

## Grade Five: Distant Voyages

### Theme 1: Look Inside

TITLE	OPEN RESPONSE PROMPT	SAMPLE RESPONSES
The Hot and Cold Summer	Derek and Rory think Lucette is Bolivia's baby sister. Explain why they think this. Use examples from the story to support your answer.	Derek and Rory do not know that Lucette is Bolivia's parrot. They think Lucette is her baby sister. When Mrs. Dunn asks how Lucette is settling in, Bolivia says she is settling in well and that she knows ten words. She also asks if the boys want to come see her tomorrow and teach Lucette new words and feed her. Then when Bolivia tells them Lucette has escaped, the boys think her baby sister got out of her playpen. When she says Lucette went out the window and must be in a tree, the boys are very confused. Finally, Lucette is spotted in a tree and the boys realize that she is a bird! No one had ever told the boys that Lucette was a bird.
Sees Behind Trees	Describe <b>three</b> ways Walnut used his other senses to see what was happening around him.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walnut used his other senses to see what was happening around him in many ways. He heard the tread of his mother's moccasins and smelled her berries and dried meat smell.</li> <li>2. He found wild strawberries and violets by closing his eyes and following his nose.</li> <li>3. When his mother blindfolded him in the forest, he was able to describe what was around him. He heard a river and a hummingbird's wings and he smelled roses.</li> </ol>
Yang the Third and Her Impossible Family	At the beginning of the story, Mary is ashamed because her family doesn't try harder to learn American ways. Explain how her attitude changes by the end of the story.	By the end of the story, Mary realizes that she has been unfair to blame her family for not learning American ways. She realizes that she makes mistakes too. She understands that her mother spends all her time taking care of the family and she doesn't have time to meet people and learn the new customs. At the end of the story, Mary is ashamed of herself, not her family.

Dear Mrs. Parks	<p>In the last letter of the selection, Mrs. Parks suggests many ways for people to make a difference in the world.</p> <p>Explain <b>three</b> ways that you could make a difference in the world. Use information from the letter to support your answer.</p>	<p>1. Mrs. Parks suggests many ways to make a difference in the world. I could choose a job, like a teacher or a lawyer, which would allow me to help people.</p> <p>2. I could join a group at my church and help the community.</p> <p>3. I could also be a mentor to a younger child who needs help.</p>
Elena	<p>The mother in the story shows great courage and determination.</p> <p>Describe <b>three</b> ways in which she shows these qualities. Use important details from the story to support your answer.</p>	<p>1. The mother shows courage and determination in many ways. She shows courage when the soldiers come to her house. She is afraid her son will be taken to be a soldier, so she hides him in a kitchen cabinet. She puts the horses in the kitchen so the soldiers won't steal them.</p> <p>2. She is very courageous to take her family to California. People think it is dangerous for a woman to travel unprotected.</p> <p>3. She also shows determination when she runs a boardinghouse and works all the time to take care of her family. She doesn't mind working so her children can get an education.</p>

