5th Grade ELA Work Packet

Week of March 1-5, 2021

Name_____

Please do not begin any assignments until instructed by Ms. Eggink.

Name_____ Date_____

BCCSG College_____

Understanding Tropical Deforestation

Tropical forests stretch out from the equator around the Earth. They are full of amazing diversity and productivity. They have plants and animals found nowhere else in the world.

Tropical forests are disappearing rapidly. Humans clear the land to make room for farms and pastures. They also harvest the wood and use the land to build roads and houses. Deforestation meets some human needs. It also causes big problems, though. These include climate change and extinction of plants and animals. These challenges are global.

Causes of Deforestation

People have been deforesting the Earth for thousands of years. Today, forests are cleared to harvest the wood and to use the land for farms, roads and buildings.

The biggest direct cause of tropical deforestation is turning the land into cropland and pasture. Countries also build roads to improve transportation of goods. Building the roads causes some deforestation. The new roads also make it easier to reach forested lands. As a result, more people will enter to harvest timber. In some cases, it is the reason why the roads were built. When loggers have harvested all the wood in an area, they move on. The roads and the logged areas attract settlers. The settlers destroy the remaining forest for farms.

Poverty often drives people to migrate to the edge of the forest. There, they clear forests to farm. Tropical deforestation has many causes, though. There is more to it than poverty.

Governments cause deforestation with building projects. Things like increased demand for rainforest timber can also lead to deforestation.

New technologies make it easier to clear forests quickly. Meanwhile, old logging technology increases damage in surrounding forests.

Effects of Deforestation

Tropical forests probably contain about half of all kinds of plants and animals on Earth. Many can only be found in small areas. This makes them more likely to die out. In addition, the forest that remains is more dangerous for the plants and animals still there.

Rain forest products are popular around the world. These include fruit, nuts, timber, spices, natural oils and medicines. Without intact forest ecosystems, we would lose many of these products for good.

Biodiversity, a large variety of living things in a certain place, isn't just important for the forest. It is important for people too. Plants and animals in the rainforest may hold the cures for diseases and ways to improve the food we produce. Many of these plants and animals may not have even been discovered yet.

Effects On Soil

With all the life in tropical forests, it may be surprising to learn that tropical soils do not have too many minerals. Heat and rain wash away the minerals over time.

When an area is completely deforested for farming, the farmer typically burns what is left. Minerals are lost. In just a few years, soils often become unable to support crops. Sometimes, the area is then turned into cattle pasture. This makes it nearly impossible for the area to be reforested.

Tropical forests are home to millions of native, or indigenous, peoples. Many of them rely on the forests. Their cultures and livelihoods often depend on having access to forests and forest resources. Deforestation in indigenous territories sometimes leads to conflicts. Governments in these countries face the challenge of balancing the needs of different people.

Rainfall And Temperature

Much of the rain that falls in tropical forests is water that the rainforest has recycled into the atmosphere. Water evaporates, condenses into clouds and falls again as rain. This maintains tropical rainfall. Also, the evaporation cools the Earth's surface. Deforestation is likely to make the area drier and hotter. Tropical deforestation may also change rainfall pattern far outside the area.

Deforestation in tropical areas can increase the greenhouse effect and global warming. The trees and plants in the forests take in a lot of carbon. They do this during photosynthesis. They release carbon dioxide too, though. When people clear the forests, carbon returns to the atmosphere much more rapidly.

Rates Of Tropical Deforestation

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) produces a global forest report. The FAO report is the most widely used measure of global forest health.

The report provides a grim picture. 500,000 square miles of forest disappeared between 1990 and 2015. That's nearly twice the size of Texas. The rate at which forest is lost has slowed down a bit in the last few years, though.

Sustaining Tropical Forests

Forest communities are moving toward farming that is less harmful to the forest. Also, protected areas like parks and preserves can draw tourists and provide jobs and education for people there.

Parks and protected areas may have drawbacks, though. Scientists in the Amazon compared territories managed by indigenous people to parks and other protected areas. Territories managed by indigenous people saw far less deforestation. These territories may work better than parks alone.

