



Social Studies - 6

This year in sixth grade you have been learning about the history of different regions of the world. In your at home learning opportunities you will continue this exploration. Some information may be review and some may be new. Feel free to use any resources you have (such as the internet or books) to explore the topics more each week. Each week will connect to the last as much as possible.

A look at China's ruling dynasties throughout history

The Chinese empire was one of history's longest. It lasted for thousands of years. During this time, many ruling dynasties rose and fell.

A dynasty is a family group. It passes down the right to rule through its family line. The period during which a particular family ruled is also called a dynasty.

Single families often remained in power for hundreds of years. The throne was passed down from father to son.



Fact Or Fiction?

According to Chinese legend, a man named Yu helped China recover from a major flood. For this reason, the gods awarded him the right to rule. This right was known as the Mandate of Heaven. It was passed down through Yu's family line. He was the first ruler of the Xia dynasty.

The Xia dynasty ruled from 2070 B.C. to 1600 B.C. The dynasty fell after a Shang king seized power. Then the Shang dynasty began.

How much truth is there to this story? Not much, many historians believe. Many say the Xia dynasty never existed. They believe the Shang dynasty was really China's first dynasty. However, archaeologists have found evidence of large-scale floods from around the Xia time period, so the traditional story might be at least partly true.

The Shang dynasty lasted for about 600 years. It was called a "Golden Age." Many new things took place. China's writing system was invented during this period.

In 1046 B.C., the Shang king was overthrown by the Zhou king. The Shang dynasty then came to an end.

The Time Of Confucius

The Zhou dynasty was the longest of China's dynasties. It lasted from 1046 B.C. to 256 B.C. Some of China's most important writers lived during this period. The most famous was Confucius. His writing is still read today.

The years from 476 B.C. to 221 B.C. are called the "Warring States Period." The Zhou controlled seven regions. During this period, these regions began fighting each other. The Qin armies won this struggle in 256 B.C. They then kicked out the Zhou leaders.

The Qin and Odd Warrior Statues

The Qin dynasty only lasted 15 years from 221 B.C. to 206 B.C. However, it was an important time in Chinese history. It was a period of coming together. Lands around China were brought under Chinese rule.

The first Qin leader was Qin Shin Huang. (He is also sometimes called Shi Huangdi or Qin Shi Huang). He began work on the Great Wall of China. Qin Shin Huang died in 210 B.C. Almost 8,000 statues of warriors were buried along with him.

Qin Shin Huang was followed by his son, Qin Er Shi. He was overthrown in 206 B.C. Liu Bang was the leader of the rebels. He became the first emperor of the Han dynasty.



1 Terracotta warriors of the mausoleum of the first Qin emperor on display in Xi'An, China, June 24, 2018. Made during the Qin dynasty from 246 B.C. to 208 B.C., the figures were to guard the emperor's tomb. Photo by: Tao Zhang/Getty Images

Hans Ride The Silk Road

The Han dynasty, which was from 206 B.C. to A.D. 220, was another Golden Age. During this time, the Silk Road was established. The Silk Road was a trade route. It connected Asia to Europe and Africa.

In A.D. 220, the last Han emperor was removed. Han rule was followed by the Three Kingdoms period from A.D. 220 to 280. During these years, China was divided into three states: Cao Wei, Shu Han, and Dong Wu. Each state had its own ruler.

Between the years 386 and 581, China broke apart even more. It was divided into the northern and southern territories.

The Greatest Dynasty's Empress

In 581, the Sui dynasty arose. The Sui dynasty did not last long. Yet, it managed to reunite the northern and southern territories. However, in the year 618, the Sui were overthrown by the Tang.

The Tang dynasty, which ran from 618 to 906, is often called the greatest dynasty. Its members included China's only woman ruler. Her name was Empress Wu Zetian. She ruled the Chinese empire for about 20 years.

The Mongols Take Over

The Tang dynasty was followed by a period of constant wars. In the year 960, the Song dynasty came to power. During this period, the world's first paper money was issued.

