



LANGUAGE ARTS

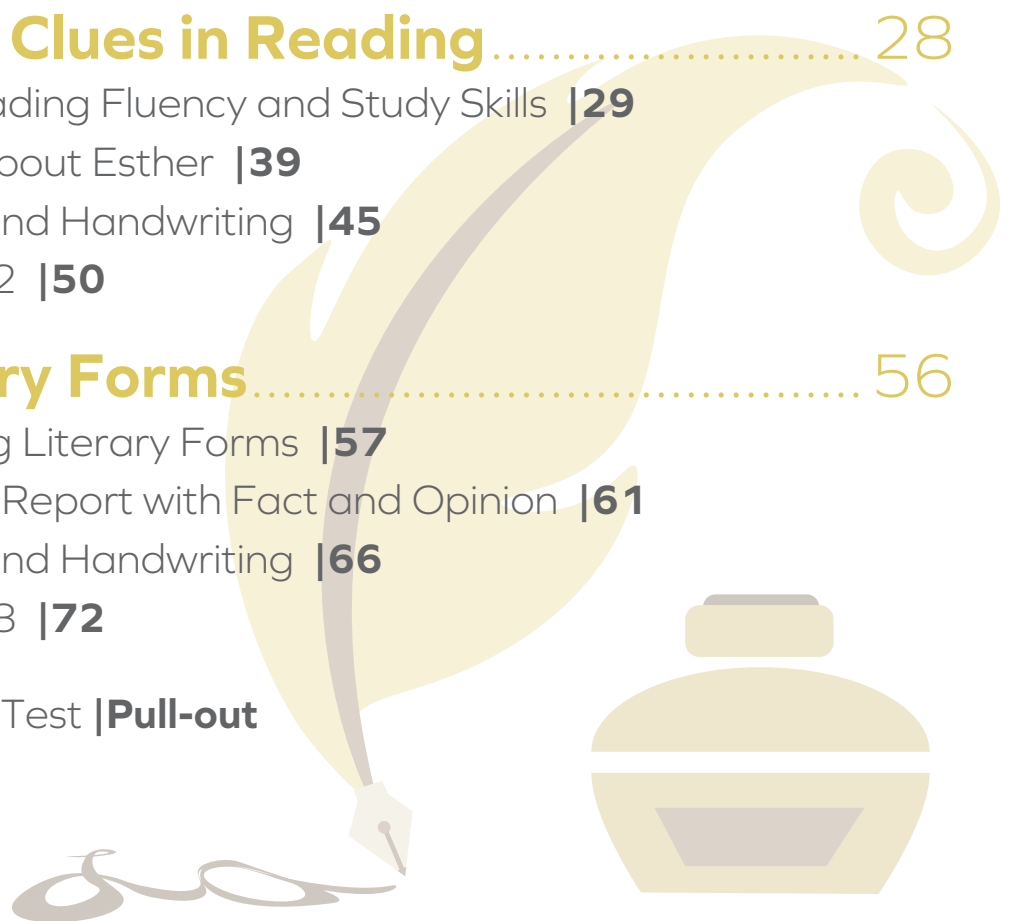
Student Book

► **5th Grade** | Unit 9

LANGUAGE ARTS 509

READING FLUENCY

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**804 N. 2nd Ave. E.
Rock Rapids, IA 51246-1759**

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READING FLUENCY

Speed! Everyone wants to go fast. We have fast cars, fast planes, and fast bicycles. However, when it comes to reading, how fast should you read? Should you always read fast?

In this LIFEPAK® you will learn the answers to these questions, as well as learn skills for fluent reading and reading study skills. You will use these skills to read a story about Dick Whittington and his cat and the Bible story about Esther. You will review literary forms, including Bible literary forms. In composition, you will study a report written using fact and opinion and then write your own report. You will also learn to spell some new words and practice to improve your handwriting.

Objectives

Read these objectives. The objectives tell you what you will be able to do when you have successfully completed this LIFEPAK. Each section will list according to the numbers below what objectives will be met in that section. When you have finished this LIFEPAK, you should be able to:

1. Identify general content through scanning.
2. Identify specific information through skimming.
3. Identify details by reading slowly.
4. Identify facts through graphic aids.
5. Arrange facts in an outline form.
6. Identify several literary forms.
7. Name the literary form of several sections of the Bible.
8. Identify fact and opinion.
9. Write using facts and opinion.
10. Spell some new words correctly.
11. Correctly write uppercase letters.

1. READING SPEED

In this section, you will learn to improve reading fluency and study skills such as scanning, skimming, and reading slowly for details. You will practice these skills with the story “Dick Whittington and His Cat.” You will learn to spell words with several syllables and you will practice handwriting uppercase letters.

