

Name _____

boomed

agreeable

descendants

emigration

appreciate

pioneers

vehicles

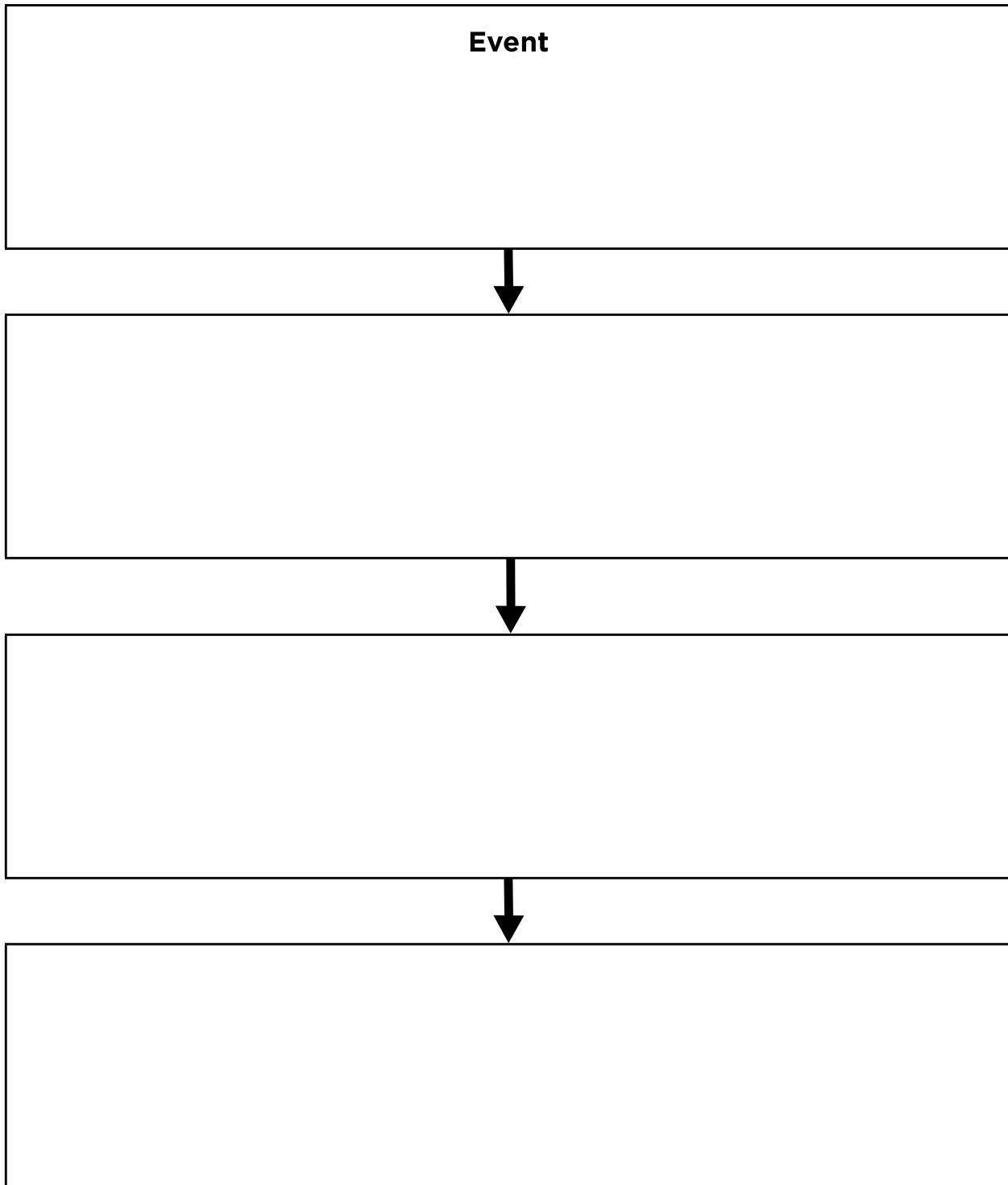
transportation

Finish each sentence using the vocabulary word provided.**Possible responses provided.**

