

NTI DAY #6
(weather-closed school day)

PACKET
SIX

(English/Language Arts)

General Directions:

Due to weather, Harrison County Schools are closed. In an effort to utilize this day on the school calendar, your child is assigned and should work on this "packet" of school work today. It will count as a grade for this subject. The work attached is specific to the subject listed above. Please contact your child's teacher of this subject at 234-7123 in the event you/your student have questions on this packet. Staff and teachers reported to HCMS today and are available should you have questions.

While this is DUE no later than the last school day before the 3rd nine-weeks ends, we **strongly encourage** students to turn it in to their teacher as soon as it's complete (soon after the NTI day) to avoid it being lost, eaten by the family pet, burned to keep warm, etc ☺

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Reading Lesson—Day 6

Learning Target: I can cite several pieces of textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

Instruction:

Please read through the following definitions and helpful tips before you begin the lesson.

1. Textual evidence—evidence that can be found in the text
2. Explicit—information that is directly stated in the text
3. Inferences—an educated guess a reader makes using details and evidence in a passage along with their prior knowledge

Tips:

- Go back to the passage when answering a question and pay close attention to information and details stated directly in the passage.
- Stop, notice, wonder, and think about details in the passage. Make inferences as you read. For example, if we read that a person has tears streaming down her face, we might infer that she is sad.
- Use your prior knowledge to make inferences. For example, if you smell smoke and hear sirens, you might infer that there is a fire, and you would probably be right.
- Use evidence from the passage to support your answers.
- Draw conclusions based on evidence in the passage. For instance, imagine that there is a student in your school who pushes other kids around. He starts fights in the lunchroom, acts out in class, and spends more time in the principal's office than the principal. What conclusion can you draw from this? Based on the evidence, you can conclude that this student is a troublemaker. You can draw conclusions from evidence in the text in the same way that you can in this lifelike example.
- Make predictions based on events and details in the passage. For example, you know your mom loves a certain TV show. She records it every week without fail. Your brother erases her show from the DVR to make room for his own recording. You can safely predict that your mom is going to be upset. In the same way, you can make predictions of what will happen in a passage. The clues the author leaves you are like a trail of crumbs leading you to your prediction.

Task 1 Read article + answer questions

Task 2 Review vocabulary + use it to answer questions

Task 3 Grammar - Then vs Than

**NARRATIVE
NONFICTION**
reads like fiction but
it's all true

Nonfiction

Three hardened criminals attempt to break out of America's toughest prison.

ESCAPE FROM ALCATRAZ

By Deborah Hopkinson

PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES



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At exactly 9:30 on the night of June 11, 1962, the lights at Alcatraz prison went out.

Most of the inmates shivered on their thin, narrow beds, trying to get some sleep.



But not Frank Morris. His heart pounding, Morris waited for the prison to quiet. If all went according to plan, he would never sleep behind bars again.

For months, Morris and three other prisoners, Allen West and brothers Clarence and John Anglin, had been secretly plotting to escape from Alcatraz, a bleak prison perched on a rocky island in the middle of San Francisco Bay. People said it was impossible to break free from "the Rock," as

ventilation system, where the men set up a secret workshop. Morris and his friends also took up a hobby: painting. That way, no one was suspicious when they ordered brushes, paints, and drawing boards. They used these supplies to create sections of fake wall to cover the holes in their cells.

Many Had Drowned

Men had tried to escape from Alcatraz before only to drown in the frigid waters of San Francisco Bay. Morris and his friends did not intend to swim though. Using stolen and handmade tools, they'd managed to fashion life jackets and a raft out of raincoats.

Morris, who'd been imprisoned for bank burglary, was no stranger

to escape. He had broken out of two other prisons.

But Alcatraz was different. Security was extremely tight. Guards counted the inmates many times each day and night; it wouldn't take a guard long to notice an empty cell.

To buy some time, the men made dummies out of toilet paper, cardboard, and cement chips. They covered the dummy heads with hair stolen from the prison barbershop and painted faces on them. On the night of their escape, the men tucked the dummy heads into their beds. In the dim light, the heads looked real.

