

Name _____

William Driver

At the start of the Civil War, the people in the state of Tennessee struggled with the decision of whether to stay with the Union or to join the Confederacy. Eventually, the state would be the last to secede. However, there were people living in the state who would remain loyal to the Union. One such person was Captain William Driver. Driver is best known for a special flag he owned and hid during the Civil War, affectionately called "Old Glory."

William Driver was born in 1803 and was apprenticed to a blacksmith. Hating his situation, Driver ran away and became a cabin boy on a ship. His father told him not to come home until he had his own ship and was captain. Eventually, Driver did become a captain of his own ship. The people of his hometown in Salem, Massachusetts, were all very proud of Driver and made

him a huge flag that was twelve feet by twenty-four feet, which he nicknamed "Old Glory." Driver eventually sailed around the world and even rescued the descendants of the crew that had mutinied against their captain on the British ship the *HMS Bounty*.

Later, Driver would retire to Nashville, Tennessee, leaving the sea behind and becoming a clerk at his brother's store. During the Civil War, he hid "Old Glory" by sewing the flag into a quilt. When Tennessee was taken over by Union soldiers, the soldiers asked Driver to raise his flag over the state's capitol. As people heard about Driver and his flag, others began calling the American flag "Old Glory," a nickname that is still used today for the flag of the United States of America.

Text Questions

1. Summarize the text in two complete sentences.

2. Using information from the text, which statement best explains why William Driver hid the American flag during the Civil War?
- He knew he would be without an easy source for heat, and the large flag would make his quilt thicker and warmer.
 - He liked the feeling of safety he had being covered with the American flag.
 - He wanted to hide the flag from his neighbors.
 - He was worried the Confederates would take or harm the Union flag.
3. Which statement best explains Driver's feelings about the flag?
- The flag represented his loyalty to the Union.
 - The flag was a memento from his younger days.
 - The flag reminded him how proud his father was when he became captain of his own ship.
 - The flag was not special to Driver.
4. What is the meaning of the word *secede* as it is used in the first paragraph?
- to win
 - to lose
 - to remain
 - to leave
5. After reading the text, what inference can you make about William Driver?
- He rarely finished anything he started.
 - He was a person with an extremely strong will.
 - He had become sick of the ocean as he aged.
 - He missed his days as captain of his own ship.

Name _____

Thomas Jefferson

Thomas Jefferson, the third president of the United States and author of the Declaration of Independence, was born in 1743. Jefferson was born in the South into one of Virginia's most prominent families. Always an avid learner, Jefferson was determined to receive a top-notch education. He attended William and Mary, a college in Williamsburg, Virginia, and went on to study law.

Jefferson would later become involved in politics. He felt strongly that the American colonies should seek independence from Great Britain. His beliefs and eloquence with words would help lead him to his most significant written work: the Declaration of Independence. Jefferson was actually part of a five-person committee, but the other men chose Jefferson

to actually write the first draft. Jefferson's work was a document that would eloquently explain the importance of freedom and equality. The Declaration of Independence also listed the reasons the colonies wanted to be free.

In 1803, while president, Jefferson purchased land that tremendously increased the size of the United States. This purchase, known as the Louisiana Purchase, vastly increased the new country's size.

Jefferson's death was a sad time for the nation. He died in his home, Monticello, on July 4, 1826. Ironically, this date was also the fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

