

Name _____ Date _____



**Children of the
Midnight Sun: Young
Native Voices of Alaska**
Independent Reading

Children of the Midnight Sun: Young Native Voices of Alaska



Design Totem Poles

The author of this text compares and contrasts the lives of two Native American children in Alaska to describe how they celebrate their traditions in a modern context. Use the text and illustrations to help you compare their cultures and lives.

Arts and Culture

Reread page 283 and the first paragraph on page 284.

How do the arts reflect the culture of the Haidas?

Reread pages 290 and 291.

How do the arts reflect the culture of the Tlingit?

Comparison: How are these two tribes similar?

Importance of Family

Reread pages 284 and 259. How is the importance of family similar in the two tribes?

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Look at the totem poles on page 282. They are carved from wood and each segment has a special meaning. Design totem poles that explain the tribal lives of Selina's and Josh's families. What could they include? Think about things that make their tribe unique or different. Below each totem pole, write a description of why you chose each symbol.

Selina

Josh

Name _____ Date _____

Synonyms

**Children of the
Midnight Sun**

Vocabulary Strategies:
Synonyms

The word pairs listed are synonyms, or words with similar meanings. Fill in both blanks in the sentences below using the correct word pair from the box. Then think of another synonym for the word pair. If you need help, use a thesaurus.

heavy/dense	rare/uncommon	retain/keep	lore/wisdom
often/frequently	decay/rot	abandon/desert	plentiful/abundant

- The humid air felt _____ with each breath she took. The forest was _____ with trees. _____
- Be sure to _____ your password a secret, and _____ the code in memory.

- Last year, the crop was _____, but this year, the pests are _____.
- They _____ went to the Mexican restaurant, where they _____ ordered burritos. _____
- It was difficult to _____ her home, but the wildfires forced her to _____ it. _____
- We heard many words of _____ when the family _____ was repeated on holidays.

- It was _____ to make close friends when free time was so _____.
- We learned how to brush properly to prevent tooth _____, because we don't want our teeth to _____.

Endings and Suffixes

**Children of the
Midnight Sun**

Spelling: Endings and Suffixes

Basic Write the Basic Word that best replaces the underlined word or words in the paragraph.

My sister's wedding day was finally here. Lots of people thought Stephen and Megan were an (1) improbable couple, but I thought they were (2) charming. I walked into the room and stared in (3) wonder. It was (4) completely full. There were (5) barely enough seats for everyone. Luckily I had a (6) saved seat in the front row. As the bridesmaids walked in, the (7) thrill grew. Then it was my dad and Megan's turn. My dad had a (8) determined air. Megan was so (9) elegant as she (10) moved forward down the aisle. I was very happy for her!

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 10. _____ |

Challenge Write a paragraph about one of your heroes. Tell why you consider that person to be a hero. Use three of the Challenge Words. Write on a separate sheet of paper.

Spelling Words

1. reserved
2. unlikely
3. purposeful
4. adorable
5. amazement
6. gentleness
7. sparkling
8. homeless
9. excitement
10. mileage
11. graceful
12. sincerely
13. advanced
14. usable
15. amusement
16. entirely
17. wireless
18. excluding
19. scarcely
20. changeable

Challenge

- inspiring
- idleness
- achievement
- precisely
- disciplined

Name _____ Date _____

Spelling Word Sort

**Children of the
Midnight Sun**

Spelling: Endings and Suffixes

Write each Basic Word beside the correct heading.

Drop the final <i>e</i>	
Keep the final <i>e</i>	

Spelling Words

1. reserved
2. unlikely
3. purposeful
4. adorable
5. amazement
6. gentleness
7. sparkling
8. homeless
9. excitement
10. mileage
11. graceful
12. sincerely
13. advanced
14. usable
15. amusement
16. entirely
17. wireless
18. excluding
19. scarcely
20. changeable

Challenge Add the Challenge Words to your Word Sort.

Connect to Reading Look through *Children of the Midnight Sun*. Find more words that have the endings and suffixes on this page. Add them to your Word Sort.

- Challenge**
- inspiring
 - idleness
 - achievement
 - precisely
 - disciplined

Proofreading for Spelling

**Children of the
Midnight Sun**

Spelling: Endings and Suffixes

Find the misspelled words and circle them. Write them correctly on the lines below.

When you look at the adorable, fur-encased face of the child on the Alaska travel poster, you don't see the whole story. Native American children in Alaska live in an entirely changebel environment not known for its gentelness. It's a land of vast milage between towns, sparkeling glaciers, and midnight sun. In schoolyards, exclooding wildlife can be a challenge, and a cell phone isn't always useabal because wirless towers aren't everywhere. Although traditional stories show these children carving ice blocks for amusment, there are scarcley any igloos still built in the region. Alaskan Native Americans sincerly want their children to have the same opportunities as children anywhere else.

Spelling Words

1. reserved
2. unlikely
3. purposeful
4. adorable
5. amazement
6. gentleness
7. sparkling
8. homeless
9. excitement
10. mileage
11. graceful
12. sincerely
13. advanced
14. usable
15. amusement
16. entirely
17. wireless
18. excluding
19. scarcely
20. changeable

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____

Name _____ Date _____

Children of the
Midnight Sun
Grammar: Longer Sentences

More Compound and Complex Sentences

A **simple sentence** contains a subject and a predicate. It states a complete thought.

Whales are huge. Their blubber is used in many ways.

The **conjunctions** *and*, *but*, and *or* can be used to make two simple sentences into a compound sentence. **Compound sentences** have two subjects and two predicates.

Fish are plentiful, and they provide much of a Tlingit child's diet.

