

STAAR CONNECTION™

Diagnostic Series™

Reading
3
teacher



KAMICO®
Instructional Media, Inc.

STAAR CONNECTION™

Reading

3

Teacher Edition

Diagnostic Series™



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STAAR CONNECTION™
Diagnostic Series™
Grade 3 Reading
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Name _____ Date _____



Looking Down on History

- 1 Jon groaned when his mom and dad told him the news. They would be going to Mesa Verde National Park for their summer vacation this year. He did not even know where that was. Even worse, the family would be driving there. Jon had hoped to take an airplane. He wanted to float through the clouds and see the land from above. He wanted to go someplace beautiful like the beach. He had never seen the ocean before. He longed to make sand castles and feed seagulls. Instead, he would be stuck in a car with his little sister. His dad tried to cheer him up. He told Jon that ruins of Native American cliff dwellings stood in this park. Still, Jon was glum. He was not even sure what a cliff dwelling was.
- 2 Jon and his sister pulled the heavy atlas down from the shelf. They found that Mesa Verde was in southwestern Colorado. Later, Jon learned from his friend Carlos that *mesa verde* means "green table" in Spanish. He imagined someplace flat and boring.
- 3 Two weeks later, the car was packed. The family set out on their trip. Jon and his sister were restless. They wiggled in their seats. As usual, they fought most of the way there. Their dad even twice threatened to turn the car around and go home.

4 At last, they reached the park. Their car chugged up a winding, bumpy road. The jolting made the ride uncomfortable. They seemed to be climbing toward the clouds. Suddenly, his dad pulled off the road. Jon thought he and his sister were in trouble again. Instead, his mom and dad hopped out of the car.

5 "Come on, kids. Let's go see the view."

6 "I can see just fine from the car," said Jon in a weary voice.

7 "I think you'd better come take a look," called his mom.

8 Jon got out of the car. He scrambled up a short path after his family. He looked at the land below him. He felt as if he were standing on a very high table looking down. Lush beautiful trees covered the hilltop. Suddenly the name "Mesa Verde" made sense. Jon's family had stopped on a small landing. His dad pointed at something in the distance. Jon squinted. Instead of the plain, ugly rocks and boulders he expected to see, Jon saw something different. Across the valley he saw a group of crumbling stone houses. The magnificent ruins seemed to be carved right into the side of the cliff.

9 "Wow!" said Jon. "What are those?"

10 "Cliff dwellings," said his mom. "Almost a thousand years ago, ancient Pueblo Indians built those houses. They lived in those villages and farmed this land."

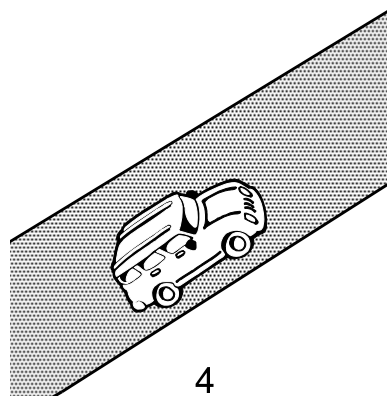
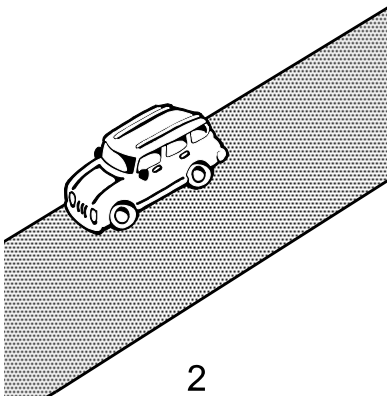
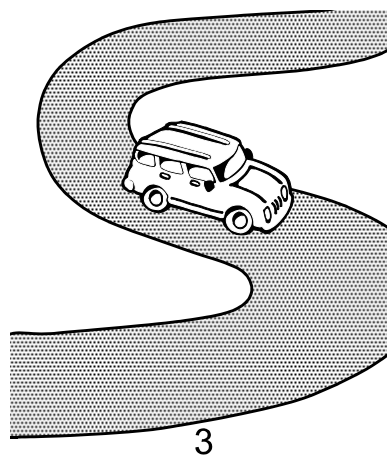
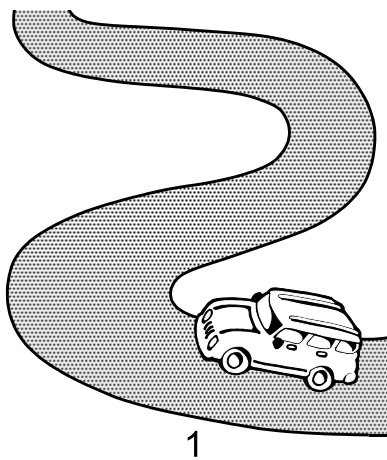
11 "I've never seen anything like them. The view up here is beautiful." Jon smiled. He had not gotten to fly through the clouds. He was happy though to look far down on the world below. Maybe this trip would not be so bad after all.

