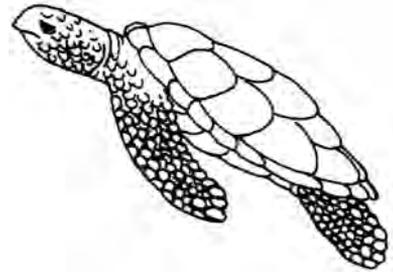


Name: _____

Date: _____

Greetings from the Great Barrier Reef

Picture yourself diving along the Great Barrier Reef. You kick your fins gently, moving above a coral reef filled with life. Use your imagination to complete each statement. Then use what you write to write a postcard to a friend.



The water is _____
_____ .

The reef is _____
_____ .

The living thing I enjoyed seeing most is _____ because

_____ .

This is the best adventure I have ever had because _____

_____ .



Name: _____

Date: _____

Pok-to-Pok

Imagine being a spectator at a game of pok-to-pok. Two teams struggle to knock a solid rubber ball through one of two rings of stones at opposite ends of the field. Picture yourself at the game. Describe what happens. Then use what you write to help you write a sports report.



A Game of Pok-to-Pok

The Playing Field

The Players

The Rules

Highlights of the Game

The Crowd

The Winners

Name: _____

Date: _____



In the News

Imagine you're a journalist for a newspaper. You've been investigating the explosion in the tunnel beneath Lake Erie. Organize the information you've collected from witnesses and officials at the scene. Use your notes to write your newspaper article.

Who?	What?	When?	Where?	How?	Why?

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Myths of a Culture

Complete the chart. Use what you write to help you describe Egyptian myths.

	Myths were written on _____ or _____ in a language called _____.
	Early Egyptian stories told the pharaohs _____ _____.
	In the Middle Kingdom, scribes wrote _____ to _____ people.
	Animals in these stories could _____ and _____.
	Some animals, such as birds and fish, were included because _____ _____.
	Fearsome animals, such as snakes, hippos, and crocodiles, were sometimes used to tell people _____.
	Myths from the Middle Kingdom also tell tales of _____, as pharaohs worked to make Egypt prosperous.
	_____ unlocked the mysteries of the Egyptian alphabet, allowing others to read and understand Egyptian myths.

Name: _____

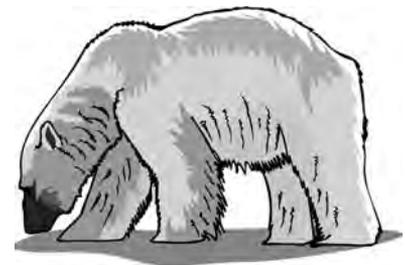
Date: _____

On Assignment

Picture yourself as a professional nature photographer. Your latest assignment has taken you to the Arctic tundra in winter. Complete the Sense Map to describe your experience. Use what you write to write a descriptive paragraph about the tundra and its wildlife.

The Landscape		
I See	I Hear	I Feel

The Wildlife	
I See	I Hear



My best photograph shows _____ .

I took this photograph because _____ .

_____ .

Name: _____ Date: _____

My Culture, My Mural

All Americans have a cultural heritage. Imagine an ambassador representing your family's culture contacting you. The ambassador wants you to paint a mural in the lobby of the embassy. Fill in the blanks. Then use your ideas to write a description of your mural.



The roots of my family tree go back to _____
_____.



When I think of my cultural heritage, I
see _____.
hear _____.
smell _____.
taste _____.
feel _____.



My favorite theme, or main idea, for my mural is _____
_____.



To show my theme, I will include these things in my mural:
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____



Name: _____

Date: _____

The Editor's Column

Imagine that you are a newspaper editor. Each week, you write a special editorial expressing your opinion about a popular issue. This week, you're writing your opinion about wildlife refuges and parks. Fill in the blanks. Then use what you write to write an editorial that will persuade readers to support your viewpoint.



My position: _____

My opening statement: _____

Facts that support my position:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

My concluding statement: _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

Prepared for Danger

Imagine you are a professional writer. A mayor from a large city in the path of frequent hurricanes has asked you to write an informational essay for the city's website. Complete this chart to summarize your information. Then use what you write to write your informational essay.



