Table of Contents

Parents and Teachers....4
Outline....5
Welcome, Detectives!....6
Case #21: Great Chicago Fire....7
Case #22: Yellowstone National Park....17
Case #23: Alexander Graham Bell and the Telephone....27
Case #24: Thomas Edison and His Inventions....37
Case #25: Brooklyn Bridge....47
Case #26: Statue of Liberty....57
Case #27: Johnstown Flood....67
Case #28: Columbian Exposition of 1893....77
Case #29: First Modern Olympics....87
Case #30: Spanish-American War....97
Bonus Cases....107
A Detective's Work Is Never Done....108
Dossier #8: Crazy Horse....109
Dossier #9: Geronimo....117
Dossier #10: Herman Hollerith....125
Code Breaker....133
Code Wheel....134
Bonus Map Work....136
Answer Key....147

SAMPLE

Parents and Teachers

This unit aims to engage the minds of your kids and help them learn about important events in modern history. To get started, print the Code Wheel toward the end of this book on two separate pieces of paper or cardstock. Cut out the wheels and attach them using a metal fastener.

The Case File text shares the history of each event. Have the student read the text and then answer the two questions that follow. The first question tests reading comprehension. The second question shares more information with them to help them learn about what happened. They can find the answer by using their Code Wheel. A Code Breaker sheet toward the end of this book tells them what to set their wheel to so they can correctly decipher the code in each case.

The Gathering Evidence questions that follow the first four readings in the Case File are optional, but they can be used to help students learn how to do research using books, Internet sites, the library, or whatever resources you have available.

As they read the Case Files, they will encounter bolded, underlined vocabulary words. As they complete each page of the Case File, have them fill out the vocabulary exercise, Did I Understand You Correctly?

After the fifth Case File reading, they can draw a Case Sketch to help them visualize and retain what they've learned.

They can also practice map skills using an atlas or similar resource by completing the Case Locations page. This allows them to record the location of one or more important places from the event. A more advanced optional map activity for each lesson is included in the Bonus Map Work section.

When they've completed these activities, they can fill out Solving the Case, Pt. 1. On this page, they need to copy the facts they learned that followed each Case File reading. This helps them practice reducing the question and answer to a single sentence. They can write down any additional facts they learned at the bottom of the page.

Finally, when they are finished, they can complete Solving the Case, Pt. 2. This is a place for them to retell what happened to show comprehension of the material.

Optional bonus units are included at the end. These Dossier assignments each focus on a key person, one from each decade the unit covers. These are shorter units and do not include vocabulary practice or bonus map work. A suggested plan for when to do these units so they flow chronologically is provided on the next page.

SAMPLE

Outline

The Dossier units are optional and are included toward the end of this book.

Case #21: Great Chicago Fire
Case #22: Yellowstone National Park
Dossier #8: Crazy Horse
Case #23: Alexander Graham Bell and the Telephone
Case #24: Thomas Edison and His Inventions
Case #25: Brooklyn Bridge
Case #26: Statue of Liberty
Dossier #9: Geronimo
Case #27: Johnstown Flood
Dossier #10: Herman Hollerith
Case #28: Columbian Exposition of 1893
Case #29: First Modern Olympics
Case #30: Spanish-American War

