

ARKANSAS ACTIVITY PACKET

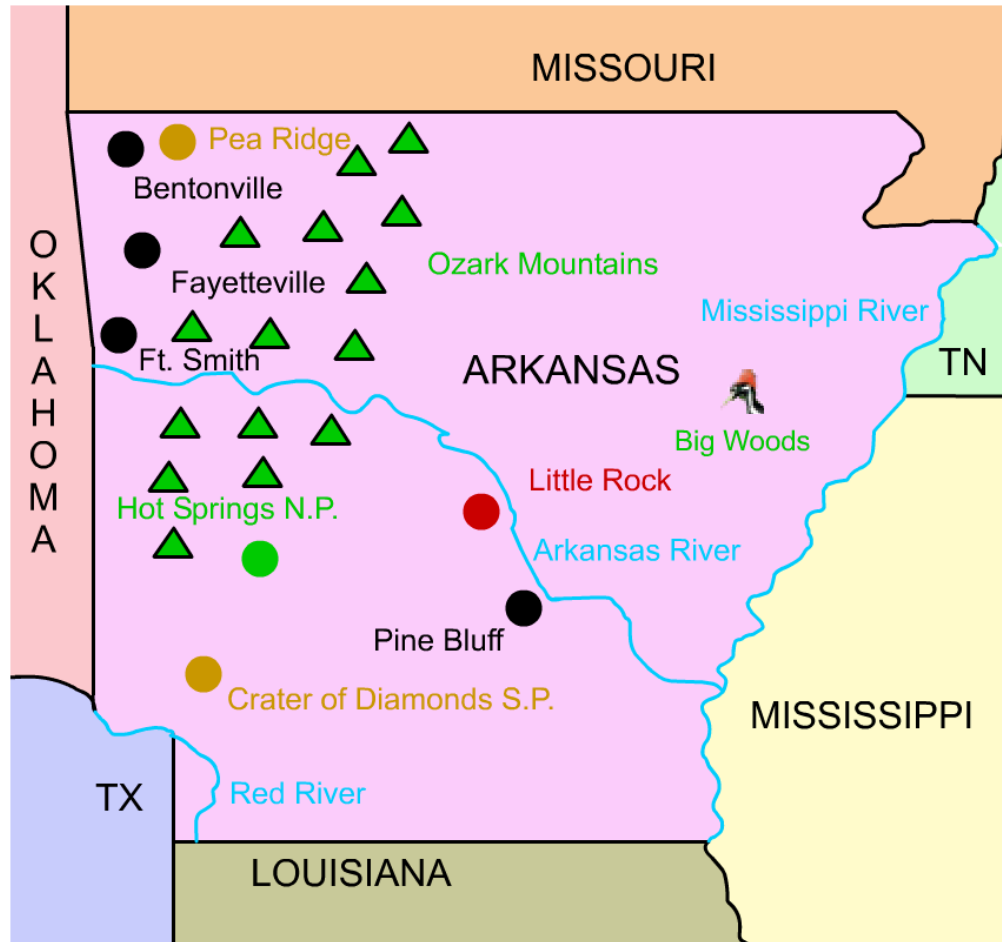


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Arkansas



Capital: **Little Rock**

Area: **53,182 sq. miles (29th)**

Population: **3,036,000 (33rd)**

Date of Union Entry: **6/15/1836 (25th state)**

State Bird: **Mockingbird**

State Flower: **Apple Blossom**

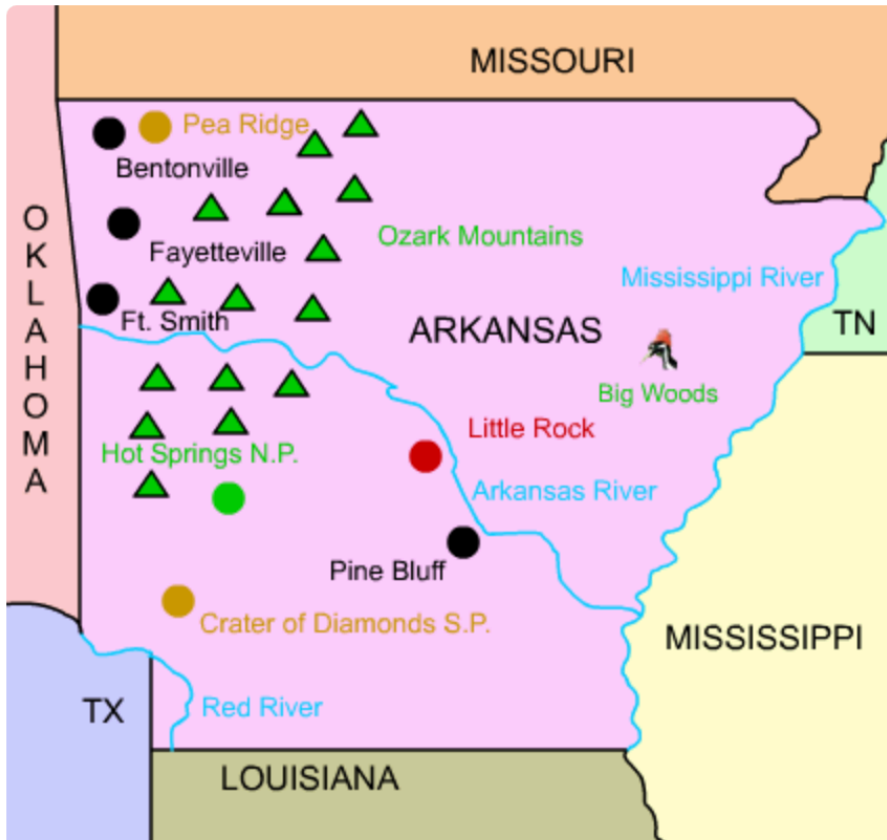
State Tree: **Pine Tree**

Highest Point: **Mount Magazine – 2,753 feet**

Motto: **“Regnat populus” The People Rule**

Fact or Fiction?

