

Read the article “The Silk Road” before answering Numbers 1 through 10.

The Silk Road

Long ago, traders brought treasures from the East to Europe. They were looking for new and amazing goods to sell. Trips to the East became more favorable when traders found silks and spices. These treasures were not the ordinary goods that most traders brought back. People in Western Europe began to prize these finer goods. Soon, more traders began to travel to the East. It was a good way to become wealthy. The route became known as the “Silk Road.”

The Silk Road was not really a road. There were no markings that people could follow. It was a system of trade routes from China to the Middle East. There were many routes that traders could follow. Some went over the land, while others went across the sea. No matter which route the traders traveled, there was always danger.

Traders who traveled by land used camels or horses. These animals carried heavy loads, which made the trips manageable. Since there were no marked roads, traders often had a rough journey. First, traders had to cross over the desert. Then they crossed over a high mountain range. Bad weather was also a problem and could slow the traders down. In the desert, they faced hot, dry temperatures and sand storms. Snow and freezing temperatures were a concern in the mountains. Robbers caused trouble, too. These robbers knew that the goods traders carried were worth a fortune. Often, traders were robbed of their goods.

At sea, traders faced terrible storms and high waves. Water and winds often pushed the boats in the wrong direction. Sometimes the ships crashed on land. They also had to deal with pirate attacks. Like land robbers, pirates knew the value of the goods traders carried. They attacked trade ships to steal these goods.

Silk was one of the most popular goods from the East. It came from China. Silk was made from the cocoons of silkworms. Workers pulled fine threads off the cocoons. They wove this material into a cloth that was light and soft. This cloth made comfortable clothing. The money made from the silk trade was important to China. No one was allowed to take the silkworms out of China. If this happened, people might not buy silk from China.

Over time, the Silk Road led to many changes. The goods traded made a difference in the way people lived. People learned about new customs and beliefs. Moreover, traders shared stories about faraway lands. They brought back drawings of the amazing places and things they had seen. As a result of the Silk Road, the world now seemed much smaller.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Now answer Numbers 1 through 10. Base your answers on “The Silk Road.”

- 1 At the beginning of the article, the author tells the reader about the demand in the West for goods from the East
- Ⓐ to explain why pirates chased the ships.
 - Ⓑ to explain why traders traveled to the East.
 - Ⓒ to explain how traders crossed the mountains.
 - Ⓓ to explain how people in the West bought goods.

- 2 Read this sentence from the article.

Trips to the East became more favorable when traders found silks and spices.

The suffix *-able* means “can be” or “is able.” A book that received a *favorable* review is one that was

- Ⓕ canceled.
- Ⓖ changed.
- Ⓗ disliked.
- Ⓘ liked.

- 3 The author shows the rough journey over land

- Ⓐ by comparing the journey over land to the journey over sea.
- Ⓑ by telling how the Silk Road had no real markings people could follow.
- Ⓒ by explaining how robbers knew the goods traders carried were valuable.
- Ⓓ by listing the problems traders faced first in the desert then in the mountains.

- 4 Read this sentence from the article.

These animals carried heavy loads, which made the trips manageable.

The suffix *-able* means “is able” or “can be.” What does *manageable* mean in the sentence above?

- Ⓕ able to ride
 - Ⓖ able to pull
 - Ⓗ able to walk
 - Ⓘ able to handle
- 5 The author shows the lasting effect of the Silk Road by
- Ⓐ telling how the Silk Road got its name.
 - Ⓑ listing the changes that happened over time.
 - Ⓒ explaining the importance of silk traveling by sea.
 - Ⓓ contrasting the goods from the East with those from the West.

- 6 Read this sentence from the article.

They wove this material into a cloth that was light and soft. This cloth made comfortable clothing.

The suffix *-able* means “is able” or “can be.” Which answer choice uses *-able* in the same way as *comfortable*?

- Ⓕ cable
- Ⓖ likeable
- Ⓗ stable
- Ⓘ vegetable

Read the article “Squanto” before answering Numbers 11 through 20.

Squanto

In December of 1620, the Pilgrims landed in North America. Plymouth, as they named it, was a cold and difficult place. The Pilgrims were unprepared to deal with this “New World.” Almost half of their group did not survive that winter. Those who lived thought about going back to England. However, they met a Native American who helped them learn to survive in their harsh new home. He was named Tisquantum, or “Squanto.”

