DAILY Warm-Up 12

Name _____ Date _____

LANGSTON HUGHES

Langston Hughes was a famous poet and writer in the early 1930s. He became famous and was known as the voice of black people. The subject of all of his writing was about the lives of African Americans. Born in Joplin, Missouri, his family eventually moved to Ohio. He began writing poetry in eigth grade. Upon graduation from high school, he was voted the class poet.

By the age of 18, Langston saw his first poem published. The title of the poem was "The Negro Speaks of Rivers." For a short while, he attended Columbia University. He decided to make a trip to Africa. He boarded a ship and traveled to many countries in Africa and Europe. He would later go on to get a college degree.

One of his favorite things to do was to listen to jazz and blues music. This influence of music began to appear in his writing. He moved to Harlem, where he was editor. He devoted a great portion of his life to writing and speaking.

He wrote over 16 poetry books, two novels, and 20 plays, as well as children's poetry, musicals, operas, biographies, radio and television scripts, and dozens of magazine articles. He was able to influence many people with his writing

STORY QUESTIONS

1. Based on the passage, what were some of Langston Hughes's writing interests?
   a. writing about slavery
   b. writing about the lives of black people, jazz, and blues
   c. writing about being the first black poet
   d. writing about experiences in foreign countries
2. After reading the passage, why do you think Langston wanted to travel to Africa?
   a. He wanted to look up his ancestors.
   b. He wanted to travel the world.
   c. He wanted to see what life was like in Africa.
   d. He was given free voyage and he didn't want to pass up the opportunity.
3. What is the main idea of the passage?
   a. Through hard work and dedication, Langston was able to get African-Americans the right to vote.
   b. Work before play is a good motto to live by.
   c. Langston owed his life to the community in which he was raised.
   d. Langston was able to portray African-American life, and he was able to help give African-Americans voice.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

DAILY Warm-Up 13 Name _____ Date _____

ANNE FRANK

Anne Frank was a young girl who wrote a diary that has probably been read by more people than any other diary. Anne was born on June 12, 1929, in Germany. She lived during the time that Adolf Hitler was taking over Eastern Europe and exterminating the Jews and other non-Aryans who lived there. Her family escaped to the Netherlands, where they thought they would be safe. But Hitler and his armies eventually came to the Netherlands and attempted to round up all of the Jews.

Because of the kindness of friends, Anne's family was taken to an empty section of her father's office building, where they were hidden for almost two years. Anne had received a diary that she lovingly called Kitty. She wrote in her diary on a regular basis. This diary shared with the world what life was like living in this hiding place.

On August 4, 1944, the Frank family was betrayed. Someone told the German officers of the family living in the hiding place, and they were found. The family was sent to work in a camp. Anne and her sister, Margot, had to smash batteries. The acid burned the girls' skin. Anne and her sister would die of typhus just weeks before the British army liberated the camp.

Anne's diary was found by some of the workers in the building where they hid. The diary was published in 1947. The diary has been translated into 50 languages, and millions of copies of the book have been sold.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. Based on reading the passage, what was one of Anne's interests?
   a. playing hopscotch
   b. writing
   c. helping and serving others
   d. playing with her pet dog
2. What can you conclude about Anne Frank?
   a. She was loved and adored by everyone.
   b. She was able to accomplish many things in such a short time period.
   c. She was learning to speak another language.
   d. She lived a courageous life and shared her life in writing.
3. Which of the following statements is <u>not</u> true about Anne Frank?
   a. Anne and her sister, Margot, had to smash batteries.
   b. Anne learned to speak many languages.
   c. On August 4, 1944, the Frank family was betrayed.
   d. She wrote in her diary on a regular basis.
4. What is the main idea of paragraph three?
   a. the descriptions of Anne's first diary entry
   b. Anne's experience of living and working in the concentration camp
   c. the experience of how Anne's family was freed from the camps

LIVEWORKSHEETS

DAILY Warm-Up 14

Name _____ Date _____

LEONARDO DA VINCI

Can you imagine being a famous scientist and a famous painter? It seems like an unusual combination, but that was exactly what Leonardo da Vinci was. He is known as one of the most intelligent people to ever live. He was born and raised in a town in Italy. He learned to paint from a famous artist in the city of Florence.

In the year 1478, he set up his own studio. He became known as the best painter in Florence. Leonardo had a way of painting that made the subjects look like they were real. They had the appearance of moving just as real people moved. Leonardo found the human body interesting, and he would study how it moved and how it worked.

