

Name _____ Date _____

Story Structure

The ACES Phone
Comprehension: Story Structure

Read the selection below.

Dry Spell

Anna and Mark sat in a field of cacti on the edge of the camp. Mark scratched at the brittle earth with a prickly frond. The plant cracked in two against the concrete texture of the ground.

“How many days’ worth do they think we have?” Anna asked.

“Three, maybe four,” Mark said.

“A group of adults went into the hills to investigate for signs of springs.”

“But no one has found a fresh spring here for hundreds of years!”

“I know.” Mark peeled pieces of vegetation from the broken cactus.

“Remember the tales of the great rivers? All that sweet, good water, just there for the taking,” Anna said.

“Figures. No way to wash, and the sap from this cactus leaked all over my hand.” Mark licked his finger to rub off the sticky residue. “Sweet.”

“I read in one Ancestor Book that people used to make syrup from them,” said Anna.

Anna and Mark looked at each other before their eyes widened at the wealth of squat cacti littering the ground.

Fill in the Story Map to keep track of story elements as you read. Then answer the question below.

Characters:	Setting:
Plot:	

What details in the story help you determine the setting?

Name _____ Date _____

Story Structure

The ACES Phone
Comprehension:
Story Structure

Read the selection below.

The Science Fair

“Jamie, you’d better hurry, or you’ll be late for the science fair,” Jamie’s mom said.

“It’s not fair,” said Jamie. “Why does Jemmie get to do the same project that I did? How can I win the science fair if we both did the same project?”

“Now, Jamie. You know that Jemmie was programmed to think just like you. She’s a robot after all, and she isn’t capable of coming up with her own ideas,” her mother said. “Besides, you might have the same idea, but the results are what counts.” Jamie shrugged and

glided to school. At the fair, Jamie pulled the bag off her purple-stemmed flowers and ignored the pink-stemmed blooms sitting in front of the smirking Jemmie.

Jemmie and Jamie had the same hair, but Jemmie had hairglued hers into a spiky design. Jemmie preened as she sprayed a big mist of hairglue over her hair. The cloud enveloped both Jemmie and her project. Jemmie gasped as the pink stems crumpled and wilted.

Jamie smiled as the judges placed the glowing award orb on her blooms. “I guess the results are what counts.”

Complete a Story Map for the selection above. Then answer the questions below.

1. What can you infer about the relationship between Jamie and Jemmie?

2. What can you infer about the setting of this story?

Name _____ Date _____

Prefixes *de-*, *trans-*

The ACES Phone
Vocabulary Strategies:
Prefixes *de-*, *trans-*

The words in the box begin with the prefixes *de-*, meaning “undo,” or *trans-*, meaning “across.” Choose which word best completes each sentence.

transmissions	transform	transplant	transcript
detach	deflate	desegregate	decaffeinate

- The radio could no longer send _____ to headquarters.
- Coffee brewers soak the beans in liquid in order to _____ them.
- It helps to _____ the tires a little when riding a bike off road.
- An official _____ of their conversation is kept on file.
- In 1957, President Eisenhower used troops to _____ a school in Little Rock, Arkansas.
- In May, it is warm enough to _____ the tomatoes outside.
- Good posture can _____ a person’s bad attitude into a good one.
- Can you help me _____ this hook from the wall so I can replace it?

Name _____ Date _____

Vowel + /r/ Sounds

The ACES Phone
Spelling: Vowel + /r/ Sounds

Basic Write the Basic Word that best replaces the underlined word or words.

I live in a(n) (1) city area, so I didn't think I would like camping. The place we were going felt like a (2) remote area where no one lives. Local rangers were a (3) point of information for us. On our first night camping, the rangers told us the (4) device that reflects radio waves showed a big storm coming. The air was cold, and there was a (5) very strong wind. I put on my (6) hooded jacket. I began to (7) long for my warm bed. I declared to my dad I'd never go camping again! But the next morning everything was different. The ground was covered with snow, and there was a thin layer of ice on the (8) top part of the river.

"Let's go for a hike," I said, while walking (9) straight ahead. "So it seems that you like camping after all!" he said with a (10) smug smile.

