In this Spider-Man comic from Mexico, Gwen Stacy never dies

By David Barnett, The Guardian, adapted by Newsela staff
03/14/2019

When Spider-Man's girlfriend Gwen Stacy was thrown from a New York bridge in a 1973 comic, her death was an important moment. Stacy was one of the first major supporting characters to be killed off in mainstream comics. That made Amazing Spider-Man #121, written by Gerry Conway with art by Gil Kane and John Romita, an instant classic.

Except in Mexico. From the early 1960s, the country was an early adopter of Marvel's superheroes. They took Spider-Man, el Hombre Araña in Spanish, to their hearts especially. The newspaper publisher La Prensa put out Spanish translations of the wall-crawler's adventures, distributing them to fans not only in Mexico but also in Argentina, Chile, Uruguay and Peru, as well as Spanish-speaking communities in California and Florida.

**Gwen And Spider-Man Live Happily Ever After**

The Spider-Man cast was so beloved that, when Gwen died, Mexican fans reacted with fury. So La Prensa gave up on the Marvel storyline and did something amazing. It began creating a whole new timeline of Spider-Man comics where not only did Gwen never die, she married Peter Parker and lived happily ever after.

Outside Mexico, these Spider-Man stories have largely disappeared. However, they got fresh exposure recently when Chris Ryall, president of the U.S. comics company IDW, asked comics fans on Twitter about their favorite forgotten comics. One user drew his attention to the La Prensa Spider-Man stories.

**The Stories Have Not Been Translated Into English**

Ryall was immediately "obsessed." None of the stories had ever been translated or released in the U.S. And although La Prensa had approached Marvel Comics the year before Stacy was killed, to ask if they could license Spider-Man for use in original stories, even professionals working on comics at the time knew nothing about it. Conway, the writer who killed off Gwen, announced on Twitter that he was astounded.

Then, out of the blue, Ryall was contacted by José Luis González Durán, the artist behind the alternative Spider-Man strips, which lasted for 45 monthly issues. Now 86 years old, and with failing eyesight, the artist was amazed that there was renewed interest in his work. "He was very flattered to know that his comics were being discussed," Ryall said. Durán was cautious but intrigued by the idea of them possibly being translated and released in English after all this time, he said.

**Keeping The Fans Happy**

Durán, who lives in Toluca, Mexico, said that he was especially taken with Gwen, which is evident in her prominence in his art, appearing front and center. Her death was a turning point for Mexican fans, he said, and the decision to keep Gwen alive was his own "foolishness," wanting to keep them happy. "We regretted her death, because she was such a necessary and attractive character for the series," he said.

He is enjoying his new fame. "It surprised me enormously since for 48 years, nobody cared about my work. For me it is pleasant, because with this I was able to find new friends, and that gives me life. At 86 years of age it is fantastic that at last, fame came to me," he said.
Whatever Happens, "It's All Been A Bit Wondrous"

Will Durán's version of Spider-Man stories see the light of day again? Ryall couldn't say if IDW would be involved, but has said he would love it if Conway wrote the dialogue for the alternate story inspired by his own.

"Whatever the ultimate fate of these comics, the mystique surrounding them has drawn new attention to José's work. And really, as an artist, that's what you hope for most, that your work will be seen, thought of fondly, and well-remembered," he said. "It's all been a bit wondrous."

Text Dependent Question

1. Determine two or more main ideas of a text and explain how they are supported by key details. Be sure to cite textual evidence.

2. How can the Marvel Comics/Universe can teach us valuable life lessons? Give two quotes from the article above to support your reasoning.
Building a House

Ben the Builder is building a house for the Johnson family. He needs to use his math skills to build the house correctly.