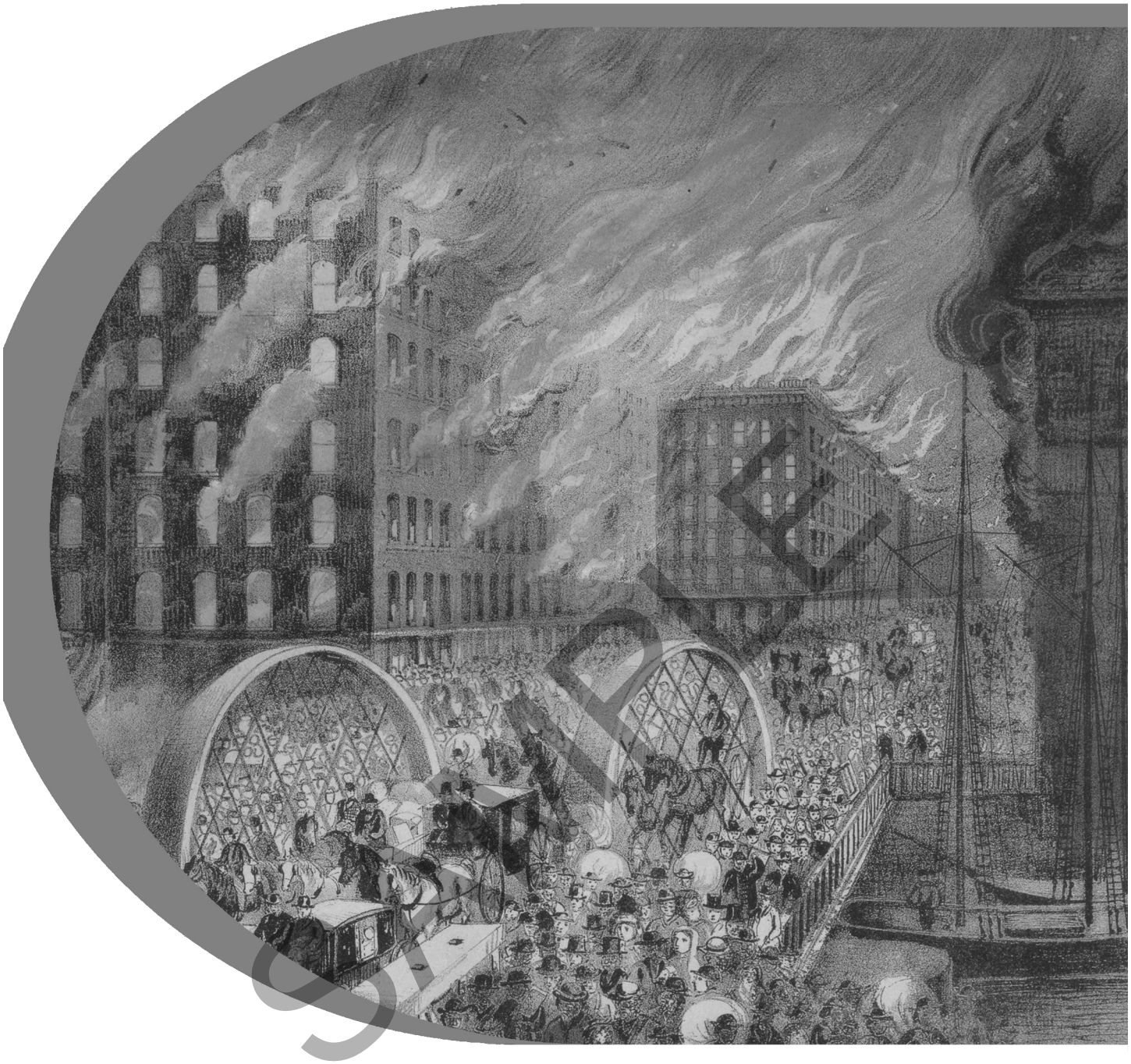
SAMPLE

Welcome, Detectives!

Welcome! You have mysteries to solve. Each Case File begins with a picture of an historical event. Your job is to figure out what is happening in the picture and why it was important. You'll have case information, puzzles, evidence, and more to help you.

Are you ready? Let's get started!

SAMPLE



Case #21

1871

Case File

In 1871, Chicago, Illinois, was a city whose future seemed limitless. Its location between the East Coast and the ever-growing West, plus its access to Lake Michigan, drew people from all over the world. In the forty years between 1830 and 1870, the city had grown from about 100 people to more than 298,000. There were problems that came with this **rapid** growth, though. Many of the people were extremely poor, and there wasn't a lot done to help them. Homes were also built quickly without anyone stopping to build them safely.

Case Facts:

How many people lived in Chicago by 1870?

_____

What were most of the homes made from?

72/9	52/2	2x13	9+6

Gathering Evidence:

Get your investigator's cap on and do some research. Find the answer to this question and record your source.

What nickname did Chicago have in 1870? (Hint: it had to do with "empire.")

