Background *The following two selections are examples of writing about the sea—in particular, the creatures known as sea stars, or starfish. The word starfish is misleading. Starfish are not actually fish but echinoderms, animals with spiny skeletons. Although starfish come in a wide range of sizes, most species are between eight and twelve inches in diameter and have five arms. Their colors range from brown to various shades of yellow, orange, and pink. Starfish are flexible and move by using the tube feet on the undersides of their arms.*

English Grades 9,10,11

Writing About the Sea

Starfish . . . . Poem by Lorna Dee Cervantes

Sea Stars . . . . Essay by Barbara Hurd

Lorna Dee Cervantes *Growing up in San Jose, California, Lorna Dee Cervantes discovered literature by reading the books in the houses that her mother cleaned for a living. Cervantes completed her first collection of poetry when she was fifteen. Writing gave Cervantes, who is of Mexican and American Indian ancestry, a sense of freedom: "When you grow up as I did, a Chican-India in a barrio in a Mexican neighborhood in California . . . you're ignored . . . And you're not expected to speak, much less write."*

Barbara Hurd *is a writer who specializes in creative nonfiction nature writing. She explains, "I'm interested in landscapes, both the physical—swamps and caves—and the psychological, that are marked by multiplicities and contradictions, pocked with secrets, laced with what can't be immediately seen, but, which properly pressed by imagination and language, have the power to transform experience into something sculpted and meaningful. . . . I'm after form, in other words, which leaves the reader and me at least knee-deep in this world, aware of and almost weaker than the wish to resist."*

CLOSE READ
Notes

1. **READ** ▶ As you read lines 1–15 of "Starfish," begin to cite text evidence.

   - Underline examples of figurative language.
   - Circle text used to describe the starfish's body.
   - In the margin, explain the actions of the speaker.

Starfish
Lorna Dee Cervantes

They were lovely in the quartz and jasper sand
As if they had created terrariums[1] with their bodies
On purpose; adding sprigs of seaweed, seashells,
White feathers, eel bones, miniature
5   Mussels, a fish jaw. Hundreds; no—
Thousands of baby stars. We touched them,
Surprised to find them soft, **pliant**, almost
Living in their attitudes. We would dry them, arrange them,
Form seascapes, geodesics[2] . . . We gathered what we could
10 In the approaching darkness. Then we left hundreds of
Thousands of flawless five-fingered specimens sprawled
Along the beach as far as we could see, all massed
Together: little martyrs, soldiers, artless suicides
In lifelong liberation from the sea. So many
15 Splayed hands, the tide shoveled in.

pliant:

---

[1] **terrarium:** small enclosure or container that houses plants or animals.
[2] **geodesic:** interlocking, repeating pattern.

2. **◀ REREAD** Reread lines 1–15. How does the description of the "approaching darkness" change the tone of the poem? What happens to the starfish the speaker leaves behind? Support your answer with explicit text evidence.