Objectives

Review these objectives. When you have completed this section, you should be able to:

1. Identify general content through scanning.
2. Identify specific information through skimming.
3. Identify details by reading slowly.
10. Spell some new words correctly.
11. Correctly write uppercase letters.

Vocabulary

Study these new words. Learning the meanings of these words is a good study habit and will improve your understanding of this LIFE PAC.

- array** (u rā). Display of persons or things.
- comprehend** (kom pri hend). Understand.
- continuously** (kun tin yū us lē). Without a stop or break.
- evidence** (ev u dens). Facts, proof.
- fleet** (flēt). Ships under one command.
- galaxy** (gal uk sē). Group of countless stars.
- goblet** (gob lit). A drinking glass.
- ill-tempered** (il tem purd). Cross; bad tempered.
- lavishly** (lav ish lē). Abundantly.
- rampant** (ram punt). Unchecked.

scour (skour). Clean or polish by hard rubbing.

swarm (swôrm). Move about in great numbers.

thrice (thrīs). Three times.

Note: All vocabulary words in this LIFEPAC appear in **boldface** print the first time they are used. If you are unsure of the meaning when you are reading, study the definitions given.

Pronunciation Key: hat, āge, cāre, fār; let, ēqual, tèrm; it, īce; hot, ōpen, ôrder; oil; out; cup, pūt, rüle; child; long; thin; /TH/ for then; /zh/ for measure; /u/ or /ə/ represents /a/ in about, /e/ in taken, /i/ in pencil, /o/ in lemon, and /u/ in circus.

Improving Reading Fluency and Study Skills

A good reader will read at the right speed. Some materials can be read fast. If you are reading for enjoyment, reading a note from a friend, or reading any material that is not difficult to **comprehend**, you may read fast. You have no need to read slowly.

Even in some difficult texts, you may read fast because you are looking for some specific information. Scanning and skimming are skills that can help you find information fast. They are rapid reading skills.

At other times, the wise reader reads slowly. You need to read some materials slowly so that you can remember the details. You may even need to reread the material, or even take notes.

Remember, a wise reader fits the speed to the need!

Developing rapid reading skills. Scanning and skimming are two skills you use with speed.

Scanning is a skill good readers use to find out if the material is what they want or need to read. When you scan, you *do not* read all the material. You only read a little bit here and there to give you an idea of what the material is about.

For example, you may be interested in horses and find a book in the library called *The Great Iron Horse*.

“Wow, that sounds interesting,” you think. However, as you leaf through the book and scan the pages, you discover it is not a book about a horse, but a train. You sure are glad you *scanned* the book first before checking it out!

Skimming is a similar skill to scanning. It also is done quickly. You skim material looking for specific information. You *do not* read all the material. You have in your mind what information you are looking for before you read. Then you skim the material just for that information. In skimming, you look at titles, subheads, and words in italics and boldface. These words may give you clues to where you can find the information you need.

For instance, if you are looking for information on Paul’s missionary journeys and, specifically, the approximate date of his journey, you could skim an article on the early church. You would first skim the titles and subheads to see if there was information on Paul. Finding a section on Paul, you would skim to find the subhead on his missionary journeys. Then you would skim this section looking for a date.

All this reading can be done quickly, saving you the time it would take to read the entire article. Skimming will give you the information you need.

Both scanning and skimming are valuable skills that can help you find information quickly and save time.

Reading slowly for details. If you need to remember the details of the material you are reading, read slowly enough to retain the information. You must be the judge as to whether you are reading too fast or too slow.

If you quickly read some material for details and find that you cannot answer very many questions or relate the information in a report, then you probably read the material too quickly.

Try different speeds. Find a speed that is comfortable. However, do not read too slowly if you can accomplish your purpose by reading a bit faster. In other words, read slowly enough to remember the details. Also remember that some materials demand that you reread them because there are so many details to remember.

Early Church

Pentecost The Holy Spirit that Christ had promised to his disciples came on the day of **Pentecost**

Now **Peter and John** were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour.

Paul

Paul’s First Missionary Journey
So Barnabas and Saul were sent out by the Holy Spirit. They went down to the seaport of Seleucia and then sailed for the island of Cyprus.



Complete this activity.

Read this article as quickly as possible. Time yourself. Record your time in the first blank. Answer as many questions as you can without looking back in the article. Next reread the article slowly for details. Record your time in the second blank. Answer any questions you could not answer the first time.

