Worksheet 1. Reading: Home on the Range

Did you know that cowboys write poetry? They do. During all the time that cowboys have lived, they have told stories as they sit around the campfire. Some of these stories about the huge, wild American West have turned into songs and poetry. Here are the words of one old song and one new poem about the West.

Read the words of the song. Answer the questions that follow.

Home on the Range

(author unknown)

This verse of a traditional American song speaks about the glorious old West. This song is known by almost every person in the United States:

Oh, give me a home
Where the buffalo roam
And the deer and the antelope play
Where seldom is heard
A discouraging word
And the skies are not cloudy all day.
Home, home on the range
Where the deer and the antelope play...

The buffalo, the deer, and the antelope are three animals that live in the West. (All three have the same forms in the singular and the plural.)

The song idealizes life on the prairies in days gone by.

Circle T if the statement is true according to the song. Circle F if it is false.

1. T / F The words describe a home someone wants.
2. T / F The singer wants to live in a city.
3. T/ F Roam means to walk around, to wander.
4. T/ F The weather on the range is usually cloudy.
5. T/ F The singer doesn’t often hear discouraging words on the range.
6. T / F A range is a large, grassy area where animals live.
7. T / F A prairie is a wide open area of fairly flat land in North America.