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STAAR
Reading

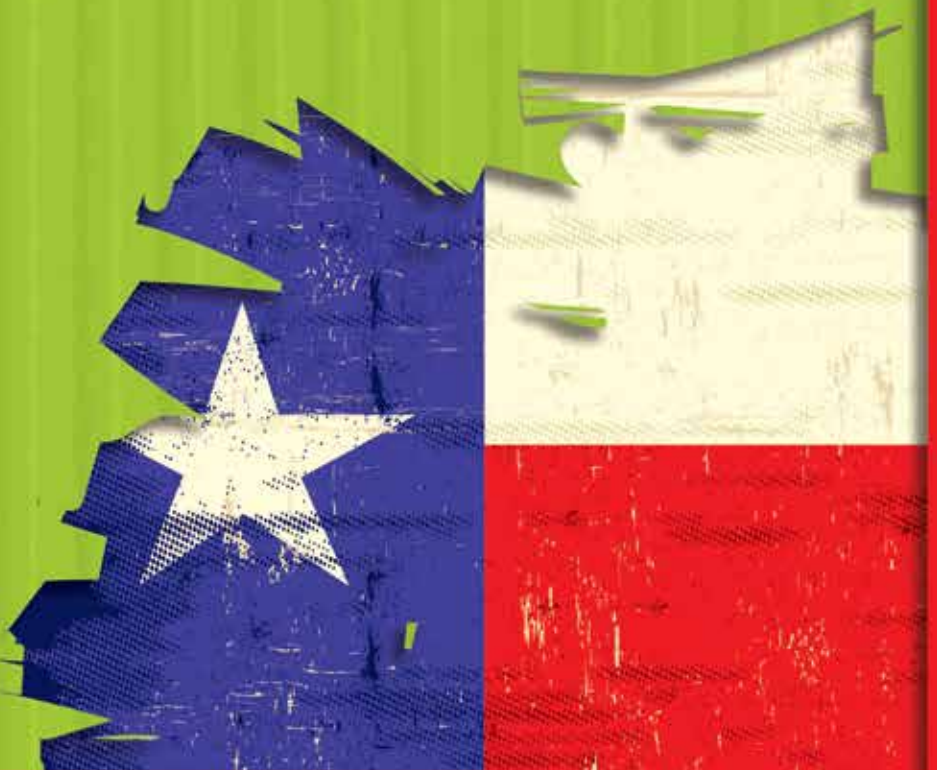


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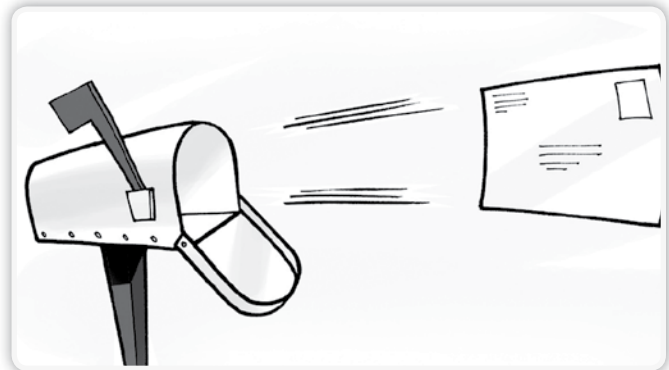
Two Flat Friends Travel the World

by Wendy Conklin

Directions: Read this script and respond to the questions on pages 65–67.

Willie and Fred have a school assignment to learn about different countries. After reading the book Flat Stanley, they decide to flatten themselves and travel the world through the mail. They meet a girl named Eman in Egypt.

- 1 **EMAN:** It's not often that I get anything in the mail. I opened the envelope and reached inside.
- 2 **WILLIE:** Somebody had hold of my ten flat toes!
- 3 **FRED:** She pulled us out and introduced herself.
- 4 **EMAN:** Never had I seen a sight like the one I saw that day! Their bodies were so flat that I knew they had to be hungry. I gave them thick hummus dip and pita bread. Then we took a bus to see Egypt's amazing sites. The pyramids were first!
- 5 **WILLIE:** We could see the massive structures from far away.
- 6 **EMAN:** One of the pyramids took 23 years to build!
- 7 **FRED:** Great kings called pharaohs are buried there. Each pharaoh was made into a mummy, wrapped in cloth, and placed inside a sarcophagus.
- 8 **WILLIE:** The pharaohs buried their gold with them, too.
- 9 **EMAN:** They believed the gold and treasures would be needed during the afterlife.
- 10 **WILLIE:** It's no wonder there were people who broke into the pyramids to rob the tombs.
- 11 **EMAN:** A massive stone sphinx sits nearby, too. A sphinx is an imaginary creature that is half lion and half man.
- 12 **FRED:** He looks like he is guarding the pyramids.
- 13 **EMAN:** We saw how the ancient Egyptians wrote, too.
- 14 **WILLIE:** But this didn't look like our writing.
- 15 **FRED:** Instead of using words, they used pictures called hieroglyphics.