Name: _____



Arkansas
The Natural State

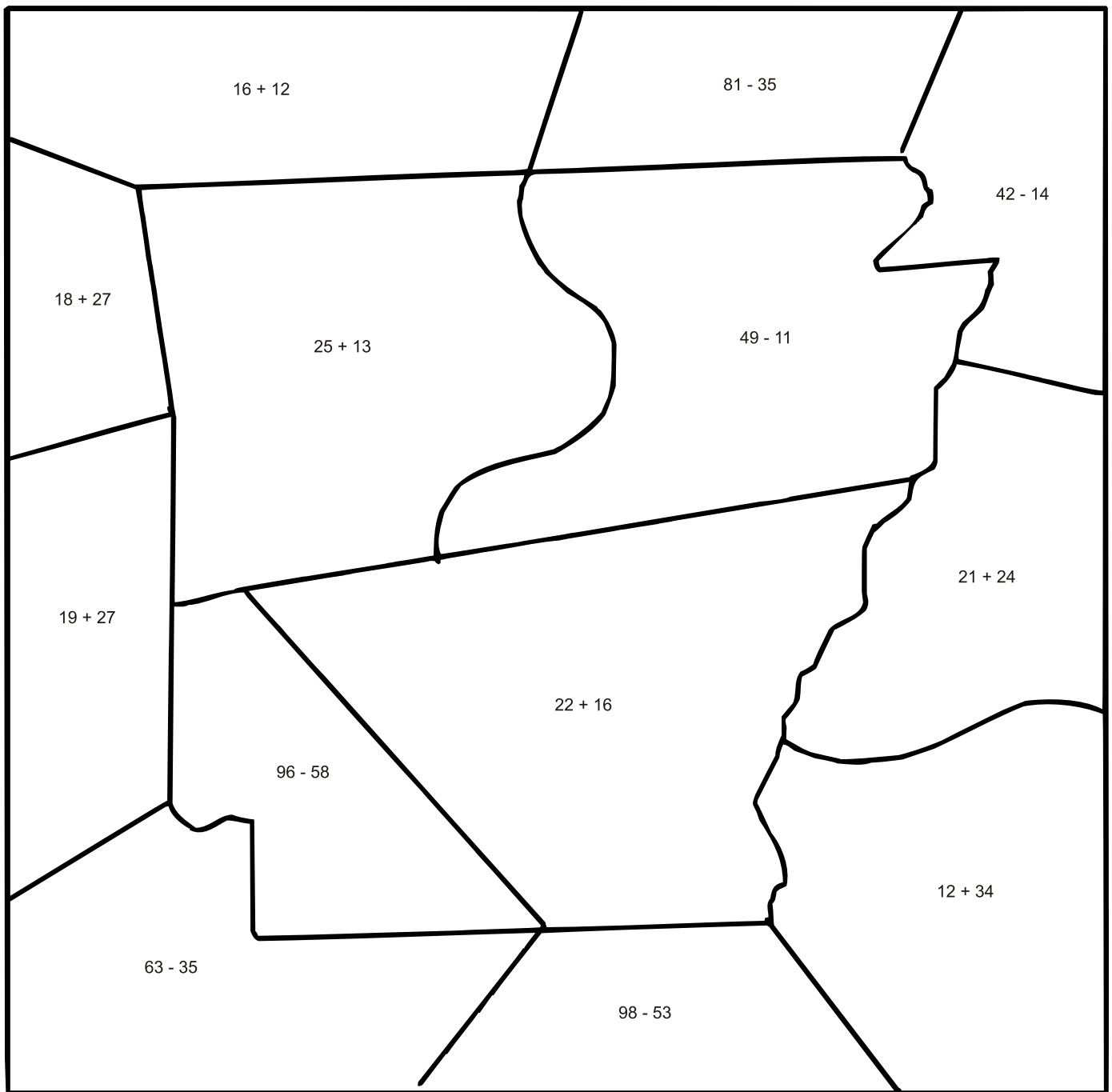


Capital: Little Rock
Population: 2,779,154 (33)
Area: 53,182 sq. miles (29)
Date of Union Entry: 6/15/1836 (25)
Bird: Mockingbird
Tree: Pine Tree
Flower: Apple Blossom
Motto: "Regnat populus" - The people rule

	FACT	FICTION
Arkansas border SIX states.		
Arkansas is SOUTH of Louisiana.		
Mississippi is SOUTHEAST of Arkansas.		
The Mississippi River forms the EASTERN border of Arkansas.		
Little Rock is SOUTHWEST of Crater of Diamonds SP		
The Ozark Mountains are in the NORTHWESTERN part of Arkansas.		
Louisiana is SOUTHWEST of Oklahoma.		
Oklahoma is NORTHWEST of Mississippi.		

Answers:

	FACT	FICTION
Arkansas border SIX states.	X	
Arkansas is SOUTH of Louisiana.		X
Mississippi is SOUTHEAST of Arkansas.	X	
The Mississippi River forms the EASTERN border of Arkansas.	X	
Little Rock is SOUTHWEST of Crater of Diamonds SP		X
The Ozark Mountains are in the NORTHWESTERN part of Arkansas.	X	
Louisiana is SOUTHWEST of Oklahoma.		X
Oklahoma is NORTHWEST of Mississippi.	X	



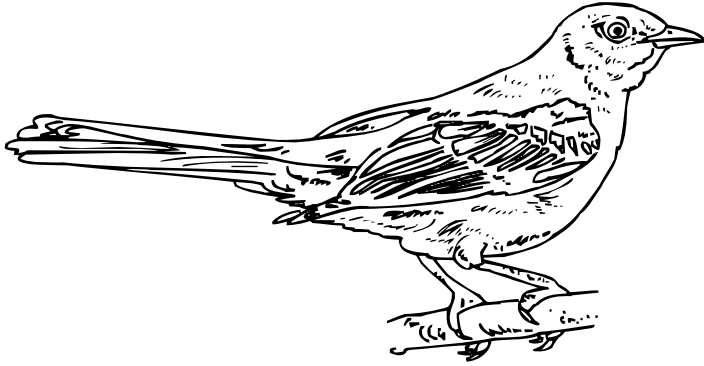
Do you know what state is pictured?

