Reading Log

Date: ______________________

Title of Book: ______________________

How Many Pages Did You Read? ________

How Long Did You Read? ________ minutes

Write A Brief Description of What You Read

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The People of Africa

Africa is a huge continent and has more independent countries in it than any other continent, over 50 countries. Since Africa extends thousands of miles from north to south and much of Africa sits on the equator, there is great variety in the climate and vegetation across the continent. All of these things influence the culture of people living in Africa. Unfortunately Africa is the world’s poorest region and this has a great impact on how the people of Africa live. Most people live in poor rural areas without roads connecting the villages and no electricity or clean water. Rural people who move to the cities to look for work end up living in terrible slums.

The cultures of Africa can be divided into North Africa and Africa south of the Sahara Desert. North Africa borders the Mediterranean Sea and these Africans, like those in Egypt, traded with Greeks, Romans and others thousands of years ago using the Mediterranean Sea for transportation of goods. Many of these people speak Arabic and share the ethnic and religious heritage of the Mediterranean area.

Africa is home to a large number of tribal people. To give an idea of the diversity of African people, there are over 2,000 languages spoken by the people living there. For example, Nigeria has 500 languages and Ethiopia has 80. Africa also has many people of European descent who migrated there during the period of colonization. European countries colonized Africa like they colonized North and South America. But the countries of Africa did not receive their independence until the late 1900s. Namibia became independent in 1990 and Eritrea in 1993. The Europeans divided Africa into countries without considering old tribal territories and rival tribes continue to fight amongst each other. The people of Africa face many difficult problems to provide healthcare, education and a decent way of life for themselves and their children.

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Multiple Choice Questions - People

Circle the correct answer.

1. Africa
   a. Has more countries than any other continent
   b. Has over 2,000 languages
   c. Is the poorest area of the world
   d. All of the above

2. North African people
   a. Are culturally similar to people around the Mediterranean Sea
   b. Speak 2,000 languages
   c. Are of European descent
   d. All of the above

3. The culture of Africa is influenced by
   a. Climate
   b. Many tribes
   c. Both a. and b.
   d. None of the above

4. People who live in rural African villages
   a. Don’t have electricity
   b. Don’t have clean water
   c. Don’t have good roads
   d. All of the above

5. Countries in Africa that were European colonies received their independence in the
   a. 1700s like the United States
   b. 1800s
   c. 1900s
   d. None of the above

6. Which of the following countries are in Africa?
   a. Egypt
   b. Nigeria
   c. Eritrea
   d. All of the above

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Booker T. Washington

For Booker Taliaferro Washington, born April 5th 1856, life didn’t start out so well. Booker T. Washington was born on a tobacco farm in Franklin County, Virginia, to a world of slavery and segregation. By the time he died on November 14th 1915 Booker T. Washington had educated the American people, been an orator, an author and most notably a fierce leader of the nation’s African-American community from the 1890’s onwards. Booker T. Washington was born with nothing but the will to make the world a better place, which he accomplished and is remembered for.

Educating a slave was considered a crime at this time. Booker did go to school, not to learn as he would have liked, but to carry the books for one of James Burroughs’s daughters. In Booker T Washington’s book *Up from Slavery* he says “I had the feeling that to get into a schoolhouse and study would be about the same as getting into paradise.”

In 1865, after the Emancipation Proclamation ended slavery, Booker’s family moved to Malden, West Virginia to be with Booker’s stepfather. After being refused the right to learn and study as a slave, Booker had a great desire to learn, and attended school in Malden. Booker worked in a salt mine, starting each day before dawn so he could earn money and have time to go to school. He was so desperate to learn that at the age of 16, Booker walked 500 miles back to Virginia to enroll in a new school for black students. At first, he didn’t make a very good first impression on the head teacher with his ragged clothes and country ways. It was only after he cleaned a room to her satisfaction that he was allowed to stay at the school. Booker went on to teach at Hampton, he then became the principal and leading force behind the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama, which he founded in 1881.

