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Beauty of Nature

Main Page America Asia Australia Europe

Niagara Falls

One of the attractions that nature lovers should visit is Niagara Falls. They are located along the border of Canada and the US. Although tourists can see the falls in both countries, most of them prefer the view on the Canadian side because the falls there are wider.

Tourists can enjoy the view of Niagara Falls anytime. At daytime, the best view can be seen from Goat Island on the US side. On the Canadian side, tourists can have the overhead view of the falls by going up Skylon Tower. Another great way to see the falls is to ride on the Maid of the Mist which sails under the falls and takes tourists past the base. Tourists can enjoy the spectacular views and explore the roar of the falls in the half-hour tour. It is a brilliant experience to look at the nature in such an exciting way.

After dark, Niagara Falls remains stunning. On the Canadian side, there are daily light shows which add colours to the falls for a few hours. Standing near the falls is like being in a dream. Many people like to visit the falls in the evening.

Write the correct letters in the boxes for Question 1 and 2.

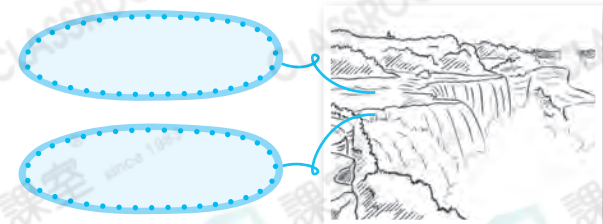
- Where is Niagara Falls?
 - in North America
 - in Asia
 - in Australia
 - in Europe
- The Maid of the Mist is most likely _____.
 - a hot-air balloon
 - a ship
 - an amusement ride
 - a building

Put a tick '✓' in the brackets if the sentence is true.

- The falls on the Canadian side are bigger. ()
- The falls can be seen from Skylon Tower in the US. ()
- The Maid of the Mist tour lasts for an hour. ()

Fill in the bubbles.

- Which two adjectives in the text can replace 'spectacular'?





Farmer and the Eagle

George lived on a farm in America. One sunny day, while George was walking home after a hard day's work, he saw a huge eagle caught in a trap put by the hunters. He got nearer and saw how beautiful the poor eagle was. Its golden feathers shone brightly under the sun. George took the trap in one hand and swiftly cut the rope. The eagle immediately flew up into the air and was glad to be free. George was happy to see the eagle fly off into the blue sky. 5

A few weeks later, George was resting next to a stone wall while the eagle was flying in the sky. It noticed that the stones of the wall were about to fall down. The smart eagle flew down and took the hat off George's head and dropped it further down the road. Just as George jumped up to get his hat, the whole wall fell down. 10

'Thank you, kind-hearted eagle,' George said. 'I once saved you from a trap, and now you have saved my life. We will be friends forever.'

Write the correct letters in the boxes.

1. Read lines 1-2. How did George feel?

- A. hot and scared
- B. hot and tired
- C. cold and thirsty
- D. cold and tired



2. What does 'swiftly' mean?

- A. slowly
- B. quickly
- C. carefully
- D. sadly

3. Why did the eagle take away George's hat?

- A. It tried to play tricks on him.
- B. It did not like his hat.
- C. It wanted to play with his hat.
- D. It tried to save his life.

4. Which adjective does the writer NOT use to describe the eagle?

- A. poor
- B. beautiful
- C. kind-hearted
- D. blue

Curse from an Egyptian King

Jack loves everything about Egypt, like mummies and pyramids. Last year, he joined a tour to explore this mysterious country. Jack was totally amazed when he arrived there. The view of the desert was breathtaking.

He followed the tour guide into the pyramid which was the tomb for an Egyptian king. There were many beautiful wall paintings and decorations inside. He wanted to take photos of them. However, the tour guide stopped him, 'Please don't take any photos here. The king who was buried here cast a spell. If anyone takes photos in his tomb, bad luck will follow that person forever.' However, Jack did not take her words seriously. He took photos of the sculpture of the king.

After returning to Hong Kong, Jack looked at the photos he took in Egypt. He was terrified: the same sculpture appeared in every photo! He called the tour guide for help, but she said, 'It was the king's curse. No one could help you.' Jack was helpless and worried. He deleted all the photos and destroyed the camera.