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

2
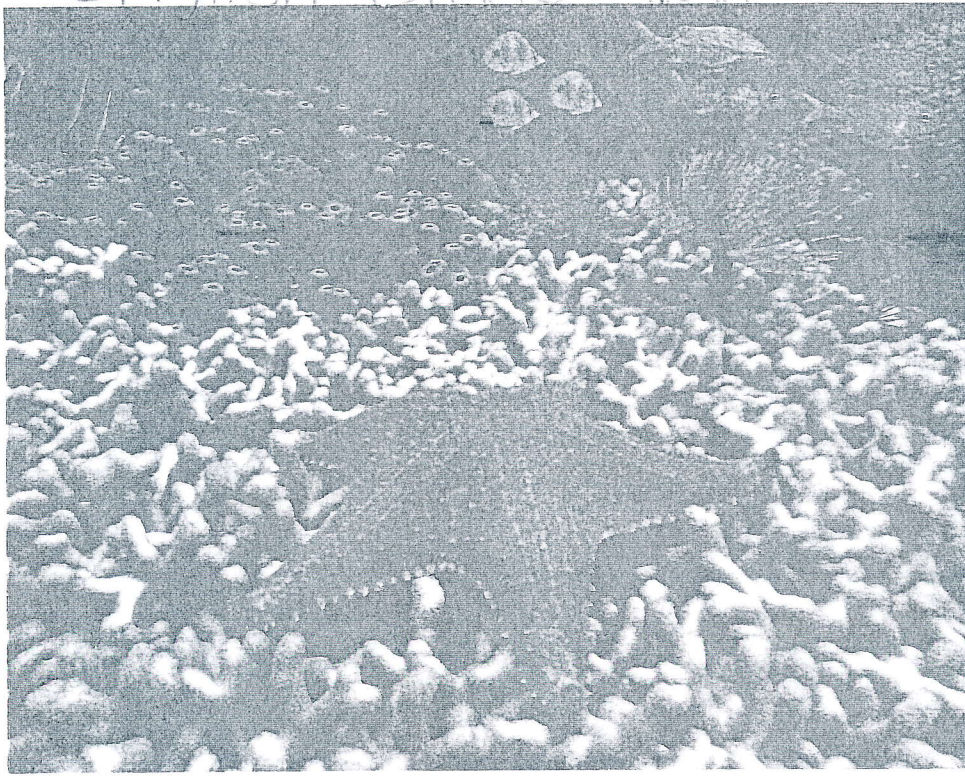
SHORT RESPONSE

Cite Text Evidence How does the poet's use of figurative language contribute to her central idea? Cite text evidence to support your response.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____
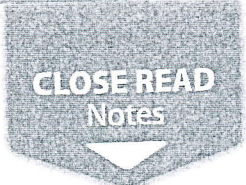
1. **READ ▶** As you read lines 1–12 of "Sea Stars," begin to cite text evidence.

   - Underline words and phrases used to describe the sky, the moon, and the stars.
   - Circle text that gives the sea stars human qualities.
   - In the margin, explain the comparison the author makes.

Sea Stars

Barbara Hurd

The sky is pink this morning and on the shore a whole host[1] of sea stars has been stranded.

I know from the charts the moon was full last night, the midnight tide higher than usual. Were the skies clear? Were the stars out? I'd like to have seen these creatures then: stars in the dark overhead and here a spiny constellation draped over the rocks.

One of the largest, a northern sea star, now lies upside down in the palm of my hand. Almost a foot across, its orangy body glistens wet in the dawn light. Hundreds of slender tubes wriggle like antennae, only these aren't sense organs; they're feet, and what they're searching for isn't food or enemy or mate, but something to cling to, any firm surface that can anchor them and end this **futile** flailing at the air.

Of its five arms, three remain, five or six inches long. I've read that most sea stars lose their limbs to other sea stars' hunger. Traveling in slow-motion swarms, the lead **contingent** feasts on oysters and clams, depleting the supply for those in the rear, who resort to the nearest neighbor's arm.

10

futile:

contingent:

————————
[1] **host:** an army, group or formation.

2. **◀ REREAD** Reread lines 1–12. In your own words, explain the central idea of these lines.

_____

_____

_____

3. **READ ▶** As you read lines 13–26, continue to cite text evidence.

   - Underline facts about the life cycle of the sea star.
   - Circle emotions that humans are "burdened" with.
   - In the margin, explain the physical feeling that both amputees and people born without a limb may have in common.

Show work on a separate sheet of paper.

1) Which of the following statements must be true if $\triangle GHI \sim \triangle JKL$?
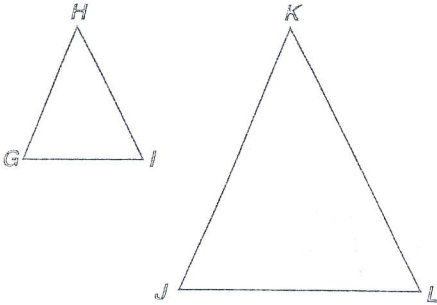

A   The two triangles must be scalene.