28 = Blue

38 = Light Violet

45 = White

46 = Red



Mockingbird



Apple Blossom

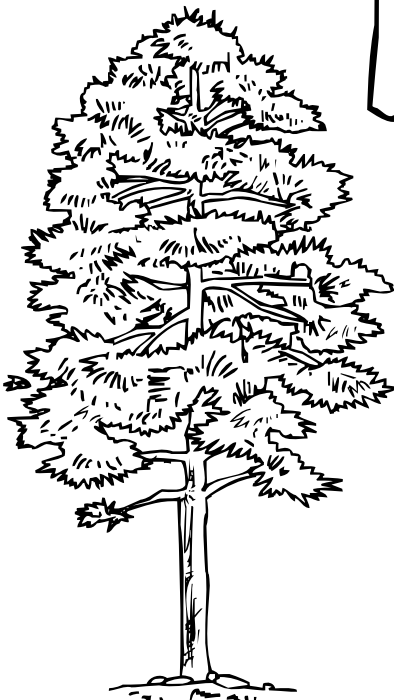


Arkansas

☆
Little Rock

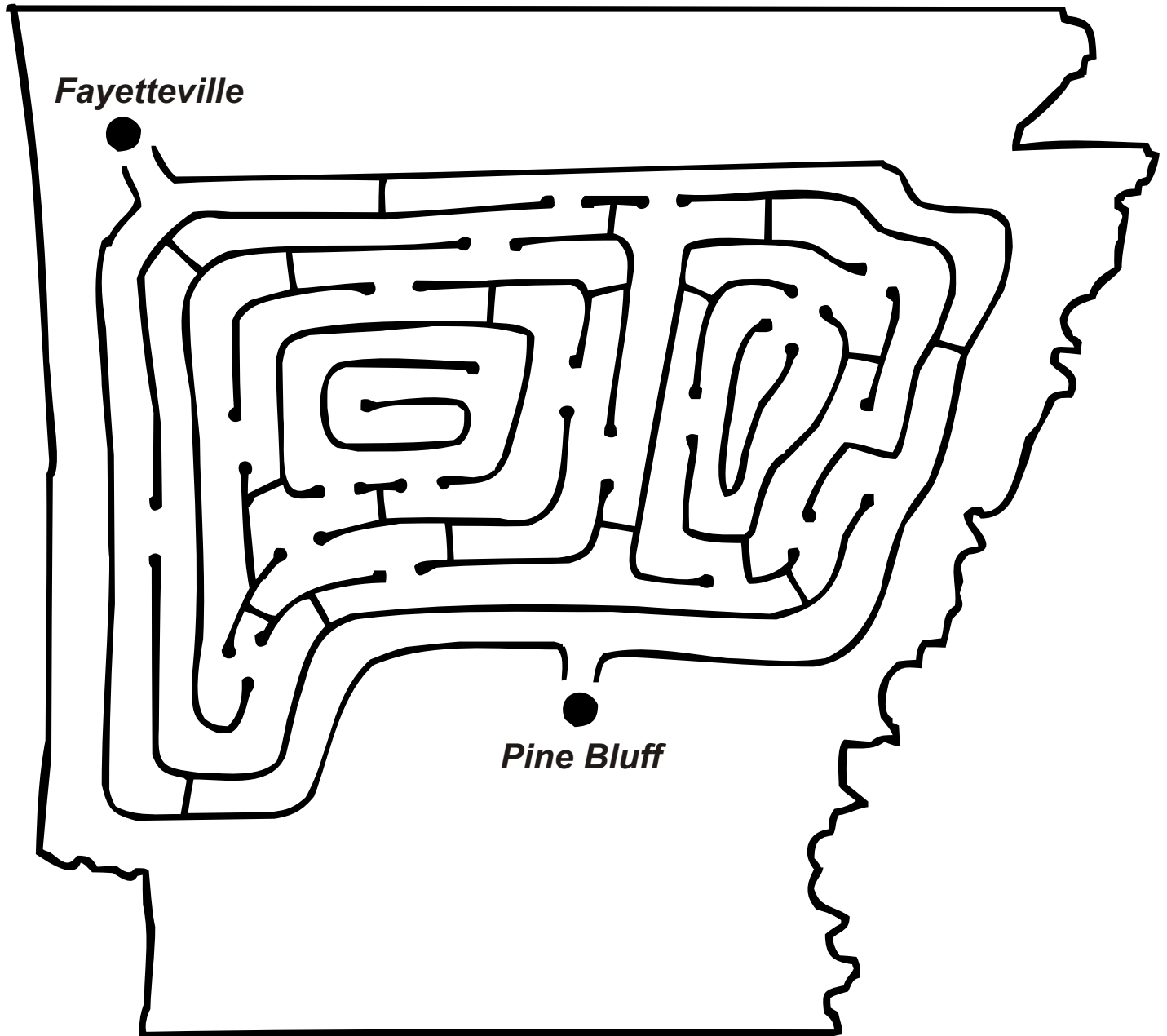
The Natural State

State license plate



Southern Pine







Arkansas Flag Outline



Arizona Label-me Map – Bordering States and Bodies of water

A map of Arizona with the word 'Arkansas' in the center. The map is surrounded by six numbered regions: 1 (purple, top right), 2 (yellow, top right), 3 (green, bottom right), 4 (pink, bottom), 5 (olive green, bottom left), and 6 (orange, left). The word 'Arkansas' is written in the center of the map.

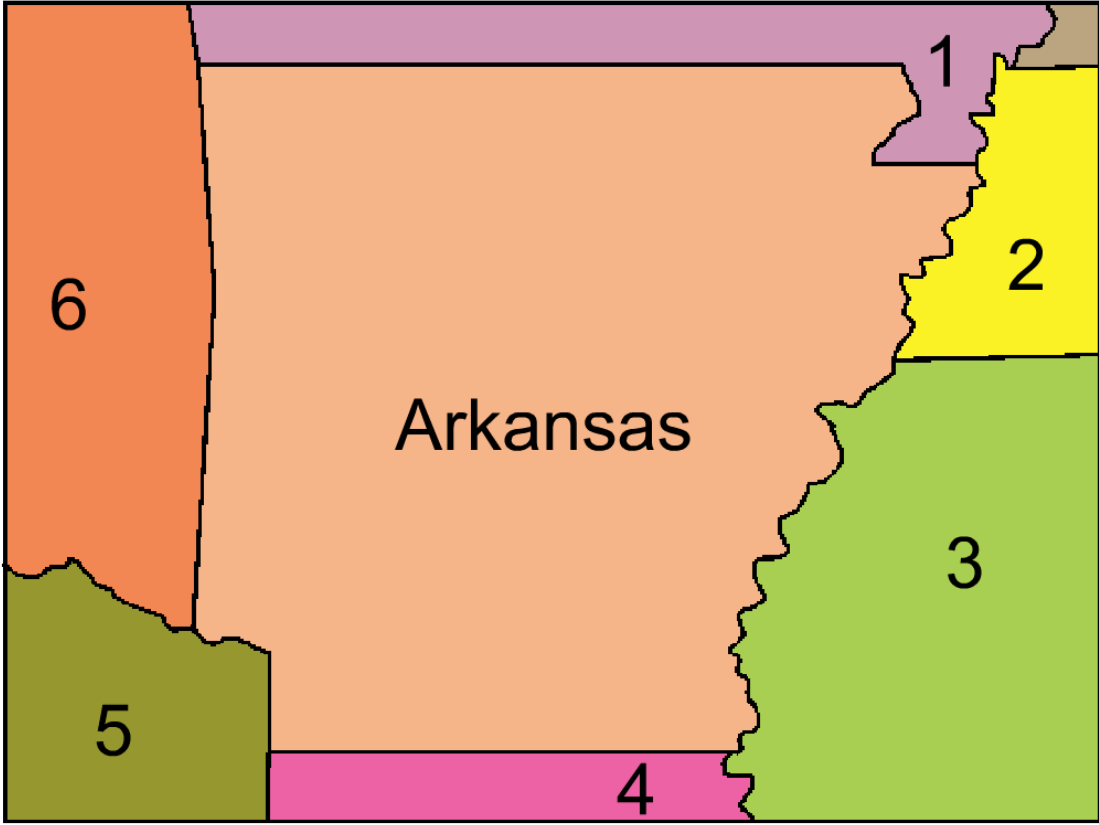
Arkansas Labels

Oklahoma
Tennessee
Mississippi
Louisiana
Texas
Missouri

Labels:

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.

