Mapping the West: The Journey of Lewis and Clark

by Michael Stahl

The United States of America is one of the largest countries on the planet. Much of America today is located between Canada and Mexico, stretching from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean. This part of the United States is called the continental U.S. It did not always stretch from the Atlantic to the Pacific, though.

After the Revolutionary War, when the U.S. won its independence from England and became its own small country, there were thirteen states that bordered the Atlantic Ocean. France and Spain owned a lot of the land that would eventually become the rest of the continental U.S. That changed in 1803 when the president of the United States at the time, Thomas Jefferson, bought a large chunk of land from France's ruler, Napoleon Bonaparte, in what was called The Louisiana Purchase. However, Americans knew very little about the land that was west of the Mississippi. Therefore, Jefferson asked two men to lead an exploration of that area. Their names were Meriwether Lewis and William Clark.

Jefferson felt that Americans needed to explore their new territory for a few reasons. First, and most importantly, he wanted Lewis and Clark to find a "water route" to the Pacific Ocean from the Mississippi River. Jefferson knew that if Americans could travel by river all the way west to the ocean, they could settle there and establish trade with Native Americans in the West. Second, Jefferson wanted to claim the northwestern portion of the continent's midsection before another country did.

Lastly, he thought that knowledge of the area's geography would be needed for all of the other goals to come true. Jefferson knew that whomever he chose for the exploration would be in for a dangerous trip. In fact, he, along with many others, figured that the west was home to gigantic volcanoes, huge woolly mammoth animals, and a mountain made of pure salt.

Jefferson chose a group of men named the Corps of Discovery and named Lewis, a captain in the U.S. military, its leader because he was an expert in surviving in the wilderness and was familiar with the lifestyles of Native Americans. Lewis would choose Clark, his old friend, as co-leader.

In May of 1804, Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery began their journey on the Missouri River, leaving St. Louis and sailing northwest. Lewis' main job, besides leading the men, was to collect rocks, plants, and animals along the route to be studied. Clark would make maps and charts of the geography of the unknown land.

Lewis and Clark headed deeper and deeper into uncharted land. As the trip continued, one of their men became ill and died. They also had to do their best to find food and stay healthy during the winter months.

Lewis and Clark were worried there would be battles with many Native Americans. Some tribes were hostile toward the group. However, they were able to make alliances with many Native American tribes. Sacagawea, a Native American woman, joined the Corps of Discovery in the spring of 1805. Sacagawea's knowledge of Native American cultures and her ability to speak Hidatsa and Shoshone, two Native American languages, made her a valuable asset to the expeditionary group. She played a key role in establishing relations between the Corps of Discovery and some of the Native American tribes the Corps of Discovery encountered.

Lewis and Clark would eventually reach the Pacific Ocean after traveling through several rivers, including the Clearwater, Snake, and Columbia Rivers. However, they did not discover one direct water route that could lead boats straight to the Pacific from the Mississippi.

Still, the trip was incredibly beneficial. It lasted three years and covered 8,000 miles. The members of this expedition had discovered the Rocky Mountains, which were not volcanoes nor made of salt. Clark and his crew had learned about over two hundred plants and animals that were new to the Americans, though they did not see any woolly mammoths. Lewis and Clark were the first to trade with dozens and dozens of Native American tribes that had never met the Americans before. Finally, Lewis and his men drew about 140 of the first maps of most of the western United States. It has been said that the maps provided a fill-in of what was mostly a general outline of the area. Therefore, Lewis and Clark made it much more possible for the United States to stretch all the way "from sea to shining sea."

Sacagawea

by Noah Remnick

In 1804, President Thomas Jefferson sent Meriwether Lewis and William Clark on a very difficult expedition. He wanted them to explore the massive 828,000 square miles of territory west of the Mississippi that the United States had bought from France for $15 million. The deal between Jefferson and the French emperor Napoleon was known as the Louisiana Purchase and it doubled the size of the United States.

Lewis and Clark and their Corps of Discovery were charged with finding a route from the east through this enormous and uncharted new terrain all the way west to the Pacific Ocean. Opening a route to the west would increase trade opportunities with China, particularly for the lucrative fur business. But to do so, the explorers needed to deal with Native American tribes they did not know and whose language they did not speak. They needed to pass over treacherous mountains and rivers that were unfamiliar to them. To complete the job, Lewis and Clark relied on the language and negotiation skills of a Native American woman.