1. **(boomed)** Because of its good location, business at the new mall boomed.
2. **(appreciate)** It is important to show your friends that you appreciate them.
3. **(agreeable)** During the springtime, the weather is often agreeable.
4. **(pioneers)** People in the 19th century who crossed the country to Oregon were pioneers.
5. **(descendants)** My family's descendants will one day tell stories about me.
6. **(vehicles)** The best way to travel long distances is to use vehicles like cars and planes.
7. **(emigration)** The history of the United States involves the emigration of people from many different places.
8. **(transportation)** If I want to go to the movies, I have to ask my mom for transportation.

Name _____

Read the selection. Complete the sequence graphic organizer.



Name _____

Read the passage. Use the summarize strategy to be sure you understand the text.

Mississippi Steamboats

11 What if you want something sent from far away? The goods
12 will travel by truck or plane. But what did people do before
13 trucks and planes? How did things travel from far away? Two
14 hundred years ago, goods traveled on the Mississippi River.
15 Steamboats carried them.

46 What Is a Steamboat?

50 A steamboat is any boat powered by steam. Water is boiled and
62 turned into steam. The steam creates a force. This force is used
74 to power an engine. Steamboats often had a wheel in the back.
86 The engine would turn the wheel. This moved the steamboat
96 forward. Captains steered the steamboats from a little house
105 on the roof of the cabin. They had to be watchful of objects in
119 the river.

121 Shreve Adapts the Steamboat

125 John Fitch made the first successful steamboat. But it could
135 only float in deep water. The Mississippi was not deep. This
146 problem was fixable though. Henry Shreve adapted the steamboat
155 for the Mississippi River. First, Shreve made the steamboats able
165 to float in shallow water. Next, he used a high-pressure steam
176 engine. This made the steamboat faster. Finally, he added a
186 tall upper deck. Shreve's steamboat was the model for all other
197 Mississippi steamboats.

Name _____

The Golden Age of Steamboats

When steamboats first began to work the Mississippi, they were slow. Then steamboats got faster. People used them more. In 1834 there were about two hundred packets on the river. Twenty years later, there were about 1,000. The packet became the best way to travel the Mississippi for the next fifty years.



“Packet”-style steamboats were common on the Mississippi in the 19th century.

Currier & Ives (American printing firm, 1834–1907)/
Historicus, Inc./Library of Congress Prints and
Photographs Division [LC-USZC2-2523]

Mark Twain wrote a book called *Life on the Mississippi*. It was about his days as a steamboat captain. Sometimes Twain made steamboat travel sound nice. Yet life on a steamboat could be hard. If the captain was careless, it could be a risky way to travel. The captain had to be careful on moonless nights when it was hard to see.

The End of an Era

At first, steamboats were all over the Mississippi River. Then the railroad came along. Trains were much faster. Trains became the most acceptable way to travel. Finally, by 1920, the steamboat had all but died out. It was the end of the steamboat era.

A Steamboat for Every Occasion

There were different types of steamboats. Towboats pushed barges on the river. Boats called “packets” carried goods and people. There were even showboats, which people used to hold parties.

Name _____

A. Reread the passage and answer the questions.**Possible responses provided.****1. Who made the first successful steamboat?****John Fitch**
_____**2. What was the first thing Henry Shreve did to adapt the steamboat for use on the Mississippi?****He made the steamboat able to float in shallow water.**

_____**3. What happened after steamboats got faster?****People used steamboats more.**

_____**4. What happened after railroads became the most acceptable way to travel?****People stopped using steamboats, and they pretty much died out.**

_____**B. Work with a partner. Read the passage aloud. Pay attention to accuracy and phrasing. Stop after one minute. Fill out the chart.**

	Words Read	—	Number of Errors	=	Words Correct Score
First Read		—		=	
Second Read		—		=	

Name _____

The End of the Pony Express

On October 24, 1861, after nineteen months of service, the Pony Express came to an end. On that day the Pacific Telegraph Line was completed. Important information that had to be sent in letters could now be sent through a wire. News from one side of the continent could reach the other in seconds. Men no longer needed to ride horses over the dangerous 2,000-mile trail to deliver letters. But Americans would never forget the service these men provided for the country.