Finally, sustainable products are increasing in value. This may give landowners reasons to adopt more forest-friendly practices. Governments also have a reason to work harder to protect the forest.

More countries are beginning to seriously address environmental issues like global warming and maintaining biodiversity. This could be good news for tropical rain forests.

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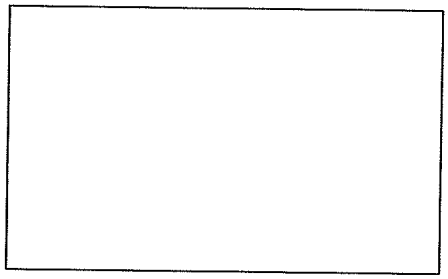
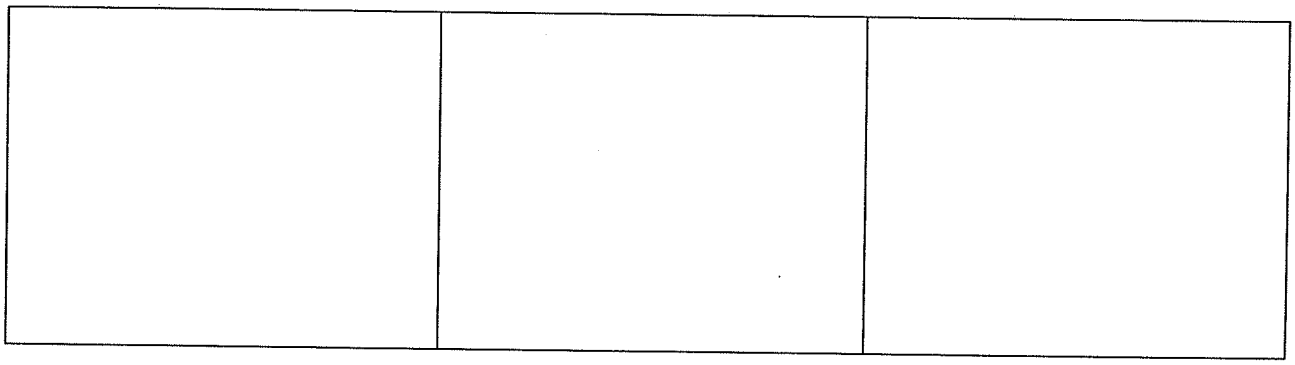
Cause

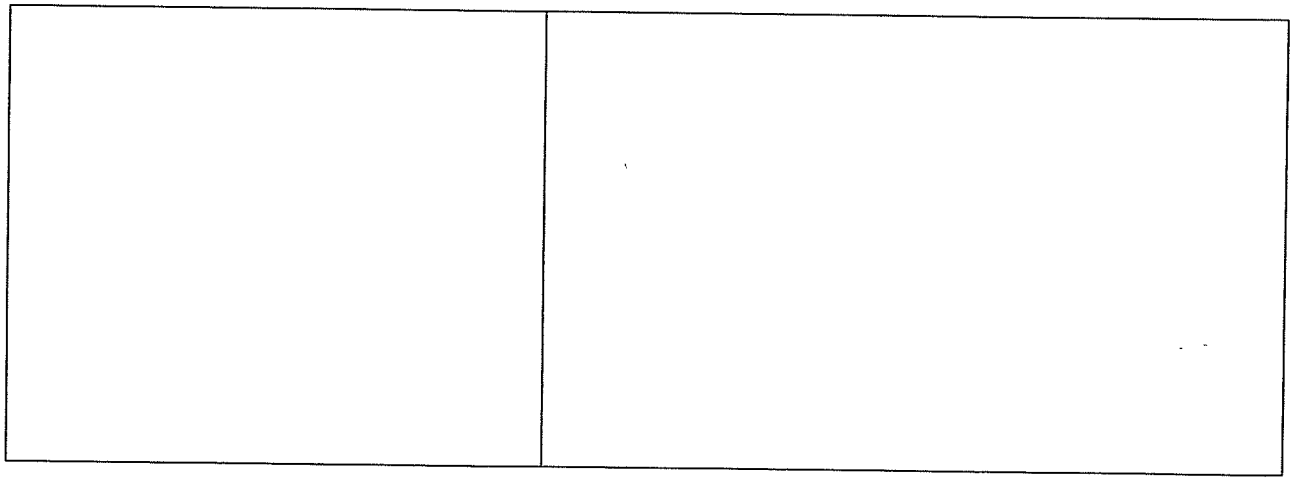


Effects



Problem

Solution



Description

Monday, March 1, 2021 Exit Ticket

Which text structure is most effective at conveying the author's message and why?

