

Name _____ Date _____

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THE "FIRST" THANKSGIVING

A legendary Thanksgiving celebration was held in 1621. The terrible winter of the previous year had been difficult for the Pilgrims. Many of the Pilgrims had died because of illness and lack of shelter. The

Thanksgiving celebration was held after the Pilgrims had their first *harvest*—after they had gathered their first crops.

The writings of the Pilgrims tell us that about 140 people attended the three-day celebration. Ninety of the people were Wampanoag men.

About 50 people were Pilgrims. Only four of the Pilgrims at the party were women. The feast was held outside because the Pilgrims did not have a building large enough to hold so many people.

The Pilgrims were thankful for the harvest and for the help of the Wampanoag in teaching them to grow crops in America. Without their help, the Pilgrims would have had little to eat. The menu for the first Thanksgiving included *venison*, or deer meat, and *fowl*, which included ducks, geese, and turkeys. Sea bass, cod fish, cornmeal,

fruits and vegetables were also served.

Games were played, and singing and dancing were also part of the celebration. Praises were given to God for the harvest and for the Pilgrims that survived the harsh winter.

Thanksgiving in America is now celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November. Families prepare a meal similar to the meal prepared by the Pilgrims and Wampanoag 400 years ago. It is a time for counting the blessings we have received during the year and for spending time with family and friends

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ABOUT *THE FIRST
THANKSGIVING*

1. The Pilgrims and Wampanoag celebrated their Thanksgiving _____.
 - a. in Texas
 - b. after the harvest
 - c. in the spring
 - d. on December 25th

2. Which of the following is NOT fowl?
 - a. deer
 - b. turkey
 - c. geese
 - d. ducks

3. Which of the following was on the menu at the first Thanksgiving?
 - a. vegetables
 - b. cornmeal
 - c. fruit
 - d. all of these

4. How many people attended the Thanksgiving celebration in 1621?
 - a. forty
 - b. ninety
 - c. one hundred ten
 - d. one hundred forty

5. What is venison?
 - a. geese
 - b. deer meat
 - c. ducks
 - d. turkey

6. Why was the Thanksgiving celebration in 1621 held outside?
 - a. The weather was nice.
 - b. The buildings were too small.
 - c. They liked outside.
 - d. none of these

7. Which of the following is NOT true?
- a. Many Pilgrims died during the harsh winter.
 - b. The Wampanoag taught the Pilgrims to grow crops.
 - c. Seventeen women attended the first Thanksgiving.
 - d. The Pilgrims were thankful for their harvest.

8. Why was the Thanksgiving celebration held in 1621?
- a. to give thanks for their many blessings
 - b. because everybody was hungry
 - c. to have a cooking contest
 - d. so the Pilgrims could invite their friends to their new homes

9. Why did so many Pilgrims die during their first year in America?
- a. illness
 - b. they were killed
 - c. lack of shelter
 - d. both a and c

10. When do we celebrate Thanksgiving in the United States?
- a. second Tuesday in August
 - b. first Monday in April
 - c. third Wednesday in March
 - d. fourth Thursday in Nov.

11. Would you have liked to attend the 1621 Thanksgiving? Why or why not?

Name _____ Date _____

Reading Comprehension
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Read the selection without stopping to choose the correct missing words. Then read it again, pausing to underline the correct words. Finally, read the selection again to see if it makes sense.

Simple Math

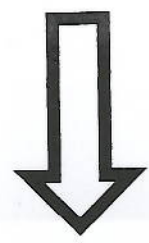
I shouldn't let it bother me. It really doesn't matter anyway. But it does bother me! All those people are preparing to celebrate a new century, a new millennium as well. And it just isn't 1 !

Most of us schedule our lives by the Gregorian 2 . Our years are measured from the birth of Christ. The first year of the first century is 1, or 1 A.D. The last year of that century is the year 100. Simple? Yes! A century is 100 3 long. A millennium is 1,000 years long, which is 4 ten centuries.