12 The rest of the trip was better than "not so bad." Jon and his family had a great time. They also learned some history. Rangers led them through the ancient cliff dwellings. They had to climb ladders to get to the villages. The villages were tucked into the sides of the cliffs. In a museum, the family saw pottery, baskets, tools, and jewelry. The Pueblo people had made them many years before. Jon and his family also went on a hike and saw *petroglyphs*. Jon learned that petroglyphs are very old drawings. Petroglyphs are usually painted on cliff or cave walls. Before he knew it, it was time for Jon and his family to go home. They packed the car for their return trip. Jon dreaded the long ride home. He still wished they had flown. Yet, he was glad they had visited Mesa Verde. Jon decided the beach would still be there next year.

1 How is the main problem in this story solved?

- A Jon's family drove on their vacation instead of flying in a plane.
- B Jon learned from Carlos that *mesa verde* means "green table" in Spanish.
- C Jon and his sister decided to stop fighting in the car.
- D Jon had fun learning about the Pueblos and visiting where they had lived.

2 Look at these pictures of a car traveling on a road.

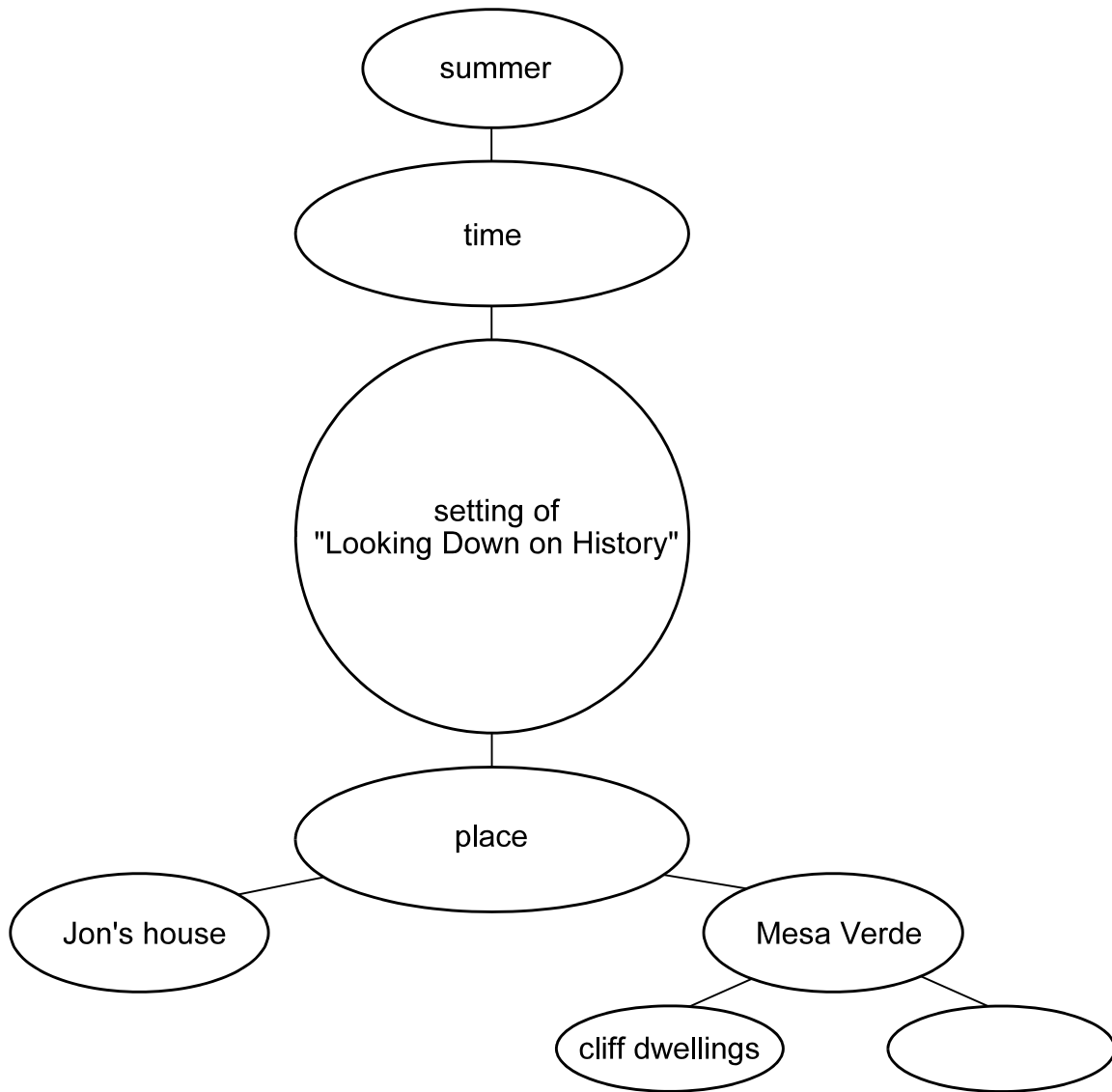


Which picture is most like the car and road described in paragraph 4?

- F picture 1
- G picture 2
- H picture 3
- J picture 4

- 3 In paragraph 4, the word bumpy means —
- A smooth.
 - B burning.
 - C rough.
 - D wet.
- 4 What word from paragraph 8 means the opposite of magnificent?
- F *short*
 - G *high*
 - H *beautiful*
 - J *ugly*

5 Look at the web. It shows information about the story's setting.



Which of these best completes the web?

- A museum
- B atlas
- C beach
- D island

- 6 Read the first sentence of the summary below.

<p>Summary of "Looking Down on History"</p> <hr/> <p>Jon learned from his parents that the family would be going to Mesa Verde for summer vacation.</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

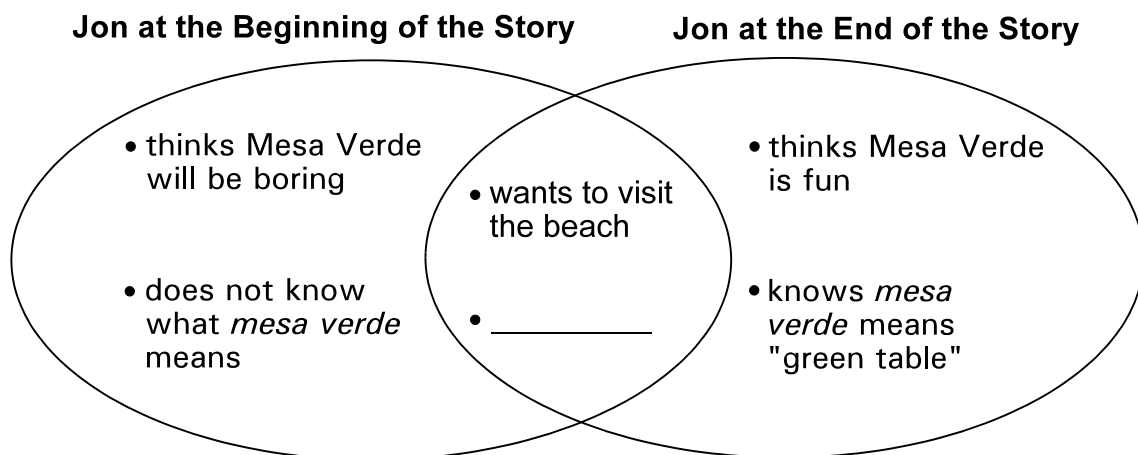
Which of the following best completes the summary?