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### Theme 2: Teamwork

TITLE	OPEN RESPONSE PROMPT	SAMPLE RESPONSES
We'll Never Forget You, Roberto Clemente	Roberto Clemente lives on in the memories of sports fans and the people of Pittsburgh and Nicaragua. Explain why Roberto Clemente deserves to be remembered. Use examples from the text to support your answer.	Roberto Clemente deserves to be remembered because of his skill in baseball, but mostly for his caring for other people. When he played baseball for Pittsburgh, he worked hard to get 3,000 hits and became only one of three baseball players to do so. Roberto Clemente is remembered even more for the caring he showed other people. He helped a poor boy in Nicaragua get the money he needed for a new leg. Then he raised money and supplies to take to Nicaragua after a bad earthquake killed many people there. He was killed trying to deliver those supplies on New Year's Eve. For these reasons, he deserves to be remembered as a good man.
Folk Tales From Asia	Tell which tale you like the best and explain why you like it. Use details from the tale to support your answer.	My favorite tale is <i>Virtue Goes to Town</i> . Virtue is the bragging farmer who boasts about his strength and ability to do the work of many men. I like this tale because Virtue is a show off and his bragging annoys everyone. Virtue is only able to get a job as a cook for the work crew. He does a really good job being a cook even though he doesn't want that job. It is great at the end when he shows everyone that he can do the work of all twenty men and that they have to be the cooks while he does the hard work.
Iditarod Dream	Explain how <i>Iditarod Dream</i> fits into the theme "Team Work." Use examples from the story to support your answer.	<i>Iditarod Dream</i> is a story about team work. Dusty, the boy who drives the dogsled team in the Iditarod race, has to work with his dogs as a team. He takes care of his dogs, noticing when they get tired, feeding them frozen salmon for a snack, untangling their leads, and checking their paws. He even notices which dogs feel best leading the pack and changes dogs that are nervous doing it. At night, Dusty spreads straw for his dogs to eat, feeds the dogs warm food, and puts ointment on their paws. He treats his dogs as part of his team, like they are people. Dusty also works with the other racers as a team. He helps them build a fire at night and works together with them rather than sleeping himself. They all depend on one another.
Woodsong	Explain how Storm lets the author know of danger. Use details from the story to support your answer.	The author and Storm have a very close relationship. Storm develops the habit of carrying a stick in his mouth. He carries the stick on the trail and puts it down for the author to examine and hand it back to him. This is Storm's way of telling the author he is doing the right thing. One day though, Storm drops the stick and will not pick it up again, signaling that something is wrong. The author figures out that he is putting his team in danger by pushing them too hard. He stops and feeds and rests the team. Then Storm picks up the stick and the author knows it's okay to continue.

Island of the Blue Dolphins	Expain all the ways in which Ramo and his sister find and cook food while alone on the island. Use details from the story to support your answer.	First, Ramo and his sister gathered gull eggs on the cliff. Ramo also speared small fish in a tide pool. They had seeds from the ravine. His sister cooked everything on a flat rock and they didn't have any bowls. One day they wove a basket from seaweed. They filled it with abalone that they found on the rocks. Ramo planned to go to where the canoes were hidden and bring one back to Coral Cove. That way they could catch more fish.
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Theme 3: A Changing Planet

TITLE	OPEN RESPONSE PROMPT	SAMPLE RESPONSES
Everglades	Based on the story, describe how the Everglades have changed over time. Support your answer with important details from the text.	The Everglades have changed dramatically over time. When the Everglades were first created, there was an abundance of animals and plants living in the river. Alligators, fish, panthers, otters, and many other kinds of animals made the river their home. Many egrets, flamingos, and storks lived there too. Orchids and other flowers bloomed and made the Everglades beautiful. After that, the Calusas came to fish and hunt and they lived peacefully with nature. But then Spanish conquistadors arrived and they began to destroy the animals and plant life. The birds were hunted for their feathers. Alligators were hunted for their hides and the orchids were picked to put on ladies dresses. Today, the Everglades are filled with buildings and farms. The animals and plants are no longer there. That is how the Everglades have changed over time.
Summer of Fire	In 1988, Yellowstone National Park had an unusual summer. a. Explain how the summer of 1988 was different from other summers at Yellowstone. b. Explain how the differences affected Yellowstone. Support your answer with important details from the selection.	<p>a. The summer of 1988 was different from other summers at Yellowstone because it was hot and dry. Normally in the summer there is a lot of rain that falls and lakes and rivers are full of water. With the hot weather, rain did not fall and the lakes and rivers dried up. Because there was no rain, the plants and trees were very dry. During that summer there was also twice as many lightning strikes in the park than in other summers. When the lightning struck the dry trees and plants, it started fires. Fires in the park usually go out quickly, but not during the summer of 1988. There was a lot more wind than usual.</p> <p>b. The differences affected Yellowstone. Because it was so dry, the fire spread quickly. Strong winds moved the fires quickly through the park. Each of the fifty lightning strikes started a fire. The fires that summer were very strong and they burned 150,000 acres of the park.</p>
Oceans	Describe the differences between tidal waves and ocean waves. Support your answer with important details from the selection.	Tidal waves are different from ocean waves. Tidal waves are also called tsunamis. They happen when there is an underwater earthquake or volcanic explosion in the middle of the ocean. In the ocean, the wave is very small and unnoticeable. The wave travels through the ocean at 500 miles per hour. By the time the wave hits land it is huge and very strong. A tidal wave can destroy buildings and kill people. An ocean wave is formed when wind blows on the surface of the ocean. The faster and longer the wind is blowing, the bigger the wave. As a wave reaches shore, it slows down and changes shape. This is how ocean waves are different from tidal waves.

