

Name _____

- Read the Vocabulary Words. Then write the Vocabulary Word that best completes each sentence.

translation

publicity

features

piercing

advanced

We couldn't understand a word the creatures said, so we turned to our trusty

(1) _____ machine for help. All of the creatures had

(2) _____ eyes that seemed to penetrate into our thoughts.

Their other (3) _____, especially their mouths, seemed very small.

Soon it became clear that they wanted to brag about how (4) _____ their civilization was. They had even printed up advertising flyers to get themselves a little free (5) _____!

- Write the Vocabulary Word that best fits with each group of words.

mouth

ears

nose

chin

newspaper

radio

flyers

announcements

6. _____

7. _____

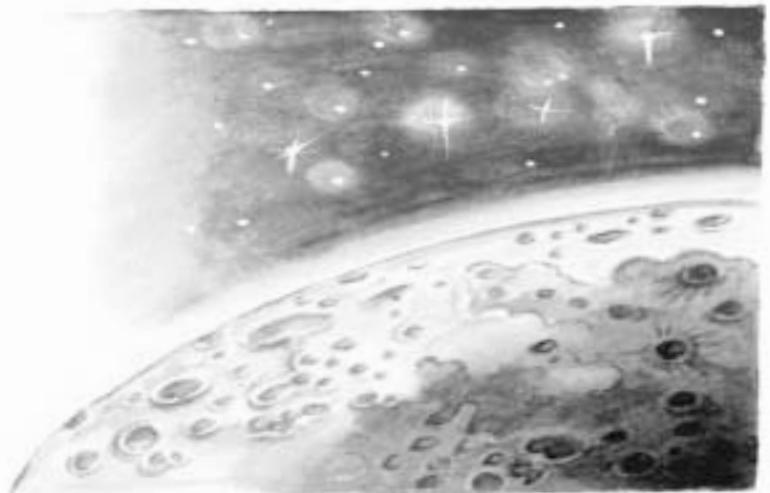
civilized

smart

ahead

cultured

8. _____



Write the first paragraph of a science-fiction story. Use at least three Vocabulary Words in your paragraph.

► **Read the paragraph. Then circle the letter of the best answer to each question.**



Many books contain accounts of UFO sightings and close encounters with extraterrestrials, or creatures from other planets.

People have even described being taken to other planets and returning home safely. It seems that for some people, the idea of aliens from other planets is appealing. Many years of alleged sightings have raised unanswered questions. Until proof is provided, we must assume that extraterrestrial life does not exist.

1 What is the main idea of this paragraph?

- A** People claim to have been taken to other planets.
- B** Many people have seen aliens.
- C** There is no proof that extraterrestrial life exists.
- D** Many books contain accounts of UFO sightings.



Tip
Which answer choice best expresses the author's important ideas and feelings about the topic?

2 Which detail supports this main idea?

- F** People have described returning home safely.
- G** The idea of aliens is appealing.
- H** Proof of aliens has raised questions.
- J** Years of alleged sightings have not provided answers.



Tip
Which answer choice gives more information about the author's opinion?

3 Which of these details could also be used to support the main idea?

- A** Roswell, New Mexico is a well-known UFO center.
- B** Weather balloons have sometimes been mistaken for flying saucers.
- C** TV shows like *The X-Files* show how aliens might interact with people.
- D** People often fear what they do not know.



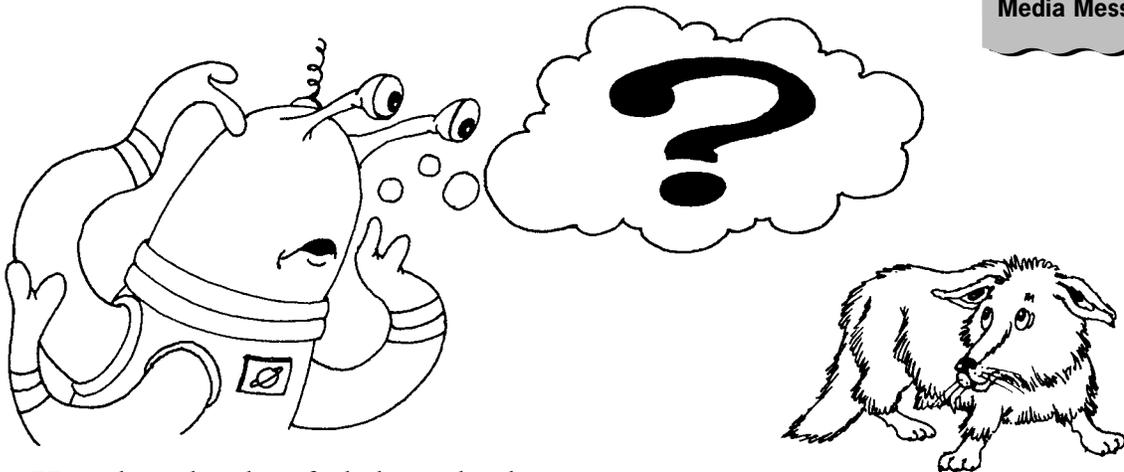
Tip
Choose the detail that could be used to show why there is no "firm proof."



