

Today, you will read and think about the passage from the novel titled *Boy's Life* and the fable "Emancipation: A Life Fable." As you read these texts, you will gather information and answer questions about comparing themes and topics so you can write an essay.

Read the passage from the novel titled *Boy's Life*. Then answer the questions.

from *Boy's Life*  
by Robert McCammon

1 TICK . . . TICK . . . TICK.

2 In spite of what the calendar says, I have always counted the last day of school as the first day of summer. The sun had grown steadily hotter and hung longer in the sky, the earth had greened and the sky had cleared of all but the fleeciest of clouds, the heat panted for attention like a dog who knows his day is coming, the baseball field had been mowed and white-lined and the swimming pool newly painted and filled, and as our homeroom teacher, Mrs. Selma Neville, intoned about what a good year this had been and how much we'd learned, we students who had passed through the ordeal of final exams sat with one eye fixed to the clock.

3 Tick . . . tick . . . tick.

4 Have mercy.

### Part A

Read the sentence from paragraph 31 in the passage from *Boy's Life*.

I ran out along the corridor, my arms unencumbered by books, my mind unencumbered by facts and figures, quotations and dates.

What does the word **unencumbered** mean as it is used in the sentence?

- A. not burdened
- B. not excited
- C. not hurried
- D. not aged

### Part B

Which sentence from the passage **best** supports the answer to Part A?

- A. "Have a good summer,' Mrs. Neville said, and I realized suddenly that I was free."
- B. "Before I got out, though, I looked back at Mrs. Neville."
- C. "Mrs. Neville suddenly looked awfully old."
- D. "Have a good summer, Mrs. Neville! I told her from the doorway."

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### Part A

Read the sentence from paragraph 5 in the passage from *Boy's Life*.

The world was out there, waiting beyond the square metal-rimmed windows.

How does the sentence help develop the plot of the excerpt?

- A. It presents the climax.
- B. It represents the conflict.
- C. It indicates how the action changes.
- D. It establishes how the speaker learns a lesson.

### Part B

Which detail from the passage **best** supports the answer to Part A?

- A. "The sun had grown steadily hotter . . ."
- B. ". . . the baseball field had been mowed . . ."
- C. ". . . and how much we'd learned . . ."
- D. ". . . sat with one eye fixed to the clock."

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### Part A

In the passage from *Boy's Life*, how does the narrator's attitude toward Mrs. Neville gradually change?

- A. from confused to angry
- B. from worried to comforted
- C. from pitying to discouraged
- D. from impatient to understanding

### Part B

Which **two** sentences from the passage **best** support the gradual change in the answer to Part A?

- A. "In spite of what the calendar says, I have always counted the last day of school as the first day of summer."
- B. "From the hallway we heard a stirring and rustling, followed by laughter and shouts of pure, bubbling joy."
- C. "My insides quaked at the injustice of it."
- D. "She wanted to hold us as long as she possibly could, not out of sheer teacher spite but maybe because she didn't have anybody to go home to, and summer alone is no summer at all."
- E. "Having your teacher talk to you like a regular person is a disconcerting feeling."
- F. "She sat at a desk with no papers on it that needed grading, no books holding lessons that needed to be taught."

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Read the fable titled "Emancipation: A Life Fable." Then answer the questions.

Emancipation: A Life Fable  
by Kate Chopin

1 There was once an animal born into this world, and opening his eyes upon Life, he saw above and about him confining walls, and before him were bars of iron through which came air and light from without; this animal was born in a cage.

2 Here he grew, and thrived in strength and beauty under care of an invisible protecting hand. Hungering, food was ever at hand. When he thirsted water was brought, and when he felt the need of rest, there was provided a bed of straw upon which to lie: and here he found it good, licking his handsome flanks, to bask in the sun beam that he thought existed but to lighten his home.

3 Awaking one day from his slothful rest, lo! the door of his cage stood open: accident had opened it. In the corner he crouched, wondering and fearingly. Then slowly did he approach the door,

### Part A

Read the phrase from paragraph 1 of "Emancipation: A Life Fable."

As used in paragraph 1, What does the word **confining** suggest about the walls?

- A. The walls are small.
- B. The walls are limiting.
- C. The walls are helpful.
- D. The walls are reassuring.

