Reading Comprehension

G4

ELA

Egyptian Pyramids

No-Prep Activity

Google Forms Quiz

Nonfiction

Reading Comprehension Activity

Egyptian Pyramids – Form Quiz

After reading the passage, answer the questions. Fill in the bubble beside the correct answer.

* Indicates required question

Egyptian Pyramids

The pyramids of Egypt are well known throughout the world. Many people go to Egypt just to see these structures. There are more than 80 pyramids in Egypt today.

The pyramids were built as tombs, or burial rooms, for ancient Egyptian pharaohs (kings). The Egyptians wrapped the pharaohs' bodies with cloth before they were buried. They called this process *mummification*. The pharaohs were often buried with gold and treasures. These treasures usually filled several rooms inside the pyramid, with the king's body being buried in the innermost room.

It was thought for a long time that slaves built all the pyramids in Egypt. It was later found that farmers built most of the pyramids during the rainy season. When the Nile River flooded their fields, the farmers would work on the pyramids to make extra money.

The oldest pyramid in Egypt is the Step Pyramid. It was built in 2650 BCE. Like many other pyramids, the Step Pyramid was built with a maze of underground passages beneath it. The ancient builders hoped that the passages would prevent grave robbers from finding the rooms with the pharaohs' treasures.

Despite these efforts, grave robbers did manage to steal many of the mummies and treasures from the pyramids. Scientists have found very few tombs with their mummies and their treasures untouched.

The biggest pyramid is the Great Pyramid. It stands 481 feet tall. It was the tallest structure on Earth until 1889, when the Eiffel Tower was built in France. The Great Pyramid is over 4,500 years old and is made up of several million blocks of stone. Each stone block weighs about 15 tons, or about the weight of eight school buses. The ancient Egyptians did not have cranes or tractors, and to this day, it is not known how they moved stones of this size and weight. They also didn't have cement or mortar.

The Egyptians were able to measure the blocks so perfectly that they could stack one on top of another very tightly. The blocks are assembled so closely, in fact, that a piece of paper cannot be placed between them.

Egypt has a very dry climate. That means that art, pottery, or any other items that were buried with the mummies did not decay very quickly. Although these tombs are thousands of years old, they contain nearly perfect examples of life during an ancient era. By examining these amazing structures and the treasures

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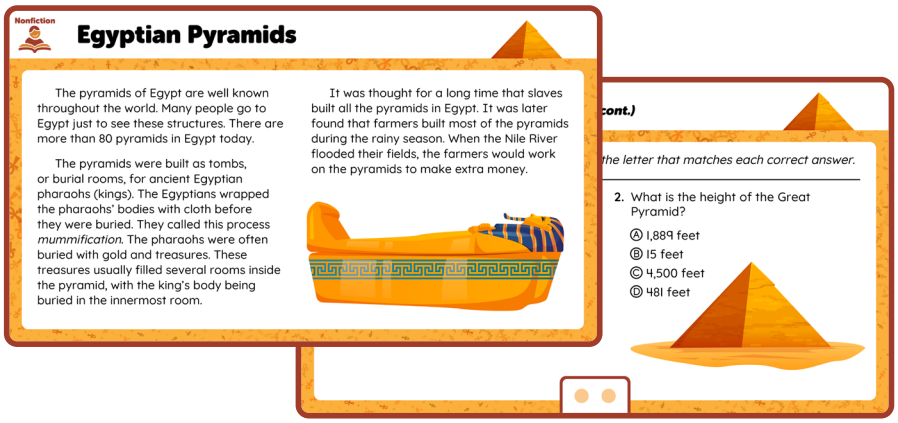

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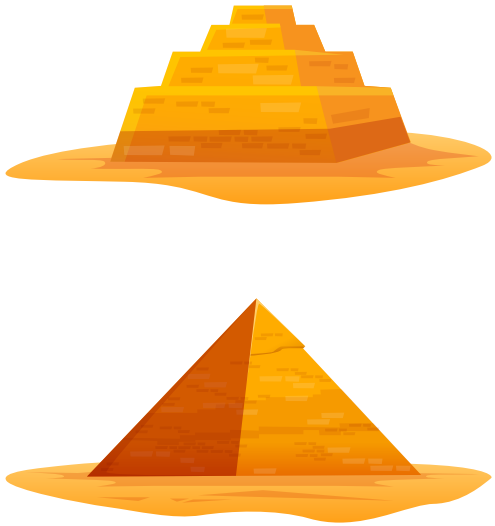
(cont.)

the letter that matches each correct answer.

