



Name _____

Date _____

THE BATTLE OF ANTIETAM

On September 17, 1862, the bloodiest battle of the Civil War was fought. More lives were lost on this day than on any other day in the history of the country. The North and South were fighting over possession of the Miller Farm cornfield.

General Robert E. Lee was the leader of the Confederate army. He had his men positioned along the banks of the country lane. The general for the Union army was George B. McClellan. This general had a scout that had gotten a copy of the Confederate army's plan. This was very helpful for the Union.

Bullets rained down on the Confederate soldiers. The Union soldiers broke through the line and killed thousands. The country lane where the Confederates were hiding became known as "Bloody Lane" because of all the people who died there.

More than 23,000 men were killed, wounded, or missing in this battle. But the Confederate army was not finished. They would go on to fight another bloody battle with the Union army known as the Battle of Gettysburg.

STORY QUESTIONS

- Which statement best explains the reason for the Battle of Antietam?
 - Both sides were fighting over the taxes.
 - The Confederate soldiers were trying to make a statement.
 - The Union soldiers were trying to get their independence from Britain.
 - Both Confederate and Union armies were trying to claim the Miller Farm cornfield.
- Where in the passage does it explain the advantage that the Union soldiers had at this battle?
 - first paragraph
 - second paragraph
 - third paragraph
 - fourth paragraph
- Which of the following statements is false about the Battle of Antietam?
 - More than 23,000 men were killed, wounded, or missing in this battle.
 - The North and South were fighting over possession of the Miller Farm cornfield.
 - More lives were lost on this day than on any other day in the history of the country.
 - General Lee had a spy that helped him learn his opponent's strategy.
- What is the author's opinion of the Battle at Antietam?
 - The author is glad the North won.
 - The author is impressed and appreciative.
 - The author has a neutral feeling about it.



Name _____

Date _____

THANKSGIVING

Each year, on the fourth Thursday in November, many Americans gather around the table with their families to eat a large feast. Do you know why this is so? It is a celebration of Thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving started back with the Pilgrims. The year was 1621. The Pilgrims had survived a very difficult winter. The next fall they had a great harvest. They were so grateful that they decided to have a feast to celebrate. They invited 91 Native Americans to join them.

The Pilgrims and guests gathered around a large table to eat. There were games, races, and other activities. The celebration lasted three days. We don't know if they really did have turkey, but they did have some kind of bird, as well as venison (meat from deer). They didn't have pumpkin pie because there wasn't enough flour for that. They did have pumpkin that had been boiled and softened. They also had berries, fruit, nuts, and fish.

It wasn't until 1777 that all 13 colonies celebrated Thanksgiving. A lady named Sarah Hale wrote articles in magazines about how important it was to celebrate Thanksgiving. Finally in 1863, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed Thanksgiving to be celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November. In 1941, Thanksgiving became an official national holiday. Thanksgiving has been celebrated ever since.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. How does the author feel about Thanksgiving?
 - a. disgusted
 - b. amused
 - c. concerned
 - d. can't tell from the passage
2. Which statement explains the purpose of Thanksgiving?
 - a. Thanksgiving has been celebrated ever since.
 - b. They decided to have a feast to celebrate.
 - c. Historians have determined that the guests probably gathered around a large table to eat.
 - d. They invited 91 Native Americans to join in the feast.
3. The third paragraph informs the reader about . . .
 - a. the guests invited to the first Thanksgiving.
 - b. how many years it took for Thanksgiving to become official.
 - c. the discrimination between the Native Americans and the Pilgrims.
 - d. the menu at the first Thanksgiving.



Name _____

Date _____

WAR OF 1812

Some people say that the War of 1812 was the second revolutionary war. In a way, it was. This war was a fight between America and Great Britain. They disagreed about shipping and trade on the seas. Fighting took place in both Canada and America. The Americans won the War of 1812.

Thomas Jefferson was president in America at the time. He was trying to keep American goods going to other parts of the world. He didn't, however, want to get America involved in world events. France and Britain were at war at the time. They both thought that America was supplying the other country with goods and weapons.