1. Ben added to find how many drywall screws he needs to complete the house. Then he subtracted the number of screws he has to find how many screws he needs to buy. He used his calculator to help him, but then he dropped it. Now the screen looks like this.

\[
\begin{array}{c}
4 & 3 & 8 & \square \\
+ & 2 & \square & 7 & 9 \\
\hline \\
\square & 1 & \square & 5 \\
\hline \\
- & 3 & 7 & 2 & 1 \\
\hline \\
3 & \square & 4 & 4 \\
\end{array}
\]

What are the missing numbers? How many screws does Ben need to buy? Explain your reasoning.
2. Ben will hire a crane to help the workers put the bundles of shingles on the roof. There is a limit to the weight the crane can lift at one time, but Ben wants the work done as quickly as possible. Explain to Ben what math he can use so that the crane uses the fewest lifts possible.

3. Ben needs to choose between three brands of shingles to use on the roof. He knows he needs 89 bundles of shingles but each type of shingle weighs a different amount. He needs to take the information he has about the cost of the crane and the amount it can lift to determine the cost of using each brand.

The crane costs $350 plus an additional $150 for each hour or part of an hour the crane is used. The crane can make 4 lifts in one hour. Each lift must weigh 650 pounds or less. The weights of a bundle of each brand of shingle can be found in the table below.

Complete the table. Show your work. Then decide which brand of shingles Ben should choose. Explain your reasoning.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shingle</th>
<th>Weight of each Bundle (lb)</th>
<th>Number of Bundles in One Lift</th>
<th>Number of Lifts Needed</th>
<th>Number of Hours Needed</th>
<th>Total Cost of the Crane</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brand A</td>
<td>75</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brand B</td>
<td>80</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brand C</td>
<td>85</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. This is the floor plan of the house Ben is building.

What is the estimated area of the patio? Explain your reasoning.

\[ A = \text{_________________________} \]

\[ \text{_________________________} \]

\[ \text{_________________________} \]

\[ \text{_________________________} \]

\[ \text{_________________________} \]
5. Ben needs to buy trim for around the windows and doors of the house. Complete the table to determine how much trim he should buy. Show your work.

Remember: Windows are trimmed on all four sides. Doors are not trimmed along the bottom.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Height (in.)</th>
<th>Width (in.)</th>
<th>Trim Needed (in.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Window</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>40</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Door</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>36</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sliding door</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>72</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
"Black Panther" and the beauty and strength of black women

By Mary-Jean Nleya, Al Jazeera, adapted by Newsela staff
03/06/2018

"Black Panther" features bold (and bald) women, royal matriarchs, independent, intelligent ladies and stern, witty and humorous women. Female representation in all of its complexity is shown in this box office record-making film. There are female military generals, engineers and advisers. There are also strong queens and princesses.

Since the film came to theaters, news media, social media, private conversations, fashion magazines and even classrooms have been excited about it. References to the film are everywhere, and so are hashtags like #WakandaForever and #WhatWakandaMeansToMe.

Different people see different things in this film. Some draw parallels between the fictional nation of Wakanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo in Africa. Wakanda has lots of a fictional metal called vibranium. That is one of the metals used to make Captain America's shield. The Democratic Republic of Congo has lots of cobalt, which is needed to make electric cars. It is expected to be in high demand over the upcoming years. Others, when watching King T'Challa (played by Chadwick Boseman) and Killmonger (played by Michael B. Jordan), reflect on the politics of race and perhaps the complex relationship between Africans and African-Americans. The all-female Wakandan army reminds history lovers of the women soldiers of Dahomey of the 18th and 19th centuries. Dahomey was a kingdom in western Africa until the French took control of it at the end of the 19th century.

One could reflect deeply on many of the themes of the Marvel film. For me, what stood out most was the depth and complexity of the female characters.

Representing Women Of Color

Intersectionality is a term coined by feminist professor Kimberle Crenshaw. It looks into the various ways in which women, and particularly women of color, and more specifically women of color who are poor, face layered forms of discrimination.

For example, some black women are deemed to be more employable than others because of their hairstyle choices. Mainstream beauty trends pressure black women to follow certain style rules. These rules supposedly make black women look "presentable" or "acceptable" in the media, workplace and even schools. Not too long ago, the Pretoria High School for Girls in South Africa had a rule that some people questioned. The school was telling black students to straighten their hair and not wear Afros that were said to be "untidy."

