

Presidential Moving Day FREEBIE

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What is Included:

Presidential Moving Day article at three different reading levels:

Level A (approximate Lexile Level 950)

Level B (Approximate Lexile Level 1010)

Level C (approximate Lexile Level 1050)

*(Levels for each article appear discretely in the bottom left corner)

Comprehension questions

Answer keys

CCSS Covered

Grades 5-8 Informational Text

Key Ideas and Details: RI 1, RI 2, RI 3

Craft and Structure: RI 4, RI 5

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas: RI 7, RI 9

Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity: RI 10



Presidential Moving Day

Newly elected presidents have two and a half months to prepare for taking office. However, a new president only has a few hours to get moved into the White House. Can you imagine packing up every item in your home in only six hours and moving to a new place to live? That is what happens on Inauguration Day. Both the old president and the new president get a different place to live. Luckily, they do not need to take care of the packing or moving themselves.

The United States Constitution says that Inauguration Day occurs once every four years on January 20th. On that day a president of the United States is sworn into office. The ceremony at the Capitol building lasts several hours. Once the ceremony starts at the Capitol, a parade of moving vans drives through the gates of the White House just a short distance away. Some vans are empty, and some are full. To begin, the personal belongings of the outgoing president and his family are carefully packed. Then they are loaded onto outgoing vans to be taken to the president's new home. Immediately afterwards, the White House walls are painted and carpets are cleaned. Then incoming vans holding the new president's belongings get unpacked. It is a race to make sure that the White House is ready to welcome the new president and his family at the end of Inauguration Day.

It takes a team of over sixty people working all day on Inauguration Day to make sure the move is perfect. Specific jobs are assigned so that every person knows his or her task. Some staffers carry the heavy furniture and boxes into the White House. Housekeepers unpack the boxes and prepare the rooms upstairs in the private living quarters on the second and third floors. Florists take care of floral arrangements, and chefs prepare dinner. Clothing, books, paintings, framed photographs, favorite pieces of furniture, and even toothbrushes are placed where the president and his family want them. If the new president has children, then every toy, stuffed animal, and bicycle also gets put in the proper place. The first family's favorite foods are placed in the pantry and the refrigerator in the private living quarters, too. The White House staff knows where everything belongs, because they have met ahead of time with the new president and his family.

The moving event begins about 11 a.m. and ends about 5 p.m. At the end of six hours, everything is in its place. White House Chief Usher Gary Walters described it as a "well-choreographed ballet." Any way you think about it, it is an impressive team effort.





Presidential Moving Day

Newly elected presidents have two and a half months to prepare for taking office. However, a new president has only a few hours to get moved into the White House. Can you imagine packing up every item in your home in only six hours and moving to a new place to live? That is what happens on Inauguration Day when both the outgoing president and the incoming president get new places to live. Luckily, they do not need to take care of the packing or moving themselves.

The United States Constitution says that Inauguration Day occurs once every four years on January 20th. On that day a president of the United States is sworn into office at the Capitol building. The ceremony lasts several hours. Once the ceremony starts at the Capitol, a parade of moving vans drives through the gates of the White House just a short distance away. Some vans are empty, and some are full. To begin, the personal belongings of the former president and his family are carefully packed. Then they are loaded onto outgoing vans to be taken to their new home. Immediately afterwards, the White House walls are painted and carpets are cleaned. Then incoming vans holding the president-elect's possessions get unpacked. It is a race to make sure that the White House is ready to welcome the new president and his family at the end of Inauguration Day.

It takes a team of over sixty people working nonstop on Inauguration Day to make sure the move is perfect. Specific jobs are assigned so that every person knows his or her task. Some staffers carry the heavy furniture and boxes into the White House. Housekeepers unpack the boxes and prepare the rooms upstairs in the private living quarters on the second and third floors. Florists take care of floral arrangements, and chefs prepare dinner. Clothing, books, paintings, framed photographs, favorite pieces of furniture, and even toothbrushes are placed where the president and his family want them. If the new president has children, then every toy, stuffed animal, and bicycle also gets put in the proper place. The first family's favorite foods are placed in the pantry and refrigerator in the private living quarters, too. The White House staff knows where everything belongs, because they have met ahead of time with the new president and his family to learn their preferences.

The moving event begins about 11 a.m. and ends about 5 p.m. At the end of six hours, everything is in its place. White House Chief Usher Gary Walters described it as a "well-choreographed ballet." Any way you think about it, it is an impressive team effort.





