

MARCH

Differentiated Passages



470L

Tree of Faith

A boy was captured by Irish pirates long ago. He was made to work for them. His life was hard and lonely. He did not crumble, though. His faith kept him strong. He believed his struggles were a test. He was determined to succeed. The boy turned to prayer for strength. Soon, his life's duty became clear to him.

"I must escape this servant's life," he said. "Then, I shall spread faith to all the people of Ireland."

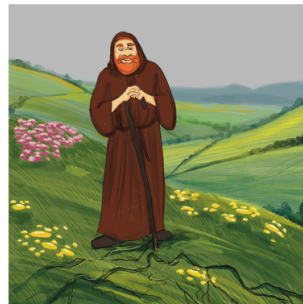
The boy finally made his escape. He studied religion. He learned all there was to know. He took on the name Patrick. As he grew older, Patrick traveled on foot. He carried a walking stick made of ash wood. Everywhere he stopped, he thrust this stick into the ground while he spoke to the people. He mixed their old beliefs with religion. He helped the people find their faith. His work was very important to him.

One day, as he was giving one of his many speeches, Patrick poked his walking stick into the ground. He'd done this very thing on many occasions. This time, however, he spoke to the people for a long time. In fact, it took a while for the people to truly hear Patrick's message. So much time passed while he spoke that roots spread out from Patrick's walking stick! They snaked under the soil. They formed a great web. The walking stick turned into a living tree right where Patrick had stuck it into the ground.

"See this tree blossoming here and know your faith grows as well," Patrick said to the people.

The tree grew branches. Leaves appeared. Its trunk was sturdy and tall. The branches reached heavenward. The roots anchored the tree to Earth. Patrick brought this tree to the people. Such a miracle was further proof of faith's power.

Patrick continued his journey. He stopped to speak to the people he met along the way. His message, like the tree's roots, spread out and connected the people of Ireland in their faith.



IDENTIFY THE THEME
BIG IDEA OR TOPIC

2nd & 3rd Grade

or indicated. If there is no crayon next to the question, you help you infer.

did not crumble, though" ?



him to tha



round for



MARCH PASSAGES

2nd & 3rd grade

Table of Contents

*This product includes 6 differentiated leveled passages in the 2nd-3rd Grade Text Complexity Band (the range for 2nd-3rd grade is 420-820). Each passage is available on two levels and comes with general comprehension questions, a skill-based activity, and a reading response activity.

1. Tree of Faith - *Focus on Theme* (470L, 740L)
2. Queen Victoria - *Focus on Character* (480L, 740L)
3. Making Friends with Chickadees - *Focus on Structure* (Drama)
4. Fight for the Right - *Focus on Problem/Solution and Text Structure* (480L, 770L)
5. To Be Heard - *Focus on Context* (470L, 720L)
6. Ireland - *Focus on Details* (490L, 750L)



ABOUT LEXILE LEVELS



MagiCore Learning, LLC is a certified Lexile® Partner. These texts are officially measured and approved by Lexile and MetaMetrics® to ensure appropriate rigor and differentiation for students.

The Lexile Framework® for Reading measures are scientific, quantitative text levels. When the Lexile of a text is measured, specific, measurable attributes of the text are considered, including, but not limited to, word frequency, sentence length, and text cohesion. These are difficult attributes for humans to evaluate, so a computer measures them.

Common Core State Standards uses Lexile level bands as one measure of text complexity. Text complexity ranges ensure students are college and career ready by the end of 12th grade. Lexile measures help educators scaffold and differentiate instruction as well as monitor reading growth.

Grade Band	Lexile® Bands Aligned to Common Core Expectations
K-1	N/A
2-3	420L-820L
4-5	740L-1010L
6-8	925L-1385L

Keep in mind when using any leveled text that many students will need scaffolding and support to reach text at the high end of their grade band. According to Appendix A of the Common Core Standards, "It is important to recognize that scaffolding often is entirely appropriate. The expectation that scaffolding will occur with particularly challenging texts is built into the Standards' grade-by-grade text complexity expectations, for example. The general movement, however, should be toward decreasing scaffolding and increasing independence both within and across the text complexity bands defined in the Standards."



Queen Victoria

Queen Victoria ruled the United Kingdom. She was queen from 1837 to 1901. She was born on May 24, 1819, in London. She enjoyed painting as a child. She also liked to draw and write. She was fifth in line for the crown. People didn't expect her to become queen. She had other relatives who were more likely to rule instead. Then, King William IV died. Victoria took the throne at age 18.

