

**Key Points Reading**

# America is . . .

**1**



America is our country. The name of our nation means freedom to many people all over the world.

**2**



America is fifty states that stretch from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean. America is a flag of fifty stars and thirteen stripes.

**3**



America is millions of people doing different jobs. It is the country and the cities, the mountains, and the deserts.

**4**



America is a land where people are free to speak out. They can worship and work. They can play and follow their dreams.

**Reread and Summarize: Author's Purpose chart**

# America Is...

Make an author's purpose chart. Figure out the author's purpose for writing "America Is..."

<p><b>Clues from the Title:</b></p> <p>"America Is..."</p> <p>The selection is about America.</p>	<p><b>Clues from the Kind of Writing:</b></p> <p>Literary nonfiction presents facts and ideas in an interesting way.</p>
<p><b>Clues from the Details:</b></p>	<p><b>Clues from the Main Idea</b></p>

**Author's Purpose**

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 Work with a partner. Compare the author's purposes that you found.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Reading Options: Word Detective

# This Land Is Your Land

On each card, write an unfamiliar word, what you think it means, and clues to its meaning.



New Word: \_\_\_\_\_

What I think it means: \_\_\_\_\_



Clues: \_\_\_\_\_



Definition: \_\_\_\_\_



New Word: \_\_\_\_\_

What I think it means: \_\_\_\_\_



Clues: \_\_\_\_\_



Definition: \_\_\_\_\_



After you have finished reading, use a dictionary to find the definition of the word. Share your work with a partner.



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Choose the answer that completes each sentence correctly.

**1** We watch fireworks \_\_\_\_\_ the park.

- Ⓐ in
- Ⓑ into
- Ⓒ down

**2** The bridge takes you \_\_\_\_\_ the water.

- Ⓐ up
- Ⓑ over
- Ⓒ under

**3** The birds sit \_\_\_\_\_ the branches of the trees.

- Ⓐ on
- Ⓑ off
- Ⓒ out

**4** The farmer drives his tractor \_\_\_\_\_ the field.

- Ⓐ under
- Ⓑ across
- Ⓒ between



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

5 I cut out my picture \_\_\_\_\_ I draw it.

- Ⓐ after
- Ⓑ during
- Ⓒ beside

6 Bake the pie for 30 minutes \_\_\_\_\_ you serve it.

- Ⓐ after
- Ⓑ before
- Ⓒ through

7 I eat my hot dog fast \_\_\_\_\_ it is all gone.

- Ⓐ until
- Ⓑ after
- Ⓒ during

8 The houses on the ground looked tiny \_\_\_\_\_ our plane ride.

- Ⓐ after
- Ⓑ until
- Ⓒ during

Score

\_\_\_\_\_/8

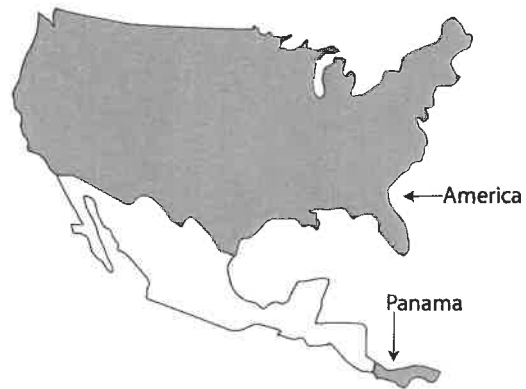
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Read the selection. Then read each question. Choose the best answer.

## Serena's Mom



- 1 Serena's mom is from Panama. Her dad is from the United States. Serena's parents meet on a trip. Serena's mom moves to the United States when she marries Serena's dad.



- 2 Serena's mom does many things in the United States. She owns a shop. She teaches Spanish and helps at Serena's school. Still, Serena's mom is a citizen of Panama. She is not an American.

- 3 Today is a big day. Serena's family drives to the city. Serena's mom stands proud with other people from other lands. Together, they become Americans.





Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

- 9** Serena's mom lives in the United States now. How does Serena's mom feel about where she lives?
- Ⓐ sad
  - Ⓑ happy
  - Ⓒ curious
  - Ⓓ surprised
- 10** What does "Today is a big day" mean?
- Ⓐ The day is long.
  - Ⓑ This is an important day.
  - Ⓒ Serena's mom has a lot of work today.
  - Ⓓ Today there is a party for Serena's mom.
- 11** At the end, Serena's mom feels proud because she —
- Ⓐ is American.
  - Ⓑ owns a shop.
  - Ⓒ teaches Spanish.
  - Ⓓ meets new people.
- 12** This selection is realistic fiction. This means that Serena and her mom —
- Ⓐ seem like real people.
  - Ⓑ are people from history.
  - Ⓒ really live in the United States.
  - Ⓓ do things that could not happen.
- 13** The author wrote this selection to —
- Ⓐ persuade readers to visit Panama.
  - Ⓑ explain how to become an American.
  - Ⓒ inform readers about jobs in the United States.
  - Ⓓ entertain readers with a story about a family.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

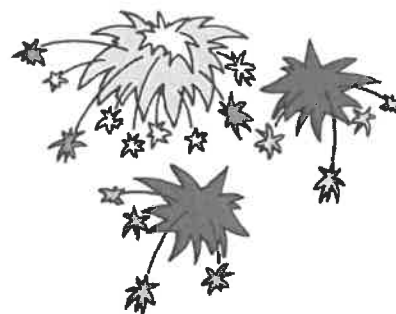
**Directions:** Read the selection. Then read each question. Choose the best answer.

## July 4th

1 The park fills with happy people  
On blankets as night comes near  
And even though the sky gets darker  
We all feel safe, we feel no fear.



5 The moon swims high above the trees  
And people whisper in the dark.  
I tell you, it is so exciting  
So many of us, all at the park!



Then suddenly there is a flash  
10 Of red and yellow, green and blue.  
The sky rains down with silver flowers  
Really, what I say is true!

So many people at the park  
From different homes and places.  
15 But all of us have fun tonight  
When the lights shine on our faces.







Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

- 14 Which words from the selection mean just what they say?

(A) *On blankets as night comes near*  
(B) *The moon swims high above the trees*  
(C) *The sky rains down with silver flowers*  
(D) *When the lights shine on our faces.*

- 15 The speaker in the selection is excited about the —

(A) people.  
(B) blankets.  
(C) moon.  
(D) dark.

- 16 The “silver flowers” in the selection are —

(A) stars.  
(B) plants.  
(C) fireworks.  
(D) raindrops.

- 17 Which of these lets you know that the speaker in the selection is happy?

(A) *We all feel safe, we feel no fear.*  
(B) *And people whisper in the dark.*  
(C) *Then suddenly there is a flash*  
(D) *But all of us have fun tonight*

- 18 This selection is realistic fiction because it —

(A) describes something real in an interesting way.  
(B) is about something that could be real.  
(C) gives facts about something real.  
(D) tells about a real person.

- 19 Why did the author write this selection?

(A) to entertain readers with a description of July 4th  
(B) to persuade readers to spend July 4th in a park  
(C) to explain why July 4th is important  
(D) to inform readers about July 4th

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

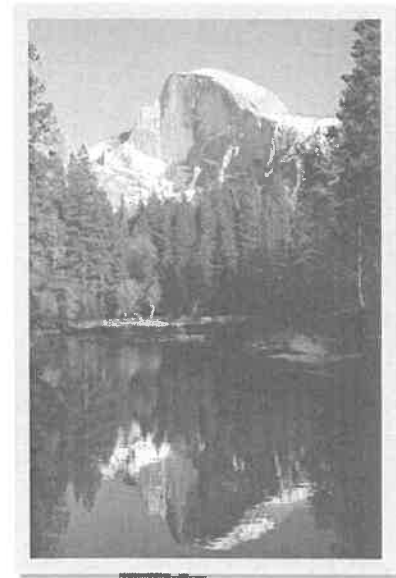
**Directions:** Read the selection. Then read each question. Choose the best answer.

## John Muir

- 1 John Muir came to America from Scotland in 1849. He worked with wood. While at his job one day, John hurt his eyes. He had to stop work and rest for many months.



- 2 When John got better, he felt lucky. He wanted to see the pretty world around him. He left his job and walked through America. John loved the many wild places he visited. He went to California. He wrote about the mountains and plants there. His words painted wonderful pictures.



- 3 People still read John's words. They teach us about the beauty of America.



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

20 Which words from the selection do **not** mean just what they say?

- Ⓐ *He went to California.*
- Ⓑ *People still read John's words.*
- Ⓒ *His words painted wonderful pictures.*
- Ⓓ *He wrote about the mountains and plants there.*

21 The author wrote this selection to —

- Ⓐ explain what America looks like.
- Ⓑ inform readers about a person.
- Ⓒ persuade readers to walk across America.
- Ⓓ entertain readers with a story about a pretty place.

22 This selection is nonfiction because it —

- Ⓐ has only one character.
- Ⓑ uses words that describe.
- Ⓒ uses facts to tell a true story.
- Ⓓ tells about a trip to see the world.

Score

\_\_\_\_\_/22