Now, as darkness settled over Alcatraz, everything was ready. Well, almost.

At the last minute, West could not get out of his cell. Morris and the Anglin brothers

stood between them and freedom was a 12-foot fence and the crashing, shark-infested waters of the bay.

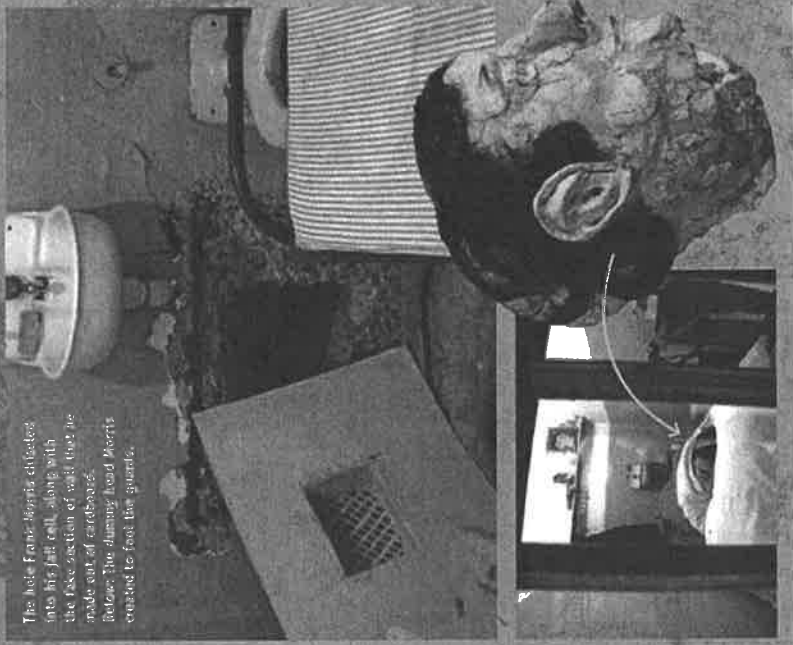
Men had made it this far before. None had made it to freedom. Some drowned. Others were turned back by the strong currents. One inmate had hidden in the caves carved into the island's

blew on their faces. Now all that

THE TOOLS

The hot Frank Morris climbed into his jail cell, along with the fake section of wall that he made out of cardboard.

Below: The dummy head Morris came to fool the guards.



THE CRIMINALS



Frank Morris (left) and brothers John (center) and Clarence Anglin (right) may be the only prisoners to have successfully escaped from Alcatraz.

shoreline, too scared to plunge into the water. Eventually, he was found and brought back.

Could Morris and the Anglin brothers pull off the most daring escape in the history of Alcatraz?

Island of the Pelicans

By the night of this escape attempt in 1962, the



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small sandstone island of Alcatraz had been used as a prison on and off for more than 100 years. But its history goes back even further.

Alcatraz was named "isla de los Alcatrazes" (Island of the Pelicans) by Spanish explorer Juan Manuel de Ayala in 1775. After gold was discovered in California in 1848, people worried that San Francisco might be attacked. **Barron** Alcatraz, located about a mile and a half from shore, seemed the perfect place to build a fort.

During the Civil War, in the 1860s, the 22-acre island was used as a military prison. Then, in 1934, the U.S. Department of Justice took it over. Alcatraz was about to become the toughest and most feared prison in America.

Ready for Troublemakers

During the early 1930s, the U.S. was hit by a crime wave. Robberies and murders were on the rise. Some criminals had become incredibly powerful; they were as well-known as celebrities. The public felt that a "super-prison" was what the country needed.

Desolate and isolated, Alcatraz seemed like the ideal place to incarcerate the most despicable criminals. Officials set out to build the most escape-proof prison in America. Cell blocks were turned into fortresses meant to hold those who had tried—and sometimes managed—to break out of other prisons.

In August 1934, Alcatraz opened as a federal prison. **Penitentiaries**

The 53 inmates arrived on August 22, 1934. By the end of the year, Alcatraz was housing more than 200 of America's most feared criminals.