Answer: _____

_____

Source: _____

_____

SAMPLE

Case File

Sadly, fires were common in the crowded city. Because of this, officials had special fire alarm boxes built throughout the city. They used an electric signal to tell the fire department exactly where a fire had been spotted. A watchman also sat in the courthouse tower where he could keep an eye on the city for any fires. But everyone knew that a big fire now would be even worse than usual. There was an awful **drought** in 1871, and in the past three months, only one inch of rain had fallen.

Case Facts:

Where did the watchman sit?

_____

Most of the homes were made from what kind of wood?

10/10	4x5	75/3	4x4

Gathering Evidence:

Get your investigator's cap on and do some research. Find the answer to this question and record your source.

In the early 1870s, what kind of animal pulled the fire engines?

Answer: _____

_____

Source: _____

_____

SAMPLE

Case File

A family of Irish immigrants named the O'Learys lived in Chicago. Patrick O'Leary had served in the Civil War. October 8, 1871, was a Sunday night. Just before 9:00 p.m., a friend **noticed** a fire in their barn. The barn was full of tons of hay, which burned easily. No one knows what started the fire, but someone started a story that blamed the O'Learys for it. The story spread just like the fire. The fire soon burned all the dry grass and leaves the drought had left behind.

Case Facts:

When did the fire start?

_____

Because people blamed them, the O'Learys had to do what?

69/3	7+9	2x6	35/5	32/2	20/4	2x13	32/4	5x5

Gathering Evidence:

Get your investigator's cap on and do some research. Find the answer to this question and record your source.

What story did people spread that blamed the O'Learys for the fire?

Answer: _____

_____

Source: _____

_____

SAMPLE

Case File

For a while, nothing went right. The watchman sent the firefighters to the wrong spot, but because people thought the firemen were coming, they didn't pull the alarm that would have told them where to go. With everything being dry, the fire spread very quickly. People hoped it would stop and not cross the Chicago River, but the wind blew the sparks across. Most people tried to help each other get out of the city. Some ran while others rode in horse-drawn wagons, but the horses were as **terrified** as the people. The firemen kept working all night to try to stop the flames.

Case Facts:

Why didn't people pull the fire alarm?

_____

What famous author wrote a poem called "Chicago" about the fire?
John Greenleaf _____

24/3	38/2	60/3	45/9	25/5	80/4	32/2	18/6

Gathering Evidence:

Get your investigator's cap on and do some research. Find the answer to this question and record your source.

Modern Chicago's Magnificent Mile is part of what avenue in Chicago?

Answer: _____

_____

Source: _____

_____

SAMPLE

Case File

Finally, around 10:00 p.m. the next day, it started to rain, and the main fire was finally put out. No one is sure how many people died, but **historians** think it was around 200-300 people. About 18,000 buildings, including homes, businesses, and factories, were lost, and about 100,000 people were left with nowhere to live. They immediately started to rebuild, and people from all over the country sent food and clothing by train. Others sent volunteers to work in soup kitchens, and some sent blankets and mattresses. Even President Grant and England sent help, and everyone knew that the city would rise again.

Case Facts:

When did people start to rebuild?

_____

Who sent thousands of books that were used to build a library? Queen _____

63/9	40/2	2x7	30/6	35-9	27/9	32-12	60/5

Case Sketch

A good detective needs to have a sharp eye for detail. Draw a picture of one of the things you learned about on this case.

SAMPLE

Did I Understand You Correctly?

As you research your case, you'll probably run into some words you aren't sure of. It's important to know what the words mean. What do you think the following words mean from their context in the case file?

rapid _____

_____

drought _____

_____

noticed _____

_____

terrified _____

_____

historians _____

_____

Look them up in a dictionary. Are there any definitions you need to revise or expand? If so, write them below.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

