

# Bricks Intensive Reading

Best Practice for Test Preparation



E-BOOK



MP3

Level

2

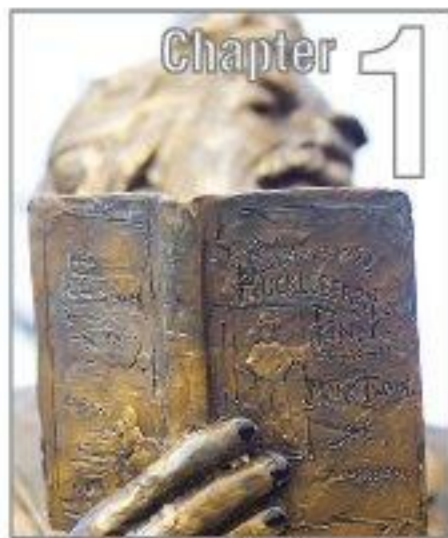
**Chapter 1 > Unit 1 > The Cherokee** On February 28th 1828, the first issue of The Cherokee Phoenix rolled off the press. It was a proud day for the Cherokee Nation, the largest aboriginal group in the United States. The day marked the first time that a newspaper was written in a Native American language. This accomplishment was a result of a writing system that had been single-handedly created by Sequoyah, a Cherokee Indian, who introduced the alphabet in 1809. Though the Cherokee Indians have faced many challenges in preserving the writing system Sequoyah invented, it survives today as a fundamental part of Cherokee culture. **Chapter 1 > Unit 2 > Mark Twain, A Unique American Writer** Mark Twain, born in Florida Missouri, was an American writer who



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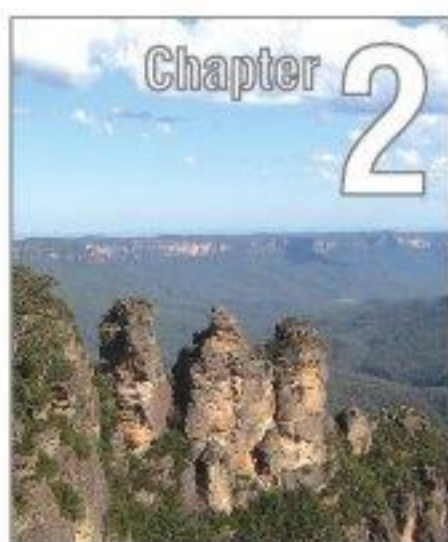
Best Practice for Test Preparation

# 2



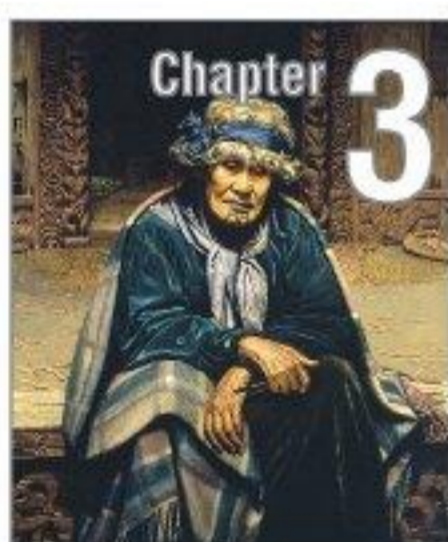
**| Language | Literature |**

- Unit 1 The Pride of the Cherokee — 8
- Unit 2 Mark Twain, A Unique American Writer — 16



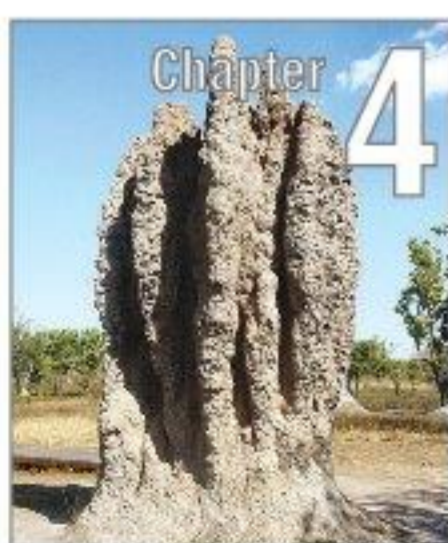
**| Nature | Geography |**

- Unit 3 The Hurricane Hunters — 26
- Unit 4 The Legend of the Three Sisters — 34