Harsh Punishment

A prisoner at Alcatraz—or "Uncle Sam's Devil's Island," as it came to be called—found himself in a harsh, isolated world, punctuated by the clanging of bars and the distant blaring of foghorns. After a gong signaled wake-up at 6:30 a.m., inmates cleaned their cells, then stood to be counted.

At the shriek of a whistle, they marched single-file to breakfast, which lasted 20 minutes. After breakfast, utensils were counted.

During the day, guards marched inmates to jobs in the laundry, the garden, and the

across the country were notified that Alcatraz was ready to take troublemakers off their hands. As Alcatraz **Warden James A. Johnston** later wrote, "They would select their worst: I would take them and do my best."

At 5 a.m. on August 19, 1934, 53 prisoners boarded a train in Atlanta, Georgia, for the long ride to California. They were to be some of the first inmates at Alcatraz. Officials couldn't help feeling nervous. These men were going to Alcatraz because ordinary prisons couldn't handle them. (All Alcatraz prisoners were men.)

Warden Johnston took every precaution. The prisoners rode in specially designed railroad cars with steel bars across the windows. No prisoner was allowed to leave his seat during any stop.

THE PRISON

Alcatraz was shut down in 1963, having become too expensive to operate. Today it is a landmark managed by the National Park Service. More than 1.5 million tourists visit every year.



tailor shop. Head counts took place constantly. On Sundays and holidays, inmates had supervised recreation time. No newspapers or radios were allowed. Lights-out was at 9:30 p.m. sharp.

Men who broke the rules faced harsh punishment, the most feared of which was solitary confinement. It was agony to be kept apart from everyone else, cooped up in a tiny concrete cell, some with only a hole in the floor for a toilet. In solitary confinement, some men were allowed mattresses at night, but others had no mattress at all. There was nothing to do but stare at the walls as time ticked by.

A Bitter Surprise

The most notorious felons couldn't beat Alcatraz—not even gangsters like Al "Scarface" Capone. To many, Capone

symbolized the collapse of law and order in the 1920s. He made millions running illegal gambling and alcohol-selling operations in Chicago. He was said to have murdered at least a dozen people. Capone was used to having power, and he was proud of his reputation as a big shot. He figured he'd be able to pull strings to get special privileges at Alcatraz, just as he had in other prisons.

As soon as he arrived, Capone met with Warden Johnston. "I have a lot of friends," he told the warden. "I expect to have a lot of visitors."

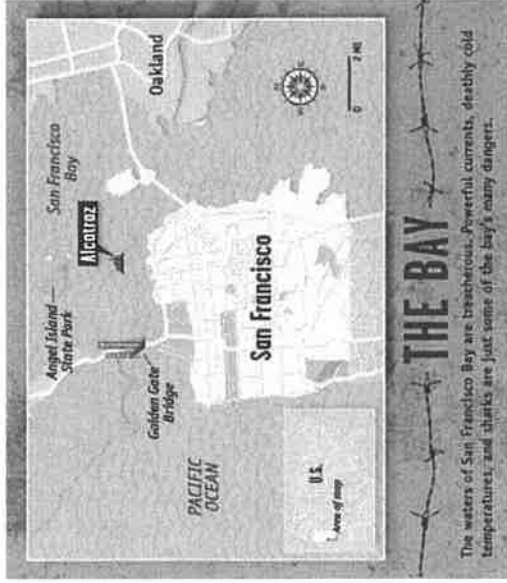
Capone was in for a bitter surprise. He was allowed to see family, but not friends—or fellow gangsters. Every prisoner at Alcatraz was treated the same, even Al Capone. Eventually, Capone had to admit, "Alcatraz has got me licked."

Daring Escapes
As tough as Alcatraz was, some prisoners still attempted to break out. During the rock's 29 years as a federal prison, 36 prisoners attempted to escape. Twenty-three of the men were caught, six were killed, and two drowned. Two others were never found but are assumed to have drowned.

That leaves three men: Frank Morris and John and Clarence Anglin.

After the night of June 11, 1962, they were never seen again. When Morris and the Anglins were discovered missing, a massive search was conducted. A body was spotted floating in the bay—but it was never identified. According to some records, a raft was found on nearby Angel Island. There were rumors of a stolen car, which could have been used by the escapees.

