

Unit 6

Name: _____

Date: _____

First Contact Questions

Before Reading

Preview the selection from pages 152 to 156 of *Literacy in Action*, then answer the following questions:

1. Make a prediction of what the story is about.

Looking at the title and images, you may predict that the selection is about the first contact between European explorers and a First Nations people.

2. From whose point of view do you think the story is told?

After reading that the author is First Nations, you will probably conclude the story is being told from a First Nations' point of view.

During Reading

Read the selection on pages 152 and 153, then answer the following questions:

1. How do the speaker's thoughts and feelings make you feel?

You may discuss that you felt sorry or upset for the First Nations people when strangers whom they did not know came to their home and told them it was their land now.

2. How do they help you connect with the character?

The speaker's words were able to convey his fright and wonder and this helps readers understand what the character was experiencing.

Before reading further, search page 153 for these sentences:

- *It couldn't be a spirit then... could it be a boat?*
- *After my death, my son, John, will continue...*

The three dots that appear in the sentences are called **ellipses** and they can be used for different purposes in writing. In the first sentence, the **ellipsis** shows a pause in the writer's thinking; in the second sentence, the **ellipsis** shows that words have been left out.

Now, read the rest of the selection.

After Reading

Answer the following questions:

1. How did European exploration affect the Haida way of life?

Cause:

- i. looking for land
- ii. looking to trade furs and carvings
- iii. looking for Haida women to marry

Effect:

You should note and may provide detail about the following: that the Haida way of life changed completely: they lost their land, their history, customs and traditions, and many of their people.

2. From whose point of view do you think the story is told?

The point of view was that of the Haida people.

3. Where could you find other points of view on this same subject?

List other resources that may have other viewpoints.