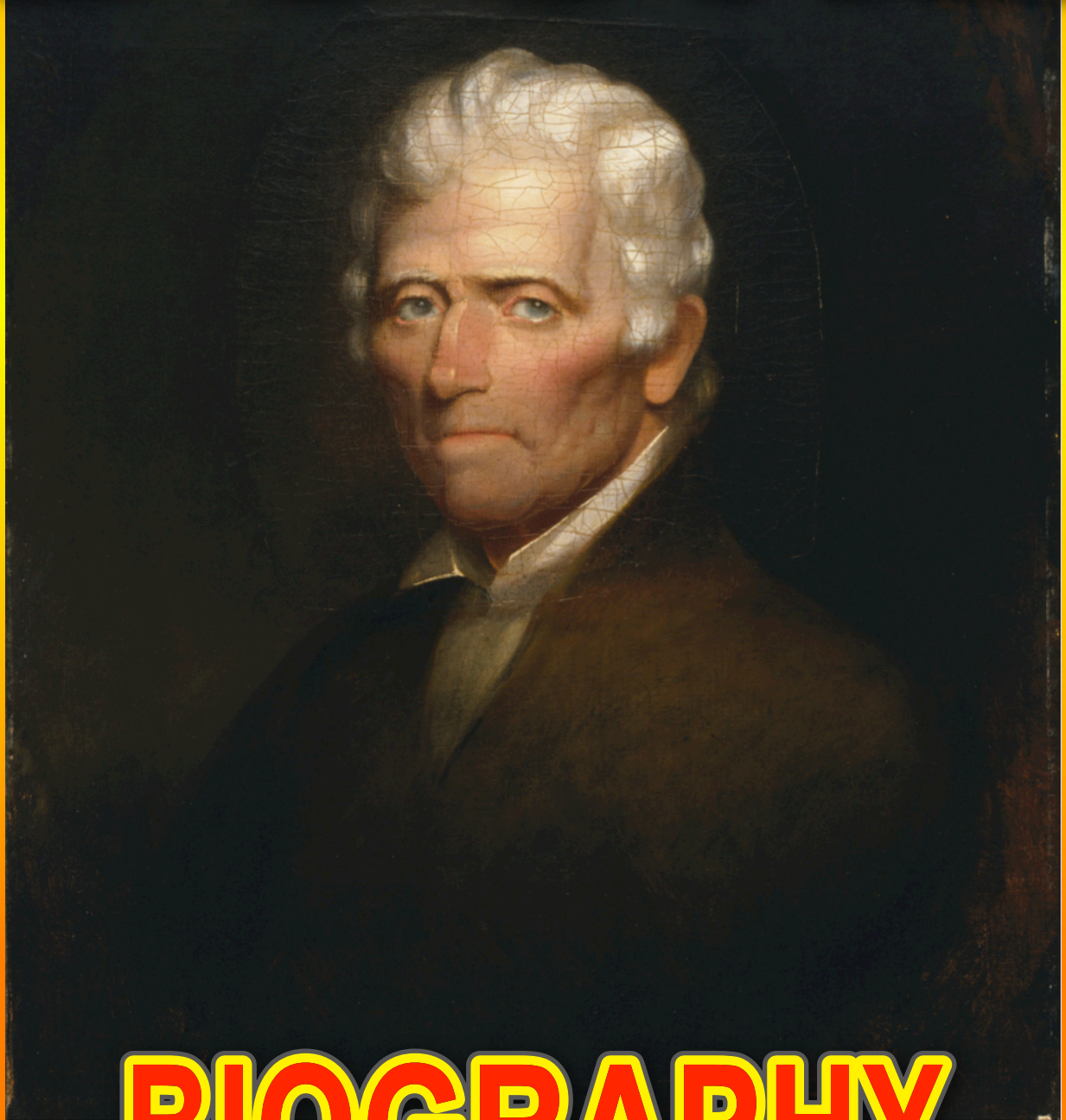# DANIEL BOONE

BIOGRAPHY

DANIEL BOONE

Daniel Boone was born near Reading, Pennsylvania, on November 2, 1734. Boone learned to shoot a rifle as a child, and he was soon a skilled hunter. After his family moved to North Carolina, Boone started his own hunting business.