### Part B

Which detail from the fable **best** supports the answer to Part A?

- A. "There was once an animal born into this world . . ."
- B. ". . . opening his eyes upon Life . . ."
- C. ". . . through which came air and light . . ."
- D. ". . . this animal was born in a cage."

Today, you will read and think about the passage from the novel titled *Boy's Life* and the fable "Emancipation: A Life Fable." As you read these texts, you will gather information and answer questions about comparing themes and topics so you can write an essay.

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For the fable "Emancipation: A Life Fable," use the story map to create a summary by dragging and dropping the correct details into the correct places.

The animal runs out.	The animal sees bright lights.
The animal acts without thinking.	The animal finds the door left open.
The animal finds happiness.	The animal lives comfortably.
The animal grows stronger.	The animal must make a hard decision.

<b>Character:</b> an animal	<b>First Setting:</b> in a cage	<b>Second Setting:</b> in the wild
<b>Conflict:</b>		
<b>Event 1:</b>		
<b>Event 2:</b>		
<b>Event 3:</b>		
<b>Resolution:</b>		

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Boy's Life    Emancipation: A Life Fable

Read the passage from the novel titled *Boy's Life*. Then answer the questions.

from *Boy's Life*  
by Robert McCammon

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Read the central ideas in the list and decide whether they are found in the passage from *Boy's Life*, in "Emancipation: A Life Fable," or in both. Drag and drop each central idea into the appropriate location in the table.

- Taking a chance can be rewarding.
- New situations can cause discomfort.
- Sometimes it is difficult to have patience.
- Happiness can be found in having liberty.

Boy's Life	Both	"Emancipation: A Life Fable"

Today, you will read and think about the passage from the novel titled *Boy's Life* and the fable "Emancipation: A Life Fable." As you read these texts, you will gather information and answer questions about comparing themes and topics so you can write an essay.

Boy's Life    Emancipation: A Life Fable

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You have read the passage from *Boy's Life* and "Emancipation: A Life Fable." Both texts develop the theme of freedom. Write an essay that compares and contrasts the approaches each text uses to develop the theme of freedom.

**B**   *I*   U

Today you will research how zoos impact animals. You will read one article titled "The Stripes Will Survive." Then you will read one passage titled "The Zoos Go Wild" and view one video titled "Lions at the National Zoo." As you review these sources, you will gather information and answer questions about how zoos impact animals so you can write an essay.

Read the article titled "The Stripes Will Survive." Then answer the questions.

The Stripes Will Survive  
by Jacqueline Adams

- 1 Danya nips his mother's furry back over and over, as if he's trying to see how many times he can get away with it. It doesn't seem like a very smart game, considering Mom is a Siberian tigress! But Danya and his twin sister, Dasha, know how special they are to their mother.
- 2 They're also special to visitors who travel to Cleveland Metroparks Zoo in Ohio for a glimpse of these rare cubs. But if Siberian tigers weren't so rare, Danya and Dasha would never have been born.
- 3 A hundred years ago, no one worried that the world might run out of tigers. One hundred thousand tigers belonging to eight different subspecies prowled the forests and jungles of the world. But today three subspecies—the Balinese, Caspian, and Javan tigers—remain, and a fourth, the South China tiger, is

### Part A

What does the word **plight** mean as it is used in paragraph 4 of "The Stripes Will Survive"?

- A. desperate situation
- B. hiding place
- C. movement
- D. recovery

### Part B

Which sentence from the article supports the answer to Part A?

- A. "One hundred thousand tigers belonging to eight different subspecies prowled the forests and jungles of the world."
- B. "Fewer than 5,000 tigers roam the wild."
- C. "The tigers met at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, and Danya and Dasha were born a few months later."
- D. "Although the zoo staff members keep Tatja in a separate area, they don't think he would hurt the cubs."

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The author makes the claim that steps have been taken to help endangered tigers. First, drag and drop into the chart **one** main strategy used throughout the article to develop the claim. Then, drag and drop **three** pieces of evidence that demonstrate the strategy being used.