Researching in the Rainforest Three-Column Note-catcher

(Focus on pages 35-36 of *The Most Beautiful Roof in the World*)

Country	Research Method	Text That Describes the Research Method
Cameroon		
Panama		
Belize		

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Text-Dependent Questions: Researching the Rainforest, Pages 35–36

1. According to the text, what is a *dirigible*? Support your answer with evidence from the text.

2. The author states, "As fun as this giant trampoline in the sky was, working from it was also *grueling*." What does the word *grueling* mean in this sentence? Support your answer with evidence from the text.

3. On page 36, the author describes how when Meg Lowman stepped into a battalion of army ants, she *screamed bloody murder*. What does the expression *screamed bloody murder* mean? Why did Meg do this? Support your answer with evidence from the text.

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Mid-Unit 2 Assessment, Part II: Describing and Comparing the Point of View

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Below are two versions of the same event written by two different authors. The first is written from a first person point of view. The second is written from a third person point of view. Read both passages and answer the questions that follow.

VERSION 1: First Person Point of View	VERSION 2: Third Person Point of View
"I knew that I wouldn't be able to get back to sleep without using the bathroom, which was in an outhouse, a short walk from my tent. One thing I always worried about when walking around in Cameroon, particularly in the dark, was the Gabon viper, one of West Africa's deadliest snakes. I knew that at least one of those venomous snakes slept under the platform of my tent, and I certainly didn't want to run into one of those at night. In the rays of moonlight that were penetrating the gaps in the dense canopy, I could just make out the outline of the outhouse about 100 feet away. I relaxed a little to know I was nearly there. Suddenly, I felt a sharp stinging bite on my ankle. It was immediately followed by another and another. I jumped up and down. "Owwwwwwwwwwwwww!" I screamed. "Owwwwwwwww. Owwwwwwww!" Written by EL Education for instructional purposes	"Once, in the middle of the night as [Meg] made her way to the outhouse, she stepped smack into a battalion of army ants. She screamed bloody murder and woke the entire camp—everyone was sure the Gabon viper had struck. But army ants with their fierce jaws can deliver a stinging bite that is very painful." p.36 Lasky, Kathryn. *The Most Beautiful Roof in the World: Exploring the Rainforest Canopy.* New York: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 1997. 36. Print.

1. Which pair of sentences **best** explains the difference between third person and first person point of view in the two versions of this event? (RL.5.6)

   A. The first person point of view describes Meg's exact feelings and thoughts when she was bitten.

   B. The third person point of view provides information that Meg does not yet know, but that helps the reader follow the story.

   C. The first person point of view describes, in detail, what happened to Meg at the beginning of the night.

   D. The third person point of view describes what happened to Meg at the end of the night.

   E. The first person point of view is the account that tells what actually happened to Meg in the middle of the night.

   F. The third person point of view does not provide much detail about what happened to Meg in the middle of the night.

2. What information does the author of Version 2 (third person) give the reader that Version 1 (first person) does not? (RL.5.6)

   A. that the bites Meg got were very painful

   B. that Meg was not bitten by a Gabon viper

   C. that Meg screamed loudly

   D. that the incident happened at night

Read the pair of passages below and answer questions comparing the authors' approach.