Arizona Label-me Map – Bordering States and Bodies of water



Arkansas

1

2

3

4

5

6

Arkansas Labels

Oklahoma
Tennessee
Mississippi
Louisiana
Texas
Missouri

Labels:

1. Missouri
2. Tennessee
3. Mississippi
4. Louisiana
5. Texas
6. Oklahoma

Arkansas State Quarter



WELCOME TO

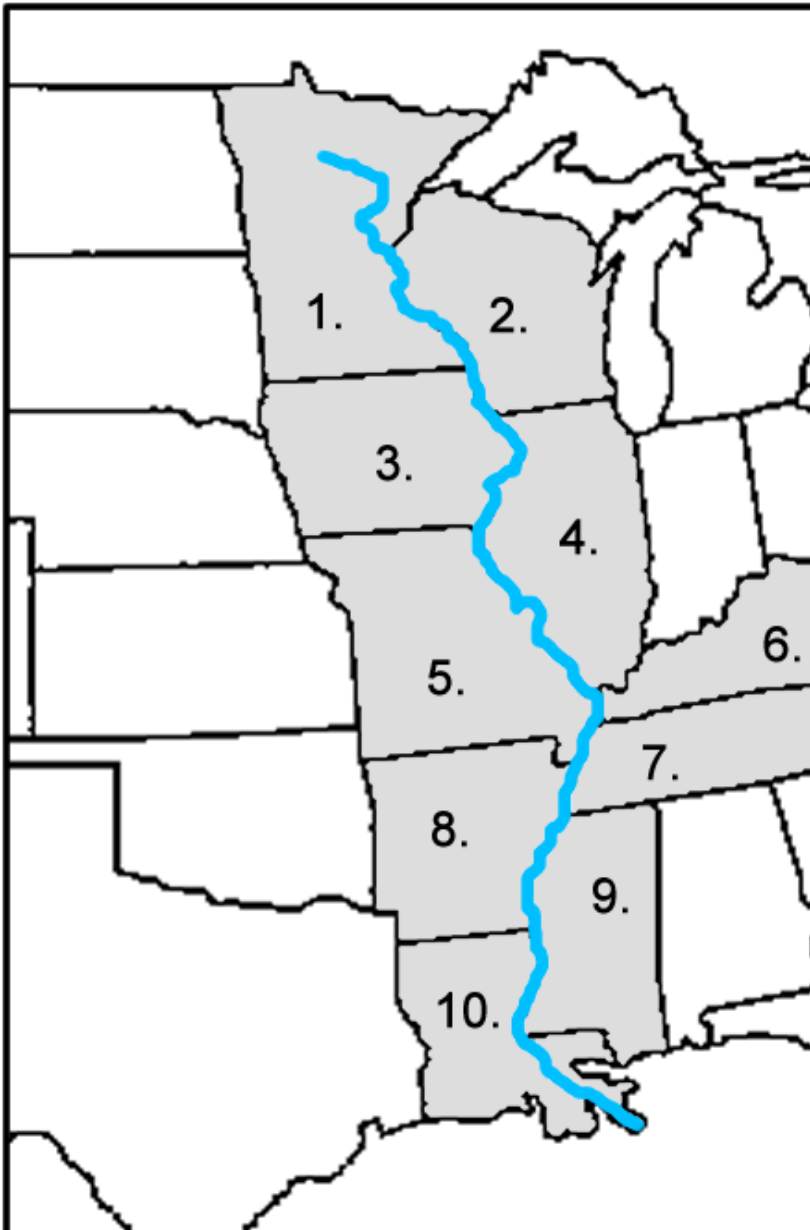
Arkansas[®]
THE NATURAL STATE

BUCKLE UP FOR SAFETY

ARKANSAS

Mississippi River States

Label the Mississippi River States



Label the Mississippi
River States

- 1.) _____
- 2.) _____
- 3.) _____
- 4.) _____
- 5.) _____
- 6.) _____
- 7.) _____
- 8.) _____
- 9.) _____
- 10.) _____

Arkansas Cloze Reading for Grades 1-3 Name _____

Directions: Fill in the correct blanks

Crater of Diamonds State Park is an 888-acre park that sits _____ an eroded volcano pipe in Arkansas. It is the _____ public diamond mine in the world. For a _____ price, visitors can come to the park and dig for diamonds and other gems. Visitors can keep anything they find. Over 24,000 diamonds have been found _____ the park opened – some have been very valuable. In 1924, a 40 carat diamond _____ millions of dollars was found in the park. Several other large diamonds have been _____ more recently.