Spelling Words

1. source
2. flirt
3. hurdle
4. parka
5. frontier
6. forward
7. radar
8. earnest
9. afford
10. urban
11. discard
12. smirk
13. rehearse
14. mourn
15. surface
16. parcel
17. yearn
18. fierce
19. starch
20. formula

Challenge

horizontal
circuit
reimburse
formidable
monarchy

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 10. _____ |

Challenge Imagine you have just seen a movie with kings, knights, and dragons. Write a review of the movie. Use three of the Challenge Words. Write on a separate sheet of paper.

Name _____ Date _____

Spelling Word Sort

The ACES Phone
Spelling: Vowel + /r/ Sounds

Write each Basic Word beside the correct heading.

<p><i>/ûr/ spelled ur, ir, or ear</i></p>	
<p><i>/ôr/ spelled our or or</i></p>	
<p><i>/är/ spelled ar</i></p>	
<p><i>/îr/ spelled ier</i></p>	

Spelling Words

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16. parcel
17. yearn
18. fierce
19. starch
20. formula

Challenge Add the Challenge Words to your Word Sort.

Connect to Reading Look through *The ACES Phone*. Find words with the /ûr/, /ôr/, /är/, /îr/ spelling patterns on this page. Add them to your Word Sort.

Challenge
horizontal
circuit
reimburse
formidable
monarchy

Name _____ Date _____

Proofreading for Spelling

The ACES Phone
Spelling: Vowel + /r/ Sounds

Find the misspelled words and circle them. Write them correctly on the lines below.

Fran awoke as the starship reached the fronteer of the galaxy and began to discard the fluid in which she had been suspended. Her face was still stiff from the startch in the fluid when her first mate raised his ernest face. They couldn't aforrd to waste time. There was a strict formyula for re-entry. They must not miss the gravity dome on the surfice of the wormhole.

They already crossed the first hurdl—everyone was still alive. Last trip, Fran was forced to morne the loss of a crew member. That time they were lucky to return home. No one had thought to rehearse wormhole entry. After that disaster, Fran had vowed never to flurt with disaster again. This time they were prepared. After all, the parsel she carried was too important. She had to deliver it to her home planet.

Spelling Words

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- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 10. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 11. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 12. _____ |

Name _____ Date _____

Recognizing Nouns

The ACES Phone
Grammar: Common and
Proper Nouns

A **common noun** names any person, place, thing, or idea.

A **proper noun** names a particular person, place, thing, or idea, and begins with a capital letter.

common proper

I live in the state of Minnesota.

A **concrete noun** names a thing that can be experienced with one or more of the five senses.

An **abstract noun** names a thing that cannot be experienced with any of the five senses.

abstract concrete

Janine had a plan to bake cookies.

A **collective noun** names a group of persons, places, things, or ideas, and is singular in form.

collective noun

Our football team just won the championship!

Thinking Question

What kinds of people, places, things, and ideas are named in the sentence?

Activity Label each underlined noun as *common* or *proper*.

1. The capital of Tennessee is Nashville.

2. My thoughts turned to the big game against the Bears.

Activity Label each underlined noun as *concrete*, *abstract*, or *collective*.

3. The girl had a dream about her family.

4. The band paid attention to how it packed up its instruments.

Name _____ Date _____

Capitalizing Proper Nouns

The ACES Phone
Grammar: Common and Proper Nouns

Proper nouns are specific people, places, and things. They should always be **capitalized**.

Organizations	ASPCA, the Boy Scouts
Historical periods and events	the Great Depression, the Renaissance
Buildings	the Louvre, the Empire State Building
Monuments	the Taj Mahal, the Washington Monument
Nationalities	Greek
Languages	Russian
Family relationships	Uncle Jim
Regions	the West

Thinking Question

Does this noun name a particular person, place, or thing?

Activity Underline the words that should be capitalized.

1. The red cross helped the kansas flood victims.
2. When aunt fran arrived with the pies, thanksgiving officially began.
3. Have you ever been to mount rushmore?
4. Cowboys roamed the old west on horseback.
5. My friend freyja is icelandic.
6. I will attend central high school.
7. My favorite place to visit is central park.
8. Our assignment is due on thursday.

Name _____ Date _____

Appositives

The ACES Phone
Grammar: Common and Proper Nouns

An **appositive** is a word or group of words that follows a noun and identifies or explains the noun. Appositives are usually set off from the rest of the sentence by commas.