Since the last year of the first century is the year 100, the first year of the 5 century is 101. Follow that pattern, century by century and you'll get my 6 . The year 2000 is the last year of the twentieth century. After all, 7 thousand means twenty hundreds. Twenty hundred years means twenty centuries. The year 2000 is the last, the final, the one that's still here, year of the twentieth century!!!!

I know, I'm getting too 8 . But it isn't fair. While most people will really be enjoying this coming 9 celebration, those of us in the know will be yawning. We'll be wet blankets at the party. Everyone else will be cheering for the new millennium and we'll be saying, "It's not until next year."

I don't agree with the saying, "Ignorance is bliss." But in this case, perhaps it's 10 .



1.	wrong	so	important	chocolate
2.	chant	journal	program	calendar
3.	hours	days	months	years
4.	exactly	never	sometimes	often
5.	first	second	third	fourth
6.	dinner	point	joke	soda
7.	a	seven	two	which
8.	hungry	handsome	inaccurate	excited
9.	Thanksgiving	Christmas	New Year's	weekend
10.	silly	false	funny	true

Name _____

Date _____

Colonial America Word Search Worksheet

Directions: All words are positioned left to right.

J M A K A P E T T I C O A T V Q T C D F A X G
X B C F R L L Y L K A S F U R U T H H O N E L
D P A W W V R K S C D U K V J N K R J Q Y T V
Q D W D L W B T E Z Q Y J E R K I N H Z B G O
C D Y E A E E X P O R T S C K M I R C G M C X
K N J T A K E U I S K G I M P O R T P F F K S
M K S O H U A S R I N P A R L I A M E N T C M
X C H I M N E Y V N P U N I T E Y A E D F X Q
Q X J J C L A P B O A R D S C X I I X U K Q H
A W B U I D H N J O Y E G H M R F Y B P T A A
J T D W P E I W L A G Y I Q O X O T G P R F T
B U S X I N D E P E N D E N C E Y F L K Z F F
C I S H C E C G L B S M I N U T E M E N P G U
S A L T B O X B Y B N I P R Z C Y Q R Y W D H
O G H Q H E H P K X G R O O N W T N V O M X Z
N F D Y X B E A D R E V O L U T I O N Q A S J
T B Q O S R A H W C D X L X Z O L I O E C K A
L R X F J E B B Q I H B N D I Q P M H U S H C

CLAPBOARDS	IMPORT	INDEPENDENCE	PETTICOAT
EXPORT	PARLIAMENT	CHIMNEY	MINUTEMEN
JERKIN	UNITE	REVOLUTION	SALTBOX

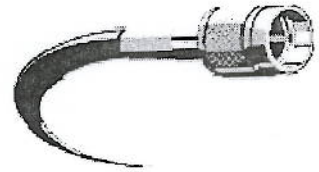
Word Meanings From Context

Use the context to help you choose the correct meaning of each underlined word.

1. The signal from the cable is too strong for our television. We'll have to use a filter to attenuate it.

When you attenuate something, you:

- a. watch it carefully
- b. take good care of it
- c. make it be less
- d. get past it



2. "If you knew the gravity of the situation, you wouldn't be laughing," Mr. Farmer said quietly. He didn't have to say more to get everyone's attention.

What does "gravity" mean in this context?

- a. a force that draws different objects toward each other
- b. seriousness
- c. humor
- d. enjoyable, or comfortable

3. Her cardinal rule is this: Be kind to others! She believes that everything else in life will fall properly into place if one follows that rule.

What does "cardinal" mean in this context?

- a. main, or most important
- b. red
- c. like a bird
- d. not worth remembering

4. The owner of the restaurant wouldn't allow Samantha to walk through the door. "I'm sorry," she said, "but you started a food fight the last time you were here. You may not have ingress to my restaurant!"

