

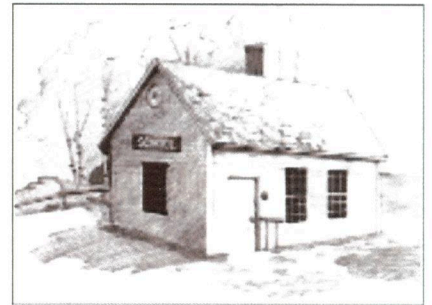
Anne of Avonlea

by Lucy Maud Montgomery

... Anne of Green Gables follows Anne Shirley, a young Canadian orphan. ... was sent to live with the Cuthberts, a brother and sister who have a farm on Prince Edward Island, Canada. In Anne of Avonlea, written in 1909, Anne is 16 years old and is going to teach school for the first time in the town of Avonlea.

Chapter V. Full-fledged Schoolma'am

When Anne reached the school that morning . . . for the first time in her life she had traversed the Birch Path deaf and blind to its beauties . . . all was quiet and still. The preceding teacher had trained the children to be in their places at her arrival, and when Anne entered the schoolroom she was confronted by prim rows of "shining morning faces" and bright, inquisitive eyes. She hung up her hat and faced her pupils, hoping that she did not look as frightened and foolish as she felt and that they would not perceive how she was trembling.



She had sat up until nearly twelve the preceding night composing a speech she meant to make to her pupils upon opening the school. She had revised and improved it painstakingly, and then she had learned it off by heart. It was a very good speech and had some very fine ideas in it, especially about mutual help and earnest striving after knowledge. The only trouble was that she could not now remember a word of it.

After what seemed to her a year . . . about ten seconds in reality . . . she said faintly, "Take your Testaments, please," and sank breathlessly into her chair under cover of the rustle and clatter of desk lids that followed. While the children read their verses Anne marshalled her shaky wits into order and looked over the array of little pilgrims to the Grownup Land.

What Is It?

List three examples from the passage that show Anne is nervous on her first day of teaching school.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



the Survivor of North America

The coyote is a relative of the dog, wolf and jackal. Like its relatives, it is a predator and mostly eats other mammals. It will, however, eat a wide variety of foods, including insects, fruits and vegetables.

Coyotes are found throughout most of North America, from Mexico and Central America to Canada and Alaska. The color of its coat depends on where it lives. Mountain coyotes are darker than those living in the desert.

Like the wolf, coyotes live in groups, or packs. The pack is usually smaller in number than a wolf pack. All members of the pack are usually related. The pack will often divide into pairs to hunt.

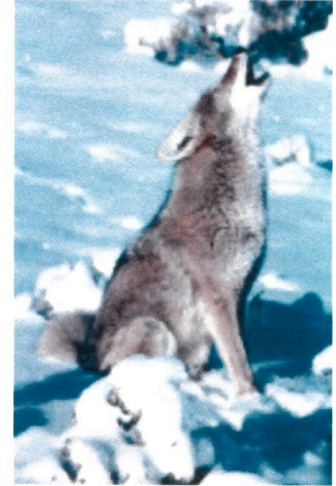
Female coyotes have a litter of pups once a year. A litter has an average of six pups. Over half of the pups will die before they reach adulthood. Male pups usually leave the pack to find their own territory. Female pups stay with the parent's pack.

Wolves and coyotes compete for the same prey animals. Since the coyote is smaller than the wolf, wolves will usually drive the coyote out of any shared territory.

The coyote adapts easily to new areas. Unlike the buffalo or wolf, the coyote's range increased after human populations expanded across the continent. For example, the coyote was not native to New England. Once the New England settlers eliminated wolves, however, the coyote moved in. Scientists who have studied the coyote believe it is better than the wolf at living in human areas.

Coyotes are now found in most large urban areas. They find an abundant supply of food in these areas, since coyotes are willing to eat garbage, rodents and even small pets, such as cats. Scientists estimate that as many as 2,000 coyotes may be living in the Chicago area.

Because of its adaptability, the coyote is not an endangered species, or even a threatened species. It has been classified as "least concern," which means it has the lowest risk of extinction.