Strategy	Evidence
The author explains a problem and then presents solutions.	“They’re also special to visitors who travel to Cleveland Metroparks Zoo in Ohio for a glimpse of these rare cubs.”
The author details the cause and effect of an event or action.	“But today three subspecies—the Balinese, Caspian, and Javan tigers—are now extinct, and a fourth—the South China tiger—is almost extinct.”
The author shares important events or actions in the order of importance.	“They keep a computerized family tree of zoo tigers that helps match males and females for breeding.”
	“Although the zoo staff members keep Tatja in a separate area, they don’t think he would hurt the cubs.”
	“Grooming lessons come in handy for playful cubs who can’t resist rolling in the mud.”
	“The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and other organizations are working with the Russian government to set aside protected areas for these big cats.”

Strategy	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 50px;"></div>
Evidence	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 50px;"></div>
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**Part A**

What is the author’s **main** purpose in “The Stripes Will Survive”?

- A. to describe the different lessons Gaia teaches her cubs
- B. to explain recent changes in how zoos raise Siberian tigers
- C. to explain the efforts being made to preserve Siberian tigers
- D. to describe how Danya and Dasha interact with their parents

**Part B**

Which sentence from the article supports the answer to Part A?

- A. “It doesn’t seem like a very smart game, considering Mom is a Siberian tigress!”
- B. “Only about 400 of those are Siberian tigers, which are the largest, lightest-colored, and longest-furred tigers.”
- C. “And only 500 Siberian tigers live in zoos.”
- D. “Rangers patrol for poachers, and educational programs help the local people understand the need to protect Siberian tigers.”

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Read this passage titled “The Zoos Go Wild,” from the book *No More Dodos*. Then answer the questions.

The Zoos Go Wild from *No More Dodos*  
by Nicholas Nirgiotis and Theodore Nirgiotis

- 1 The small lowland gorilla was just three years old when he was caught by poachers, people who illegally kill or capture wild animals. He was taken away from his mother and out of his African rainforest home. Few gorillas that age could survive such an ordeal, but this one was lucky. Soon after his capture in 1961, an animal trader sold him to Zoo Atlanta. He spent the next 27 years of his life alone in an indoor cage. Zoo personnel named him Willie B. after William B. Hartfield, the mayor of Atlanta.
- 2 Willie’s keepers wanted him to be happy. They hung an old tire from a wall of his cage and put a television set in one corner. They hoped these toys would keep Willie from being bored. But the tire and the television set were hardly the playthings a growing gorilla needed.

**Part A**

Read the sentence from paragraph 14 of the passage “The Zoos Go Wild.”

Housing animals in spaces that were as close to the animals’ habitats as the designers could make them was an important step in the struggle to save endangered species.

What does the word **endangered** mean as it is used in the sentence?

- A. distant
- B. aggressive
- C. frightened
- D. threatened

**Part B**

Which detail from paragraph 14 of the passage supports the answer to Part A?

- A. “. . . large-scale redesigning of zoos didn’t begin until the 1960s . . .”
- B. “. . . dwindled to the point of vanishing.”
- C. “Zoo designers traveled to the animals’ natural habitats in faraway places. . . .”
- D. “. . . how the animals used the space and behaved in it.”

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### Part A

Which detail from the passage “The Zoos Go Wild” supports the idea that Willie changed after being moved into his new home?

- A. the comparison of the grassy area to Willie's African home
- B. the mention of Willie's large size and magnificent appearance
- C. the description of Willie's behavior with his companions
- D. the comparison of Willie to gorillas that live in the wild

### Part B

Which paragraph from the passage **best** supports the answer to Part A?

- A. paragraph 7
- B. paragraph 9
- C. paragraph 10
- D. paragraph 11

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### Part A

In the passage “The Zoos Go Wild,” how does the author show that animals' surroundings affect their actions?

- A. by describing how Willie used a tire on a rope as a toy
- B. by describing Willie's early life in the wild
- C. by describing Willie's behavior when he began living outdoors
- D. by describing how Willie grew in height and weight

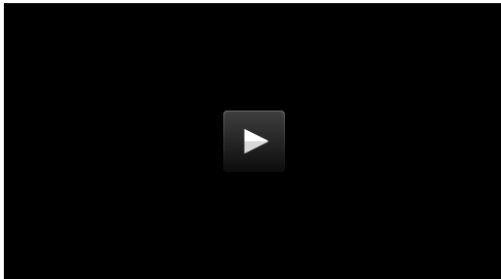
### Part B

Which sentence from the passage supports the answer to Part A?