How Telegraphs Work



Tetra Images/Corbis

A telegraph operator taps out a message using Morse code, a system of dashes and dots. This message is sent as an electronic signal through a wire. The person on the other end receives the signal and decodes the message.

Answer the questions about the text.

1. How can you tell that this is an informational text?

It presents facts about a topic: the Pony Express.

2. What text features are included?

sidebar; photograph

3. How does the sidebar help you understand the text?

Possible response: It shows a picture of a telegraph and explains how it works. This helps the reader understand how it could replace the Pony Express.

Name _____

Read each sentence below. Underline the suffix of the word in bold and write the word's definition on the line.

Possible responses provided.

1. Captains steered the steamboats from a little house on the roof of the cabin. They had to be **watchful** of objects in the river.

full of watching, looking out

2. John Fitch made the first **successful** steamboat.

full of success

3. The Mississippi was not deep. This problem was **fixable** though.

can be fixed

4. The captain had to be careful on **moonless** nights when it was hard to see.

without a moon

5. Trains became the most **acceptable** way to travel.

can be accepted

Name _____

A. Read each word in the box. Sort the words by writing each under the correct heading.

found	clown	down	enjoy
join	toys	noise	moist
joyful	loud	pounce	prowl

oy as in *boy*

joyful

toys

enjoy

ou as in *house*

found

loud

pounce

oi as in *boil*

join

noise

moist

ow as in *cow*

clown

down

prowl

B. The prefixes *un-*, *dis-*, and *non-* mean “not” or “the opposite of.” Read each word pair. Circle the word that has a prefix. Write its meaning on the line.

1. disagree dishes

to not agree

2. uncle unknown

not known

3. nonfiction notebook

opposite of fiction

4. understand unhappy

not happy

5. daily distrust

to not trust

Name _____

Evidence is details and examples from a text that support a writer's ideas. This student wrote about how the author uses signal words to show the sequence of important events in a text.

Topic sentence	→	In "Mississippi Steamboats," the author uses signal words to tell the history of steamboats in time order.
Evidence	→	I read that steamboats could not float in the Mississippi River because the water was not deep. First, Henry Shreve fixed the steamboats. Next, he used a steam engine so the boat would go faster. Finally, the author says that Shreve added an upper deck. Henry Shreve fixed the problem.
Concluding statement	→	The author tells the history of the Mississippi steamboats in time order using words like <i>first</i> , <i>next</i> , and <i>finally</i> .

Write a paragraph about a story you read. Find text evidence to show how the author uses signal words to put important events in time order. Use text evidence to support your ideas.

Write a topic sentence: _____

Cite evidence from the text: **Answers will vary but should discuss how** _____**the author uses signal words and puts important events in time order.** _____**Answers should contain a clearly stated topic and complete sentences.** _____

End with a concluding statement: _____

Name _____

A. Read the draft model. Use the questions that follow the draft to help you think about formal and informal voice.

Draft Model

Studying history is super important. You can get a feel for what it was like in the past. History can also teach you a lot of stuff. It can show you about how our country came to be or why we do things the way we do today.

1. Who might the writer be addressing in this model?
2. What word can be used to replace the word “super” in the first sentence?
3. What word can be used to replace the word “stuff” in the third sentence?
4. How can you make the wording in the last sentence sound more formal?

B. Now revise the draft by adding clues to show the writer’s use of formal or informal voice.

Answers will vary but should provide clues about the voice of

the writer.