

Unit 1 Emperor Nero

Pre-Reading

Sample answers

1. A city is burning in the picture.
2. I know it's a very old and beautiful city with a lot of ancient buildings.
3. I would run to call the fire department.

Key Vocabulary

intelligent

mean

history

wife

government

servant

greedy

murdered

Quick Check

mean

F

He killed himself.

Big Idea

The Evil Emperor

Understand the Details

1. c 2. b 3. c 4. a

Write in Your Own Words

Sample answers

1. Nero got his servant to kill his mother with a club.
2. Nero blamed Christians for burning Rome.
3. Nero killed himself because soldiers were coming to take his life.

Visualize the Passage

Supporting Details:

1. a. He told his servant to kill his mother.
2. c. He blamed them for a major fire in Rome.
3. b. He said, "What a great artist the world is losing!"
4. e. The Roman government ruled many other countries.
5. d. He built a giant castle for himself after a big fire.

Summarize the Passage

1. Once / Linking words
2. intelligent
3. mean
4. murdered
5. stepsister
6. wife
7. One day / Linking words
8. Christians

Unit 2 Lost in Rome

Pre-Reading

Sample answers

1. That building is in Rome.
2. That building is called the Colosseum.
3. People watched shows and fights in that building.

Key Vocabulary

tour group

memorable

cone

exhausted

entertainment

crowd

relieved

gladiators

Quick Check

exhausted

The tour guide

F

F

Big Idea

A girl who got lost in Rome

Understand the Details

1. c 2. b 3. d 4. a

Write in Your Own Words

Sample answers

1. She left her tour group to go and buy some gelato.
2. She had a card with the hotel's name on it, and she took a taxi back to her hotel.
3. She was really relieved to know that her daughter was safe.

Visualize the Passage

Order: b, d, a, c, e

Summarize the Passage

1. memorable
2. tour group
3. Interestingly / Linking word
4. gladiators
5. entertainment
6. cone
7. So / Linking word
8. relieved

Unit 3 Killer Plants

Pre-Reading

Sample answers

1. The plant in the picture is a Venus flytrap.
2. It gets its food by catching flies.
3. I'd very much like to grow a plant like that in my house so that I can see how it catches bugs.

Key Vocabulary

organisms

slippery

survive

digest

carnivorous

vines

tropical

soil

Quick Check

Carnivorous

T

Small bugs

Big Idea

Plants That Eat Living Things

Understand the Details

1. c 2. b 3. c 4. d

Write in Your Own Words

Sample answers

1. A carnivorous plant is a plant that eats very small animals.
2. Carnivorous plants eat flies, ants, and other small bugs. Sometimes they even eat very small frogs.
3. The carnivorous plants mentioned in the passage are Venus flytraps, sundews, pitcher plants, and Nepenthes vines.

Visualize the passage

Venus flytraps:

- b. They are the most famous carnivorous plants.
- e. They have structures that resemble small teeth.

Nepenthes vines:

- a. They come from tropical parts of Asia.
- c. They are the largest carnivorous plants.
- d. They sometimes eat frogs.

Summarize the Passage

1. Carnivorous
2. organisms
3. In fact / Linking word
4. survive
5. digest
6. vines
7. tropical
8. However / Linking word

Unit 4 A Bug's Life

Pre-Reading

Sample answers

1. This insect is a fly.
2. I know it's very common and is attracted to garbage.
3. I would brush it away.

Key Vocabulary

tissue

hatched

garbage

rotten

tasty

dresser

all of a sudden

recycling bin

Quick Check

hatched

T

The fly flew away.

Big Idea

Escape from the Venus Flytrap

Understand the Details

1. d 2. b 3. a 4. c

Write in Your Own Words

Sample answers

1. The fly flew around the recycling bin every day, looking for food.
2. The fly became less scared in the bottle because there was food in it.
3. I think he released the fly to drop it into the plant's mouth, which gave the fly a chance to escape.

Visualize the Passage

- The giant: a, e
- Both: c
- The fly: b, d

Summarize the Passage

1. recycling bin
2. hatched
3. Amazingly / Linking word
4. garbage
5. dresser
6. At first / Linking word
7. rotten
8. tasty

Unit 5 The History of Domestic Cats

Pre-Reading

Sample answers

1. No, I've never had a pet cat. / Yes. I have had pets since I was young.
2. No, cats aren't popular pets in my country. Dogs are.
3. I think early humans kept cats as pets because they're so cute when they are little.

