

## D is for Dandelion

### Assignment 22

- **Reading.** Read and study all the material of contained in Lesson 21. You will be reading “An Iceberg” and “The Good King Alfred” and be answering questions on the both. On the right is a picture of a cavern in an iceberg. It is amazing, isn’t it?
- **Handwriting.** Complete Lesson 21 of the D is for Dandelion handwriting book.
- **Poetics.** Memorize stanza 1 and 2 of “The First Day of Spring.”
- **Writing.** There is no writing exercise for this week. Prepare to write your book report (Lesson 24).
- **Dictation.**

This week students will continue learning about the linking verbs *am, is, are, was, were, be, been,* and being and what they do. The lesson for this week’s dictation is that linking verbs “link”—they join together the subject with another noun or an adjective. Students should underline the verb twice in each of the dictation sentences. If the verb is a linking verb, they should mark “L”; if an action verb, they should mark “A.” If the verb is a linking verb, students should underline what is linked once. Teachers should give examples first, such as the following.

#### Examples

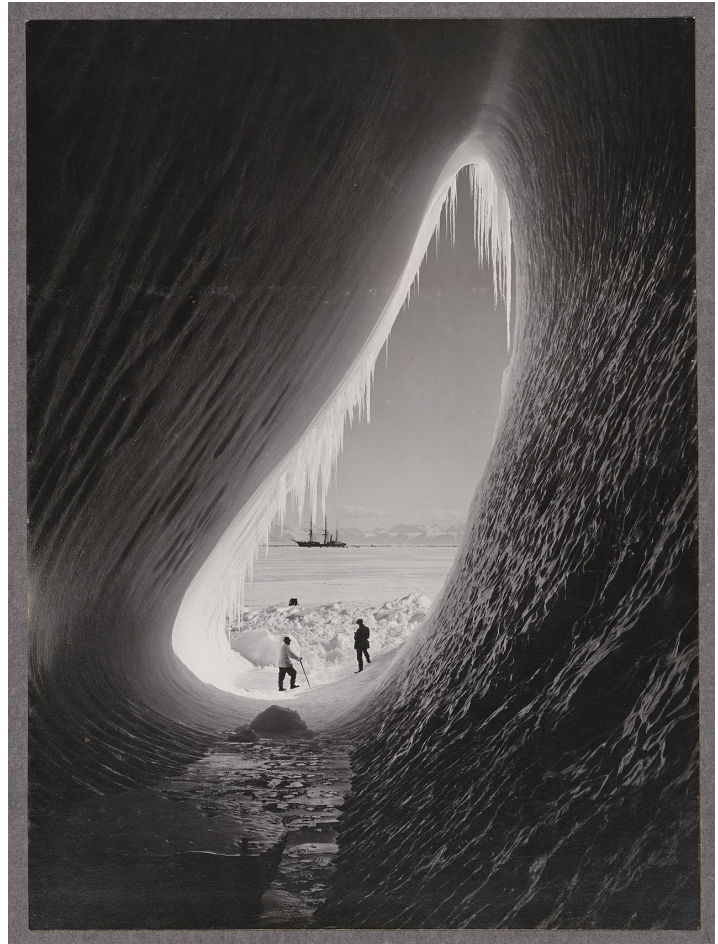
The boys left their sandwiches on the counter. A

Tom and George are friends. L

Your friend is not jealous. L

#### EXERCISE A

1. The owner of the snowy hills was Mr. Jones. L
2. The fellow with the wheelbarrow approached slowly. A
3. The honorable pirate returned what he stole. A
4. The grandeur of the ocean west of the island stunned him. A
5. The flowing stream below the hill is clear and cool. L



EXERCISE B

1. We learned about the victorious army and the plague. A
2. We are the minstrels of the besieged king. L
3. Stow these bellows in the shed. A
4. The growth of the population was transparent. L
5. Crows fed stood on the mellow ground. A

## An Iceberg

1. Which of the following does NOT describe the iceberg of Richard Henry Dana's piece?
  - a) glittering
  - b) indigo at the center
  - c) immense
  - d) symmetrical

2. The iceberg was NOT \_\_\_\_.
  - a) drifting south
  - b) a strange sight
  - c) deep blue and white
  - d) threatening

*In the middle of the sea lay this immense mountain island, its cavities and valleys thrown into deep shade and its points and pinnacles glittering in the sun.*

3. What does the word *cavities* mean in the passage quoted above?
  - a) peaks
  - b) colors
  - c) empty parts
  - d) dark parts

*All hands were soon on deck, looking at it and admiring in various ways its beauty and grandeur.*

4. A synecdoche is a kind of metaphor in which a part represents a whole or whole represents a part. Which word in the passage quoted above is a synecdoche?
  - a) grandeur
  - b) beauty
  - c) hands
  - d) deck
5. What reason does Dana give to explain why the crew could see the iceberg at night?
  - a) It was a full moon.
  - b) There were no clouds.
  - c) The iceberg was now close.
  - d) The iceberg was glittering white.

Reading Questions

The Good King Alfred

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Which of the following is suggested by the first two paragraphs of the passage?
  - a) King Ethelwulf did not like his other children.
  - b) Saxon leaders living in England were religious.
  - c) Mothers are usually the ones responsible for raising successful and moral men, such as Alfred.
  - d) Osburga knew that her son Alfred would win the book prize.
2. Why does the author mention that a way to print books had not yet been invented during Alfred's time?
  - a) to explain why a lot of people could not read
  - b) to show how hard it was to live in the days of Alfred
  - c) to explain why books cost so much
  - d) to show how Osburga was a good mother
3. The author describes the early Danes as \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a) loyal to their word
  - b) honest in their dealings
  - c) not honoring their promises
  - d) lovers of literature
4. According to the details presented by the author, the early rule of Alfred was \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a) challenging
  - b) uneventful (not much was happening)
  - c) prosperous
  - d) Alfred's favorite years

*They so dispersed the king's soldiers that Alfred was left alone, and was forced to disguise himself as a common peasant and to take refuge in the cottage of one of his cowherds, who did not know him.*

5. The words *take refuge in* in the above quoted passage means \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a) make a home in
  - b) pass the time in
  - c) take place in
  - d) find safety in

6. The author suggests that during his time in the humble cottage of his swineherd Alfred was \_\_\_\_.
- a) selfish
  - b) burdened with thoughts about his kingdom
  - c) like an idle dog, only caring about food
  - d) happy and carefree

*At length the Devonshire men were able to stand up against a new host of Danes who landed on their coast.*

7. What does the word *host* mean in the above passage?
- a) people who take in guests
  - b) group of soldiers
  - c) a small number of
  - d) a ship
8. By talking about the flag of the Danes, which had the emblem of the raven, the author presents the Danes as \_\_\_\_.
- a) friendly
  - b) artistic
  - c) witches
  - d) superstitious
9. Which of the following is not mentioned in this account of Alfred?
- a) In the early days of his rule, Alfred easily gave up.
  - b) Alfred was humiliated by the wife of a herder of cattle.
  - c) Alfred was deceived by his enemies' promises.
  - d) Alfred pretended he was a minstrel to spy on his enemy.
10. According to the passage, the first lanterns in England were made of \_\_\_\_.
- a) wax, like the candles
  - b) brass
  - c) silver
  - d) horn and wood