Time number One: _____

Time Number Two: _____



Scientific truths abound in the Bible. For instance, God tells us in Jeremiah 33:22, "...the host of heaven cannot be numbered..." Thousands of years ago, however, men tried to count the stars. The scientist Ptolemy counted 1,056 stars. Another man, Tycho Brahe, counted 777 stars. Kepler counted 1,005. Each man thought he had fully determined the number of the stars.

With the invention of the telescope in the seventeenth century, man soon learned there were many more than a thousand stars.

On a clear night, you may be able to see two thousand or three thousand stars, but well over a hundred billion stars are now known to be in our own **galaxy**. Yet our galaxy is not the only one in our universe. Powerful telescopes have shown **evidence** of millions of galaxies in space. Each galaxy contains billions of stars.

How many stars are there? Many astronomers are now agreeing that numbering the stars is not humanly possible. As God said, "...the host of heaven cannot be numbered."



Write the letter of the correct answer on each blank.

- 1.1** According to the article, the Bible contains many _____ .
- good things
 - scientific truths
 - stories for Christians
- 1.2** The verse, "... the host of heaven cannot be numbered." is found in _____ .
- Jeremiah
 - Ezekiel
 - Zephaniah
- 1.3** Ptolemy counted _____ stars.
- 1,056
 - 2,000
 - 777
- 1.4** The telescope was invented in the _____ century.
- eighteenth
 - seventeenth
 - sixteenth
- 1.5** On a clear night, you may be able to see _____ stars.
- four thousand
 - one thousand to two thousand
 - two thousand to three thousand



Dick Whittington and His Cat

(adapted from the book by Marcia Brown; 1950)

Once upon a time in England, a young boy named Dick Whittington lived in a small village. Dick was an orphan. His father and mother died when he was little. He had no home at all. Poor Dick got what little food and clothing he could from the other poor folk in the village. Even though he had very little to eat or wear, Dick did not complain.

One day a marvelous wagon, drawn by eight horses with shining bells on their heads, paraded down the village street. Dick knew this wagon was headed for London. Like all the village folk, Dick believed London was a grand place to live. He had been told the streets were even paved with gold. Dick decided that London would be a much better place to live than this poor village.

He timidly asked the driver if he could ride along to London town. "I'll be no trouble, sir," he assured the driver.

When the driver discovered that this ragged young boy had no one to care for him, he quickly invited him along.

"Ride up here with me, young man," the driver said kindly.

After several days, the pair arrived in London. Dick graciously thanked the man and ran excitedly this way and that looking for the streets made of gold. Poor Dick! He only found dirty, muddy streets just like those at home. The golden streets were nothing but a foolish story. A very tired and lonely Dick found a small corner and cried himself to sleep.

The next morning Dick looked for work, but none was to be found. He had not eaten for days. Weak and in great despair, he heard a group of merchants talking. He bravely walked up to the men and asked for work. One of the men, whose name was Mr. Fitzwarren, took pity on the boy.

"My cook can use some help," he explained. "If you are willing to work, come with me."

This kind man was a very wealthy merchant with a **fleet** of ships that traveled all over the world.



| Dick rode in a horse-drawn wagon bound for London.

Dick went to work immediately, helping the cook, who was a very unpleasant woman with a bad temper. He worked hard **scouring** pots and pans and running errands, but he could never please her.

She continually scolded him, "You never do anything!" She worked him hard and was often mean to him.

Dick slept in the attic of the merchant's old house. He quickly found it was overrun with mice. He was very tired when he went to bed late each night, but he found it hard to rest, for the mice were squeaking and scuffling all night long.

Dick decided to get a cat. He had carefully saved one penny. A little girl, who lived nearby, had a fine, large cat.

"Would you sell it for a penny?" Dick asked. The little girl quickly remarked, "She's a very good mouser! She'll earn her keep."

Dick took his cat to the attic. It was not long before Dick could sleep in peace and quiet. Dick was very kind to his new pet and she became his good friend.

One day Mr. Fitzwarren announced that one of his ships was ready to sail. He told his servants they could send along any of their personal goods and he would sell them in a foreign port and return the money to them.

All the servants readily delivered something to Mr. Fitzwarren in hopes of making a great profit—everyone, but Dick Whittington.

Mr. Fitzwarren had a young daughter named Alice, who was fond of Dick. She encouraged him to send his only possession, his cat.

Dick was reluctant to part with his beloved cat, but Alice had always been kind to him and he wanted to please her. With tears in his eyes, he handed his cat to the captain.

After this time, Dick became increasingly unhappy. The cook scolded him **continuously**. The mice were running **rampant** in the attic. Wearily, Dick decided to run away. Early one morning he packed his few belongings and quietly left his attic home.