FILED IN THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE. PHOTOGRAPHY BY THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE.

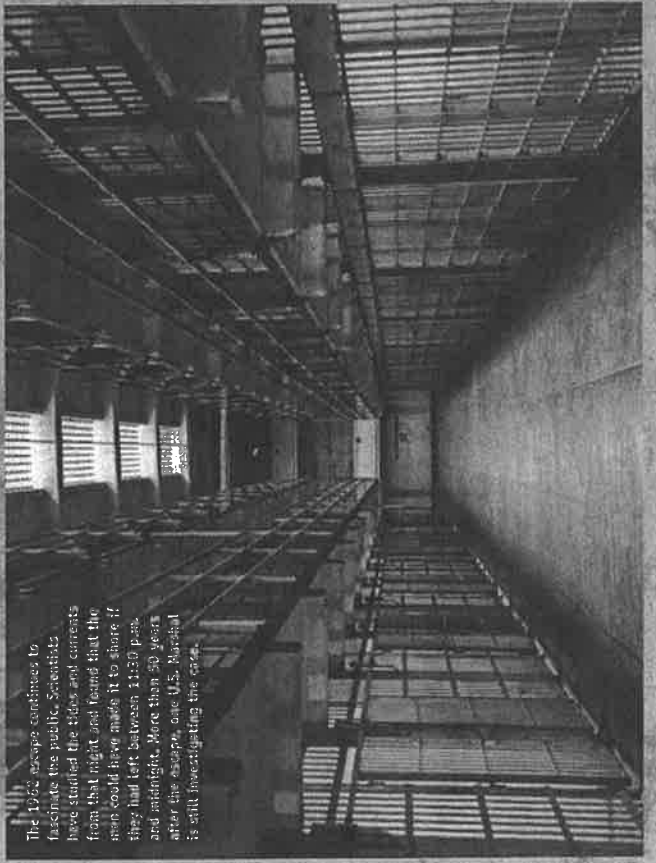


The waters of San Francisco Bay are treacherous. Powerful currents, deceptively cold temperatures, and sharks are just some of the bay's many dangers.

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THE MYSTERY

The 1952 escape continues to fascinate the public. Scientists have studied the tides and currents from that night and found that the men could have made it to shore if they had left between 11:30 p.m. and midnight. More than 50 years after the escape, one U.S. Marshal is still investigating the case.



In the end, officials concluded that the men had died. The powerful currents in the Bay could have dragged their raft out to sea. Even within the Bay, survival would have been unlikely had the men gone overboard. In the frigid water, they would have quickly succumbed to hypothermia or—

had their makeshift life jackets failed—drowned.

Not everyone has accepted the officials' conclusion, though. People have speculated about the fate of Morris and the Anglins for decades. There have been many reported sightings. The family of the Anglin brothers insists that the men made it out

and ended up in Brazil. In 2003, the show *MythBusters* re-created the escape and determined that it is possible the men made it to shore. But nothing has been proved.

What do you think? Did Morris and the Anglin brothers make it—or did they perish in the merciless waters of San Francisco Bay? ●

Writing Contest

Which evidence do you find more convincing: the evidence that Morris and the Anglin brothers made it or that they did not? Answer in a well-organized essay. Send it to AKC@trax.com. Five winners will get *All Capone Does My Shirts* by Gemma Choldenko. See page 2 for details.

Get this activity online.



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Area 7 Photo: iStock.com/brayden; Of Art Photo: iStock.com/brayden; The Frigid Water Photo: iStock.com/brayden

Name: _____ Date: _____

"Escape From Alcatraz" Quiz

Directions: Read "Escape From Alcatraz." Then answer the questions below.

1. Deborah Hopkinson included the section "Ready for Troublemakers" mainly to
 - (A) explain why Al Capone was in jail.
 - (B) introduce Warden James A. Johnston.
 - (C) provide information about San Francisco Bay.
 - (D) help readers understand why Alcatraz was turned into a federal prison.