Seeing Earth From Space	The selection is a photo essay. It contains both factual information and the author's opinion. Identify <b>one</b> example of fact and <b>one</b> example of opinion. Include page numbers.	<p><b>Fact:</b> "The Earth's crust is broken into huge pieces, or plates, that are in motion. They carry along whatever is on top of them. (p.333)</p> <p><b>Opinion:</b> "We are all, every person in the world, aboard the same ship. And so we must all, in ways large and small, treasure and protect it." (p.338)</p>
The Case of the Flying-Saucer People	<p>The author wrote this selection to entertain and to inform readers.</p> <p>a. Explain <b>one</b> way the author entertains readers.</p> <p>b. Explain <b>one</b> way the author informs readers.</p> <p>Support your answers with important details from the story.</p>	<p>a. There are many ways the author entertains the reader in this story. One way is by having a character like Einstein, who is smart and funny. He likes to solve mysteries. The story is also entertaining because of Mr. Janus's story about flying-saucer people. The reader is interested because we want to know if Mr. Janus's story is true or not. It's fun when Einstein explains how he figures out the story is a whopper.</p> <p>b. There are also many ways the author informs readers. Readers learn that the moon's surface is dusty and rocky and that there is no water or air on the moon. Also, I learned that the moon's surface can be either hot or cold.</p>

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### Theme 4: Express Yourself

TITLE	OPEN RESPONSE PROMPT	SAMPLE RESPONSES
Hattie's Birthday Box	<p>According to the story, Granddaddy sees his sister Hattie for the first time in many years.</p> <p>a. Describe how Granddaddy feels about seeing Hattie at the beginning of the story.</p> <p>b. Explain how Granddaddy's feelings change by the end of the story.</p> <p>Support your answer with important details from the story.</p>	<p>a. In the beginning of the story, Granddaddy is nervous about seeing Hattie. He is worried that she is going to be mad at him. The last time he saw Hattie he wanted to give her a going away present. He made a box for her and wanted to put a special necklace or other gift in it but he didn't have the money to buy anything. He finally gave her the empty box and told her not to open it unless times get to be their very worst. He's afraid she will be mad at him when she sees him because by now she will know that the box is really empty.</p> <p>b. In the end, Granddaddy is no longer afraid. He is so happy to see his sister and he knows that she is not mad at him. She said that the box helped her through some hard times. It helped her when they ran out of food, when they lost their whole crop, when their son drowned, and when her husband died. She said that no matter how bad things were, they never got their worst. Granddaddy was happy to know that his empty box helped Hattie during hard times.</p>
William Shakespeare and the Globe	<p>a. Explain how the illustrations and captions help the reader to understand the selection.</p> <p>b. Identify <b>one</b> fact you learned from reading a caption and give the page number of that caption.</p>	<p>a. The illustrations and captions are important to this selection because they give the reader more information about the text and help the reader's understanding. If the reader didn't look at the illustrations and read the captions, they wouldn't get the whole story.</p> <p>b. I learned that all of Will's classmates were boys because girls didn't go to school at that time. (page 396)</p>
The World of William Joyce Scrapbook	<p>William Joyce wrote this autobiography in a scrapbook format. Explain why you liked or did not like this text structure. Support your response with specific reasons and details from the selection.</p>	<p>I really like this story, and the scrapbook format is part of the reason that I like it so much. For example, on page 427, the author talks about what he was like when he was a boy. All the pictures of him on that page really help me understand what he was like back then. I also like the first page of this story a lot because it doesn't have too many words. Instead, it has a few pictures and a lot of open space. The open space lets me use my imagination and add my own ideas to the words and pictures. Finally, I like the scrapbook format because the author includes so many of his drawings. I can see how his drawings change as he gets older.</p>

