

CLOSE READING

with Mystery Pictures



Name: _____ Date: _____

A Cultural Mix-Up

"Mom, can I make an email account?" Jess asked her mom after school. Jess's teacher, Mrs. Dickens, was planning a pen pal project with students from China. Jess's mom agreed to the email account.

Over the next few weeks, Jess was excited to get to know her pen pal, Yu Yan. The two girls immediately and discussed everything under the sun. So many of their interests coincided, that their friendship was natural. From favorite ice cream flavors and movies, to hobbies and struggles at school, the girls shared everything. But, while Jess was an enthusiastic volleyball player, Yu Yan despised sports. Sweating was repulsive, she said, and she only participated during gym class because it was required. Despite the fact that she only participated during gym class because it was required, she and Yu Yan wrote to each other non-stop.

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A Cultural Mix-Up

Directions: Read the passage. Then, answer the questions. Use your answers here to help you color the mystery picture.

1st Read Questions

1	Which emoji best describes Jess's feelings when she got her mother's permission to get an email address?	Jess needs to find a pen pal.	Jess accidentally got an email address.
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A Cultural Mix-Up

2nd Read Questions

6	Which answer best states the meaning of the statement below? "The girls were like two peas in a pod."	Two people are very close to each other.	Two people or things are very similar to each other.
7	Which statement from the passage best suggests the meaning of the word <u>coincided</u> as used in the sentence below? "So many of their interests <u>coincided</u> , that their friendship was natural."	Two people are very close to each other.	Two people or things are very similar to each other.
8	Which point of view is this passage told in?	Two people are very close to each other.	Two people or things are very similar to each other.
9	Based on the passage, which emoji is NOT an effect of Jess sending a waving emoji to Yu Yan?	Two people are very close to each other.	Two people or things are very similar to each other.
10	What is the theme of the passage?	Two people are very close to each other.	Two people or things are very similar to each other.

Name: _____ Date: _____

A Cultural Mix-Up Answer Key

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2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2
2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2
9	9	1	1	9	9	9	9	6	9
9	1	9	9	9	9	9	9	6	9
9	9	1	1	9	9	6	6	9	9
8	10	8	8	8	8	8	8	10	8
10	8	5	8	8	8	8	5	8	10
8	8	8	5	5	5	5	8	8	8
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4	4	3	3	7	7	3	3	3	4

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The pen pal project ended, but the flurry of emails didn't end just because the girls wrote to each other non-stop. In fact, the girls went on to be graded on their correspondence. They traded pictures, videos, and voice messages on messenger apps. They traded pictures, videos, and voice messages on messenger apps. They traded pictures, videos, and voice messages on messenger apps.



EMOJIS

Digital & Print

DIFFERENTIATED TO 3 LEVELS



**AUDIO
INCLUDED**

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

The History of Emojis

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(Ex. If your answer to question 2 has the color "pink" under it, color all of the number 2s pink.)

2	2	5	5	5	5	5	5	2	2		
2	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	2		
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		
9	9	9	3	9	10	10	10	3	10		
8	9	3	3	9	8	8	10	10	3	3	10
8	8	9	9	9	8	8	10	10	3	3	10
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
7	7	4	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
6	7	7	4	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
6	6	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5

Print this page out to color or use the instructions below to color digitally.

How to color a space

1. Put cursor inside the space or spaces you want to color.
2. Select the paint can from the toolbar.
3. Choose the color you need that matches your answer.
4. Repeat as needed.

Copy and then recolor the shapes below to cover the triangle spots.

1. Select shape.
2. Click paint can and then color.

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

The History of Emojis Answer Key

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8	8	9	9	9	8	8	10	10	3	3	10
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
7	7	4	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
6	7	7	4	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
6	6	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5

EVERY SET INCLUDES
1 FICTION TEXT
2 NONFICTION TEXTS
MYSTERY PIC FOR EACH

Passage 1-Fiction

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Soon enough, the pen pal project ended. The funny part was that the girls didn't end just because they were busy. In fact, the girls didn't even respond to her last email. This was not like her at all. Jess was worried. Visions of an injured or sick Yu Yan flashed through her mind.

As quickly as she could, Jess messaged Yu Yan asking if she was ok. Then, when she didn't respond immediately, she wrote another email, frantically typing out the words. Later that day, Jess finally got a response from Yu Yan. At the sound of the notification, Jess felt like her heart would beat right out of her chest. Reading the lines on the screen, Jess was **perplexed**, or confused. What on earth had she done wrong?

