WOMEN'S HISTORY

Close Reading







Women in History Name: Date:

620L

Mae Jemison

Mae Jemison is an inspirational woman. She changed people's minds about African-American women and their role in science. She was the first African American woman to travel into space. Mae has accomplished many things despite the challenges she faced.

Mae Jemison was born on October 17, 1956. As a child, Mae always wanted to be an astronaut. When Mae was in kindergarten, her teacher asked her what she wanted to be when she grew up. Mae told her that she wanted to be a



Women in History Name: Date:

Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated.

What is Mae Jemison best known for?

Mae was an inspirational woman.
Mae was the first African American female to travel in space.
As a child, Mae wanted to be a scientist.
Mae followed her dreams.

Women in History Name: Date:

600L

Sonia Sotomayor

There are nine judges on the Supreme Court. This is the highest court in the United States. Sonia Sotomayor is one of them.

Sonia Sotomayor was born on June 25, 1954 in Bronx, New York. Her family is from Puerto Rico. Her mother was a nurse. Her father worked in manufacturing. Sonia's father died when she was nine years old. Her mother had to work hard to support her and her brother. She also thought that school was very important. She made sure that Sonia went to college.

Women in History Name: Date:

Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated.

1. How did Eleanor show she was different at an early age?
   a. Eleanor wanted to be called "granny."
   b. Eleanor was born in Manhattan, New York.
   c. Eleanor was very serious and simple.
   d. Eleanor was the niece of Theodore Roosevelt.

2. The table on page 1 highlights important facts and events about Eleanor. What information does the table include that is not in the text?
   a. Eleanor's birthday
   b. that Eleanor was a Democrat
   c. how old Eleanor was when she died
   d. that Eleanor was married to F

760L

Women in History Name: Date:

Eleanor Roosevelt

Born	October 11, 1884
Died	November 7, 1962
First Lady of the United States	March 4, 1933-April 12, 1945
Political Party	Democrat
Spouse	Franklin D. Roosevelt

Eleanor had two younger brothers, Elliot Jr. and Gracie Hall. She also had a half-brother named Elliot. When Eleanor was eight years old, her mother died of diphtheria. Her brother Elliot Jr. passed away from the same disease. He died a few months later.

Women's History

What character traits do you think are important for women to have who make a mark on history? Use details and examples from some of the women you read about to support your thinking.









4th & 5th Grade

LEXILE

MagCORE

ABOUT LEXILE LEVELS

MagiCore is a certified Lexile® Partner. These texts are officially measured and approved by Lexile and MetaMetrics® to ensure appropriate rigor and differentiation for students.

The Lexile Framework® for Reading measures are scientific, quantitative text levels. When the Lexile of a text is measured, specific, measurable attributes of the text are considered, including, but not limited to, word frequency, sentence length, and text cohesion. These are difficult attributes for humans to evaluate, so a computer measures them.

Common Core State Standards uses Lexile level bands as one measure of text complexity. Text complexity ranges ensure students are college and career ready by the end of 12th grade. Lexile measures help educators scaffold and differentiate instruction as well as monitor reading growth.

Grade Band	Lexile® Bands Aligned to Common Core Expectations
K-1	N/A
2-3	420L-820L
4-5	740L-1010L
6-8	925L-1185L

Keep in mind when using any leveled text that many students will need scaffolding and support to reach text at the high end of their grade band. According to Appendix A of the Common Core Standards, "It is important to recognize that scaffolding often is entirely appropriate. The expectation that scaffolding will occur with particularly challenging texts is built into the Standards' grade-by-grade text complexity expectations, for example. The general movement, however, should be toward decreasing scaffolding and increasing independence both within and across the text complexity bands defined in the Standards."

WOMEN'S HISTORY

4th - 5th grade

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810L

Women in History Name: _____ Date: _____

Laura Ingalls Wilder

Laura Ingalls was born on February 7, 1867, in the Big Woods region of Wisconsin. She was the second daughter to her parents and one of five children. Laura and her family were pioneers. They moved from Wisconsin when she was two-years-old. They settled in Kansas in Indian country. The family soon moved again because their home was located on an Indian reservation that they were not supposed to inhabit. The Ingalls family continued to move around the West for years to come.

Eventually, the Ingalls ended up in De Smet, South Dakota. The Ingalls watched De Smet grow from a prairie into a town. Laura went to school in De Smet, and just before she turned sixteen, she became a teacher. Three years later, Laura married Almanzo Wilder and stopped teaching. Soon after, Laura and Almanzo had a daughter they named Rose. The Wilder family had many disasters strike them. Almanzo got very sick and lost the use of his legs, but he eventually recovered. Their baby boy passed away. They also lost their home in a fire. Laura and Almanzo moved around a few times until they settled down in Missouri. Almanzo's parents purchased a log cabin for the couple, which Laura and Almanzo expanded and added a farm. They grew fruit and produced poultry and dairy. Laura became a writer and editor for the newspaper named Missouri Ruralist.



Laura with her two sisters. Left to Right: Carrie, Mary, Laura



Laura's daughter Rose became a very successful writer. She helped support her parents. The Stock Market Crash of 1929 wiped out the Wilders' and Rose's savings. Laura decided to write an autobiography of her pioneer days in hopes of earning money. Laura's first book was titled Little House in the Big Woods. This book is about Laura's early childhood in Wisconsin. Little House in the Big Woods was very successful. Laura went on to write numerous other books about her life. The success of Laura's Little House books helped her family recover from The Stock Market Crash. Laura also earned many honors for her books.