2. What is the height of the Great Pyramid?
   - Ⓐ 1,889 feet
   - Ⓑ 15 feet
   - Ⓒ 4,500 feet
   - Ⓓ 481 feet



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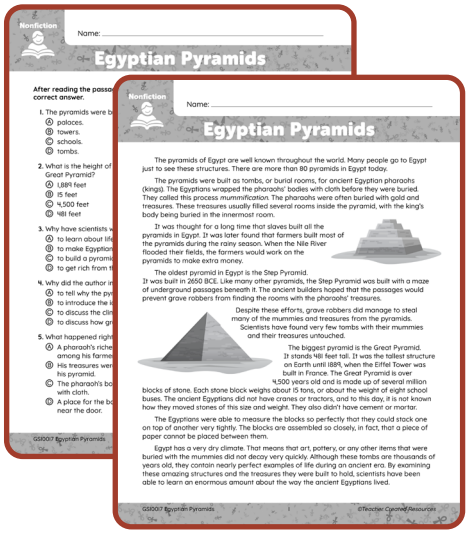

Nonfiction

Name: _____

Egyptian Pyramids

After reading the passa
correct answer.

1. The pyramids were b
   - Ⓐ palaces.
   - Ⓑ towers.
   - Ⓒ schools.
   - Ⓓ tombs.
2. What is the height of
   Great Pyramid?
   - Ⓐ 1,889 feet
   - Ⓑ 15 feet
   - Ⓒ 4,500 feet
   - Ⓓ 481 feet
3. Why have scientists
   - Ⓐ to learn about life
   - Ⓑ to make Egyptian
   - Ⓒ to build a pyrami
   - Ⓓ to get rich from t
4. Why did the author i
   - Ⓐ to tell why the py
   - Ⓑ to introduce the
   - Ⓒ to discuss the cl
   - Ⓓ to discuss how gr
5. What happened righ
   - Ⓐ A pharaoh's riche among his farme
   - Ⓑ His treasures wer his pyramid.
   - Ⓒ The pharaoh's bo with cloth.
   - Ⓓ A place for the bo near the door.

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The oldest pyramid in Egypt is the Step Pyramid. It was built in 2650 BCE. Like many other pyramids, the Step Pyramid was built with a maze of underground passages beneath it. The ancient builders hoped that the passages would prevent grave robbers from finding the rooms with the pharaohs' treasures.

Despite these efforts, grave robbers did manage to steal many of the mummies and treasures from the pyramids. Scientists have found very few tombs with their mummies and their treasures untouched.

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The Egyptians were able to measure the blocks so perfectly that they could stack one on top of another very tightly. The blocks are assembled so closely, in fact, that a piece of paper cannot be placed between them.

Egypt has a very dry climate. That means that art, pottery, or any other items that were buried with the mummies did not decay very quickly. Although these tombs are thousands of years old, they contain nearly perfect examples of life during an ancient era. By examining these amazing structures and the treasures they were built to hold, scientists have been able to learn an enormous amount about the way the ancient Egyptians lived.

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1. The pyramids were built as * (1 point)
   - palaces.
   - towers.
   - schools.
   - tombs.

2. What is the height of the Great Pyramid? * (1 point)
   - 1,889 feet
   - 15 feet
   - 4,500 feet
   - 481 feet

3. Why have scientists wanted to study the pyramids? * (1 point)
   - to learn about life in ancient Egypt
   - to make Egyptian pottery
   - to build a pyra
   - to get rich fro

4. Why did the author include the fifth paragraph? * (1 point)
   - to tell why the pyramids were built
   - to introduce the idea that scientists don't know how the pyramids were built
   - to discuss the climate of Egypt
   - to discuss how grave robbers were able to enter the pyramids

5. What happened right before a pharaoh was buried? * (1 point)
   - A pharaoh's riches were divided among his farmers.
   - His treasures were removed from his pyramid.
   - The pharaoh's body was wrapped with cloth.
   - A place for the body was prepared near the door.