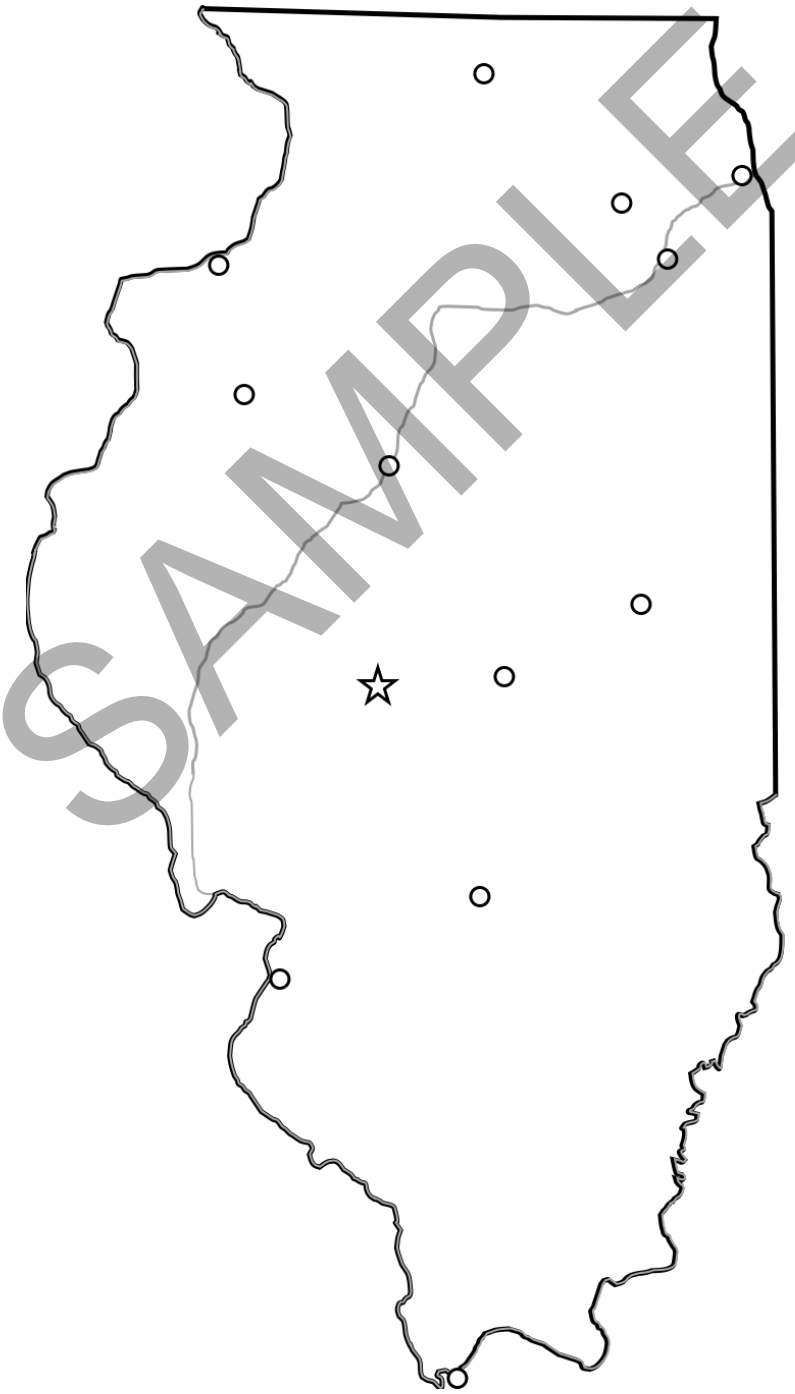
_____

_____

SAMPLE

Case Locations

This case involved the city of Chicago, Illinois. Using an atlas or another resource, find where the city of Chicago is located and label it on the map of Illinois below.



SAMPLE

Solving the Case, Pt. 1

Copy all of your case facts here:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

Write down any additional facts you learned.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

SAMPLE

Solving the Case, Pt. 2

Write your case report. Explain what your case file image represents. Try to use as many of your case facts as you can.

SAMPLE

Dossier #9

Dossier

This assignment is about a warrior named Geronimo. He was born in 1829 and was part of a group of Apache called the Chiricahua. He and his people lived in parts of what is today Mexico, Arizona, and New Mexico. The Apache were known as fierce warriors who were very hard to beat in battle. Sadly, Geronimo's wife and family were killed in an attack by Mexican troops in 1858. This made him hate the Mexicans, and he led raids into their lands for many years.

Getting the Facts:

What tribe was Geronimo part of?

_____

What is the name of another famous Apache leader who Geronimo served under?

