

CMT 4 Prep



Grade 3 Cloze Reading

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THE BEGINNING OF NEW HAVEN

The woods were not very thick where the town was laid out. In some places, where the American Indians had planted corn, there were no 1 at all. There were only bushes.

- 1** a) towns b) trees
c) logs d) fences
e) corn

As soon as possible, the trees were cut down. Fences were built. Some were made of pickets and others of rough logs. Then they made ready the ground for their 2. They needed to begin planting their own crops.

- 2** a) bushes b) trees
c) gardens d) fences
e) logs

Some of the men were getting lumber ready to build houses. They had no sawmill. They had to saw the logs by hand. This was slow and hard work. There were wells to be 3. Boats had to be built. There was many a back ache when night came during that first summer at Quinnipiac.

- 3** a) painted b) saved
c) marked d) dug
e) carried

So the summer of 1638 was a very busy one for the new colony. It was a hard one as well. The spring was late. The 4 lasted until May. In some places, corn had to be planted two or three times over. It had rotted in the ground. 5 the harvest was a good one. Now there was plenty to eat.

- 4** a) gardens b) trees
c) cold d) ground
e) corn

- 5** a) Next b) Also
c) Since d) But
e) Moreover

In June, a terrible earthquake frightened the people. But they kept right on building. By late fall, most of those who had come in April had their houses ready to live in. Some were 6 cabins. They were not much better than the huts they had made at first. At least now the cracks were stopped up with clay. Others were simple frame buildings. They were made from squared timbers. These were then covered with rough boards or shingles.

- 6** a) brick b) putty
c) log d) pink
e) clay

A few of the new homes were quite large and pretty. These were better than any other houses in New England. It took much longer to 7 these. They were not finished during the first year.

- 7** a) hold b) hide
c) borrow d) paint
e) build

But before the first snow fell in the next winter, the new town was well on its way to becoming a great city.

“JUST LOOK AT THOSE HANDS”

You say you washed your hands this morning after you woke up? That’s good. But now it’s lunchtime. You mean you haven’t washed your 1 again? Once a day just isn’t good enough—not if you want to keep harmful bacteria and other germs away!

- 1** a) food b) lunch
c) feet d) hands
e) face

Busy hands can also pick up 2 and germs. These sneaky varmints love to play hide-and-seek.

- 2** a) dirt b) lunch
c) germs d) water
e) nails

Where do germs come from? They live everywhere. In fact, billions of them grow and live on your 3 every day. Their favorite hangouts are your hair, under your fingernails, and in the small folds of your skin.

- 3** a) bacteria b) dirt
c) doorstep d) body
e) calendar

Germs also come from the world around you, and some of them can hurt you. They can make you 4. Luckily, these are the sort you can do something about.

- 4** a) healthy b) silly
c) sick d) smart
e) strong

Do you know where your last cold came from? Scientists believe most people get colds and other illnesses by 5 a sick person or by touching something a sick person has touched. That doesn’t mean you shouldn’t touch other people or things. And it doesn’t mean you have to wear gloves. All you have to do is wash your hands.

- 5** a) seeing b) touching
c) watching d) meeting
e) buying

Hand washing can also help you to keep food safe. Let’s say you’re making lunch for your friends. If your dirty hands touch the food, germs could spread, grow, and cause 6 poisoning.

- 6** a) apple b) snake
c) food d) rat
e) cake

Wash your hands often after you go to the bathroom, if you touch a cut or sore, and always before you touch food. Also, wash your hands after you touch raw meat or poultry. They may carry harmful germs, too.

Lather up with soap and warm water. The suds scrub dirt and germs away. Wash your hands front and back and between the 7. Soap up your wrists, too. And don’t forget your fingernails. A good nail brush does the best job there.

- 7** a) toes b) wrists
c) fingers d) fingernails
e) hands

FLATBOATS ON THE CONNECTICUT RIVER

The American Indians were the first to use the Connecticut River as a highway. Settlers traveling in small **1** used the river as well.

- 1** a) canals b) boats
c) cabins d) carriages
e) cars

Trade grew. Flatboats were built to make this easier. They operated between the various **2** on the river. The goods were transported around the falls with teams of oxen or horses. Eventually, canals were dug.

- 2** a) trade b) canals
c) flatboats d) horses
e) falls

The crafts measured 72 feet long by 11 feet, 2 inches wide with a flat bottom. They had a cabin at the stern. There was a tall **3** rising up from the boat. It held 20-foot-square sail.

- 3** a) sign b) cabin
c) bottom d) paddle
e) mast

The boats could carry 30 tons of freight. They needed only two to three feet of water. When there was no wind, they were moved by two men with **4**. One was on each side. These men would push the poles into the bottom of the river. They would start at the front. (The front of a boat is called the bow.) As they pushed, the boat would move forward. They would walk the 72 feet to the back. (The **5** of a boat is called the stern.) They would lift the poles out of the river. They would walk back to the bow and start again.