The Song dynasty lasted until 1279. In that year, it fell to the Mongols. The Mongols then ruled China as the Yuan dynasty from 1279 to 1368.

The Yuan dynasty ended in 1368. It was taken over by the Ming Emperor Zhu Yuanzhang. He established the Ming dynasty, which lasted from 1368 to 1644.

The Ming emperors made the Great Wall of China even bigger. They hoped it would keep out invaders. Manchu forces still broke through. They ended the Ming dynasty in 1644.

The Last Emperors

The Manchu invaders established the Qing dynasty. It ruled from 1644 to 1911.

In 1911, the last of the Chinese emperors, Puyi, stepped down. China then became a republic.



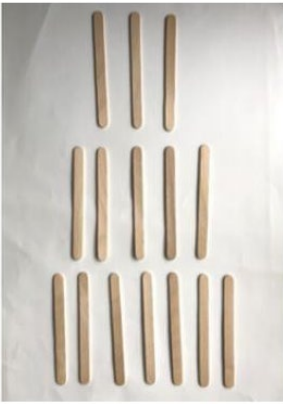
Image 4. Clay sculptures depict the daily life of Beijing during the last years of the Qing dynasty in the early 1900s. They are on exhibit at the Capital Museum in Beijing, China. Photo: Zhang Peng/LightRocket via Getty Images

Directions: Respond to the prompts below.

1. How did China change because of at least two of the different dynasties?
2. Describe what was most surprising about the information in this article over China's dynasties?
3. What information will you plan to share with someone in your home or over the phone? Write out what you will say.

6th Grade Math Resources

1) NIM: 2-Person Strategy Game



- Equipment required: 15 objects (rocks, toothpicks, sticks, coins, strips of paper, markers, etc.)
- Set up 3 rows of objects as shown in the picture (rows of 3, 5, 7)
- Players take turns removing objects from any of the rows.
- On your turn, take as many objects as you like from a row, but only from that row.
- The losing person is the one forced to take the last object.

Play many times and try to discover a winning strategy.

2) Fraction of an Amount (Source: <https://www.openmiddle.com/>)

Using the digits from 1 to 9, at most once, make as many true statements as possible.

$$\frac{\square}{\square} \text{ of } \square\square = \square\square$$

3) Addition Practice Puzzle (Source: <https://brilliant.org/>)

What is the value of **A**?

$$\begin{array}{r} + \quad \quad \quad A \quad B \\ \quad \quad \quad A \quad B \\ \hline \quad \quad \quad 1 \quad 3 \quad 8 \end{array}$$

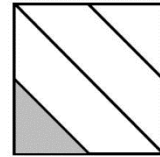
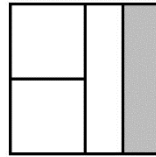
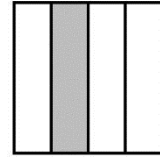
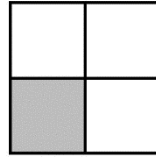
4) Percent Practice (Source: <https://openupresources.org/math-curriculum/>)

A trash bin has a capacity of 50 gallons. What percentage of its capacity is each of the following?
Show your reasoning.

- 5 gallons
- 30 gallons
- 45 gallons
- 100 gallons

- 5) **Which One Doesn't Belong?** (Source: wodb.ca)

Choose a square in this picture that you don't think belongs with the rest. Explain why. Can you pick another square and give a different reason?



- 6) **Adding Multiple Decimals** (Source: <https://www.openmiddle.com/>)

Use the digits 0 to 9, at most one time each, to fill in the boxes so that the sum is as close to 10 as possible.

$$\square.\square + \square.\square + \square.\square\square$$

- 7) **Percent Of** (Source: <https://openupresources.org/math-curriculum/>)

Answer each question. Show your reasoning. Drawing a diagram might be helpful.

- 20% of a is 11. What is a ?
- 75% of b is 12. What is b ?
- 80% of c is 20. What is c ?
- 200% of d is 18. What is d ?

- 8) **Percent Practice** (Source: <https://openupresources.org/math-curriculum/>)

Noah raised \$54 to support the animal shelter, which is 60% of his fundraising goal.