- A. “The small lowland gorilla was just three years old when he was caught by poachers, people who illegally kill or capture wild animals.”
- B. “But the tire and the television set were hardly the playthings a growing gorilla needed.”
- C. “His broad chest and powerful arms made people think of King Kong.”
- D. “He was no longer bored or easily angered.”

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Watch this video titled “Behind the Scenes with the National Zoo’s Lion Cubs.” Then answer the questions.



Behind the Scenes with the National Zoo’s Lion Cubs, copyright © 2013 by Smithsonian Institution. Used by permission.

### Part A

Read the sentence from the video “Behind the Scenes with the National Zoo’s Lion Cubs.”

They were very nervous when they first came out and not sure of what this new terrain was that they were walking on.(2:28)

What does the word **terrain** mean as it is used in the sentence?

- A. ground
- B. position
- C. location
- D. structure

### Part B

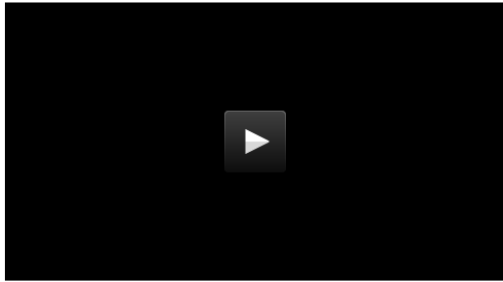
Which quotation from the video **best** supports the answer to Part A?

- A. “We just finished our last round of exams for the cubs—the youngest litter of cubs just received their twelve-week exam with their rabies vaccination and they’ve been given a clean bill of health. So, we think they’re about ready to go outside, all seven cubs.” (1:37)
- B. “And so, we know lions aren’t typically big swimmers, they don’t gravitate towards water, but cubs will be cubs and we feel that inevitably somebody’s going to play around and knock someone else into the moat.” (1:59)
- C. “We just put the cubs out for the first time and they had a trial run out in the yard.” (2:24)
- D. “They stayed away from areas that we wanted them to stay away from and we think they’re about ready to meet the public.” (2:45)



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Behind the Scenes with the National Zoo’s Lion Cubs, copyright © 2013 by Smithsonian Institution. Used by permission.

### Part A

Read the quotation from the video “Behind the Scenes with the National Zoo’s Lion Cubs.”

Caring for the cubs can be pretty challenging in that we have to stay away.

How does the quotation contribute to the development of ideas in the video?

- A. It is used as an example of the challenges the curator faces at the zoo.
- B. It introduces how the lion cubs were cared for at the zoo.
- C. It is used to summarize the challenges the zoo faces.
- D. It explains why the zoo is unable to take care of the lion cubs.

### Part B

Which detail from the video supports the answer to Part A?

- A. “We’ve gone from having two females together and one male to having ten cats all together in one big pride.” (0:39)
- B. “The initial desire of everybody is to run and put your hands on them to see how they feel, to see what their health is like, when in reality the best thing for the cubs, especially just after they’re born, is to leave them with mom . . .” (0:54)
- C. “One of my jobs as the curator is to work very closely with veterinarians.” (1:12)
- D. “We’ve had not only one litter of lions born, but we’ve had two litters of lions born—you just feel like, “Wow!”” (2:56)

Today you will research how zoos impact animals. You will read one article titled “The Stripes Will Survive.” Then you will read one passage titled “The Zoos Go Wild” and view one video titled “Lions at the National Zoo.” As you review these sources, you will gather information and answer questions about how zoos impact animals so you can write an essay.

- [The Stripes Will Survive](#)
- [The Zoos Go Wild](#)
- [Behind the Scenes with the National Zoo's Lion Cubs.](#)

Read the article titled “The Stripes Will Survive.” Then answer the questions.

