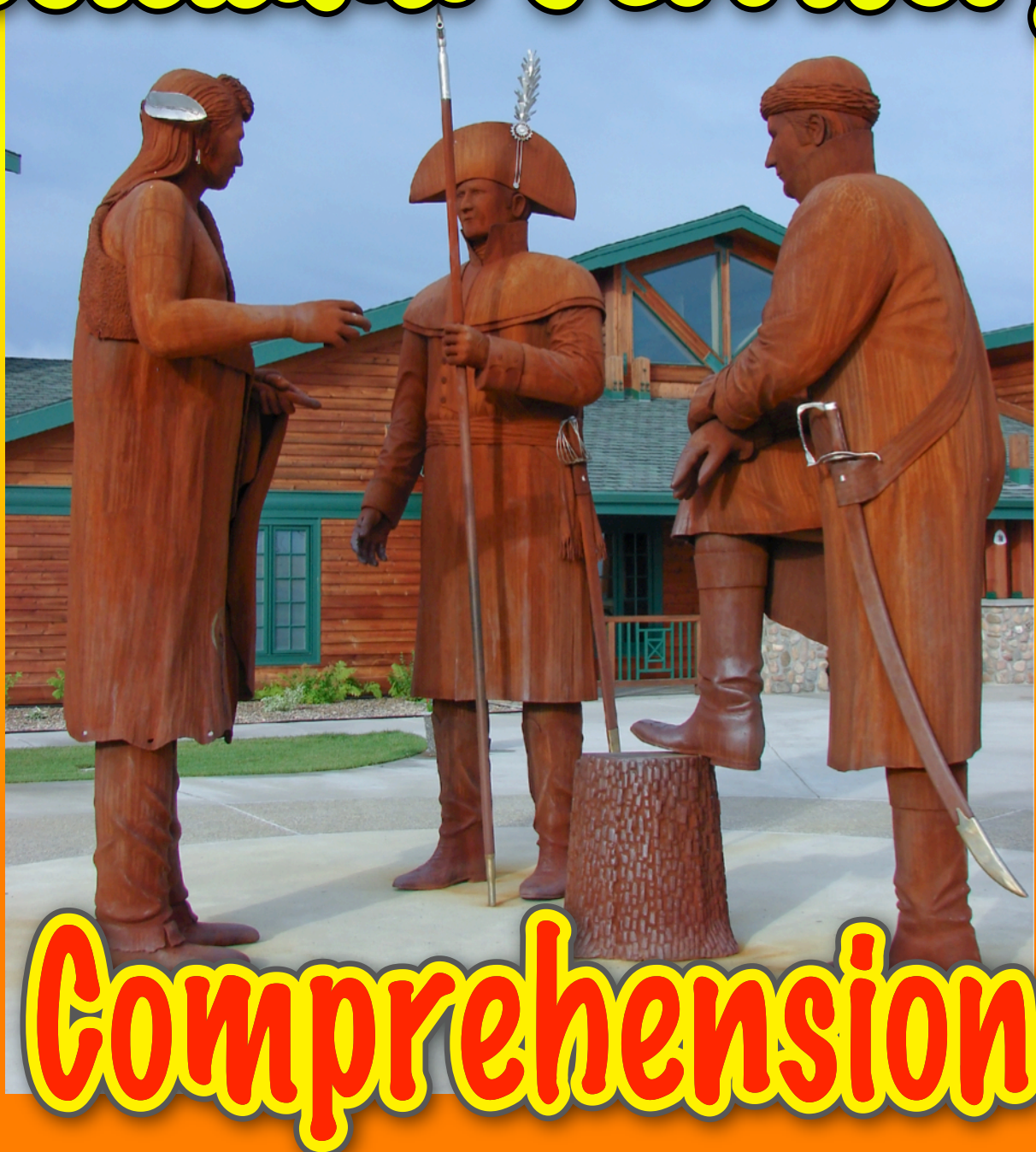


# Lewis and Clark: Louisiana Territory



# Lewis and Clark: Louisiana Territory

In the summer of 1806, Lewis and Clark and their expedition wanted to explore the Louisiana Territory. The expedition split up to do this. Clark went along one river, while Lewis travelled along another river. Below is an extract from the diary of Lewis for Thursday July 3 1806. Remember that it is written in the language of the time, and some words might look unfamiliar at first.

"...we saddled our horses and set out. I took leave of my worthy friend and companion Capt. Clark and the party that accompanied him. I could not avoid feeling much concern on this occasion although I hoped this separation was only momentary.

"I proceeded down Clark's river seven miles with my party of nine men and five [American] Indians... These people now informed me that the road which they showed me at no great distance from our Camp would lead us up the East branch of Clark's river and [to] a river they called Cokahlarishkit or the river of the road to buffalo and thence to medicine river and the falls of the Missouri where we wished to go...

"I directed the hunters to turn out early in the morning and endeavour to kill some more meat for these people whom I was unwilling to leave without giving them a good supply of provision after their having been so obliging as to conduct us through those tremendous mountains."

# Understanding words

Before we can understand a story we have to know what all of the words mean. Let's try one...

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

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

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

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

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

Try this for other words, too. 2

# 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: informed	told

# Sequencing

Sequencing means getting the events in the right order. Write these sentences in the correct order, so they make sense.

I said goodbye to Captain Clark, and hoped to see him again soon.

The road was a stage of my journey to waterfalls on the Missouri River.

I told my men to give food to the American Indians before we left them.

We saddled our horses and were ready to go.

I travelled downriver with my men and some American Indians.

The American Indians told me how to get to the road I needed to take.

# Get to the facts

- 1 Where did Lewis and Clark want to explore in the summer of 1806?
- 2 How far down Clark's river did Lewis go?
- 3 How many American Indians did he travel with?
- 4 Where did Lewis and his men wish to go?
- 5 Who did Lewis tell to get some more meat?

# Make a story...

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

## Clark's diary

Imagine you are Captain Clark. Write a diary entry for the same day as the one written by Lewis. You could talk about saying goodbye to Lewis, and how you feel about what might happen when you go your separate ways... (now complete the story)

**Below is a plain text version for printing:**

## Understanding words:

- a Write the sentence in which you found the word 'expedition'.
- b From that sentence, suggest what 'expedition' means.
- c Write a new sentence using the word 'expedition'.
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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 – informed                      Synonym – told

## Sequencing:

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

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