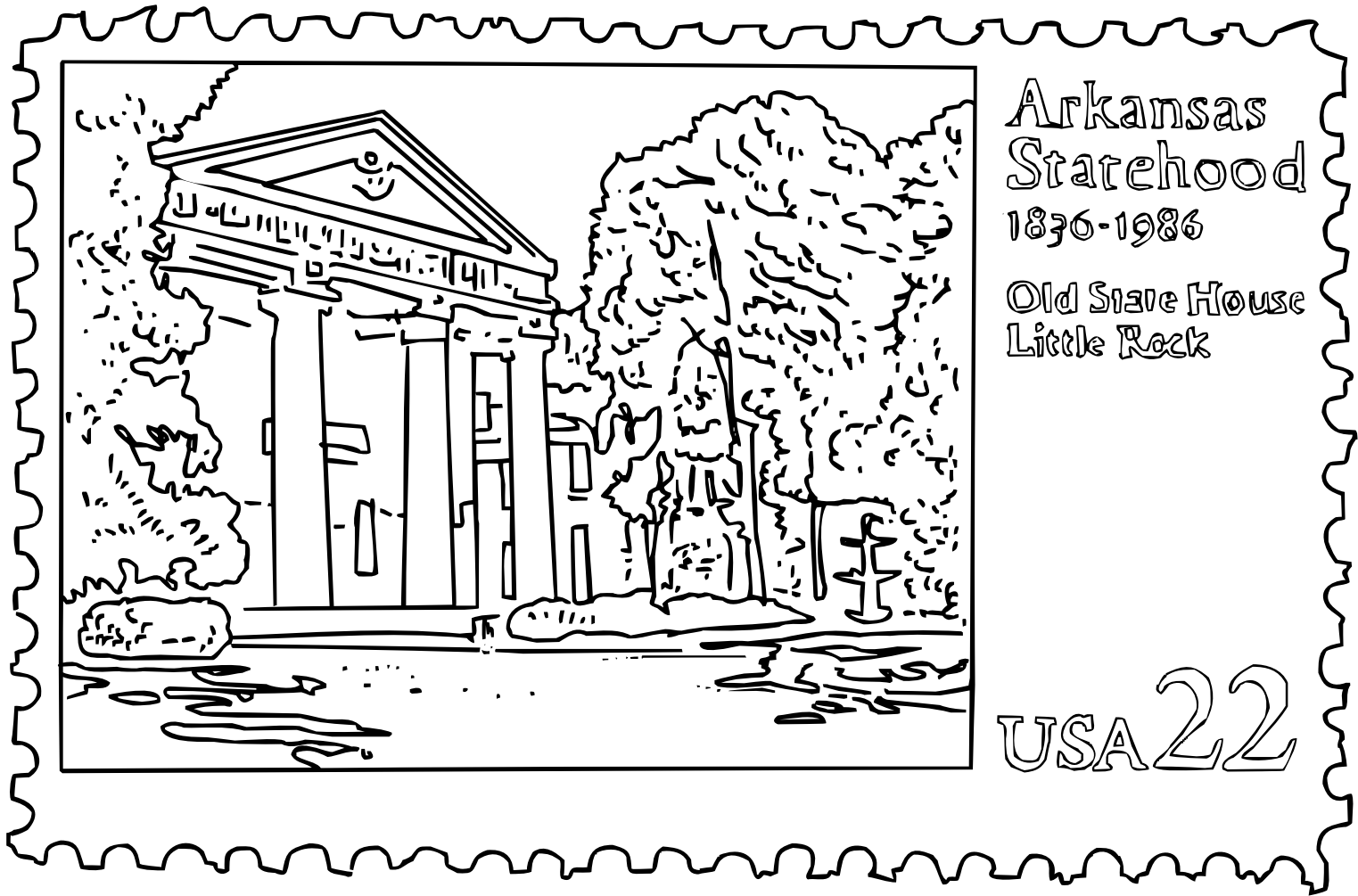
Words:

worth
since
atop
only
heal
found
small

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LEARNING + FUN

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Arkansas Statehood stamp

22 cents

Name _____

The Gurdon Light

The cosmic Gurdon Light is a mysterious white-blue or orange glow that has been witnessed by thousands of people near a set of railroad tracks off of Interstate 30 in Clark County, Arkansas. The light is said to move through the trees located around the railroad tracks and is only visible at night. Though there is no confirmed explanation for the appearance of the Gurdon Light, a possible reason is piezoelectricity. Piezoelectricity is when certain materials, like crystals or ceramics, produce electricity as a result of being pressurized. Because the site of the Gurdon Light is known to contain underground quartz crystals, the light may be the result of electrical reactions created by the buried quartz. Aside from this reasoning, a local legend has attributed the mysterious light to a ghost. It is said that the Gurdon Light is the light from the lantern of a railroad worker who fell onto the tracks and died, or was killed in a fight on the tracks. Many people, however, believe the lights are simply caused by car headlights on the nearby highway.

Today, the Gurdon Light is a popular Halloween attraction and has been featured on the popular television show *Unsolved Mysteries*.

1.) Which best describes the concept of piezoelectricity?

- a.) Electricity produced by underground currents
- b.) Electricity caused by quartz
- c.) Electricity caused when certain materials are pressurized
- d.) Electricity caused by unknown forces

2.) Which of the following best supports the fact that the Gurdon light comes from car headlights?

- a.) They are only seen at night
- b.) The area has underground quartz deposits
- c.) A railroad worker was killed on the tracks
- d.) Because of the concept of piezoelectricity

3.) What word or phrase could replace “attributed” in the following sentence?

Aside from this reasoning, a local legend has attributed the mysterious light to a ghost.

- a.) withdrawn
- b.) credited
- c.) blamed
- d.) disguised

4.) How would someone outside of Arkansas learn about the Gurdon Light?

- a.) By driving through Arkansas during the day
- b.) From studying the concept of piezoelectricity
- c.) From searching for places with quartz
- d.) From watching Unsolved Mysteries on television.

5.) Which of the following could be a title for the passage?

- a.) Piezoelectricity
- b.) The interstates of Arkansas
- c.) The Gurdon Light Mystery
- d.) Great Unsolved Mysteries

Hot Springs National Park

Do you ever have any aches, pains, or illnesses that need relief? If so, perhaps you should head to America's first resort, Hot Springs National Park, located in Hot Springs, Arkansas! The springs were frequently visited by Native Americans thousands of years before the first Europeans arrived, but it was President Thomas Jefferson who sent a couple of scientists to explore the Ouachita Mountains and find out more about the famous springs. Word spread, and by 1820 thousands of visitors traveled to Hot Springs to soak in what they believed were the healing waters found there. There are people today who still believe naturally heated water can cure many different ailments!

By the late 1800's, luxurious hotels and bathhouses became popular in Hot Springs. The notorious Jesse James and his brother Frank would often visit. They would gamble as well as soak in the spas. Some believe that their hidden treasures of gold and silver coins can still be found around the Hot Springs area today.

1. Why did people visit the Hot Springs?

- A. They liked to go swimming
- B. They liked bathing in the hot water
- C. They thought the natural water could cure ailments
- D. To visit the notorious outlaws

2. What word could replace "outlaws" in the following sentence?

The 1920's brought other notorious outlaws to the resort, including Al Capone, Frank Nash, and Lucky Luciano, who all enjoyed soaking in the soothing waters of Hot Springs.

- A. criminals
- B. employees
- C. guests
- D. workers

3. Which of the following is not true?

- A. Frank and Jesse James once visited the hot springs
- B. Hot Springs is in Arkansas
- C. Some believe that gold and silver coins could be found around hot springs
- D. Few if any people still believe the hot springs can cure ailments

4. What could be a title of this passage?

- A. The Woodlands of Arkansas
- B. Jesse and Frank James
- C. Treasures in Arkansas
- D. A Brief History of the Arkansas Hot Springs

5. What question is NOT answered in this passage?

- A. What outlaws visited the hot springs?
- B. When were gold and silver coins discovered around hot springs?
- C. Who sent explorers to discover more information about the hot springs?
- D. When did luxurious hotels and bathhouses become popular at the hot springs?

The Interior Lowlands

Name _____

Where is it?

The Interior Lowlands of the United States lie in a vast grassy expanse between the Appalachian Mountains and the Great Plains. Over a dozen states contain at least a part of this region, including Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, and Tennessee. The Lowlands stretch from the Coastal Plain at its southernmost edge to Canada.

How was it formed?