After a long walk, he reached Halloway and sat upon a stone to rest. To this day, it is called Whittington's Stone. There he heard the bells of Bow Church ring. He was sure the bells rang out:



| Dick was sad to part with his beloved cat.

Later, an unselfish Dick gave rich presents to the Fitzwarrens, the captain, the crew, and even the old cook.

Dick bought some new clothes. Miss Alice exclaimed, "You look like a different person!"

Cleaned and dressed up, they all saw that Dick was a handsome young man.

Years later, Dick and Miss Alice grew to love each other and were married. Dick soon became the Sheriff of London and then the Lord Mayor for three times. He served his people wisely and well. He was even made a knight by the king.

The bells of Bow church rang true.



Skim page 13. Write the answer to this question in the blank.

1.22

What is the name of the village where Dick Whittington sat upon a stone and heard the bells? _____



Write the letter of the correct answer on the blank. If you have trouble determining the correct answer, reread the story slowly for details.

1.23

According to the story, Dick was _____ .

- a. an orphan
- b. the son of a carpenter
- c. the son of a rich merchant

1.24

Dick left his village to go to _____ .

- a. London
- b. Halloway
- c. England

1.25

The wagon Dick left on was drawn by _____ .

- a. three horses
- b. eight horses
- c. four horses

1.26

Mr. Fitzwarren was a _____ .

- a. great historian
- b. rich banker
- c. merchant

1.27

Dick worked for the _____ .

- a. maid
- b. cook
- c. butler

1.28

Dick's work in the Fitzwarren house included _____ .

- a. scouring pots and pans
- b. mopping floors
- c. taking care of the garden

- 1.29** Mr. Fitzwarren's daughter was named _____ .
 a. Gretchen b. Alice c. Jennifer
- 1.30** Dick became Lord Mayor of London _____ .
 a. three times b. once c. twice
- 1.31** The main idea of "Dick Whittington and His Cat" is _____ .
 a. cats are great helpers
 b. a cat helped an orphan boy become rich
 c. do not believe stories about gold streets in London



Number each event in the sequence it happened.

- 1.32** _____ Dick saw a grand wagon and asked to ride to London.
- _____ Dick went to live in Fitzwarren's attic, which was filled with mice.
- _____ An orphan boy named Dick lived in a small village.
- _____ Alice asked Dick to send his cat on her father's ship.
- _____ Mr. Fitzwarren gave Dick a job.
- _____ The banquet was overrun with mice.
- _____ Dick bought a cat for a penny.
- _____ The ship landed in a faraway land.
- _____ Dick did not find streets of gold in London.
- _____ When the ship returned, Dick received the treasure.
- _____ Dick gave presents to his friends.
- _____ The king invited the captain to a banquet.
- _____ Later, Dick married Alice Fitzwarren.
- _____ Finally, Dick became Lord Mayor of London three times.
- _____ The captain gave Dick's cat to the king for a great treasure.

SELF TEST 1

Match these items. Answers may be used more than once (each answer, 2 points).

- | | | |
|-------------|--|------------------|
| 1.01 | _____ fits his speed to his need | a. read slowly |
| 1.02 | _____ to find out if the material is what you want or need | b. a good reader |
| 1.03 | _____ to look for specific information | c. skimming |
| 1.04 | _____ to remember details | d. scan |
| 1.05 | _____ is a similar skill to scanning | e. reading rate |
| 1.06 | _____ sometimes reads slowly to remember details | |
| 1.07 | _____ to find the general content or subject of an article | |
| 1.08 | _____ to remember information for answering questions | |

Write the name of the correct reading skill on each line (each answer, 2 points).

Scan

Skim

Read slowly for details

- | | | |
|--------------|-------|---|
| 1.09 | _____ | to give an oral report on lumber. |
| 1.010 | _____ | to see if a library book is what you want. |
| 1.011 | _____ | when looking in an article for the date Caesar Augustus reigned. |
| 1.012 | _____ | a Scripture to see if it is about Jesus' birth. |
| 1.013 | _____ | to answer questions on a technical article about the earth's gravity. |
| 1.014 | _____ | to find the town where Lazarus lived in the passage in John 11:1-4. |
| 1.015 | _____ | to see if an article entitled "The Unique Dr. Mason" is about a medical doctor. |
| 1.016 | _____ | to find the main character in a story. |



LAN_Gr3-5



804 N. 2nd Ave. E.
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800-622-3070
www.aop.com

LAN0509 – Jan '16 Printing

ISBN 978-0-86717-349-9



9 780867 173499