The Stripes Will Survive  
by Jacqueline Adams

- 1 Danya nips his mother’s furry back over and over, as if he’s trying to see how many times he can get away with it. It doesn’t seem like a very smart game, considering Mom is a Siberian tigress! But Danya and his twin sister, Dasha, know how special they are to their mother.
- 2 They’re also special to visitors who travel to Cleveland Metroparks Zoo in Ohio for a glimpse of these rare cubs. But if Siberian tigers weren’t so rare, Danya and Dasha would never have been born.
- 3 A hundred years ago, no one worried that the world might run out of tigers. One hundred thousand tigers belonging to eight

Select **one** central idea that is developed in all three texts. Then select **one** sentence from each text that supports the central idea.

Central Idea	“The Stripes Will Survive”	excerpt from “The Zoos Go Wild”	“Behind the Scenes with the National Zoo’s Lion Cubs”
It is rare to be able to watch the birth of a wild animal.	“But Danya and his twin sister, Dasha, know how special they are to their mother.”	“He was taken away from his mother and out of his African rainforest home.”	“... let mom do all the work she’s supposed to do and let nature take its course.” (1:08)
Animal enclosures should be made as realistic as possible.	“Gaia had never had cubs before, but Gove says, ‘She’s been an absolutely perfect mother—tolerant, loving, and protective.’”	“His companions could chase each other and wrestle, knowing he was there to protect them.”	“Once they turned four weeks of age, we began with a very simple visual exam ...” (1:24)
Zoo animals instinctively take care of their family as they would in the wild.	“The tiger family seems comfortable in Cleveland, where the weather is similar to that of their natural habitat in eastern Russia.”	“Thousands of other zoo animals throughout the world have been moved into new homes that replaced the old, cramped cages in which they lived before.”	“So we took them outside to make sure that they could swim and that they could reliably find their way back to the shore.” (2:10)
Endangered species need to be protected from antipoaching problems caused by people.	“The WWF believes that the number of Siberian tigers in the wild has doubled since the antipoaching patrols began, bringing the tiger numbers from around 200 in 1994 to about 400 today.”	“But large-scale redesigning of zoos didn’t begin until the 1960s, when natural habitats of wild animals around the world began to shrink in size, and scores of species dwindled to the point of vanishing.”	“I think the National Zoo is extremely lucky in the situation that we’ve had unfold here.” (2:51)

Today you will research how zoos impact animals. You will read one article titled “The Stripes Will Survive.” Then you will read one passage titled “The Zoos Go Wild” and view one video titled “Lions at the National Zoo.” As you review these sources, you will gather information and answer questions about how zoos impact animals so you can write an essay.

- The Stripes Will Survive
- The Zoos Go Wild
- Behind the Scenes with the National Zoo's Lion Cubs.

Read the article titled “The Stripes Will Survive.” Then answer the questions.

The Stripes Will Survive  
by Jacqueline Adams

- 1 Danya nips his mother’s furry back over and over, as if he’s trying to see how many times he can get away with it. It doesn’t seem like a very smart game, considering Mom is a Siberian tigress! But Danya and his twin sister, Dasha, know how special they are to their mother.
- 2 They’re also special to visitors who travel to Cleveland Metroparks Zoo in Ohio for a glimpse of these rare cubs. But if Siberian tigers weren’t so rare, Danya and Dasha would never have been born.
- 3 A hundred years ago, no one worried that the world might run out of tigers. One hundred thousand tigers belonging to eight

You have read two texts and viewed one video that claim that the role of zoos is to protect animals. Write an essay that compares and contrasts the evidence each source uses to support this claim. Be sure to use evidence from all three sources to support your response.

B I U ☰ ☰ ✂ 📄 📄 ↶ ↷

Today you will read a passage from a story titled *Magic Elizabeth*. As you read, pay close attention to the characters as you answer the questions to prepare to write a narrative story of your own.

Read the passage from *Magic Elizabeth*. Then answer the questions.

from *Magic Elizabeth*  
by Norma Kassirer

- 1 It all began one rainy night at the end of a summer.
- 2 “As if we didn’t have enough troubles!” groaned Mrs. Chipley. “There it goes and rains on us!”
- 3 Sally, clinging to Mrs. Chipley’s plump hand, was almost running to keep up with her. The bright feather on Mrs. Chipley’s black hat, which had started out so proudly erect, had gradually wilted, and now drooped sadly down the back of that lady’s stout neck. Sally’s red suitcase, its handle firmly gripped by Mrs. Chipley’s other hand, bumped in a steady rhythm against her right leg. But Mrs. Chipley strode purposefully on, as if she had no time to notice small discomforts.
- 4 The two of them had come all the way across the city on the bus, and during the ride the sky had darkened and the street lights had bloomed all at once. High-piling storm clouds snuffed out the light of

### Part A

Which statement **best** states a theme in the passage?