Key Vocabulary

crops

cherished

rodents

abundant

practice

sacred

tame

notice

Quick Check

F

The cats helped them to solve the problem with the rodents.

cherished

Big Idea

How wild cats became tame

Understand the Details

1. b 2. b 3. a 4. b

Write in Your Own Words

Sample answers

1. Mice and rats ate the crops that Egyptian farmers stored in buildings.
2. The farmers used food to attract wild cats to come and kill the mice and rats.
3. Wild cats gave up their wild behavior because they got food, a place to stay, and love from humans.

Visualize the Passage

Effects:

1. d. Rats and mice would eat farmers' crops.
2. b. Farmers looked for a way to get rid of the rodents.
3. a. Wild cats began to become tame.
4. c. Cats became people's pets.

Summarize the Passage

1. practice
2. crops
3. Naturally / Linking word
4. However / Linking word
5. noticed
6. rodents
7. abundant
8. tame

Unit 6 Magoo

Pre-Reading

Sample answers

1. I think a good name for this kitten would be Boxer.
2. No, I've never lost a pet. My pets always know their way home.
3. If my pet were blind, I would give it a lot of care and love.

Key Vocabulary

petite

condominium

cautious

posted

odd

neighborhood

familiar

belong to

Quick Check

condominium

T

posted

Magoo found her way home.

Big Idea

A blind cat that got lost

Understand the Details

1. b 2. c 3. c 4. a

Write in Your Own Words

Sample answers

1. Her aunt moved into a new home and couldn't take the cat with her.
2. The girl looked for the cat and called its name. She also put up signs around her neighborhood.
3. I think it was because she was blind, so it was hard for her to find her way home.

Visualize the Passage

- Setting: a
- Characters: a, c
- Plot: b
- Ending: a

Summarize the Passage

1. petite
2. However / Linking word
3. cautious
4. posted
5. neighborhood
6. familiar
7. meowing
8. Amazingly / Linking word

Unit 7 A Music Lesson

Pre-Reading

Sample answers

1. She is playing the piano.
2. Yes. I play the guitar.
3. Yes. I have taken singing lessons.

Key Vocabulary

approached

hesitated

anxious

hilarious

instructor

sign up

inherited

instrument

Quick Check

F

instructor

The “stranger” was a girl from her school.

Big Idea

A Surprising Music Lesson

Understand the Details

1. b 2. d 3. a 4. d

Write in Your Own Words

Sample answers

1. She was upset that her mother had made plans for her to take piano lessons with someone she didn't know.
2. If Laini learned to play the piano, she could play the piano that her family inherited from her grandmother.
3. At the end of the story, Laini seemed happy that she and her friend Sally were taking lessons together. She was also glad that their piano teacher was kind.

Visualize the Passage

- Setting: a
- Characters: a, b, d
- Plot: a
- Ending: b

Summarize the Passage

1. Also / Linking word
2. anxious
3. approached
4. inherited
5. instructor
6. sign up
7. hesitated
8. Actually / Linking word

Unit 8 Pirate Adventures

Pre-Reading

Sample answers

1. He is looking at some treasure.
2. I would run away.
3. Yes, I have, but not many.

Key Vocabulary

pregnant

ended up

disguised

fled

daring

traditional

illegal

fate

Quick Check

F

daring

Her fate is not known.

Big Idea

Women who became pirates

Understand the Details

1. b 2. a 3. d 4. a

Write in Your Own Words

Sample answers

1. Anne Bonny was a famous female pirate.
2. She dressed like a man so she could join Calico Jack's ship and be a pirate.
3. I think Anne Bonny was probably still doing illegal things secretly after she disappeared.

Visualize the Passage

- Before Anne Bonny became a pirate:
 - c. Anne lived on a farm in South Carolina before she got married.
 - d. Anne got married and sailed to Nassau.
- After Anne Bonny became a pirate:
 - b. Anne escaped death after her capture by pirate hunters.
 - f. Anne dressed in men's clothing in order to hide who she was.