B   The two triangles must have exactly one acute angle.

C   At least one of the sides of the two triangles must be parallel.

D   The corresponding sides of the two triangles must be proportional.

CSG20074

**2)** Which method listed below could *not* be used to prove that two triangles are congruent?

A   Prove all three sets of corresponding sides congruent.

B   Prove all three sets of corresponding angles congruent.

C   Prove that two sides and an included angle of one triangle are congruent to two sides and an included angle of the other triangle.

D   Prove that two angles and an included side of one triangle are congruent to two angles and an included side of the other triangle.

3) What is the area, in square centimeters, of rhombus $RSTV$ if $RT = 16$ cm and $SV = 12$ cm?
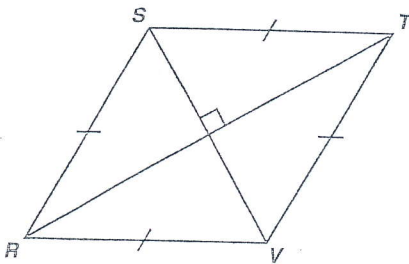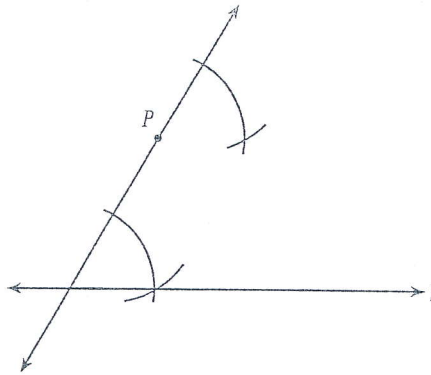

A   40

B   48

C   96

D   192

4) What is the height of this rectangle?
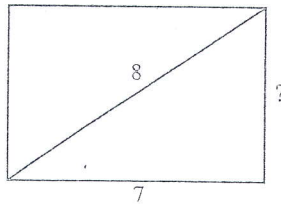
A   1 unit

B   6 units

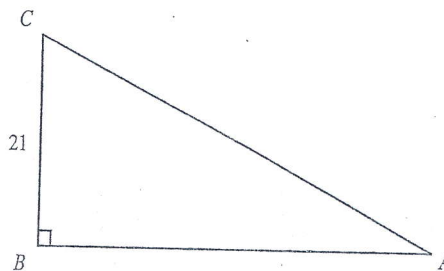C $\sqrt{15}$ units

D $\sqrt{113}$ units

CSG00473

5) Marsha is using a straightedge and compass to do the construction shown below.

Which *best* describes the construction Marsha is doing?

A   a line through P parallel to line l

B   a line through P intersecting line l

C   a line through P congruent to line l

D   a line through P perpendicular to line l

6) In the figure below, $\sin A = 0.7$.
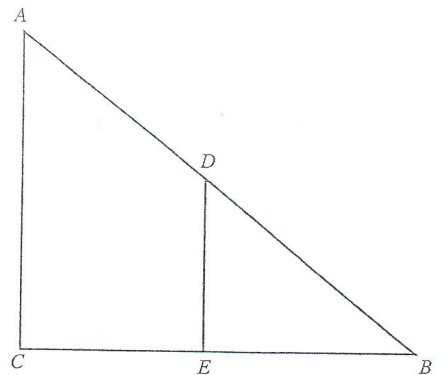

What is the length of $\overline{AC}$?

A   14.7

B   21.7

C   30

D   32

7) Which triangles must be similar?

