Genre – BiographyThinking Guide and Activities

Title of the Selection: The International Sweethearts of Rhythm

STAAR Grade 7 Reading Released Test Selection 2013

Click here to get the released STAAR selection http://www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/staar/

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A **Biography Thinking Guide** with selection summary is provided. The Biography Thinking Guide identifies the topic, central idea of the selection, and the main idea of each paragraph organized by a biography outline. In addition, the main ideas are clustered by color code to develop a meaningful summary.

- * The International Sweethearts of Rhythm Biography Thinking Guide
- ★Color-Coded Biography Thinking Guide and Summary

The Biography Thinking Guide is used to develop other fun and interactive activities. Fisher Reyna Education offers the following activities:

- ⋆Outline Scramble
- ★Matching Pre-Reading
- ★ Matching Activity
- ★Thinking Guide Cloze 1st Letter
- ★Thinking Guide Cloze Blank
- ★Thinking Guide Write Main Ideas
- ★Vocabulary



Biography Thinking Guide

Title of the Selection _ The International Sweethearts of Rhythm

Source: STAAR Grade 7 Reading April 2013

Genre: Informational – Biography

Topic of Selection	Name or phrase to describe the noteworthy person, animal, or thing The International Sweethearts of Rhythm
Central Idea (Main Idea of Selection)	Greatest accomplishment or significance Popular swing band
Main Idea of Each Paragraph Biography Outline	Use biography outline to predict the main idea of each paragraph.
1 Introduction to the perso animal, or thing2 Early years	 Introduction to swing music Swing bands toured the country Introduction to The International Sweethearts of Rhythm
3 Education, training, or development	
4 Significant events	 The Sweethearts were organized in 1937. They came from many different cultural backgrounds. Began to travel outside Mississippi Decided to tour full-time as a professional band Popularity of the Sweethearts increased World War II created more opportunities for the Sweethearts on the national stage.
5 Greatest accomplishmen or significance	10. All through the war years, the Sweethearts performed around the country.
	11. In 1949 the Sweethearts disbanded.12. Conclusion: The Sweethearts after the 1970
6 Influence	

Biography Thinking Guide

Title of the Selection The International Sweethearts of Rhythm

Source: STAAR Grade 7 Reading April 2013 Genre: Informational/Expository – Biography

Topic of Selection	Name or phrase to describe the noteworthy person, animal, or thing The International Sweethearts of Rhythm
Central Idea (Main Idea of Selection)	Greatest accomplishment or significance Popular swing band
Main Idea of Each Paragraph Biography Outline	Use biography outline to predict the main idea of each paragraph.
A. Introduction to the person, animal, or thingB. Early years	 Introduction to swing music Swing bands toured the country Introduction to The International Sweethearts of Rhythm
C. Education, training, or development	
D. Significant events	 The Sweethearts were organized in 1937. They came from many different cultural backgrounds. Began to travel outside Mississippi Decided to tour full-time as a professional band Popularity of the Sweethearts increased World War II created more opportunities for the Sweethearts on the national stage.
E. Greatest accomplishment or significance	 10. All through the war years, the Sweethearts performed around the country. 11. In 1949 the Sweethearts disbanded. 12. Conclusion: The Sweethearts after the 1970
F. Influence	

During the time of popularity of swing music, the International Sweethearts of Rhythm was organized in 1937 to include women from many different cultural backgrounds. They traveled outside of Mississippi as a full-time professional band, and their popularity increased. World War II created more opportunities for them to perform on the national stage. They disbanded in 1949 after their success in the 1930s and 1940s. In the 1970s they came back to make some recordings.

Outline Scramble

Title of the Selection The International Sweetheart of Rhythm

Source: STAAR Grade 7 Reading April 2013 Genre: Informational/Expository – Biography

Directions

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Main ideas are arranged in alphabetical order. Article is read and students write the paragraph number by the correct main idea. This may be –

- 1. teacher guided with individual student recording correct paragraph number.
- 2. teacher guided with main ideas projected with teacher marking the correct response from the group.
- 3. partners working together as they take turns reading and recording correct paragraph number.

Paragraph Number	Paragraph Main Ideas
	They came from many different cultural backgrounds.
	Decided to tour full-time as a professional band
	Popularity of the Sweethearts increased
	Introduction to swing music
	All through the war years, the Sweethearts performed around the country.
	The Sweethearts were organized in 1937.
	Swing bands toured the country
	Conclusion: The Sweethearts after the 1970
	In 1949 the Sweethearts disbanded.
	Introduction to The International Sweethearts of Rhythm
	World War II created more opportunities for the Sweethearts on the national stage.
	Began to travel outside Mississippi

Matching Activity



Directions and Activity Variations

Students may work individually or with a partner.

