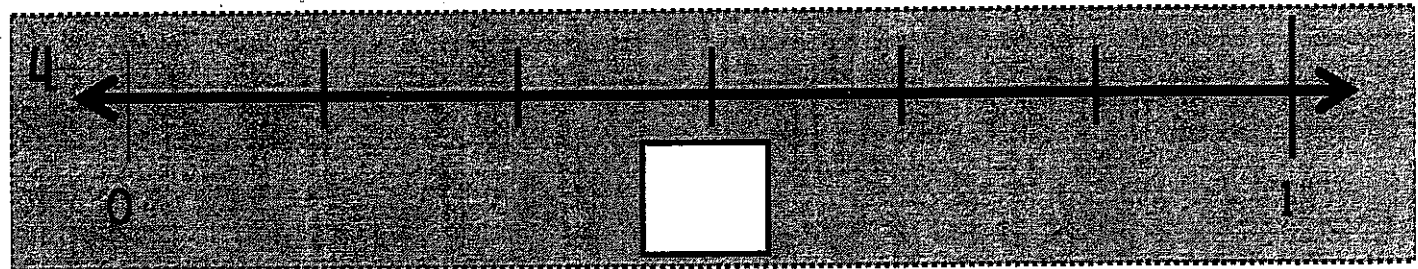
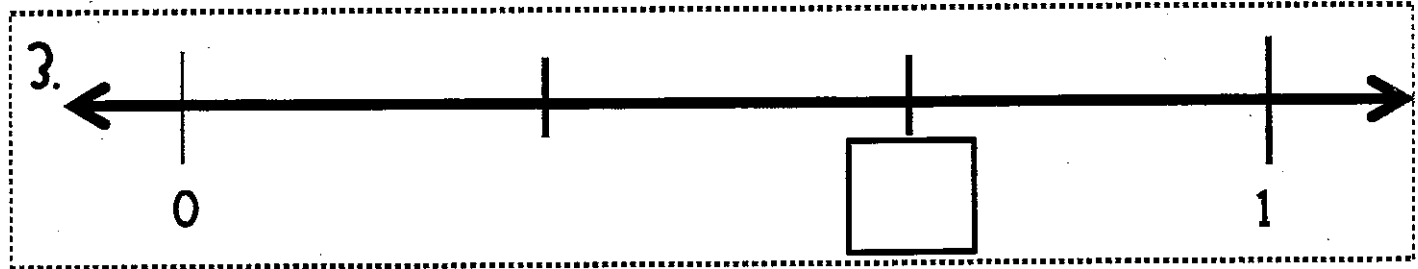
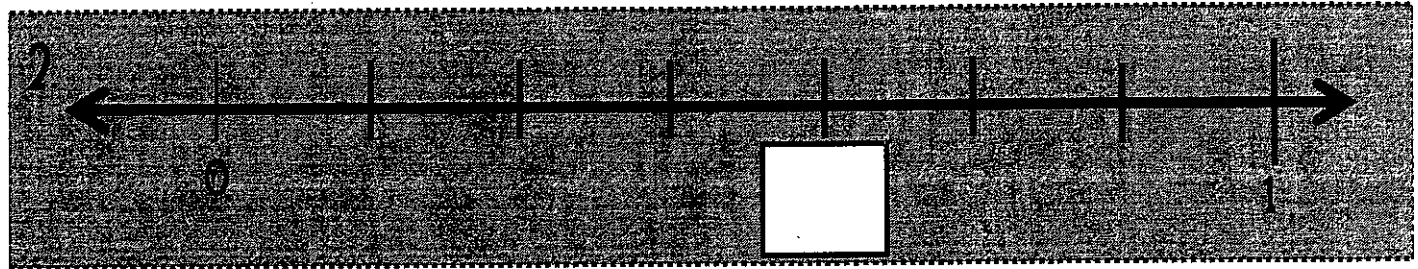
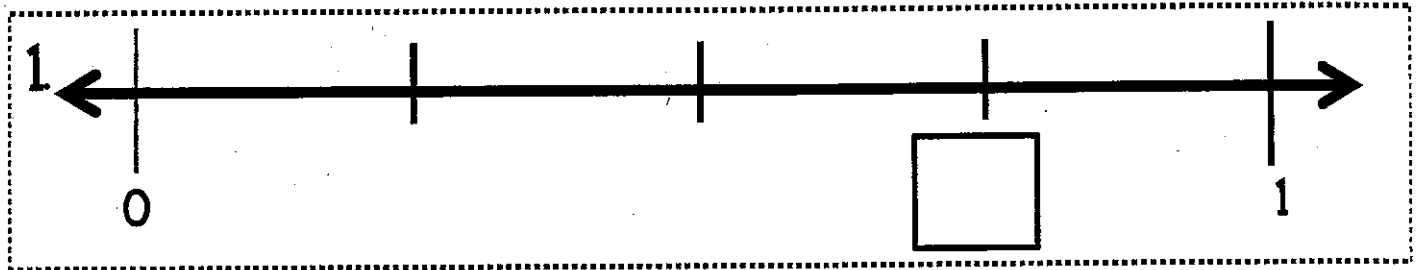
4. Andre thinks it’s strange that $\frac{1}{10}$ of the cake would be less than $\frac{1}{8}$ of the cake, since ten is bigger than eight. To explain to Andre, draw 2 identical rectangles to stand for the cakes. Show 1 tenth shaded on one and 1 eighth shaded on the other. Label the unit fractions and show him which slice is bigger.

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

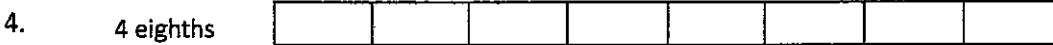
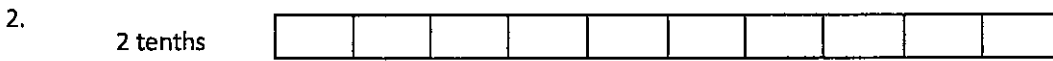
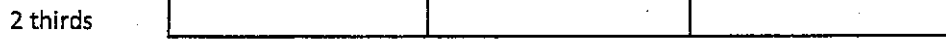
FRACTIONS ON A NUMBER LINE

DIRECTIONS: FOR EACH NUMBER LINE BELOW, DETERMINE WHICH FRACTION BELONGS IN THE BOX.



Name _____ Date _____

Directions: Shade the models to compare the following fractions. Circle the larger fraction for each problem.



HOME

~~Set~~ School Reading Log

Week of:

Name _____

*Date	*Title and Author's Last Name	*Level	*Start Page	End Page	*Start Time	End Time	Minutes Read	*School

*Fill out these columns BEFORE you start reading.

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