A   two obtuse triangles

B   two scalene triangles with congruent bases

C   two right triangles

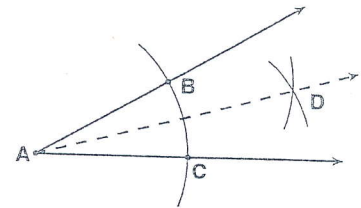D   two isosceles triangles with congruent vertex angles

CSG00578

8) Which of the following facts would be sufficient to prove that triangles ABC and DBE are similar?

A $\overline{CE}$ and $\overline{BE}$ are congruent.

B $\angle ACE$ is a right angle.

C $\overline{AC}$ and $\overline{DE}$ are parallel.

D $\angle A$ and $\angle B$ are congruent.
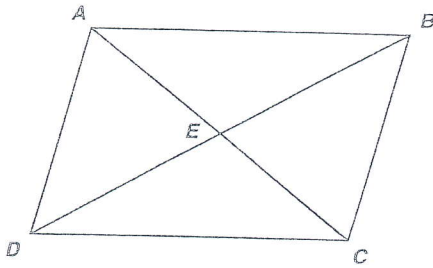
9) Given: angle A

What is the first step in constructing the angle bisector of angle A?

A   Draw ray $\overline{AD}$.

B   Draw a line segment connecting points B and C.

C   From points B and C, draw equal arcs that intersect at D.

D   From point A, draw an arc that intersects the sides of the angle at points B and C.

5

⑩ Parallelogram $ABCD$ is shown below.

Which pair of triangles can be established to be congruent to prove that $\angle DAB \cong \angle BCD$?

A $\triangle ADC$ and $\triangle BCD$

B $\triangle AED$ and $\triangle BEC$

C $\triangle DAB$ and $\triangle BCD$

D $\triangle DEC$ and $\triangle BEA$
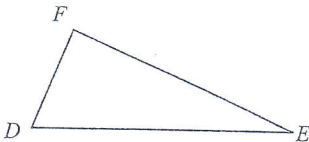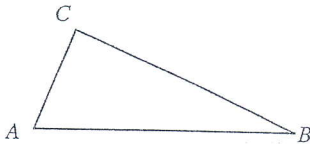
CSG10146

⑪ If $\triangle ABC$ and $\triangle XYZ$ are two triangles such that $\dfrac{AB}{XY} = \dfrac{BC}{YZ}$, which of the following would be sufficient to prove the triangles are similar?

A $\angle A \cong \angle X$

B $\angle B \cong \angle Y$

C $\angle C \cong \angle Z$

D $\angle X \cong \angle Y$

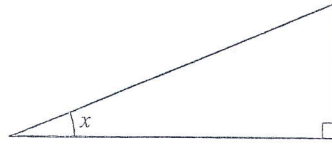⑫ In the figure below, $\overline{AC} \cong \overline{DF}$ and $\angle A \cong \angle D$.

Which additional information would be enough to prove that $\triangle ABC \cong \triangle DEF$?

A $\overline{AB} \cong \overline{DE}$

B $\overline{AB} \cong \overline{BC}$

C $\overline{BC} \cong \overline{EF}$

D $\overline{BC} \cong \overline{DE}$

⑬ In the figure below, if $\sin x = \dfrac{5}{13}$, what are $\cos x$ and $\tan x$?

A $\cos x = \dfrac{12}{13}$ and $\tan x = \dfrac{5}{12}$

B $\cos x = \dfrac{12}{13}$ and $\tan x = \dfrac{12}{5}$

C $\cos x = \dfrac{13}{12}$ and $\tan x = \dfrac{5}{12}$

D $\cos x = \dfrac{13}{12}$ and $\tan x = \dfrac{13}{5}$

⑭ The perimeters of two squares are in a ratio of 4 to 9. What is the ratio between the areas of the two squares?
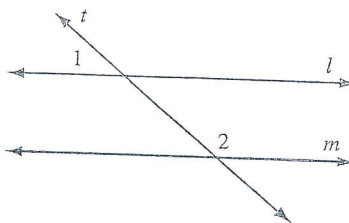
A   2 to 3

B   4 to 9

C   16 to 27

D   16 to 81

⑮ If the measure of an exterior angle of a regular polygon is $120°$, how many sides does the polygon have?