In 1482, he moved to Milan. It was here that he painted one of his most famous paintings. It is called *The Last Supper*. But the paint that he used did not stick to the wall, so he had to repaint it. Leonardo eventually returned to Florence. It was here he painted another very famous painting. This painting is called the *Mona Lisa*. By this time, Leonardo was studying nature. He wanted to learn how birds flew. This interest encouraged him to draw plans for an airplane. He continued studying science after moving to Rome. He also lived in France. He is known throughout the world as a genius.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. Which statement best explains the success of Leonardo da Vinci?
   a. He grew up in a wealthy family.
   b. He learned how to paint from an apprentice.
   c. He was fascinated with life and studied as much as he could.
   d. He was motivated to earn a lot of prize money.
2. Where in the passage does it explain about Leonardo's first famous painting?
   a. first paragraph
   b. end of the second paragraph
   c. second paragraph
   d. beginning of the third paragraph
3. What made Leonardo's paintings with humans so interesting?
   a. He was trying to make them into sculptures and paintings.
   b. The subjects had the appearance of moving like real people.
   c. He was the first to do them in 3-D.
   d. He was the first to do people in oil paintings.
4. What is the author's opinion of Leonardo da Vinci?
   a. unbiased and disinterested
   b. impressed and appreciative
   c. apathetic and interested

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

DAILY Warm-Up 15

Name _____ Date _____

ROBERT E. LEE

Robert E. Lee was an American soldier and famous general of the Confederate South. He was born on January 18, 1807. He was the son of a major general and went to West Point in 1825. West Point was a military school. He graduated second in his class. He married Mary Ann Randolph Custis in 1831. They had seven children together. All of his sons would fight in the Civil War.

Lee was a model soldier and was given many awards for his bravery. He became a teacher at West Point. Lee was against slavery and did not want the Southern states to leave the Union. He was asked to be the leader of the U.S., but he turned it down and resigned from the Army. He didn't want to fight against his friends in the South. He was the leader of his state's army in Virginia. Virginia would eventually leave the Union.

On June 1, 1862, Lee became the leader of the Southern army. This army did not have enough uniforms, supplies, or soldiers, but somehow he always managed to win more battles than he lost. But as time went on, Lee was forced to surrender. The Union army was better prepared, and they had a lot more supplies. Lee would spend his last years as a president of a college.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. What is the purpose of the passage?
   a. to inform the reader about the Civil War
   b. to instruct the reader on how to be successful at West Point
   c. to paint a brief picture of the life of Robert E. Lee
   d. to share Lee's interest in the military
2. What is the meaning of the word *resigned* as used in the passage?
   a. talented and exceptional
   b. quit
   c. bestowed with others with a gift
   d. endowed a lot of money
3. What is the main message in this passage about Robert E. Lee?
   a. Know what you want to be early in life so that you don't waste time.
   b. Plan big, for great things might happen.
   c. The more money you make, then the more successful you must be.
   d. Work as hard as you can for those things you believe in.
4. Robert E. Lee is known for . . .
   a. his hard work in impoverished areas.
   b. his interest in U.S. military history.
   c. his great leadership of the Confederate Army.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

DAILY Warm-Up 16

Name _____ Date _____

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART

Mozart is one of the world's most famous composers. You have probably listened to many of the pieces written by Mozart without even knowing it. Mozart's music is so famous that it is used all over world. How did Mozart come to write such beautiful music? Mozart was born in Austria. He was the son of a well-known composer and teacher. Mozart received lessons from his father and was playing before royalty and other important people at the age of six. By the time he was 10 years old, Mozart had traveled all over Europe to play.

It didn't take long for Mozart to begin writing music of his own. He wrote many musical works. Many people could see his talent, but Mozart did not receive pay for writing music. He received money only when he would play. He was forced to give piano lessons to earn enough money to live.

It wasn't until 1780 before Mozart was finally paid to write music. He was given the job to write an opera. He produced his most famous work in the next three years. Mozart was thrilled with his work and opportunity. When Mozart died in 1791, he left a legacy of beautiful music that would impress crowds the world over.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. What is the author's purpose of writing this passage about Mozart?
   a. to share the facts about Mozart
   b. to share the inspiring story of Mozart
   c. to point out that Mozart was not paid enough
   d. to list all works written by Mozart
2. Which sentence from the passage shows how the author feels about Mozart?
   a. He produced his most famous work in the next three years.
   b. How did Mozart come to write such beautiful music?
   c. He received money only when he would play.
   d. By the time he was 10 years old, Mozart had traveled all over Europe to play.
3. Which of the following statements did <u>not</u> happen?
   a. Mozart learned to play beautiful music at a very young age.
   b. Mozart was naturally talented and skilled.
   c. Mozart was paid to play for the president of the United States.
   d. Mozart left a legacy of music that is still played today.
4. Which would be the best title for this passage?
   a. "Mozart vs. the Music World"
   b. "Mozart's Opera"
   c. "Greatest Musicians of all Times"
   d. "The Life of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart"

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