RAPA NUI

On a remote island in the South Pacific, large ancient statues stand guard along the coast. This island is called Rapa Nui. You (1)_____ it as Easter Island.

The stone head statues—known as *moai*—can be up to 9 meters tall and weigh as much as 80 tons. They are believed to be between 500 and 800 years old. Nearly 900 *moai* dot the landscape of Rapa Nui today. The effort to construct these statues and move them around the island (2)_____considerable, but no one knows exactly how the early Rapa Nui people did this. They had no metal tools or large animals, so they (3)_____only on wood, stone, and ropes.

Most *moai* face away from the sea, (4)_____watching over the people. What was their purpose? Did they represent people, or perhaps gods? No one is certain. Some (5)_____believe they represented the ancestors of the Rapa Nui people. Others think they represented important political leaders. Whoever or whatever they represent, they keep a watchful (6)_____ over the island to this day.

LIVEWORKSHEETS