- Draw a diagram or write an equation to represent the situation.
- What is Noah's fundraising goal? Show or explain how you found it.

9) **Percent Of** (Source: <https://www.openmiddle.com/>)

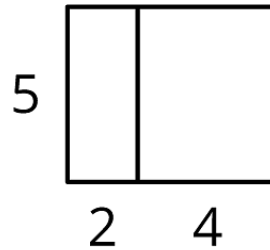
Using the digits 0 to 9 at most one time each, fill in the boxes to create a correct sentence:

$$\boxed{}\% \text{ of } \boxed{}\boxed{}\boxed{} = \boxed{}\boxed{}$$

10) **Distributive Property** (Source: <https://openupresources.org/math-curriculum/>)

Select **all** the expressions that represent the area of the large, outer rectangle. Show how you know.

- A. $5(2 + 4)$
- B. $5 \cdot 2 + 4$
- C. $5 \cdot 2 + 5 \cdot 4$
- D. $5 \cdot 2 \cdot 4$
- E. $5 + 2 + 4$
- F. $5 \cdot 6$



11) **Puzzle** (Source: <https://www.solvemoji.com/>)

What is the value of the last row?

$$\begin{aligned} \text{📖} + \text{📖} + \text{📖} &= 21 \\ \text{📖} + \text{📖} \times \text{📖} &= 238 \\ \text{📖} + \text{📖} \times \text{📖} &= 48 \\ \text{📖} + \text{📖} \times \text{📖} &= ? \end{aligned}$$

For Math Answers – Flip to the Science page

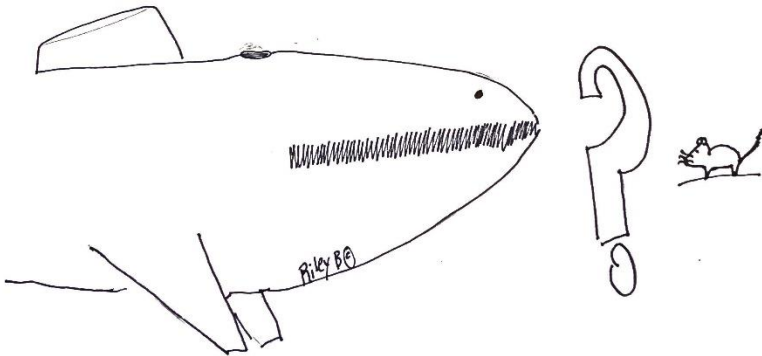
Science Answer Key

C: The average cell of a blue whale is about the same size as the average cell of a shrew. Blue whales are larger than shrews is because they have more cells, not because their cells are larger.



SCIENCE-6

Wonder of Mammal Sizes



The blue whale is the largest mammal in the world. The shrew is one of the smallest mammals in the world. **How does the size of average cells compare between a blue whale and a shrew?**

Choose the answer that best matches your thinking.

- A** The average cell of a blue whale is smaller than the average cell of a shrew.
- B** The average cell of a blue whale is larger than the average cell of a shrew.
- C** The average cell of a blue whale is about the same size as the average cell of a shrew.

Explain your thinking. Describe the “rule” or reasoning you used to choose your answer.

Share this situation with your family. Listen for how their thinking is like or different than yours. Check the math page for which possibility is most like currently supported science.

I most agree with _____ because...

Answer- see math page. Math Answer Key: **2.** Multiple answers possible, ex: $\frac{1}{2}$ of $68=34$ or $\frac{6}{3}$ of $27=54$; **3.** $A=6$ ($AB=69$); **4.** $a=10\%$, $b=60\%$, $c=90\%$, $d=200\%$; **5.** Could argue any of the options!; **6.** Multiple options, ex: $8.2+1.3+0.49$ or $8.3+1.4+0.29$; **7.** $a=55$, $b=16$, $c=25$, $d=9$; **8.** Goal = \$90; **9.** LOTS (come up with as many as you can), Ex: 5% of $260=13$. ; **10.** A, C, F; **11.** 94



Phone Number Workout

The Rules:

1. Write down your phone number
2. Go through your phone number one digit at a time and do the exercise or stretch associated with that number
3. Try friends phone number

1. Forward Lunges

1



2. Stair or Chair Squats

2



3



10 reps

3. Star Jumps

4



4. Sit Ups

5



5. Wall squats

6



6. Chair squats



15 reps

7. Mountain climbers

7

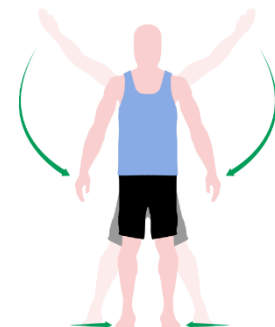


8. Alternate Elbow to knee

8



9



9. Jumping Jacks

0



0. Plank



20 reps

Starting with Spanish

See how much Spanish you already know!

Match each question with the best answer.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. _____ ¡Hola! | A. Caring |
| 2. _____ Furiosa/Furioso | B. Nervous |
| 3. _____ Cariñosa/ Cariñoso | C. Is |
| 4. _____ Es | D. Person |
| 5. _____ Inteligente | E. Hello! |
| 6. _____ Atlético/Atlética | F. Athletic |
| 7. _____ Nerviosa/Nerioso | G. Furious (super angry) |
| 8. _____ Persona | H. Intelligent |

Silly Stories for Spanish Beginners

Layla, la chica inteligente

Not all middle schools offer Spanish. If you are new to Spanish or just want to try it out, see how much of this story you can understand! *Hint: amable = nice*

To view this comic as a cartoon with audio, visit: <http://tiny.cc/SpanWk3Layla>



<p>Esta es Layla.</p> <p>Layla es una chica.</p>	<p>Layla dice,</p> <p>Layla es amable.</p>	<p>Layla es inteligente.</p> <p>Layla tiene ideas excelentes</p>	<p>La clase favorita de Layla es matemáticas.</p>
<p>Un día en la clase de matemáticas,</p>	<p>la profesora de Layla tiene una sorpresa.</p>	<p>La profesora tiene 1 elefante extra.</p>	<p>El elefante es el animal favorito de Layla.</p>
<p>Layla tiene idea fenomenal.</p>	<p>Layla habla con Mamá.</p>	<p>Ahora, Layla está feliz.</p> <p><i>ahora= now feliz = happy</i></p>	<p>Layla tiene 1 elefante en casa.</p>

Students Developing Spanish Skills

Read the current news article from *El mundo en tus manos*.

Médicos cubanos van a Italia

22 de marzo: Actualmente muchos médicos y **enfermeros**¹ cubanos viven y trabajan en otros **países**². En el 2019, había 28000 enfermeras y médicos cubanos que trabajaban en más de 60 países diferentes. Normalmente estos profesionistas atienden pacientes en varios países de América Latina,

pero, en marzo, un grupo de 52 médicos y enfermeras **viajaron**³ a Lombardía, Italia.

Ahora, están trabajando en varios hospitales italianos para combatir el coronavirus. Es **la primera vez**⁴ que Italia **les pide**⁵ ayuda a médicos cubanos.

Los países europeos no

solamente le pidieron ayuda médica a Cuba, sino también a otros países latinoamericanos. Un grupo de médicos venezolanos viajó a España para ayudar en varios hospitales. Uno de los médicos mencionó que **el apoyo**⁶ de la comunidad médica de América Latina ha sido muy importante durante la pandemia.

enfermeros¹ nurses países² countries viajaron³ traveled primera vez⁴ first time le pide ayuda⁵ asks for help el apoyo⁶ the support

Circle the best answer.

1. Typically (**A FEW** / **MANY**) Cuban medical professionals work in more than 60 Latin American countries.
2. This March a group of 52 medical professionals traveled to (**ITALY** / **AUSTRIA** / **LATIN AMERICA**).
3. Now they are (**VISITING** / **WORKING AT** / **REPAIRING**) Italian hospitals.
4. Italy and (**LOMBARDIA** / **SPAIN**) asked Latin American countries to help fight the virus in hospitals.
5. The help from Latin American countries has been called (**ANNOYING** / **ESSENTIAL** / **IMPORTANT**).