3x3	7x3	27/3	2x7	3x5	5x5	1x11

Gathering Evidence:

Get your investigator's cap on and do some research. Find the answer to this question and record your source.

What was Geronimo's Apache name?

Answer: _____

_____

Source: _____

_____

SAMPLE

Dossier

The Apache also fought with American settlers who continued to move in and take over their homeland. Sometimes, settlers and soldiers even killed Apache who were not bothering anyone. This made the fighting even worse. Some bands of Apache moved to land in Arizona the government had promised to them, and there was peace for a while. The government later broke its promise and moved the Apache to another reservation called San Carlos. Reservation agent John Clum tried to do everything possible to help the Apache there, but the conditions at the reservation were very bad, and Geronimo escaped.

Getting the Facts:

What reservation agent tried to help the Apache?

_____

In what state is the San Carlos Apache Indian Reservation?

35/5	48/2	30/2	54/9	63/3	4x5	28/4

Gathering Evidence:

Get your investigator's cap on and do some research. Find the answer to this question and record your source.

What is the name of the Mexican state where Geronimo once lived that borders New Mexico and Texas ?

Answer: _____

_____

Source: _____

_____

SAMPLE

Dossier

Eventually, Clum and his men captured Geronimo. However, people soon learned that capturing Geronimo was one thing; keeping him was another. The next years were filled with escapes, with Geronimo outsmarting commander after commander. Finally, in 1886, Geronimo surrendered for the last time. He and other Apache were sent to prison in Florida for two years. He had been promised that he could return to Arizona after this, but the government again changed its mind. Geronimo and those with him were moved first to Alabama and then to Oklahoma. He died in 1909 when he was nearly 80 years old. His name remains today as a cry that expresses bravery and fearlessness.

Getting the Facts:

When did Geronimo die?

_____

What commander captured Geronimo for the last time? General Nelson _____

38/2	7+8	3x6	55/5	5x5

Gathering Evidence:

Get your investigator's cap on and do some research. Find the answer to this question and record your source.

What was the name of the fort in Florida where Geronimo lived?

Answer: _____

_____

Source: _____

_____

SAMPLE

Gathering Evidence

Get your investigator's cap on and do some research. Find the answer to this question and record your source.

What was the name of the fort in Oklahoma that Geronimo was moved to later in life?