While dramatic tectonic plate movements formed the features of the Appalachian and Rocky Mountains to the east and to the west, the Interior Lowlands are, in contrast, characterized by 600 million years of little geologic activity. Above the tectonic plate, an ancient bed of crystalline rocks lies under deep layers of sedimentary rock. In the southern region of the Interior Lowlands, silt blown in by the wind settled in fertile layers on the sedimentary rock. On the northern edge, glaciers carved the basins of the Great Lakes. As glaciers formed and receded over millions of years, their melting runoff formed streams and rivers.

Agriculture

The fertile soil of the Interior Lowlands has long been used for agriculture. Native Americans such as the Omaha developed and traded many varieties of corn in this region. The majority of agricultural land in the Interior Lowlands today is used to grow corn and soybeans. Although climate change is lengthening growing seasons for farmers, increases in the frequency of cataclysmic events such as floods, heat waves, and droughts in the Lowlands threaten agricultural stability.

Natural Resources

This region is also rich in natural resources. Sandstone deposits provide sand that is used as a raw material in glass production. Salt and limestone are found in the northern portion of the region. Petroleum from oil fields in Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas is used for the production of motor oil and jet fuel. The Interior Lowlands are an important physiographic region whose vast resources, both agricultural and mineral, are used by millions of people.

1. Which state was NOT listed as one of the states that contain the Interior Lowlands?

- a. Illinois
- b. Colorado
- c. Ohio
- d. Indiana

2. What formed the rivers and streams in the northern area of the Interior Lowlands?

- a. The Great Lakes
- b. Runoff from glaciers
- c. Runoff from the Appalachian and Rocky Mountains
- d. Extreme flooding events

3. Why is the farmland in the Lowlands so fertile?

- a. The wind deposits new soil on the land
- b. The soil has not eroded away
- c. Runoff from glaciers deposited new soil
- d. The land has long been fertilized by people

4. What effect has climate change had on agriculture in the Interior Lowlands?

- a. Colder winters kill crops
- b. Warmer summers allow more crops to grow
- c. More precipitation has produced healthier crops
- d. Longer growing seasons for crops

5. Based on the following sentence, what is the best synonym for the word “cataclysmic”?

“Although climate change is lengthening growing seasons for farmers, increases in the frequency of cataclysmic events such as floods, heat waves, and droughts in the Lowlands threaten agricultural stability”

- a. destructive
- b. random
- c. surprising
- d. sad

6. Which of the following was not identified as a natural resource from this region?

- a. glass
- b. sand
- c. limestone
- d. petroleum

Answers:

1. B

2. B

3. A

4. D

5. A

6. A

The hawk-sized ivory-billed woodpecker was the largest woodpecker in North America. It was sometimes called the “Lord God bird” because it was so magnificent that birdwatchers cried “Lord God” when one was seen. It had a black body, bold white wing patches, and a long, ivory-white bill. Males had red crests.

The ivory-billed woodpecker was never common and lived in the swamplands of the southeastern United States. When the swamps were drained and the forests around the swamps were cleared for houses and development, Ivory-billed woodpeckers faded away. As early as the 1950s, it was feared this amazing bird was extinct, though there were plenty of people who claimed to have seen the bird. Since then, scientists and birdwatchers have been searching for evidence of the woodpecker.

On April 28, 2005, birdwatchers across the world rejoiced with the news that scientists reported that at least one ivory-billed woodpecker had been sighted in the Big Woods of central Arkansas – a huge area of swampy forests along the Cache River.

The story that the ivory-billed woodpecker had been sighted made national news and was featured on the front pages of newspapers throughout the United States. People were thrilled that a bird thought of as extinct may still survive. The town of Brinkley, near where the ivory-billed woodpecker was seen, even celebrated an ivory-billed Woodpecker festival.

Unfortunately, no new sightings have been reported. The 2005 sightings have even been questioned as there are no pictures or recordings. Could the ivory-billed woodpecker still exist? Who knows? For now, scientists are still searching for the elusive “Lord God” bird.

1. What is suggested in the first paragraph?

- A. Female ivory-billed woodpeckers did not have red crests
- B. Ivory-billed Woodpeckers were large birds
- C. The ivory-billed woodpecker was the largest woodpecker in North America
- D. The ivory-billed woodpecker lived in North America

2. What does “evidence” mean as used below?

Since then, scientists and birdwatchers have been searching for evidence of the woodpecker.

- A. Forests
- B. Places
- C. Stories
- D. Signs

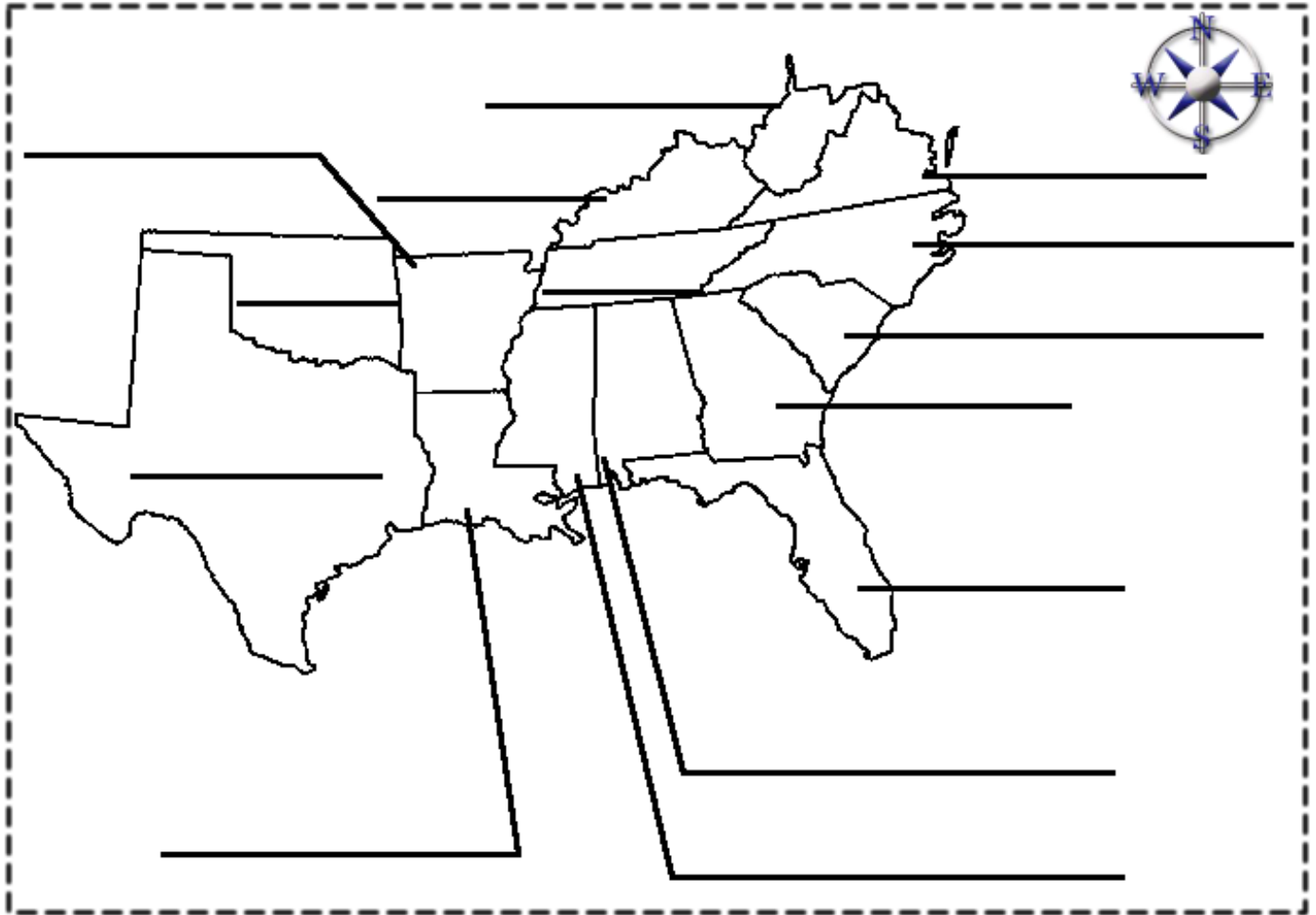
3. What do people think about the ivory-billed woodpecker today?