2. On page 8, Hopkinson writes, "During the early 1930s, the U.S. was hit by a crime wave." This line contains a metaphor that
 - (A) shows criminal activity in the U.S. had increased greatly.
 - (B) portrays the 1930s as a safe time to live in the U.S.
 - (C) reveals that there had been a natural disaster.
 - (D) explains the size of the United States.

3. On page 6, Hopkinson writes that "the men had developed an ingenious plan." This line shows that the author thinks the men were
 - (A) aggressive.
 - (B) clever.
 - (C) concerned.
 - (D) foolish.

4. In the section "Daring Escapes," Hopkinson's tone as she discusses what may have happened to Morris and the Anglin brothers could be described as
 - (A) playful and humorous.
 - (B) frustrated and angry.
 - (C) uncertain and curious.
 - (D) confident and calm.

5. Which detail should definitely be included in a summary of the article?
 - (A) Alcatraz Island is made of sandstone.
 - (B) Alcatraz was designed to be an escape-proof prison.
 - (C) A Spanish explorer discovered Alcatraz Island.
 - (D) Alcatraz can be seen from the Golden Gate Bridge.

6. Hopkinson likely wrote "Escape From Alcatraz"
 - (A) to convince readers to visit Alcatraz Island.
 - (B) to inform readers about illegal gambling in the United States.
 - (C) to fascinate readers with a mystery from history.
 - (D) to teach readers about the responsibilities of prison wardens.

Answer either #7 or #8 on next page.

Constructed-Response Questions

Directions: Write your answers to the questions below on the back of this paper ~~or type them up on a computer.~~

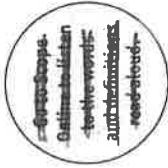
7. On page 8, Hopkinson writes, "Alcatraz was the toughest and most feared prison in America." What is one way she supports this claim? Use text evidence to support your answer.

8. Why does Hopkinson pose a question at the end of the article? Is there a correct answer? Explain. Use details from the text to support your answer.

Choose ONE Constructed Response question from the previous page. Write your answer here using complete sentences and paragraph form, citing evidence from the text.

I chose #7 #8 (circle one).

Name: _____ Date: _____



Vocabulary:

"Escape From Alcatraz"

- barren** (BEHR-uhn) *adjective or noun*: The adjective *barren* means "having very few plants or not good for growing plants." The desert is an example of a barren landscape. *Barren* can also mean "unable to produce seeds or offspring." A barren apple tree is one that cannot produce any apples.
As a noun, *barren* refers to an area of land with sandy soil where few plants are able to grow.
- cohort** (KOH-hawrt) *noun*: A cohort is a companion or supporter with whom you have something in common. *Cohort* is often used to mean "accomplice"—that is, someone who helps someone else carry out a crime or wrongdoing. *Cohort* is also used to describe a group of people who are around the same age or have something else in common, as in "A cohort of middle school students sat near the front of the room."

- fashion** (FASH-uhn) *verb or noun*: As used in "Escape From Alcatraz," *fashion* is a verb that means "to make something from something else." Cavemen fashioned tools from stones. You might fashion a guitar strap out of a scarf. *Fashion* can also be a noun that refers to what's popular and in style.

- hypothermia** (hahy-poh-THUHR-mee-uh) *noun*: If a person has hypothermia, his or her body temperature is dangerously low. If hypothermia is not treated, it can lead to death. Someone may develop hypothermia after falling into ice-cold water or being outside in the cold without warm-enough clothes.

- incarcerate** (in-KAHR-suh-rayt) *verb*: To incarcerate someone is to put him or her in prison. If someone is incarcerated (adjective), that person is in prison. In the sentence "Linda took college classes during her incarceration," *incarceration* (noun) means "the time during which she was in prison."

- ingenious** (in-JEEN-yuhs) *adjective*: Something that is ingenious is very clever; it shows creativity and inventiveness.

- notorious** (noh-TOHR-ee-uhs) *adjective*: To be notorious is to be famous for something bad. A movie star is famous; a well-known criminal is notorious. Tourists might avoid a part of a city that is notorious for crime. A restaurant might be notorious for its poor service.

- penitentiary** (pen-i-TEN-shuh-ree) *noun*: A penitentiary is a prison for people convicted of serious crimes.