Text Questions

1. Which statement is a fact about the story?
 - a. Without Thomas Jefferson's ideals, the Declaration of Independence could have never been written.
 - b. Thomas Jefferson was the author of the Declaration of Independence.
 - c. The Declaration of Independence is the most eloquently written document in all of American history.
 - d. Thomas Jefferson is one of the greatest presidents in American history.
2. What was one purpose of the Declaration of Independence?
 - a. to help boost Thomas Jefferson's political career
 - b. to free all slaves living in the American colonies
 - c. to explain the reasons Americans felt they were being taxed unfairly by Great Britain
 - d. to list reasons and explain why the American colonies felt they should be free from Great Britain's rule
3. What is Monticello?
 - a. the first draft of the Declaration of Independence
 - b. the home of Thomas Jefferson
 - c. the name of Thomas Jefferson's first son
 - d. a type of violin
4. What is the main idea of this text?
 - a. to explain the importance of the Declaration of Independence
 - b. to explain the importance of the Louisiana Purchase
 - c. to give information about Thomas Jefferson's education
 - d. to give information about the importance of Thomas Jefferson to America's history
5. Based on the text, which statement would most likely be true about Jefferson?
 - a. A good education was most important to Jefferson.
 - b. Jefferson believed all men should reside in Virginia.
 - c. One of Jefferson's finest achievements is the Declaration of Independence.
 - d. Jefferson assumed he would die on Independence Day.

Name _____

King Tut

Tutankhamun, best known as King Tut, was born around 1341 B.C. The ruler of Egypt did not live a long life. In fact, he died near the age of eighteen or nineteen. Why then do so many people know about the boy who ruled Egypt?

Tutankhamun was buried in the area known as the Valley of the Kings. Because of his early death, many historians believe he was buried in a tomb that was most likely built for someone else since his own tomb would not have been completed at the time. Tut's body went through the ceremonial preservation system known as mummification. This process took many days, and certain organs were removed from the body and preserved in Canopic jars. Ironically, the brain was not considered an important organ and was removed from the body but not preserved. Seventy

days after his death, King Tut's body was sealed in the Egyptian tomb.

In 1922, a remarkable discovery was made. An archeologist named Howard Carter found the tomb that had been sealed so long ago. As he and his team entered the tomb, they found the inside had been preserved and an interior chamber was painted with the story of the Egyptian leader's funeral and journey to his life after death. The tomb was filled with treasures from Tut's life. The crew would also find the final resting place of the boy ruler. His body had been preserved for more than three thousand years along with the magnificent artifacts and treasures no grave robbers had ever disturbed. Carter's find has helped make King Tut one of the most recognized and well-known ancient leaders of all time.

Text Questions

1. Using information from the text, summarize why King Tut is well-known many years after his death.

2. Why do historians believe Tutankhamun was most likely buried in someone else's tomb?
- The tomb was more elaborate than where he should have been buried.
 - Because of his young age, he had to be buried in the Valley of the Kings.
 - His own tomb would not have been completed at his death since he died at such a young age.
 - The painted wall murals the archaeologists found explained he was buried in the wrong tomb.

3. After reading the text, what can one conclude about Tutankhamun?
- He was a well-loved ruler during his lifetime.
 - He made many important political decisions during his lifetime.
 - His young age was a benefit to his ability to rule ancient Egypt.
 - He is known by generations today because of the discovery of his tomb.

4. List three things in sequential order that happen in the passage.

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

5. If someone wanted to know more about Tutankhamun, which source would be the least helpful in gathering information?
- an encyclopedia entry about Tutankhamun
 - a brochure about a museum tour of artifacts from King Tut's tomb
 - a website with original newspaper articles about Howard Carter's discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb.
 - an atlas showing the location of the Valley of the Kings

Name _____

Butch Cassidy

Robert Leroy Parker is probably not a name most people know. However, Parker's pseudonym, Butch Cassidy, is synonymous as one of the most notorious bank robbers in America's history. Born in 1866, Parker would later team up with Harry Longabaugh, the Sundance Kid, and proceed to rob banks and trains with a group of outlaws known throughout the West as the Wild Bunch.

Butch Cassidy was the oldest of thirteen children. He was raised in Utah, and his family struggled financially. He left home as a teenager, hoping to find a way out of the poverty he had known as a child. He eventually found work on a ranch. He then met Mike Cassidy, a horse and cattle thief. For whatever reason, Robert Leroy Parker admired the older Cassidy and changed his name to Butch Cassidy.