Ruling a country was a new experience for her. She was lucky to get help from the prime minister. His name was Lord Melbourne. He gave her advice. Her husband, Prince Albert, also became someone she went to for help. The people enjoyed Queen Victoria. Her reign brought many improvements. Peace came to the United Kingdom. Britain became stronger under her rule.



Portrait of
Queen Victoria
of England,
Empress
Victoria of
India

Prince Albert passed away in 1861. He caught typhoid fever. His death was difficult for Queen Victoria. She backed away from politics. She stopped being seen in public. She spent much of her time in a castle. The castle was in Scotland. She spent less time in London. She recovered over time. Queen Victoria became interested in the British Empire. Another prime minister, Benjamin Disraeli, befriended the queen. They made the Suez Canal act as a link between Europe and Asia. Queen Victoria was granted the title Empress of India.

Queen Victoria stayed popular among her people. They honored her 50 years of ruling in 1887. Another big celebration was held 10 years later. She served as queen of the United Kingdom for almost 64 years. She died on January 22, 1901. She had been the longest-serving British ruler. Only her great-great-granddaughter, Elizabeth II, had been queen for longer with 70 years on the throne from 1952-2022.

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Governing a country was a new experience for her. Luckily, she had help from the prime minister, Lord Melbourne. He advised her on many political matters. Later, her husband, Prince Albert, also became someone she went to for help. The people enjoyed Queen Victoria. Her reign was marked by many improvements and peace in the United Kingdom. Britain became stronger because of the decisions Queen Victoria made during her rule.



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Prince Albert passed away in 1861 when he caught typhoid fever. His death was difficult for Queen Victoria. She retreated from politics and from being seen in public. She spent much of her time in a castle in Scotland instead of in London. Over time, she recovered and became interested in the British Empire. Another prime minister, Benjamin Disraeli, befriended the queen. They established the Suez Canal as a link between Europe and Asia. Queen Victoria was granted the title Empress of India.

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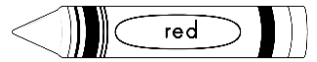




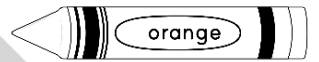
March Comprehension Questions

Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated. If there is no crayon next to the question, you will need to infer the answer. You should still look for text evidence to help you infer.

1. Why wasn't it expected that Victoria would become queen?



2. Why was Queen Victoria popular as a queen?

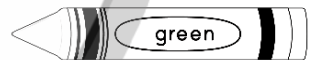


3. Why did Queen Victoria start spending more time in Scotland than in London?

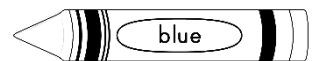


4. What was Queen Victoria's other title?

- a. Duchess of Scotland
- b. Princess Victoria
- c. Empress of India
- d. Empress of the UK



5. What makes Queen Victoria such an important figure in British history?



BIOGRAPHY MAPPING

WHAT

did this person do?

WHERE

did this person live?

HOW

will this person be remembered?