Passage 1	**Passage 2**
So first the boys show Meg the jade green pool in the shadows of a limestone cave carved out by the creek. They swim in and out of its shadows, resting on mossy rocks. Just outside the cave, over the surface of the water, epiphytes drop their aerial roots from one hundred feet (thirty meters) overhead. The banks of the creek here grow thick with moss and strange ferns. And the immense buttressed tree roots are covered with thin veils of bright orange lichen. After swimming, James stands in a slender arrow of sunlight; an owl butterfly lands on his head. He holds very still for almost a minute. He wonders if the butterfly thinks his bright blond hair is a weird flower. Lasky, Kathryn. *The Most Beautiful Roof in the World: Exploring the Rainforest Canopy.* New York: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 1997. 28. Print.	We drifted and paddled down the swirling brown current, through the vivid rain-drenched green of the tropic forest. The trees leaned over the river from both banks. There were many kinds of palms. One type was the burity with stiff fronds like enormous fans, and another was called the bacaba, with very long, gracefully curving fronds. In places the palms stood close together, towering and slender. Their stems made a stately colonnade. Their fronds were an arched fretwork against the sky. Butterflies of many hues fluttered over the river. The day was overcast, with showers of rain. When the sun broke through rifts in the clouds, his shafts turned the whole forest to gold. Roosevelt, Theodore. *Through the Brazilian Wilderness. Project Gutenberg.* Project Gutenberg, 28 Mar. 2004. Web. 7 Jan. 2016. <http://www.gutenberg.org/cache/epub/11746/pg11746-images.html>.

3. How is the authors' approach in the two passages similar? How are they different? Below, list one similarity and provide one example from each text to support your thinking. (RL.5.9)

One way the authors' approach in the two passages is similar:	
Quote from Passage #1	Quote from Passage #2

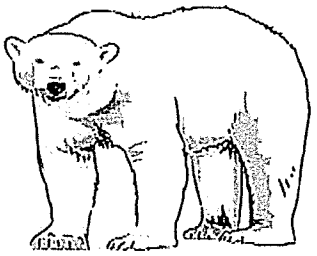
4. How is the authors' approach in the two passages different? Below, list one difference and provide one example from each text to support your thinking. (RL.5.9)

One way the authors' approach in the two passages is different:	
Quote from Passage #1	Quote from Passage #1

SCIENTIFIC TEXT:

Polar Bears

Name: _____



The scientific name for polar bear is Ursus Maritimus, which means "sea bear," and the name is fitting since polar bears live along the seashore and on sea ice in the icy cold Arctic. Polar bears live near the shore because they depend on the sea for much of their diet.

Polar bears primarily eat seals, which they hunt by waiting silently for the seal to surface from its breathing hole in the ice. Polar bears are excellent swimmers and may also hunt by swimming under the ice. They use their front paws to propel themselves through the water and their back legs are used to steer. Their streamlined body shape also helps them glide through the water. Besides eating seals, polar bears will eat Beluga whales, walruses, kelp (seaweed), fish, sea birds, and mussels. Surprisingly, depending upon where they live, they will also forage for berries in the fall.

Polar bears are the largest type of bear, and they are the largest predators on land. They are at the top of the food chain with their only threat being humans. Adult male polar bears weigh between 720 and 1,700 pounds, while adult females usually weigh between 500 and 600 pounds. Males can grow to ten feet in length, which is the height of a one-story building.

One of the most recognizable features of polar bears is their color. It can range from a butter cream yellow to a very pure white, which allows these animals to camouflage themselves well in the ice and snow. One interesting fact about polar bears is that their skin is not white, but black. Their fur and skin help them stay warm in the most frigid weather.

Polar bears actually have two coats of fur that cover their skin. The first layer sits next to the skin and is a colorless, soft, fuzzy undercoat that traps air next to the skin and helps repel water. On top of the undercoat is a thick layer of long, stiff guard hairs, which also are colorless and are similar to tiny, clear plastic straws. There's one more reason that polar bears are able to withstand the cold and that is a layer you can't see...it's blubber. This thick layer of blubber under the skin is made of stored-up fat and is from one to four inches thick. It acts like a blanket to hold in the bear's body heat. It also comes in handy as a source of energy if the polar bear is unable to find food.

In the fall, pregnant polar bears will make dens in the earth and in snowbanks, where they'll stay through the winter and give birth to one to three cubs. In the spring, the mother will emerge from her den followed by her cubs. Most polar bear mothers nurse their babies for two and a half years. During that time, the mother also teaches them how to hunt and makes sure they are safe.

