

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## UNIT I: READING

About Unit I: Reading .....	2
Unit I: SUMMARY OF READING KEYS .....	3
Summary of TEST TAKING SKILLS (Objective Questions) .....	4

### Information: Science

#### King Tutankhamen's Tomb

Keys to Comprehension: <b>Setting</b> .....	5
King Tutankhamen's Tomb .....	6-8
Objective Questions: Critical Thinking .....	9-10

### Information: Social Studies

#### Brave Dogs, Gentle Dogs by Cat Urbigkit

Keys to Comprehension: <b>Theme</b> .....	11
Brave Dogs, Gentle Dogs .....	12-13
Objective Questions: Critical Thinking .....	14-15

### Information: Science

#### Frog Heaven: Ecology of a Vernal Pool by Doug Wechsler

Keys to Comprehension: <b>Sequence</b> .....	16
Frog Heaven: Ecology of a Vernal Pool .....	17-19
Objective Questions: Critical Thinking .....	20-21

### Information: Science

#### Emme Loves Bees by Jane Resides

Keys to Comprehension: <b>Main Ideas and Details</b> .....	22
Emma Loves Bees .....	23-25
Objective Questions: Critical Thinking .....	26-27

### Fiction: Poetry

#### I Never Said I Wasn't Difficult by Sara Holbrook

Keys to Comprehension: <b>Figurative Language</b> .....	28
I Never Said I Wasn't Difficult .....	29-30
Objective Questions: Critical Thinking .....	31-32

### Information: Social Studies

#### Cooking with the Sun by Jennifer Davidson

Keys to Comprehension: <b>Cause and Effect</b> .....	33
Cooking with the Sun .....	34-35
Objective Questions: Critical Thinking .....	36-37



### Information: Science

**The Big Dance in the Heavens** by E. Fischer  
Keys to Comprehension: **Author’s Purpose** .....38  
The Big Dance in the Heavens ..... 39-40  
Objective Questions: Critical Thinking ..... 41-43

### Information: Recipe

**Pumpkin Bread** by Glenda Palmer  
Keys to Comprehension: **Memoir**.....44  
Pumpkin Bread ..... 45-46  
Objective Questions: Critical Thinking ..... 47-48

### Information: Personal Narrative

**Dan Jansen: In Quest of Gold** by Jack Rightmyer  
Keys to Comprehension: **Character Traits**.....49  
Dan Jansen: In Quest of Gold ..... 50-51  
Objective Questions: Critical Thinking ..... 52-53

## UNIT II: WRITING

**About Unit II: Writing** .....56

### The Short Constructed-Response Question (Short C-R)

How to Answer the Short C-R Question .....57  
Tips for the Short C-R Question.....58

### Information: Two Personal Narratives

**Baseball Now and Then** ..... 59-60  
Short C-R Questions ..... 61-62

### The Extended Constructed-Response Question (Extended C-R)

How to Answer the Extended C-R Question .....63  
Tip for the Extended C-R Question.....64

### Fiction: Folktale

**The Smell of Money: An Israeli Folktale** by Sheldon Oberman..... 65-66  
Short C-R Questions ..... 67-68  
Prewriting: Graphic Organizer .....69  
Extended C-R Question/Essay Draft ..... 70-71  
Sharpen Your Writing Skills: **Use Descriptive Words** .....72  
Revise and Edit Charts for *The Smell of Money* .....73





## Paired Stories

Working with Paired Stories .....74

## Fiction and Information: Compare and Contrast

**A Fiction Story: Frosted Fire** by Sheila Kelly Welch ..... 75-77

**A How-To Article: Speak to Your Class with Confidence** by Ron Kurtus..... 78-79

Short C-R Questions ..... 80-81

Prewriting: Graphic Organizer .....82

Extended C-R Question/Essay Draft ..... 83-84

Sharpen Your Writing Skills: **Sentence Structure** .....85

Revise and Edit Charts for *Frosted Fire* and *Speak to Your Class with Confidence*.....86

