

## Now or Then?

Read the passage. Then, answer the questions.

Have you ever been in a convertible car? If you had lived long ago when Henry Ford started making cars, you probably would have been in a convertible car. Ford built the first cars that many people could afford to buy. He made cars in a new way that cost less money. That made the cars cheaper for people to buy. The cars could not go as fast as the cars we drive today. But, they did help people get where they needed to go.

Ford's cars were a little different from today's cars. The gas tank was under the driver's seat. A person had to lift the seat out to put gas in the car! Sometimes, a car would not start in cold weather. So, people had to pour hot water under the hood. Many of the cars did not have bumpers or mirrors. That was because they cost extra money. Ford's cars were a way to move people around, just like our cars today.

Would you rather have a car from the past or a car from today? Make a list of similarities and differences to help you decide.

1. How cars of the past and cars of today are alike:

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2. How cars of the past and cars of today are different:

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3. Based on your lists, would you rather have a car from the past or a car from today?

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## Tissue-Eating Disease

Read the passage. Then, answer the questions.

Vance "Bo" Salisbury was sick because of a rare tissue-eating disease. Only a few people get this disease each year. Germs getting into a cut or sore cause this disease. If a person gets a cut or sore and treats it properly and quickly, he will not get sick.

One day, Salisbury hurt his ankle. The next day, the pain was so bad that his wife took him to the hospital. The doctors did not know what was wrong with him. So, they sent him home. The next day, his stomach was upset and he could not walk. He went back to the hospital, and his doctor started doing tests.

Salisbury kept getting worse. Finally, the doctors knew what was wrong. Salisbury had gotten a tissue-eating disease. They would have to give him strong medicine quickly to stop the disease. Everyone was worried. Suddenly, the disease stopped spreading. The doctors said that it was a miracle.

To make sure all of the germs were gone, the doctors operated on Salisbury's leg. They also replaced some of the tissue that the disease had ruined.

Today, Salisbury's leg is healthy. He runs two or three miles each day. He is back at work and glad to be a survivor.

1. Choose another title for the story.
  - A. Going Home
  - B. Leg Injuries
  - C. An Unusual Disease
2. Why did the doctors replace some of Salisbury's leg tissue?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. How do you know that Salisbury's leg is healthy today?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Number the events in the order in which they happened.  
\_\_\_\_ Salisbury went back to work.  
\_\_\_\_ Salisbury went to the hospital but was sent home.  
\_\_\_\_ Salisbury hurt his ankle.  
\_\_\_\_ Some of the tissue on Salisbury's leg was replaced.  
\_\_\_\_ The doctors started running tests.
5. What can you tell about tissue-eating disease after reading about Salisbury and his experience with the disease?
  - A. You can only get the disease in your leg.
  - B. It is difficult for doctors to diagnose the disease, but once they do, it can be treated.
  - C. If you think you have it, it is best to wait before going to the hospital.

## A Camping Trip

**Read the story. Then, answer the questions.**

Tyrone and his family went on a camping trip. They found the perfect spot beside a creek. Tyrone and his sister set up the tent. Their mom and dad got out the supplies for dinner. When camp was set up, Tyrone told his parents that he wanted to go exploring in the creek while the sun was still up. His father told him not to go too far from their campsite and to be careful.

Tyrone rolled up his pant legs and waded into the water. He used a stick to poke a few leaves and rocks on the creek bed. Pretty soon, he saw something that looked back at him. It was a snake! Tyrone leaped out of the water and raced down the dirt path back to camp. Tyrone jumped into the car and closed the door.

1. How did Tyrone feel when he saw the snake? How do you know?

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2. Number the events in the order in which they happened.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Tyrone waded into the water.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Tyrone helped his sister set up the tent.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Tyrone jumped into the car and closed the door.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Tyrone saw a snake in the creek.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Tyrone told his parents he wanted to explore in the creek.

3. What do you think Tyrone did next? Finish the story.

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# Ruby Bridges

Read the passage. Then, answer the questions.

Have you ever not wanted to go to school? What if you knew that when you got to school, adults would yell at you to leave? What if you were only six years old when this happened?

That is exactly what happened to Ruby Bridges on Monday, November 14, 1960. That was the day the public schools in New Orleans were **integrated**. Bridges was the first African American child to go to an elementary school that was once only for white people.

Bridges's parents wanted her to go to a good school. The best school was just five blocks away from their home. However, it was only for white students. It took a new law, an order from a judge, and many police officers to see that Bridges could start going to that school.

The people in the city were not happy. They tried to get Bridges to stay home. People made threats to hurt her family. Bridges's father was fired from his job.

On that first day, Bridges waited in an office all day. On her second day, she went to her classroom. She met her teacher, Mrs. Henry. The white parents had kept their children home. Bridges was Mrs. Henry's only student all year.

Bridges worked hard and got good grades. She grew up and went into business. She even helps at her old school. What she did helped all children today have a chance for a better education.

1. Choose another title for this story.
  - A. Equal Education for All
  - B. Study Hard and You Will Do Well
  - C. Good Schools Are Hard to Find
2. How far away did Ruby Bridges live from the school her parents wanted her to attend?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. In what city did Bridges live?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What happened to Bridges's father when she started at the new school?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Number the events in the order in which they happened.  
\_\_\_\_\_ A law was passed integrating public schools.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Bridges entered an all-white school.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Bridges waited in the principal's office on her first day of school.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Bridges went to business school.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Bridges met Mrs. Henry.
6. What does the word **integrated** mean?
  - A. mixed
  - B. decided
  - C. separated

# Francisco Vázquez de Coronado

Read the passage. Then, answer the questions.

Francisco Vázquez de Coronado was an explorer for Spain. He was also the governor of New Spain. New Spain was the old name for Mexico. Coronado heard of the seven cities of gold. They were called the Seven Cities of Cibola. He heard they were full of gold and jewels, but no one knew where to find these cities. Coronado wanted to find these cities. He wanted to take all of their gold for Spain.

In 1540, Spain owned a large part of Mexico. The land north of Mexico was unknown. Only a few explorers had **ventured** into that land. Coronado thought the seven cities of gold might be there. So, he decided to start looking in that area.

Coronado led a group of 1,300 people. They looked for gold in the area that is now the state of Arizona. There they met a tribe of American Indians. They were the Zuni tribe. Coronado thought their city might have the gold. But, the Zuni tribe was poor. No gold was there.

Coronado still wanted to find gold. He sent his people in groups to look for the cities of gold. One group found the Grand Canyon. Another group found more American Indian villages. Coronado's people found many new things. But, they did not find gold.

In 1542, Coronado led his people home. He had looked for two years, and he was tired and sad. He was not famous for all of his hard work. He was called a failure. He even lost his job as governor.

Today, people remember Coronado as an explorer. He was the first European to explore the North American southwest.

- Which of the following best describes Coronado?  
A. friendly      B. greedy      C. angry
- What was the name for the seven cities of gold?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What was Mexico called when Coronado was the governor?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Number the events in the order in which they happened.  
\_\_\_\_ Coronado heard about the seven cities of gold.  
\_\_\_\_ Coronado met the Zuni tribe.  
\_\_\_\_ Coronado entered what is now the state of Arizona.  
\_\_\_\_ Coronado was called a failure.  
\_\_\_\_ A group of Coronado's men discovered the Grand Canyon.
- What does the word **ventured** mean?  
A. dared to go      B. escaped      C. settled
- Why do you think Coronado was called a failure when he returned home?  
A. He did not discover the Grand Canyon himself.  
B. He did not find any gold on his journey.  
C. He did not conquer the seven cities of gold.