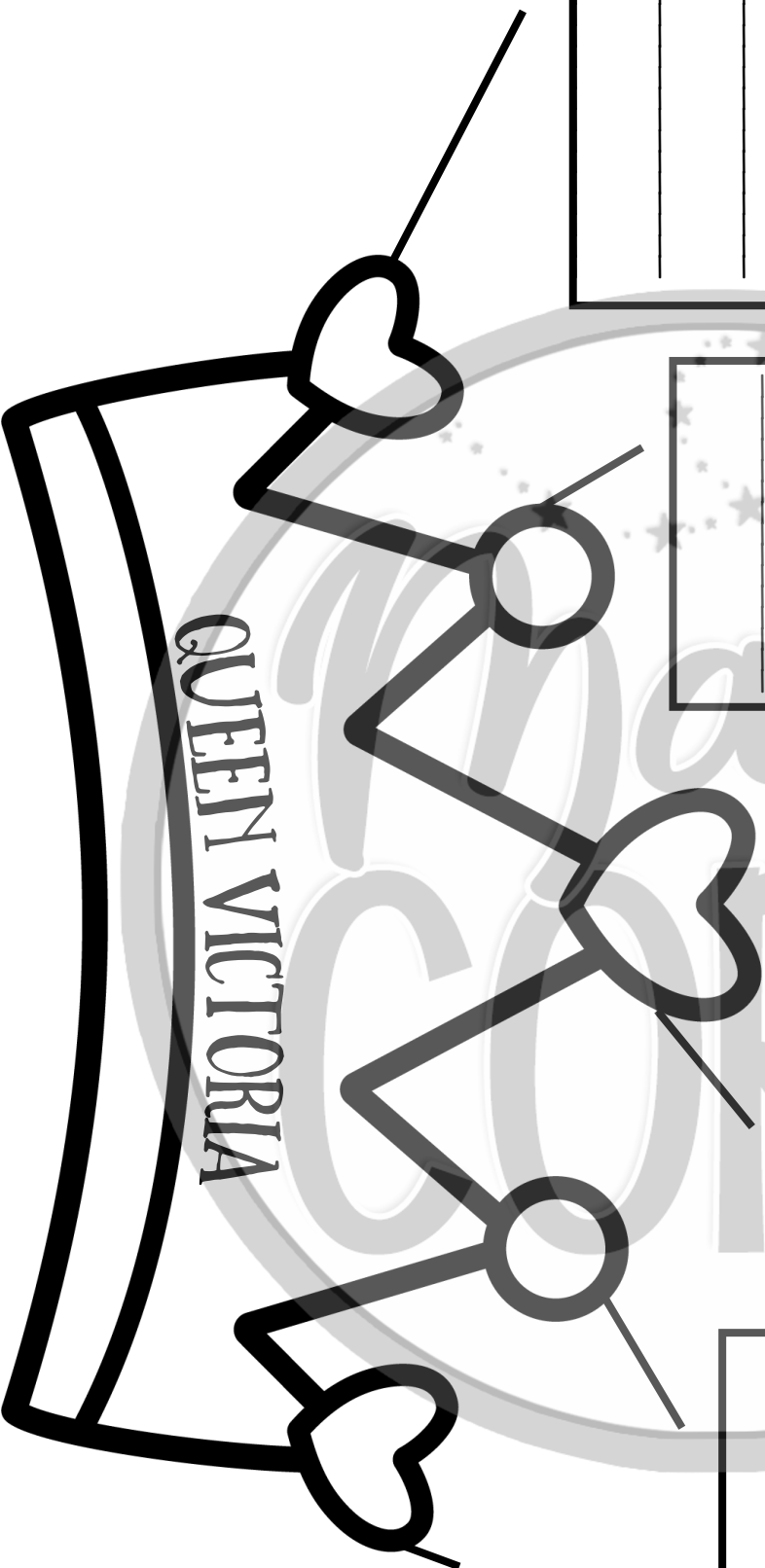
WHY

is this person important?

WHEN

did this person
live?