The woman, Sacagawea, was a member of the Shoshone tribe. As a young girl, she was taken by another tribe, the Hidatsa, who then sold her to the Mandan tribe. When Lewis and Clark met Sacagawea in the early months of 1805, she was married to a Canadian fur trapper named Toussaint Charbonneau. She was pregnant, and by the time the expedition team left the Mandans, she had given birth to a son, Jean Baptiste. With the baby strapped to her back, Sacagawea joined her husband and Lewis and Clark as an interpreter and a guide.

Like many Native American tribes, the Shoshone were nomadic, meaning they traveled from place to place with the seasons. In doing so, they learned how to travel the mountains and the forests, the rivers and the plains. They learned which plants were safe to eat, and which were poisonous. They knew how to hunt for rabbits, foxes, elks and deer, and even how to trap longhorn sheep. As a girl, Sacagawea learned all these skills that helped her and the Lewis and Clark expedition survive.

Some historians say Sacagawea was critical in helping Lewis and Clark make their way through the wilderness and up the Missouri River, and it is generally agreed that just having a Native American woman and baby with them helped put other tribes at ease. By August 1805, the expedition team arrived at the hunting grounds of the Shoshone, Sacagawea's native tribe.

The American explorers needed to trade for horses to cross the Rocky Mountains. As Sacagawea interpreted between Lewis and the chief of the Shoshones, she was shocked. She realized that the chief was her very own brother, Cameahwait. The chief and the entire tribe were thrilled to be reunited with Sacagawea. They held a peace party in honor of her, Lewis and Clark, and the entire expedition team. Lewis and Clark gave their new Shoshone friends gifts from President Jefferson,

including clothing, eyeglasses, beads, and tobacco.

Chief Cameahwait agreed to help Lewis and Clark, and bartered with them for horses and guides. When the time came for the expedition team to leave, Sacagawea had a difficult choice. Should she stay with her tribe, or continue on the journey with Lewis and Clark, her husband and her baby? She decided to stay with the explorers, and bid her family and tribe a tearful goodbye.

The trip over the Rocky Mountains was arduous. The mountains were cold and had no vegetation. The explorers ended up eating candles to survive until they got to the warmer side of the mountain path. Finally, they reached the western coast and the crashing waves of the Pacific Ocean. By now it was December and the corps built a winter fort. It was cold and rainy. Lewis and Clark called their new home Fort Clatsop, after a nearby Native American tribe.

The explorers set off on their return trip in March, and they had to make their way back the way they had come. Eventually, through snow, battles with mistrustful Native American tribes, and steep mountain passes, the explorers returned to the village where they first met Sacagawea. Lewis and Clark had journals filled with notes and maps, and precious samples of the plants and animals they had encountered in the new western territory of the United States. It was time to deliver them to President Jefferson, who deemed the expedition a success even though an all-water route was not found. And they might not have been able to do it without the guidance of Sacagawea.

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Use the article "Mapping the West: The Journey of Lewis and Clark" to answer questions 1 to 2.

1. What were three accomplishments of Lewis and Clark's expedition?

2. What made Sacagawea, a Native American woman who joined the Corps of Discovery, a valuable part of the expeditionary group?

Use the article "Sacagawea" to answer questions 3 to 4.

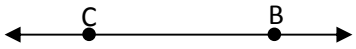
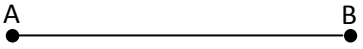
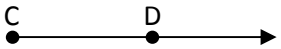
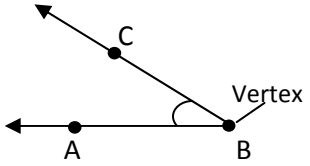
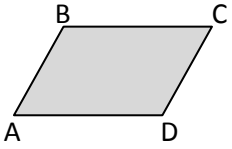
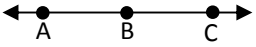
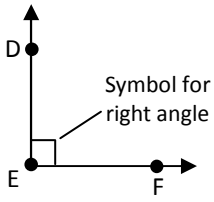
3. According to the text, how did having a Native American woman and baby with them help Lewis and Clark during their expedition?