Summarize the Passage

1. fled
2. Later / Linking word
3. ended up
4. disguised
5. Amazingly / Linking word
6. daring
7. pregnant
8. illegal

Unit 9 Life at Sea

Pre-Reading

Sample answers

1. Yes, I like the ocean. I think it's beautiful.
2. No, I've never been sailing, but it sounds enjoyable.
3. I don't think I could spend ten days sailing on the ocean. I would get bored.

Key Vocabulary

decent

lousy

access

seasick

dinghy

chef

unsteady

bunks

Quick Check

T

The boat is always moving.

T

Big Idea

A Journey to Forget

Understand the Details

1. b 2. a 3. d 4. c

Write in Your Own Words

Sample answers

1. The boy and his family were on a boat as part of their vacation. The father wanted them to spend time together.
2. I think people who are on a boat for a long time get "sea legs" because the boat moves all the time in the water. So when they try to walk on land, they feel a bit unsteady.
3. He considered sleeping outside under the stars because his back hurt from

sleeping in a bunk.

Visualize the Passage

- Setting: a
- Characters: a, b
- Plot: b
- Ending: b

Summarize the Passage

1. chef
2. lousy
3. Finally / Linking word
4. dinghy
5. decent
6. seasick
7. bunks
8. Of course / Linking word

Unit 10 Tower of Terror

Pre-Reading

Sample answers

1. I think it is hundreds of years old.
2. I think the royal family lived there.
3. I think I might find a museum inside.

Key Vocabulary

locked

fortress

jewels

haunted

torture

royal

ghosts

precious

Quick Check

royal

jewels

T

The ghost of King Henry VIII's wife

Big Idea

The History of the Tower of London

Understand the Details

1. b 2. a 3. a 4. c

Write in Your Own Words

Sample answers

1. The royal family of England owns the Tower of London.
2. The queen wears the crown jewels a few times each year for special occasions.
3. The Tower of London is a popular place to visit because it was a royal family home long ago. It also has a lot of interesting history, and the crown jewels are held there.

Visualize the Passage

Answers will vary.

Summarize the Passage

1. royal
2. fortress
3. In addition / Linking word
4. jewels
5. precious
6. tortured
7. In fact / Linking word
8. haunted

Unit 11 The Tower Ravens

Pre-Reading

Sample answers

1. This bird is called a raven.
2. Yes, I have seen these birds in my country.
3. I think they're special because they are smart.

Key Vocabulary

drawbridge

balance

attraction

raw

occasionally

ravens

clipped

soak

Quick Check

drawbridge

F

To keep his kingdom from falling

Big Idea

The Birds That Protect a Kingdom

Understand the Details

1. a 2. b 3. b 4. a

Write in Your Own Words

Sample answers

1. The writer got tired of waiting in a long line and didn't wait to see the crown jewels.
2. A tower guard showed them the ravens.
3. It was King Charles II who first decided to keep the ravens in the Tower of London.

Visualize the Passage

Order: d, a, b, e, c

Summarize the Passage

1. attraction
2. However / Linking word
3. ravens
4. clip
5. balance
6. Furthermore / Linking word
7. soaked
8. Occasionally

Unit 12 Alcatraz Island

Pre-Reading

Sample answers

1. I think they're on an island for fishermen to use.
2. Yes. I saw it when I was on my summer vacation in the US.
3. I think if I were in this prison, it would be very difficult to escape because there is water all around it.

Key Vocabulary

criminals

prison

drowned

crumble

gangster

average

maintain

cells

Quick Check

F

cells

T

It was too costly to maintain.

Big Idea

The history of the prison on Alcatraz Island

Understand the Details

1. d 2. d 3. c 4. a

Write in Your Own Words

Sample answers

1. Only the worst criminals went to Alcatraz because it was very difficult to escape from the island.
2. Prisoners could see their families just once a month.

3. He was called the “Birdman of Alcatraz” because he studied birds while in prison.

Visualize the Passage

- The Past:

- a. Alcatraz is home to the most dangerous criminals.
- c. Alcatraz is a prison with small cells.
- e. Alcatraz is too expensive to maintain.

- The Present:

- b. Alcatraz is home to many birds.
- d. Alcatraz is a national park.

Summarize the Passage

1. prison
2. criminals
3. Not surprisingly / Linking word
4. gangster
5. average
6. maintain
7. In addition / Linking word
8. crumbling

Unit 13 The Story of Elevators

Pre-Reading

Sample answers

1. I ride in them every day because I live in a tall apartment building.
2. I think elevators were invented when people began to build taller and taller buildings.
3. I don't think it's possible to build tall buildings without some kind of elevator. It would be very difficult to move workers and materials up and down the many floors.

