

### Cold-Read Task

Read "Traveling with Lewis and Clark." Then answer the questions.

#### Traveling with Lewis and Clark

1 It has been months since we left St. Louis. Before we left, I said goodbye to my family, and I told them it would be at least a year before I came back. I was going on a great journey. I was one of forty men who were going where no explorer had gone before. I was going to the ocean with Lewis and Clark.

2 If I had known how hard the trip would be, I would have stayed home. Every day we woke up early, and then we would row and row up the river. We only traveled about three miles a day. We were going hundreds of miles, a few miles each day, so it would take more than a year.

3 The first week of the trip was exciting, and I thought it would be such an adventure. I was careless and fell off the boat, but the other men helped me get back in the boat. After that I was careful, but it still was exciting.

4 We had brought food with us, but we used that food. We needed more food, so we had to stop to get it. There were no stores along the way; in fact there were no settlements. We had to hunt and fish to get the food, and then we would make a fire to cook it. At night we were exhausted and slept on the ground. It was getting so cold that I worried.

5 After a while it was too hard to travel on the river, because it was icy. Our hands would get so cold we could not hold the paddles. Lewis and Clark told us we would camp for the winter because the snow and ice would make it too hard to travel. This was much harsher than I had expected the trip to be.

6 That was weeks ago. We made a camp with tents, and then we hunted to get more food. We met some Native Americans who helped us—they really rescued us. They showed us where to hunt and they even gave us some food they had grown. If they had not helped us, I don't think we could have survived.

7 Being an explorer is really challenging and I am sorry I joined this group. I should have stayed at home and not taken this risk.

8 We are all so very cold. We go to get wood every day so we can keep the fire burning. We have enough water because that is the one thing we can get without any trouble. We have camped along the river so we are near water, and even when it is ice we can melt it near the fire.

9 They say it will be a few more weeks before we move. Then it will be time to travel again. I wish I could turn back, I want to return home to my family, but I made a promise. I said I would make the journey and reach the ocean.



10 When I do get home, I will stay there. I never will travel this far again. I will get an indoor job, and I will not have to hunt and fish to get food. I will buy it at the store, and I will never have to camp outside again.

Barbara Radner, Ph.D., Polk Bros Foundation Center for Urban Education © 2007

1. **Part A**

What is motivating to the narrator in the first and third paragraphs of the passage?

- a. The narrator is motivated by the outdoor activities.
- b. The narrator is motivated by being with Lewis and Clark.
- c. The narrator is motivated by adventure and exploring.
- d. The narrator is motivated by getting back home to his family.

**Part B**

Which quotes **best** support the answer to Part A?

- a. "one of forty" and "the other men helped me get back in the boat"
- b. "going where no explorer had gone before" and "still was exciting"
- c. "I was going to the ocean" and "after that I was careful"
- d. "I said goodbye" and "the first week of the trip"

2. Read the following paragraph from the passage.

**"The first week of the trip was exciting, and I thought it would be such an adventure. I was careless and fell off the boat, but the other men helped me get back in the boat. After that I was careful, but it still was exciting."**

**Part A**

What does the word *careless* mean in the context of the third paragraph of the passage?

- a. The narrator was not paying attention.
- b. The narrator did not like the other men.
- c. The narrator was walking slowly on the boat.
- d. The narrator kept forgetting to sit still on the boat.

**Part B**

What evidence from the passage **best** supports the answer to Part A?

- a. The narrator needed help to get back in the boat.
- b. The narrator said they had to row and row the boat.
- c. The narrator would have stayed home.
- d. The narrator fell off the boat.

3. **Part A**

What happens in paragraph 5 that the narrator may have predicted in paragraph 4?

- a. The narrator may have predicted the need for the team to have brought more supplies.
- b. The narrator may have predicted the need for a lot of firewood to build fires.
- c. The narrator may have predicted how hard the journey would be for the explorers.
- d. The narrator may have predicted the very harsh winter cold causing trouble.

**Part B**

Which quote **best** supports the answer for Part A?

- a. "We had to hunt and fish to get the food, and then we would make a fire to cook it."
- b. "At night we were exhausted and slept on the ground."
- c. "It was getting so cold that I worried."
- d. "We needed more food, so we had to stop to get it."

4. **Part A**

What is the central message of paragraph 6?

- a. The narrator quit and returned home to his family.
- b. The Native Americans probably saved the lives of the explorers.
- c. The winter weather even challenged the Native Americans.
- d. Lewis and Clark did not treat their explorers well during the winter.

**Part B**

Which quote **best** supports the answer to Part A?

- a. "We made a camp with tents, and then we hunted to get more food."
- b. "They showed us where to hunt and they even gave us some food they had grown."
- c. "Being an explorer is really challenging, and I am sorry I joined this group."
- d. "I should have stayed at home and not taken this risk."

5. **Part A**

How does the narrator's point of view change from the beginning to the end of the passage?

- a. The narrator's point of view changes from hopeful and confident to depressed and discouraged.
- b. The narrator's point of view changes from happy and ready to go to angry and quitting.
- c. The narrator's point of view changes from being ready to work to being too sick to work.
- d. The narrator's point of view changes from admiring Lewis and Clark to disliking Lewis and Clark.