What I know about hurricanes:

What I learned about hurricanes while reading "The Mysterious Eye":

What I learned about hurricanes while reading "Interview with a Hurricane Writer":

Name: _____ Date: _____

I Disagree, Mr. Franklin

Imagine being a member of the Continental Congress. You think a bald eagle is the best symbol for the new country you are helping to form. But not everyone agrees. Complete the chart. Then use your notes to write a letter to Benjamin Franklin, convincing him that the eagle is a better choice than a turkey for the Great Seal.

According to many members of the Continental Congress, the bald eagle is an excellent symbol of our new country because it is:



According to Benjamin Franklin, the bald eagle is a poor symbol of our new country because it is:

Benjamin Franklin also thinks the wild turkey is a superior symbol because it is:



In my opinion, the bald eagle is the correct choice because it is:

Name: _____

Date: _____

Writing Rubric

Score	Ideas	Organization	Voice	Word Choice	Sentence Fluency	Conventions
4 Exceeds The Standard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> topic is clearly stated many insightful details support ideas from both selections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> dazzling opening, well-organized middle, and strong ending ideas are quite detailed and presented in logical order 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> author's voice is clearly heard throughout writing is "alive" with the author's personality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> includes many clearly stated descriptive words uses a variety of words in interesting ways uses figurative language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> sentences and ideas are complete and flow smoothly throughout transitions are smooth sentences vary in type and length 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> few or no errors occur in spelling or capitalization few or no errors occur in grammar or punctuation
3 Meets The Standard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> topic is stated descriptive details support ideas from both selections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> interesting beginning, middle, and ending ideas are simply stated, but well organized 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> author's voice is heard through most of the piece writing is interesting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> includes descriptive words uses a variety of words uses some figurative language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> most sentences and ideas are complete and flow smoothly most sentences vary in type and length 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> most words are spelled and capitalized correctly few errors occur in grammar and punctuation
2 Below The Standard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> topic is not clearly stated some details are unrelated to the topic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> beginning or end is weak ideas are not clearly ordered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> very little of the author's personality is in the piece writing is not very interesting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> words are misused or do not give enough information the same words are used over and over again 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> some sentences are incomplete, run-on, or not connected to next sentence not much sentence variety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> many errors occur in spelling, grammar, capitalization, and punctuation
1 Far Below The Standard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> topic is not developed few or no details are included from either selection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> beginning or end is missing follows no logical order makes no connections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> author's voice is not heard writing is not at all interesting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> few words are used words are used incorrectly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> many sentences are incomplete, run-on, or not connected to next sentence no sentence variety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> errors prevent the reader from understanding the piece
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> no writing was done or writing did not fit the topic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> no writing was done or writing did not fit the topic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> no writing was done or writing did not fit the topic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> no writing was done or writing did not fit the topic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> no writing was done or writing did not fit the topic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> no writing was done or writing did not fit the topic

Name: _____

Date: _____

Plan Your Research

Use this page to help you plan your research. First, list some key words or ideas that you would like to know more about. Then write some questions you have about those words or ideas. Use your work to help you begin your final project.



Key Word or Idea	Questions I Have About the Word or Idea
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

Name: _____ Date: _____

Writing Checklist

Use the checklist to help you prepare the written part of your final project.



Project Title _____

Does the writing...	Yes	No
begin in an interesting way?		
include three parts: an introduction, development, and a conclusion?		
give examples and definitions?		
give supporting facts and details?		
connect ideas and make sense?		
include information from more than one source?		
tell what sources were used?		
use correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation?		

Name: _____

Date: _____

Graphic Display Checklists

Use the checklists to help you prepare the graphic display for your final project.



Project Title _____

Is the graphic display...	Yes	No
important?		
correct?		
labeled clearly?		
arranged in an interesting way?		
neat and colorful?		

Does the graphic display...	Yes	No
include information from more than one source?		
make people think about the topic in a new way?		
use correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation?		

Name: _____

Date: _____

Oral Presentation Checklists

Practice giving your presentation to a family member or in front of a mirror. Use the checklists to help you evaluate your presentation.



Project Title _____

Does the presentation...	Yes	No
begin in an interesting way?		
include three parts: an introduction, development, and a conclusion?		
give examples and definitions?		
describe supporting facts and details clearly?		
make sense by connecting ideas and details logically?		

Do I...	Yes	No
speak clearly and slowly?		
speak loudly enough for everyone to hear?		
use gestures and make eye contact with my audience?		
use notes or graphic displays in an organized way?		