Booker T Washington never forgot his roots and remained loyal to his philosophy of hard work. From his book *Up from Slavery*, Booker says ‘There was no period of my life that was devoted to play. From the time that I can remember anything, almost every day of my life has been occupied in some kind of labor.’

In 1881 Booker became recognized as the nation’s foremost black educator and one of the most influential men of his generation. Booker T. Washington knew that the end of slavery legally didn’t mean the end of the fight for his people. Booker knew freedom only began the hard journey African Americans had ahead for them in becoming equal citizens.

In the last season of his life, Booker T. Washington openly attacked the social disease of racism. In 1915, Booker, along with others, protested against the stereotypical portrayal of blacks in the film *Birth of a Nation*. At the premature age of 59, Booker T Washington died, but in a few decades Booker had broken through the obstacles of a corrupt society and helped African Americans break free from the economic slavery and injustice that lingered long after the laws had been changed.
Booker T. Washington: Graphic Organizer

Location:

Best Known For:

Time Period

Highlights of Career/Life

What Significant Role Did He Play In African American History?

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Marcus Garvey

Born August 17, 1887, in St. Ann’s Bay, Jamaica, Marcus Garvey would go on to become a speaker, leader, and founder of the UNIA, the Universal Negro Improvement Association. He is best known for his efforts in the “Back to Africa” movement, which encouraged African-Americans to return to their home roots in Africa. He encouraged African American citizens to be independent, believe in their own self worth, and proclaimed “black is beautiful” long before the 1960’s.

Marcus Garvey was the youngest of 11 siblings. His father loved to read, and passed the love of books on to young Marcus. By the time Marcus turned 14, he had left school, and begun working as a printer’s apprentice. He later edited several newspapers in Panama and Costa Rica, before arriving in the United States in 1916.

In 1914, Marcus Garvey founded the UNIA, and began promoting his message of black pride and independence to the world. He called for freedom for black citizens in African nations, and for African-Americans to return to their roots in Africa. Garvey and his views were often at odds with other civil rights advocates of the time, and the NAACP itself. His insistence that American citizens should return to Africa, a country that some had never seen, caused many in the Civil Rights movement to treat him with scorn.

Garvey was a powerful speaker, and could motivate large crowds of people with ease. He attracted many supporters, and continued to urge his followers to return to their homeland. His speeches attracted followers, who came to see him in person. Garvey lobbied the country of Liberia to grant lands for settlement by African American citizens, but was unsuccessful at securing land for his cause.

He formed the Black Star Line shipping company in 1919, to promote trade between black nations, and to provide transport for passengers wishing to return to Africa. The Black Star Line would later be a source of trouble for Garvey—in 1923 he was charged and convicted of mail fraud, and would spend the next four years in prison.

There is some suspicion that Marcus Garvey was prosecuted more for political reasons than criminal ones, but no confirmation of this exists. There were some legitimate problems with the Black Star Line, and the way it conducted its financial affairs, but questions remain about the conviction.

After Marcus Garvey was released from prison in 1927, he was deported to Jamaica, and would live out the rest of his life in relative obscurity. He moved to London, where he died in 1940. Though Marcus Garvey’s work was often the subject of controversy, he paved the way for later radical leaders like Malcolm X, and holds a place alongside Civil Rights leaders of his time.

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Short Answer Questions - Marcus Garvey

1. What was the "Back to Africa" movement?

2. What was Garvey’s relationship with other civil rights activists and the NAACP like?

3. How did Marcus Garvey put his message out to followers?

4. What was the purpose of the Black Star Line?

5. How did Marcus Garvey try to secure a spot in Africa for American citizens to return to?

6. What did Marcus Garvey want African Americans to do?

7. What do you think was Marcus Garvey’s most important achievement?
Capitalism

Capitalism is a type of economic system. In a capitalist system, businesses are owned and managed by the people, rather than by the government. The opposite of capitalism is a command economy. In a command economy, the government determines what products are available for sale and how much they should cost.

