Grade 7—Proficiency Practice HW
Week of 3/30/15 → 4/2/15

Tasks:
1. Independent Reading (35—45 minutes) EACH night
2. Proficiency Practice—Extended Response Writing

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Name ____________________________ Date—___/___/___
ELA/Literacy Class—Azul Verde Amarillo Naranja
Proficiency Practice—Extended Response

RE-DO!!!!!!!

Directions
Your Extended Responses were HORRIBLE last week 😞...so we are redoing them

Here is what the prompt looks like when it's properly C—U—Bed:

How did you C—U—B the Prompt?

The authors of both passages write about our country's national parks in terms of the numbers of visitors they receive. How do the authors differ in their approach to the topic of national park attendance? The way each author writes differently. Ppl going vs. not going. Compare and contrast how each author shapes his presentation using different evidence and facts.

In your response, be sure to do the following:
- describe how the topic of park attendance is presented in Are Our Nation's Treasures in Danger? Body Paragraph 1
- describe how the topic of park attendance is presented in Underused Parks Work to Create Awareness, Access Body Paragraph 2
- explain how each author uses different evidence and facts to support his presentation Body Paragraph 3 (use both texts)
- use details from both passages in your response

Read the texts Are Our Nation's Treasures in Danger? and Underused Parks Work to Create Awareness, Access AGAIN

➢ SUMMARIZE each section of the text into your own words wherever you see the word 'Summarize'—DUE 3/31

Using the Outline below, draft your Extended Response
➢ Introduction—DUE 3/31
➢ Body Paragraph 1 & 2—DUE 4/1
➢ Body Paragraphs 3, Conclusion—DUE 4/2

Summarizing texts___/out of 50 points

Paragraphs ____/out of 20 points each

TOTAL: ___ out of 150 points
Are Our Nation's Treasures in Danger?

by David George Gordon, Current Science

1 Everybody loves the American outdoors—too much, perhaps, for the outdoors' own good. This year, record numbers of tourists and adventurers are flocking to national parks and wilderness monuments. By their sheer numbers, these people are putting our nation's top outdoor attractions at risk, say experts.

Under Pressure

2 In Wyoming, Yellowstone National Park is being stretched to its limits. So is its Montana neighbor, Grand Teton National Park. Together, the two parks could receive nearly 5 million people—ten times the population of Wyoming—over the course of this year.

3 “The lodging is full, the campgrounds are full. There's nowhere to park,” says Scott Moorcroft, a ranger at Grand Teton National Park. “Things get challenging, to say the least,” he adds.

4 During busy summer months, park rangers must struggle to serve their guests. At the same time, they must take steps to safeguard the nation's most valuable scenic, historic, and prehistoric treasures. Despite their best efforts, rangers aren't able to protect those treasures all the time.

Illegal Souvenirs

5 Take the case of Petrified Forest National Park. Here, in the midst of northeastern Arizona's famed Painted Desert, are the ancient remains of what was once a semitropical forest, a forest characterized by a warm climate and moist land.

6 Roughly 60 million years ago, the climate became considerably drier. The forest slowly turned into an arid, or dry, desert. As millions of years passed, the soft wood of forest logs was replaced by quartz crystals—a process known as petrification—and the logs turned entirely to stone.

7 Today, though, even with government protection, the attractions of Petrified Forest National Park are not safe. Souvenir hunters are robbing the park on a daily basis. They take with them an estimated 12 tons of petrified wood every year.

8 Signs throughout the park remind visitors that such thievery is against the law, punishable by stiff fines and even prison sentences. When the visitors learn that they may be searched before leaving the park, they often toss their stolen treasure out of car windows. In one month during the park's busy summer season, rangers have gathered as much as 100 pounds of petrified wood that's been discarded this way.

9 “These are not hardened criminals,” says the park's chief of interpretation, Tessie Chirakawa. “For them, it's like walking along a beach and picking up seashells. But it's really different—we're talking about petrified wood that's 200 million years old!”