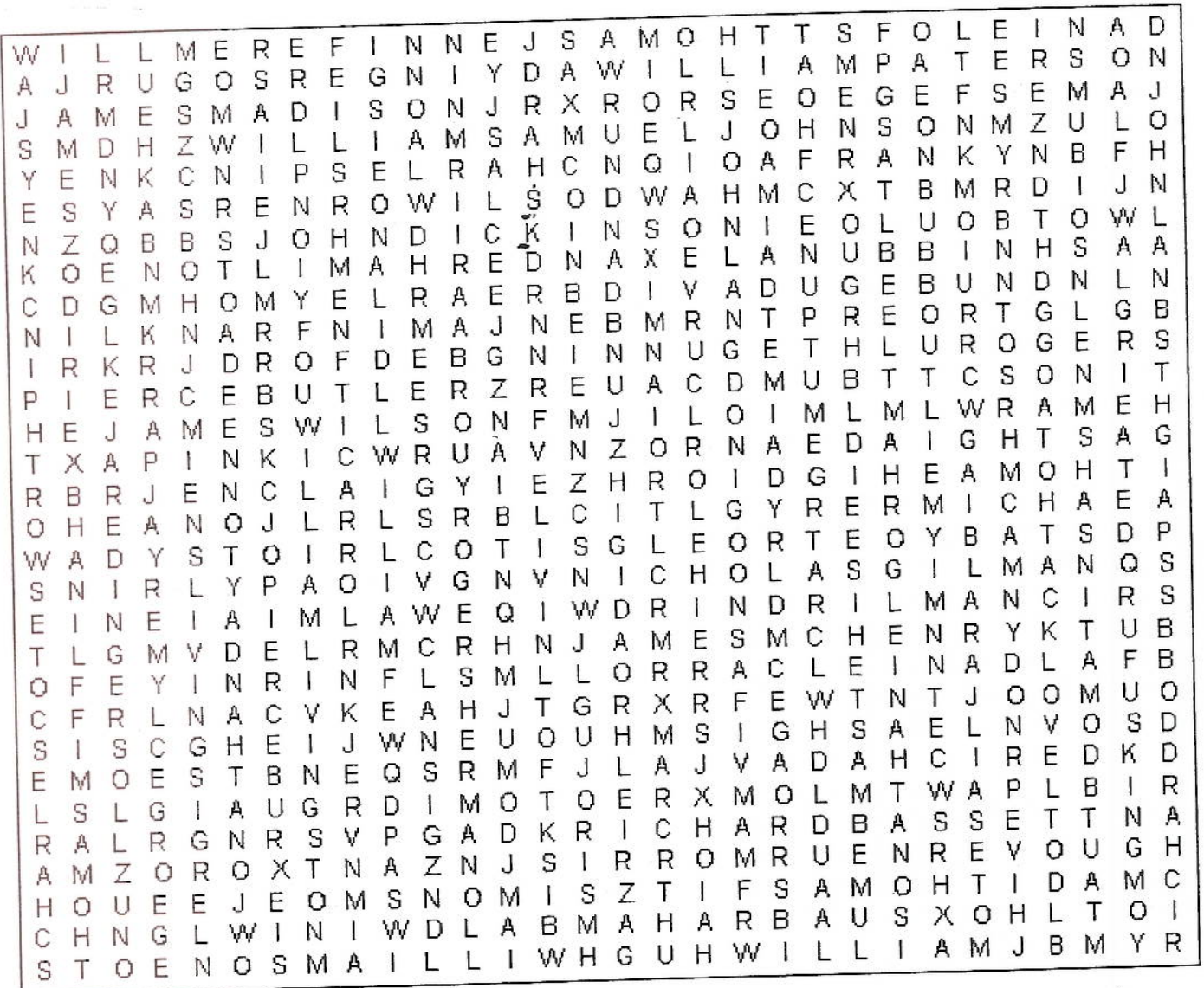
What does "ingress" mean in this selection?

- a. a kind of bird that lives by the sea
- b. any food that can be thrown
- c. a good price for a meal
- d. the right to enter

Signers of the Constitution Word Search

Thirty-nine of the fifty-five delegates to the Constitutional Convention signed the Constitution.

Find the names of these men by looking forwards, backwards, and diagonally.