## Information: Compare and Contrast

**A Biography: It All Depends on How You Look At It**..... 87-89

**A Biography: Popping In with Robert Sabuda** by Patricia J. Murphy ..... 90-91

Short C-R Questions ..... 92-93

Prewriting: Graphic Organizer .....94

Extended C-R Question/Essay Draft ..... 95-96

Sharpen Your Writing Skills: **Sentence Fragments – Run-On Sentences** .....97

Revise and Edit Charts for *It All Depends on How You Look At It* and 97

*Popping In with Robert Sabuda* .....98

## Fiction and Information: Compare and Contrast

**A Myth: The Trojan Horse: A Greek Myth**..... 99-100

**A Social Studies Article: The Parthenon: A Giant Optical Illusion**  
by J. Rogers .....101

Short C-R Questions ..... 102-103

Prewriting: Graphic Organizer .....104

Extended C-R Question/Essay Draft ..... 105-106

Sharpen Your Writing Skills: **Using Transitions** .....107

Revise and Edit Charts for *The Trojan Horse: A Greek Myth* and *The Parthenon: A Giant Optical Illusion*.....108

## Information: Compare and Contrast

**A Biography: Ted Reilly: It All Started at the Family Farm “Mlilwane”**  
by Cristina Kessler..... 109-111

**A Social Studies Article: The War Against Poaching**  
by Cristina Kessler..... 112-113

Short C-R Questions ..... 114-115

Prewriting: Graphic Organizer .....116

Extended C-R Question/Essay Draft ..... 117-118

Sharpen Your Writing Skills: **Using Apostrophes** .....119

Revise and Edit Charts for *Ted Reilly* and *The War Against Poaching* .....120



## UNIT III: TEST

About The Test – Part 1: Reading .....124

### Information: Science

Finding Polar Bear Dens by Jack Meyers, Ph.D. .... 125-126

Objective Questions: Critical Thinking ..... 127-128

### Literature: Poetry

Four Little Foxes by Lew Sarett.....129

Objective Questions: Critical Thinking ..... 130-131

### Information: Social Studies

High in the Mountains of Ecuador by David Meissner..... 132-133

Objective Questions: Critical Thinking ..... 134-135

Test: Part II: Writing.....136

### Information: Social Studies

Who Was John Wilkes Booth? by Harold Holzer ..... 137-139

Short C-R Questions ..... 140-141

Prewriting: Graphic Organizer .....142

Extended C-R Question/Essay ..... 143-144

### Information and Fiction: Compare and Contrast

A Personal Narrative: Whale Watching in Hawaii..... 145-147

A Poem: Sea Canary by Jane Yolen.....148

Short C-R Questions ..... 149-150

Prewriting: Graphic Organizer .....151

Extended C-R Question/Essay ..... 152-153

# Keys to Comprehension

## SETTING

**Setting** describes the time and place of a story. However, it does more than that. The setting also has an impact on the **plot**, **characters**, and **mood** of the story.

### Setting has an impact on the plot:

Imagine this plot: Jim has to overcome a fear that stops him from doing his best. How would the plot be changed in each of the following settings?

- A ship at sea in a storm
- On a ski slope
- In a classroom

### Setting affects the characters:

How does a character react in the following settings?

- Different historical periods: The Revolutionary War, Outer Space, the Wild West
- Different geographic locations: The city, the suburb, the farm, a foreign country
- Different environments: The school dance, the family reunion, the after school job

**Setting affects the mood** (the emotions the story brings out in the reader):

### Read the following paragraph:

*Paul earned a dollar each time he delivered a package for Mr. Gonzalez, the owner of the magic shop. It was usually an easy job, but this time he had some qualms. He clutched the mystery package to his chest and walked to the gloomy, ramshackle house on Market Street. Paul cringed as he pushed the gate open and it scraped the walkway. The old stairs creaked from his weight and he tried to tip toe to the door. A sound like crackling laughter came from inside the house. Paul had a feeling he should turn and run!*

How does Paul feel? What feeling do you get from the description of the setting?