During the French and Indian War, Boone joined a military expedition that was ambushed near what is now Pittsburgh. Boone only just escaped with his life by riding away on his horse. After that, Boone settled down to start a family in North Carolina.

But before long, Boone was itching to be out in the wild again. In 1767, Boone led his own expedition into Kentucky. Two years later, Boone led an expedition westwards, during which he pioneered a trail through the Cumberland Gap. This trail formed a gateway to the western frontier for later pioneers and settlers.

In 1775, Boone established the colony of Boonesborough in Kentucky by claiming land from the Native Americans. He became the settlement's leader, and he lived there with his family. But life in the settlement was not easy, as the Shawnee and Cherokee Native Americans who lived there fought back. They first captured Boone's daughter, and then Boone himself in 1778.

Boone escaped, but he had lost money that he owed to settlers in Boonesborough, and they were angry. In the end, Boone left Kentucky, and moved to West Virginia. There he was an elected representative of his county three times. He later moved again, and used Missouri as a base for his hunting trips. He lived in Missouri for the rest of his life, and he died there in 1820, at the age of 85.

1

Understanding words

a Write the sentence in which you found the word 'ambushed'.

b From that sentence, suggest what 'ambushed' means.

c Write a new sentence using the word 'ambushed'.

d Use a dictionary to find words with a similar meaning (synonyms) to 'ambushed'.

e Draw a small picture showing what you think 'ambushed' means.

Finding key words

Next, we need to find the key words that tell us what the story is about...

Read the story and underline the key words. Write the most important of these key words in a list like the one below. Write next to it a word that means a similar thing (a synonym). You don't have to use all the spaces, but you should not use more.

Key word	Synonym (similar word)
Example: gateway	portal

Sequencing

Boone founded and led a settlement in Kentucky, but he later got into trouble with people he owed money to.

Boone spent the last part of his life in Missouri.

In 1767, Boone led an expedition westwards into Kentucky.

Daniel Boone was born in Pennsylvania in 1734.

During the French and Indian War, Boone fought against Native Americans, and was nearly caught in an ambush.

Boone became a skilled hunter in North Carolina.

On the expedition, Boone made a trail through the Cumberland Gap.

Get to the facts

1   When was Daniel Boone born?

2   How did Daniel Boone escape ambush by the Native Americans near Pittsbugh?

3   When did Boone lead an expedition to Kentucky?

4   Where did Boone pioneer a trail?

5   What was Boone's settlement in Kentucky called?

Make a story...

When you read a description it often gives you ideas about how the event might be described differently.

Ambush!

I was out in the wilderness, hunting animals. Suddenly someone fired at me, but the shot missed. I had to get back to my horse before my attacker got to me... (now complete the story)

Below is a plain text version for printing:

Understanding words:

a Write the sentence in which you found the word 'ambushed'.
b From that sentence, suggest what 'ambushed' means.
c Write a new sentence using the word 'ambushed'.
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Finding key words:

Read the story and underline the key words. Write the most important of these key words in a list. Write next to it a word that means a similar thing (a synonym).

For example:

Key word – gateway   Synonym – portal

Sequencing:

Write these sentences in the correct order, so they make sense:

Boone founded and led a settlement in Kentucky, but he later got into trouble with people he owed money to.

Boone spent the last part of his life in Missouri.

In 1767, Boone led an expedition westwards into Kentucky.

Daniel Boone was born in Pennsylvania in 1734.

During the French and Indian War, Boone fought against Native Americans, and was nearly caught in an ambush.

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Get to the facts:

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2 How did Boone escape ambush by the Native Americans near Pittsburgh?
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4 Where did Boone pioneer a trail?
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