A Cultural Mix-Up

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A Cultural Mix-Up

Name: _____ Date: _____

She scanned the lines of their recent chats and emails. She was frantic for a moment. How she had offended her friend. During the conversation, she had used a waving hand emoji to say goodbye. Jess felt like her heart would beat right out of her chest. What on earth had she done wrong?



A Cultural Mix-Up

Name: _____ Date: _____

How did Jess and Yu Yan's friendship evolve throughout the story? Use specific examples from the text to support your answer.

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A Cultural Mix-Up

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Read the passage. Then, answer the questions. When finished, use your answers here to help you color the mystery grid.

1st Read Questions

1	Which best states the main conflict of the story?	Jess needs to find a pen pal for a school project.	Jess accidentally ended her friendship with Yu Yan.	Jess needs to get her mother's permission to get an email account.
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A Cultural Mix-Up

Name: _____ Date: _____

2nd Read Questions

2	Even though longer grad correspond ...	6	Which answer best states the meaning of the statement below? "The girls were like two peas in a pod."	Two people are very close to each other	Two people or things are very similar to each other
3	Read the sentence below: "...Jess and Yu Yan's interests coincided as used in the sentence below?"	7	Which statement from the passage best suggests the meaning of the word coincided as used in the sentence below? "So many of their interests coincided , that their friendship was natural."	"The two girls hit it off immediately and discussed everything"	"...while Jess was an enthusiastic volleyball player, Yu Yan despised sports."
4	"Jess felt like her heart would beat right out of her chest. What on earth had she done wrong?"	8	Which point of view is this passage told in?	1 st Person	3 rd Person
5	Which best describes Yu Yan's friendship with Jess?	9	Based on the passage, which is NOT an effect of Jess sending a waving emoji hand to say goodbye?	Jess worried about the health of her friend.	She hurt Yu Yan's feelings.

Key Ideas and Details

Paragraph

1

2

3

4

Key Ideas & Details

A Cultural Mix-Up Answer Key

Name: _____ Date: _____

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8	10	8	8	8	8	8	8	10	8
10	8	5	8	8	8	8	5	8	10
8	8	8	5	5	5	5	8	8	8
4	3	3	3	7	7	3	3	3	4

Passage 3-Nonfiction

The History of Emojis

Name: _____ Date: _____

When texting or writing a post on social media, you're likely to add a few smiling (or frowning) faces to your text. Perhaps you add a few hearts, stars, or even a taco. Emojis are now part of our everyday communications. Maybe you can't even remember a time when emojis didn't exist. Believe it or not, they haven't always been here. Where did they come from?

The History of Emojis

Name: _____ Date: _____

At first, emojis had to be copied and pasted into text messages or emails. However, companies quickly recognized how inconvenient this was and developed emoji keyboards. Apple introduced their keyboard in 2011. Android wasn't far behind, releasing their own official keyboard in 2013. At this point, the use of emojis exploded. Today, phone makers work to add new emojis to the official list each year, ensuring that all emojis are used universally.

The History of Emojis

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The History of Emojis

Name: _____ Date: _____

Emojis first **emerged**, or appeared, in Japan. Artist Shigetaka Kurita created them. Kurita was an employee at a Japanese cell phone company, DOCOMO. He came up with the idea of emojis, so that phone users could communicate ideas easily and quickly without spelling out entire words. He created the emojis by making simple 12 by 12 pixel drawings that could be sent as individual characters. Originally, Kurita made a set of 176 emojis. The artist said he was inspired by signs for bathrooms, Chinese characters, and manga, which are Japanese cartoons. Kurita created a whole new way of communicating online.

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The History of Emojis Writing Prompt

Name: _____ Date: _____

Discuss how emojis have changed throughout the years. Use specific details from the text to support your response.

The History of Emojis

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Read the passage. Then, answer the questions. When finished, use your answers here to help you color the mystery grid.

The History of Emojis Answer Key

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Read the passage. Answer the questions. Use the answers for each question to determine which color to use. (Ex. IF your answer to question 2 has the color "pink" under it, color all of the number 2s pink.)