Heritage and Native Speakers of Spanish

Leer las noticias de última hora desde *El mundo en tus manos*.

El primer gel antibacterial

En 1966, Guadalupe «Lupe» Hernández vivía en Bakersfield, California. La **joven** latina estudiaba **enfermería**. Ella trabajaba con médicos que **atendían** trabajadores de las industrias minera y agrícola. Cuando los médicos y las enfermeras iban a las minas y a las **huertas** a atender a sus pacientes, ellos no podían lavarse las manos. No tenían acceso a agua y **jabón**. Por eso, no podían desinfectarse las manos antes de entrar en contacto con sus pacientes.

Hernández quería ayudar a los médicos y a los trabajadores. Ella sabía que el alcohol etílico **podía matar** gérmenes como bacterias y virus. Por eso, ella mezcló alcohol con otros dos ingredientes: agua astringente y glicerina. La combinación de esos ingredientes creó un gel antibacterial.

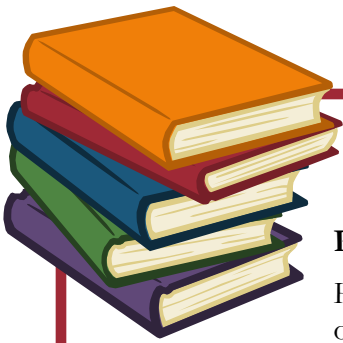
¡Hernández había inventado un producto especial! Gracias a ese gel, los médicos podían «lavarse las manos». Es decir, el gel podía desinfectar las manos de los doctores sin necesidad de

agua y jabón.

Hernández sabía que su invento era muy importante y quería patentarlo. Un día, ella vio un anuncio en la televisión. El anuncio decía que había una compañía que podía ayudar a las personas a patentar sus inventos. Hernández contactó a la compañía y ellos le ayudaron a patentar su producto. Fue así como Hernández patentó el primer gel antibacterial de la historia.

joven young person enfermería nursing atendían attended to/treated huertas orchards jabón soap podían matar could kill

Escribir su reacción abajo.



ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS: GRADE 6

Pre-Reading Question: Favorite Flops

Have you ever become invested or attached to something, only to see it fade out of style? Is there something you love — a movie, a sport, a food, a recreational pastime — that many others either don't "get" or simply don't care about?

Close Reading: As you read the article below, use the following annotations to understand how the author's point of view is developed. When you finish reading, answer the close reading questions.

<u>Underline</u>	Supporting details that support the <i>Central Idea</i>
○ Circle	Unfamiliar terms or phrases – and look them up 😊
?	Confusing information

🔍 Can you find these figurative expressions as they appear in the text? Look at the reference key at the end of the article to better understand what the author is saying.

- ✓ *Canaries in a coal mine*
- ✓ *March to the beat of your own drum*
- ✓ *On a different wavelength*
- ✓ *Borne little fruit*
- ✓ *Water seeking its own level*
- ✓ *Being a dowsing rod*

Are You an Anti-Influencer?

Some people have a knack for buying products that flop, supporting political candidates who lose and moving to neighborhoods that fail to thrive.

By Alex Stone March 5, 2020

What do Crystal Pepsi, Watermelon Oreos, Frito-Lay Lemonade, Coors Rocky Mountain Sparkling Water, Colgate Kitchen Entrees and Cheetos Lip Balm all have in common?

The obvious answer is they are all failed products. What is less obvious is that they may also share a fan base — a quirky subgroup of consumers who are systemically drawn to flops and whose reliably contrarian tastes can be used to forecast bad bets in retail sales, real estate and even politics. These people are known as “harbingers of failure.”