A   3

B   4

C   5

D   6

⑯ In the accompanying diagram, parallel lines l and m are cut by transversal t.

Which statement about angles 1 and 2 *must* be true?

A $\angle 1 \cong \angle 2$.

B $\angle 1$ is the complement of $\angle 2$.

C $\angle 1$ is the supplement of $\angle 2$.
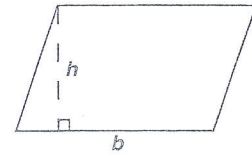
D $\angle 1$ and $\angle 2$ are right angles.

⑰ Students in a class rewrote theorems in their own words. One student wrote the following statement.

> The area of a parallelogram is the product of any base (b) and any height (h).

Which figure shows a counterexample to prove the statement *false*?

A

B

C

D
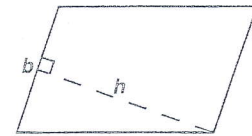
⑱ Two angles of a triangle have measures of $55°$ and $65°$. Which of the following could *not* be a measure of an exterior angle of the triangle?

A $115°$

B $120°$

C $125°$

D $130°$

CSG00571

⑲ The sum of the interior angles of a polygon is the same as the sum of its exterior angles. What type of polygon is it?

A   quadrilateral

B   hexagon

C   octagon

D   decagon

𝔲

Name: _____   Date:_____
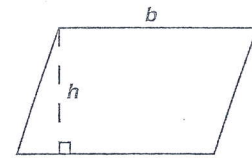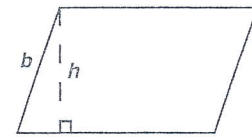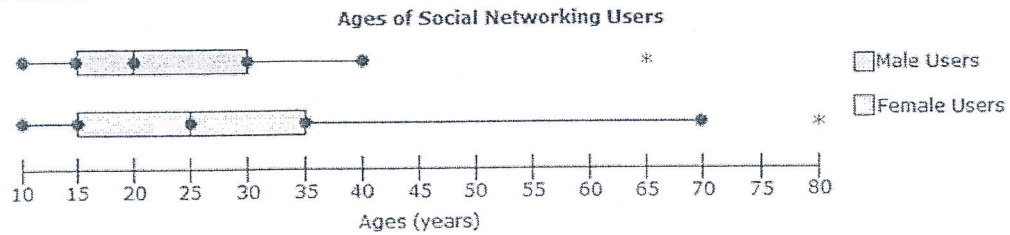
MAFS.912.S-ID.1.1

1. A social networking website researched the ages of its male users and female users. The findings were recorded in the box plots below.

Ages of Social Networking Users

Which of the following statements are true regarding the box plots above?

I.   The age range of female users is greater than the age range of male users.
II. The percentage of female users that are ages 10 - 15 is greater than the percentage of male users that are ages 10 - 15.
III. The median age of female users is greater than the median age of male users.
IV. There is a 30 year age difference between the oldest female user and the oldest male user.

A. I and IV
B. I and III
C. II and III
D. II and IV

2. MAFS.912.S-ID.2.5

A group of ice cream shop customers were asked to choose their favorite ice cream flavor. The results are shown in the two-way frequency table below.