10 In most instances, people creating problems for national parks and natural monuments aren't trying to cause trouble, says Chirakawa. They don't realize that their activities are harming the fragile landscapes that attracted them there in the first place, she maintains.

Go On
Hot Attraction

11 William Botts agrees. He's one of a team of 20 park rangers and volunteers assigned to the Old Faithful Visitors Center at Yellowstone National Park.

12 The largest of the 35 national parks, Yellowstone is also the oldest. The park receives about 3 million guests every year. The majority make at least one trip to Old Faithful, the most famous geyser in the United States. A geyser is a hot spring that throws jets of heated water and steam into the air.

13 In Old Faithful's case, the steam and hot water that burst from its vent can leap 38 meters (125 feet) straight into the air. Visitors throng to Old Faithful to watch the spectacular display, which takes place on the average of once every 77 minutes.

Fragile Future

14 For some people, the show is not enough. "There's an enormous temptation," says Botts, "for people to toss things into Old Faithful's vent, just to see what will happen the next time it blows."

15 During the last 125 years, Yellowstone visitors have thrown every imaginable object—rocks, beer cans, rifle shells, buckets, even dirty laundry—into the geyser. Soldiers stationed at the park in the 1880s would boast that their uniforms dropped into Old Faithful would come back up clean, pressed, and folded.

16 People don't realize that about 5.5 meters (6 yards) below the surface, Old Faithful's vent is only 1 meter (3 feet) wide. It would be fairly easy for even small items to clog that vent and shut off the geyser's impressive displays forever.

17 There's real danger in what Botts describes as a cumulative effect. "One person tosses a penny, another person tosses a penny; and so on. With millions of people passing through here, there's the potential for a real mess."

18 Several of Yellowstone's smaller geysers have already been permanently plugged up with coins and other objects thrown in by visitors.

19 "After we've stopped someone and told them about clogging the vent, they're usually embarrassed about what they've done," says Botts. "Don't get me wrong, we do deal with vandals. But the vast majority of people are just making an innocent mistake, not realizing how fragile a geothermal system really is." ... 

20 "It's part of a park ranger's job to teach people how to act responsibly in the outdoors," says Chirakawa. "But after that, it's up to the people. Remember, our national parks belong to everyone. We all will determine their futures."
Underused Parks Work to Create Awareness, Access

by Jeremy Rosenthal, Our National Parks

1. In the summer, Alaska’s Wrangell-St. Elias National Park is at once warm and filled with swarms of mosquitoes in its valleys and cold and filled with snow in its utmost elevations. If such diversity is contained within one park, imagine the variety present in a park system that spans the entire United States and its territories. Dry Tortugas National Park, 5,000 miles southeast of Wrangell-St. Elias, lies off South Florida’s coast. Here, the view isn’t of mountains and glaciers, but of a never-ending ocean surrounding the park’s centerpiece, Fort Jefferson. Seven hundred miles from Dry Tortugas, in South Carolina, is Congaree National Park where trees reaching 167 feet tall watch over its otter- and heron-filled floodplains.

2. Though so different, these parks share the same goal. Each represents a region of the United States left wild. They also share the same struggle. Despite each park’s status as a natural treasure, each is plucked from the list of national parks with the fewest visitors. That list is filled primarily with remote parks. Wrangell-St. Elias and Dry Tortugas are not exceptions. The latter is surrounded by ocean, the former by Alaska.

3. For park experts such as Linda Roehrig, Special Park Uses Program manager at Everglades and Dry Tortugas National Parks, the isolation is part of the allure. Roehrig remembers her first visit to Dry Tortugas, before she was in its employ. “I was impressed . . . by the fact that it is so far from civilization,” she said. The park, which is a series of seven small islands about 70 miles west of Key West, Fla., must be reached by private boat, commercial ferry, or seaplane.