<p>Satchmo's Blues</p>	<p>In this selection, Louis's mother wants to teach him a valuable lesson.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Explain what she is trying to teach Louis.</li> <li>b. Explain his struggle and how he resolves his dilemma.</li> </ol> <p>Use information from the story to support your answer.</p>	<p>a. Louis's mother is trying to teach him that sometimes the needs of others should come before his own. He is focused on his goal to get enough money to buy a horn. He spends all of his time thinking of ways to make money: doing chores and selling onions, rags, and coal. Even when he is in church, he is thinking about playing the horn. So his mother asks Louis to give her a quarter to help pay for his sister's birthday dinner.</p> <p>b. At first, he is angry when his mother asks him for the money. She tells him he can't always be thinking about what he wants. He struggles between knowing that his sister should have a special birthday and wanting the money to buy the horn. He finally gives her the money and later feels good about giving up the quarter. His mother is proud that he made the right choice and decides to reward him by giving him the rest of the money he needs to get his horn.</p>
<p>Evelyn Cisneros: Prima Ballerina</p>	<p>The author describes Evelyn Cisneros as a dedicated and determined person who is proud of her cultural heritage. Give <b>one</b> example from the selection to support each of these <b>three</b> qualities.</p>	<p><b>Example of determination:</b> An example of Evelyn's determination was when she was young. She worked very hard to be a good dancer. She spent a lot of time practicing. She had to work harder than others because her foot turned inward and her shoulders were rounded. She worked many hours to get stronger and more flexible.</p> <p><b>Example of dedication:</b> This example shows Evelyn's dedication to becoming a ballerina. She had to make a big decision at fourteen to focus on dance. She was not able to take part in any other school activities that she liked such as running, basketball, baseball, or volleyball.</p> <p><b>Example of pride:</b> This example shows Evelyn was proud of being Hispanic. She was teased as a child about her looks, but that didn't stop her from being proud of her heritage. As an adult she was very serious about being a good role model for young Hispanics. She spent time working with Latino youth in the schools and was a spokesperson for a Latino youth conference.</p>

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### Theme 5: School Rules

TITLE	OPEN RESPONSE PROMPT	SAMPLE RESPONSES
Off and Running	According to the story, Miata’s meeting with Dona Carmen inspired Miata’s campaign for class president. Explain how Dona Carmen’s explanation of her campaign against her husband helped Miata change her own campaign against Rudy.	Miata’s meeting with Dona Carmen inspired Miata because Dona Carmen had run against her husband for mayor of their village in Mexico. She inspired Miata because she showed Miata that a woman could win against a man by offering different ideas about things. For example, Dona Carmen had ideas for improving her town by hiring more women teachers. So Miata was encouraged that her own ideas for improving her school were good and could be better for her school than Rudy’s ideas about more recess and free ice cream. Miata gained the courage to believe in herself and her ideas for how to improve her school, especially with the offer of flowers from Dona Carmen.
Little By Little	Jean Little tells us about her difficult experiences in fifth grade. Explain the problems that she faced as a fifth grader.	Jean Little wrote about the time when she was in 5 <sup>th</sup> grade. On her first day of school she had to sit by herself at the front of the room because she couldn’t see very well. The teacher asked a popular girl to help her out at recess and the girl ran away and wouldn’t help her. Jean had to make friends with a tree. Later, the teacher gave a multiplication test and Jean didn’t know the answers. When the teacher gave the answers, she copied them and the mean girl saw her and called her a cheater. Those are some of the problems that the author had in fifth grade.
Dear Mr. Henshaw	Two authors help Leigh in this story. a. Explain how the visiting author, Mrs. Badger, makes Leigh feel happier about himself. b. Explain how writing to Mr. Henshaw also helps Leigh. Use evidence from the story to support your answer.	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>a. Leigh receives help from two different authors in this story. First, Mrs. Badger helps Leigh by calling him an “author.” Leigh is excited that, “A real live author had called me an author.” This encourages Leigh that is writing is good.</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>b. Writing to Mr. Henshaw also helps Leigh because it allows him to express his feelings. Leigh feels sad about his Dad leaving and possibly marrying a woman with a kid his age. Leigh could say this to Mr. Henshaw in a letter, but can’t really say it to his Dad on the phone. Leigh also could tell Mr. Henshaw about the kids stealing his lunch and how he tried to solve the problem with an alarm in his lunchbox. So, both authors were able to help Leigh.</p> </div>