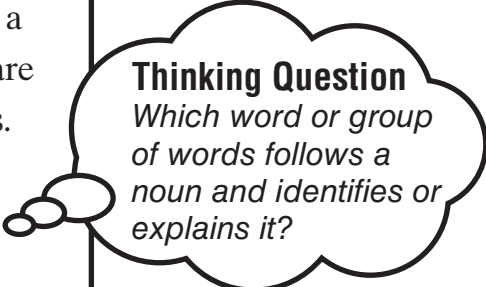
appositive

Shadow, the family dog, jumped up on the sofa.

You can use an appositive to combine two short sentences.

I saw Jim in the park. Jim is my study partner.

I saw Jim, my study partner, in the park.



1–4. Underline the appositive and circle the noun it explains.

1. Ted, our neighbor, waved as we pulled into the driveway.
2. Marley, my golden retriever, stuck his head out of the car window.
3. The whale shark, the largest type of shark, can grow up to 40 feet long.
4. Do you want to go to Burger Barn, the restaurant near my house?

5–8. Combine the sentences by adding an appositive.

5. Laura met me at the mall. Laura is my friend from dance class.

6. We wanted to go to G-World. G-World is our local grocery store.

7. Did you meet Christine? Christine is Sheila's cousin.

8. Baristas seem to enjoy their jobs. Baristas are people who make coffee.

Name _____ Date _____

Writing Titles and Quotations

The ACES Phone
Grammar: Spiral Review

Titles of Long Works	Titles of Shorter Works
I read the book <u>Diary of a Runaway Puppy</u> . I have seen <u>Speaking With the Animals</u> twice. We listened to Beethoven's <u>Ninth Symphony</u> .	The chorus sang "The Whistle." We read the poem "Fuzzy Tail." I am reading the chapter called "Brainwaves."

Direct Quotations	The woman said, "I can't find my dog." "He's the cutest little thing," she added. "He must be scared," she explained, "because he's never been away from the yard." "I must find him!" she exclaimed. "Will you help me?"
Indirect Quotations	The woman said that her dog had squeezed under the fence.

1–5. Write each title correctly.

1. Animal ESP: A Real Phenomenon? (book) _____
2. Behavior Patterns of Lost Animals (article) _____
3. Dog and Cat Monthly (magazine) _____
4. A Pets Life (poem) _____
5. Hungry Like the Wolf (short story) _____

6–8. Rewrite the sentence to correct capitalization and punctuation errors. Write *DQ* if the sentence contains a direct quotation. Write *IQ* if it contains an indirect quotation.

6. She said "That her dog Willy was missing."

7. "do you think," he asked, "That your dog is just hiding from you?"

8. "He does like to hide she said he can hide for hours."

Name _____ Date _____

Word Choice

The ACES Phone
Grammar: Connect to Writing

Using precise words such as appositives makes writing clearer and more interesting.

Mr. Grogan, a member of the committee, made an impassioned speech.

Carla, my best friend, always calls me after school.

Farfalle, a noodle that looks like a bow tie, is delicious with marinara sauce.

Shopping at Mulberry Center, a great fresh produce store, is expensive.

Read the sentences. Look for nouns that could be explained more clearly by adding appositives. Rewrite each sentence with one new appositive.

1. Olivia rode her bike toward Willow Glen.

2. James entertained everyone after dinner.

3. Shelly hid behind the rhododendron.

4. Camp Bluebell is a great place to spend the summer.

5. My mother took two helpings of shortcake.

6. The movie was scary.

Name _____ Date _____

Focus Trait: Organization

Interesting Conflict

The ACES Phone
Writing: Write to Express

A plot is a series of events with a beginning, a middle, and an end. A strong plot includes an interesting conflict, or problem, that readers are curious to see resolved.

A weak plot has an uninteresting conflict or no conflict at all.

Weak Conflict: *A dog lives on its own in an abandoned building.*

Interesting Conflict: *A dog is trapped in an abandoned building that is about to be demolished.*

Read each conflict. Add details to help make the plot more interesting.

Write your revised conflict.

1. **Weak Conflict:** A boy's family would like to move to a new apartment.

Interesting Conflict: _____

2. **Weak Conflict:** A woman loses her knapsack.

Interesting Conflict: _____

3. **Weak Conflict:** A girl prepares for a skating competition.

Interesting Conflict: _____

4. **Weak Conflict:** A boy helps his family run a shelter for stray cats and enjoys it.

Interesting Conflict: _____