- F** Jon wished that he and his family were flying in an airplane for their trip instead of riding in a car. He and his sister looked in an atlas. They learned that Mesa Verde is in southwestern Colorado. Jon learned that *mesa verde* means "green table." He thought the place must be flat and boring. Jon and his sister fought in the car most of the way to the park.
- G** The trip was not much fun. However, once Jon and his family got to Mesa Verde, things changed. When it was time to leave, Jon did not look forward to the drive home. He still wished the family had traveled in an airplane.
- H** Jon wanted to go someplace else. He thought that Mesa Verde would be boring. Jon and his sister did not enjoy the trip. However, at the park, Jon thought the views were beautiful. He had fun seeing ancient cliff dwellings. They visited the Pueblo museum and hiked to see cliff drawings. Jon was glad they had gone to Mesa Verde.
- J** When Jon got to the park, he saw cliff dwellings. Cliff dwellings are stone houses carved into the sides of cliffs. Jon learned that Pueblo Indians had built the cliff dwellings long ago. He also learned that the Pueblos had farmed the land around Mesa Verde. He saw drawings made by the Pueblos on the sides of the cliffs. These drawings are called petroglyphs.

7 Based on the story, you can tell that Jon believed standing on top of Mesa Verde was almost as good as flying in a plane. What sentences from the story best support this?

- A *Jon had hoped to take an airplane. He wanted to float through the clouds and see the land from above.*
- B *He had not gotten to fly through the clouds. He was happy though to look far down on the world below.*
- C *They had to climb ladders to get to the villages. The villages were tucked into the sides of the cliffs.*
- D *They packed the car for their return trip. Jon dreaded the long drive home.*

8 Look at the Venn diagram. It shows the similarities and differences between Jon at the beginning of the story and at the end of the story.



Which of the following goes in the blank?

- F does not like riding in the car on long trips
- G does not know where Mesa Verde is
- H thinks cliff dwellings are exciting
- J knows what petroglyphs are

STAAR CONNECTION™
Diagnostic Series™ Grade 3 Reading
TEKS Reading Alignment Chart and Cross-Curricular Alignments

KAMICO® supports cross-curricular teaching strategies and encourages efforts to apply, transfer, and integrate knowledge across multiple content areas. Therefore, many assessments in this reading book reinforce at least one grade 3 social studies or science TEKS.

For each grade or course, TEA has identified some of the TEKS eligible to be assessed on STAAR as readiness standards. These readiness standards will be emphasized on the STAAR assessments. The remaining TEKS eligible to be assessed on STAAR are considered supporting standards. Although supporting standards will be assessed, they will not be emphasized on STAAR. KAMICO® has shown whether each question assessed in this book is aligned to a readiness standard or a supporting standard.

Readiness standards

- are essential for success in the current grade or course,
- are important for preparedness for the next grade or course,
- support college and career readiness,
- necessitate in-depth instruction, and
- address broad and deep ideas.

Supporting standards, although introduced in the current grade or course,

- may be emphasized in a subsequent year,
- may be emphasized in a previous year,
- play a role in preparing students for the next grade or course but not a central role, and
- address more narrowly defined ideas.

Assessment				
Question Number	Answer	Reporting Category	TEKS	Readiness or Supporting Standard
1	D	2	8A	Readiness
2	F	2	2B	Supporting
3	C	1	4B	Readiness
4	J	1	4C	Supporting
5	A	2	Fig. 19D	Readiness
6	H	2	8A	Readiness
7	B	2	Fig. 19D	Readiness
8	F	2	8B Fig. 19D	Readiness Readiness
Cross-Curricular Alignments				
Social Studies TEKS			4B 4D	