- A. People are not sure if it is extinct or not because none have been seen recently
- B. People are positive they still exist today
- C. People are positive that the ivory-billed woodpecker is extinct
- D. The ivory-billed woodpecker is common once again

4. Which of the following was NOT TRUE about the ivory-billed woodpecker?

- A. It lived in swampy woods
- B. It was once common
- C. It was the size of a hawk
- D. Its habitat was cleared for houses and development

Southern States Label Map





TORNADO Reading Comprehension

A tornado is born from a powerful storm called a supercell. Tornadoes have been reported in all states, but most tornadoes happen in the central parts of America called “Tornado Alley.” In some supercells, warm, moist air rises quickly into the atmosphere. Winds blowing at different speeds at different parts of the supercell produce wind shear and cause a horizontal, rotating column of air. A funnel cloud will form as the air column rotates faster and more tightly within the supercell. The rain and hail within the storm cause the funnel cloud to touch the ground, resulting in a tornado. The strength of a tornado is measured by what’s called the Fujita scale. The weakest tornadoes (F0) feature winds of 40–78 miles per hour, while the strongest tornadoes (F5) have winds of up to 318 miles per hour. All tornadoes can be devastating, especially if they touch down in areas with lots of people.

Tornado Outbreak

A tornado outbreak occurs when one storm system produces multiple tornadoes. Some tornado outbreaks can result in the formation of dozens of tornadoes over several states. One particularly powerful tornado outbreak occurred between April 25 and April 28 of 2011, where a record 355 tornadoes in 21 states and Canada were recorded, including an F5 tornado that completely destroyed parts of Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Much of the destruction was caught on camera and broadcast across the country and internet. The same weather system produced hailstones that measured 4.5 inches across in southern Virginia. 328 people were killed as a result of the outbreak, which totaled over \$11 billion in damages.

1.) Which is NOT true about tornadoes?

- a.) They are born from supercells.
- b.) They only occur in some states.
- c.) Tornado strength is measured on the Fujita scale.
- d.) Most tornadoes occur in North America in Tornado Alley.

2.) What states have never had tornadoes?

- a.) Alaska and Hawaii
- b.) The passage doesn't say.
- c.) States outside of Tornado Alley
- d.) All states have had tornadoes.

3.) What causes the supercell to tilt downward toward the ground?

- a.) wind
- b.) warm air
- c.) rain and hail
- d.) lightning

4.) When are tornadoes most devastating?

- a.) When they hit in Tornado Alley
- b.) When wind shear occurs
- c.) When they register on the Fujita Scale
- d.) When they hit areas with lots of people

5.) Which of the following would complete the analogy:

Supercell : Tornado ::

- a.) Cloud : Lightning
- b.) Moon : Stars
- c.) Hurricane : Ocean
- d.) Thunder : Rain

6.) What is the theme of the first paragraph?

- a.) Historic Tornadoes
- b.) Wind Speed
- c.) The Fujita Scale
- d.) Birth and Strength of a Tornado

7.) Why does the author refer to the hailstones that hit Virginia as part of the tornado outbreak of April 2011?

- a.) To show that much of the damage was caught on camera
- b.) To show how long the storm lasted
- c.) To show that tornado outbreaks often happen in the spring
- d.) To show how powerful and destructive the storms were

8.) In a tornado outbreak... (select all that are true)

- a.) A single storm system can produce multiple tornadoes.
- b.) Only F5 tornadoes occur.
- c.) Storms that produce damaging hail can occur as well.
- d.) Dozens of tornadoes can form in distant locations.

9.) What did paragraph two include that paragraph one did not include?

- a.) information about the Fujita scale
- b.) information on when tornadoes become very destructive
- c.) information about how tornadoes form
- d.) a specific instance

10.) Select all that are true about the tornado outbreak of 2011.

- a.) It produced a violent hailstorm in Virginia.
- b.) It devastated Tuscaloosa, Alabama.
- c.) It spanned two nations.
- d.) It was both deadly and costly

The Beginning

In 1950, an enterprising young employee of J.C. Penney named Sam Walton resigned in anticipation of being drafted during World War II. When he returned from military service, he purchased a Ben Franklin variety store in Newport, Arkansas, with a loan from his father-in-law and with money he saved in the military. Walton made sure his store was stocked with a wide variety of different goods. Sales quickly ballooned, which drew the attention of his landlord - who refused to renew Sam's lease. Instead, the landlord purchased all of Sam's merchandise for \$50,000. Walton's business career, however, was merely getting started. Next, he secured a new location in Bentonville, Arkansas, where he opened Walton's 5&10 variety store. Walton's store proved successful and before long he had started 15 Ben Franklin stores in three different states as well as his variety store in Bentonville.

Wal-Mart

Sam Walton opened his first Wal-Mart on July, 2, 1962, in Rogers, Arkansas. Wal-Mart's motto was "The lowest prices anytime, anywhere."

The Philosophy

Walton's business soared and he decided to expand. To avoid competing with retail giants such as Sears and K-Mart, he built his stores in rural areas. Walton believed that sales would soar if costs were low. He believed if he lowered the costs of individual items, the number of those items he would sell would increase. Not only was Walton proving to be a successful entrepreneur, but he also knew how to motivate his employees. Walton encouraged his employees to buy equity (ownership percentage) in the stores and thus, develop a personal stake in the success of the store.