1st Read Questions

1	When did Apple introduce the emojis keyboard?	2010	2011	2013
		RED	YELLOW	BLACK

2nd Read Questions

2	Which best describes the word "emerged" as used in the passage?	When people first used emojis.	When people first used emojis.
3	Which detail from the passage does NOT support the main idea above?	"Today, 80% of people surveyed in a study, published by <i>Computers in Human Behavior</i> , said that they use emojis when texting."	"Emojis first emerged in Japan."
4	Which best describes the word "emerged" as used in the passage?	Appeared	Appeared
5	Which type of text structure is this passage written in?	Problem and Solution	Problem and Solution

Timeline

Name: _____ Date: _____

2	2	5	5	5	5	5	5	2	2
2	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	2
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
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8	9	3	3	9	8	8	10	3	3
8	8	9	9	8	8	8	10	10	8
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
7	7	4	7	7	7	7	4	7	7
6	7	7	4	4	4	4	7	7	6

INCLUDES:

- ✓ TEACHER PAGES & PRINTABLES
- ✓ 3 DIFFERENTIATED PASSAGES
- ✓ 3 MYSTERY PICTURES
- ✓ 3 WRITING PROMPTS
- ✓ TEXT-DEPENDENT QUESTIONS
- ✓ GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS
- ✓ DIGITAL & PRINT

The History of Emojis

Name: _____ Date: _____

When texting or writing a post on social media, you're likely to add a few smiling (or frowning) faces to your text. Or perhaps you tack on a few hearts, stars, or even a taco. Emojis are now part of our everyday communications. Maybe you can't even remember a time when emojis didn't exist, but they haven't always been here. Where did they come from?

Emojis first **emerged** in Japan when artist Shigeta Kurita created them. Kurita was an employee at a Japanese cell phone company, DOCOMO. He came up with the idea of emojis so that phone users could communicate ideas easily and quickly without spelling out entire words. He created the emojis by making rudimentary 12 by 12 pixel drawings that could be sent as individual characters. Originally, Kurita made a set of 176 emojis. The artist said he was inspired by signs for bathrooms, Chinese characters, and manga, which are Japanese cartoons. Kurita's idea initiated a whole new way of communicating online.

Emojis quickly grew popular across the country of Japan, with other phone companies taking note and adding them to their phones as well. Soon, emojis were noticed internationally as these other companies took part in the growing craze. One of the leaders was Apple, who released a new, larger set of emojis for the iPhone after the creation of the original emojis.

An important part of making emojis useful on the international level was translating emojis into different languages.

The History of Emojis

2nd Read Questions

When did emojis first emerged in Japan?	Today, 80% of people surveyed in a study, published by <i>Computers in Human Behavior</i> , said that they use emojis when texting."	"Emojis quickly grew popular across the country of Japan."	"When texting or writing a post on social media, you're likely to add a few smiling (or frowning) faces to your text."
Which type of text structure is this passage written in?	Appeared	Disappeared	Dropped
What is the main idea of the passage?	YELLOW	BLACK	RED
What is the author's purpose for writing this passage?	Problem & Solution	Description	Chronological/Sequence
What is the author's tone in this passage?	RED	BLACK	YELLOW

Main Idea & Supporting Detail

Name: _____ Date: _____

Main Idea

Supporting Detail

Supporting Detail

Themed Fun + Engaging ELA Review

HIGH-INTEREST TEXTS + MYSTERY PICTURES IS THE WINNING COMBO FOR STUDENT ENGAGEMENT.

The screenshot shows a digital interface for an ELA review activity. It features a central text passage titled "Hieroglyphics Vs. Emojis" with a "Mark It Up Toolbox" containing icons for question mark, exclamation point, X, underline, and circle. A "Pro Tip" box suggests zooming to 100% for better visibility. A "Mark it up!" legend explains the symbols: question mark for questions, exclamation point for excitement, X for confusion, underline for key vocabulary, circle for important words, and highlight for important text. An "Audio" button is also present. The background shows a grid of numbered boxes (1-20) for marking the text.

Hieroglyphics Vs. Emojis

Date: _____ Name: _____

Directions: Read the passage. Answer the questions. Use the answers for each question to determine which color to use. (Ex. If your answer to question 2 has the color "pink" under it, color all of the number 2s pink.)

1	1	4	4
1	9	3	9
9	3	9	9
8	8	2	2
8	2	7	2
8	2	2	2
8	8	2	8
10	5	5	8

Pictured: Ancient Hieroglyphics

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

"MY STUDENTS LOVED THIS! I HAD NO PROBLEM GETTING ASSIGNMENTS TURNED IN FOR THIS ACTIVITY. I'M REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO USING THIS ONE AGAIN!"