Favorite Ice Cream Flavor

	Vanilla	Chocolate	Strawberry	Cookie Dough	Rocky Road	Total
Adults	29	43	45	27	29	173
Children	12	72	24	48	19	175
Total	41	115	69	75	48	348

Approximately what percentage of the ice cream shop customers are children?
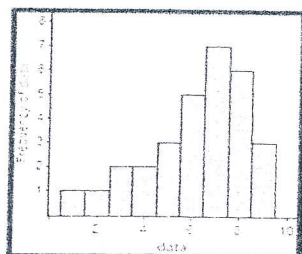
A. 50.29%
B. 41.14%
C. 27.43%
D. 49.71%

3. MAFS.912.S-ID.1.3

For the data below, construct a frequency histogram using nine classes. Describe the shape of the histogram.
The data set: *The California Pick Three Lottery.*

```
1 3 8 8 7 7 6 5 8 6
7 7 6 9 7 7 8 7 6 6
9 5 5 3 8 8 4 9 2 4
```
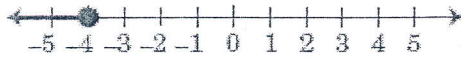

A. Symmetric
B. Uniform
C. Skewed left
D. Skewed right

MAFS.912.A-REI.2.3

4. Which graph represents the solution to $-3x + 6 \geq 6$?

A.

B.

C.

D.

5. MAFS.912.A-REI.2.3

Marie is saving money for home repairs. To date, she has saved $1,282. She needs at least $1,804 for the repairs. She plans to set aside $58 per week to add to her current savings. If this situation is modeled by the inequality below, how many more weeks, x, does she need to continue saving in order to have enough money for the repairs?

$$\$1,282 + \$58x \geq \$1,804$$

A. $x \geq 21$
B. $x \geq 27$
C. $x \geq 9$
D. $x \geq 53$

6. MAFS.912.A-CED.1.4

In the following formula, vi is initial velocity, ve is ending velocity, a is acceleration, and d is distance. If vi is 7 meters per second, a is 8 meters per second squared, and d is 2 meters, what is the value of ve?

$$vi = \sqrt{ve^2 - 2ad}$$

A. 4.12 meters per second
B. 5.74 meters per second
C. 6.25 meters per second
D. 9 meters per second

7. MAFS.912.F-IF.1.2

Rewrite the following equation as a function of x.

$$70x + 7y - 343 = 0$$

A. $f(x) = 49 - 10x$
B. $f(x) = \frac{1}{49} - \frac{1}{10}x$
C. $f(x) = 49 + 10x$
D. $f(x) = \frac{1}{49} + \frac{1}{10}x$

MAFS.912.F-IF.1.1:

8. A real estate company purchased a vast area of lakefront property. The company plans to divide the area into several lots so that customers can purchase a lot and build a home. The length of each lot is represented by the function below, where w represents the width of each lot. The minimum length of a lot will be 51 feet, and the maximum length of a lot will be 204 feet.

$$L(w) = 3w - 15$$

What is the domain of $L(w)$?

A. all real numbers between and including 51 and 204
B. all real numbers
C. all real numbers greater than or equal to 5
D. all real numbers between and including 22 and 73

9. MAFS.912.A-CED.1.1

Maria is having a birthday party for her friend, Miguel. A total of 50 people will be at the party. She currently has eight sodas. Which inequality can be used to determine how many 12-packs of soda (x) she should buy so that each person can have at least two sodas?

A. $x + 8 \geq 50$
B. $12x + 8 \geq 50$
C. $x + 8 \geq 100$
D. $12x + 8 \geq 100$

MAFS.912.A-CED.1.4:

10. The formula for the area, A, of a trapezoid is shown below, where h represents its height and $b1$ and $b2$ represent the lengths of its bases. For this problem, let $b1$ represent the length of its shorter base.

$$A = \frac{1}{2}h(b1 + b2)$$

Which of the descriptions below is equivalent to the formula shown above?

A. The length of the longer base is equal to the quotient of twice the area and the height, plus the length of the shorter base.
B. The height is equal to twice the area divided by the product of the lengths of the two bases.
C. The length of the longer base is equal to the quotient of the area and the height, minus half the length of the shorter base.
D. The height is equal to twice the area divided by the sum of the lengths of the two bases.

MAFS.912.S-ID.1.2

11. An elevator can hold a maximum of 1,500 pounds. Eight people need to use the elevator. Bill had some measures from the data set of how much each person weighed. Which measure would be most useful to determine if the people can safely use the elevator?