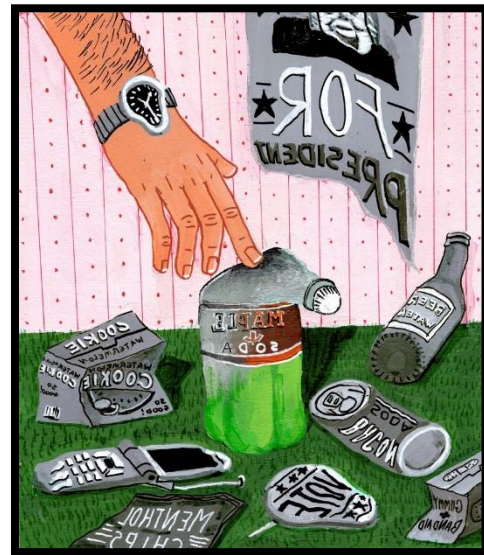


Image: Brandon Celi

The study of harbingers emerged from a 2015 analysis of purchasing patterns at a national convenience store chain. (In exchange for the data, the researchers agreed not to reveal the identity of the chain.) Drawing on six years' worth of data from the chain's loyalty card program, a team of marketing professors led by Eric Anderson of Northwestern University classified customers according to their attraction for buying new products that were later pulled from the shelves because of weak demand. Of the roughly 130,000 customers whose purchases were logged, a sizable fraction (about 25 percent) consistently took home products that bombed.

Go back and underline where the author defines the term “harbinger.” Look this term up and compare the dictionary definition to how it's used here.



“It was really an accident,” says the economist Catherine Tucker of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (M.I.T.), one of the study’s authors. “We looked in the data and saw there were some customers who were really good at picking out failures” — so good, in fact, that a newly introduced product was less likely to survive if it attracted these buyers. (And if they bought it repeatedly, its chances of survival were even worse.) Professor Tucker called these people harbingers of failure because, statistically speaking, their fondness for a product signaled its failure.

The harbinger effect has since been shown to apply not just to individuals but also to geographic areas. In a paper published last year, the M.I.T. marketing professor Duncan Simester documented the existence of harbinger ZIP codes — areas of the country that consistently go for unsuccessful new products. Like individual harbingers, these ZIP codes are canaries in the coal mine for ill-fated offerings. Be it a newfangled flavor of soft drink or a recently released line of jeans, early adoption of a product by households in these ZIP codes predicts grimly for its future.

What are the two types of harbingers the study explores?



And the phenomenon goes beyond retail sales. Working with the political economist Clair Yang of the University of Washington, Professors Tucker and Simester compared the contributions to congressional campaigns made by harbinger ZIP codes — identified, again, through their purchasing decisions — with those made by neighboring ZIP codes over the course of five federal election cycles. They found that harbinger ZIP codes prefer to donate, in both amount and total number of donations, to candidates who end up losing their races.

“This was very surprising to us,” Professor Yang says. “Politics is as far away from consumer products as possible. If someone likes Coke instead of Pepsi, that shouldn’t affect whether they’re a Republican or a Democrat.”

The existence of harbinger ZIP codes was a surprise, admits Professor Simester, who initially assumed that the phenomenon was a byproduct of households’ absorbing the preferences and habits of their neighbors — a phenomenon that has been demonstrated in numerous other contexts. “My expectation was that these people are learning from each other,” he says.

Summarize the hypothesis that Professor Simester wants to test.



To test this assumption, Professors Simester, Tucker and Yang evaluated data on 30,000 households that changed ZIP codes within a four-year period. Their analysis showed that when households in harbinger ZIP codes moved, they tended to move to other harbinger ZIP codes, while households in non-harbinger ZIP codes did the opposite.

Professor Simester and his colleagues then compared the buying habits of households before and after they moved, to see if transitioning to a new area affected them. It didn’t. Even when harbingers moved to a neighborhood of non-harbingers, their disaster-prone tendencies persisted. They didn’t rub off on their neighbors, either. “If you’re not a harbinger and you accidentally move into a harbinger ZIP code, you don’t start buying strange products,” Professor Tucker explains.

This remarkable finding suggests that the clustering of harbingers at the ZIP code level is a result not of social learning but of water seeking its own level. Evidently, the same irregular drumbeat that harbingers march to while browsing the aisles of supermarkets and private label clothing stores also guides their decisions about where to live, leading them to the same neighborhoods.