Black women's hair is apparently political. This means two black women, one with relaxed straight hair and another with no hair or a big Afro, may face different levels of discrimination. That brings us back to Crenshaw's intersectionality debate.

Women Vary In Physical Appearances
This is where "Black Panther" differs from other mainstream movies. What "Black Panther" does is explore the varying ways in which black women may choose to express themselves.

In the film, there are bald black women who occupy spaces of power and career success. These bald and strong women stand at the King's side to protect him. There is Nakia (played by Lupita Nyong'o) who wears beautiful knots in her hair. There is Shuri (played by Letitia Wright) who wears striking braids and Ramonda (played by Angela Bassett) who wears royal headpieces. Of course, there is also bald, strong and striking Okoye (played by Danai Gurira).

This kind of varied physical representation of women normalizes the different ways in which women, black women, can choose to present themselves. It sends out the message that black women do not need to fit into any specific beauty standard. They should be respected and are beautiful as they are.

**Strong, Smart And In Charge**

The black women in "Black Panther" are strong. Their strength is revered, and not feared, by the men in their lives.

We are first introduced to the strong and poised queen Ramonda standing tall and graceful in support of her son, the new king. Then there is Princess Shuri, a smart, tech-savvy, witty, young woman. Despite Shuri's young age, she is given the significant responsibilities of maintaining and advancing the technological advancements of the Kingdom of Wakanda. Throughout the movie, she lives up to those responsibilities.

Nakia is a spy who has dedicated her life to protecting women being held against their will outside the borders of Wakanda. She has a sense of self-determination and focus. Nakia is wise and offers advice to King T'Challa, who greatly admires her. Then there is the tough Okoye, a stern warrior with a great sense of humor, the commander of the all-female military that protects the King and leads Wakanda to victory.

**Complex Female Characters**

All these female characters are complex. The women represented in this mostly black film are not shown as all being one type of person. Instead, they speak to the many types of experiences women face. They represent women of color who are young or old, stern or witty, career-focused or family-oriented.

This film reassures young girls, but especially black girls, that studying science and math is cool and possible. They too can succeed at leading an entire country's technological progress. "Black Panther" shows career women that their absolute focus and self-determination should be admired.

All in all, "Black Panther" put female empowerment on full display on the big screen and reminded us all that the future is female and the future is African. Wakanda Forever!

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**Text Dependent Question**

1. **Determine two or more main ideas of a text and explain how they are supported by key details. Be sure to cite textual evidence.**

2. **How can the Marvel Comics/Universe can teach us valuable life lessons? Give two quotes from the article above to support your reasoning.**
Party Time!

Stefan and some friends organized a party for the people in his building. The party was held at the park across the street.

1. Mr. Hoya brought 5 watermelons from his grocery store. The watermelons weighed $8\frac{1}{4}$ pounds, $9\frac{1}{4}$ pounds, $8\frac{7}{8}$ pounds, $9\frac{5}{8}$ pounds, and $10\frac{3}{4}$ pounds. At the party, 153 people each ate a $\frac{1}{4}$-pound serving of watermelon. Was the amount of leftover watermelon less than or greater than $8\frac{1}{2}$ pounds? Explain how to solve the problem. Then solve it.

2. Mr. Carlucci brought $8\frac{3}{4}$ pound pepperoni for large sandwiches. He cut the pepperoni into $\frac{1}{12}$ pound slices. A skateboarder bumped into his table and $2\frac{7}{12}$ pound of the pepperoni fell on the ground and was eaten by 3 dogs. Does Mr. Carlucci have enough pepperoni left to make 74 sandwiches if he puts one slice on each sandwich? By how much is he over or under the amount of pepperoni he needs? Show your work.
3. The Salomans offered to be in charge of drinks for the party. In addition to other beverages, they brought 4 bags of coffee that each held $2\frac{1}{2}$ pounds. When brewed, $\frac{1}{4}$ pound of coffee made 8 cups of coffee. The Salomons brewed and served 296 cups of coffee. Was any coffee left over? If so, how much coffee was left? Show your work.