SCHOOL-HOME CONNECTION Have your child read several paragraphs from a textbook and identify the main ideas. Which main ideas are stated? Which have to be figured out from the details the writer includes?

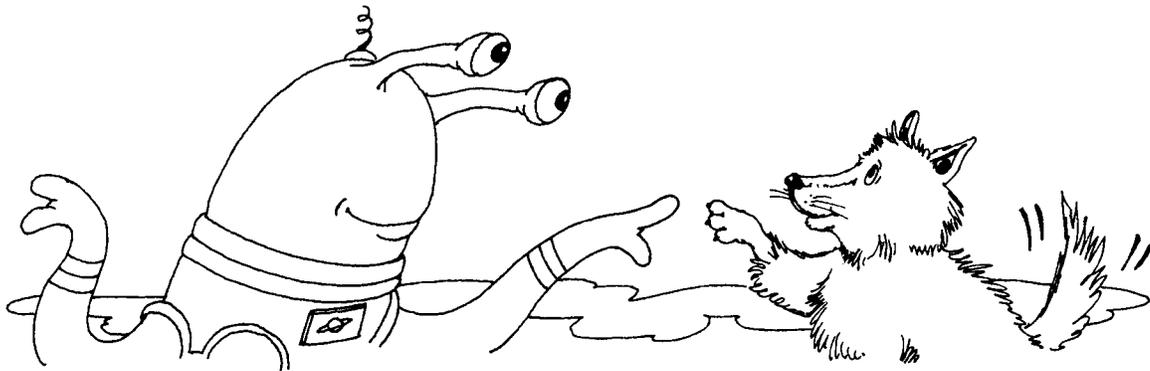
Name _____

► Look at the pictures. Then answer the questions below.



1. How does the alien feel about the dog?

2. How does the dog feel about the alien? _____
3. Suppose this was a photo in a newspaper. On whom would the newspaper focus if it wanted to show that aliens are curious about dogs?



4. From the evidence in the picture, what will probably happen next?

5. How do the alien and the dog feel about each other now?

6. If you were a newspaper reporter, how would you write the first sentence in this story, based on the picture?

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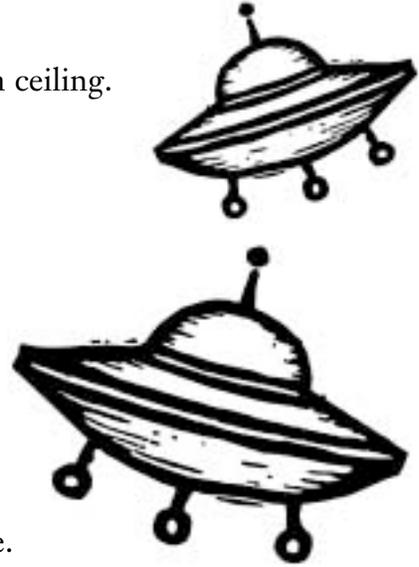


SCHOOL-HOME CONNECTION With your child, listen to the lead story on the news. How does the reporter want you to feel about the story? What words or images are used to convey this message?

Skill Reminder • The **case** of a pronoun is the form that shows how it is used in a sentence. • A subject pronoun is in the **subjective case**. • An object pronoun is in the **objective case**. • A possessive pronoun is in the **possessive case**.

► In the sentences below, underline the subject pronouns once. Underline the object pronouns twice. Circle the possessive pronouns.

1. Dan and I heard a strange noise coming from my bedroom ceiling.
2. He said that something must be drilling through our roof.
3. We saw something that startled him more than me.
4. Aliens were coming to visit us.
5. They smiled, and their skin seemed to glow.



► Write the kind of sentence asked for in each question.

6. Write the sentence that has a pronoun in the objective case.
 - A She loves to read books about aliens.
 - B *Weird Stories* is her favorite book.
 - C The author, Dan Salvage, wrote a letter to her.

7. Write the sentence that has a pronoun in the subjective case.
 - A Mr. Salvage thanked her for writing.
 - B His letter was fascinating to read.
 - C He must have spent a lot of time on that letter.

8. Write the sentence that has a pronoun in the possessive case.
 - A She and Dad were so excited!
 - B Her dad read the letter and wanted to read the book.
 - C "Give it to me," he said.

Skill Reminder

• When you add the suffix *-tion* to a word, the spelling of the base word changes if it ends in silent *e*. • When you add the suffix *-ness*, the spelling of the base word changes if it ends in *y*.

Spelling: Suffixes
-tion and *-ness*

► Fold the paper along the dotted line. As each spelling word is read aloud, write it in the blank. Then unfold your paper, and check your work. Practice spelling any words you missed.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____
16. _____
17. _____
18. _____
19. _____
20. _____

SPELLING WORDS

1. *translation*
2. *laziness*
3. *population*
4. *invention*
5. *generation*
6. *examination*
7. *situation*
8. *operation*
9. *sickness*
10. *kindness*
11. *closeness*
12. *forgiveness*
13. *pollution*
14. *imagination*
15. *education*
16. *transportation*
17. *federation*
18. *subtraction*
19. *smallness*
20. *lateness*