A. mean
B. median
C. mode
D. interquartile range

12. MAFS.912.S-ID.1.2

. Pizza PDQ hosted two pizza parties last Friday. The number of slices of pizza eaten by partygoers is displayed on the dot plots below. Based on this data, which of the following generalizations can be made?

Pizza Party 1   Pizza Party 2

Slices of Pizza Eaten   Slices of Pizza Eaten
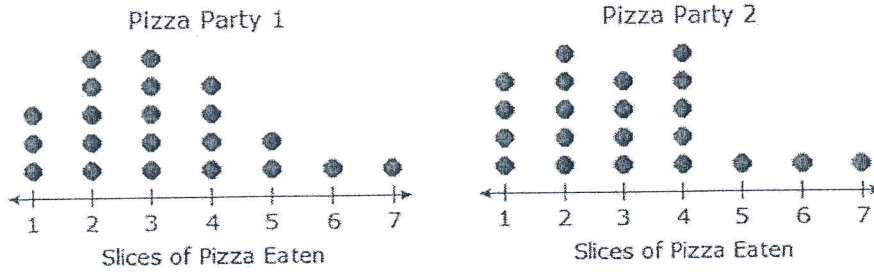
A. Each data set has a mean of 3. The medians are not equal.

B. The medians and means of both data sets are not close in value.

C. Each data set has a mean of 3. Each data set has a median of 3.

D. The medians and means of both data sets are close to or equal to 3

13. MAFS.912.F-IF.1.2

The table below shows the cost of a pizza based on the number of toppings.

Number of Toppings (n)	Cost (C)
1	$12.00
2	$13.50
3	$15.00
4	$16.50

Which function represents the cost of a pizza with **n** toppings?

A. $C(n) = 12 + 1.5(n - 1)$

B. $C(n) = 1.5n + 12$

C. $C(n) = 12 + n$

D. $C(n) = 12n$

14. MAFS.912.A-CED.1.1

Betsy's high school is putting on a production of a play as a fundraiser for the school's music programs. A local bank has agreed to allow the school to use a line of credit from which they can withdraw money to pay for the play. Then, any deposits they make at the bank will be applied to the negative balance of the credit account.

The play cost $2,200.00 to produce, and they intend to sell tickets for $5 each. After the play, Betsy will take the ticket proceeds and deposit them with the bank. If 560 people attend the play's opening night, what will the balance of the bank account be?

A. $5,000

B. $2,800

C. $600

D. -$2,088

15. MAFS.912.F-IF.1.1:

A real estate company purchased a vast area of lakefront property. The company plans to divide the area into several lots so that customers can purchase a lot and build a home. The length of each lot is represented by the function below, where w represents the width of each lot. The minimum length of a lot will be 51 feet, and the maximum length of a lot will be 204 feet.

What is the domain of $L(w)$? $L(w) = 3w - 15$

A. all real numbers between and including 51 and 204

B. all real numbers

C. all real numbers greater than or equal to 5

D. all real numbers between and including 22 and 73

10

U.S. History Winter Assignment

Create a "Top 5" Review Poster

1. Choose one of the following topics from US History to review: (Civil War, Reconstruction, Settlement of the West (late 1800s), Growth of Industry (late 1800s), Early Labor Movement (late 1800s), Progressive Era, Urbanization and Immigration (late 1800s), U.S. Imperialism, World War I).

2. Choose the 5 most important PEOPLE from that era in US History.

3. Choose the 5 most important KEY TERMS associated with that era in US History.

4. Choose the 5 most important EVENTS from that time period and list them on a timeline.

5. Find 5 PRIMARY SOURCES (photographs, political cartoons, newspaper headlines, etc.) from that time period.

6. Neatly display all of the above (people, key terms, timeline of events, and primary sources) on a poster.

7. Be prepared to share your poster with the class!