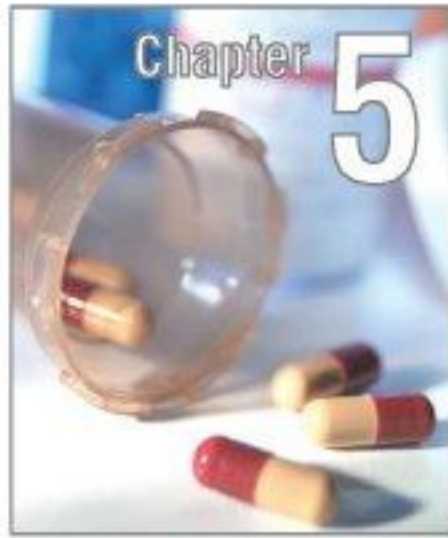
**| Culture | Art |**

- Unit 5 Body Art in Māori Culture — 44
- Unit 6 The Inuit's Igloo — 52



**| Life Science | Biology |**

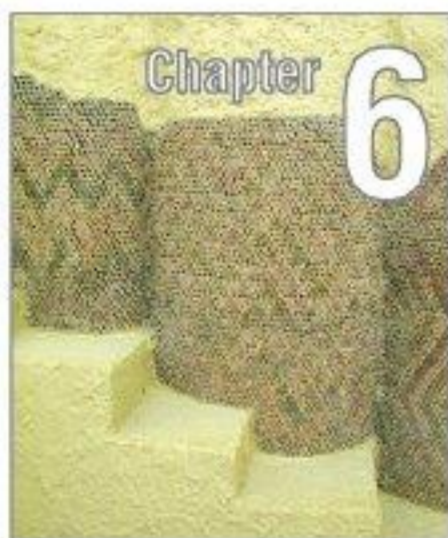
- Unit 7 Society in the Termite Towers — 62
- Unit 8 A Tasty Medicine — 70



**| Sports | Food | Health |**

Unit 9 Drugs in Sports: For Winners or Losers? — 80

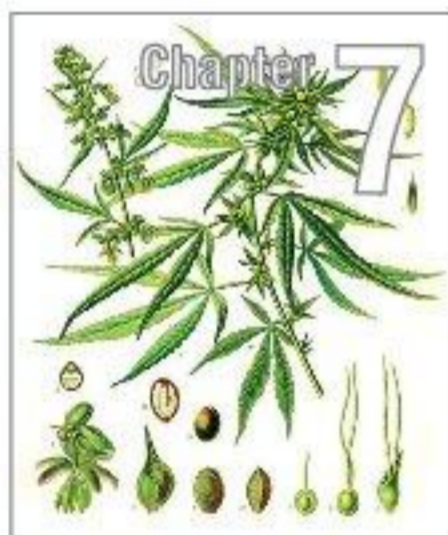
Unit 10 Cruel Food or Exotic Delicacy? — 88



