Sacagawea

Sacagawea was born a Shoshone Indian in the late 1780s in what is now Idaho. Shoshones were nomadic Native Americans and moved their tepees frequently to obtain food, following the salmon runs and buffalo migrations. They also knew how to locate edible roots and berries. A peaceable people, they owned and rode horses, which caused other tribes to envy and sometimes prey on them. It was a hard life, which demanded numerous skills to survive. Bird Woman (as Sacagawea’s name is sometimes translated) learned these skills well. Still, at age 12, camped near what is now called the Three Forks of the Missouri River, Sacagawea was captured by Hidatsa warriors and taken to their village. There, at the age of 16, she married Toussaint Charbonneau, a French fur trader. In 1805, she gave birth to their son, Jean Baptiste. The Corps of Discovery met Sacagawea at Fort Mandan. They built their fort near the villages of the Mandan Indian tribe and spent the winter of 1804–05 there, they prepared for the journey ahead. They decided to hire Charbonneau as an interpreter to help them better understand. Clark agreed to it, but worried about having an eight-week-old infant (in a cradleboard) with them on such a hard journey. But he adored the baby he called “Pomp,” and had enormous respect for “Janey” (his name for Sacagawea). Because members of the expedition kept journals, we know just how much Sacagawea contributed to the success of their journey. Her presence smoothed the way for the Corps. Native Americans, seeing a Shoshone woman with her baby, realized the explorers were coming in peace. She was able to communicate with other tribes. Her many examples of loyalty and bravery inspired the men. Knowledge of the wilderness allowed her to obtain food. Keeping her head, she saved papers and supplies when a boat capsized. Though very young when she was taken from her homeland, she remembered the area and guided the expedition through it. Reunited there with her brother Cameahwait, a Shoshone chief, she persuaded him to supply them with horses. William Clark said Sacagawea “deserved a greater reward for her attention and services on that route than we had in our power to give her.” Today, Sacagawea would be stunned by the honors bestowed on her. Statues, place names, and a silver dollar all salute her. Her very name has come to stand for “courage.” At a young age she longed to see the Pacific Ocean. Because of her great skill, resourcefulness, and extreme bravery, she got her wish!

**Interpreter**

1. a person who interprets.
2. a person who provides an oral translation between speakers who speak different languages.
November 4, 1804: Sacajawea and her husband join the Lewis and Clark Expedition.
February 11, 1805: Sacajawea gave birth to her son, Jean-Baptiste.
August 8, 1805: Sacajawea sees a familiar rock and begins leading the expedition.
August 17, 1805: Sacajawea talks to her brother, so he can give horses to the travelers.
Oct. 16, 1805: A boat flips in the Columbia River. Sacajawea saves important papers.
Oct. 17, 1805: Clark gives Sacajawea beads for her bravery.
November 7, 1805: Storms slow down the expedition.
March 23, 1806: After seeing the Pacific Ocean, the trip home begins.
May-June 1806: The travelers stay with the Nez Perce Indian tribe.
July 3, 1806: Lewis and Clark split-up. Sacajawea goes with Clark.
August 12, 1806: Lewis and Clark are reunited at the Mandan Indian camp.
August 14, 1806: Lewis and Clark leave for St. Louis. Sacajawea stays in the Indian camp.

1. Based on the passage, what text structure did the author use to organize the writing?
   A. Sequential Order
   B. Description
   C. Compare and Contrast
   D. Simple Procedure

2. What is the meaning of the word resourcefulness?
   A. Not determined to do a specific action
   B. Being able to deal with a difficult situation
   C. Being fearful of a situation
   D. Giving up effort
3. Which of the following divides the word expedition into syllables correctly?
   A. ex/ pe/d/i/tion
   B. ex/ p/ ed/ i/tion
   C. ex/ped/i/tion
   D. ex/ pe/ di/ tion

4. Based on this sentence, which of the following words is the meaning of interpreter.
   A. translator
   B. explorer
   C. disguised
   D. voyager

5. Based on the passage, what will readers infer about the author's purpose for writing the passage?
   A. To inform the reader
   B. To entertain the reader
   C. To persuade the reader
   D. To compare and contrast the reader's different viewpoints

6. What text features does the author use in the passage above?
   A. Bolded words and Photograph
   B. Headings and Subheadings
   C. Illustrations
   D. Maps and Diagrams

7. Based upon the information which of the following traits best describes Sacagawea?
   A. Peaceful
   B. Disloyal
   C. Argumentative
   D. Destructive

8. Based on evidence from the text, how does the timeline contribute to the reader's understanding of the information?
   A. puts the events in the order that it happened
   B. helps the reader visualize and imagine the information
   C. helps the reader interpret the theme of the story
   D. Helps the reader determine the structure of the passage