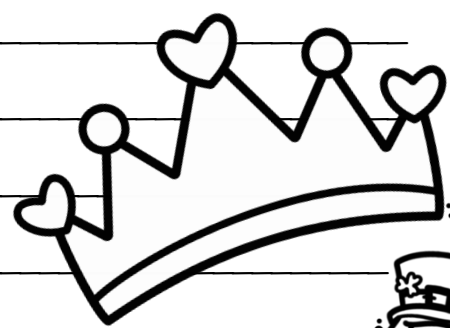
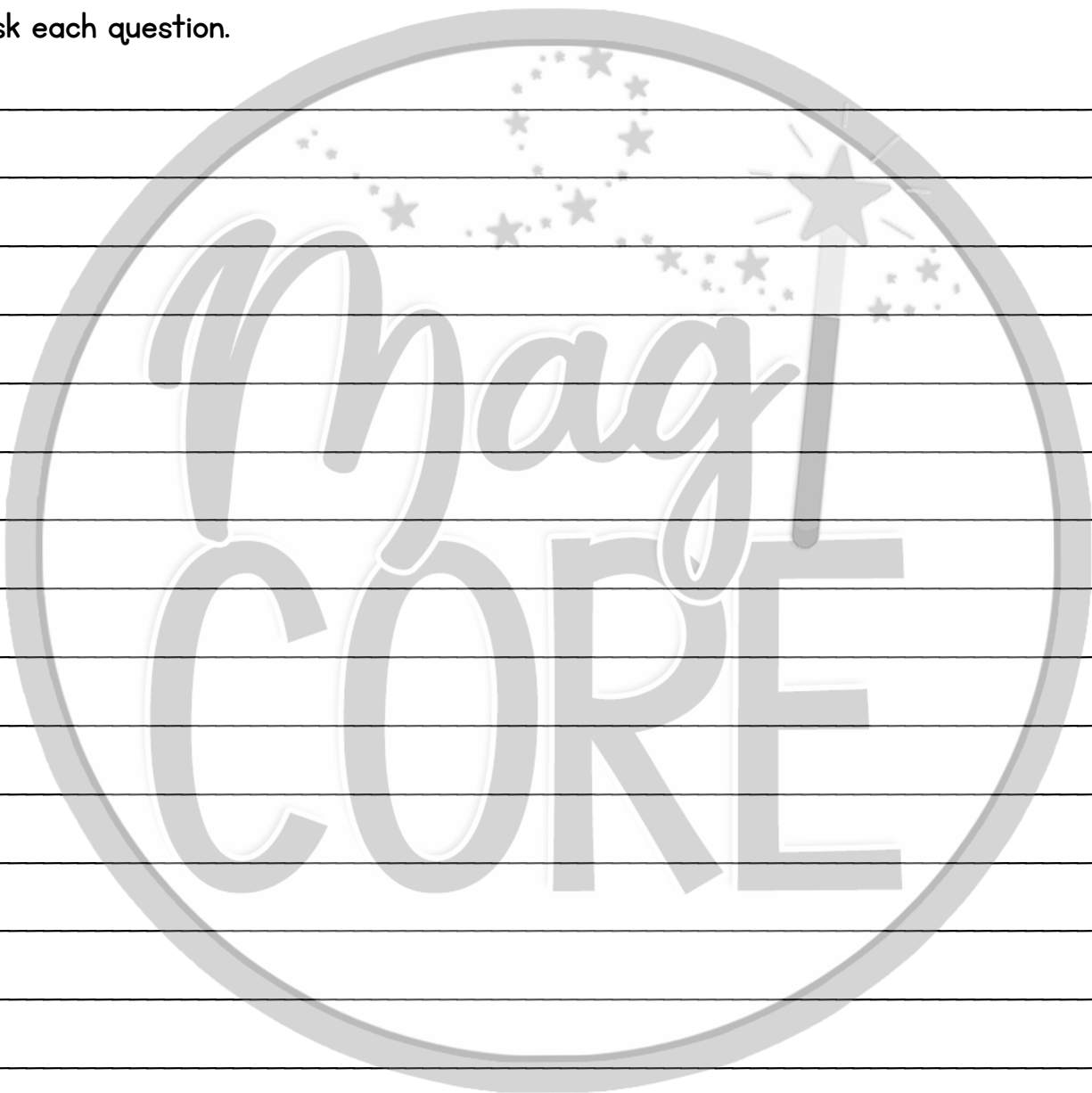
QUEEN VICTORIA





QUEEN VICTORIA RESPONSE

Queen Victoria was a very popular ruler in the United Kingdom. Her descendants still rule the United Kingdom today. If you could meet Queen Victoria, what questions would you ask her and why? Write at least 3 questions you would have for Queen Victoria and explain why you would ask each question.





To Be Heard

"Votes for women!" Elizabeth shouted. She shuffled along the sidewalk with the other women in Washington, D.C. "Give us the vote now!" Her throat was scratchy from repeating these words over and over again. She coughed a few times. Her arms and legs were tired from marching and carrying her sign.

"Why don't you take a break?" her friend, Millie, said. "I promise to yell extra loud until you return."

Elizabeth didn't want to stop. When she stumbled on some uneven pavement, she knew Millie was right. "Okay, but I'll be right back."

Millie gave her a big smile and then stomped forward. "Equality for women!" she hollered.

Elizabeth hurried to a small table. It had been set up as a water station. She downed a cup of water in one gulp. She stretched out her arms. She leaned against a nearby building to relieve her legs. She watched the other women parade back and forth. Their voices demanded equal rights. She believed in this cause with her whole heart.



If only there was an easier way to be heard...

She closed her eyes for a moment. When she opened them, a small orange cat sat in front of her. It flicked its tail once. Then it rose to all fours. The cat turned away from Elizabeth, but it looked over its shoulder as if it wanted her to follow. Figuring she could spare a few more moments, Elizabeth trailed after the cat.