**| Archaeology | Anthropology |**

Unit 11 Sumeria: Where History Began — 98

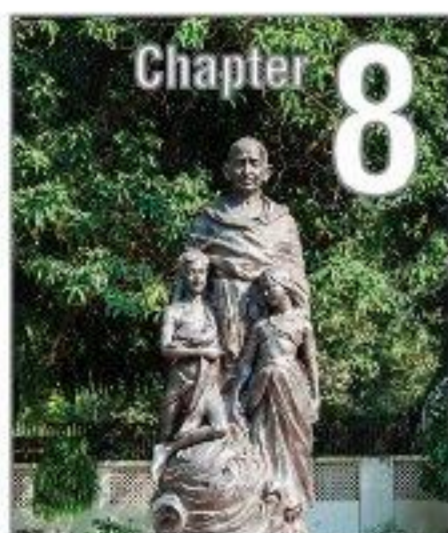
Unit 12 Ancient Art of Medicine — 106



**| Sociology | Political Science |**

Unit 13 Marijuana, A Gateway Drug? — 116

Unit 14 Roosevelt's New Deal — 124



**| Thought | Philosophy |**

Unit 15 Gandhi, A Man of Peace — 134

Unit 16 A Man Who Sought Wisdom — 142

# Chapter

# 1

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**Language**

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**Literature**

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Unit 1

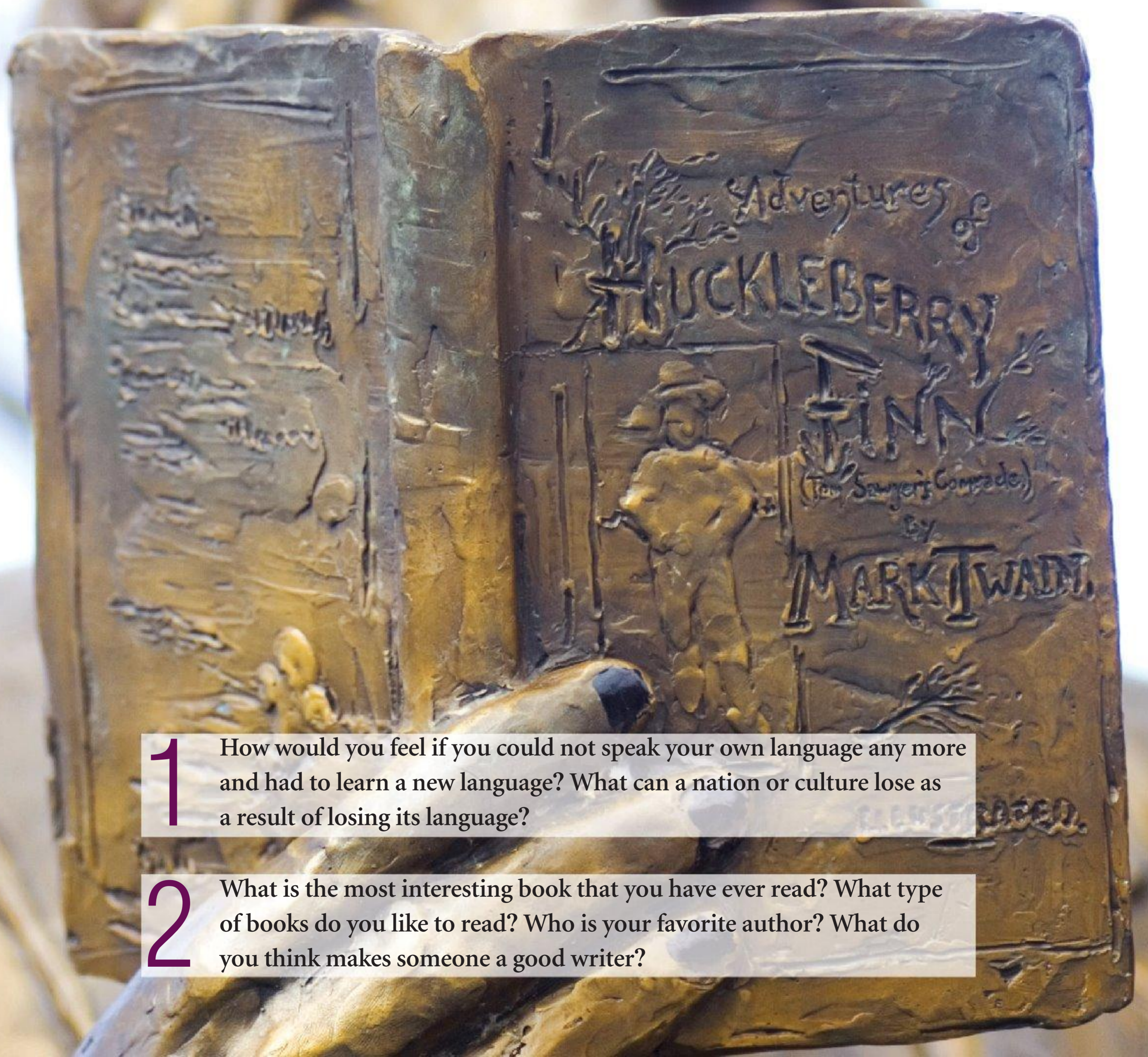
**The Pride of the Cherokee**

Unit 2

**Mark Twain, A Unique  
American Writer**

# Before You Study

Think about the questions below and share your opinions with your partners.



**1** How would you feel if you could not speak your own language any more and had to learn a new language? What can a nation or culture lose as a result of losing its language?

**2** What is the most interesting book that you have ever read? What type of books do you like to read? Who is your favorite author? What do you think makes someone a good writer?

# The Pride of the Cherokee

## Word Bank

- **roll off** *idiom.* to put something, such as a book or newspaper, into print
- **accomplishment** *n.* a deed or achievement of note
- **single-handedly** *adv.* done alone or without help
- **preserve** *v.* to maintain or keep something as it is, not to be changed *–syn.* conserve
- **fundamental** *adj.* being essential to the foundation or base
- **consist of** *v.* to be formed from particular things or people *–syn.* be made up of
- **correspond to** *v.* to relate to, accord to, or match to
- **syllable** *n.* a unit of spoken language consisting of a single nonstop sound
- **uninterrupted** *adj.* having no breaks or continuing without interruption *–syn.* continual
- **tremendous** *adj.* great in magnitude *–syn.* enormous