Capitalism is also known as a free market system. The free market system was first described in a book called *The Wealth of Nations* by Adam Smith in 1776. In this book, Smith asserted that governments should not get involved in the economy because the most healthy economies are those that find their own equilibrium. Examples of the kinds of issues that get worked out by a free market include what products are for sale, how much they should cost, what products people decide to buy, and how much they are willing to pay for them.

The free market system is based on the concept of supply and demand. The balance between supply and demand affects the price of a product. If demand is very high and supply is very low, the price of a product will be artificially high. If demand is very low and supply is very high, the price of a product will be artificially low. The concept of supply and demand says that the ideal price of a product is the one at which there is as much demand for a product as there is supply.

Today, most countries have what is actually a mixed economy. Private businesses set their own prices and determine what products will be sold, but the government still plays a role. There are laws against a company having a monopoly (exclusive control) over one particular product or service. There are also laws requiring workplace safety and environmental protection, and prohibiting discrimination. Other governmental interventions like taxes and Social Security redistribute wealth and provide some economic support to those who need it the most.

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QUESTIONS: Capitalism

Circle the correct answer.

1. In a capitalist system, businesses are owned and managed by:
   A. the government
   B. the people
   C. the market
   D. Adam Smith

2. What is the opposite of capitalism?
   A. the free market system
   B. a mixed economy
   C. a command economy
   D. supply and demand

3. Capitalism is based on the concept of:
   A. supply and demand
   B. the free market
   C. the command economy
   D. laws against monopolies

4. A company with a monopoly has __________ over a particular business.
   A. no control
   B. government control
   C. exclusive control
   D. supply and demand

5. In a mixed economy:
   A. private businesses set their own prices
   B. private businesses determine what products will be sold
   C. the government plays a role by making and enforcing laws
   D. all of the above
Determine the author's purpose for each of the following. Use inform, persuade or entertain.

1. **HAMSTERS FOR SALE**: Humble Pet Store, in the mall: We have a large selection of hamsters for sale this week. They are interesting pets, and you will enjoy having one! They are only $17.99 this week! Come and buy yours today!

   What is the author's purpose? ________

2. **Calligraphy**: A form of handwriting. A special pen must be used. Letters are formed using up and down strokes. Most old documents were written in this form. Diplomas, certificates, and other awards are often written in calligraphy.

   What is the author's purpose? ________

3. **Katrina and her brother, Jesse**: were playing with the water hose outside one day. Jesse ran to the house to hide from Katrina so she wouldn't squirt him with the water. The back door opened, and Katrina pointed the water hose toward the door ready to squirt Jesse. To Katrina's surprise it was Mom who was now dripping wet!

   What is the author's purpose? ________
Determine the author's purpose for each of the following. Use inform, persuade or entertain.

1. Skin Miracle's amazing Wrinkle Remover Cream will make you look younger in thirty days or less. This remarkable cream has special ingredients to make your wrinkles disappear. The cost for a thirty day supply is $25.99. You'll be amazed at what you see!

What is the author's purpose of this writing? __________________________

2. Tommy was not happy one little bit. His sister, Susan was making honor roll... again! His parents would let her do anything she wanted to do. Tommy was not making honor roll this time and he was not going to be allowed to do all the things he wanted to do. Poor Tommy! He decided he would just have to study harder and get back on the honor roll. He'd show them!

What is the author's purpose of this writing? __________________________

3. Laura Elizabeth Ingalls Wilder was born on February 7, 1867 in Pepin, Wisconsin to Charles and Caroline Ingalls. She met and married James Wilder in 1885. She published many books based on her travels to the West. Her writing became the basis for the "Little House" series. She died in 1957.

What is the author's purpose of this writing? __________________________
Context Clues

If you are not sure what a word means, one way of figuring out what the word may mean is by using context clues.

Using context clues means using the information around the word you don't know. These words may help you discover what the unknown word means. Sometimes a word's definition may become clearer after reading the entire paragraph where it appears. You can also use the information in the rest of the paragraph to help you figure out what the word means.

Read each sentence or paragraph and circle the correct answer.