4. Ramone tossed 1 quarter, 2 dimes, and 13 pennies in the wishing well at the party. What is the total amount of money as a fraction and as a decimal? Show your work.
5. At the party there were 380 places to sit, including the benches in the park and the chairs people brought to the party. Of those seats, 0.45 of them were used by women and girls. How many seats were used by men and boys? Is that fraction of the total number of seats less than or greater than $\frac{3}{5}$? Explain your mathematical thinking.

6. Some of the neighbors played a penny game. Players toss a penny in a hole and earn that number of points. Each player tosses 3 pennies. The scores from each penny that goes in a hole are added for a final score. Is it possible to get a score of 9? If so, how could it happen?
7. Stefan and his friends used four tables for all the dishes the guests brought to the party. The tables were $2.\frac{8}{10}$ meters long, 2.48 meters long, $2.\frac{59}{100}$ meters long, and 2.84 meters long. Demonstrate one way to model these numbers to compare them. Write each as a decimal and order them from greatest to least using symbols.

8. One of the neighborhood apartment buildings has 8 floors. During the party, the elevator in the building was busy taking people up and down, to the party and back home. The elevator started on the ground floor. It went up $\frac{3}{8}$ of the building height, up another $\frac{2}{3}$ of the building, down $\frac{4}{5}$, up $\frac{5}{8}$, down $\frac{3}{8}$, and up $\frac{1}{8}$. What floor is the elevator on now? What move will put it back on the ground floor?
"Captain Marvel" has a powerful female lead

By Morinsola Keshinro, USA Today
03/06/2019

Now, I'm not a Marvel superfan, by any means. In fact, the first Marvel film I ever saw was "Thor: Ragnarok" in 2017. I'm sure I didn't understand any of the things a longtime watcher would pick up on, but that's the great thing about stories — a good one stands on its own. My enjoyment of Thor led me to "Black Panther" and then "Avengers: Infinity War," which encouraged me to understand the world of Marvel. And now, here we are days away from the "Captain Marvel" movie, and I'm excited to see Marvel introduce us to a powerful female character.

Now that I'm a person in the Marvel world, it feels different. Different in that these stories have always existed with powerful and strong male leading characters. This time, the most powerful superhero in the Marvel cinematic universe is a woman and is Marvel's first female-led film. What a time. What an opportunity.

Things haven't gotten much better for women in media and movies despite the conversations we've had about various types of representation. There is strong data that reveals that there is still inequality in gender. Male leads are vastly overrepresented (71.3 percent of roles) compared to female leads (28.8 percent). Our stories are being buried under men's.

Meanwhile, women are over-represented in roles that have them nude or wearing "sexy" clothing, with female characters doing so 31.6 percent of the time versus male characters 7 percent, according to an examination of 2012 films. Out of the top-250 grossing U.S. films in 2018, women represented 20 percent of all directors, writers, producers, executive producers, editors and cinematographers. A further breakdown of that portion shows that only 8 percent of directors were women.

Unlike many female characters, the women of "Captain Marvel" don't rely on romance and other typical woman character arcs. There are multiple female characters in the film that enforce diversity of women in race, careers and talents. The film is co-directed by Anna Boden and scored by Pinar Toprak. Plus, the film releases on International Women's Day, March 8, during Women's History Month. Talk about girl power.

This is why the #CaptainMarvelChallenge, an effort to have young girls go to see this movie, is so important. The opportunity to see and support women and girls being strong, smart and bold is something to get behind. Something I want to be a part of.

This campaign is partly about the entertainment experience for these girls, normalizing seeing women in powerful positions, hearing about women creating and working in spaces dominated by men. But most importantly it is in support of programs that encourage girls to be strong, smart and bold. These concepts are reinforced by having women be visible and seen as capable, integral and smart.

Representation Could Have A Big Impact
Captain Marvel is a film that can expose and encourage boys, girls, men and women alike. For girls, I hope that if certain strengths are seen, they can be that, too.