Did it Work?

Wal-Mart grew at a record pace and was listed on the New York Stock Exchange in 1974. Throughout the 1970s, Wal-Mart stores were erected in the South, and the company began acquiring established stores such as the Hutchinson Shoe Company and Mohr-Value. It also expanded its in-store offerings to include jewelry, auto service, and pharmaceuticals. Wal-Mart continued to expand throughout the 1980s and 1990s and began building Sam's Club stores, membership-only warehouses where customers could buy products in bulk for discounts. By the early 1990s, Wal-Mart expanded throughout the United States and internationally. By 2005, it was reported that Wal-Mart was serving nearly 138 million customers every week! Today, it is the largest employer in the world with over 2.3 million employees. It operates nearly 12,000 stores, more than half of which are outside of the United States. It additionally operates 655 Sam's Club stores. With a 2016 total revenue of \$482 billion, it is the world's largest company and is still headquartered in Bentonville, Arkansas.

- 1. What happened as a result of Sam Walton's landlord refusing to renew his lease?**
 - A. Walton struggled to find a new place to operate his business
 - B. Walton had \$50,000 to invest in a new business
 - C. Walton returned to military service
 - D. Walton got a loan from his father-in-law
- 2. Why did Walton build stores in rural locations?**
 - A. To compete with retail giant such as K-Mart and Sears
 - B. To make sure his stores had enough space to expand
 - C. To make sure he could acquire established stores
 - D. To avoid competing with retail giants such as K-Mart and Sears
- 3. Which of the following best describes Walton's sales philosophy?**
 - A. Making prices lower on individual items will result in higher sales for those items
 - B. Cutting costs for retail items will result in decreased sales
 - C. Sales would increase by raising prices and opening more stores
 - D. Sales would increase by offering as many different items as possible
- 4. Which of the following best describes Walton's philosophy on employee motivation?**
 - A. Giving employees discounts on items will make them work harder
 - B. Giving employees time off and benefits will increase loyalty
 - C. Encouraging employees to own part of the company will give them a personal interest in the success of the store
 - D. Encouraging employees to sell as many items as possible will make the company's sales increase
- 5. Which of the following would a person likely be interested in buying at Sam Club's?**
 - A. A jar of peanut butter
 - B. A carton of Orange Juice
 - C. A bicycle
 - D. 10 boxes of cereal
- 6. Select all of the following that are true about the final paragraph.**
 - A. It has more statistics than the other paragraphs
 - B. It discusses how Wal-Mart expanded from the 1970s to the 2000s
 - C. It discusses Wal-Mart's first store outside of the United States
 - D. It tells that most of Wal-Mart's stores are located in the United States

7. What question is not answered in the passage?

- A. Where did Sam Walton get the money to purchase his first Ben Franklin store?
- B. When was Wal-Mart first listed on the New York Stock Exchange?
- C. Where was the first Sam's Club built?
- D. How many people around the world work for Wal-Mart?

Mockingbird



If you live anywhere in the southern two-thirds of the United States, the mockingbird is likely a familiar sight. While the mockingbird is certainly a handsome bird, it's not its looks that make it remarkable, but rather, its incredible vocal repertoire. The mockingbird is one of the most prolific songsters in the avian world. It can "sing" for hours on end from conspicuous perches on rooftops, telephone wires, or exposed branches. A clue to what really makes it unique among birds, however, is embedded in its name! Not only can it imitate the songs of other birds such as blue jays, killdeer, cardinals, and robins, but it can make "expert" imitations of car alarms, whistles, dogs barking, cats meowing, or any other range of everyday sounds. Often times, the mockingbird mixes in everyday sounds with its own warbles and calls, producing a bizarre chain of auditory wonders.

The mockingbird has actually played a role in American history. America's third president, Thomas Jefferson kept a mockingbird he named "Dick" as a pet. "Dick" was thought to be the first pet to live in the White House. Jefferson was known to be extremely fond of his pet, which he considered to be a superior to other birds. In the quote below, Jefferson congratulates a friend who had identified a mockingbird in her yard.

I sincerely congratulate you on the arrival of the Mocking bird. Learn all the children to venerate it as a superior being in the form of a bird, or as a being which will haunt them if any harm is done to itself or it's eggs. I shall hope that the multiplication of the cedar in the neighborhood, and of trees and shrubs round the house, will attract more of them: for they like to be in the neighborhood of our habitations, if they furnish cover."

In addition to Jefferson's admiration of the mockingbird, five southern states (Texas, Mississippi, Tennessee, Arkansas and Florida) claim the mockingbird as state bird.

As for the mockingbird itself, it is mostly gray with a long tail. It has bold white wing patches that flash while it is in flight. Mockingbirds often lives in suburban neighborhoods but usually avoid deep forests. They can be aggressive near their nests and will regularly dive-bomb cats, dogs, and even humans who approach too closely.

1. Which of the following would be an unusual observation?

- A. A mockingbird imitating a car horn
- B. A mockingbird singing within a thick forest
- C. A mockingbird singing for hours
- D. A mockingbird singing from an exposed branch

2. Which of the words in the following two sentences means “easily seen”?

The mockingbird is one of the most prolific songsters in the avian world. It can “sing” for hours on end from conspicuous perches on rooftops, telephone wires, or exposed branches.

- A. perches
- B. songsters
- C. prolific
- D. conspicuous

3. According to the author, what makes the mockingbird remarkable?

- A. Its appearance
- B. The fact that it can imitate a car alarm
- C. The incredible range of sounds it can make
- D. The fact that it is common in the southern two-thirds of the United States

4. What “warning” does Thomas Jefferson offer in his quote?

- A. Make sure your children learn about the mockingbird or else they might be haunted
- B. Do not plant cedar trees near a mockingbird’s nest
- C. Planting the wrong kinds of trees can hurt mockingbirds
- D. Harming a mockingbird or its eggs carries consequences

5. Which of the following supports the idea that the mockingbird is a popular bird?

- A. It is the state bird for five different states
- B. It lives in suburban neighborhoods
- C. It was the first pet to live in the White House
- D. Thomas Jefferson considered the mockingbird superior to other birds

6. Which is NOT true about mockingbirds?

- A. They have white wing patches
- B. Mockingbirds have long tails
- C. The mockingbird is the state bird of Arkansas
- D. Mockingbirds avoid places that humans live

7. According to Thomas Jefferson, what are the ways to attract mockingbirds to yards? Circle all that apply

- A. Plant trees and shrubs around the house
- B. Plant cedar trees in the neighborhood
- C. Provide cover
- D. Set up nesting boxes