1. The archaeologist carefully removed the **tome** from its ancient resting place and proceeded to read the pages related to marriage in ancient Greece.
   What does the word *tome* probably mean?
   a. pen  
   b. weapon  
   c. book  
   d. sausage

2. The Navajo language is an unwritten language of extreme complexity with no alphabet or symbols, and is spoken only on the lands of the Navajo Nation in the American Southwest. During World War II a Navajo code was created for the U.S. Navy. This code was **virtually** undecipherable to anyone except Navajo speaking persons.
   What does the word *virtually* probably mean?
   a. pleasant  
   b. almost  
   c. never  
   d. always

3. Lakes occupy less than two percent of the Earth's surface, yet they help **sustain** life. For instance, lakes give us fish to eat, irrigate crops, and generate electrical power.
   What does the word *sustain* probably mean?
   a. support  
   b. obstruct  
   c. prolong  
   d. destroy

4. The ancient Greeks **pioneered** many of the kinds of writing we consider standard today. They wrote speeches, plays, poems, books about science and learning, long histories of the things that happened to them.
   What does the word *pioneered* probably mean?
   a. complicated  
   b. developed  
   c. destroyed  
   d. explored

5. Fifty-five mostly **prominent**, male delegates attended the Philadelphia Convention in 1787. About seventy-five percent of the delegates had served in Congress and others were important people in their home states. These men are often referred to as the Framers of the Constitution.
   What does the word *prominent* probably mean?
   a. unimportant  
   b. unknown  
   c. common  
   d. important

6. Bats that eat fruit and nectar spread seeds and help flowers grow. Without bats many important plants would not **thrive**.
   What does the word *thrive* probably mean?
   a. flourish  
   b. die  
   c. wither  
   d. deteriorate
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Fact or Opinion?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Bats are nocturnal mammals.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Bats look very scary and mean.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. I think it will rain today.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4. It is raining hard outside today.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. I think the Hurricanes will win their game.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. The Hurricanes won 6-0 last weekend.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Chocolate milk tastes great!</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. The milk we drink comes from cows.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. I think my friend plays the piano.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. The piano has 88 ivory keys on it.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. The continent we live on is North America.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12. My school is the best school ever!</td>
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<tr>
<td>13. I love to play outdoors.</td>
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<tr>
<td>14. I think I’m a pretty good swimmer.</td>
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### Fact or Opinion?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Fact or Opinion?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Dogs are my favorite kind of animal.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Dogs come in many different breeds.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. I think my dog is the best dog of all.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. I think elephants are the heaviest animal. Elephants eat grass, small</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>branches and bark.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Blue is my favorite color.</td>
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<td>6. Blue is the color of the sky.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Roses are the nicest smelling flower.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Roses have thorny stems.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. The sun is actually a star.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Without the sun, earth could not support life.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Earth orbits the sun every 365 days.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. I think tomorrow will be a sunny day.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12. My favorite season is the fall.</td>
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<td><a href="http://worksheetplace.com">http://worksheetplace.com</a></td>
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</table>
A Cold Journey

Roald Amundsen left Norway secretly. He wanted to beat the British explorer Robert Scott to the South Pole. No explorer had traveled so far.

Amundsen and his team reached the edge of Antarctica in January. They took a few trips inland to set up supplies of food and fuel. Then they waited for spring to arrive so they could travel.

In October, spring arrived. Amundsen's team began its trip through Antarctica to the South Pole. The trip was painstaking. They ran out of the food they had brought. In order to survive, they had to kill and eat the weaker sled dogs. But on December 14, 1911, Amundsen and his team became the first people to reach the South Pole. Soon Amundsen was famous throughout the world.

1. Most of this story is set—
   A. in Norway.
   B. in Britain.
   C. in Antarctica.
   D. all over the world.

2. How would this story be different if Robert Scott had already reached the South Pole?
   F. Amundsen would not have left secretly.
   G. Amundsen could have traveled in January.
   H. Amundsen could have gotten food from Scott.
   J. Amundsen would have been as famous as Scott.

3. What did Amundsen do first?
   A. He set up camp at the edge of Antarctica.
   B. He left Norway secretly.
   C. He set up supplies.
   D. He began his trip through the Antarctic.

