

Name _____ Date _____

Theme

Elisa's Diary
Comprehension: Theme

Read the selection below.

Alex's Apology

Alex was Becky and Danny's favorite babysitter. Alex always played fun games and let Becky and Danny stay up late. Danny usually looked forward to an evening with Alex, but not tonight. Earlier in the week, Alex had seemed cranky because he needed to study for a big math test. He had told Becky to be quiet twice, and he told Danny he didn't want to play basketball. Then Alex turned the TV volume down so low that it was impossible to hear it at all.

"How are my two buckaroos?" said Alex, dribbling a basketball in the driveway as Danny and Becky's parents

drove away. "I thought we could play a round of HORSE before dinner."

Alex passed the ball over to Danny, but Danny just watched it bounce past him. "OK," said Alex, "we could play SULKY instead."

Alex went after the ball and came back looking thoughtful. He said, "We could play 'Wow, Alex can be a bit rude sometimes, and he really owes us an apology.' What do you say?"

Danny grinned. He held up his hands, and Alex passed him the basketball.

Complete the Inference Map to help you identify the selection's theme. List the main character's qualities, motives, and actions.

<p>Qualities:</p>	<p>Motives:</p>	<p>Actions:</p>
<p>Theme:</p>		

Name _____ Date _____

Theme

Elisa's Diary
Comprehension: Theme

Read the selection below.

Val's Saturday

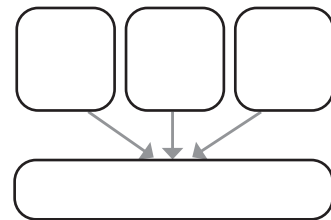
Every Saturday, Val and her Girl Scout troop volunteer at the local soup kitchen. They stop by the farmers' market to pick up vegetables. They lug the crates into the kitchen of the community center. Some kids wash the vegetables. Some kids peel them. Some kids chop them. The troop leader, Mrs. Lopez, can make delicious soup out of any combination of ingredients. The girls are all learning handy kitchen tricks. At the same time, they are helping needy people in the city.

Sometimes Val wishes she could sleep in on Saturday morning. Sometimes she thinks she would like to go out for a

team sport or take a weekend art class. However, these activities would keep her away from her volunteer work. Every time she thinks of missing a Saturday at the soup kitchen, Val knows right where she belongs.

Cooking with Mrs. Lopez and the merry crew of scouts is really fun. At the same time, Val realizes she shouldn't have *too* much fun. She is there for a serious reason. Kate plans to own a restaurant someday. Ellen wants to be a famous chef with her own TV show. But Val is happy to serve up big bowls of steamy goodness to the people who need it and appreciate it the most.

Think about Val's qualities, motives, and actions. Complete an Inference Map like the one shown here. Then answer the questions below.



1. What are Val's character traits? Tell how you know.

2. What is the theme, or message, of the story?

Name _____ Date _____

Suffixes *-ly, -ful*

Elisa's Diary
Vocabulary Strategies:
Suffixes *-ly, -ful*

The words in the box all end with a suffix. Choose a word from the box to fill in the blank and complete the following sentences.

officially probably actually particularly slightly
successful meaningful plentiful forceful wasteful

“in a certain way”

- Obey the rules and do not do anything you are not _____ allowed to do.
- A newspaper reports the facts of a story the way they _____ happened.
- The hem was uneven, with one side _____ longer than the other.
- He often washed the dishes but was not _____ fond of drying them.
- By the time she watered the lawn, it was _____ too late to save it.

“full of”

- If you want to play team sports, the after-school leagues are _____.
- The batter hit the baseball with a sudden, _____ swing.
- Practice is an important part of a _____ juggling act.
- It is _____ to throw bottles, cans, and paper in the trash bin.
- A life that is lived to help others is usually a _____ life.

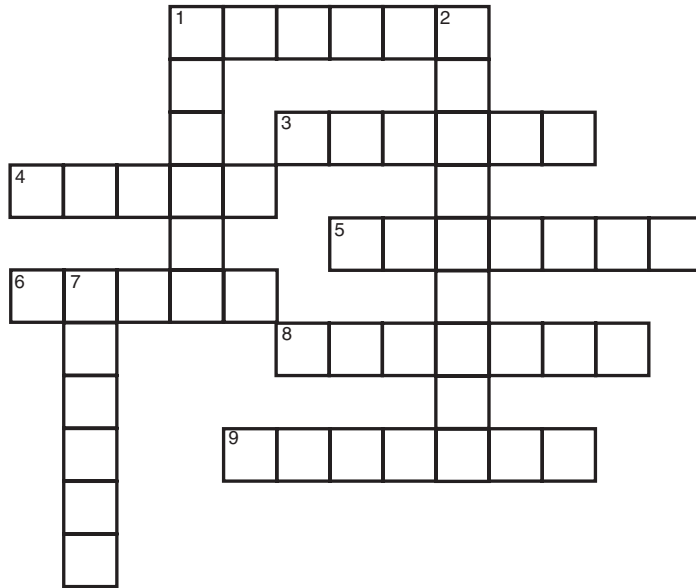
Name _____ Date _____

Vowel Sounds: /ou/, /ô/, and /oi/

Elisa's Diary

Spelling: Vowel Sounds:
/ou/, /ô/, /oi/

Basic Complete the puzzle by writing the Basic Word for each clue.