March Passages

It led her down the street a bit. Elizabeth was so focused on not losing sight of the cat. She wasn't paying attention to anything else. Just when the cat turned a corner near a brick building, Elizabeth plowed right into a young man. He nearly dropped the large case he was carrying.

"Oh, my!" Elizabeth put her hands to her chest. "Please forgive my clumsiness."



"Not to worry," the man said. "I wasn't paying attention either." He looked behind Elizabeth. "I'm heading to the women's march. I want to take photographs. I'm planning to write a story for the newspaper." He held out his free hand. "I'm William."

Elizabeth shook his hand. "My name is Elizabeth. I'm a part of the march today."

William's face brightened. He wiggled the case he held. "May I take your photograph and interview you?"

"That depends," Elizabeth said. "Do you support women's rights, William?"

"With my whole heart," William said. "This country can only be improved by adding women's common sense and good judgment to it. Plus, why shouldn't you have a say in everything that happens here? You live here, too. Women deserve the vote."

Elizabeth turned toward the march. "Then take all the pictures you want. I'll gladly share my thoughts for your newspaper story. I think you'll find the rest of the women more than happy to speak with you, as well."

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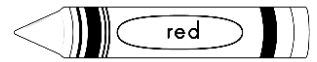




March Comprehension Questions

Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated. If there is no crayon next to the question, you will need to infer the answer. You should still look for text evidence to help you infer.

1. Why do you think Elizabeth stumbled on the pavement?

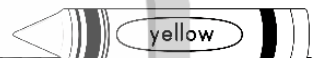


- a. Someone pushed her.
- b. She tripped on her shoelaces.
- c. The pavement was uneven, and she was tired.
- d. She tripped over a cat.

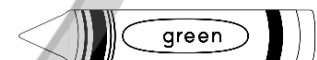
2. What was the event Elizabeth was at? How do you know?



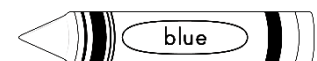
3. What were William's reasons for supporting women's rights?



4. Why did Elizabeth decide to allow William to take all the photos he wanted?



5. What do you think the author meant when they referred to the orange cat, writing, "Its job was done for today"?





HISTORICAL FICTION

TO BE HEARD

What was the event happening in the story? Describe it below:

Who was at the event?