Abraham Baldwin
 Alexander Hamilton
 Benjamin Franklin
 Charles Pinckney
 Charles Cotesworth Pinckney
 Daniel Carroll
 Daniel of St. Thomas Jennifer
 David Brearley
 George Clymer
 George Read
 George Washington
 Gouverneur Morris
 Gunning Bedford, Jr.

Hugh Williamson
 Jacob Broom
 James McHenry
 James Madison, Jr.
 James Wilson
 Jared Ingersoll
 John Blair
 John Dickinson
 John Langdon
 John Rutledge
 Jonathan Dayton
 Nathaniel Gorham
 Nicholas Gilman

Pierce Butler
 Richard Bassett
 Richard Dobbs Spaight
 Robert Morris
 Roger Sherman
 Rufus King
 Thomas Fitzsimons
 Thomas Mifflin
 William Blount
 William Few
 William Livingston
 William Paterson
 William Samuel Johnson




Name

Date

THE U.S. GOVERNMENT

The federal government in Washington, D.C., represents the whole country. The Constitution divides the national government into three branches, or parts. The system of checks and balances is an important part of the Constitution. Each branch has its own responsibilities. Each branch can limit the powers of the other parts.

The chart below shows the branches of the government and the main powers of each. Read the chart and use it to answer the questions below.

<p>LEGISLATIVE</p> <p>Congress: the Senate and the House of Representatives</p>  <p>Lawmakers are elected to Congress. There are 100 senators and 435 representatives. They write bills and then vote on whether or not the bills should become law.</p>	<p>EXECUTIVE</p> <p>The President, Vice President and Cabinet members</p>  <p>The President signs bills into laws or vetoes, or rejects, them. The President appoints Supreme Court justices, meets with foreign leaders, negotiates treaties and is the commander in chief of the armed forces. The Vice President and Cabinet members advise the President.</p>	<p>JUDICIAL</p> <p>Justices</p>  <p>The Supreme Court is head of the judicial branch and is the highest court in the country. Its nine justices, or judges, decide if laws agree with the U.S. Constitution. The Supreme Court can declare laws unconstitutional.</p>
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1. Voters in last week's elections chose lawmakers to serve in the House of Representatives. To which branch of government do these men and women belong? _____
How many members are in the House? _____
2. Supreme Court justices serve for life. How many judges serve in the highest court in the land? _____
3. What do you think is the President's most important job? _____

4. How does the executive branch check or limit the power of the legislative branch? _____

5. How does the judicial branch check the power of the executive branch? _____



Share this page with a family member. Why is it important that you let members of Congress and the President know what you think? Write your ideas on the back of this page.

Name

Date

CREATE A COMIC STRIP

Complete the steps below to plan your own comic strip.

THE MAIN CHARACTER

What is your main character's name? _____

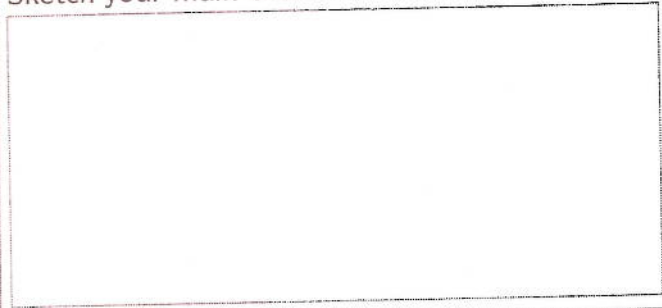
How old is your main character? _____

Describe your main character's personality. Include at least three character traits. _____

Describe your main character's physical appearance. Include at least three physical traits. _____

If your main character could accomplish one goal, what would it be? _____

Sketch your main character here:



THE EVENTS

Describe the events of your story in order. Each event will appear in a panel of the comic strip.

First, _____

Second, _____

Third, _____

Fourth, _____

Fifth, _____

Finally, _____

THE PROBLEM

Your comic strip should tell a story. In most stories, the main character tries to solve a problem. What is the main problem in your story? How will it be solved?

BONUS: Use your plan to create a six-panel comic strip.