UNIT #5 – WRITING SECTION PRACTICE

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

EXTENDED READING

1 **Listen and read.** TR: 6.11

The myth of *Unk Cekula*

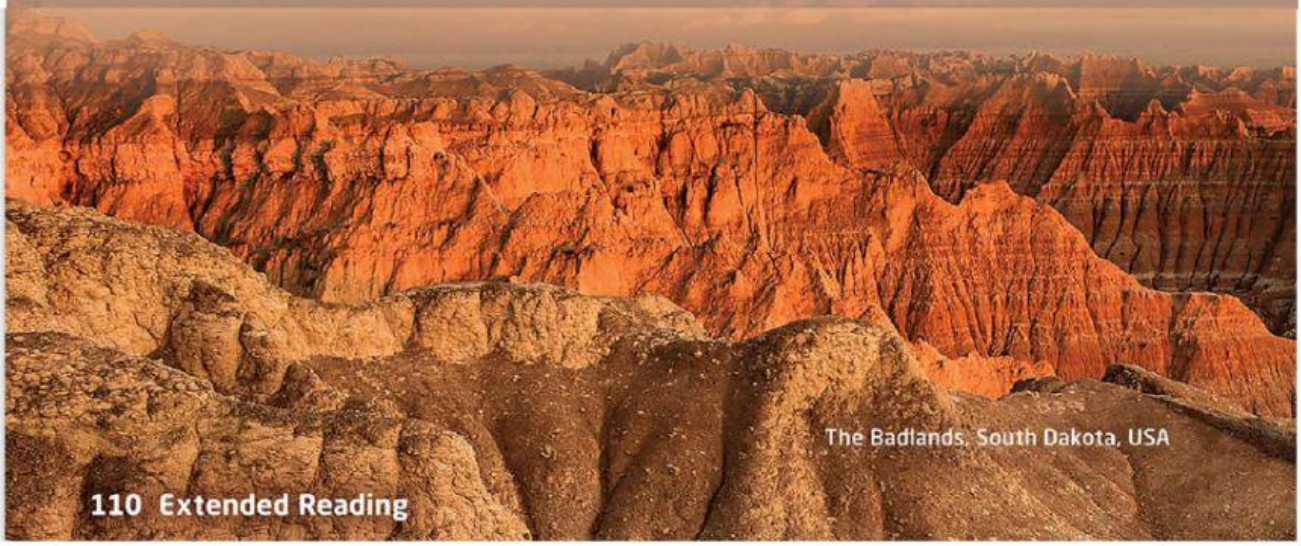
Unk Cekula was a giant water snake that had come out of the freezing waters of the northeast Atlantic. She had a long scaly body covered in smoke and spots and her eyes were made of fire. Her claws were as strong as iron and she had a fierce voice that sounded like thunder.

After leaving the sea, Unk Cekula had crossed the land and made her home in the Black Hills of South Dakota, North America. She made a lot of trouble for the local tribesmen who lived there. She polluted the rivers and flooded the land with salt water so that nothing could grow. After some time, she also had snake children, who decided that they liked eating people! The tribesmen had to fight to protect themselves and their families.

Unk Cekula was extremely difficult to fight, because most of her body was very strong and she couldn't be attacked with normal spears and arrows. And people said that whoever looked at her would go mad and turn blind. However, she had one weak spot on her body: the seventh spot, which was just over the position of her heart.

One day, two young twin brothers decided to hunt and kill Unk Cekula. One of the twins was blind, so he was safe from looking at her. The twins asked a medicine woman to help them, and she gave them a magical arrow. They took this arrow and shot it into the weak spot on Unk Cekula's body.

The arrow injured Unk Cekula greatly, but she hadn't stopped causing trouble. She didn't die immediately but she crawled away and damaged the land. As the sun dried her body, it also dried up the land, which according to the myth, caused the desert in the Dakota Badlands.



The Badlands, South Dakota, USA

LIVEWORKSHEETS

2 **Read.** Check T for *True* and F for *False*.

1. Unk Cekula came from the Atlantic Ocean. (T) (F)
2. She made friends with the tribesmen of the Black Hills. (T) (F)
3. It was impossible to kill Unk Cekula. (T) (F)
4. Unk Cekula was killed by twin brothers. (T) (F)
5. According to the myth, when she died, it caused a desert to form. (T) (F)

3 **Read.** Complete the chart. Then in your notebook draw a picture of Unk Cekula.

What do we know about Unk Cekula?	Example or quote	What this shows us about her character
1. Unk Cekula's appearance		
2. Her actions		
3. How other people feel about her?		

4 **Express yourself.** Choose an activity.

1. What seas, rivers, lakes, or deserts do you have where you live? Write a myth about how one of these came to exist.
2. Invent a water creature of your own. Where does it live? What does it look like? Is it good or bad? Draw a picture and write a description of it.
3. Imagine you are one of the twin brothers who hunt and kill Unk Cekula. Write and illustrate a comic strip telling your story.

LIVEWORKSHEETS