Vocabulary Practice

Here are the vocabulary words from the story “The Amazing History of Dogs.” Look at their meanings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vocabulary Word</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>aggressive</td>
<td>adjective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ancestors</td>
<td>noun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>domesticated</td>
<td>adjective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mastodons</td>
<td>noun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>morphed</td>
<td>verb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>speculate</td>
<td>verb</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Directions: Fill in the circle next to the best answer to each question below.

1. Which of the following means the opposite of domesticated?
   - A energetic
   - B angry
   - C dirty
   - D wild

2. Select the best sentence to follow this: “Lena decided to research her ancestors.”
   - A “She was curious about kids in other countries.”
   - B “She wanted to learn about life in space.”
   - C “She wanted to learn about her family long ago.”
   - D “She was hoping to send them a postcard.”

3. Which of the following might be described as aggressive?
   - A a sleepy kitten
   - B a hungry lion
   - C a giggling baby
   - D a broken computer

4. Where would you NOT see a mastodon?
   - A in a zoo
   - B in an illustration in a science book
   - C as a statue at a natural history museum
   - D in an animated video about the ancient world

5. Which of the following is a synonym of morphed?
   - A transformed
   - B grew
   - C moved
   - D jumped

6. Which of the following situations would most likely require you to speculate?
   - A returning a library book
   - B talking to a friend on the phone
   - C listening to a favorite song
   - D deciding which team you think will win a basketball game

Directions: Answer the questions below.

7. What would be a way that’s not aggressive to deal with a bully? ____________________________________________

8. What is something you know about your ancestors? ____________________________________________
Think About It!

Close-Reading Questions: After reading “How the Wolf Became the Dog” and “How America Went DOG Crazy,” go back and reread sections to answer the questions below.

“How the Wolf Became the Dog”

1. In the first section, the authors write that “life was a daily struggle for survival” during the Ice Age. What evidence do they give to support this statement?

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2. According to “From Wolf to Dog,” what do scientists know for sure about the history of dogs?

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3. What is one theory about how humans and wolves first teamed up? How did this help both species?

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Think About It! p. 2

4. Based on “Hunters, Napkins,” what is a domesticated animal? What details in this section help you understand what makes dogs domesticated animals?

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“How America Went DOG Crazy”

5. In the first section, what is the authors’ tone, or attitude, toward Scout? Why do you think they describe Scout in this way?

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6. Reread the section “Too Dirty and Smelly.” How is the way dogs are treated today different from the way they were treated in the past?

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Continued on next page >
7. Based on “From Workers to Pets,” how was America changing in the late 1800s? How did this affect our relationship with dogs?
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8. Why might the authors have included the section “A Surprising Discovery”?
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Critical-Thinking Question: After answering the close-reading questions, answer the critical-thinking question below, thinking about the meaning of both articles.

9. What is the biggest difference between why people own dogs today and why people owned dogs in the past? Use details from both articles in your answer.
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Think About It!

Directions: After reading “How the Wolf Became the Dog” and “How America Went DOG Crazy,” go back and reread sections to answer the questions below. Write your answers on a separate sheet of paper.

“How the Wolf Became the Dog” Close-Reading Questions:

1. In the first section, the authors write that “life was a daily struggle for survival” during the Ice Age. What evidence do they give to support this statement?

2. According to “From Wolf to Dog,” what do scientists know for sure about the history of dogs?

3. What is one theory about how humans and wolves first teamed up? How did this help both species?

4. Based on “Hunters, Napkins,” what is a domesticated animal? What details in this section help you understand what makes dogs domesticated animals?

“How America Went DOG Crazy” Close-Reading Questions:

5. In the first section, what is the authors' tone, or attitude, toward Scout? Why do you think they describe Scout in this way?

6. Reread the section “Too Dirty and Smelly.” How is the way dogs are treated today different from the way they were treated in the past?

7. Based on “From Workers to Pets,” how was America changing in the late 1800s? How did this affect our relationship with dogs?

8. Why might the authors have included the section “A Surprising Discovery”?

Critical-Thinking Question:

9. What is the biggest difference between why people own dogs today and why people owned dogs in the past? Use details from both articles in your answer.
Think About It!