Answer: _____

_____

Source: _____

_____

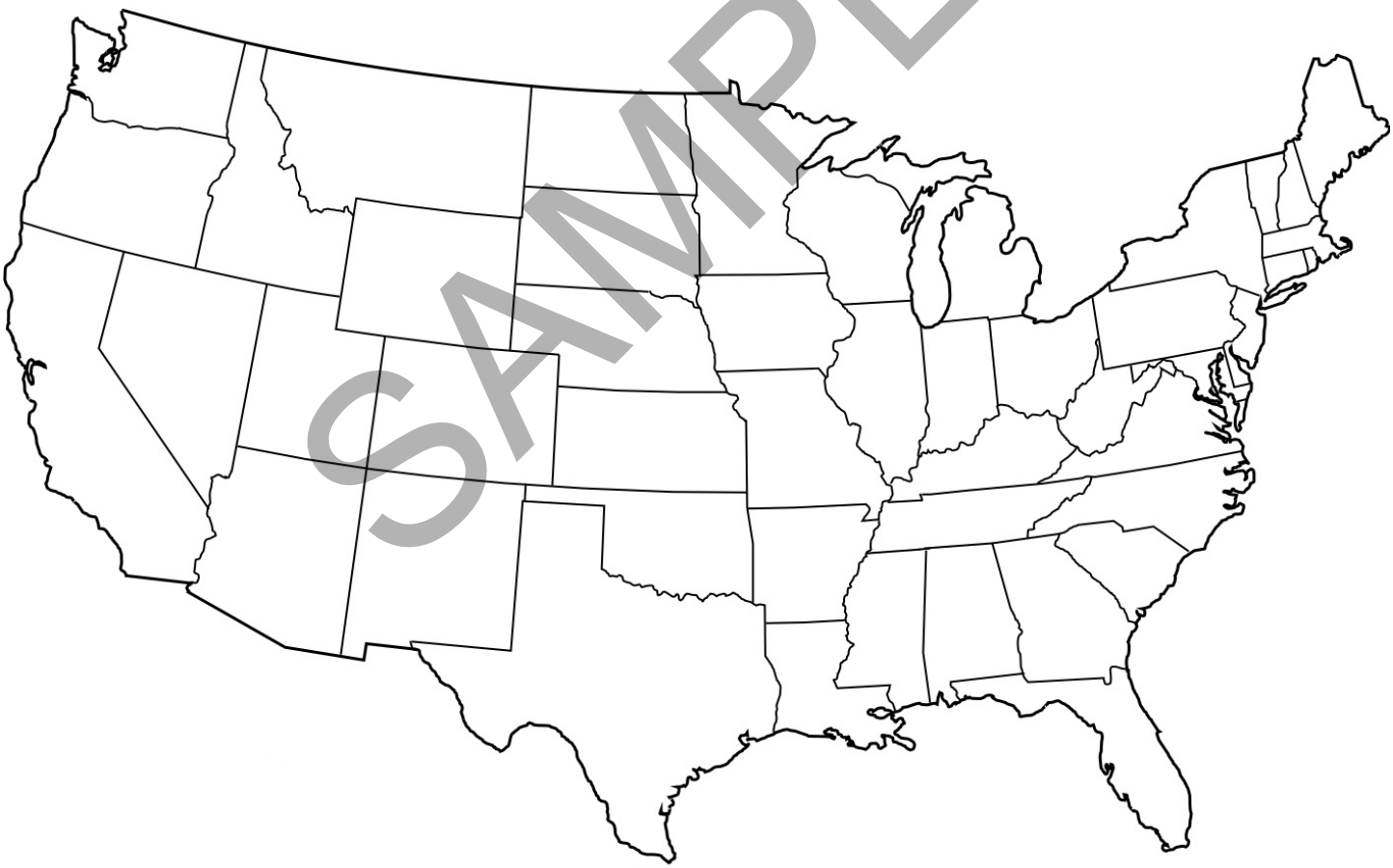
Case Sketch

A good detective needs to have a sharp eye for detail. Draw a picture of one of the things you learned about on this case.

SAMPLE

Case Locations

This case involved the states of Arizona, New Mexico, Florida, Alabama, and Oklahoma. Using an atlas or another resource, find where these states are located and label them on the map below.



SAMPLE

Creating Your Dossier, Pt. 1

Copy all of your dossier facts here:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

Write down any additional facts you learned.

SAMPLE

Creating Your Dossier, Pt. 2

Write your completed dossier. Try to use as many of the facts you gathered as you can.

SAMPLE

Case #21: Bonus Map Work

On the same night as the Great Chicago Fire, a terrible fire burned in Wisconsin and into part of Michigan. It was the Peshtigo Forest Fire, and in some ways, it was even worse than the fire in Chicago. It burned the area on either side of the body of water called Green Bay, which borders the city of Green Bay. Using an atlas or another resource, label the city of Green Bay on the map of Wisconsin and label Madison, the capital of Wisconsin. Also see if you can label the cities of Superior, Eau Claire, Wausau, Appleton, Oshkosh, La Crosse, West Bend, Waukesha, Sheboygan, Milwaukee, and Kenosha.

SAMPLE

Answer Key

Case #21

Case Facts & Gathering Evidence

- more than 298,000; wood
- Empire City of the West

- in the courthouse tower; pine
- horses

- October 8, 1871, just before 9:00 p.m.; leave town
- that their cow kicked over a lantern and started the fire

- they thought the firemen were coming; Whittier
- Michigan Avenue

- immediately; Victoria

Case #22

Case Facts & Gathering Evidence

- Bighorn sheep; Togwotee
- Nez Perce

- John Colter; Daniel Potts
- answers will vary but may include black bears, grizzly bears, moose, mule deer, bighorn sheep, cougars, wolves, and other animals

- Nathaniel P. Langford; Hayden
- averages once every 90 minutes with the actual interval between 30–120 minutes

- March 1, 1872; Oct. 1, 1890
- President Ulysses S. Grant

- 1916; Albright

SAMPLE