- **tragic** *adj.* being terrible or very sad because of great suffering *–syn.* unfortunate
- **strip** *v.* to take away or remove rights, properties, or titles from someone
- **reservation** *n.* an area of land separated from all other used lands and used by government for a special purpose
- **boarding school** *n.* a school where students not only study but also live in during the school term *–syn.* private school
- **extinct** *adj.* not existing anymore *–syn.* dead
- **prominent** *adj.* being important or well-known *–syn.* distinguished
- **insure** *v.* to guarantee or secure from loss or harm *–syn.* assure
- **testimony** *n.* evidence in support of proof *–syn.* fact
- **steadfastness** *n.* firmness and being determined *–syn.* determination

# A

Complete the sentences using the words in the box with the appropriate form.

syllable	correspond to	fundamental	extinct	strip
insure	tragic	prominent	testimony	accomplishment

1. Abraham Lincoln is known as one of the most \_\_\_\_\_ presidents in the U.S. because of his accomplishment in unifying the U.S.
2. Casting a vote is one of the \_\_\_\_\_ duties that every citizen should feel privileged to do.
3. “Preparation will \_\_\_\_\_ success!” is our company’s motto.
4. Eating fatty food, such as cheese burgers and French fries, may \_\_\_\_\_ heart disease and obesity.
5. The red squirrel is now nearly \_\_\_\_\_ in England due to the increase in the grey squirrel population.
6. Each word has at least one \_\_\_\_\_, for example, “book” has one, and “paper” has two.
7. In June, the famous teen actor was killed in a \_\_\_\_\_ motorcycle accident.
8. The general’s corruption was exposed to the public, so he was \_\_\_\_\_ of all his properties as well as his rank.
9. Many plays are simply dramatized transcripts and \_\_\_\_\_ of real events.
10. The award was named after James Woods to celebrate his \_\_\_\_\_.

# B

Choose the correct synonym in the parentheses for each word and write them in the blanks.