Cassidy's first major robbery occurred in 1889, when he and his gang stole over twenty thousand dollars from a

bank in Colorado. Eventually he was caught and spent two years in jail. Sadly, after his release, he was not reformed, and he continued his life as a criminal. With his gang known as the Wild Bunch, he would embark on a successful string of train and bank robberies.

The Union Pacific Railroad, a frequent target of the gang, was desperate to have the band of outlaws stopped. They hired the Pinkerton Detective Agency to track down and stop Butch Cassidy and his group of thieves. They eventually drove the robbers out of the United States and into South America. What happened to Butch Cassidy from there, no one actually knows. Some argue he changed his name yet again and went on to live a long life in South America. Others claim he died in a shootout, and still others say he came back to the United States to live. Although no one knows for sure what became of Butch Cassidy, he is remembered as one of the legendary outlaws of the West.

Text Questions

- Which is a synonym for the word *pseudonym* as it is used in the first paragraph?
 - first name
 - false name
 - legal name
 - last name
- From the information in the text, which statement best explains why Parker changed his name?
 - He did not like his own name.
 - He did not like his old name because he had been named after his father.
 - Since he had run away, he did not want his parents to be able to find him.
 - He wanted to start a new life with the name of someone he admired.
- If you had to write a report about the life of Butch Cassidy, which source would be a primary source?
 - an entry on a website about the Wild West and the outlaws who lived during the late 1800s
 - a biography about Butch Cassidy
 - letters written by Butch Cassidy while he was in jail
 - a newspaper article about the Union Pacific Railroad Company
- Summarize the text in two complete sentences.

- According to the text, which of the following might have happened to Butch Cassidy?
 - He died trying to cross the border into South America.
 - He was buried in an unmarked grave in South America.
 - He married and moved to Australia.
 - He changed his name and lived out the rest of his life in South America.

Name _____

Milton Hershey

Most people have heard of Hershey chocolates. But did you know the candy was named after Milton Hershey? Milton Hershey was born in 1857 in Pennsylvania. He began learning to make candy at the age of fourteen. Success would not come easily. His hard work and determination as he learned how to make candy would help him become one of the world's most famous makers of chocolate.

Milton Hershey's first real success came when he started a company called Lancaster Caramel Company. At this point, he mainly made caramels. Then, in 1893, he attended the World's Columbian Exposition where he was able to see how chocolate was made. It was during this time that he started the Hershey Chocolate Company. His passion was to create world-class milk chocolate. Within three years, he had sold his caramel

company and was building a factory in Pennsylvania to make his new chocolates. The doors to the factory opened in 1905. By 1907, the Hershey's Kiss was created. The town in Pennsylvania where Milton Hershey built his factory is now called Hershey.

Hershey did more than start a candy company. He wanted to help the entire community with his success. The philanthropist gave money to support schools, churches, parks, and other endeavors—all to help those who lived in the area. One of his largest projects was opening the Hershey Industrial School for orphaned boys to have a home and an outstanding education. Today, both boys and girls can attend what is now known as the Milton Hershey School. Although Hershey died in 1945, his legacy continues.

Text Questions

- Which adjective best describes Milton Hershey?
 - stubborn
 - determined
 - selfish
 - cowardly
- Using information from the text, explain why you chose the answer for question one.

- What does the word *philanthropist* mean as it is used in the third paragraph?
 - someone who saves most of the money he or she makes
 - someone who gives money to be used to help others
 - someone who has very little money
 - someone who is extremely wealthy
- What is the main idea of the third paragraph?
 - Milton Hershey was selfish and thought only of himself.
 - Milton Hershey was driven to make the best chocolate in the world.
 - Milton Hershey regretted his decision to sell his caramel company.
 - Milton Hershey used his success to help others.
- Which title would be a good alternative for this text?
 - "Milton Hershey's Legacy"
 - "Hershey Chocolate Tastes Great"
 - "A New Kind of Chocolate"
 - "A Boy from Pennsylvania"