

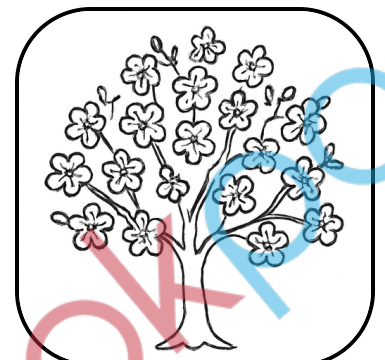
Name: _____

Across the Ocean: Japan and America

Japan and America are two countries that are far apart, with the wide Pacific Ocean between them. Japan is an island nation, while America is much larger and has many different states like California. People in both places have their own ways of life, but they also share some things in common.

In Japan, you might see tall mountains and cherry blossom trees. People often eat rice and fish. In America, you might see wide roads and big cities. People there might eat hamburgers or pizza. Even the homes and clothing can look different.

Learning about these countries helps us understand how people live, eat, and celebrate. Knowing about each country's traditions can add to our idea of how people live in places near and far.



Student Name: _____

Date: _____

Across the Ocean: Japan and America

Japan and America are two countries that are far (9)

apart, with the wide Pacific Ocean between them. (17)

Japan is an island nation, while America is much (26)

larger and has many different states like (33)

California. People in both places have their own (41)

ways of life, but they also share some things in (51)

common. (52)

In Japan, you might see tall mountains and cherry (61)

blossom trees. People often eat rice and fish. In (70)

America, you might see wide roads and big cities. (79)

People there might eat hamburgers or pizza. Even (87)

the homes and clothing can look different. (94)

Learning about these countries helps us understand (101)

how people live, eat, and celebrate. Knowing about (109)

each country's traditions can add to our idea of (118)

how people live in places near and far. (126)

Comprehension Questions:

Literal Question:

What ocean is between Japan and America?

Answer:

The Pacific Ocean.

Student Answer:

_____ Correct _____ Incorrect

Inferential Question:

Why might people eat different foods in each country?

Answer:

They have different traditions and local foods.

Student Answer:

_____ Correct _____ Incorrect

Vocabulary Question:

What does the word 'traditions' mean in this passage?

Answer:

Ways of doing things in a culture.

Student Answer:

_____ Correct _____ Incorrect

Notes:

Scoring Guide

Text Level: F&P GRL O Grade Level: 3 Word Count: 126

Total Words Read: _____

Errors: _____

WCPM: (total words read — errors = WCPM) _____

WCPM: Below grade level At grade level Above grade level

Prosody: 1 2 3 4

Comprehension: _____ / 3 correct

How to Administer the Fluency Passage Assessment

Assess Oral Reading Fluency

- Give the student a copy of the passage. **Set a timer or stopwatch for 1 minute.**
- Ask the student to begin reading. As the student reads aloud, assess prosody and mark errors and self-corrections on the evaluation copy using the following guides.
- **Stop the student when one minute has passed.** Take note of the last word the student read.
- Score the passage on the evaluation copy according to the **Scoring Guide**. Use the following chart to compare grade level norms for words correctly read per minute.

Marking Conventions	
Attempted Word = Substitution Error	✓ = Accurate Word Reading
^ = Insertion Error	Attempted Word S/C = Self Correction
— = Omission Error	R = Repetition
— = Omission Error	R = Repetition
T = Intervention Error (telling student the word)	

Prosody Rubric	1	2	3	4
Expression and Volume	monotone or quiet	some expression	appropriate expression	varied, natural expression
Phrasing	word-by-word reading	some phrase groupings	generally smooth phrasing	natural, meaningful phrasing
Smoothness	frequent pauses, starts and stops	occasional breaks	mostly smooth reading	fluent and confident
Pace	too slow or too fast	uneven pace	generally appropriate pace	consistent, conversational pace

Grade Level Norms (WCPM) *							
Grade	Fall	Winter	Spring	Grade	Fall	Winter	Spring
First	0 - 10	10 - 50	30 - 90	Fourth	70 - 120	80 - 130	90 - 140
Second	30 - 80	50 - 100	70 - 130	Fifth	80 - 130	90 - 140	100 - 150
Third	50 - 110	70 - 120	80 - 140	Sixth	90 - 140	100 - 150	110 - 160

* Rasinski Words Correct Per Minute Target Rates

Fluency Builder: Across the Ocean: Japan and America

Passage Details

Grade Level: 3

Reading Level: F&P GRL O

Word Count: 126

High-Frequency Words

add, always, between, both, far

Suggestions for Use

Increase Exposure to High-Frequency Words

- Before reading, introduce the list of high-frequency words in the passage.
- Find the words in the passage. Highlight or underline the words.

Illustrate and Label Extension Activity

- Have students draw and label items mentioned in the passage.

Link to Writing or Discussion

- Encourage knowledge transfer and personal connection by asking:
"Describe a tradition that is special to your family."
"How would you feel about living in a new country?"

Use for Repeated Readings

Day 1: Teacher reads aloud, then echo read

Day 2: Partner reading

Day 3: One-minute fluency timing and WCPM tracking

Day 4: Performance reading (with expression!)