Currently, there are about 25,000 to 27,000 polar bears in the world, but scientists are worried about polar bears. Because of global warming, which is causing areas of sea ice to shrink and even disappear, scientists believe the number of polar bears in the wild could dramatically decrease by 2050. Some believe the population could decrease by half and others argue it could be diminished by two-thirds.

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Polar Bears

1. How is the text organized?

2. What is the author's purpose?

3. Although polar bears live in colder regions than the Amazon Rainforest their survival is impacted by humans. Based what you already know about protecting biodiversity and humans doing their part to help the earth, what do you think can be done to help protect polar bears from becoming extinct?

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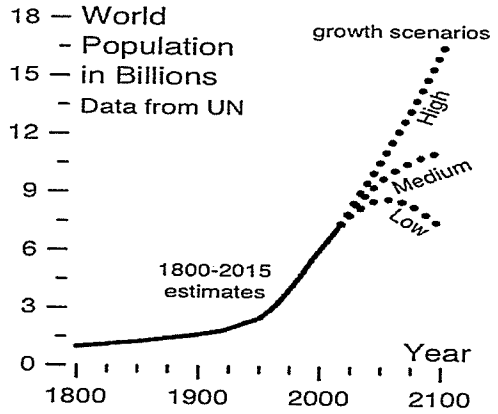
Human Activity & Environmental Impact

Humans have been on the earth for a long time. However, we do not always take good care of the planet and the environment. We need **sustainability**, or the ability for resources to exist constantly, to help our Earth in the future.



Population growth has led to environmental problems.

Human Water and Land Usage

Maybe you've been told to turn off the faucet while brushing your teeth, or not let the water run when washing dishes. This is necessary to reduce our **carbon footprint** or negative impact on the earth. Water waste causes a heavy carbon footprint.

More than half of our water supply used for farming is wasted. Lack of preparation and inconsistent weather patterns contribute to this. Why do farmers do this if they know they are causing problems? Sometimes, wasting is easier than saving. Sometimes, wasting is caused by not thinking of the best way to do something.

Trees provide humans and animals with oxygen needed for survival. Then why is there deforestation if we know that trees help us breathe? Deforestation removes trees, resulting in loss of oxygen, animal homes and other resources.

We lose our **biodiversity** when trees are sliced down. For example, the Amazon is one of the most biodiverse places on the planet. But there is a lot of deforestation in the Amazon! Too many trees are being chopped down. Plants and animals are dying.Wildfires also harm the land. Some wildfires start naturally. But many of these fires are started by human mistakes.

Urbanization, or the increase of city life, has also harmed the land. Most people live in cities now. But most people used to live in the countryside. Urbanization has led to air pollution and even more deforestation.

Human Pollution & Human Health

These changes may hurt more than the environment. More people are getting Cancer than ever before, new diseases are stumping doctors. What causes cancer and these new sicknesses? Doctors don't know for sure, but a dirty environment could be part of the problem. Environmental asthma has been increasing too. However, there are things we can do to help the environment, and in turn, human quality of life.

An Environmental Success Story

In 1962, marine biologist Rachel Carson wrote a book called *Silent Spring.* In t his book, Carson talks about the dangers of using chemicals on plants and farms. Carson's writing taught people about a kind of chemicals called pesticides. As a result, some dangerous chemicals are gone.
We can take action like Rachel Carson. We now understand what is harmful and helpful to our environment. Walking to school and planting a tree are way sfor young people to get involved. Talk with members of your community to spread awareness and encourage them to eat locally and engage in conservation practices.

The Next Generation

From urbanization to water waste and pollution, humans have had a huge impact on the planet. We can let the earth be sick or we can help the earth get

healthy. What do you want your carbon footprint to look like? It may be hard to think what the world may look like in 500 years, but it is our responsibility to protect the natural resources of the earth if we want future generations to enjoy the benefits that we currently have. If we continue to remove the trees and contaminate our water the result could be catastrophic for your future grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Can we break the cycle?

Name_____ Date_____

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1. How do the sections, "Human Water and Land Usage" and "The Next Generation" relate to one another?