I'm looking forward to the conversations to be had around this film. Everything from how it made people feel to how people see the work done in the film as part of the overall storyline. Also, how in our current social and political climate it will live in the discourse, and — what I may not hear until many years later — show what it means to people in this period of time.

Is the Marvel world an interest area for everyone? No. It wasn't for me for a long time. But now I see the value of representation in films that portray strength, perseverance and bring hope to others. Having young girls see this movie supports women, showing them that regardless of circumstances — such as family poverty, gang surroundings and homelessness as the girls in Girls Inc. of Greater Los Angeles face — they can be unapologetically strong and everyday superheroes.

Text Dependent Question

1. Determine two or more main ideas of a text and explain how they are supported by key details. Be sure to cite textual evidence.

2. How can the Marvel Comics/Universe can teach us valuable life lessons? Give two quotes from the article above to support your reasoning.
Protractor
Community Playground

James and Marvin volunteer to help build a playground in their neighborhood. Use geometry and measurement to solve each problem.

1. James sketches a design for a fence around the playground. The sketch has four points, A, B, C, D. It has 2 right angles, 1 obtuse angle, and 1 acute angle that measures 45°.

   a. Use a protractor to draw the design of the fence. Label the points and right angles.

   b. Name the two line segments that form the obtuse angle. Use a protractor to find the angle measure.

   c. Name the angle that forms the acute angle.

   d. Name any perpendicular lines in your sketch.
2. Marvin cuts this piece of wood along line $RT$ to form the base of a birdhouse.

![Diagram of a birdhouse base with angles and sides labeled]

a. What is the angle measure of $x$? Write an equation to solve.

b. Draw a line that is parallel to line $QS$ to form a line of symmetry. Explain how you know the base of the birdhouse has a line of symmetry.

c. Side $QR$ measures 14 inches. Side $QS$ measures 9 inches. Use a formula to find both the perimeter and area of the base of the birdhouse. Show your work.

d. Is the birdhouse base a parallelogram? Explain.
3. The data in the chart shows the lengths of nails Marvin uses to build his birdhouse.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lengths of Nails (in.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a. Make a line plot to show the data.

b. What is the difference between the longest and shortest nails Marvin uses? Show your work.

4. James draws this diagram for a fenced-in play area. The angle shows the opening for the gate. What is the measure of the angle in degrees? Write an equation to solve.

![Diagram showing a circle with a 1/5 angle opening]
5. Marvin has 4 quarts of plant food for the flower garden. He calculates that he needs 130 ounces to feed all of the plants.

a. Does Marvin have enough plant food? Complete the table to solve. Explain your answer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quarts</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

b. Describe the relationship between the numbers in your table.
Stan Lee, creator of a galaxy of Marvel superheroes, dies at 95

By Associated Press, adapted by Newsela staff
11/14/2018

LOS ANGELES, California — Legendary comic book creator Stan Lee died Monday, November 12. He was 95 years old. Lee helped revolutionize the comic book. He also helped Hollywood make billions of dollars by introducing human frailties in superheroes such as Spider-Man, the Fantastic Four and the Incredible Hulk.

Lee died in Los Angeles, California.

As the top writer at Marvel Comics and later as its publisher, Lee was widely considered the architect of the contemporary comic book.

He revived the industry in the 1960s by offering the costumes and action craved by younger readers. However, he also insisted on including sophisticated plots, college-level dialogue, science fiction and even philosophy.

Millions responded to the unlikely mix of realistic fantasy and many of his characters, including Spider-Man, the Hulk and X-Men went on to become stars of blockbuster films. Recent projects he helped make possible include the films "Black Panther" and "Doctor Strange" and the TV "Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D."

He Had A Joy For Things "Bigger Than Life And Magical"

"I think everybody loves things that are bigger than life. I think of them as fairy tales for grown-ups," he said in a 2006 interview. "We all grew up with giants and ogres and witches. Well, you get a little bit older and you're too old to read fairy tales. But I don't think you ever outgrow your love for those kind of things, things that are bigger than life and magical and very imaginative."