What is the author suggesting is the reason harbingers live in the same neighborhoods?



And as with their tastes in soda and jeans, these decisions have a predictably gloomy result: Property values in harbinger ZIP codes consistently underperform the broader market, according to an analysis of changes in housing prices across more than 4,000 ZIP codes over 12 years.

Being a dowsing rod for disappointments, moreover, appears to be a curiously stable attribute, a “sticky” trait that is transported but not transmitted and doesn’t bow to shifting social norms. “It’s not a contagious thing,” Professor Tucker says. “It’s an inherent characteristic.” But what exactly is that characteristic? Who are the harbingers?

Attempts to characterize these people have borne little fruit. The harbingers are slightly more concentrated on the West Coast and in non-urban areas, demographic data has shown, but other than that they exhibit no clear geographical pattern. They may be a little wealthier than average and have bigger families, although the evidence for that is open to doubt. They shop at warehouse clubs like Sam’s and Costco — but then, who doesn’t? And they’re big on variety: Harbingers buy a wide assortment of brands but make fewer repeat purchases than the average consumer, which may explain why demand from harbingers alone isn’t enough to sustain the products they acquire.

That’s the closest thing to a police sketch researchers have been able to draw, and admittedly it leaves many questions unanswered. Perhaps, Professor Tucker suggests, harbingers are simply on a different wavelength from the rest of us. “I think what we’re picking up on is that there are just some people who, for whatever reason, have consistently non-majority tastes,” she says, noting that in addition to buying short-lived products, harbingers buy a lot of niche items. “They like that odd house. That political candidate everyone else finds off-putting. They like Watermelon Oreos.”

Why is it so difficult to identify who harbingers are? Underline evidence that supports this claim.



Vocabulary Challenge!

How many times does the term “harbinger” appear in the article? What does this term mean? How does the author develop a definition for the reader?

Even if we aren’t sure what makes harbingers tick, we can still learn from them. For one thing, they may help us understand why many products that debut to strong sales and positive customer feedback wind up tanking, a problem that has long confounded marketers. “If you want to predict which products are going to be successful, you don’t just want to look at total sales,” Professor Simester says. “Look at who’s buying.”

Analyzing data from harbingers could also help generate more accurate political predictions and sounder real estate investments. Currently, Professor Tucker is exploring the possibility of applying harbinger metrics to finance. But it’s the human angle of the harbinger research that most intrigues her. “It resonates with so many people,” Professor Tucker says. “Everyone knows that one person. Or they are that person. And for them I’ve suddenly explained their life.”



Examples of failed products: Colgate Frozen Entrees, Crystal Pepsi, Watermelon Oreos

<i>Idiom/Expression Glossary</i>		
<p><i>Canaries in a coal mine:</i> miners used to carry caged canaries while at work; if there was any methane or carbon monoxide in the mine, the canary would die before the levels of the gas reached those hazardous to humans.</p>	<p><i>March to the beat of your own drum:</i> to act independently and to behave differently than what is expected or is the norm.</p>	<p><i>On a different wavelength:</i> To have different opinions and feelings as someone else, to disagree</p>
<p><i>Borne little fruit:</i> Something someone does has not produced successful results</p>	<p><i>Water seeking its own level:</i> Water seeks to regulate itself towards the lowest point; people are usually attracted to those who are the same as they are</p>	<p><i>Being a dowsing rod:</i> A claim that a person can locate underground sources of water without using any scientific instruments. Typically, the person that is dowsing holds sticks or rods and walks around a property in the hopes that the rods will dip, twitch, or cross when he walks over the underground water.</p>

Questions: Answer the following questions on your own sheet of paper or notebook.

1. Identify the Central Idea of the article and at least 5 supporting details.
2. Construct an objective summary of the text. Be sure to use complete sentences.

Extension:

Research famous fails from companies like Coca-Cola, Frito Lays, and the other products mentioned in the introduction. What were the reasons these products ultimately were discontinued?

Or

Create your own products that seem plausible but might not make it. Create the “pitch” for your product as you would for an investor. Why should they invest in you and your great idea?