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According to the United States Constitution, Inauguration Day occurs once every four years on January 20th. On that day a president of the United States is sworn into office at the Capitol building. The ceremony lasts several hours. Once the ceremony starts at the Capitol, a parade of moving vans drives through the gates of the White House just a short distance away. Some vans are empty, and some are full. To begin, the personal belongings of the former president and his family are carefully packed and loaded onto outgoing vans to be taken to their new home. Immediately afterwards, the White House walls are painted and carpets are cleaned, and then incoming vans holding the president-elect's possessions get unpacked. It is a race against the clock to make sure that the White House is ready to welcome the new president and his family at the end of Inauguration Day.

It takes a team of over sixty people working nonstop on Inauguration Day to make sure the move is seamless. Specific jobs are assigned so that every person knows his or her task. Some staffers carry the heavy furniture and boxes into the White House. Housekeepers unpack the boxes and prepare the rooms on the second and third floors in the private living quarters. Florists take care of floral arrangements, and chefs prepare dinner. Clothing, books, paintings, framed photographs, favorite pieces of furniture, and even toothbrushes are placed where the president and his family want them. If the new president has children, then every toy, stuffed animal, and bicycle also gets put in the proper place. The first family's favorite foods are placed in the pantry and refrigerator in the private living quarters, too. The White House staff knows where everything belongs, because they have met ahead of time with the new president and his family to learn their preferences.

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Presidential Moving Day

Directions: Read the passage, then answer these questions. Be sure to restate the question, use direct evidence from the text, and explain your thinking.

Key Ideas and Details:

- 1. What is the main idea of paragraph #3? List details to support your answer. **RI 1.2**

- 2. Why is the time period during the inaugural ceremony a good opportunity to move one first family out and another one into the White House? Remember to cite evidence from the text to support your opinion. **RI 1.1**

Craft and Structure:

- 3. What is the structure of paragraph #2? Cite evidence from the paragraph to support your answer. **RI 1.5**

Name _____ Date _____

Presidential Moving Day

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas:

4. White House Chief Usher Gary Walters describes moving day as a “well-choreographed ballet.” Do you agree? How are White House moving day and a ballet similar? Use your own experience and also cite evidence from the article to support your answer. **RI 1.8**

Name _____

Date _____

Presidential Moving Day

Directions: Read the passage, then answer these questions. Be sure to restate the question, use direct evidence from the text, and explain your thinking.

Key Ideas and Details:

1. What is the main idea of paragraph #3? List details to support your answer.
RI 1.2

The main idea of paragraph #3 is preparing the White House for its new president and family requires many people doing a variety of jobs. Text evidence: a team of over 60 people, housekeepers, florists, chefs

2. Why is the time period during the inaugural ceremony a good opportunity to move one first family out and another one into the White House? Remember to cite evidence from the text to support your answer. **RI 1.1**

The time during an inaugural ceremony is a good time to move first families in and out of the White House because the inaugural ceremony is a long one. The text says it lasts several hours. Also, the new president is at the inauguration ceremony so he does not need to be working in his office at the White House.

Craft and Structure:

3. What is the structure of paragraph #2? Cite evidence from the paragraph to support your answer. **RI 1.5**

The structure of paragraph #2 is chronological order. Words that show that structure are: to begin, immediately afterwards, then

Name _____

Date _____

Presidential Moving Day

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas:

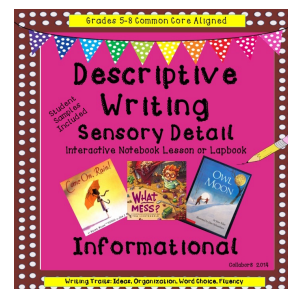
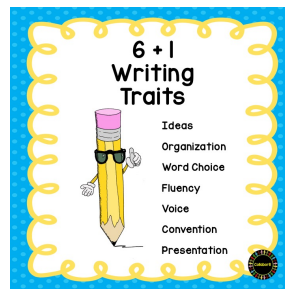
4. White House Chief Usher Gary Walters describes moving day as a well-choreographed ballet. What does he mean? How are White House moving day and a ballet similar? Use your own experience and also cite evidence from the article to support your answer. **RI 1.8**

Answers will vary but should include the idea that both the people working to pack and unpack have specific jobs just like the dancers have specific roles in a ballet. Having assigned jobs makes sure that no one gets in anyone else's way. Both groups need to complete their job to the best of their ability so that the entire move or the entire ballet performance is a success.

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