**Close-Reading Questions:** Read the feature “The Amazing History of Dogs.” Then go back and reread sections of both articles in it to answer the questions below. We’ve started the first two for you.

1. Based on the section “From Wolf to Dog” in the first article, what animal is the ancestor of all dogs? About when did dogs first appear?

   The ancestor of all dogs is __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
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   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

2. What main quality did the wolves that first teamed up with people have?

   The wolves that first teamed up with people were ________________________________________
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3. Read the section “Hunters, Napkins.” What changes did wolves go through as they became dogs?

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4. Look at the article “How America Went DOG Crazy.” What can you conclude about how people feel toward dogs from the text on page 18?

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Continued on next page >
Think About It! p. 3

5. Based on the section “From Workers to Pets,” what are some reasons that people started to treat dogs as pets rather than as workers?

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Critical-Thinking Question (big question about both stories):

6. Both articles offer examples of how humans have turned to dogs to help them. Choose two examples from each article to support the idea that dogs have helped humans for thousands of years. (Continue on the back if you need more space.)

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## Putting It All Together

**Directions:** To synthesize means to combine parts from different sources. Answer the questions below to synthesize information from the article “How the Wolf Became the Dog” (HWBD) and the informational text “How America Went DOG Crazy” (HAWDC). We’ve indicated where you can find each answer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. During what time period did the relationship between humans and dogs begin?</td>
<td>HWBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. When did dogs first appear, and where did they come from?</td>
<td>HWBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Until the late 1800s, what was the main role of dogs?</td>
<td>Both texts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. How did the role of dogs change during the late 1800s?</td>
<td>HAWDC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. How popular are dogs in America today?</td>
<td>HAWDC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. What are some of the jobs that dogs perform today?</td>
<td>HAWDC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Why are dogs important to humans?</td>
<td>Both texts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Write Now!** Use your answers above to help you respond to the writing prompt at the bottom of page 19.
Find the Evidence

Directions: Read each question below carefully. Some will ask you to select text evidence—or details in the story—to support a statement. Others will ask you to respond in your own words, supporting your ideas with text evidence.

1. The authors of “How the Wolf Became the Dog” describe the lives of our early ancestors during the Ice Age as “a daily struggle for survival.” Circle the letter of the piece of text evidence that best shows why this was so:
   
   a. “There were no nations yet, no cities or towns.”
   
   b. “Danger lurked everywhere—diseases with no cures, saber-toothed tigers with 11-inch fangs, elephant-like mastodons with swordlike tusks.”
   
   c. “Roman warriors marched into battle alongside enormous war dogs.”
   
   d. “And so humans let these wolves stick around.”

2. In your own words, explain how the friendship between wolves and humans began. Use details from the text.

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3. The section “From Wolf to Dog” explains that the gray wolf is the ancestor of every dog. Circle the letter of the piece of text evidence that best supports this statement:

   a. “Scientists speculate that the first dog appeared between 15,000 and 38,000 years ago.”
   
   b. “Dogs were the first domesticated animals—that is, animals bred and raised to live among us.”
   
   c. “A few wolves crept into human campsites, lured by tasty food scraps.”
   
   d. “They (wolves living near humans) became friendlier and more eager to please humans. Eventually, a new kind of creature had developed: the dog.”

4. Describe in your own words some of the ways that “humans put dogs to work,” according to the article “How the Wolf Became the Dog.”

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Find the Evidence, p. 2

5. Circle the letter of the piece of text evidence that supports the idea that dogs are very popular pets in America today.
   a. “A 2015 poll found that 38 percent of U.S. dog owners cook special meals for their dogs.”
   b. “Of course, Americans have embraced other pets too.”
   c. “But until recently, dogs were mainly valued for the work they could do.”
   d. “Today, nearly 50 percent of American families own at least one dog.”

6. Using evidence from “How America Went DOG Crazy,” explain why people started keeping more dogs as pets beginning in the late 1800s.

