DAILY Warm-Up 15

Name _____ Date _____

OPRAH WINFREY

People throughout the world know Oprah Winfrey's name. But this was not always the case. Oprah was born in 1954 to Vernita Lee and Vernon Winfrey. She was poor and had an unstable family. She went to live with her grandmother. By her grandmother, she was taught to read at a very young age. She also began reciting poems and other pieces in front of her church congregation. Oprah's grandmother called her "gifted." Oprah didn't know exactly what that meant, but she thought it must mean she was special.

At the age of 19, Oprah got a job as a reporter for a radio station in Nashville. During this time, Oprah won beauty pageants and entered college at Tennessee State University. In 1976, Oprah hosted a television show in Baltimore. It was a success. Oprah stayed with the show for eight years. She left to start her own show in Chicago. In 1986, Oprah began the show entitled, "The Oprah Winfrey Show." It was a huge success and ran for 25 years.

But Oprah has not just been a television personality; she has been an advocate for those in need. She gives out millions of dollars and has set up a network to raise money for the less fortunate. She has also pushed the importance of literacy and set up a book club to encourage reading. She continues to have huge success across the world.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. What is the purpose of the passage?
   a. to inform the reader about the history of television
   b. to instruct the reader on how to be successful on television
   c. to paint a brief picture of the life of Oprah Winfrey
   d. to share Oprah Winfrey's interest in television

2. What is the meaning of the word *gifted* as used in the passage?
   a. talented and exceptional
   b. special and special needs
   c. bestowed with a gift to help others
   d. endowed with a lot of money

3. What is the main message in this passage about Oprah Winfrey?
   a. Know what you want to be early in life.
   b. Plan big for great things might happen.
   c. Don't give up even when things are hard.
   d. Work as hard as you can at an early age to earn a large amount of money.

4. Oprah Winfrey is known for . . .
   a. her hard work in wealthy areas.
   b. her interest in literacy and helping others.
   c. setting up the Peace Corps.

LIVEWORKSHEETS