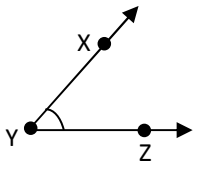
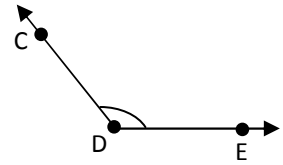
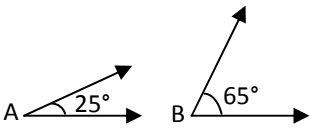
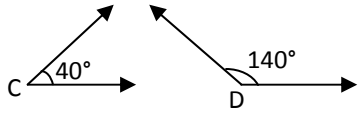
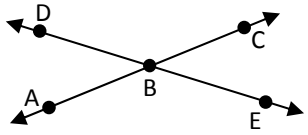
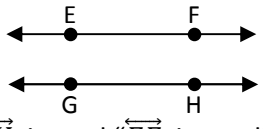
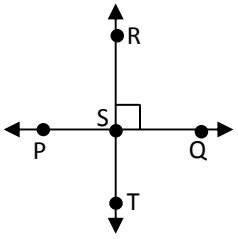
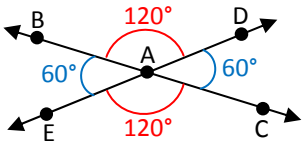
4. What are three skills Sacajawea possessed that helped Lewis and Clark's expedition?

Use the articles "Mapping the West: The Journey of Lewis and Clark" and "Sacagawea" to answer question 5.

5. Would Lewis and Clark have been able to succeed in their expedition without the guidance of Sacajawea? Use evidence from both texts to support your answer.

Basic Geometric Terms

Definition	Example
Point – an exact location in space. A point has no dimension.	 (read "point A")
Line – a collection of points along a straight path that extends endlessly in both directions.	 $\overleftrightarrow{CB}$ (read "line CB")
Line Segment – a part of a line having two endpoints.	 $\overline{AB}$ (read "line segment AB") The length of $\overline{AB}$ is denoted AB.
Ray – a part of a line having only one endpoint.	 $\overrightarrow{CD}$ (read "ray CD") The endpoint is **always** the first letter.
Angle – consists of two rays that have a common endpoint called the **vertex** of the angle.	 $\angle ABC$ (read "angle ABC") The vertex is always the middle letter. $\angle ABC$ can also be written as $\angle CBA$ or just $\angle B$.
Plane – a flat surface that extends endlessly in all directions.	 Plane $ABCD$
Straight Angle – an angle whose measure is 180°.	 $\angle ABC$ is a straight angle.
Right Angle – an angle whose measure is 90°.	 $\angle DEF$ is a right angle.

Acute Angle – an angle whose measure is less than 90°.	 $\angle XYZ$ is an acute angle.
Obtuse Angle – an angle whose measure is more than 90° and less than 180°.	 $\angle CDE$ is an obtuse angle.
Two angles are complementary if the sum of their measures is 90°.	 $m\angle A + m\angle B = 25° + 65° = 90°$ $\angle A$ and $\angle B$ are complementary angles.
Two angles are supplementary if the sum of their measures is 180°.	 $m\angle C + m\angle D = 40° + 140° = 180°$ $\angle C$ and $\angle D$ are supplementary angles.
Intersecting Lines – two lines that cross.	 $\overleftrightarrow{AC}$ intersects $\overleftrightarrow{DE}$ at point B.
Parallel Lines – two lines in the same plane that do not intersect.	 $\overleftrightarrow{EF} \parallel \overleftrightarrow{GH}$ is read "$\overleftrightarrow{EF}$ is parallel to $\overleftrightarrow{GH}$."
Perpendicular Lines – two lines that intersect to form right angles.	 $\overleftrightarrow{RT} \perp \overleftrightarrow{PQ}$ is read "$\overleftrightarrow{RT}$ is perpendicular to $\overleftrightarrow{PQ}$." $\angle RSP, \angle RSQ, \angle PST,$ and $\angle QST$ are all right angles.
Vertical Angles – two angles with equal measure formed by two intersecting lines.	 $\angle BAE$ and $\angle DAC$ are vertical angles. $\angle BAD$ and $\angle EAC$ are vertical angles.

GEOMETRIC ELEMENTS

LEVEL I

Name: _____ Date:_____

Follow the directions to complete each task.

1. Draw a point.	2. Draw a line.
3. Draw a line segment.	4. Draw a ray.
5. Draw an angle.	6. Draw a different angle than the one you drew for #5.

4.G.1

GEOMETRIC ELEMENTS

LEVEL 2

Name: _____ Date:_____

Follow the directions to complete each task.

