

Name _____

arrived

whispered

photographs

immigrated

inspected

moment

valuable

opportunity

Use a word from the box to answer each question. Then use the word in a sentence.

1. What is another word for *spoken in a very soft voice*? _____

2. What are the pictures taken by a camera? _____

3. What word might describe a chance for good things to happen?

4. What is another word for *a short amount of time*? _____

5. What word might describe something that is worth a lot of money?

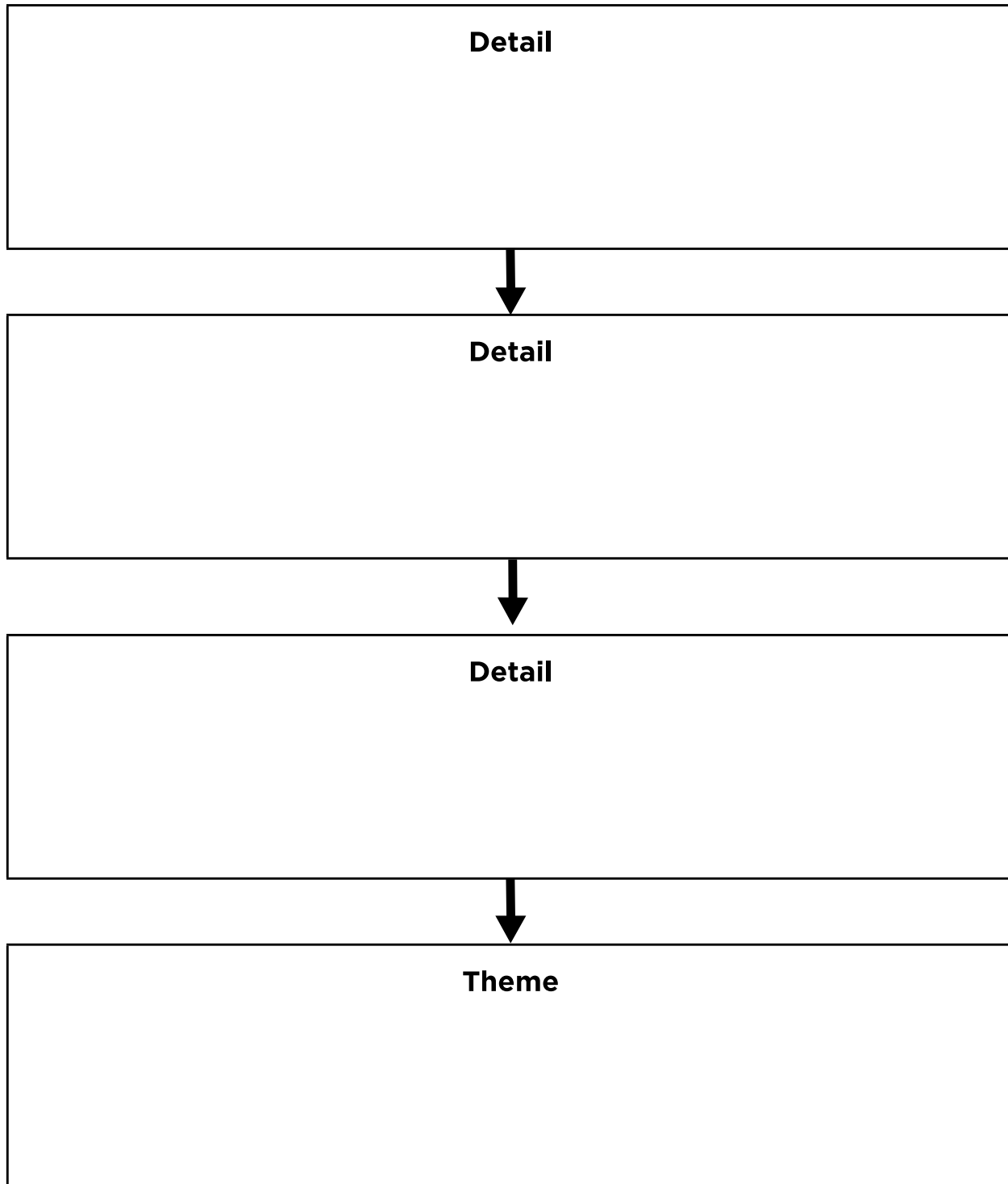
6. What is another word for *looked at something closely*? _____

7. What word might describe that you got to where you were going?

8. What is another word for *came to a new country*? _____

Name _____

Read the selection. Complete the theme graphic organizer.



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Name _____

Read the passage. Use the make, confirm, and revise predictions strategy to find clues to support predictions.

A Dream to the West

14 Lan was eight years old in 1849. Life at home in China was tough,
28 and Yao, Lan’s father, worked hard to put food on the table and make
a good life for his family.

34 Good news from the West gave hope. Word had spread that
45 people were getting rich finding gold in America, and Yao knew
56 that it was time to try for a better life. He made the trip by
71 himself at first. But after a few months, with a loan from family,
84 Lan and her mother were joining him.