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7. Which of the following describes a possible scientific reason for our powerful connection to dogs?
   a. “… when humans and dogs gaze into each other's eyes … Both the human’s and the dog’s brains release a chemical that makes them feel close.”
   b. “Dogs have been by the sides of humans for tens of thousands of years.”
   d. “They (dogs) lead people who can't see. They find people who are lost.”

8. Explain in your own words how dogs relate to humans differently than other animals do. Use specific evidence from both texts.

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Find the Evidence

Directions: Read each question below carefully. Some will ask you to select two or three pieces of text evidence—or details in the story—to support a statement. Others will ask you to respond in your own words, supporting your ideas with text.

1. The authors of “How the Wolf Became the Dog” describe the lives of our early ancestors during the Ice Age as “a daily struggle for survival.” Circle the letters of the TWO pieces of text evidence that best support this description:
   a. “There were no nations yet, no cities or towns.”
   b. “Roman warriors marched into battle alongside enormous war dogs.”
   c. “At that time, many animals—including the wolf—posed a threat to humans.”
   d. “And so humans let these wolves stick around.”
   e. “Danger lurked everywhere—diseases with no cures, saber-toothed tigers with 11-inch fangs, elephant-like mastodons with swordlike tusks.”
   f. “On icy winter nights, people used dogs as foot warmers.”

2. In your own words, explain how the friendship between wolves and humans began. Use details from the text.

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3. The first article states, “As the centuries passed, the wolves living near humans continued to change.” Circle the letters of the THREE pieces of text evidence that best demonstrate how these wolves changed:
   a. “Scientists speculate that the first dog appeared between 15,000 and 38,000 years ago.”
   b. “Their bodies got smaller, their ears floppier.”
   c. “They became friendlier and more eager to please humans.”
   d. “This does not mean that a fierce wolf suddenly and magically morphed into a yapping Chihuahua . . .”
   e. “There are many mysteries.”
   f. “[The wolves living near humans] gave birth to even gentler babies . . . On and on this went, until a new, calmer breed of wolf emerged.”

Continued on next page >
Find the Evidence, p. 2

4. In your own words, explain why people started keeping more dogs as pets beginning in the late 1800s.
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5. You can infer that owning a dog often leads to better emotional and physical wellbeing. Circle the letters of the FOUR pieces of text evidence from “How the Wolf Became the Dog” and “How America Went DOG Crazy” that best support this inference:
   a. “But scientists are only now starting to understand the long history of dogs.”
   b. “Studies show that dogs really do make our lives better.”
   c. “Dog owners tend to get more exercise; those daily walks make people healthier.”
   d. “Dogs can help kids with autism and other challenges cope with stress.”
   e. “Another study showed that when humans point to something, dogs look where we’re pointing.”
   f. “They lead people who can’t see. They find people who are lost. They comfort wounded soldiers.”

6. Using text evidence from both texts, explain how dogs relate to humans differently than other animals do.
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_____________________________________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________________________
Writing a Summary

A summary is a short retelling of the most important parts of a story. It should include the information that someone would need to know to understand the story, without minor details or your own opinion.

Directions: Complete the summary below, using the prompts in the margins to help you.

Summary of “How the Wolf Became the Dog” and “How America Went DOG Crazy”

“How the Wolf Became the Dog” is about ____________________________________________

All dogs have a common ancestor: ____________________________________________________

One theory is that during the Ice Age, some wolves began to __________________________________.

These wolves grew gentler over time and eventually ________________________________________

The first domesticated animals, dogs were put to work in various ways. For example, they ____________________________________________________________

“How America Went DOG Crazy” is about _____________________________________________

In the late 1800s, more Americans started keeping dogs as pets because ______________________

Both articles show how, over many years, dogs and humans have __________________________________________

1. Begin with a topic sentence that tells what the article is mainly about.

2. What animal is this ancestor?

3. Where did some wolves start to spend time?

4. How did the gentler wolves change over time?

5. Name three types of work dogs did.


7. What happened in America that made it easier to have a pet dog?

8. What do both articles have to say about the relationship of humans and dogs?
Writing a Summary

A summary is a short retelling of the most important parts of a story. It should include the information that someone would need to know to understand the story, without minor details or your own opinion.