Squanto lived with a nearby tribe. He soon became friends with the Pilgrims. Squanto showed them how to farm and catch fish. He helped make a peace treaty that was acceptable to both the Pilgrims and the nearby Native Americans.

But how was Squanto able to teach the Pilgrims how to survive? How were his words understandable to them? Squanto spoke English. He learned English several years before while he was in England and Spain. He had not gone to those places by his own choice. He had been taken there against his will.

Years earlier, in 1605, an English sea captain was exploring the North American coast. He captured several Native Americans. Among the captives was Squanto. He was only a young man then. Squanto was taken to England. There he came to live with a rich man named Gorges.

Gorges taught Squanto English and hired him as a guide. Squanto returned to North America in 1614 to help one of Gorges’s men map the coast. He persuaded a group of Native Americans to trade with some of the Englishmen. Because he spoke the languages of both sides, he played a major role in the trading.

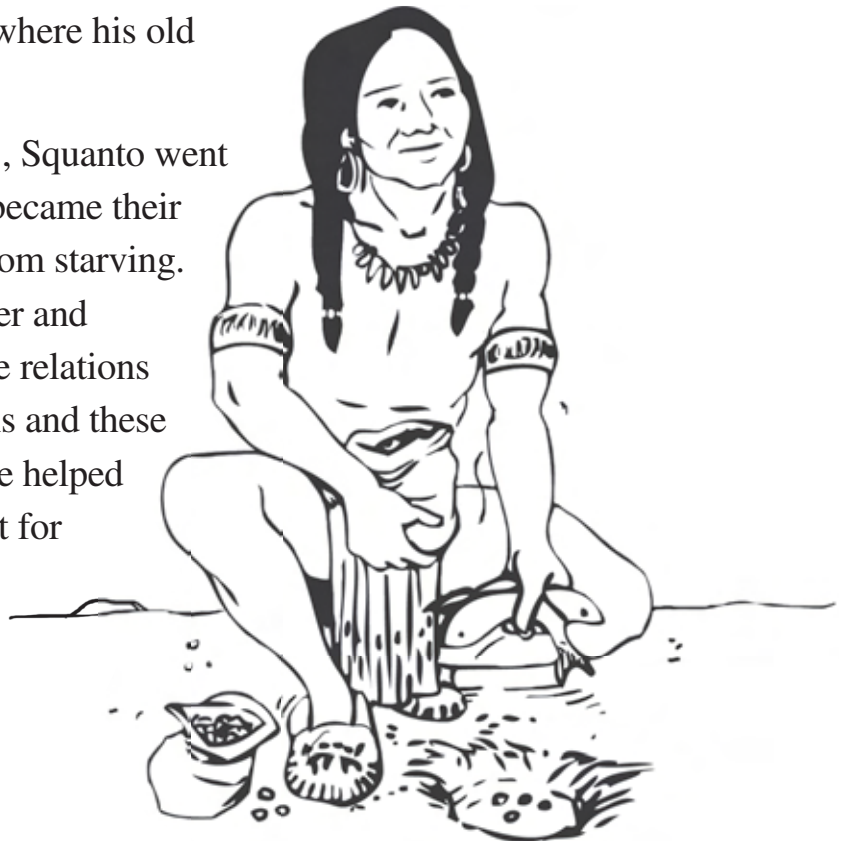
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Once again, however, Squanto was torn from his homeland. He and twenty-six other Native Americans were captured by a man named Thomas Hunt. Hunt set sail for Spain. There he tried to sell the captured men into slavery. Squanto and the others were saved from this fate by a group of priests.

Squanto lived in Spain with these priests for a few years. Then, in 1618, he tried to return to his people. Someone in North America recognized him from his time in England. The man believed Squanto still belonged to Gorges, so he was sent back to England. Gorges welcomed him as a dependable friend, whom he had known and trusted for a long time. He arranged for Squanto to join a trading group going to North America. They agreed that Squanto would stay in his home in North America as a free man.

In 1619, Squanto finally arrived at his village. No one was there. A disease had killed his people. Saddened, Squanto went to live with a neighboring Native American group. Then he heard that English colonists settled where his old village had once been.