The coyote communicates with other coyotes by howling or yipping.



A very young coyote pup

Cite the Source

Find two examples from the text that support the idea that the coyote adapts to survive.

1. _____

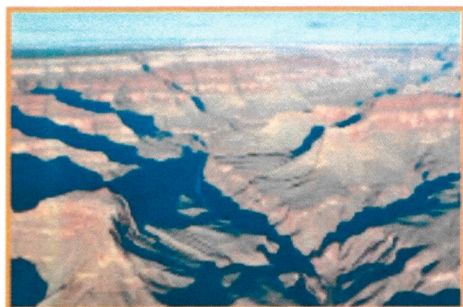
2. _____

The Grand Canyon

The Grand Canyon is a large river canyon in Arizona. It is over 220 miles long and over a mile deep in some places. Its widest point is 18 miles wide. The canyon is considered one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World.

Over millions of years, the Colorado River wore away rocks as it passed through the area. Slowly, the river made the path deeper and deeper. Now, the canyon is surrounded by steep walls on either side, while the river continues to flow at the bottom of the canyon.

Besides its large size, the Grand Canyon is also known for its magnificent colors. The canyon is made of layers of rock, and each layer of rock has a different depth and color. Geologists have identified almost 40 different layers of rock exposed by the river's erosion.



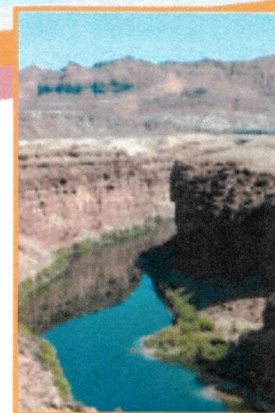
Aerial view of the Grand Canyon

The climate in canyon area is primarily desert, with both high and low temperatures. The upper rims of the canyon often receive snowfall. The air quality is usually very high, although dust storms and smoke from fires can change the air.

The Grand Canyon is home to a variety of plants and animals. Plants range from various species of cactus to pine forests. Many types of animals live in the area, including the bald eagle, bobcats, bats and gila monsters. Six different kinds of rattlesnakes have been identified in the area.

Native Americans have inhabited the area for around 3,000 years. Spanish conquistadors first explored the area in 1540. Later, Spanish priests and explorers returned in 1776. However, they did not stay, as they found the canyon impassable.

Arizona became part of the United States in 1848, and the first geological studies were completed on the Grand Canyon in 1856. Today, the canyon is part of the Grand Canyon National Park. About five million tourists visit the park each year.



The Colorado River formed the Grand Canyon.

What Does It Mean?

Circle the correct meaning for each of the following words from the passage.

1. geologists

- a. scientists who study the physical properties of the earth
- b. scientists who study plants and animals in Arizona
- c. scientists who study numbers

2. various

- a. desert
- b. different kinds
- c. rare; unusual

3. impassable

- a. unable to cross
- b. far from civilization
- c. haunted

4. erosion

- a. the act of drying up or evaporating
- b. change of direction
- c. the act of wearing away or grinding down

Oliver Twist

Name: _____

by Charles Dickens

Oliver Twist, published in 1837, is one of Charles Dickens' most famous works. It tells the tale of an orphan boy, Oliver Twist, who grows up in poverty in England. In this passage from Chapter II, Oliver is 9 years old and living in a government workhouse. The officials of the workhouse choose to feed the residents very little.

Boys have generally excellent appetites. Oliver Twist and his companions suffered the tortures of slow starvation for three months: at last they got so voracious and wild with hunger, that one boy, who was tall for his age, and hadn't been used to that sort of thing (for his father had kept a small cook-shop), hinted darkly to his companions, that unless he had another basin of gruel per diem, he was afraid he might some night happen to eat the boy who slept next him, who happened to be a weakly youth of tender age. He had a wild, hungry eye; and they implicitly believed him. A council was held; lots were cast who should walk up to the master after supper that evening, and ask for more; and it fell to Oliver Twist.