- 1. Cut apart the main ideas and give one main idea to individual student or partners. Teacher reads the selection one paragraph at a time. Students identify when they have the matching main idea.
- 2. Provide the selection and cut-apart main ideas. Students read the selection and match cut-apart main ideas to paragraphs in the selection.
- 3. Provide cut-apart selection and cut-apart main ideas. Students match cut-apart paragraphs to the cut-apart main ideas.



They came from many different cultural backgrounds.		
Decided to tour full-time as a professional band		
Popularity of the Sweethearts increased		
Introduction to swing music		
All through the war years, the Sweethearts performed around the country.		
The Sweethearts were organized in 1937.		
Swing bands toured the country		
Conclusion: The Sweethearts after the 1970		
In 1949 the Sweethearts disbanded.		
Introduction to The International Sweethearts of Rhythm		
World War II created more opportunities for the Sweethearts on the national stage.		
Began to travel outside Mississippi		

Biography Thinking Guide Cloze – 1st Letter Activity



Title of the Selection The International Sweethearts of Rhythm

Directions

As selection is read, complete the words in the blanks with the first letter given.

Topic of Selection	Name or phrase to describe the noteworthy person, animal, or thing The I of R
Central Idea (Main Idea of Selection)	Greatest accomplishment or significance Popular s b
Main Idea of Each Paragraph	Use biography outline to predict the main idea of each paragraph.
Biography OutlineA. Introduction to the person, animal, or thingB. Early years	1. Introduction to s m 2. Swing bands toured the country 3. Introduction to The I S of R
C. Education, training, or development	
D. Significant events	 The Sweethearts were o in 1937. They came from many different c backgrounds. Began to travel outside M Decided to tour full-time as a p band P of the Sweethearts i World War II created more opportunities for the Sweethearts on the n stage.
E. Greatest accomplishment or significance	 10. All through the war years, the Sweethearts performed around the country. 11. In 1949 the Sweethearts d 12. Conclusion: The Sweethearts after the 19
F. Influence	

Biography Thinking Guide Cloze – Blank Activity

Title of the Selection The International Sweethearts of Rhythm



Directions

As selection is read, fill in the blanks.

Topic of Selection	Name or phrase to describe the noteworthy person, animal, or thing The of
Central Idea	Greatest accomplishment or significance Popular
(Main Idea of Selection)	- op.o
Main Idea of Each Paragraph	Use biography outline to predict the main idea of each paragraph.
Biography Outline	
A. Introduction to the person, animal, or thing	1. Introduction to 2. Swing bands toured the country 3. Introduction to The
B. Early years	3. Introduction to The
C. Education, training, or development	
D. Significant events	 The Sweethearts were in 1937. They came from many different backgrounds. Began to travel outside Decided to tour full-time as a band of the Sweethearts World War II created more opportunities for the Sweethearts on the stage.
E. Greatest accomplishment or significance	 10. All through the war years, the Sweethearts performed around the country. 11. In 1949 the Sweethearts 12. Conclusion: The Sweethearts after the 19
F. Influence	

Write Main Ideas Activity

Title of the Selection The International Sweethearts of Rhythm



Directions

Students take notes that include topic, central idea of the selection, and main idea of each paragraph. Paragraphs with implied main ideas increase the level of difficulty with this activity.

Topic of Selection	Name or phrase to describe the noteworthy person, animal, or thing The International Sweethearts of Rhythm
Central Idea	Greatest accomplishment or significance
(Main Idea of Selection)	Popular swing band
Main Idea of Each Paragraph	Use biography outline to predict the main idea of each paragraph.
Biography Outline	
A. Introduction to the person, animal, or thing	
B. Early years	
C. Education, training, or development	
D. Significant events	
E. Greatest accomplishment or significance	
F. Influence	

The International Sweethearts of Rhythm Vocabulary – Using Context Clues

Note: This vocabulary activity should be used after students have read the article.

Directions: Display the following vocabulary list. Ask the students to define the words they recognize. Then reread the selection as the students listen for these words. After hearing one of the listed words in context, ask students to give its definition. The words are listed in the order in which they appear in the selection.

- 1. integrated
- 2. aspired
- 3. intolerant
- 4. ambition