On March 22, 1621, Squanto went to meet the Pilgrims. He became their teacher and saved them from starving. He became their interpreter and worked hard for peaceable relations between Native Americans and these newcomers. As a result, he helped save them from war. If not for Squanto, the story of the Pilgrims in the New World would be much different.



Name: _____ Date: _____

Now answer Numbers 11 through 20. Base your answers on “Squanto.”

- 11 Read these sentences from the article.

The Pilgrims were unprepared to deal with this “New World.” Almost half of their group did not survive that winter.

The word *unprepared* has the root word *prepare* which means “to be equipped or fit.” *Unprepared* means

- Ⓐ not available. Ⓒ not ready.
Ⓑ not worried. Ⓓ not sad.
- 12 Why does the author begin the article by describing when the Pilgrims landed on Plymouth?
- Ⓕ to describe what the land looked like
Ⓖ to introduce Squanto before talking about his life
Ⓗ to show how difficult their trip to North America was
Ⓘ to explain how the Pilgrims felt when they came to Plymouth
- 13 Read this sentence from the article.

He helped make a peace treaty that was acceptable to both the Pilgrims and the nearby Native Americans.

If *accept* means “agree,” what does *acceptable* mean?

- Ⓐ can agree to
Ⓑ cannot agree to
Ⓒ not wanting to agree
Ⓓ make someone agree

- 17 Read this sentence from the article.

Gorges welcomed him as a dependable friend, whom he had known and trusted for a long time.

What does *dependable* mean?

- (A) can be trusted (C) cannot be trusted
(B) trusting others (D) cannot trust others
- 18 Based on how the author organized the article, what MOST likely happened between 1605–1614?
- (F) Gorges taught Squanto many things.
(G) The Pilgrims sailed back to England.
(H) Squanto was captured and taken to Spain.
(I) Squanto went on a journey by ship to explore Spain.
- 19 What text evidence shows that the Pilgrims' lives were different after meeting Squanto?
- (A) Squanto lived with a nearby tribe.
(B) How were his words understandable to them?
(C) Squanto showed them how to farm and catch fish.
(D) Almost half of their group did not survive that winter.
- 20 What is the MOST important idea of the article?
- (F) A disease had killed Squanto's people.
(G) Squanto soon became friends with the Pilgrims.
(H) In December of 1620, the Pilgrims landed in Plymouth.
(I) If not for Squanto, the story of the Pilgrims would be different.



Answer Key

Name: _____

Question	Correct Answer	Content Focus	CCSS	Complexity
1	B	Text Structure: Sequence	RI.3.8	DOK 2
2	I	Suffixes: <i>-able</i>	L.3.4b	DOK 1
3	D	Text Structure: Sequence	RI.3.8	DOK 2
4	I	Suffixes: <i>-able</i>	L.3.4b	DOK 1
5	B	Text Structure: Sequence	RI.3.8	DOK 2
6	G	Suffixes: <i>-able</i>	L.3.4b	DOK 1
7	B	Root Words	L.3.4c	DOK 1
8	H	Text Structure: Sequence	RI.3.8	DOK 2
9	A	Suffixes: <i>-able</i>	L.3.4b	DOK 1
10	G	Main Idea and Details	RI.3.2	DOK 2
11	C	Root Words	L.3.4c	DOK 1
12	G	Text Structure: Sequence	RI.3.8	DOK 2
13	A	Suffixes: <i>-able</i>	L.3.4b	DOK 1
14	G	Suffixes: <i>-able</i>	L.3.4b	DOK 1
15	D	Suffixes: <i>-able</i>	L.3.4b	DOK 1
16	H	Sequence	RI.3.3	DOK 1
17	A	Suffixes: <i>-able</i>	L.3.4b	DOK 1
18	F	Text Structure: Sequence	RI.3.8	DOK 2
19	C	Text Structure: Sequence	RI.3.8	DOK 2
20	I	Main Idea and Details	RI.3.2	DOK 2
21	See below	Compare Across Texts	RI.3.9	DOK 4

Comprehension 1, 3, 5, 8, 10, 12, 16, 18, 19, 20	/10	%
Vocabulary 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 17	/10	%
Total Weekly Assessment Score	/20	%

21 The traders brought new customs, ideas, and stories from the East that changed the way people all over the world lived. Squanto helped the Pilgrims settle in the New World and helped save them from war. The Pilgrims might not have survived without Squanto's help.