Bad luck really seemed to fall on Jack. One month later, he had a car accident. His hand which held the camera before was badly hurt. He was regretful for not listening to the tour guide but it was too late.

Write the correct letters in the boxes for Question 1 and 2.

- What did Jack NOT do to try to remove the curse?
 - asked the tour guide for help
 - destroyed his camera
 - crashed his car
 - deleted all his photos
- Which of the following is true about Jack?
 - He is only interested in pyramids.
 - He worries all the time.
 - He took photos of the tour guide.
 - He learnt a lesson at the end.

Put the letters in the correct order.

- Jack returned to Hong Kong.
 - Jack travelled to Egypt.
 - Jack took photos of a sculpture.
 - Jack had a car accident.

→ → →

Fill in the boxes with the words from the text.



- What adjectives can be formed with the words below?

help →

regret →



Nelson Mandela

Nelson Mandela is one of the world's most respected people. He became the first black President of South Africa in 1994 and retired in 1999. He is respected for his courage to fight for the rights of people of different races.


Mandela was born in South Africa on 18th July, 1918. He studied at the University College of Fort Hare and the University of Witwatersrand. He fought against the government's rule that separates people according to their race.

On 12th June, 1964, Mandela was sent to prison. During his years in prison, Mandela became more and more popular. He became a symbol of justice and courage. He was finally released in 1990. Three years after he came out of prison, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

Mandela was ninety-five years old when he died in 2013. He is still deeply loved and respected in Africa. People there called him 'Tata'—the father of the nation. In fact, he is also missed by many people around the world who support his views.



Write the correct letters in the boxes for Question 1 and 2.

- How long had Mandela stayed in prison since 1964? 
 - 6 years
 - 10 years
 - 20 years
 - 26 years
- What does 'released' mean?
 - came back
 - won
 - let out
 - stopped working

Put the letters in the correct order about Mandela.

- Became the first black president
 - Studied at the University of Witwatersrand
 - Was sent to prison
 - Received the Nobel Peace Prize

→ → →

Answer Question 4 in a complete sentence.

- Which rule did Mandela fight against?

Abraham Lincoln


Abraham Lincoln is one of the greatest heroes in American history. He was born in a poor family so he could not complete his education. He was self-educated. Lincoln's mother died when he was nine. His elder sister took care of him. When Lincoln was young, he did many jobs in his town including working in a store and a post office. At that time, the people of his town called him 'Honest Abe'.

Later, he became a lawyer and a politician. In 1839, Lincoln met Mary Todd. Three years later they got married. Lincoln became the President of the USA in 1860. The next year, the American Civil War began because Lincoln was against slavery. He thought it was cruel and unfair to force black people to work. Lincoln became the President again in 1864. The war finally ended on 9th April, 1865.

On 14th April, 1865, Lincoln was killed while watching a play. Abraham Lincoln is always remembered and respected for his important role in ending the slavery of black people in the USA.



Write the correct letters in the boxes for Question 1 and 2.

1. How did the people of Lincoln's town think of him? 
- A. smart
B. hard-working
C. honest
D. poor
2. What does 'He was self-educated' mean?
- A. He was taught at school.
B. He had formal education.
C. He received his education at a university.
D. He learnt by his own effort.

Put the letters in the correct order.

3. A. Lincoln met Mary Todd.
B. Lincoln died.
C. Lincoln became the president again.
D. The Civil War ended.

→ → →

Answer Question 4 in a complete sentence.

4. When did Lincoln get married?



Bank of Vocabulary



Think Smart

The World Around Us

People

respectable
courageous

Places

breathtaking
spectacular



Word Fun

A. Write the answers on the lines.

We can form an adjective by adding a suffix.

1. Add **'-able'** to the word 'respect'.

Answer: _____

2. Add **'-ous'** to the word 'courage'.

Answer: _____

B. Write **'-able'** or **'-ous'** to form the correct adjectives.

1. honour → honor _____

4. charity → charit _____

2. adventure → adventur _____

5. humour → humor _____

3. depend → depend _____

6. admire → admir _____

We use these adjectives to describe _____. Circle the correct bubble.

people

places



Write Smart

C. Fill in the blanks with the adjectives on this page.

1. Many people trust Ben. He is **d** _____.

2. Jenny donates lots of money to charities. She is **c** _____.

3. Canada is famous for its **b** _____ views of the Rocky Mountains.



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