Directions: Complete the summary below, based on your reading of “How the Wolf Became the Dog” and “How America went DOG Crazy.” Think about what was most important in the articles.

Summary of “How the Wolf Became the Dog” and “How America Went DOG Crazy”

“How the Wolf Became the Dog” is about _____________________________________________________________.

All dogs have a common ancestor: _________________________________________________________________.

One theory is that during the Ice Age, some wolves began to _____________________________________________.

These wolves grew gentler over time and eventually _________________________________________________.

The first domesticated animals, dogs were put to work in various ways. For example, they _________________.

“How America Went DOG Crazy” is about _________________________________________________________.

In the late 1800s, more Americans started keeping dogs as pets because _________________________________.

Both articles show how, over many years, dogs and humans have _______________________________________.

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Directions: Text structure is the way an author organizes information in a piece of writing. Authors use different text structures to achieve different purposes. Common text structures are listed in the boxes on the right. Use the information in these boxes to help you answer the questions below about “How the Wolf Became the Dog.”

1. What is the main purpose of the article? ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   Why is a sequence-of-events structure useful for this purpose? ________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

2. The authors use description in the first section. What do the authors describe? ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

3. In the section “From Wolf to Dog,” the authors explain how “a group of humans and a group of wolves teamed up.” Which text structure is this? Explain your answer using examples. ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

Continued on next page >
Understanding Text Structures, p. 2

4. The author uses a sequence-of-events structure in “Hunters, Napkins.” Give examples of clues (words or phrases like “the beginning” or “in 1930”) that tell you this is the structure. ________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________________________
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5. Look at the captions below the photographs of the Egyptian mummy dog, Sergeant Stubby, and Balto on pages 16-17. Imagine that the authors put this information into a paragraph rather than in the captions. Which text structure would they most likely use? Why? ________________________________
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You be the author! Write a paragraph using the photographs and captions of the mummy dog, Sergeant Stubby, and Balto on pages 16-17 as inspiration. Use your answer to question no. 5 to help you.
"The Amazing History of Dogs" Quiz

Directions: Read the articles “How the Wolf Became the Dog” and “How America Went DOG Crazy” in the September 2017 issue of Storyworks. Then fill in the bubble next to the best answer for each question below.

1. In the first article, what does speculate mean in the sentence “Scientists speculate that the first dog appeared between 15,000 and 38,000 years ago?”
   - A. threaten
   - B. think
   - C. prove
   - D. pretend

2. What word best describes the wolves that stayed in human campsites?
   - A. gentle
   - B. scared
   - C. fierce
   - D. nervous

3. Which line from the article supports the answer to question 2?
   - A. “Every dog has the same ancestor, the gray wolf.”
   - B. “At that time, many animals posed a threat to humans.”
   - C. “But they still helped protect humans from dangerous predators.”
   - D. “These wolves were less aggressive than other wolves.”

4. In the late 1800s, why did dogs become popular pets in America?
   - A. People needed working dogs in cities.
   - B. Dogs herded animals on family farms.
   - C. People could afford to care for them.
   - D. Dogs became domesticated.

5. Based on the second article, how does owning a dog affect our lives?
   - A. It ruins our lives.
   - B. It does not change our lives.
   - C. It makes our lives harder.
   - D. It improves our lives.

6. Both articles talk about . . .
   - A. dogs' importance to people.
   - B. the ancestor of all dogs.
   - C. animals of the Ice Age.
   - D. annoying pets in America.

Constructive Response

Directions: On a separate piece of paper, write your answer to each question in a well-organized response. Make sure you support your answers with information and details from the articles.

7. Based on “How the Wolf Became the Dog,” name two ways humans put dogs to work.

8. Do you think that “How America Went DOG Crazy” is a good title for this article? Explain.
“The Amazing History of Dogs” Quiz

Directions: Read the articles “How the Wolf Became the Dog” and “How America Went DOG Crazy” in the September 2017 issue of Storyworks. Then fill in the bubble next to the best answer for each question below.

