Use Visual Information

Grade 5 Reading Worksheet

Name _____ Date _____

Circle the answer.

READ THIS FIRST

The Voyages of Hōkūleʻa

For thousands of years, Polynesian sailors crossed the Pacific Ocean in double-hulled canoes. They had no compasses, maps, or clocks. Instead, they read the stars, the wind, the flight of seabirds, and the swells of the ocean. By the 1900s, however, very few people still knew how to sail this way. Some historians even doubted that the ancient voyages had been made on purpose.

In 1973, a group of Hawaiians founded the Polynesian Voyaging Society to test that question. They built Hōkūleʻa, a canoe made in the old design, with two hulls joined by a deck. Its name means “Star of Gladness.” The map shows Hawaii and some of the island groups the crew would come to know.

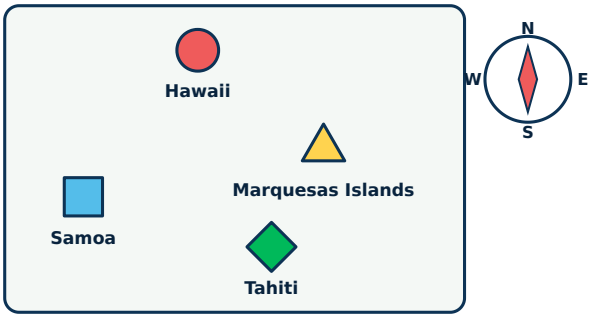
No one in Hawaii still knew the old way of finding islands. So the crew invited Mau Piailug, a master navigator from Micronesia, to guide them. In 1976, Hōkūleʻa sailed from Hawaii to Tahiti. The trip covered about 2,500 miles of open ocean and took about a month. Thousands of people gathered on the shore in Tahiti to welcome the canoe.

One young crew member, Nainoa Thompson, wanted to learn more. He studied the night sky at a planetarium and sailed with Mau for years. In 1980, Thompson guided Hōkūleʻa to Tahiti and back himself. He became the first Native Hawaiian in centuries to navigate that way.

Navigating without instruments means paying attention to everything. Thompson memorized where more than 200 stars rise and set on the horizon. When clouds hid the sky, he felt the direction of the swells through the hull. Certain seabirds fly out to sea each morning and back to land at sunset, so they showed him when an island was near.

Over the years, the canoe made many more trips across Polynesia. Then Hōkūleʻa set out on its biggest journey yet: a voyage around the world. The crew visited more than 150 ports and shared a message about caring for the ocean. They came home to Hawaii three years later. The timeline shows these key events.

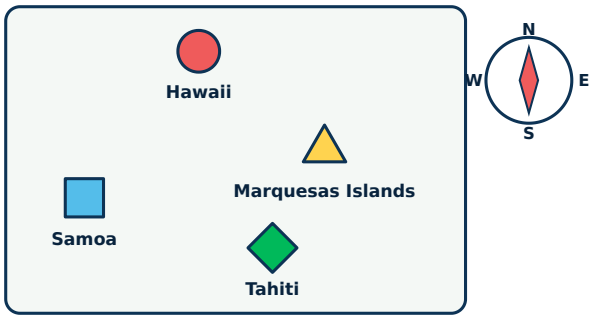
Today, hundreds of young people have learned to navigate the way their ancestors did. The voyages answered the historians' doubts.



1. Look at the map. In which direction did Hōkūleʻa sail to go from Hawaii to Tahiti?

   north west south east

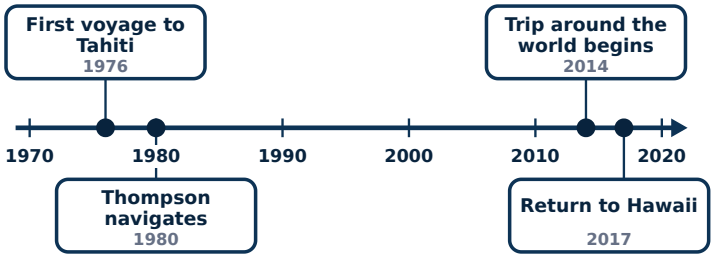
2. The text says the 1976 trip covered about 2,500 miles. Between which two places on the map was that distance?



Tahiti and Samoa
Tahiti and the Marquesas Islands
Hawaii and Samoa
Hawaii and Tahiti

3. What does the text tell that the map does NOT show?
The trip to Tahiti took about a month.
Hawaii is north of the other islands.
Tahiti is south of Hawaii.
Samoa is west of Tahiti.

4. Which question can a reader answer only by using both the map and the text?
How far and which way is Tahiti from Hawaii?
What does the canoe's name mean?
Which island group is farthest east?
Who guided the 1976 voyage?



5. Look at the timeline. How many years after the first voyage to Tahiti did Thompson navigate?
4 years 3 years 6 years 10 years

6. The Voyaging Society was founded in 1973. How long after that did the first voyage to Tahiti take place?
3 years 7 years 4 years 1 year

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Use Visual Information

Answer Key - Grade 5 Reading Worksheet

Circle the answer.

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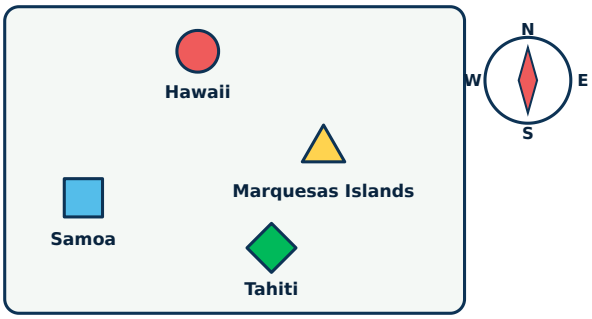
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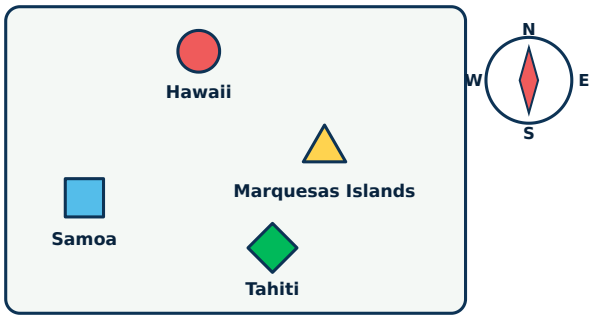
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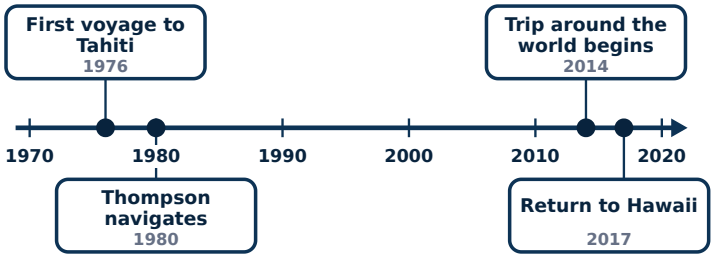
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