A **complex sentence** contains an independent clause joined to one or more dependent clauses. The conjunctions *after*, *although*, *as*, *because*, *before*, *if*, *since*, *so that*, *until*, *when*, and *while* can be used to make a simple sentence and a dependent clause into a complex sentence.

Although they dine on fish and other marine animals, the Tlingit people also eat many kinds of berries.

Thinking Questions

Does the sentence have two subjects and two predicates? Does the sentence contain an independent clause? Is the clause joined to one or more dependent clauses?

Activity Label each example a *simple sentence*, *compound sentence*, or *complex sentence*. If there is a conjunction, circle it.

1. The mountains were covered in snow. _____
2. Seri had seen snow, but he had never seen so much. _____
3. Although he had been to the aquarium before, Seri had never seen sea lions in their natural habitat. _____
4. When he ate herring eggs for the first time, he thought they tasted great. _____
5. Everyone he met was very friendly. _____
6. Seri was feeling adventurous, but he didn't know where to explore.

Compound-Complex Sentences

**Children of the
Midnight Sun**
Grammar: Longer Sentences

A **compound-complex sentence** is made up of at least two independent clauses and one or more dependent clauses.

Since it was too cold, we stayed in the lodge, and Jack made soup.

Thinking Question

Is the sentence made up of two independent clauses and one or more dependent clauses?

Activity Label each example a *compound sentence*, *complex sentence*, or *compound-complex sentence*. Underline the independent clauses. Circle the dependent clauses.

1. Before we visited the Tlingit village, Mr. White made us breakfast, and we ate in the lodge. _____
2. After we ate, we dressed in our warmest clothes, and Mr. White led us to the boat. _____
3. Kim was mesmerized by the seals when they swam past her.

4. Though it was extremely cold, I had a great time, and I would like to go again soon. _____
5. Kim and Jack were ready to go back, but I wanted to stay on the boat. _____
6. Because we were on the boat all day, we were pretty tired.

7. After we returned, we couldn't stop talking, and Mr. White laughed at our excitement. _____
8. I couldn't wait for the next day's events, and I headed off to bed.

Writing Clear Sentences

**Children of the
Midnight Sun**
Grammar: Longer Sentences

When writing **complex sentences**, good writers place the most important idea in the **independent clause**.

We won the sledding contest because we practiced.

Good writers also place **dependent clauses** before or after the independent clause, not in the middle.

incorrect: They, after we won, cheered for us.

correct: After we won, they cheered for us.

Thinking Questions

Is the most important idea in the independent clause? Is the dependent clause at the beginning or the end of the sentence?

1-4. Combine the two sentences to make a complex sentence.

1. I needed help. I had never ridden a sled before.

2. Nic went sledding last year. He taught me.

3. It was very cold. We had to wear many layers.

4. We were sledding. I almost fell off my sled.

5-6. Rewrite the sentences, placing the dependent clause at the beginning or end of each sentence.

5. Nic, because he sledded last year, did a great job.

6. My sled was, since I hit a tree, broken.

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Other Kinds of Nouns

**Children of the
Midnight Sun**
Grammar: Spiral Review

Singular Nouns	alphabet_	microscope_	bunch_	boss_	fox_	waltz_	
Plural Nouns	alphabets	microscopes	bunches	bosses	foxes	waltzes	
Singular Nouns	potato_	studio_	memory_	holiday_	scarf_	mouse	deer
Plural Nouns	potatoes	studios	memories	holidays	scarves	mice	deer
Singular Possessives	a baby's heart	Mr. Jones's routine	a child's health				
Plural Possessives	two babies' cribs	the Joneses' plans	the children's programs				

1-4. Write the noun in parentheses in its correct plural, singular possessive, or plural possessive form.

- We climbed on my (parent) boat for a cruise around Prince of Wales Island. _____
- All of the (child) sat at the front of the boat. _____
- Several (wave) crashed over the bow. _____
- We could see some (fish) swimming along the boat.

5-7. Correct the incorrect plurals and possessive nouns in these tongue twisters.

- Bobbys** boat boasts the best **float's** from coast to coast.

- Captain **Steves storys** of the sea seem seriously silly.

- The **wave's** wispy **whitecap's** whack the **walls'** of **Willys'** whaler.

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Connect to Writing

**Children of the
Midnight Sun**
Grammar: Connect to Writing

Choppy Sentences	Combined Sentences
The mountain was enormous. We could still see its peak. We took pictures.	Though the mountain was enormous, we could still see its peak, and we took pictures.

Combine each group of sentences. Write the new sentence on the line.

1. He comes in from the cold. We should make a fire. We should heat some soup.

2. We have dinner. We will play a game. We will go to sleep.

3. We can add wood to the fire. You will need to get it. I can't carry it.

4. The dogs are hungry. We should feed them. Then we should brush them.

5. They have worked all day. The dogs should rest. We should leave them alone.

Focus Trait: Conventions

Correcting Misplaced Modifiers

Sentence with a Misplaced Modifier	Correct Sentence
Chinese New Year marks the end of winter, which is one of the most important traditional holidays in China.	Chinese New Year, which is one of the most important traditional holidays in China, marks the end of winter.

Read each sentence. Rewrite it to correct the misplaced modifier.

1. Families thoroughly clean their homes to sweep out bad luck and make room for good luck working together.

2. Of many colors, the windows and doors have festive decorations.

3. Families serve a traditional feast on the eve of Chinese New Year, the most important meal of the year.

4. Launched into the sky, the evening is often ended with a celebration of firecrackers.

5. Children greet their parents first thing in the morning and receive gifts waking early.