Both France and Britain searched American ships. They were treated poorly. America was mad at both countries but ended up fighting Britain. The White House and the Capitol were both burned in the war. A treaty was finally signed. As a result of the war, America became known as a powerful player in the world.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. A good title for this reading passage would be . . .
 - a. "Beginnings of the Revolutionary War."
 - b. "Britain's Abuse of Power."
 - c. "United States Attacked."
 - d. "America Caught in the Middle."
2. A similarity between the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 is . . .
 - a. the fact that they were both started with the same U.S. President.
 - b. that fighting took place between the U.S. and Great Britain.
 - c. that Britain pulled France into the war.
 - d. that they took place when the United States was an old country.
3. In the last paragraph, what does the word *player* mean?
 - a. performer
 - b. actor
 - c. interrogator
 - d. participant
4. Based on the information in the passage, what caused the War of 1812?
 - a. Britain was trying to take over American territory.
 - b. France and Britain decided to fight for American territory.
 - c. America didn't like how their ships were treated at sea.
 - d. France had set up a special arrangement with America.



Name _____

Date _____

Warm-Up 4

A TIME OF REFORM

The early 1900s were a time of reform in the United States. There were many great things about the country, but there were some problems, as well. A group of people who wanted to make changes during this time were called progressives. Many of the city and state governments were corrupt and dishonest. The progressives wanted to change their leaders.

Theodore Roosevelt, who was vice president at the time, was one of the leaders of this reform. He worked with others to change the type of people that were elected to office. They were successful. Led by new leaders, many cities were able to pass new laws that made life better. These cities built schools, parks, and playgrounds. They also built better housing for families.

State governments also worked for change. They passed laws that made large companies pay their fair share of taxes. They put limits on the amount of money they could charge customers for things. With these new changes, the quality of life continued to improve for people.

Theodore Roosevelt eventually became president of the United States upon the assassination of President William McKinley. He continued to work for changes and improvements.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. Based on the passage, what were some of the problems in the country during the early 1900s?
 - a. Too many people wanted to be president.
 - b. There were not enough jobs for people.
 - c. There were dishonest people in leadership positions.
 - d. Large companies were not allowed to charge a fair price for goods.
2. What conclusions can be drawn about the people that wanted reform?
 - a. They were corrupt and dishonest.
 - b. They were hard workers that believed in making changes.
 - c. They were inexperienced factory workers.
 - d. They weren't very organized.
3. After reading the passage, which of the following statements about the progressives is false?
 - a. They were the only ones elected to public office.
 - b. They were interested in making life in the United States better.
 - c. They were willing to work hard to build schools, parks, and better housing.
 - d. They were interested in changing their leaders in city and state office.



Name _____

Date _____

CHANGES FOR WOMEN

You may be surprised to learn that it took until the 1920s for women in the United States to have the right to vote. Voting wasn't the only change for women during this time. By 1900, women had made a lot of progress. More and more young women were graduating from high school. More young women were also going to college.

In most states, women were beginning to be allowed to own property and keep the money they earned at their jobs. Before then, only the husband could do these things. Anything the wife earned belonged to her husband.

More and more women began working outside of the home. Most of the jobs available were separated into "men's jobs" and "women's jobs." Most women worked as teachers, nurses, librarians, secretaries, factory workers, and telephone operators. Men were the only ones allowed to be doctors, lawyers, bankers, police officers, and mail carriers.

Sweeping changes were still needed. Women continued to fight for the right to work at whatever profession they wanted. Women demanded the same pay that men got. These changes were difficult to make happen. It took many more years. In fact, women today are still working for some of these same things.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. What would be the best title for this reading passage?
 - a. "Mr. Mom"
 - b. "Sweeping Changes for Women"
 - c. "Women's Suffrage"
 - d. "The Right to Work"
2. What conclusions can be drawn about what resulted from these changes?
 - a. Women were considered illiterate.
 - b. Women were given more respect for their abilities.
 - c. Men were upset with the changes.
 - d. Women were given these rights only if they worked harder.
3. Which statement from the passage explains what limitations women still had after they began working outside the home?
 - a. They were inspired to go back to school.
 - b. More young women were also going to college.
 - c. Women were not allowed to hold the same jobs as men.
 - d. Women were not given the right to vote if they worked outside of the home.



Name _____

Date _____

MOVING TO THE CITY

Most of the early immigrants came to America to get land and begin farming for a living. But during the late 1800s, it became hard for farmers to make enough money to live. Many of the farmers were forced to give up their farms and move their families to the city in search of jobs. Some farmers left their farms and came to the city to get away from the long hours and loneliness of the farm.

There were different types of jobs available in the city. The city had factories that were being built all over. Women were also able to find jobs in the city.

Living in the city was also exciting. There were many different things to do. The city had museums, theaters, sports, and concert halls. Cities had lots of shopping available. There were stores of all kinds and sizes. Even if you didn't have enough money, window shopping was a favorite pastime. The city had many new opportunities.

The city also had many other resources, such as good schools and teachers. You could also get better medical attention living in the city. Doctors, lawyers, and other professionals were available in the city. More and more people moved to the cities during this time in American history.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. What would be a good title for this reading passage?
 - a. "The National Pastime"
 - b. "The Lure of the City"
 - c. "The Life of a Former Farmer"
 - d. "The Big Apple"
2. Which paragraphs explain what the city had to offer?
 - a. first and second
 - b. third and fourth
 - c. second and third
 - d. the last three paragraphs
3. Locate the statement below that is not a fact.
 - a. There were stores of all kinds and sizes.
 - b. Doctors, lawyers, and other professionals were available in the city.
 - c. Living in the city was also exciting.
 - d. The city had museums, theaters, sports, and concert halls.
4. In this passage, the word *pastime* means . . .
 - a. history.
 - b. you are late.
 - c. a way to spend your time.
 - d. long overdue.



Name _____

Date _____

BATTLE FOR THE ALAMO

In the 1830s, more and more people from Texas were upset with Mexico. They didn't like the way Mexico was ruling Texas. Texans were beginning to talk about seeking independence from Mexico.

A general from Mexico decided to stop the Texans from making plans to get their independence. His name was Santa Anna. He led an army of 4,000 soldiers to stop the Texans. A group of Texans in San Antonio was attacked. They went to the Alamo for safety. The Alamo was a Spanish mission that had been left empty.

But the Mexican army continued its attack. After 12 days of fighting, the Texans, who were far fewer in number than the Mexicans, ran out of bullets. The Mexican soldiers began climbing the walls. A battle took place inside. Soldiers fought hand to hand. Over 1,500 Mexican soldiers were killed. All but seven of the Texans were killed, and Mexico took back control.

Though they lost, this battle helped the Texans eventually gain their independence and led to the inspirational cry, "Remember the Alamo!"

STORY QUESTIONS

1. What was the purpose for the Texans going to the Alamo?
 - a. The Alamo was a Spanish mission that had been left empty.
 - b. A group of Texans in San Antonio was attacked.
 - c. He led an army of 4,000 soldiers to stop the Texans.
 - d. They went to the Alamo for safety.
2. Identify a supporting detail that explains the statement, "A battle took place inside the Alamo."
 - a. They went to the Alamo for safety.
 - b. The Alamo was a Spanish mission that had been left empty.
 - c. Texans were beginning to talk about seeking independence from Mexico.
 - d. Over 1,500 Mexican soldiers were killed.
3. After reading the passage, which question couldn't you answer about the Battle for the Alamo?
 - a. Who was Santa Anna and for what was he known?
 - b. Who were the Texans that were attacked?
 - c. What happened after the attack on the Alamo?
 - d. How many Mexican soldiers were killed in the Alamo?



Name _____

Date _____

Warm-Up 8

THE QUAKERS

One of the religious groups that immigrated to America was the Quakers. They were also known as the “Society of Friends.” The name “Quaker” came from the belief that they thought everyone—even leaders of countries and kings—should “quake” with fear before God.

The Quakers worshipped in a very simple manner. There were no priests or ministers. They believed all people were equal before God. They believed that people should not fight in any wars and they refused to fight in any wars. They believed that all problems could be solved between two countries without any fighting.

The Quakers were not treated very well in England. That was why they left for America. In America, they hoped they would be treated better. Things were not much better in America. They tried to settle in Massachusetts, but they were asked to leave.

William Penn was a Quaker who was able to get land in America from the King of England. This land was named Pennsylvania, which means “Penn’s woods.” Pennsylvania was set up as a religious experiment. Penn invited religious groups from all over to move to Pennsylvania.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. A good title for this reading passage would be . . .
 - a. “The Coming of the Quakers.”
 - b. “Religion in America.”
 - c. “Biography of William Penn.”
 - d. “Pennsylvania Becomes a State.”
2. What caused the Quakers to leave England?
 - a. The Quakers were forced to leave England.
 - b. The Quakers were not allowed to own land in England.
 - c. The Quakers were not treated well in England.
 - d. The Quakers were not able to convert very many people in England.
3. The author wrote this passage to . . .
 - a. justify the Quaker religion.
 - b. inform the reader of how Quakers were mistreated in England.
 - c. share general information about Massachusetts and the Quakers.
 - d. explain the story of the Quakers in America.



Name _____

Date _____

THE WOMEN OF INDEPENDENCE

As the men of America were busy fighting the British over the independence of America, the women of America were busy, too. They wanted to support the American cause in any way that they could. The women did many things that proved to be very helpful.

Many women cared for the wounded soldiers during the battle. They also worked in the army camps washing and cooking. They even made gun powder and would travel to the battlefield to bring water and food to the men. They risked their lives to make the life of the soldiers better. Some women even dressed up to look like men and fought in the war. A large group of women also served as messengers and spies.

Other women helped support the war but never left their homes. They continued to do all of their normal jobs, as well as the work that their husbands and sons would normally do at home. They worked hard to keep the family farms in business. The women felt strongly about their roles during the Revolutionary War. When the story of the Revolutionary War is told, women should always be included in the discussion.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. Based on the reading passage, what interests did women have in the war?
 - a. They wanted America to expand and grow.
 - b. They were offered a good deal from the army.
 - c. They were seeking equal rights for women.
 - d. They wanted America to gain independence from England.
2. Which of the following sentences is not something women did to help in the war?
 - a. They collected money to send to the troops.
 - b. They cared for wounded soldiers.
 - c. They kept their family businesses running.
 - d. They were spies and messengers.
3. What is the meaning of the word *proved* as used in the first paragraph?
 - a. organized
 - b. demonstrated
 - c. refused
 - d. reiterated
4. What is the main idea of paragraph three?
 - a. Women helped bring water and food to the soldiers.
 - b. Women didn't have to leave home to help fight the war.
 - c. The war was not a success without the women.
 - d. Women needed to be organized to make a difference.



Name _____

Date _____

THE IRAN HOSTAGE CRISIS

In 1976, voters elected Jimmy Carter as president of the United States. President Carter worked hard in his presidency to help countries to work together. He was recognized for helping Israel and Egypt agree on a peace treaty.

But things did not go so well in the country of Iran. A revolution had taken place there and the new leader blamed the United States for many of their problems. This leader was very angry with the United States.

A group of rebels from Iran broke into the United States Embassy in Iran and kidnapped 52 hostages. They held these hostages and flashed pictures on the television for the whole world to see. Many demands were made by Iran for the return of the hostages. President Carter refused to make a deal. Iran kept the hostages for more than a year. The United States wasn't able to do anything to gain the release of the hostages.

The hostages were finally released on January 20, 1981. This was the last day of Jimmy Carter's presidency.

STORY QUESTIONS

- Which of the following statements is inaccurate?
 - Many demands were made by Iran for the return of the hostages.
 - President Carter refused to make a deal until the hostages were treated fairly.
 - The new leader of Iran was very angry with the United States.
 - Iran kept the hostages for more than a year.
- Another good title for this reading passage would be ...
 - "Crisis Overseas."
 - "Problems of Foreign Policy."
 - "Carter vs. Iran."
 - "Middle East Dilemmas."
- What is the main idea of the passage?
 - President Carter was not very effective.
 - The Iranian leader blamed the U.S. for its problems.
 - The leader of the Iran was intent on kidnapping more Americans.
 - Iranian rebels kidnapped 52 hostages during President Carter's term.
- The hostages were released because ...
 - the leader of Iran was definitely afraid of the new president.
 - the demands were finally met.
 - the hostages were able to be released through talks.
 - This question cannot be answered based on the passage.



Name _____

Date _____

THE SLAVE TRADE

In the late 1600s, the cost of buying a slave went down. The colonies in America began buying more and more slaves. These slaves came from the continent of Africa. People in Africa were captured and sold as slaves throughout the world.

Slave traders hunted for young slaves and captured them in nets and traps. They were taken from their families and villages. They would never return home again. Thousands and thousands of these people were captured and sold as slaves. The new slave owners branded them like cattle so people would know to whom the slaves belonged. The slaves were treated terribly.

The slaves were packed onto ships and sent across the ocean. Many of the slaves were sold and sent to the West Indies. They worked on sugar farms there. Some of the slaves were also sent to America at this time. People in the Southern colonies bought many of the slaves to work on the large plantations. They worked in the tobacco, cotton, and rice fields. The life of a slave was terrible and inhumane.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. What is the author's opinion about how the captured slaves were treated?
 - a. tolerant
 - b. confused
 - c. disgusted
 - d. accepting
2. Which of the following sentences portrays the author's opinion about the captured slaves?
 - a. The cost of slaves had gone down.
 - b. Thousands and thousands of these people were captured and sold as slaves.
 - c. Many of the slaves were sold and sent to the West Indies.
 - d. The life of a slave was terrible and inhumane.
3. Which of the following statements is one of the reasons slaves were sold to the Southern plantations?
 - a. Plantation owners could afford slaves and needed the workers.
 - b. Plantation owners worked together to grow crops.
 - c. The weather was good so that crops could be grown year-round, which meant that they needed more workers.
 - d. The plantation owners wanted to brand their slaves.
4. What is meant by the word *hunted* as used in this passage?
 - a. sought after
 - b. organizing
 - c. refused
 - d. treated like captive animals



Name _____

Date _____

A PRESIDENT RESIGNS

Richard Nixon was elected president of the United States in 1968 and took office in 1969. His first term was spent in building better relationships with China and the Soviet Union. When his first term as president ended, he had made a lot of progress.

In 1972, Nixon ran for a second term as president. He was running for the Republican Party. Four men who were working on his reelection team broke into the Democratic Party headquarters. This was illegal. The headquarters were in the Watergate Hotel. The break-in became known as the Watergate scandal. The men that broke in were looking for information they could use against Nixon's opponent in the campaign.

The men were caught. At first, President Nixon denied any connection with these men. He lied about knowing about the break-in. It took two years for the truth to come out. Nixon had lied about knowing about the break-in and his connection with the men.

Congress could vote to remove Nixon from office. Nixon decided to resign. He was the first president ever to resign. When President Nixon resigned, Gerald Ford was vice president. Ford became the new president of the United States.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. Which paragraph explains when Nixon finally resigned?
 - a. first paragraph
 - b. last paragraph
 - c. third paragraph
 - d. second paragraph
2. After reading the passage, what inference can you make about why Nixon resigned?
 - a. He didn't want to be kicked out of office by Congress.
 - b. He knew there would be more investigations.
 - c. His lawyer counseled him to resign.
 - d. The American people demanded that he resign.
3. What is the author's opinion about the Nixon resignation?
 - a. The author thinks that it was a great day when Nixon resigned.
 - b. The author thinks there has not been enough research on why Nixon resigned.
 - c. The author is interested in sharing the process of how a president resigns from office.
 - d. The author is trying to inform the reader about President Nixon's resignation.



Name _____

Date _____

THE KOREAN WAR

Korea is a country in Asia. Japan began ruling Korea in the early 1900s. By the end of World War II, Japan had lost control of Korea. The Soviet Union was given control of North Korea. The United States was given control of South Korea. As time went on, the two halves of Korea became enemies of each other.

In 1950, North Korea attacked South Korea. The United Nations knew that it had to help South Korea. It sent troops and supplies to help South Korea. Most of the troops, supplies, and weapons came from the United States.

The United Nations armies were able to push back the North Korean troops. It looked like the South Koreans had been able to defeat the North Koreans. But then China got involved. They sent a large army to help the North Koreans. They used their army to drive back the U.N. army.

Finally, in 1953, the two sides of the armies agreed to stop fighting. The boundary between the two Korean sides was set up again. To this day, North and South Korea are still two different countries.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. How did the Korean War get its name?
 - a. The war took place in Asia.
 - b. The war was given its name after the country of Korea came together as one.
 - c. The war got its name after China came to rescue North Korea.
 - d. The war took place between the North and South Korean countries.
2. What is the purpose of the third paragraph?
 - a. to explain why the Soviet Union got involved
 - b. to explain the shift in the Korean War
 - c. to explain how the U.S became involved in the war
 - d. to explain how Korean was divided up
3. Which paragraph would you read to find out about who controlled Korea at the beginning of the 20th century?
 - a. first paragraph
 - b. third paragraph
 - c. second paragraph
 - d. fourth paragraph



Name _____

Date _____

THE LUSITANIA

During World War I, the Germans were using underwater boats, or submarines, to attack the enemy at sea. These submarines were called U-boats, which stood for “undersea boats.” They could sink large ships by firing torpedoes underneath the water. The Germans gave no warning and could kill everyone on board. The German navy was making great strides at sea.

The Germans decided to start attacking passenger ships, as well as cargo ships. On May 7, 1915, a German U-boat shot and sank a British passenger ship. The name of the ship was the *Lusitania*. This ship was shot off the coast of Ireland and sank.

The attack killed over 1,200 people. Both adults and children were killed in this attack. Of those who were killed, 128 were Americans. This made the American public very angry.

President Wilson insisted that Germans had to give warning before shooting torpedoes at ships. This worked for a while, until the Germans decided they didn’t want to do this anymore. After the Germans attacked three American ships, the United States became involved in World War I. In April 1917, the U.S. declared war on Germany.

STORY QUESTIONS

- Which of the following statements can be inferred after reading the passage?
 - The *Lusitania* was a turning point for the United States getting involved in World War I.
 - People were interested in the U.S. building a U-boat.
 - The Germans were seeking revenge on the United States.
 - There were no children on the *Lusitania*.
- The purpose of the first paragraph is to . . .
 - introduce the reason why the U.S. got involved in World War I.
 - explain the differences between the German and American armies.
 - compare the reasons for World War I.
 - give background of what was going on at sea during World War I.
- Pick the word that best completes the sentence, “The Germans decided not to listen to the _____ from the U.S. about attacking ships at sea.”
 - advice
 - demands
 - warning
 - acknowledgement



Name _____

Date _____

THE RISE OF THE COMMON MAN

On March 4, 1829, twenty thousand Americans came to Washington, D.C. They wanted to watch Andrew Jackson be sworn in as president. Jackson was very popular. He was especially popular with the “common” people of the United States. The large crowd ended up breaking dishes and getting out of control at the White House. President Jackson had to spend his first night at a hotel.

All of this was a result of big changes that were happening in America. Before this time, only adult white males were allowed to vote. But not just any adult white male could vote: he had to own property and pay taxes.

The changes that happened in the late 1820s were that any adult white male—whether or not they owned property or paid taxes—could vote. This was called the “rise of the common man.”

Women, blacks, and Native Americans were still not allowed to vote, but giving all adult white males the right to vote was a big step in the right direction. The spirit of democracy and equality was higher than ever before.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. Why were so many people at the swearing in of Andrew Jackson as president?
 - a. the treatment of the common man
 - b. the lack of civil rights for all citizens of America
 - c. the participation of more people in the election
 - d. the misunderstanding of the government
2. Which paragraph would help you answer the previous question?
 - a. second paragraph.
 - b. first paragraph
 - c. fourth paragraph
 - d. third paragraph
3. Which of the following statements is not true about Andrew Jackson?
 - a. He was president during the rise of the “common man.”
 - b. He fought for civil rights of all men and women.
 - c. He was a popular candidate.
 - d. He spent his first night as president in a hotel.
4. What is the meaning of the word *common* as used in this passage?
 - a. peculiar
 - b. abnormal
 - c. everyday
 - d. estranged



Name _____

Date _____

THE PANAMA CANAL

In the early 1900s, the United States decided that they wanted to build a canal that would connect the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. Ships would not have to travel as far. This would make the travel and trade between the oceans much faster.

France had tried to do the same thing 20 years earlier. They weren't able to do it. In 1903, the land of Panama belonged to the country of Colombia. President Theodore Roosevelt tried to pay Colombia for the strip of land so that they could build the canal. The government of Colombia didn't think it was enough money for the land.

President Roosevelt was upset. He knew there was a group of rebels from Panama that wanted to separate from Colombia. President Roosevelt decided to help them. He sent ships that prevented the Colombian army from landing in Panama. Panama won without a fight. Panama sold the strip of land to the United States.

Building the canal was a lot of work. Jungles had to be cleared and a lot of land had to be moved. Workers also had to fight the mosquitoes. The mosquitoes transmitted terrible diseases. Finally, an army doctor got rid of the mosquitoes by not allowing them to breed. The first ship sailed through the Panama Canal in August of 1914.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. How did Roosevelt get the land for the Panama Canal?
 - a. He ordered a change of government in Panama.
 - b. He ignored the Colombian government and built the canal anyway.
 - c. He got the votes needed to make the change.
 - d. He supported the independence of Panama.
2. Which paragraph helps you answer the previous question?
 - a. second paragraph
 - b. first paragraph
 - c. fourth paragraph
 - d. third paragraph
3. Which of the following statements is not true about building of the Panama Canal?
 - a. It was finally opened in August of 1914.
 - b. The mosquitoes were a big problem when building the canal.
 - c. The jungles were able to be preserved when the canal was built.
 - d. It was a lot of work to move the land for the canal.