

Name \_\_\_\_\_

amazement

disappear

leader

refused

bravery

donated

nervous

temporary

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

1. What word can describe the ability to face danger without fear?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What is another word for *worried*? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. What word means *to become impossible to see any longer*? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. What did the girl do when she turned down the money she was offered?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. What word describes someone who shows the way? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. What did the children do when they gave their money to a charity?

\_\_\_\_\_

7. What is another word for *wonder*? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8. What word describes something that lasts for a short time? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Read the selection. Complete the cause and effect graphic organizer.

<b>Characters</b>	
<b>Setting</b>	
<b>Cause</b>	<b>Effect</b>
<b>Cause</b>	<b>Effect</b>
<b>Cause</b>	<b>Effect</b>

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Read the passage. Use the visualize strategy to help you understand the text.

## A Letter to Helen Keller

Dear Ms. Keller,

3 My name is Amelia Grant. I live in Nome, TX, where my  
15 daddy runs an oil factory. I was born in the year 1900, so I am  
30 now twelve years old. When I was eight, I was out near one of the  
45 oil wells. There was a huge explosion. I was real close to it. As a  
60 result, I lost most of my hearing.

67 A lot has changed for me since then. For one, I cannot hear  
80 music in the same way. I used to love listening to my mother sing  
94 songs. When I first lost my hearing, I was sad that I would never  
108 again hear my mother sing. But now I put my ear to her chest. I  
123 can feel the vibrations of her voice. Now, I feel music instead of  
136 hearing it.

138 Also, I have to go to a different school a long stretch away  
151 from our hometown. It is called Texas School for the Deaf. It is  
164 in the city of Austin, two hundred miles away from Nome. The  
176 teachers are kind, but I spend months at a time away from my  
189 family. I get to see them during holidays, but I sure do miss them.

203 During our last winter holiday, my daddy gave me a book you  
215 wrote, *The Story of My Life*. I read that when you first became  
228 deaf and blind, you had a hard time showing people what you  
240 wanted. Because of this, you would sometimes get mad and make  
251 loud noises.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Your mom and dad were frustrated. You really drove your parents up the wall! So that's why they found a great teacher for you. Her name was Ms. Sullivan. She showed you that there was a word to describe every object and idea. Because of Ms. Sullivan, you are now able to read and write by touch.

I also read that you love to ask questions. So now, when we are learning in school, I ask lots of questions. I found out that this really helps me learn. I am learning more now than I ever did before I lost my hearing. Maybe mother is right when she says "every cloud has a silver lining." Even when something seems really bad, a good thing can come from it.



I have a best friend in Nome. Her name is Anna Bailey. When I lost my hearing, I thought Anna might not be my friend anymore. I thought she might want to play only with people who could hear. But I was wrong. Anna stayed friends with me. She even helped me. She told me I would get used to being deaf. "It might take some time," she said. "But you'll find your feet." She made me feel much better.

When I first heard about you, I was amazed. Even though you are deaf and blind, you can do almost anything! You even went to college. You are like a hero to me. I hope that one day I can visit you and we can learn more about each other.

Sincerely,  
Amelia Grant

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**A. Reread the passage and answer the questions.**

**1. Describe two things that changed for Amelia after she lost her hearing.**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**2. Reread the fifth paragraph of the letter. How did Helen Keller learn to read by touch?**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**3. What made Amelia start asking lots of questions in school?**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## A Surprise Visit

One hot Saturday in the summer of 1945, my friend Henry and I were playing baseball in the park. Suddenly Henry shouted, “Look! That’s the Kansas City Monarchs’ bus across the street!” The team members got off, and two came walking toward us. One of them was the new shortstop, Jackie Robinson. He called out, “Keep batting. I’ll check your swing.”



**Answer the questions about the text.**

**1. How do you know this text is historical fiction?**

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**2. What text feature does the text include?**

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**3. How does the text feature help show that the text is historical fiction?**

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**4. How else can you tell the text takes place in the past?**

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Read each passage below. Circle the context clues that help you understand each idiom in bold. Then write the meaning of the idiom on the line.**

1. Also, I have to go to a different school **a long stretch** away from our hometown. It is called Texas School for the Deaf. It is in the city of Austin, two hundred miles away from Nome.

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Your mom and dad were frustrated. You really **drove your parents up the wall!** So that's why they found a great teacher for you.

\_\_\_\_\_

3. I am learning more now than I ever did before I lost my hearing. Maybe mother is right when she says "**every cloud has a silver lining.**" Even when something seems really bad, a good thing can come from it.

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Anna stayed friends with me. She even helped me. She told me I would get used to being deaf. "It might take some time," she said. "But you'll **find your feet.**"

\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**A. Read each sentence. Underline the word that has the /är/ or /ôr/ vowel sound. Then circle the letters in the word that make the sound.**

1. We counted five trees in the yard.
2. After walking three miles my legs became sore.
3. Ice hockey is his favorite sport.
4. I can see a shark in the distance.
5. It is better to share than it is to hoard.
6. The man uses only wood to carve the boxes.

**B. The prefix *pre-* means *before*. The prefix *re-* means *again*. The prefix *un-* means *not*. Read each question. Circle the correct answer.**

1. Which word means “heat before”?

preheat

heater

reheat

2. Which word means “not kind”?

kindly

unkind

kindness

3. Which word means “read again”?

reread

preread

reader

4. Which word means “not usual”?

unusual

usually

reuse

5. Which word means “pay before”?

repay

payment

prepay



Name \_\_\_\_\_

*Evidence* is details and examples from a text that support a writer’s opinion. This student wrote an opinion about how well the author uses signal words to show causes and effects in time order.

<b>Topic sentence</b>	→	In “A Letter to Helen Keller,” the author does a good job using signal words to show causes and effects in time order.
<b>Evidence</b>	→	At the beginning of the letter, Amelia writes about a huge explosion. As a result, she lost most of her hearing. The signal words help me understand that the explosion caused Amelia to lose her hearing. Amelia read about how Helen Keller asked lots of questions in school. So she asks
<b>Concluding statement</b>	→	lots of questions, too. The author’s use of signal words helped me find causes and effects in Amelia’s letter and understand the events of her life in time order.

**Write your opinion about a story you read. Find text evidence to support your opinion of how the author uses signal words to show cause and effect in the story.**

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 linking words and phrases you can add to help connect ideas.**

### **Draft Model**

I did not want to play piano anymore. It was too hard. My piano teacher explained to me the importance of music. He inspired me. Now I really enjoy playing piano.

1. What linking words and phrases could you add to make relationships clearer to the reader?
2. What linking words and phrases would show when events happened?
3. What linking words and phrases would make the text easier to follow?

**B. Now revise the draft by adding linking words to help connect ideas.**

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