4. Before Amundsen left the edge of the Antarctic, he—
   F. killed weaker sled dogs.
   G. set up supplies of food and fuel.
   H. met with Robert Scott.
   J. traveled to the South Pole.

5. How does the Antarctic setting affect Amundsen's actions?
   A. Dogs have to be killed and eaten when food runs out.
   B. He has to get more dogs to keep traveling.
   C. He has to send far away for help.
   D. He has to travel alone.

Notes for Home: Your child identified the time and place in which a story takes place, and the order in which story events happened. Home Activity: Have your child choose a favorite story. With your child, identify the time and place in which the story takes place.
Making Predictions Worksheet 1

Directions: Read the following passages. Determine what event is likely to occur next. Explain your answer using textual evidence.

Vince Thunder waved to the crowd one more time before he put on his motorcycle helmet. The crowd cheered uproariously. Vince looked down the ramp and across the 17 school busses that he was about to attempt to jump. It was a difficult trick and everything would need to go right for him to nail it. His cape blew in the wind. As Vince hoped on his motorcycle and started down the ramp, he noticed something that he had not seen before. There was large oil slick at the end of the ramp. He attempted to stop the bike, but it was too late. He had already built up too much momentum...

1. What event is most likely to occur next? __________________________________________

2. What evidence from the text supports your prediction?

Rex sat at the mouth of the alley and chewed the bone that he had found by the dumpster. It was a meaty bone that had belonged to a larger animal, perhaps a state fair prize winning pig. Rex was attracted to the bone by its strong scent. Apparently, he was not the only one who could smell it. He heard the jangle of tags behind him and turned to see a larger dog. Rex released the bone and began growling at the other dog. The other dog began growling at Rex. The two dogs inched toward one another, maintaining eye contact. Each began growling louder as the other approached within striking distance...

3. What event is most likely to occur next? __________________________________________

4. What evidence from the text supports your prediction?

John sat in the classroom and drew pictures of the Tatakai Fighting Warriors in his notebook while his teacher lectured about biology or something. He didn't really know for sure. The last thing he remembered her saying was that there would be a test tomorrow. His heart jumped. He went home to study for the test, but he was soon drawn to his Game Box. He played Tatakai Fighting Warriors long into the night. When his alarm clock rang the next day, he was too tired to hit the snooze button, so he let it beep for about 20 minutes before he got up and went to school. As she had promised, the teacher has prepared a test. She reviewed the testing procedures and directions with the class and then passed out the test. John looked at his test and scratched his head...
Angela threw the bedspread over the bed and fussed with it until it was free of wrinkles. She dusted her dresser and straightened the knickknacks. As she was leaving the room, she noticed that a picture frame on the nightstand was slightly crooked. She went back into the room and straightened the picture frame. She examined her bedroom one more time and gave it a satisfied nod, and then she went to vacuum the living room. As she was running the vacuum, her three-year-old son Jason walked into Angela’s bedroom. He was drinking a glass of grape juice and playing with his cars. Angela’s bedspread fell as he raced his cars off the bed. While hitting an imaginary jump with his cars, he bumped into the nightstand and knocked over Angela’s picture frame. Then, while he lined his cars up at the starting line of a pretend race, he kicked over the grape juice and it spilled all over Angela’s white carpet. Jason didn’t notice. After Angela finished vacuuming the living room, she tied the cord around the vacuum and went to return it to her bedroom...

Lance didn’t cook much but he wanted to do something nice for his wife's birthday, so he decided to make her dinner. He was preparing a meal of steak and potatoes by following a recipe that he had found on the Internet. He put the steaks on the grill on low heat and quartered the potatoes. Then he threw the potatoes in a skillet with a little bit of oil and cooked them over medium heat. After browning the potatoes, he grabbed the skillet by the metal handle and put it into the oven at 400 degrees. Twenty minutes later he grabbed the steaks off of the grill and began preparing the plates. The last thing that he needed to do was take the potatoes out of the oven. He thought about using a potholder to remove the pan, but didn’t want to bother with getting one out of the drawer. He reached into the hot oven, his hand nearing the metal handle of the skillet. He wrapped his hand around the handle and clenched tightly...
Word Meanings From Context

Ryan is a great inventor. However, I don’t think that his latest invention, edible socks, is likely to be too successful. Not many people want to eat socks. There are some things in life that should remain inedible.