- A. Difficult journeys are best taken with a friend.
- B. Nature can be appreciated despite being unpredictable.
- C. People have the ability to adapt to unpleasant situations.
- D. Adults may struggle to understand the challenge of being young.

### Part B

Which detail from the passage **best** supports the answer to Part A?

- A. “As if we didn’t have enough troubles!” groaned Mrs. Chipley. “There it goes and rains on us!”
- B. “But Mrs. Chipley strode purposefully on, as if she had no time to notice small discomforts.”
- C. “The two of them had come all the way across the city on the bus, and during the ride the sky had darkened and the street lights had bloomed all at once.”
- D. “A few days, and I’ll have my daughter straightened around and come back.”

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### Part A

How does Sally's attitude change during the passage?

- A. At first she is unhappy, but then she becomes satisfied.
- B. At first she is distrustful, but then she becomes confident.
- C. At first she is scared, but then she becomes a little curious.
- D. At first she is angry, but then she becomes slightly daring.

### Part B

Which **two** sentences from the passage, when taken together, **best** support the answer to Part A?

- A. "Sally, clinging to Mrs. Chipley's plump hand, was almost running to keep up with her."
- B. "As they stepped off the bus, the branches of the tall trees rattled like bones in the wind."
- C. "Rain flew into Sally's eyes and even into her mouth, and it dribbled unpleasantly beneath the collar of her coat."
- D. "And yet Sally, at least, was not feeling brave at all."
- E. "And it was your own ma left her name in case of an emergency."
- F. "I wonder what she's like," Sally said."

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### Part A

Which option describes the **main** purpose of paragraph 8 in the passage?

- A. to give the reasons Mrs. Chipley and Sally are going to Aunt Sarah's house
- B. to reveal that Sally's Aunt Sarah will be in town only for a short time
- C. to show Sally's confusion about how to handle the situation
- D. to explain that Mrs. Chipley has a daughter who needs help

### Part B

Which detail from paragraph 8 **best** supports the answer to Part A?

- A. "Going back again too, pretty soon, your ma tells me," said Mrs. Chipley."
- B. "Only came back here to sell the house."
- C. "But never you mind, honey," she went on, without slackening her furious pace at all. . . ."
- D. "I'm sure I didn't know what else to do but call her, what with your mom and dad away on that business trip, and we don't want to spoil it for them. . . ."

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Which details from the passage would be important to include in a summary? Drag and drop into the chart **four** details in chronological order.

- Mrs. Chipley and Sally ride across town on a bus.
- The moon cannot be seen through the rain clouds.
- Sally wonders aloud about what her Aunt Sarah is like.
- The feather on Mrs. Chipley's hat droops from the rain.
- The rain is falling so hard that it sounds like drumbeats.
- Mrs. Chipley and Sally are caught in a sudden rainstorm.
- Mrs. Chipley explains why they are traveling to Aunt Sarah's house.

STEPS IN PROCESS	DETAILS
First	
Second	
Third	
Four	

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### Part A

How does paragraph 4 contribute to the setting?

- A. It establishes a calm, relaxing setting.
- B. It establishes a dismal, eerie setting.
- C. It establishes a somber, quiet setting.
- D. It establishes a frantic, rushed setting.

### Part B

Which other paragraph **best** contributes to the setting in the same way as the answer to Part A?

- A. paragraph 2
- B. paragraph 3
- C. paragraph 5
- D. paragraph 6



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In the passage from *Magic Elizabeth*, the author creates a vivid setting and two distinct characters, Mrs. Chipley and Sally. Think about the details the author uses to establish the setting and the characters.

Write an original story about what happens when Sally arrives at Aunt Sarah's house. In your story, be sure to use what you have learned about the setting and the characters as you tell what happens next.

**B** *I* U ☰ ☷ ✂ 📄 📧 ↶ ↷