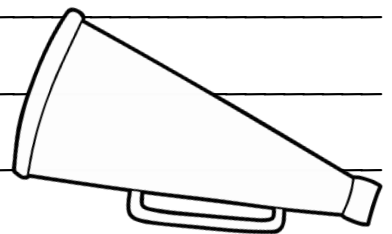
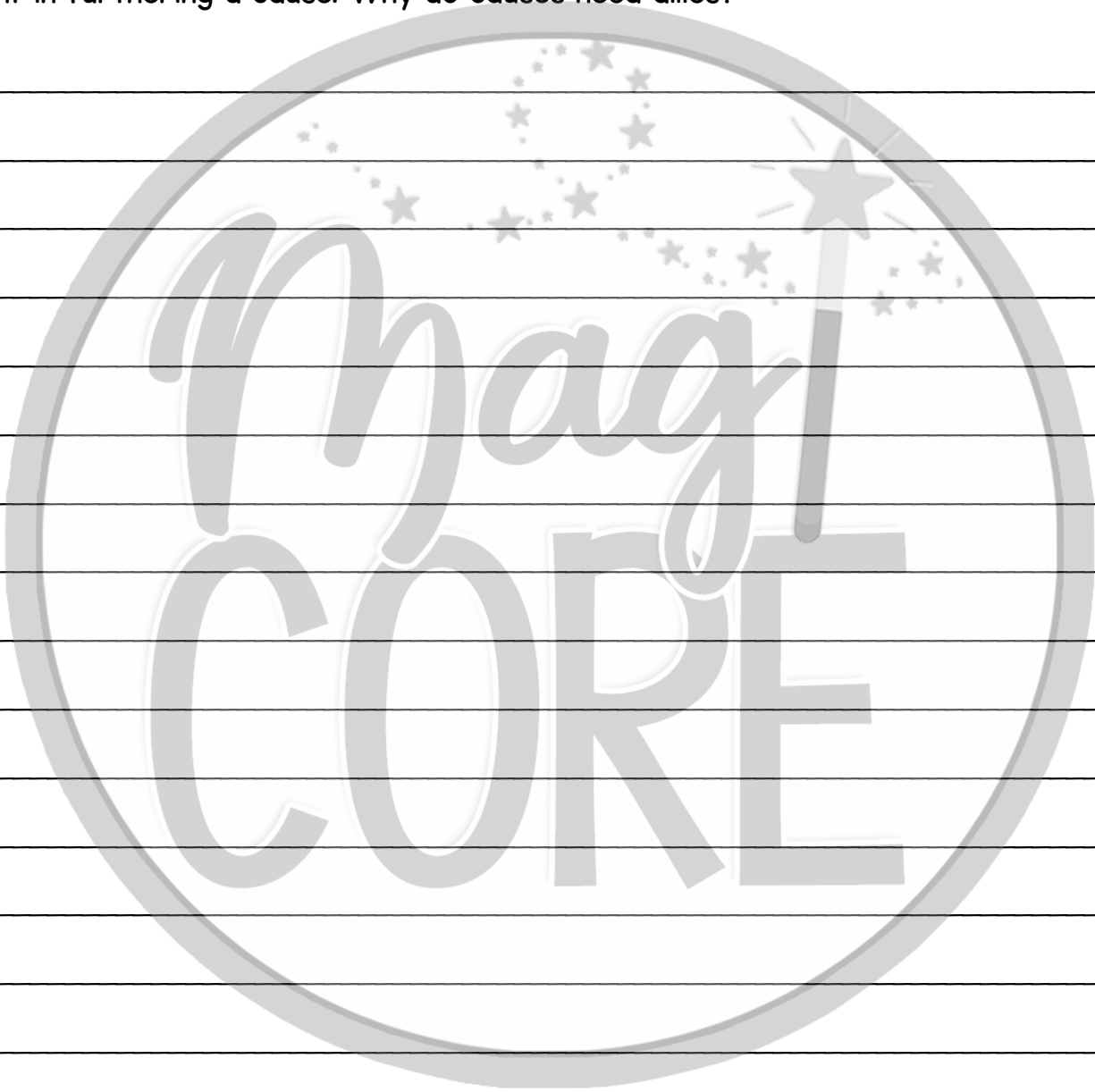
What were the people at the event doing?

Where did the event take place?



TO BE HEARD RESPONSE

In the story, William is considered an “ally” of the women’s rights movement. An ally is someone who supports a cause, even though they might not personally be affected by the problems the cause is fighting against. Write a paragraph discussing why allies might be important in furthering a cause. Why do causes need allies?



Ireland

Ireland is Europe's second-largest island. It is 302 miles long. Its width is 171 miles. Most of the island is the Republic of Ireland. Ireland is called the *Emerald Isle*. This is because it has so many green fields. Rocky landscapes can also be found there. Some areas are boggy. The climate includes mild summers. The winters are cold.

Farmland covers most of Ireland. It has few trees. Most of them were cleared to grow food. Trees were also used for lumber. Mosses grow well here. Birds and mammals make Ireland their home. Fish live in the waters. There is only one native reptile. It's a common lizard. No snakes live in Ireland. The climate doesn't make a good home for them. A legend says that Saint Patrick drove all the snakes from Ireland. Most scientists agree that Ireland never had any, though.

The Celts lived in Ireland for nearly 2,000 years. Most people in Ireland today have Celtic ancestors. Vikings invaded in the ninth century. The two groups fought often. Control of Ireland fell to England after that. Ireland finally became an independent republic in 1948. The Irish government includes parliament. This part makes the laws. It also has a president.

Ireland's economy has been mostly based on farming. Potatoes are the main crop grown here. Technology has brought new jobs in recent years. Many people work in banking and transportation now. Tourism is also important. Manufacturing and construction supply many jobs in Ireland, too.



The Cliffs of Moher, Ireland.

Visitors to Ireland can enjoy Irish culture. Saint Patrick's Day includes parades. Celtic music and Irish dance entertain people. Irish food has dishes with root vegetables. Salmon, pork, and lamb are also popular. A stop in some of Ireland's cities such as its capital, Dublin, shows history. Landmarks such as the Cliffs of Moher can also be enjoyed. A trip to Ireland will delight anyone.

Ireland

Ireland is Europe's second-largest island. It is 302 miles long and 171 miles wide. Most of the island is the Republic of Ireland. One smaller chunk of land in the northeastern corner is part of the United Kingdom. Ireland's nickname is the *Emerald Isle*. This is because it has so many lush, green fields. Rocky landscapes can also be found there along with boggy areas. The climate includes mild summers and cool winters.