1. Draw a line segment.	2. Draw a line.
3. How do lines and line segments differ?	
4. Draw a ray.	5. Draw an angle.
6. What is the connection between rays and angles?	

4.G.1

GEOMETRIC ELEMENTS

LEVEL 3

Name: _____ Date:_____

Follow the directions to complete each task.

1. Draw a figure with an angle. Label the angle in the figure.	2. Draw a figure with four line segments. Label the line segments.
3. Draw a figure with four angles. Label each angle in the figure.	4. Draw a figure with a line, a ray, and an angle. Label each.

4.G.1

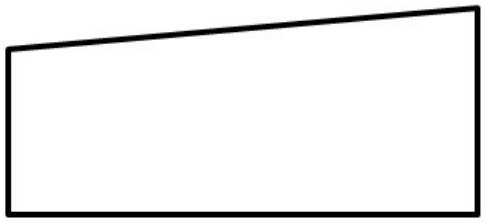
IDENTIFYING GEOMETRIC ELEMENTS

LEVEL I

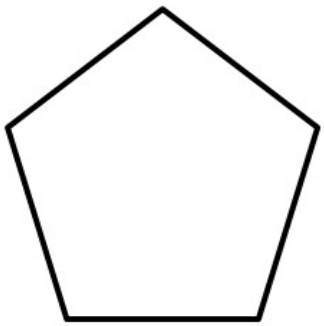
Name: _____ Date:_____

Follow the directions to complete each task.

1. Find a right angle in the shape shown. Shade or circle it.

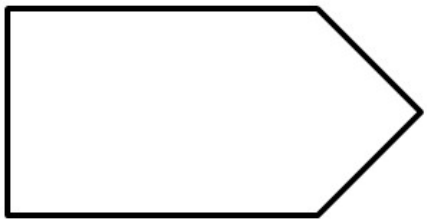


2. Find an obtuse angle in the shape shown. Shade or circle it.



3. Find an acute angle in the shape shown. Shade or circle it.

4. Find a pair of parallel lines in the shape shown. Shade or circle them.



Reference Notes:

Acute Angles: angles that measure less than 90 degrees

Right Angles: angles that measure 90 degrees

Obtuse Angles: angles that measure greater than 90 degrees but less than 180 degrees

Parallel Lines: a pair of lines that will never intersect

4.G.1

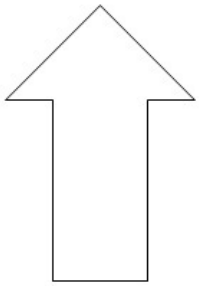
IDENTIFYING GEOMETRIC ELEMENTS

LEVEL 2

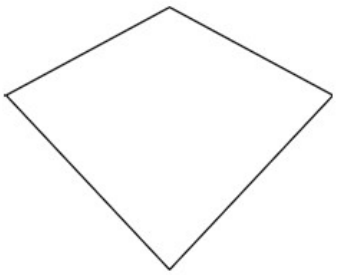
Name: _____ Date:_____

Follow the directions to complete each task.

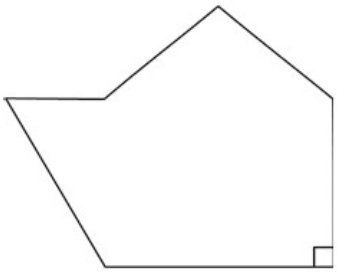
1. Find a right angle in the shape shown. Shade or circle it.



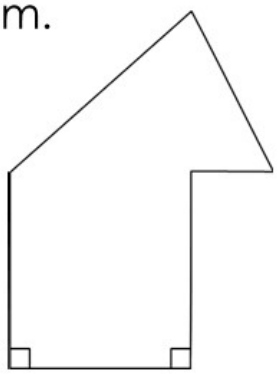
2. Find an obtuse angle in the shape shown. Shade or circle it.



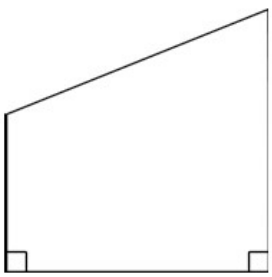
3. Find an acute angle in the shape shown. Shade or circle it.



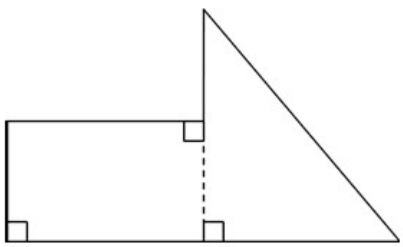
4. Find a pair of parallel lines in the shape shown. Shade or circle them.