Across

- 1. to swoop and seize
- 3. a small, shallow dish
- 4. damp
- 5. behaving in a mischievous way
- 6. to scare or frighten
- 8. a public sale
- 9. to demolish

Down

- 1. a harmful substance
- 2. to meet
- 7. eighth month

Spelling Words

- 1. ounce
- 2. sprawl
- 3. launch
- 4. loyal
- 5. avoid
- 6. basketball
- 7. moist
- 8. haunt
- 9. scowl
- 10. naughty
- 11. destroy
- 12. saucer
- 13. pounce
- 14. poison
- 15. August
- 16. auction
- 17. royal
- 18. coward
- 19. awkward
- 20. encounter

Challenge

- poise
- loiter
- exhaust
- assault
- alternate

Challenge 10–14. Suppose that a police officer talks to your class about crime prevention. Write some sentences about what you learned. Use four of the Challenge Words. Write on a separate sheet of paper.

Name _____ Date _____

Spelling Word Sort

Elisa's Diary

Spelling: Vowel Sounds:
/ou/, /ô/, /oi/

Write each Basic Word beside the correct heading.

<p>/ou/ spelled <i>ou or ow</i></p>	<p>Basic Words:</p> <p>Possible Selection Words:</p>
<p>/ô/ spelled <i>aw,</i> <i>au, a</i></p>	<p>Basic Words:</p> <p>Challenge Words:</p> <p>Possible Selection Words:</p>
<p>Other spellings for /ô/</p>	<p>Basic Words:</p> <p>Possible Selection Words:</p>
<p>/oi/ spelled <i>oy or oi</i></p>	<p>Basic Words:</p> <p>Challenge Words:</p> <p>Possible Selection Words:</p>

Spelling Words

1. ounce
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Challenge

- poise
loiter
exhaust
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alternate

Challenge Add the Challenge Words to your Word Sort.

Connect to Reading Look through *Elisa's Diary*. Find words that have the /ou/, /ô/, and /oi/ sounds on this page. Add them to your Word Sort.

Name _____ Date _____

Proofreading for Spelling

Find the misspelled words and circle them. Write them correctly on the lines below.

The big game is Thursday night after the varsity player
 auxtion. We'll be given a roiyal welcome as we warm up. I
 wonder if I can avoyd another akward fall this time and make
 my loyel fans happy. Also, I don't enjoy seeing the fans skowl
 when I mess up. Coach says that an ounce of prevention is
 worth a pound of cure. That means it pays to be careful. So, I
 have worked hard in all the drills to keep balance. I will set up
 the lonch of the ball so I don't sproll out on the court. I hope
 I can do as well in the game as I have in practice. Shooting a
 basketbal when the pressure is on is no job for a cowerd. I can't
 wait to get out there and desroye the competition!

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 10. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 11. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 12. _____ |

Elisa's Diary

Spelling: Vowel Sounds:
/ou/, /ô/, /oi/

Spelling Words

1. ounce
2. sprawl
3. launch
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Challenge

- poise
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Name _____ Date _____

Making Nouns Plural

Elisa's Diary

Grammar: Singular and Plural Nouns

A **singular noun** names one person, place, thing, or idea. A **plural noun** names more than one person, place, thing, or idea. Form the plural of most nouns by adding *-s* or *-es*. Look at the ending of a singular noun to decide how to form the plural.

plural noun

The swim team uniforms are red and blue.

Thinking Question

What is the noun's ending?

Activity Write the plural form of the noun in parentheses.

1. The (coach) said we did not have enough money for swim fins.

2. Brenda decided we should have a few bake (sale).

3. We filled (box) full of (cookie) for the sale. _____

4. Our (family) pitched in to help. _____

5. We earned forty (dollar) in one hour! _____

6. We stayed late to clean up the (mess) on all of the (table).

Name _____ Date _____

More Plural Nouns

Elisa's Diary
Grammar: Singular and
Plural Nouns

Many nouns are not made plural according to the regular rules. To form the plural of some nouns ending in *f* or *fe*, change the *f* to *v* and add *-es*. For others, add *-s*. To form the plural of nouns ending in *o*, add *-s* or *-es*. Some nouns have the same form whether singular or plural.

plural noun

Max has two shelves full of athletic memorabilia.