2. How are the main ideas in the text organized?

3. How does the section, "An Environmental Success Story" support the author's purpose?

4. What does your carbon footprint look like right now? How can I reduce my carbon foot print?

SCIENTIFIC TEXT:

Animal Camouflage

Name: _____

How are animals able to find food and avoid being attacked by other animals? Many of them survive longer because they are expert hiders or because they trick their predators.

Concealing Animal Colors

The simplest camouflage technique is for an animal to blend in with the colors of its surroundings. This type of camouflage can be seen everywhere. For example, deer, squirrels, mice and many other animals have brownish colors that match the brown of the dirt or a tree trunk. Ocean animals like sharks and dolphins are grayish-blue, which helps them blend in underwater. Animals that blend in better with their surroundings are more likely to live longer and to have offspring similar in color to themselves.

Animals Changing Color

Camouflaging is very common in nature. Most species will blend in to some extent, but it is much less common for an animal to be able to change its coloring to match different environments. Chameleons are one familiar example, although scientists believe that their color change is more related to mood than to their surroundings. The change of seasons is one way some animals change color to blend in. In the spring and summer, a mammal's habitat might be mostly greens and browns, while in the fall and winter, it might be white with snow. Many birds and mammals are able to adapt to the seasonal changes by producing different colors of fur or feathers for the specific season. In most cases, changing amounts of daylight or shifts in temperature cause the animal's hormones to trigger different colorings. Besides birds and mammals, some fish are able to change colors gradually as they change environments too.

Animal Disguise

In addition to coloring, many animals have distinctive designs on their bodies that help conceal them. These designs, including spots, stripes, or a group of patches, can help the animal match the pattern of their background. For example, animals that live in areas with tall grass often have long, vertical stripes. Stripes are also helpful to animals like zebras, who often travel in herds. When zebras stand in a group, their stripes seem to all run together, making it hard for a lion to attack one specific zebra. Fish who travel in schools also use this technique for protection.

Another camouflage tactic is for an animal to take on the appearance of some other object. One of the best known examples of this is the walking stick, an insect that looks like an ordinary twig. Predators see the walking stick but pass it by, believing it truly is a twig. Katydids also trick their predators by looking just like tree leaves.

Mimicry

Mimicry is a different form of animal disguise. For example, several moth species have designs on their wings that resemble the eyes of a larger animal. One that is particularly frightening to predators is the hawk moth caterpillar, who has large spots on the back of its head that look exactly like a snake's head. Color mimicry, as seen in poisonous dart frogs or ladybugs, helps scare away predators as well. Animals that are brightly colored are often also poisonous, which warns predators to stay away from them.

Camouflage and mimicry have sometimes proven to be more effective survival adaptations than an animal's weapons of defense, such as its teeth, claws, and beaks. Obviously, being overlooked by a predator is much easier than having to fight it.

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After the 1st Read:

1. What is the main idea of this text? _____

2. Which supporting details provide evidence for this main idea? _____

After the 2nd Read:

3. The second paragraph under "Animal Disguise" contains the phrase "camouflage tactic". What does this mean? Provide examples from the text. _____

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4. Look at the sections titled, "Concealing Animal Colors" and "Animals Changing Colors". Compare and contrast the way that animals are able to camouflage themselves in the two sections. Make sure to cite evidence from the text.

After the 3rd Read:

5. The author stated that "Animals that blend in better with their surroundings are more likely to live longer and to have offspring similar in color to themselves". What does this mean exactly? Make sure to provide evidence from the text when possible.

6. Describe a cause and effect relationship that can be found in the text.

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Friday, March 5, 2021 Exit Ticket

Why do we read a text more than once?

Name_____

Weekly Reading Log

Example: Monday 9/9

Title: The Secret Garden Pages read: 15-27

Summary: Today I read about.... It connects to..... It made me think of....my prediction for tomorrow is.....

Monday _____/_____

Title: _____ Pages read: _____

Summary:

Tuesday _____/_____

Title: _____ Pages read: _____

Summary:

Wednesday ____/____

Title: _____ Pages read: _____

Summary:

Thursday ____/____

Title: _____ Pages read: _____

Summary:

Friday ____/____

Title: _____ Pages read: _____

Summary: