Name: _____ Date: _____

The Sleeping Exhibit at the Mattress Museum

Circle group

Nell Okonkwo was a junior guide at the Museum of Beds and Bedding. That sounds like the dullest place on earth. Then you hear about the day the exhibit started snoring.

The best room had a sleigh bed from the 1800s. It had a patchwork quilt and a velvet rope around it. Nell had given the tour so many times that she could say it in her sleep. "This bed," she began that Thursday, "belonged to a sea captain who liked to sleep sitting up."

A low, rumbling noise stopped her. Everyone turned. A round-faced man in a wrinkled coat lay on the quilt, fast asleep, with his hat over his eyes.

Nell froze. A woman in the group whispered, "Is that part of the display?" A boy said, "It looks real." Soon someone took a photo. A man in a bow tie told his daughter, "That is clearly a wax sleeper from long ago."

Nell had two choices. She could pretend, or she could fix it. She stepped over the rope and tapped the man's shoulder. "Sir, I am so sorry, but the beds are for looking at."

The man sat up and blinked at the crowd. "I came in for a quick rest," he said. "I have been traveling since Tuesday." The group clapped. The museum director heard the noise and gave him a free ticket and a chair. The next day a new sign hung by the bed. It said, PLEASE DO NOT WAKE THE EXHIBITS, AND PLEASE DO NOT BECOME ONE.

Questions

1. Where does Nell work, and what is her job?

_____

_____

2. What was in the best room of the museum?

_____

_____

3. Why did the group think the sleeping man was a display?

_____

_____

4. What did Nell decide to do?

_____

_____

5. Why was the man asleep on the bed?

_____

_____

6. What does the new sign tell you?

_____

_____

Words to know

junior: younger or lower in rank

exhibit: an object shown to the public in a museum

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Sleeping Exhibit at the Mattress Museum

Triangle group

Nell Okonkwo worked as a junior guide at the Museum of Beds and Bedding, which sounds like the dullest place on earth until you hear about the afternoon the exhibit started snoring.

The museum's best room held a sleigh bed from the 1800s, covered in a patchwork quilt and guarded by a velvet rope. Nell had given the tour so many times that she could recite it in her sleep. "This bed," she began that Thursday, "belonged to a sea captain who preferred to sleep sitting up."

A low, rumbling noise interrupted her. Everyone in the group turned. A round-faced man in a rumpled coat lay curled on top of the quilt, deeply asleep, with his hat over his eyes.

Nell froze. Behind her, a woman from the tour whispered, "Is that part of the display?" A boy added, "It looks very realistic." Within a minute, someone had snapped a photo, and a man in a bow tie had started explaining to his daughter that the figure was "clearly a wax sleeper from the Victorian period."

Nell knew that she had two choices. She could pretend, or she could fix it. She stepped over the rope, tapped the sleeper on the shoulder, and said, "Sir, I am so sorry, but the beds are for looking at."

The man sat up, blinked at the crowd, and said, "I came in for a quick rest. I have been traveling since Tuesday." The group burst into applause, and the museum director, who had heard the commotion, offered him a free ticket and a chair. The next morning, a new sign hung by the sleigh bed. It said, PLEASE DO NOT WAKE THE EXHIBITS, AND PLEASE DO NOT BECOME ONE.

Questions

1. Where does Nell work, and what is her job?

_____

_____

2. What was the best room in the museum known for?

_____

_____

3. Why did the tour group think the sleeping man was part of the display?

_____

_____

4. What did Nell decide to do about the mix-up?

_____

_____

5. Why was the man asleep on the bed?

_____

_____

6. What does the new sign suggest about what happened?

_____

_____

Words to know

junior: younger or lower in rank
recite: to say something aloud from memory
rumpled: wrinkled and messy
commotion: a lot of noisy excitement
exhibit: an object shown to the public in a museum

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Sleeping Exhibit at the Mattress Museum

Square group

Nell Okonkwo worked as a junior guide at the Museum of Beds and Bedding, which sounds like the dullest institution on earth until you hear about the afternoon the exhibit started snoring.

The museum's finest room featured a sleigh bed from the 1800s, draped with a patchwork quilt and protected by a velvet rope. Nell had conducted the tour so many times that she could have recited it in her sleep. "This bed," she began that Thursday, "belonged to a sea captain who preferred to sleep sitting upright."

A low, rumbling noise interrupted her. Everyone in the group swiveled around. A round-faced man in a rumpled coat lay curled on top of the quilt, deeply asleep, with his hat tipped over his eyes.

Nell froze. Behind her, a woman from the tour whispered, "Is that part of the display?" A boy added, "It looks remarkably realistic." Within a minute, someone had snapped a photograph, and a gentleman in a bow tie had begun explaining to his daughter that the figure was "obviously a wax sleeper from the Victorian period."

Nell recognized that she had two options. She could play along, or she could set things right. She stepped over the rope, tapped the sleeper gently on the shoulder, and said, "Sir, I am terribly sorry, but the beds are meant for looking at."

The man sat up, blinked at the crowd, and explained, "I came in for a quick rest. I have been traveling since Tuesday." The group burst into applause, and the museum director, who had heard the commotion from down the hall, offered him a free ticket and a comfortable chair. By the next morning, a new sign hung beside the sleigh bed. It read, PLEASE DO NOT WAKE THE EXHIBITS, AND PLEASE DO NOT BECOME ONE.

Questions

1. Where does Nell work, and what is her position?

_____

_____

2. What was the finest room in the museum known for?

_____

_____

3. Why did the tour group assume the sleeping man was part of the display?

_____

_____

4. What did Nell decide to do about the mix-up?

_____

_____

5. Why was the man asleep on the bed?

_____

_____

6. What does the new sign suggest about the day's events?

_____

_____

Words to know

junior: younger or lower in rank
recite: to say something aloud from memory
rumpled: wrinkled and messy
commotion: a lot of noisy excitement
exhibit: an object shown to the public in a museum

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

For the teacher: The Sleeping Exhibit at the Mattress Museum

Each student sheet carries a shape, not a level. The same topic and facts, written three ways.

Circle: The Sleeping Exhibit at the Mattress Museum

Easier · 256 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.5

1. She is a junior guide at the Museum of Beds and Bedding.
2. A sleigh bed from the 1800s with a quilt and a velvet rope.
3. He lay still on the old bed and looked real.
4. She stepped over the rope and woke the man politely.
5. He had been traveling since Tuesday and needed a rest.
6. The museum did not want visitors sleeping on the exhibits, and they found it funny.

Triangle: The Sleeping Exhibit at the Mattress Museum

This passage · 287 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 5.7

1. She is a junior guide at the Museum of Beds and Bedding.
2. A sleigh bed from the 1800s with a patchwork quilt and a velvet rope.
3. He lay still on the antique bed and looked very realistic.
4. She stepped over the rope and woke the man politely.
5. He had been traveling since Tuesday and wanted a quick rest.
6. The museum wanted to keep visitors from sleeping on the exhibits, and the staff found it funny.

Square: The Sleeping Exhibit at the Mattress Museum

Harder · 300 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 6.8

1. She is a junior guide at the Museum of Beds and Bedding.
2. A sleigh bed from the 1800s with a patchwork quilt and a velvet rope.
3. He lay motionless on the antique bed and looked remarkably realistic.
4. She stepped over the rope and gently woke the man.
5. He had been traveling since Tuesday and wanted a quick rest.
6. The museum wanted to keep visitors from sleeping on exhibits, and the staff saw the humor.