1. preserve \_\_\_\_\_ (destroy, conserve)
2. tremendous \_\_\_\_\_ (terrifying, enormous)
3. consist of \_\_\_\_\_ (be made up of, compare to)

# The Pride of the Cherokee

## READING STRATEGY

### Focusing on the Specific Information

Find specific information related to the Cherokee alphabet, such as, the inventor, the numbers of symbols, etc.

### Making a Timeline

While reading, make a timeline and note what happened to the Cherokee Nation during each period.

On February 21st, 1828, the first issue of *The Cherokee Phoenix* rolled off the press. It was a proud day for the Cherokee Nation, the largest aboriginal group in the United States. The day marked the first time that a newspaper was written in a Native American language. This accomplishment was a result of a writing system that had been 5 single-handedly created by Sequoyah, a Cherokee Indian, who introduced the alphabet in 1809. Though the Cherokee Indians have faced many challenges in preserving the writing system Sequoyah invented, **it** survives today as a fundamental part of Cherokee culture.

The alphabet created by Sequoyah consists of 85 symbols that 10 correspond to each individual syllable, which is a single uninterrupted sound. For example, the word “ama” means “water” in Cherokee and is written with three letters: “a,” “m,” and “a.” However, in Cherokee,

NOTE



the word is written with only two characters. The letters Sequoyah used were based on the Roman alphabet<sup>\*</sup> (letters seen in English) and what many believe to be Cyrillic<sup>\*</sup> (letters used in Russian). The writing system which was easy to learn amazed the Cherokee elders, and the alphabet created by Sequoyah was **officially** accepted by the Cherokee Nation in 1823. 15

The Cherokee alphabet was a tremendous source of pride for the Cherokee people, but its creation came at one of the most tragic times in Cherokee history. In 1838, a time remembered as “The Trail of Tears<sup>\*</sup>,” the Cherokee Indians were stripped of their rights and forced to move at gunpoint from their traditional lands. During their forced relocation, over 4,000 Cherokee Indians lost their lives. Relocation of other Indian tribes would soon follow, becoming a common practice of the U.S. government to place Native Americans on tracts of land set aside for **them** called reservations. In addition, Cherokee children were placed in boarding schools and forbidden to speak or write in Cherokee. By the 1990’s, the Cherokee language and alphabet were in danger of becoming extinct. 20 25 30

Though the existence of their language was threatened, the Cherokee Indians did not give up hope. Through efforts by prominent Cherokee leaders, schools were set up for students to learn to read and write in Cherokee. And to insure the survival of the language, teachers who taught the language were required to be well trained and **certified**. Efforts like these have saved the Cherokee language and allowed it to remain a source of pride. Today, *The Cherokee Phoenix* remains in print as a testimony to the steadfastness of the Cherokee Nation. 35

#### Glossary

- \* **Roman alphabet** the alphabetic writing system evolved from the Greek alphabet, used to write the Latin language by the ancient Romans
- \* **Cyrillic** a family of alphabets, used in many countries in Eastern Europe
- \* **The Trail of Tears** the forced relocation of Native Americans to Indian Reservations

## Comprehension Check Up

### A True or False

Write T if statements are true or F if statements are false according to the passage.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ The publisher of *The Cherokee Phoenix* is Sequoyah.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ The U.S. government welcomed the writing system of the Cherokee language in the 19th century.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Cherokee people had to leave their homes in the 19th century.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ The Cherokee alphabet is one of the greatest sources of pride for the Cherokee people.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ At one time, Cherokee children were not allowed to use Cherokee language at school.

### B Synonym & Reference

Choose the best answers.

1. The word “**it**” in the first paragraph refers to
  - a. a newspaper
  - b. the writing system
  - c. Sequoyah
  - d. Cherokee culture
2. The word “**officially**” in the second paragraph is closest in meaning to
  - a. secretly
  - b. finally
  - c. formally
  - d. completely
3. The word “**them**” in the third paragraph refers to
  - a. traditional lands
  - b. tracts of land
  - c. reservations
  - d. Native Americans
4. The word “**certified**” in the fourth paragraph is closest in meaning to
  - a. qualified
  - b. certain
  - c. passionate
  - d. faithful

**C** Insight & Understanding**Choose the best answers.**

1. According to the passage, who was Sequoyah?
  - a. the inventor of the Cherokee writing system
  - b. a prominent political leader of the Cherokee Indian
  - c. a revolutionist of the Cherokee Nation
  - d. a writer of *The Cherokee Phoenix*
  
2. What can be inferred about the Cherokee Nation?
  - a. It was built in 1823 by some seniors of the Cherokee Indian.
  - b. After “the Trail of Tears,” the Cherokee Nation disappeared.
  - c. No aboriginal group is bigger than the Cherokee Nation in the U.S.
  - d. The Cherokee Indians were moved from their traditional land to a safer land.
  
3. What origin is the Cherokee alphabet derived from?
  - a. It was invented by a group of Cherokee linguists.
  - b. It was handed down in a sacred scripture of Cherokee.
  - c. It is based on the Russian language.
  - d. It is based on Roman and Cyrillic alphabet.
  
4. According to the second paragraph, what was the Cherokee elders’ attitude to the alphabet invented by Sequoyah?
  - a. embarrassed
  - b. surprised
  - c. disinterested
  - d. unsatisfied
  
5. What major factor caused the Cherokee people to undergo tragic times?
  - a. a generation gap between the young and the old
  - b. the U.S. government’s policy of taking away their rights
  - c. a lack of education for Cherokee children
  - d. other Indian tribes being forced to leave their reservations
  
6. Why was the day, February 21st, 1828, a special day for the Cherokee Nation?
  - a. It was their Independence Day from the U.S.
  - b. It was the centennial anniversary of the invention of the Cherokee Alphabet.
  - c. A newspaper in an American Indian language was first published on that day.
  - d. They began to reuse their own language on that day.

7. According to the passage, what did Cherokee elders do to restore their language?
  - a. They protested against the U.S. government.
  - b. They set up schools and trained teachers to teach the Cherokee language.
  - c. They launched the campaign with “Restore” as the slogan.
  - d. They published *The Cherokee Phoenix* and distributed it globally.
  
8. According to the passage, why is *The Cherokee Phoenix* important for Cherokee history?
  - a. because it represents the survival of the Cherokee Indians and their culture
  - b. because it had been translated into English for the U.S. people to read
  - c. because it contains a map of secret treasures of the Cherokee
  - d. because it is used for teaching material not only for Cherokee students but also for students at public schools in the U.S.

## D Writing & Paraphrasing

**Answer the following questions with complete sentences.**

1. How many symbols does the Cherokee alphabet consist of?

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2. What noticeable feature of the Cherokee alphabet amazed the Cherokee elders?

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3. Why do the Cherokee people remember the time in 1838 as “The Trail of Tears?”

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4. What does the continued printing of *The Cherokee Phoenix* represent?

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## E Summary

### Complete the summary.

On February 21st, 1828, the first newspaper written in a Native American language was \_\_\_\_\_  
 issued in the U.S. The writing system of Cherokee Alphabet, first introduced in 1809,  
 was made by a person named Sequoyah.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Grammar Plus

### consist of (= be made up of, be composed of)

The expression, “**consist of**” is used to describe something that is formed from things or people. **Things or people** are usually **plural form**.

**Change the sentences using the expressions “consist of” as shown in the example.**

ex. There are 85 symbols in the alphabet created by Sequoyah.

→ The alphabet created by Sequoyah **consists of** 85 symbols.

↳ something

↳ things (or people)

1. There are 66 books in the Bible.

→ \_\_\_\_\_

2. Two hydrogen atoms and one oxygen atom are used to make one water molecule.

→ \_\_\_\_\_

3. I had an egg, a cup of coffee, and a tomato for breakfast.

→ \_\_\_\_\_