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Would you like to make a copy of **Central Ideas & Inferences?**

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The doc has been organized by week.

Week 1

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Would you like to make a copy of **Central Ideas & Inferencing Week 1 Day 1?**

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Day 1

Pizza is served in many school cafeterias in the United States on a daily basis, but it is actually still relatively new to the country. Pizza first arrived in the United States with Italian immigrants during the late 1800s. It was popular in cities that had a large concentration of citizens that had Italian roots. It remained relatively unpopular nationally for several decades until the end of World War II. Many American soldiers that had been stationed in Italy during the war enjoyed eating pizza on a regular basis there and when they returned to the United States, they wanted to continue to have access to it. Pizza then enjoyed a boost in popularity and soon went from being a food primarily consumed by Italian immigrants to one of the most popular foods in the country.

1. What is the central idea of the passage?
 - a. Pizza came to the United States in the late 1800s and was not very popular.
 - b. Pizza was only popular among Italian immigrants.
 - c. Pizza was introduced to the U.S. in the late 1800s and became popular after WWII.
2. What inference can be made about American soldiers in Italy during World War II?
 - a. They only ate food provided by the military.
 - b. They ate local food they were unfamiliar with.
 - c. There were strict rules regarding their diets.
3. Write a quote from the passage that supports your answer to #2.

Day 2

Chances are very good that you've watched a video on YouTube®. It is one of the most popular websites in the world and is the default site to go to when someone wants to share a video. YouTube was founded in 2005 by three men who worked for a different web company. The very first video showed one of the founders at the zoo. YouTube grew quickly throughout the following year and was purchased by Google® for \$1.65 billion in stock in 2006. Since then, YouTube has continued to grow. Now, many people create their own unique content for YouTube. People can actually become quite famous on YouTube and some can even make a career out of it. The impact that YouTube has had on the world is remarkable considering that it was only established in 2005.

1. What is the central idea of today's passage?
 - a. YouTube is a very popular website.
 - b. YouTube was founded in 2005 and has created jobs for some.
 - c. YouTube was founded in 2005 and has grown significantly since.
2. What inference can be made from today's passage?
 - a. Many actors post their work on YouTube.
 - b. There was a need for a video website when YouTube was created.
 - c. People have a hard time making money through YouTube.
3. Write a quote from the passage that supports your answer to #2.

Day 3

The first ukuleles were developed in Hawaii in the 1800s, as a result of Portuguese influence. Native Hawaiians enjoyed music from a Portuguese instrument called the machete and adapted it to suit Hawaiian tastes. The ukulele soon spread to mainland America during the 1910s, where it became an immediate sensation. They quickly became very popular because they could be quickly and cheaply made from a small amount of wood. After the World Wars, plastic ukuleles revitalized the declining ukulele fad by making them even more affordable to the average American. Today, ukuleles are still enjoyed by many enthusiasts and come in a wide variety of shapes and sounds.

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|--|---|--|
| 1. What is the central idea of today's passage? | 2. What inference can be made about ukuleles? | 3. Write a quote from the passage that supports your answer to #2. |
| a. Plastic ukuleles are important classical instruments. | a. Ukuleles are less expensive than many other instruments. | |
| b. Ukuleles developed in Hawaii and are still popular today. | b. Ukuleles are made of very durable materials. | |
| c. Portuguese instruments inspired the ukulele. | c. Portuguese instruments are very popular. | |

Day 4

Advances in technology and meteorology have led to more accurate forecasting of hurricanes days in advance of landfall. Those forecasts have likely saved countless lives, as people are able to prepare or evacuate. Unfortunately, those forecasts were not available to the victims of the 1900 Galveston Hurricane. Four days before the storm hit Galveston, Texas, the National Weather Service sent out an alert that a tropical storm had hit Cuba, but there were no real concerns about it making landfall in Galveston. There were isolated warnings that the hurricane was headed for Texas, but the warnings were ignored because of the calm weather at the time. The storm made landfall on September 8, and in addition to strong winds, a high storm surge covered the island in seawater, which destroyed thousands of buildings and caused many deaths.

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| 1. What is the central idea of today's passage? | 2. What inference can be made about Galveston, Texas? | 3. Write a quote from the passage that supports your answer to #2. |
| a. A better warning system could have saved lives during the 1900 Galveston Hurricane. | a. Galveston was an important city in the 1800s. | |
| b. People ignored the warnings in 1900. | b. Galveston is many miles away from the coast. | |
| c. The Galveston Hurricane was the deadliest storm. | c. The elevation of Galveston is not far above sea level. | |

Day 5

It may be difficult to tell when a story took place, unless an author explicitly states it, but the presence or absence of technology can help a reader make an approximate guess as to when the story was set. Only novels and short stories that were written very recently will include references to smartphones and apps. Storylines that include references to the internet were written within the past 25 years. If a story makes mention of a television, then it probably took place during or after the 1950s.

The modes of transportation that people take are more examples of technology that can help the reader determine roughly when the story took place. If a character takes a plane ride, then the story very likely took place after World War II because commercial air travel became popular after the war. A character riding in a car wouldn't happen before the 1900s. Of course, if the story mentions more recent advances like power windows or a driverless car, then it is far more recent. Train travel would put the setting within the past 200 years. The absence of technology doesn't always mean that the story took place hundreds of years ago, it could just mean that mentioning technology was not necessary to tell the story.

1. What is a central idea of today's passage?
 - a. Technology such as driverless cars and smartphones are recent inventions.
 - b. Mentions of technology can help a reader determine when the story took place.
 - c. References to technology can help the reader determine where the story took place.
2. What inference can be made about today's passage?
 - a. The use of planes in World War II helped create the commercial air travel industry.
 - b. Authors always include references to technology when they are writing about recent events.
 - c. Stories that mention smartphones are not very popular.
3. What is the meaning of *approximate* as it is used in the passage?
 - a. exact
 - b. suggested
 - c. estimated
4. Write a summary of today's passage.

Daily Reading: Central Ideas & Inferencing Week 1

Answer Key

Day 1

1. c
2. b
3. "Many American soldiers that had been stationed in Italy during the war enjoyed eating pizza on a regular basis there and when they returned to the United States, they wanted to continue to have access to it."

Day 2

1. c
2. b
3. "YouTube grew quickly throughout the following year and was purchased by Google for \$1.65 billion in stock in 2006."

Day 3

1. b
2. a
3. "They quickly became very popular because they could be quickly and cheaply made from a small amount of wood."

Day 4

1. a
2. c
3. "The storm made landfall on September 8, and in addition to strong winds, a 15 foot storm surge covered the island in seawater, which destroyed thousands of buildings and caused many deaths."

Day 5

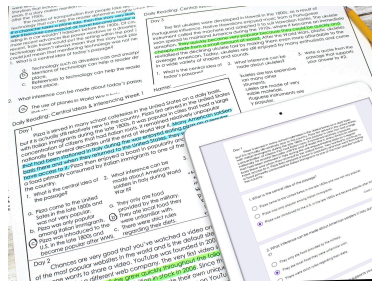
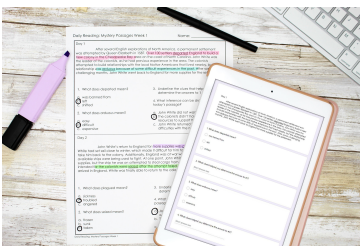
1. b
2. a
3. c
4. Answers will vary.

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