4. The thrill of the undiscovered still stirs the spirit of adventure inside Mark Keogh, the Public Information Officer and Concessions Management Specialist at Wrangell-St. Elias National Park. “We bring people to climb peaks here that have never been climbed before. Many have yet to be named,” he said.

5. Keogh doesn’t want to have the park all to himself, though, and neither does Roehrig. They want others to enjoy these places they work so hard to preserve. Each of these parks hosts around 60,000 guests a year. Visitors to Dry Tortugas spend at least $145 roundtrip and two hours each way to be transported from Key West to Garden Key, the island on which Fort Jefferson sits with its 360 degree gaze set on the rest of the park.

6. Wrangell-St. Elias is accessible by highway, but it’s in a state with population density of about one person per square mile. Roads into the park are few and the park is vast. In fact, it is the largest park in our system, the size of nine states. There, glaciers even draw state comparisons. For example, Malaspina Glacier is Rhode Island-sized. Further inhibiting park attendance is the severity of Alaska’s winters. The average high, across the entire year, is 38.6 degrees Fahrenheit. The average low is 15, though it is not uncommon in the winter for temperatures to dip as low as negative 50 degrees.

7. For Congaree, in relatively temperate South Carolina, weather does not deter many visitors. Nor is isolation a problem. Half an hour from the park is its home state’s bustling capital at Columbia. As a national park, however, Congaree is still in its infancy. In 2003, Congaree Swamp National Monument became Congaree National Park. Word is getting around about this, the 58th and newest national park, and attendance is rapidly increasing. Since Congaree became a national park, attendance has nearly doubled, but to eventually attract the crowds it deserves, the park has to take part in some self-promotion.

Go On
“Some Columbians had no idea that the only national park in South Carolina with the tallest trees east of the Mississippi was right in their backyard,” said a disbelieving Tracy Swartout with an air of optimism. South Carolinians that were previously unaware of the park represent a formerly untapped market of future repeat visitors.

Another means of advertising is absolutely free: word of mouth. Visitors to Wrangell-St. Elias tell of the “magic” there—a word Mark Keogh used often in describing the park’s jagged and uncharted landscape. Visitors to Dry Tortugas tell of the ocean breezes felt while looking upon the beauty of the park. And visitors to Congaree tell of its serenity—a tree-filled enclave among suburbia.

The National Park Service challenges us to “Experience [Our] America.” To fully take up this task, one must not forget these, the hidden gems of our park system. They contribute uniquely to our landscape as remnants of what was, scattered widely among what is our America.

1 enclave: escape
2 suburbia: the area outside a city
Outline

Extended Response Organization Notes

Here is what a CORRECT Outline of this prompt looks like. Use this to draft your Extended Response:

Intro
- The article *Are Our Nation's Treasures in Danger?* is about National Parks being in danger due to overcrowding.

and the article *Underused Parks Work to Create Awareness, Access* is about ‘undiscovered’ National Parks that are underused and should be visited.

Both articles approach the topic of national park attendance differently. The WAY the author of *Are Our Nation's Treasures in Danger* supports his presentation is by stating the central idea in the 1st paragraph, and supporting this throughout the text.

On the other hand, the WAY author of *Underused Parks Work to Create Awareness, Access* supports his presentation is by highlighting interesting aspects of National Parks in order to persuade readers to visit.

Body

- A—D—E paragraph about describe HOW the topic of park attendance is presented

from the text *Are Our Nation’s Treasures in Danger?*

- A—D—E paragraph about describe HOW the topic of park attendance is presented

from the text *Underused Parks Work to Create Awareness, Access*

- A—D—E paragraph about explain how each author uses different evidence and facts to support his presentation

from the text BOTH texts

Conclusion

- Overall, both texts *Are Our Nation’s Treasures in Danger* and *Underused Parks Work to Create Awareness, Access* want us to pay more attention to the National Parks here in America, but for different reasons expressed in different writing styles by each author.

Feel free to write MORE!
Writing the Extended Response