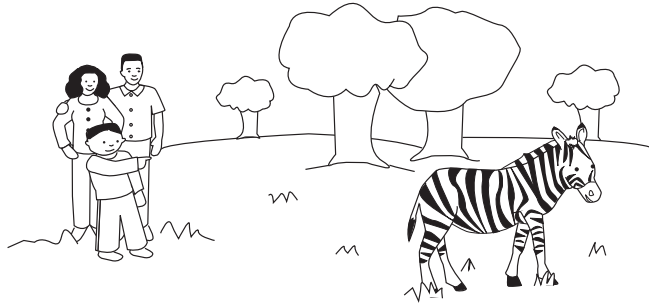


Vocabulary

Use words from the list to finish the story.

heritage **influenced** **livestock** **survival** **thrive** **tiresome**

Our family took a trip to Africa to explore our _____. The airplane flight was long and _____. Upon our arrival, we were surprised to see the many wild animals that _____ in Africa. By conserving land for animal parks, the governments of some countries have ensured their _____. We visited many art museums and were surprised to see how much African art has _____ art in America. We also visited a village where our ancestors may have come from. Every family in the village had _____, including cows and pigs. It was a trip I will always remember!



Story Comprehension

Write a ✓ next to every sentence that truthfully tells about “Going Back Home.”

- _____ 1. The narrator of the story is a musician.
- _____ 2. The narrator moves to Atlanta, Georgia, to learn more about her ancestors.
- _____ 3. Her ancestors first lived in cities and worked in factories.
- _____ 4. Music is one important way many African Americans express themselves.
- _____ 5. Weddings were and are important events in the community.
- _____ 6. In the past, the narrator’s family moved north to find better lives.

At Home: Have students use the vocabulary words in original sentences.

Book 5/Unit 3
Going Back Home



Author's Purpose and Point of View

Writers write for many reasons. They may write to entertain (tell a story), to inform (give information), or to persuade (make you agree with them). If you understand the writer's **purpose**, or the reason he or she writes the selection, you can understand and enjoy it better. The **point of view** is the writer's feelings or opinions about the topic.

Read each paragraph. Circle the correct letter of the author's purpose.

- On our trip to Poland, my father tried to speak Polish to talk with the people there. You should have heard him. It was pretty funny. My mom and I teased him. He then decided that it would be better if he used sign language as most of the other tourists did.
a. entertain b. inform c. persuade
- My mom explained to me that Poland is a country in Eastern Europe. It has a long history and its people are proud of their heritage. Through the centuries, many peoples have conquered this nation. However the Poles have never lost their love of freedom.
a. entertain b. inform c. persuade
- My dad told me that in the last few years Eastern European countries like Poland have been going through some great changes. Now that it is easier for people to visit Poland, people from all over the world go there. I think it would benefit people to go see what Poland has to offer—beautiful scenery, old culture with rich traditions, and people who are fun to be with.
a. entertain b. inform c. persuade
- What statement best represents the author's point of view in paragraph 2?
a. Poland is a fun place to visit.
b. More people should speak Polish.
c. Poland is a proud and old country.
- Which of the sentences above best summarizes the writer's point of view in paragraph 3?
a. It is easy to speak Polish.
b. Poland is a nation that is changing and a great country to visit.
c. No one wants to visit Poland.

Author's Purpose and Point of View

An **author's purpose** explains why he or she writes something. Writers may write to entertain, to inform, or to persuade. The **point of view** is the writer's feelings or opinions about the topic.

Read each paragraph. Write whether the author's purpose is to entertain, to inform, or to persuade.

1. I had never been on a farm until the time I visited my uncle Sam. One day, he told me we were going to pick cotton. I asked where the cotton grew and my uncle Sam said it grew on cotton trees. I looked around at the nearby trees trying to see the cotton. My uncle laughed and told me cotton grows on a short plant, not a tree. I turned red with embarrassment. I guess I had a lot to learn about farming!

2. Everybody knows that cotton is used in making clothes. But did you know that cotton and its parts are used to make hundreds of other things? Cotton fiber is used in everything from adhesive tape to shoelaces to umbrellas. Cottonseed is one of the most important ingredients in chemicals, fertilizer, and salad oil.

3. Cities can be hard places to live. People are frequently crowded together in cities. Often there is too much noise. Still many people enjoy the city. But I think the country is better. In the country, the air and water are clean and there is a lot of nature. When I visit my cousins in the country, I think country living is great!

4. Which statement best summarizes the author's point of view in paragraph 2?
 - a. Cotton is a fun crop.
 - b. People should use more cotton.
 - c. Cotton has many important uses.
5. Which statement best represents the author's point of view in the last paragraph? Circle the answer.
 - a. Cities are fun places to visit.
 - b. Country life is healthy and happy.
 - c. The country can be a lonely place to live.

Summarize

When you **summarize**, you give only the most important ideas. Being able to summarize what you read helps you quickly recognize what is important in a story or a selection.

Read the summary of “Going Back Home.” Then answer the questions.

The author grew up in the North, but she always wondered about her ancestors in the South. She expressed her ideas about her family in her artwork. When she was older, she moved to the South to learn about her family roots. She found out that her family lived as slaves on a plantation where cotton was grown. She discovered how important music, celebrations, and religion were to her ancestors. After they were freed, her ancestors moved to the North to find better jobs.

Write the main idea of the summary. Then recall the story and write four important details from the story which *are not* in the summary above.

1. **Main Idea:** _____

2. **Detail:** _____

3. **Detail:** _____

4. **Detail:** _____

5. **Detail:** _____