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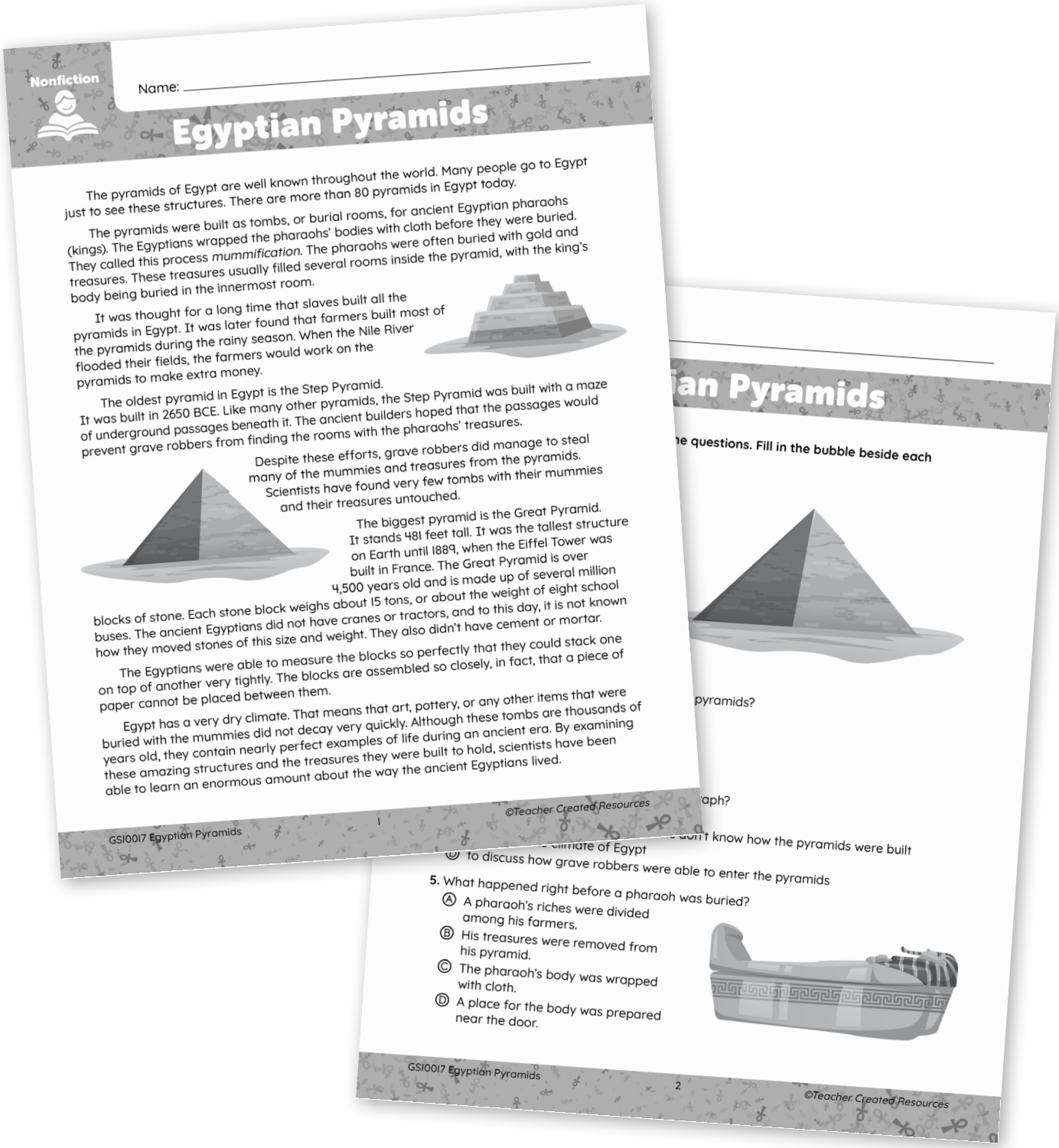

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Ⓐ A pharaoh's riches were divided among his farmers.

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