1. Which of the following sums up a main idea of “How the Wolf Became the Dog”?
   A. Long ago, our human ancestors hunted with domesticated animals.
   B. Scientists are still learning about saber-toothed tigers.
   C. Egyptians turned their dogs into mummies.
   D. Over thousands of years, humans and dogs developed a special bond.

2. Which line from the article best supports the answer to question 1?
   A. “Eventually, a new kind of creature had developed: the dog.”
   B. “. . . something beautiful was born: the friendship between humans and dogs.”
   C. “At that time, many animals—including the wolf—posed a threat to humans.”
   D. “. . . humans put dogs to work in new ways.”

3. What does morphed mean in the sentence “This does not mean that a fierce wolf suddenly and magically morphed into a yapping Chihuahua with a pink bow”?
   A. changed
   B. slipped
   C. charged
   D. snuggled

4. Which phrase best describes the new breed of wolf that developed?
   A. larger and smarter
   B. smaller and meaner
   C. gentler and calmer
   D. tougher and fiercer

5. What is the main idea of “How America Went DOG Crazy”?
   A. Americans did not always provide good health care for their pets.
   B. Over time, Americans have developed a powerful connection with their pet dogs.
   C. Long ago, Americans did not own many dogs.
   D. Dogs worked on farms and in cities.

6. What causes humans and dogs to feel close to each other, according to new research?
   A. the need for working dogs
   B. the large number of dogs in the world
   C. a similarity between their bodies
   D. a special chemical in their brains

7. Which line from the article supports the answer to question 6?
   A. “This shows that dogs try to understand us.”
   B. “Both the human’s and the dog’s brains release a chemical that makes them feel close.”
   C. “Americans have embraced other pets too.”
   D. “Today, nearly 50 percent of American families own at least one dog.”

8. Both articles explain . . .
   A. why people own more dogs than cats.
   B. how the gray wolf and the dog are connected.
   C. why dogs became so important to people.
   D. how domesticated animals first developed.

Constructed Response

Directions: On a separate piece of paper, write your answer to each question in a well-organized response. Make sure you support your answers with information and details from the articles.

9. Describe one way people’s lives would be different today if dogs had not been domesticated. Use details from the articles.

10. What is the connection between the title “How America Went DOG Crazy” and the information in the article?
Questions for English Language Learners
Paired Texts
September 2017

The Amazing History of Dogs

To the teacher: We suggest using these questions with the lower-Lexile version of the texts, supported by the lower-Lexile audio version. Select the ones that are best for your students, depending on where they are in their acquisition of English. Ask them orally or choose questions to create your own written assignment. If students are ready, prompt them to follow up their answers with more details.

Yes/No Questions
These questions allow students who are new to English to show their understanding with a simple answer.
1. Are wolves ancestors of dogs? (Yes, they are.)
2. Did humans use wolves as napkins? (No, they did not.)
3. Were dogs the first animals to be domesticated? (Yes, they were.)
4. Do many people think of their dogs as members of the family? (Yes, they do.)
5. Do chimpanzees naturally look to where humans point? (No, they do not.)
6. Can dogs make people healthier? (Yes, they can.)

Either/Or Questions
These questions allow slightly more-advanced students to use the language in the question to support their answer.
1. Do more Americans own cats or dogs? (More Americans own cats.)
2. Did wolves turn into dogs quickly, or did this change happen over a long time? (This change happened over a long time.)
3. Do dogs go to the vet more today, or did they go more in the 1700s? (Dogs go to the vet more today.)
4. Is there research to show the connection between dogs and humans, or is it just something people believe? (There is research to show this connection.)

Short-Answer Questions
These questions prompt students to produce simple answers on their own with language from the text.
1. What are some differences between wolves and dogs? (Dogs are smaller and more eager to please humans than wolves. They are domesticated.)
2. What are three ways dogs helped humans before the 1800s? (Answers may include: Dogs were hunters, animal herders, foot warmers, and guards. Humans used them as napkins and food testers.)
3. What are three ways dogs help humans today? (Dogs help lead the blind, find the lost, and comfort wounded soldiers.)

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