1. Which word in the passage means “fit to be eaten”?

2. Which word in the passage means “not fit to be eaten”?

Marsha is really an introvert. When I took her to Jason’s party, she sat in a corner without speaking to anyone. All she did was eat most of the snacks. The only reason she hangs out with me is because I never try to force her to be sociable. She would never forgive me if I introduced her to anyone.

3. An introvert is usually _____.

   a. friendly
   b. hungry
   c. unclean
   d. shy

Sunshine said, “Amber, why are you making such a big deal about Robert’s hair? Yes, he did dye it purple. It is rather unusual for a guy to have purple hair. On the other hand, it’s not exactly going to change the course of world history. It’s really quite a trivial matter.”

4. What does “trivial” mean?

   a. strange
   b. unimportant
   c. disgusting
   d. dangerous
The United States has a new president. Americans are hopeful that George W. Bush will succeed in dealing with some of the major problems that our nation faces. Some feel that the task will be made extremely difficult by the controversial way that the election ended. Others are very confident that our new leader is a man who will bring people together to get things done.

President Bush’s top priority will be to improve education in our country. He is determined to see that no child will ever fail. He believes that local school districts should decide how to meet national standards. The president insists that parents should have greater choices about which schools their kids attend. He will work hard to find areas of agreement between the opposing parties so that important education reforms will become law.

1. Which word in the selection is a synonym of “important”?

2. Which word in the selection is an antonym of “succeed”?

3. Which word in the selection means to make better?

4. Use a word from the selection to complete the following sentence.
   The Giants and the Ravens will be the ________ teams in the Super Bowl.

5. Which word in the selection is a synonym of “nation”?

6. Which word in the selection means the rank (place in order) of importance?

7. Which word in the selection means having a lot of disagreement?
Main Idea

The main idea of a paragraph is what all the sentences are about. Read the paragraph and ask, "What's your point?" That will help you zero in on the main idea.

Read each paragraph carefully. Choose the best answer to the questions that follow.

1. Juan loves to play games. His favorite game is chess because it requires a great deal of thought. Juan also likes to play less demanding board games that are based mostly on luck. He prefers Monopoly because it requires luck and skill. If he's alone, Juan likes to play action video games as long as they aren't too violent.

What is the main idea of this paragraph?

a. Juan dislikes violence.
b. Juan likes to think.
c. Juan enjoys Monopoly.
d. Juan enjoys playing games.

2. Maria is watching too much television. A toddler shouldn't be spending hours staring blankly at a screen. Worse yet, some of her wild behavior has been inspired by those awful cartoons she watches. We need to spend more time reading books with her and pull the plug on the TV!

What is the main idea of this paragraph?

a. Watching a lot of television isn't good for Maria.
b. Books are good.
c. All cartoons are bad.
d. Some cartoons are bad for Maria.
3. Samantha, I can’t eat or sleep when you are gone. I need to hear your scratchy voice and see your lovely toothless smile. I miss that special way that you eat soup with your fingers. Please come home soon!

What is the main idea of this paragraph?

a. Samantha, you have bad manners.
b. Samantha, you should see a dentist.
c. Samantha, I miss you.
d. Samantha, I have lost my appetite.

4. Someday we will all have robots that will be our personal servants. They will look and behave much like real humans. We will be able to talk to these mechanical helpers and they will be able to respond in kind. Amazingly, the robots of the future will be able to learn from experience. They will be smart, strong, and untiring workers whose only goal will be to make our lives easier.

Which sentence from the paragraph expresses the main idea?

a. Someday we will all have robots that will be our personal servants.
b. We will be able to talk to these mechanical helpers and they will be able to respond in kind.
c. They will look and behave much like real humans.
d. Amazingly, the robots of the future will be able to learn from experience.