The evening arrived; the boys took their places. The master, in his cook's uniform, stationed himself at the copper; his pauper assistants ranged themselves behind him; the gruel was served out; and a long grace was said over the short commons. The gruel disappeared; the boys whispered each other, and winked at Oliver; while his next neighbors nudged him. Child as he was, he was desperate with hunger, and reckless with misery. He rose from the table; and advancing to the master, basin and spoon in hand, said: somewhat alarmed at his own temerity:

'Please, sir, I want some more.'

The master was a fat, healthy man; but he turned very pale. He gazed in stupefied astonishment on the small rebel for some seconds, and then clung for support to the copper. The assistants were paralysed with wonder; the boys with fear.

'What!' said the master at length, in a faint voice.

'Please, sir,' replied Oliver, 'I want some more.'

The master aimed a blow at Oliver's head with the ladle; pinioned him in his arm; and shrieked aloud for the beadle.



Illustration of Oliver asking for more food, from the first publication of Oliver Twist.

Summarize It

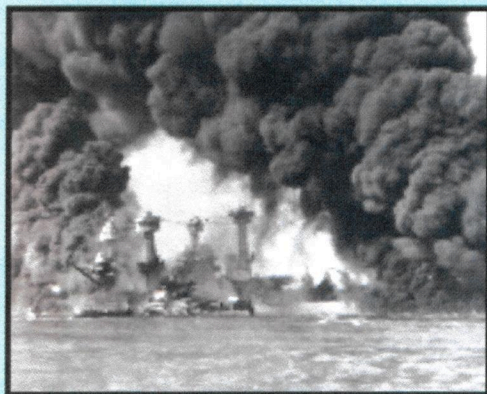
Write a short summary of the passage.

The Attack on Pearl Harbor



View of the attack on Pearl Harbor from a Japanese aircraft. The row of ships in the bottom center was called "Battleship Row." In this picture, some of the ships have already been hit by torpedoes and are beginning to sink. The lines in the water show the torpedo's path. The smoke in the background is from another ship that has been hit.

A Japanese bomber as it arrives at Pearl Harbor



The USS West Virginia (left) as it sinks after being bombed. The USS Tennessee burns behind it.

In 1941, many countries of the world were at war. In Europe, Germany and Italy were fighting together to expand their territories. Germany had already taken over many countries, including the Netherlands, Poland, Denmark and France. Germany had also been bombing Great Britain. The war in Europe had spilled into Africa, with German and Italian troops fighting British troops in North Africa.

Japan joined an alliance with Germany and Italy. This alliance was called the Axis. Japan wanted to take control of Southeast Asia and the South Pacific.

The U.S. had not joined the fighting, although it had loaned ships and supplies to Great Britain. Many Americans wanted to join the war to stop the Axis from taking over Europe and Asia. Other Americans were against joining in a far away war that did not concern the U.S. President Franklin Roosevelt wanted to discourage Japan from invading countries in Asia. In early 1941, he moved the U.S. warships in the Pacific from San Diego, California to Pearl Harbor in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Japan needed oil. The Dutch East Indies, which is now Indonesia, had a large supply of oil. The Japanese government decided to invade the Dutch East Indies in order to have an oil supply. They also developed a plan to keep the U.S. from interfering with the invasion.

On Sunday, December 7, 1941, over 350 Japanese war planes from six aircraft carriers began bombing the U.S. ships at Pearl Harbor. The surprise attack began at 7:48 a.m. The attack was over in 90 minutes. Eight U.S. battleships had been damaged. Four of the battleships had been sunk. Eleven other ships, including cruisers and destroyers had been sunk or damaged, and 300 U.S. planes had been destroyed or damaged. Over 2,400 U.S. military personnel had been killed, mostly on the *USS Arizona*, and 1,282 had been injured.

Congress declared war on Japan on December 8 and on Germany and Italy on December 11. The U.S. had entered World War II. In 1945, the U.S., Great Britain and their allies won the war against Japan, Germany and Italy.

What Do You Think?

Americans were very angry when Japan attacked Pearl Harbor. How do you think the attack changed the minds of those who had not wanted to go to war?
