

## Lesson 21

### Day 1

#### Day 1 – “Tucket’s Travels” (pg. 635-649)

1. All of these character traits can be inferred by Francis’ inner thoughts **except** (RL.5.3)
  - A. He thinks about all the possibilities before deciding what to do.
  - B. He can think quickly in a crisis.
  - C. He thinks in circles when he’s nervous.
  - D. He’s smart and knows a lot about the Comancheros.
2. What do the three children have in common? Pick two. (RL.5.3)
  - A. Their families all moved to the prairie at the same time.
  - B. They were all left to fend for themselves in the wild.
  - C. They are the same age.
  - D. They all lost their families.
  - E. They all escaped the Pawnees.

#### Day 1 – “Tucket’s Travels” (pg. 635-649)

#### Writing Prompt

Prompt: What clues does the author give to show that the children are exhausted? Quote from the text. (RL.5.1)

Lesson 21  
Day 2 – Read Aloud  
Find Definition Using Context Clues

**Directions: Find the definition of the word using the context clues in the story. Circle the context clues you used to find the definition of the word.** (RL.5.4)

Land Rush!

On September 16, 1893, the hour ticked toward noon. Horses **shuffled** their hooves. Nearby, steam engineers stoked the coals, the slap of their shovels muted by the crowd packed into the cars. More than 100,000 people, the tension **evident** on their faces, waited to begin the Great Oklahoma Land Rush.

Seth Humphrey and his brother were there that day, straddling their bicycles as they let the sun **seep** through their shirts. Like most people here, the brothers were ignorant of the betrayal that had led to this day. Some sixty-five years ago, Congress had designated this land as Indian Territory. Back then, the few white settlers had been forced to leave—a move that had turned out to be in **vain**. Now, economic despair had prompted a wave of westward migration. New land would be their **salvation**. And so Congress opened Oklahoma for settlement.

The past ten years had already seen two land rushes. But today, the crowds were far greater. Only 42,000 parcels of land remained. As Seth Humphrey later recalled:

. . . A quarter to twelve. The line stiffened and became more quiet with the tension of waiting. Out in front a hundred yards and twice as far apart were soldiers, resting easily on their rifles . . . I casually wondered how they would manage to dodge the onrush; perhaps they were wondering that too. The engine, a few hundred feet away, coughed gently at the starting line. . . the tops of its ten cattle cars trailing back into the state of Kansas. . . alive with men.

Seth knew that some people—later called Sooners—had **undoubtedly** snuck past the guards under cover of darkness to claim the best plots. This fear had become another **factor** in people’s growing restlessness. Seth remembered that the race was ready to begin:

Five minutes. Three minutes. The soldiers now stood with rifles pointing upward. . . A cannon . . . was to give the first signal; this the rifles were to take up and carry on as fast as sound could travel the length of the Cherokee Strip.

To Seth and his brother, the sights of horses, rigs, wagons, and riders were like desert **mirages**. All they could see were two solid miles of tossing horse heads, restless hooves, and wild, white eyes. And then, Seth recalled,

. . . the rifles snapped and the line broke with a huge, crackling roar. That one thundering moment of horseflesh by the mile quivering in its first leap forward was a gift of the gods, and its like will never come again. The next instant we were in a crash of vehicles whizzing past us like a calamity . . .

When it was all over, the boys traveled back—at a slower **pace**—to Kansas, fueled by the adventure they had just witnessed. But thousands of others, whose **stunted** excitement was due to failure, straggled along with them.

## Day 2 – “Land Rush!” Read Aloud

3. What event led to so many people moving to Oklahoma? (RL.5.5)
- A. A pioneer found gold.
  - B. Congress opened Oklahoma for settlement.
  - C. Congress gave the Indians their own territory.
  - D. Money problems led people looking for other ways to make money.

## Day 2 – “Land Rush!” Read Aloud Writing Prompt

Prompt: Contrast the boys’ experiences with the other people at the event.

Why did some people think they had failed? (RL.5.3)

## Lesson 21

### Day 3

#### Day 3 – “Wild Weather” (pg. 654-658)

4. What is the difference between a tropical disturbance and a hurricane?  
(RI.5.4)
- A. A tropical has winds 74 miles per hour or higher.
  - B. A tropical storm can travel thousands of miles.
  - C. A hurricane has winds 74 miles per hour or higher.
  - D. A tropical storm can last up to a week.

#### Day 3 – “Wild Weather” (pg. 654-658)

##### Writing Prompt

Prompt: Why does the weather in an area change so often? Use evidence from the story to support your answer. (RI.5.2)