91 Lan was as white as a ghost. “I’m scared, Mommy,” she said.
103 “I only know my friends and family here in China, and I don’t
116 even speak English.”

119 “You’ll settle in,” her mom said. “Daddy will welcome us.”

129 **The Golden Mountain**

132 “Daddy!” Lan came running to her father and gave him a big hug.
145 They took a long wagon trip in from the port in California to
158 where gold was being found.

163 “Are they really finding gold here?” Lan asked along the way.

174 “Some people have struck it rich!” Yao said. “They call the
185 area ‘Gold Mountain.’”

188 The Gold Rush swept across America like wildfire when gold
198 was found in 1848. Now people from other countries immigrated.

Name _____

“And what about our family in China?” she asked. “I’m going to miss them.”

“I will send them money from my pay,” he said. “Maybe one day they can join us here.”

Many others did not have the money to send for their families. Lan knew she was lucky.

A New Life

Yao lived in a community with other Chinese people. When they arrived, Lan met Yao’s friend, Chen, and Chen’s daughter, Li. They walked around the village and talked.

“This is where we live and eat,” Li said pointing. “And here is where we gather to talk.”

Lan inspected the area. “Wow, I didn’t know this many Chinese people lived here. They even speak Chinese!”

“Yes, we have built a nice place to live,” Yao said.

“But where is the mine that you work in, Daddy?” she asked.

“I don’t work as a miner anymore, Lan,” he said. “The hours were long, and we were not finding any gold. I now work as a shoemaker.”

Lan knew life would not be the same, but she had hope. She looked around. The future was as open as the land.

“I’m just happy we’re together,” Lan said.



The discovery of gold gave hope to many immigrants.

Name _____

A. Reread the passage and answer the questions.

1. What is one important detail about Lan’s family in paragraph 2?

2. What is an important detail about Yao under the heading A New Life?

3. What is the theme of this passage?

B. Work with a partner. Read the passage aloud. Pay attention to rate. Stop after one minute. Fill out the chart.

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

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Name _____

A Long Wait on Angel Island

It was November 24, 1924. My mother and I arrived in America from China twelve days ago. We stayed in a room with many women. Then a guard took me to a small room where a man sat at a table. The man began to speak in a language I didn't understand. Then he spoke in my own language. He asked me my name and with whom we will stay in America.



Answer the questions about the text.

1. How can you tell that this is historical fiction?

2. When does this story take place? How does the illustration help you know this?

3. How does the illustration help you better understand the main character?

Name _____

Read each sentence below. Underline the things that are compared in each simile. Then write what the simile means on the line.

- 1.** Lan was as white as a ghost.

- 2.** The Gold Rush swept across America like wildfire when gold was found in 1848.

- 3.** The future was as open as the land.

- 4.** The gold shined like the sun.

- 5.** Down in the mine it was as black as night.

Name _____

A. Read each set of words and listen for the long e sound. Circle all the words with the long e sound in each row.

1. street freeze pest mend
2. spend creek when weak
3. field heel shelf cream
4. lend green fresh speaks
5. bean bent seal team

B. Circle the word with the inflectional ending that is spelled correctly. Write the word on the line.

1. He _____ his name and address on the line.
copyd copyed copied
2. The wet laundry _____ on the clothesline.
dries drys dryies
3. We are _____ than we have ever been.
happyer happier happyier
4. That is the _____ sink I have ever seen!
leakyest leakyiest leakiest
5. Have you _____ to the party invitation yet?
replyed replied replyd

Name _____

Evidence is details and examples from a text that support a writer’s opinion. This student wrote an opinion about whether or not the author gives enough information to help him understand the story’s theme.

Topic sentence	→	In “A Dream to the West,” the author uses what Lan and her family do and say to share the theme that dreams can come true if you work hard. At
Evidence	→	the beginning of the story, Lan and her family were dreaming of a better life. Lan’s father went to America. He worked very hard and saved money so Lan and her mother could go. When Lan gets to her new home, she sees that her family has a better
Concluding statement	→	life now. The author uses what Lan and her family say and do to help me understand the story’s theme about working hard to make dreams come true.

Write your opinion about a story you read. Find text evidence to support your opinion of how the author uses what the characters do and say to share the theme, or message.

Write a topic sentence: _____

Cite evidence from the text: _____

End with a concluding statement: _____

Name _____

A. Read the draft model. Use the questions that follow the draft to help you think about what precise nouns you can add.

Draft Model

Once, a family moved to a new town. They traveled a long time in their car to get to the town. When they got to their new house, they unpacked their things. Then they met their neighbors.

1. What precise nouns could be used to help make the story clearer for the reader?
2. What nouns would help readers visualize the characters, the town, and the house?
3. What nouns could be used to describe the journey?
4. What sorts of things does the family unpack?

B. Now revise the draft by adding precise nouns to help make the story about the family easier for readers to understand.