## Ask Yourself:

**Lines 1-4:** What does the author want me to understand about the setting of this article?

**Pictures p. 6 and 8:** How do these pictures make the geography better to understand?

**Lines 31-33:** What does the author want me to understand about digs?

**Lines 61-62:** What does the author want me to think about?

# King Tutankhamen's Tomb

**5** The Valley of the Kings in Egypt has fascinated people for centuries. It is the burial ground of many pharaohs, the ancient kings of Egypt. The pharaoh was the most important and powerful person in the kingdom as well as the high priest of every temple. The people of Egypt considered the pharaoh to be half-man, half-god. He ran the government and led troops into battle. In addition, the pharaoh possessed enormous wealth.



**In the Valley of the Kings scientists have uncovered at least 63 burial chambers of Pharaohs and powerful nobles, dating from the 16th to the 11th century B.C.**

**10** The tombs of the pharaohs lie buried under the Egyptian desert sands. These tombs are so large that some have several rooms. The ancient Egyptians believed in life after death, so they filled the tombs with all kinds of treasure. The pharaoh would be just as rich in the next world as he had been in this one.

**15** The Egyptians had developed a process that preserved bodies for centuries. After the body was placed in a casket, the face of the dead person was painted on the top. For thousands of years, robbers have searched for the tombs. Sometimes raiders have found them. Over many centuries, the thieves have stolen a hoard of wealth. However, no one had located or disturbed the tomb of King Tutankhamen.

During the early 1900s, another type of treasure hunter became interested in The Valley of the Kings. Archeologists arrived on the scene, believing they could learn about the culture of ancient Egypt from the tombs.

## Howard Carter, Archeologist

**20** Howard Carter was born in Kensington, England in 1874. At 17, Carter was given a chance to go to Egypt as an artist for the Egypt Exploration Fund. He began by drawing items the archeologists found at the digs. He continued his career in Egypt and came to be known as an expert archeologist. Finally, he made a discovery that made him famous. He found Tutankhamen's **crypt**.

**crypt** = an underground room for burying the dead

## 25 King Tutankhamen

King Tutankhamen, the boy-king, became pharaoh when he was nine years old, in 1337 B.C. and reigned until 1328 B.C. This was during the eighteenth dynasty when the Egyptian Empire was at its most glorious. He died when he was 18, so he reigned for only nine years.

## 30 The Tomb Uncovered

Lord Carnarvon from England had the money to finance a "dig" in The Valley of the Kings. Carnarvon and the archeologist Howard Carter unearthed the tomb of the boy pharaoh, Tutankhamen, in 1922. It lay protected under the dry desert sands.

**35** After many years of expensive digging and searching, Carter dug up a stairway. It led to a long hall ending in a door bearing the name Tutankhamen. Behind the door, lay a wealth of treasure. There were life-size statues standing guard. A golden throne had a panel behind it showing the king and queen. They had faces of red glass and headpieces of turquoise. In the next room, workers found ivory chairs and alabaster vases, but no sign of a casket or a mummy.

**40** Finally, Carter came to the room containing Tutankhamen's mummy. It was in a casket of gold covered with semi-precious stones. His face and arms were painted on it in detail.

**45** The final room, the Treasury, contained riches for Tutankhamen's new life. There were weapons, games, baskets, sandals, pottery, and many other things. The king, who lived 33 centuries ago, revealed the life and customs of his time.

**50** Once the newspapers published the extraordinary news that the magnificent tomb had been revealed, people began to refer to the pharaoh as King Tut.



## The Curse?

The idea of a pharaoh's curse did not begin with the discovery of King Tut's tomb.

