Name: _____ Date: _____

A Letter Rides in a Mailbag

Circle group

Long ago, people wrote letters. They used a pen.

They put the paper in an envelope. They put a stamp on it.

A mail carrier took it in a bag. It went far. Then a man got a happy letter.

Questions

1. What did people write on?

_____

_____

2. Where did the folded paper go?

_____

_____

3. What went on the envelope?

_____

_____

4. Who took the letter in a bag?

_____

_____

5. Why was the person happy?

_____

_____

Words to know

envelope: a paper cover that holds a letter
stamp: a small paper picture that pays for mail
carrier: a person who takes things from place to place

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: _____

A Letter Rides in a Mailbag

Triangle group

Before email, people wrote letters. They wrote on paper with a pen.

They folded the paper. They put it in an envelope. They put a stamp on it.

A mail carrier took the letter in a bag. It went far. Then I got a happy surprise. A letter was in my mailbox!

Questions

1. What did people write letters on?

_____

_____

2. Where did the folded paper go?

_____

_____

3. What went on the front of the envelope?

_____

_____

4. Who took the letter in a bag?

_____

_____

5. Why was the person happy to find a letter in the mailbox?

_____

_____

Words to know

envelope: a paper cover that holds a letter
stamp: a small paper picture that pays for mail
carrier: a person who takes things from place to place
mailbox: a box where letters are left

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: _____

A Letter Rides in a Mailbag

Square group

Before people had email, they wrote letters by hand. A writer would use a pen and a sheet of paper.

Next, the writer folded the paper, slid it into an envelope, and stuck a stamp on the front.

A mail carrier then put the letter into a bag and carried it along its journey. After it had traveled far away, someone opened the mailbox and found a happy surprise.

Questions

1. What did a writer use to write a letter by hand?

_____

_____

2. Where did the writer slide the folded paper?

_____

_____

3. What was stuck on the front of the envelope?

_____

_____

4. Who carried the letter in a bag?

_____

_____

5. Why was the person happy to find a letter in the mailbox?

_____

_____

Words to know

envelope: a paper cover that holds a letter
stamp: a small paper picture that pays for mail
carrier: a person who takes things from place to place
mailbox: a box where letters are left

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: A Letter Rides in a Mailbag

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

Circle: A Letter Rides in a Mailbag

Easier · 40 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.1

1. Paper.
2. In an envelope.
3. A stamp.
4. A mail carrier.
5. Someone far away sent them a message.

Triangle: A Letter Rides in a Mailbag

This passage · 52 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.1

1. Paper.
2. Into an envelope.
3. A stamp.
4. A mail carrier.
5. Someone far away had sent a message to them.

Square: A Letter Rides in a Mailbag

Harder · 69 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 6.4

1. A pen and a sheet of paper.
2. Into an envelope.
3. A stamp.
4. A mail carrier.
5. Someone far away had sent a message just for them.