Sopris West Six Minute Solutions Passage

Totem Poles 509

Totem poles are a beautiful, ancient art form. They also had an important purpose. (Long) ago, written language did not exist. (Many) native tribes relied on totem poles (to) tell a clan's history. In Alaska, (natives) carved totem poles from huge cedar (trees). They used animals in the region (to) tell their stories. The raven was (one) of these animals. He can be (identified) on the poles by his long, (straight) beak. The raven is thought to (be) able to change into many forms. (He) is a symbol of God. The (eagle) is another animal seen on totem (poles). Unlike the raven, the eagle has (a) curved beak. To the native Alaskans, (the) eagle was a symbol of peace (and) friendship. The orca, or killer whale, (was) also carved on totem poles. The (killerwhale) could be identified by sharp teeth (and) dorsal fin. Other animals seen on (Alaskan) totem poles are the beaver, the (bear), and the wolf. The beaver has (a) long flat tail and two big (front) teeth. The wolf can be distinguished (from) a bear on the totem pole (by) a longer nose and sharper teeth.

(Totem) poles were painted with natural resources. (For) example, native Alaskans used salmon eggs, (minerals), and vegetables. The main colors were (black), white, and red-brown. Depending on the (tribe), blue, blue-green, and yellow were used (as) well. Totem poles often stood for 50 (to) 60 years. When a totem pole became (rotten) and fell to the ground, it (was) either left to decay or used (for) firewood.
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Totem poles are a beautiful, ancient art form. They also had an important purpose. *(Poles, Long, To)* ago, written language did not exist. *(Many, To, Dorsal)* native tribes relied on totem poles *(to, beautiful, these)* tell a clan's history. In Alaska, *(sharp, natives, unlike)* carved totem poles from huge cedar *(another, trees, language)*. They used animals in the region *(able, can, to)* tell their stories. The raven was *(had, one, flat)* of these animals. He can be *(killer, totem, identified)* on the poles by his long, *(the, straight, also)* beak. The raven is thought to *(an, wolf, be)* able to change into many forms. *(God, History, He)* is a symbol of God. The *(eagle, their, red-brown)* is another animal seen on totem *(tell, teeth, poles)*. Unlike the raven, the eagle has *(by, be, a)* curved beak. To the native Alaskans, *(pole, the, yellow)* eagle was a symbol of peace *(fin, long, and)* friendship. The orca, or killer whale, *(was, stood, region)* also carved on totem poles. The *(animal, killerwhale, longer)* could be identified by sharp teeth *(and, carved, alaska)* dorsal fin. Other animals seen on *(front, Alaskan, has)* totem poles are the beaver, the *(beak, clan's, bear)*, and the wolf. The beaver has *(a, vegetables, stories)* long flat tail and two big *(he, totem, front)* teeth. The wolf can be distinguished *(tail, from, one)* a bear on the totem pole *(forms, by, became)* a longer nose and sharper teeth.

*(With, Painted, Totem)* poles were painted with natural resources. *(Important, And, For)* example, native Alaskans used salmon eggs, *(minerals, eggs, rotten)*, and vegetables. The main colors were *(they, distinguished, black)*, white, and red-brown. Depending on the *(colors, tribe, into)*, blue, blue-green, and yellow were used *(example, as, alaskans)* well. Totem poles often stood for 50 *(to, ago, purpose)* 60 years. When a totem pole became *(rotten, the, firewood)* and fell to the ground, it *(was, exist, straight)* either left to decay or used *(alaskan, from, for)* firewood.