Key Vocabulary

supplies
pressure
occupy
steam
installed
double-deck
tilts
bullets

Quick Check

T

supplies

They carry more people.

Big Idea

The development of elevators

Understand the Details

1. c 2. b 3. c 4. a

Write in Your Own Words

Sample answers

1. Elevators allow more people than ever before to work in the same building.
2. The fastest elevators today can travel above 60 kilometers per hour.
3. This elevator moves along a rounded roof, so it tilts when it travels.

Visualize the Passage

Supporting Details:

1. a. Climbing stairs to the higher floors was very tiring.
2. c. Fast elevators help people move between floors more easily.
3. d. New types of elevators are much faster and take a lot more people.

Summarize the Passage

1. elevator
2. supplies
3. pressure
4. steam
5. Gradually / Linking word
6. installed
7. Today / Linking word
8. double-deck

Unit 14 Greek Gods

Pre-Reading

Sample answers

1. It looks like a group of very old statues, maybe of ancient Greek gods and goddesses.
2. Yes. I know a Greek myth about the god Poseidon.
3. I think being a god would make you feel very powerful.

Key Vocabulary

throne

ordinary

escaped

yearned

vomit

ruler

pretended

ancient

Quick Check

F

throne

They fought against Kronos and won.

F

Big Idea

The story of Zeus

Understand the Details

1. a 2. a 3. c 4. a

Write in Your Own Words

Sample answers

1. Zeus's mother sent him away because she feared for his life.
2. Zeus's mother gave him a stone to eat instead of his son.
3. Zeus pretended to be a slave when he returned to Mount Olympus.

Visualize the Passage

- King Kronos:
 - a. His wife tricked him into eating a stone.
 - c. He vomited up his children.

- Zeus:
 - b. He married Hera.
 - d. He pretended to be a slave.
 - e. His brothers and sisters helped him to rule.

Summarize the Passage

1. throne
2. However / Linking word
3. escape
4. yearned
5. Also / Linking word
6. pretended
7. vomit
8. ruler

Unit 15 Fear of Heights

Pre-Reading

Sample answers

1. I see a man skydiving.
2. I get a little nervous when I'm high up in the air, but it's also exciting.
3. The tallest place I have ever been was a mountain in the Alps.

Key Vocabulary

logical

heights

environment

hypnosis

panic

options

productive

normal

Quick Check

T

panic

Medicine and hypnosis

Big Idea

People who feel afraid of high places

Understand the Details

1. d 2. b 3. a 4. c

Write in Your Own Words

Sample answers

1. Acrophobia is a strong fear of being in high places.
2. Some symptoms of acrophobia are feelings of fear, panic, and sickness.
3. No, only those people whose fear makes it hard for them to live normal lives need a doctor's help.

Visualize the Passage

Supporting Details:

1. c. It is normal to be afraid of heights when there is a chance of falling.
2. d. Feeling afraid of falling when you are in a safe place is not normal.
3. b. People who suffer from acrophobia cannot do certain jobs or go to certain places.
4. a. Hypnosis and medicine may help people who have acrophobia.

Summarize the Passage

1. heights
2. logical
3. However / Linking word
4. normal
5. environment
6. panic
7. Sometimes / Linking word
8. hypnosis

Unit 16 The Gigantic Tree

Pre-Reading

Sample answers

1. Yes, I have climbed many trees.
2. Climbing trees might be dangerous because you could fall.
3. I think people climb trees because it's fun or because they want to see something far away.

Key Vocabulary

plot

gigantic

terrified

stranded

nearby

evergreen trees

sweaty

gather

Quick Check

gigantic

F

She climbed down by herself.

Big Idea

Stuck in a Tree

Understand the Details

1. b 2. d 3. c 4. a

Write in Your Own Words

Sample answers

1. They called it "Giant" because there were many very tall trees there.
2. Eva was afraid to climb down the tree.
3. Eva's father gave her the courage to climb down the tree by herself because he would be there to help her if she fell.

Visualize the Passage

Answers will vary.

Summarize the Passage

1. gigantic
2. Often / Linking word
3. gathered
4. plotted
5. survive
6. sweaty
7. terrified
8. Finally / Linking word