Pastures cover most of Ireland. It has few trees because most of them were cleared to make room for farming and for lumber. Mosses and lichens grow well here. Birds, fish, and mammals make their homes in this island country. There is only one native reptile species, however. It's a common lizard. No snakes are native to Ireland because the climate doesn't make a good habitat for them. The ocean also keeps snakes from migrating from other areas to Ireland. A popular legend says that Saint Patrick drove all the snakes from the country. Most scientists agree that Ireland never had any, though.

For nearly 2,000 years, the Celts lived in Ireland. Most people in Ireland today have Celtic ancestors. Vikings invaded in the ninth century, and the two groups fought often. Control of Ireland fell into the hands of England after that. Ireland finally became an independent republic in 1948. The Irish government includes parliament, which makes the laws, and a president.



The Cliffs of Moher, Ireland.

Ireland's economy has been mostly based on farming. Potatoes, wheat, and barley are the main crops grown in the country. Technology, however, has brought new opportunities in recent years. Many people work in finance, transportation, and tourism now. Manufacturing and construction are also sources of money in Ireland. Mining of Ireland's natural resources such as coal and zinc also adds to the economy.

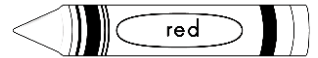
Visitors to Ireland can enjoy Irish culture. Saint Patrick's Day festivities include parades. Celtic music and Irish dance entertain people around the world. Irish food serves up dishes with root vegetables. Salmon, pork, beef, and lamb are also popular. A stop in some of Ireland's major cities such as its capital, Dublin, reveals history and architecture. Famous landmarks such as the Cliffs of Moher can also be enjoyed. A trip to Ireland is sure to fascinate any traveler.



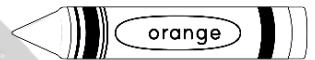
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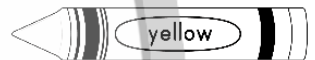
1. Why do they call Ireland the "Emerald Isle"?



2. Describe Ireland's climate:



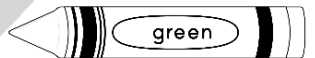
3. What are the two theories about why there are no snakes in Ireland?



1. _____
2. _____

Which one do you think is correct? _____

4. What is the primary industry that keeps Ireland's economy going?



- a. Farming
- b. Livestock
- c. Lumber
- d. Fishing

5. What are some things a visitor to Ireland might want to do? Why?





COUNTRY PROFILE

IRELAND

SIZE:

CLIMATE:

LANDSCAPE:

-
-

-
-
-

NATIVE PEOPLE:

YEAR OF INDEPENDENCE:

ANIMALS:

-
-
-
-
-

ECONOMY:

-
-
-
-
-

FUN THINGS TO DO ON A VISIT:

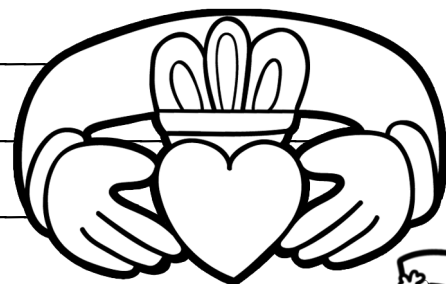
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-
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IRELAND RESPONSE

Imagine you are going on a trip to Ireland! Write a paragraph about what you might want to do on your trip and why.



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Good to Go



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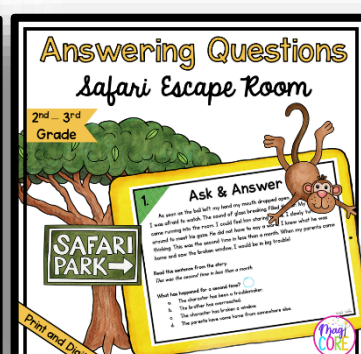
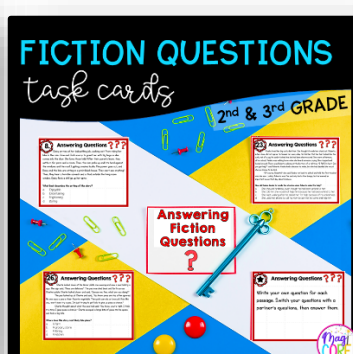


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