Thinking Question

Does the noun require *-s* or *-es* to make it plural, or is the plural formed in another way?

Activity Write the plural form of the noun in parentheses.

1. Famous athletes' (life) are commemorated in this book.

2. Carl Yastrzemski and Bobby Orr are my dad's sports (hero).

3. Which player has two (zero) on his team jersey? _____

4. There are two good (video) of Carl Yastrzemski's life.

5. The (deer) are the team's mascots. _____

6. I learned how supportive the players' (wife) are. _____

Name _____ Date _____

Collective Nouns

Elisa's Diary

Grammar: Singular and Plural Nouns

A **collective noun** names a group of people, animals, or things that act as a unit. Treat a collective noun like a singular noun, unless it names more than one group.

singular collective noun

Our class has lunch first.

plural collective noun

All grade 5 classes are on the second floor.

Thinking Question

Which word names a group of people, places, things, or ideas? Which verb describes what the group does?

Activity Underline the collective noun in each sentence. Write whether each collective noun is singular or plural.

1. The teacher chose Elisa for the spelling team. _____
2. Elisa's family was happy when she won a spelling bee.

3. José spoke to a school audience about the traditions of Guatemala. _____
4. José's father is on several committees at the community center. _____
5. In the United States, a jury decides whether a person is innocent or guilty of a crime. _____
6. Both orchestras planned to perform a show together in August. _____

Name _____ Date _____

Making Comparisons and Using Negatives Correctly

Elisa's Diary
Grammar: Spiral Review

Incorrect	They won't never cancel the game even if it snows.
Correct	They won't cancel the game even if it snows.
I've never seen such a large crowd. The crowd at last week's game was larger . The final game of the season attracts the largest crowd of all.	
These are good athletic shoes. Those are better athletic shoes than these. His athletic shoes are the best .	
Len got off to a bad start. Heidi got off to a worse start than Len. Philip got off to the worst start of all.	
That player moves naturally . He moves more naturally than I do. He moves the most naturally of all the players.	

1–5. Write the word or words that correctly complete the sentence.

- (isn't, is) This game _____ nothing like our first game.
- (more skillfully, most skillfully) Billy plays soccer _____ than Robert plays.
- (better, best) The team has a _____ chance of winning this game.
- (ever, never) The school hasn't _____ had a strong team.
- (worse, worst) Last year's team had the _____ record in school history.

6–10. Circle the five errors in this paragraph. Then correct the errors on the lines below.

I didn't think nobody noticed how well I played in last night's game. Then today Coach Malone told me that I had played the better game of my basketball career. After talking to the coach, I walked home with the most widest grin on my face. He don't often say things like that. In fact, it was the most nicest thing he ever said to me!

Name _____ Date _____

Word Choice

Elisa's Diary
Grammar: Connect to Writing

Using exact words can make your writing more interesting.

Less Exact Noun	More Exact Noun
She dropped us off at the <u>place</u> .	My mother dropped us off at the <u>practice field</u> .

Activity Replace the underlined noun with an exact noun. Write the new sentence on the line.

1. The coach blew the thing to get our attention.

2. Billy needs new football stuff.

3. The man's words made the team laugh.

4. The player threw a touchdown pass at the buzzer.

5. The sounds in the stadium were loud.

6. At the end of the game, all the people stood up and cheered.

7. The coach took the team to a restaurant for food.

8. We ordered five pizzas with toppings.

Name _____ Date _____

Focus Trait: Voice

Creating Strong Dialogue and Descriptions

Elisa's Diary
Writing: Write to Express

A strong voice shows a speaker's emotions, attitude, or point of view. It sounds natural and reveals the speaker's personality.

Weak Voice	Strong Voice
"I didn't know we were meeting today," Greg said.	"No way! Are you sure? I thought we said today was no good," Greg groaned.

Read the sentences. On the line below, explain why the second voice is stronger.

Weak Voice	Strong Voice
She pointed to the bike and said, "I like that one."	"Wait—that's the one," she gasped, jabbing her finger at the beauty in the corner. "That's my bike!"

1. _____

Weak Voice	Strong Voice
"The view of the traffic from the tenth floor is great."	"I love watching the tiny cars travel into tunnels, between buildings, and into the gaps in traffic."

2. _____

Read each weak sentence. Then rewrite it to create a voice and reveal a definite attitude. Use words and details that show the speaker's thoughts and personality.

Pair/Share Work with a partner to brainstorm sentences.

Weak Voice	Strong Voice
3. Scott said that the ball was hit into the outfield.	
4. The smell of food made me hungry.	