- 4** a) oars b) oxen
c) poles d) ropes
e) horses

- 5** a) front b) bottom
c) back d) bow
e) mast

The boats could not operate in the winter. The river was frozen. They could not work in a dry time either. The river was too **6**.

- 6** a) rough b) shallow
c) rapid d) cold
e) foggy

The boats carried farm products. They traveled south from Massachusetts. On the trip home, they brought sugar, iron, and molasses. A trip usually took three days to Hartford. The return trip took much longer. They had to go up the river. It was against the current. The round trip averaged about two weeks. There were landings all along the river. Freight was dropped off or picked up.

Steamboats were used on the river in the 1820s. They lost money and went elsewhere. Better roads hurt the boat business. Then the **7** came in the 1840s. River commerce came to an end.

- 7** a) ferry b) railroad
c) ocean d) kayak
e) canoe

NEW HAVEN MEN IN NEW JERSEY

The American Indians at Quinnipiac were few in number. The trade in _____ **1** _____ did not amount to much. More had been expected. So George Lambertson and a few others decided to build some trading stations at Delaware Bay. There they could carry on the fur trade with the Delaware and Susquehanna American Indians. For a few hundred dollars, they bought _____ **2** _____ in New Jersey. It was from Cape May to the mouth of the Delaware River.

- 1** a) foxes b) fires
c) families d) firs
e) furs

Some twenty men went there. They wanted to build a few huts and engage in trade. On their way, they stopped at Manhattan. They met the Dutch Governor. He ordered them to go home again. He said that New Jersey belonged to the Dutch. No Englishmen could settle there. This did not _____ **3** _____ the New Haven men, however. They went on.

- 2** a) forts b) trade
c) rivers d) land
e) fur

Mr. Lambertson soon learned that the land they had bought was not just claimed by the Dutch. Swedes lived there. They said that the _____ **4** _____ belonged to them. This did not stop the New Haven men. They went to work. They built their huts and began to trade.

- 3** a) hide b) behave
c) frighten d) save
e) help

- 4** a) huts b) goods
c) land d) ships
e) firs

In 1642, the Swedes and Dutch got together to drive the English away. A few Dutch ships sailed around to Delaware Bay from New Amsterdam. They landed a small force. With the help of the Swedes, they attacked the New Haven men. They made some of them prisoners. They drove the rest away. They seized their goods and _____ **5** _____ their huts.

- 5** a) bought b) built
c) painted d) burned
e) patched

The Swedes captured Mr. Lambertson. They put him in prison. They charged him with the crime of trying to stir up the American Indians to war. They could not prove it. They fined him a lot of _____ **6** _____ because he had traded at Delaware. Then they sent him home.

- 6** a) gardens b) crimes
c) plants d) huts
e) money

This affair was a bad blow to the New Haveners. It cost them many thousands of _____ **7** _____. They tried to persuade the other New England colonies to help punish the Dutch and Swedes. They had no success.

- 7** a) friends b) ships
c) prisoners d) dollars
e) huts

THE BALD EAGLE

The bald eagle is the national emblem of America. It was officially adopted as the national emblem very early in our history. That was on June 20, 1782. Benjamin Franklin wanted a different bird as our symbol. He wanted the wild 1. The turkey is not a very noble-looking bird. For one thing, it does not fly very well.

- 1 a) deer b) turkey
c) butterfly d) ostrich
e) sparrow

We have many wild turkeys in Connecticut now. In the old days, the population started out big, but then got much smaller. Now they have made a strong return.

Still, most people think that the bald 2 is a better symbol of freedom. Don't you agree? We have a few bald eagles in Connecticut.

- 2 a) eagle b) turkey
c) tomato d) tomahawk
e) freedom

Bald eagles have a snow-white head and tail. Their white heads make them look especially 3. They have a brown and black body. The bill, eyes, and feet are yellow. Females are larger than males.

- 3 a) tall b) old
c) naked d) bald
e) scary

The nest can be as much as seven to eight feet across. It is a flat-topped mass of sticks. It has a lining of fine grass or moss. It is built in trees. It is 10 to 150 feet above 4.

- 4 a) sky b) stick
c) moss d) trees
e) ground

There are usually one to three dull, white eggs in a nest. Both the males and females incubate the eggs. It takes four months to hatch the eggs. Then both feed the 5.

- 5 a) eggs b) nets
c) young d) sticks
e) trees

Bald eagles nest along major rivers. Some nest at large lakes. This number is slowly increasing. The bald eagle is still endangered in some states.

The bald eagle's range is restricted to North America. Eagles are unable to 6 much more than four pounds in flight. They kill prey by grasping it with their strong feet and sharp talons. Then they lift it into the air. An eagle's beak is used solely for tearing flesh. The flight speed of a bald eagle 7 between 36 and 44 miles per hour.

- 6 a) weigh b) kill
c) carry d) eat
e) tear

- 7 a) was b) is
c) had been d) means
e) looks