**60** The tombs of many pharaohs have carried warnings against thieves who would steal. Warnings written on walls in the tombs would say things like: DEATH WILL COME TO THOSE WHO DISTURB THE SLEEP OF THE PHARAOHS.

**65** In the modern world, most people do not believe in curses. But events that happened after King Tut's tomb was opened for the first time in three thousand years sent a ripple of fear across the world. Was the tomb cursed?

**70** Lord Carnarvon had made the dig possible. He and Howard Carter, the archeologist, had been the first to marvel at the treasure in King Tut's tomb. At that time, Lord Carnarvon was stung by a mosquito. A while later, he cut the wound when shaving. It became infected and Carnarvon died on April 5, 1923, just 47 days after the opening of the tomb.

Some modern scientists claim there was no curse. They have this theory:

Fill a tomb with human remains; add enough food and drink to last for a long, long time; bury the cask and leave it sealed for centuries. When it is finally opened, it must contain poisonous gas and bacteria. Lord Carnarvon breathed the air and died.

**75** But, why didn't Carter die? What do you think? Is there a curse?





## Tips for Answering the Objective Question

In this book, there is no guessing penalty. **Never leave a blank.** When unsure, eliminate answers you know aren't right. Then take an educated guess using the process of elimination.

### Circle the letter next to the correct answer.

1. **Part A.** Why were valuables included in the tombs of Egyptian pharaohs?
  - a. They thought the wealth would be used in their next life.
  - b. They expected the dead to protect it.
  - c. They thought it was infected with their illness.
  - d. They thought it would bring bad luck.
  
1. **Part B.** Which statement from the passage best helps the reader understand this?
  - a. *"The ancient Egyptians believed in life after death,..."* (lines 8-9)
  - b. *"The pharaoh would be just as rich in the next world as he had been in this one."* (lines 9-10)
  - c. *"These tombs are so large that some have several rooms."* (lines 7-8)
  - d. *"The Egyptians had developed a process that preserved bodies for centuries."* (line 11)
  
2. Read the following sentence from lines 11-12 of the passage:  
**After the body was placed in a casket, the face of the dead person was painted on the top.**  
  
As used above, the word "casket" most nearly means:
  - a. tub.
  - b. coffin.
  - c. grave.
  - d. room.
  
3. What was the first indication that the archeologists had discovered the tomb of King Tutankhamen?
  - a. The doorway bore his name.
  - b. They had found wealth that only a king could amass.
  - c. The stairway indicated it was a king's tomb.
  - d. His face and arms were painted on the gold cask.

- 4. Part A.** After reading this article, the reader can determine that:
- most archeological digs are quickly abandoned.
  - archeological digs are very costly.
  - most archeologists are former artists.
  - archeologists hope to become rich from their finds.
- 4. Part B.** The information to support this answer can best be found under the heading:
- Howard Carter, Archeologist*
  - King Tutankhamen*
  - The Tomb Uncovered*
  - The Curse?*
- 5.** The most unusual fact that lines 26-29 reveal about King Tutankhamen is:
- he was buried in a crypt.
  - he served as pharaoh during the eighteenth dynasty.
  - he reigned for only nine years.
  - he ruled and died while still a child.
- 6.** What made Lord Carnarvon and Howard Carter the perfect pair for this dig?
- Both had made many forays in search of King Tutankhamen's tomb.
  - Each possessed secret knowledge of The Valley of the Kings.
  - One had the expertise; the other had the funds.
  - One was a native of Egypt; the other was a frequent visitor.
- 7.** What was unique about King Tutankhamen's tomb?
- It had been buried deeper than any other tomb.
  - It had never been discovered.
  - It held the body of a great Egyptian ruler.
  - It lay far beyond the borders of Egypt.
- 8.** What is the purpose of the last line of this article?
- It leaves the reader with cause for doubt.
  - It discredits the theory of a curse.
  - It reveals the author's true feelings.
  - It summarizes the passage.