Frindle	<p>Nick is a boy who has a reputation for asking questions and having lots of new ideas.</p> <p>a. Explain how Nick invented the word “frindle.”</p> <p>b. Explain the reason why Nick invented that word.</p> <p>Use evidence from the story to support your answer.</p>	<p>a. Nick had a reputation in school for asking questions and having new ideas. He invented the word “frindle” accidentally on the way home from school when he was really talking about a “pen.” Then he went into a store and asked for a “frindle” instead of a pen and got all his friends to do the same. After a few days, the lady in the store knew that when someone asked for a “frindle,” they meant “pen,” and she gave them a pen.</p> <p>b. Nick decided to invent the word “frindle” because of the question he had asked the teacher about the meaning of words. The teacher made him think about words and how people know what you mean when you use certain words. Nick remembered how his parents understood his baby talk when he was little. So Nick invented “frindle” to see if people would learn what he meant.</p>
The Fun They Had	<p>According to the story, Margie and Tommy attend school in 2051. Explain how their school experience is the same as, and different from, yours.</p> <p>Use details from the story to support your response.</p>	<p>Margie and Tommy’s school experience is the same as mine in some ways and different from mine in other ways. Margie and Tommy go to school just like I do. School starts at the same time every day and they study math, history, and geography, like I do. They also have homework and tests, just like me.</p> <p>Many things are different though. I have a teacher who is a person, but they have a mechanical teacher that is like a computer. Margie and Tommy don’t have real books. Everything they read is on the computer. I go to a school with other kids, but Margie and Tommy have school at home.</p>

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Theme 6: American Adventure

TITLE	OPEN RESPONSE PROMPT	SAMPLE RESPONSES
Across the Wide Dark Sea	Describe ways in which the Mayflower passengers showed courage. Use important details from the selection to support your answer.	The Mayflower passengers showed courage in many ways. They left their safe homes to go on a long journey to a place that they did not know anything about. They traveled for many weeks on the sea without seeing any land. There were many storms during the trip and someone even fell overboard. They were cold, wet, hungry and sick, but they had faith. Even when they landed, they didn't know what to expect, but they didn't give up. They finally found a place to build their settlement.
Name This American	This selection is written in the form of a play. Describe <b>three</b> characteristics of the selection that let you know it is a play.	At the beginning of the play there is a list of characters and a summary of the setting. Plays include the characters and setting in the beginning to tell the reader who is in the play and where the story is taking place. During the play, characters' names are listed and dialogue is written after their names. This tells you who is speaking and what they are saying. There are also parentheses around the words that tell what the characters are doing. This tells the characters how to act. In a story, the author would describe this.
What's the Big Idea, Ben Franklin?	In Jean Fritz's biography of Ben Franklin, you learned about many of his accomplishments. Identify <b>three</b> of Ben Franklin's big ideas and explain why each has been important.	<p>The first big idea that Ben Franklin had was the almanac. His almanac was titled <i>Poor Richard's Almanack</i>. People still read almanacs today to find out information about weather, tide schedules, when the sun rises and sets, and other types of information.</p> <p>Ben Franklin's second big idea was the invention of the lightning rod. He was the first to realize that electricity and lightning are the same thing. Before this, people thought lightning was just something mysterious that they would never know anything about. Lightning rods are still used today.</p> <p>A third big idea Ben Franklin had was how he helped to write the United States Constitution. The Constitution is a document that helped create the government of the United States. Our country still follows the Constitution's laws and ideas.</p>

Lewis and Clark	President Thomas Jefferson sent Lewis and Clark on an expedition to explore land in the west. Describe <b>four</b> ways Lewis and Clark benefited from their friendship with Sacagawea throughout their expedition	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sacagawea supported Lewis and Clark throughout their expedition. One way she supported them was by finding different food for them to eat other than meat and water. This food included roots and fruit.</li> <li>2. The second way she helped them was when she showed them the way along the Missouri River.</li> <li>3. The third way was when she introduced Lewis and Clark to her tribe and the tribe gave them horses and a guide to help them on their travels through the Rocky Mountains.</li> <li>4. The last way she helped them was by being an interpreter for them. She translated for them with the Indians.</li> </ol>
Black Frontiers	According to the selection, homesteaders built their houses based on the climate in their regions. Identify <b>three</b> different types of homes that homesteaders built. Explain why each home was built the way it was.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. One type of home homesteaders built was the log cabin, which was built in areas that had lots of trees.</li> <li>2. Another type of home was the sod house, which was built of mud that was dried and made into bricks. Sod homes were built in areas where there was only tall grass and few trees, so the only materials for homes was mud.</li> <li>3. In North and South Dakota, where it is rocky and cold, homesteaders built homes into the ground. They burrowed into the ground to stay warm.</li> </ol>