- warden** (WAWR-din) *noun*: A warden is a person who is in charge of or takes care of something. Many workplaces have "fire wardens," people in charge of leading fire drills and getting employees to safety if there's an emergency. *Warden* is most often used to refer to an official in charge of a prison.

* Review this list of vocabulary and use it to help you complete the exercises on the next page.

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Vocabulary Practice

"Escape From Alcatraz"

Directions: Choose the word that is most similar in meaning to each word in bold.

(Synonyms)

1. **warden**

(A) student

(B) guardian

2. **ingenious**

(A) original

(B) empty

3. **barren**

(A) lifeless

(B) lush

Directions: Fill in the circle next to the best answer choice.

4. **Which is a reason that David might be sent to a penitentiary?**

(A) He steals millions of dollars.

(B) He breaks his leg.

5. **Someone who is incarcerated is _____.**

(A) in prison

(B) stuck in a traffic jam

6. **Which of the following countries is notorious for its air quality?**

(A) a country known for its exceptionally clean air

(B) a country known for its highly polluted air

Directions: Complete each unfinished sentence in a way that makes the meaning of the boldfaced word clear.

(add context clues)

7. Maria **fashioned** _____

8. Eli was treated for **hypothermia** after _____

9. The robber ratted out his **cohorts** to the police. He _____

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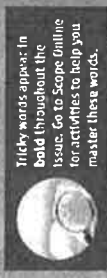
Narrative Nonfiction Escape From Alcatraz	6
Paired Texts Could You Become a Mean Meme?	11
Drama The Fight for What's Right	16
Short Read Could This Dragon Save Your Life?	24
Debate/Scavenger Hunt Finders Keepers?	26
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CONTEST DETAILS*
Send your entries by February 15 for
"Could You Be a Mean Meme?" / 6 Scope
P.O. Box 212
New York, NY 10013-0212

Students, remember to include:
1) your name and age
2) teacher's name
3) school's name and address
4) school's phone number
5) parent's or guardian's signature
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PHOTO: SHUTTERSTOCK/ANDREW HARRIS

TRICKY WORDS APOPEE! in bold throughout this issue. Go to Scope Online for activities to help you master these words.



Grammar

Rains Fish

The science behind this bizarre weather phenomenon

DIRECTIONS:
Read the boxes below. Circle the correct word in each bolded word pair.

1. Flopping Fish

In Australia in February 2010, Christine Balner was walking home when what she thought was a hailstorm started. Oddly, rather than running inside, people were running around trying to catch the hail. Then/Than, Christine noticed small objects flopping around on the ground. She realized it wasn't hail that people were trying to catch—it was fish! Hundreds of small, silver fish were falling like raindrops.

Reports of fish raining from the sky date back more than 2,000 years.

2. Vacuum of Doom

Christine lives in a village more than/than 100 miles from a lake or river. So where did the fish come from? And how did those fish get up in the sky? The most likely answer is a tornado. When a tornado forms over land and then/than travels over water, it creates a waterspout that can suck up small objects and creatures—like a giant vacuum cleaner. Fish and frogs drawn into the clouds can be carried long distances before the tornado loses energy and the critters start to fall. Looking back, Christine is just glad it didn't rain crocodiles.

3. Dinner From Above

The phenomenon of fish and other animals falling from the sky is more common than/than you might think. Roman writer Pliny the Elder wrote of fish and frog storms back in the first century. In the 1700s, French soldiers told of tiny loads dropping from the clouds and landing on their heads. In recent years, fish rains have been reported in countries around the world, including Ethiopia, India, and Mexico. When fish fall from the sky, people often run for cover—and then/than, when the storm ends, they collect the fallen fish to eat for dinner. Why waste fresh fish, right?

First, the fish get sucked into the air, and then they fall to the ground.

Commonly Confused Words

HINT

THEN vs. THAN
Use *then* when you are talking about time. It can mean "next" or "at that time."
(Rina woke up early, then made breakfast for her family.) Use *than* to make a comparison.
(Jolla is taller than Eric.)

*Then - when you are talking about time.
Than - when you are making a comparison.
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