5. Find a pair of perpendicular lines the shape shown. Shade or circle them.



6. Label all of the angles in the shape shown by their types.



4.G.1

IDENTIFYING GEOMETRIC ELEMENTS

LEVEL 3

Name: _____ Date:_____

Analyze the diagram of the flower shop shown. Circle and label two examples of each of the following in the diagram:

right angle, acute angle, obtuse angle, parallel lines, perpendicular lines, intersecting lines

4.G.1

INFORMATIVE

I-9

A New Pet

Imagine that you have been given a puppy or a kitten. Write about how you would care for your new pet.

Use the box to <u>brainstorm</u> all of your thoughts on this topic. You can make a list, use a mind map, or just write ideas as they come to you. Don't worry about using complete sentences, correct spelling or writing neatly.

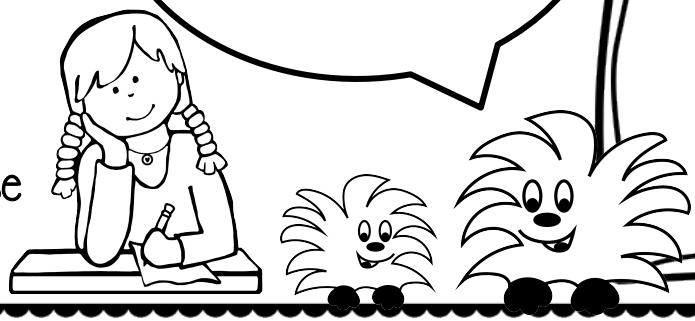
Name

Date

<u>Track your progress</u>

- ☐ Brainstorm
- ☐ Organize
- ☐ First Draft
- ☐ Edit and Revise
- ☐ Final Draft

Remember:
You will need to give <u>information</u> about the topic using facts, examples, and definitions.



Put a star ☆ next to ideas you think you will use.
Put an X next to ideas you probably will not use.

I ♡ Paragraph Writing

INFORMATIVE

Paragraph Title: _____

Use your brainstorming ideas to <u>organize</u> your thoughts.

Introduce your topic and catch your reader's attention.

Use facts, examples, and definitions to develop your topic.

Use synonyms to restate your topic or draw a conclusion.

Topic Sentence: _____

_____

Supporting Detail: _____

_____

_____

Supporting Detail: _____

_____

_____

Supporting Detail: _____

_____

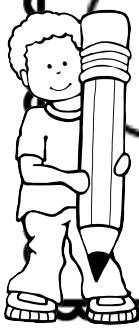
_____

Closing Sentence: _____

_____

Name

Date



I ♡ Paragraph Writing

Name

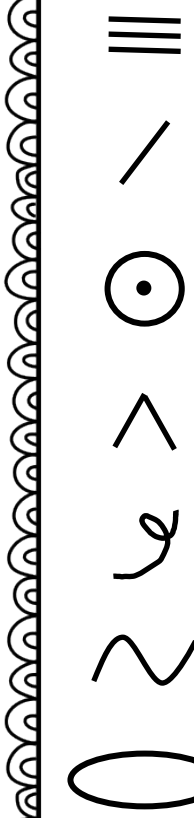
Date

Paragraph Title: _____

Use what you wrote in the organizing boxes to write your first draft.

INFORMATIVE

Use the editing marks to note errors and ways you can make your paragraph better.



Capitalize a letter

Change to lower case

Add end mark

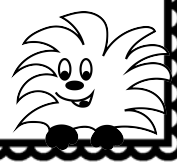
Insert

Delete

Switch words or letters

Fix spelling

Tip: Use a different color pen or pencil to edit your draft.



I ♡ Paragraph Writing

Name

Date

Paragraph Title: _____

Use your edited first draft to write your final draft.

INFORMATIVE

Did you....

- ☐ Introduce your topic in the topic sentence?
- ☐ Give 3 supporting details using facts, examples, and definitions?
- ☐ Include a closing sentence that restated your topic or drew a conclusion?
- ☐ Use complete sentences?
- ☐ Use linking words to connect your ideas (such as: another, for example, because, also, in addition)?
- ☐ Use correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, and capitalization?
- ☐ Write neatly?

I ♡ Paragraph Writing