GO ON 

Name: _____ Date: _____

Two Flat Friends Travel the World *(cont.)*

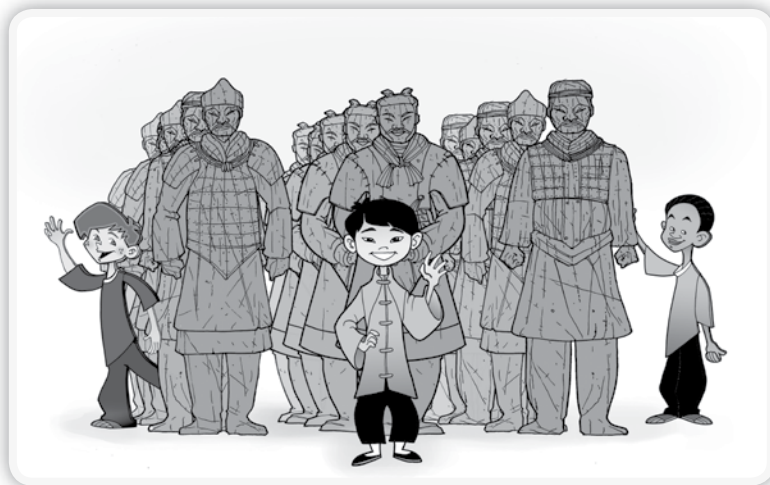
- 16 **EMAN:** The walls of the pyramids are covered with this picture writing. Years ago, someone discovered how to read hieroglyphics.
- 17 **FRED:** That helped people learn what life was like in ancient Egypt.
- 18 **EMAN:** I also took them to see the Nile, the longest river in the world.
- 19 **WILLIE:** I couldn't believe it stretches for 1,450 kilometers. That's 900 miles!
- 20 **FRED:** Willie and I had a super time with Eman as our guide.
- 21 **EMAN:** Then it was time for them to visit other lands.
- 22 **WILLIE:** We squeezed in a hug as she slid us into our envelope.
- 23 **FRED:** She had to be careful not to wrinkle my legs.
- 24 **EMAN:** I was sad to see them leave, but I knew they had more research to do. I mailed them to China.
- 25 **MAZU:** I found an envelope in my mailbox. Guess what I heard? Talking!
- 26 **FRED:** Imagine how he felt when he slid us out and saw that we were two kids! We told him that we were on a quest to see the amazing sites of China.
- 27 **MAZU:** In that case, allow me to be your guide!
- 28 **WILLIE:** What are some interesting sites to see here?
- 29 **MAZU:** You may have heard about our amazing long wall? Everyone calls it the Great Wall of China.
- 30 **FRED and WILLIE:** The Great Wall of China is a fantastic place to start!
- 31 **WILLIE:** The Great Wall is more than 1,600 kilometers long. That's over 1,000 miles.
- 32 **MAZU:** It has a wide path on top. In some places, the path is wide enough for five horses to ride side by side!
- 33 **FRED:** Legends say that it took 10 years to build.



Name: _____ Date: _____

Two Flat Friends Travel the World *(cont.)*

- 34 **MAZU:** I also took them to see a clay army made for a powerful ruler. The army is called the Terra-Cotta Warriors.
- 35 **WILLIE:** The ruler thought his army would protect him after he died.
- 36 **FRED:** The clay men in this army are life-size.
- 37 **MAZU:** Each soldier is unique, and every face is different.
- 38 **WILLIE:** There are even clay horses in the army.
- 39 **FRED:** And don't forget the chariots! There are 7,500 clay men, horses, and chariots in all.
- 40 **MAZU:** That may sound like a lot, but this ruler's real army was much bigger.
- 41 **FRED:** Hundreds of years ago, a palace was built.
- 42 **MAZU:** People could only go there if the emperor invited them. The palace was called the Forbidden City.
- 43 **WILLIE:** We had Mazu take pictures of us in front of the palace.
- 44 **MAZU:** Did you know that the ancient Chinese carried their emperors on litters?
- 45 **FRED:** What's a litter?
- 46 **MAZU:** A litter is a chair that could be carried around.
- 47 **FRED:** The time had come for Willie and me to go home.
- 48 **WILLIE:** We couldn't have asked for a better guide in China than Mazu!



GO ON 

Name: _____ Date: _____

Two Flat Friends Travel the World

Directions: Read each question carefully. Record the correct answer on your answer sheet.

- 1 The author most likely wrote this script to —
- A give the reader a summary of the book *Flat Stanley*
 - B present historical facts in an entertaining way
 - C give the reader as much information about China as possible
 - D show interactions between characters with meaningful dialogue
-
- 2 Which sentence from the script is a fact related to Egypt?
- F *In some places, the path is wide enough for five horses to ride side by side!*
 - G *The army is called the Terra-Cotta Warriors.*
 - H *They believed the gold and treasures would be needed during the afterlife.*
 - J *The Great Wall is more than 1,600 kilometers long.*
-
- 3 How might this script be similar to a nonfiction article about Egypt and China?
- A They both present facts.
 - B They both have lively characters.
 - C They both have narrators.
 - D The dialogue entertains the reader.

A black arrow pointing to the right with the words "GO ON" written in white capital letters inside it.

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Two Flat Friends Travel the World *(cont.)*

- 4 What purpose does the character Mazu serve in this script?
- F Mazu provides comic relief for the reader.
 - G Mazu's personality is comforting to the reader.
 - H Mazu presents historical facts to the reader.
 - J Mazu allows the reader to predict what will happen next.
-
- 5 What statement supports the answer to number 4?
- A *I found an envelope in my mailbox. Guess what I heard? Talking!*
 - B *Did you know that the ancient Chinese carried their emperors on litters?*
 - C *In that case, allow me to be your guide!*
 - D *We couldn't have asked for a better guide in China than Mazu!*
-
- 6 What fact about China is supported by the script?
- F The Great Wall of China took over 100 years to construct.
 - G The Forbidden City was always a place anyone could visit.
 - H A ruler used life-size clay soldiers to protect him after death.
 - J The Great Wall of China is wide enough for 1,600 people to walk side by side.

GO ON 

Name: _____ Date: _____

Two Flat Friends Travel the World *(cont.)*

- 7 Which of the following is in China?
- A Pharaohs
 - B Great Wall
 - C Mummies
 - D Sphinx
-
- 8 Why have people broken into the pyramids?
- F There are mazes inside.
 - G There are stairs inside that go to the top.
 - H They believed it would make them turn into gods.
 - J They wanted to find treasures.