Laura and Almanzo continued to live at Rocky Ridge Farm. Many fans came to meet Laura in her final years of life. Almanzo passed away when he was 92 years old. Laura continued to live on the farm for eight more years, until she died three days after her 90th birthday. Her farm became a museum, and the Little House books were turned into a popular television show. Laura and her family's legacy lives on today through her books and television show.



Laura and Almanzo



Rocky Ridge Farm

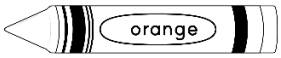
Women in History Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated.



1. Why did the Ingalls family move from Kansas?

a. They were pioneers.
b. Laura turned two years old.
c. They continued to move west.
d. They accidentally settled on an Indian reservation.



2. What is the main idea of this article?

a. Laura was one of five children.
b. Laura Ingalls Wilder died when she was 90.
c. Laura married Almanzo and had a daughter named Rose.
d. Laura Ingalls Wilder was a pioneer who wrote books about her life.

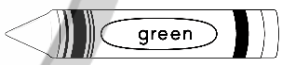


3. Read these sentences from paragraph 1 of the passage.

Laura and her family were pioneers. They moved from Wisconsin when she was two years old.

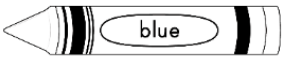
What does the word "pioneers" mean?

a. people who are teachers
b. people who have five children
c. people who explore and settle new areas
d. people who move when they are two years old



4. Why did Laura write the Little House books?

a. Laura's daughter Rose was a writer.
b. Laura earned many honors for her books.
c. Laura wanted her books to be turned into a television show about her life.
d. Laura hoped she could make money to help her family recover from the Stock Market Crash.



5. What happened after Laura's death? (Choose all that apply.)

a. Many fans came to meet Laura.
b. Rocky Ridge Farm became a museum.
c. Laura's husband Almanzo passed away.
d. Laura's books were turned into a television show.

Chaos CORE

870L

Women in History Name: _____ Date: _____

Oprah Winfrey



If you've ever watched TV, chances are you've heard of Oprah Winfrey. Oprah is a famous African American talk show host, actress, and entrepreneur. She was born on January 29, 1954 in Mississippi. Her parents were very young when they had her. They separated after she was born, so she lived with her grandmother. Her grandmother taught her to read when she was two years old. She skipped kindergarten because she wrote a letter to explain why she was ready for first grade. She became a very good speaker and gave speeches at church and school.

Oprah moved a lot when she was young. When she was 6 years old, she moved to Wisconsin to live with her mother and siblings. Her life then was difficult because they were very poor and lived in a dangerous neighborhood. When she was 12 years old, she moved to Tennessee to live with her father. Her father was strict and made her read lots of books and do book reports. Because of his rules, Oprah did very well in school. She won speech contests and got a full scholarship to go to college at Tennessee State.

While in college, she was hired to be a news reporter for CBS. This was a dream job to get at such a young age, but Oprah didn't just want to report the news. Her dream was to get her own talk show where she could give her opinions on important topics happening in the world.

After college, Oprah was hired to be a host on a morning talk show in Baltimore. The ratings on the show were so good that she was hired by ABC to host a show in Chicago. When Oprah became the host, the show became one of the most popular talk shows in the country. In 1985, it became The Oprah Winfrey Show. It became the highest-rated TV talk show in America and won several Emmy awards.

©Julie Bochorso



Oprah Winfrey receiving the 2013 Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Barack Obama

Oprah was not just a talk show host. She was also a successful actress, producer, and businesswoman. She starred in movies such as The Color Purple and A Wrinkle in Time. She produced the movie Selma which was about one of Martin Luther King's famous civil rights marches. She started O Magazine and Oprah's Book Club. She co-founded the TV network Oxygen, Oprah and Friends and now has her own channel called the Oprah Winfrey Network (OWN).

Today, Oprah is one of the richest people in the United States. As a result, she is a big philanthropist, which means that she donates her money to good causes. She started a charity called Oprah's Angels which built a 40-million-dollar school in South Africa for girls in need. She also stands up for race and gender equality and against child abuse.



Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls in South Africa

©Julie Bochorso

Women in History Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated.

1. Read this quote from the passage:

"She skipped kindergarten because she wrote a letter to explain why she was ready for first grade."

Based on this fact, what can you infer about Oprah?



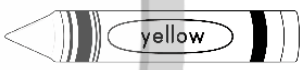
a. Opah was a smart child.
b. Oprah was very competitive.
c. Oprah pretended to know more than others.
d. At an early age, Oprah knew she wanted to be famous.

2. Which quality made Oprah a good TV talk show host?



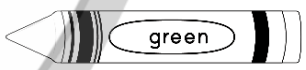
a. She was a good student.
b. She was a good speaker.
c. She was a good writer.
d. She was a good actress.

3. Which factor was the biggest reason that Oprah was successful in school?



a. She got a full scholarship.
b. She moved a lot.
c. Her father had many rules.
d. She learned to read when she was two.

4. What are five career accomplishments Oprah had?



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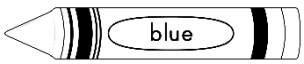
5. What is a philanthropist?



a. Someone who is rich.
b. Someone who helps a cause.
c. Someone who is famous.
d. Someone who is successful.

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