Lee considered the comic-book medium an art form and he produced many comic books. By some accounts, he came up with a new comic book every day for 10 years, that would be 3,650 comic books.

"I wrote so many I don't even know. I wrote either hundreds or thousands of them," he said.

Lee Brought Comic Book Characters To Life In The 1960s

He hit his stride in the 1960s. That's when he brought the Fantastic Four, the Hulk, Spider-Man, Iron Man and numerous others to life.

"It was like there was something in the air. I couldn't do anything wrong," he recalled.

His heroes, meanwhile, were not just do-gooders, unlike Superman from rival DC Comics.
The Fantastic Four fought with each other. Spider-Man was convinced to do superhero work by his alter ego Peter Parker, who had to deal with things like crushes and dandruff. The Hulk was known for his hatred of himself. Daredevil was blind and Iron Man had a weak heart.

Jeff Kline was the executive producer of an animated show on TV. He said, "the beauty of Stan Lee's characters is that they were characters first and superheroes next."

Symbols Of Social Change: Black Panther, Savage She-Hulk

Some of Lee's creations became symbols of social change. The inner turmoil of Spider-Man represented 1960s America, for example. The Black Panther and The Savage She-Hulk mirrored the travails of minorities and women.

Lee scripted most of Marvel's superhero comics himself during the 1960s. This included the Avengers and the X-Men, two of the most enduring superhero groups. In 1972, he became Marvel's publisher and editorial director, four years later, 72 million copies of Spider-Man were sold.

"He's become our Mickey Mouse," he once said of the masked, web-spinning crusader. Mickey Mouse is the character most people think of when they think of Disney.

"X-Men" and "Spider-Man" Hit The Big Screen

The first big-budget movie based on Lee's characters, "X-Men," was a smash in 2000, earning more than $130 million at North American theaters. "Spider-Man" did even better, taking in more than $400 million in 2002.

Stanley Martin Lieber was born December 28, 1922, in New York. He grew up a fan of "Hardy Boys" adventure books and Errol Flynn movies. He got a job at Timely Comics after graduating from high school.

Within a few months, the editor and art director quit. This left the 17-year-old Lee with creative control over the company, which eventually became Marvel. Lieber changed his name, thinking Lee would be used for "silly little comics." And he would keep his real name for writing books.

His Early Work And Early Years Of Comics

His early work largely reflected popular movies — westerns, crime dramas, romance, whatever was the rage at the time. He worked for about 50 cents per page.

Lee spent some time in the Army during World War II, writing for training films. Then he was back at Marvel to begin a long and admittedly boring run of assembly line comic book production.

In the 1950s the government was worried about the impact of comics on children. They didn't want comics to show violence. They also didn't want them to encourage children to disobey authorities. This limited the kinds of comics that could be created.

Lee said he was also working for a publisher who considered comics as fare only for children.
"One day I said, 'This is insane,'" Lee told The Guardian in 1979. "I'm just doing the same type of stories as everybody else. I wasn't taking pride in my work and I wanted to quit. But my wife said, 'Look, why don't you do the kind of comics you want for a change?'"

"The Fantastic Four" Comics Hit Stands In 1960

The result was the first issue of "The Fantastic Four," in 1960, with the characters, plot and text from Lee and the illustrations by famed Marvel artist Jack Kirby.

The characters were normal people changed into reluctant superheroes through no fault of their own.

Writing in "Origins of Marvel Comics," Lee described the quartet this way: "The characters would be the kind of characters I could personally relate to, they'd be flesh and blood, they'd have their faults and foibles, they'd be fallible and feisty and — most important of all — inside their colorful, costumed booties they'd still have feet of clay."

"The Amazing Spider-Man" followed in 1962 and before long, Marvel Comics was an industry behemoth.

He Also Worked For Marvel Rival DC Comics

Lee's direct influence faded in the 1970s as he gave up some of his editorial duties at Marvel. But with his trademark white mustache and tinted sunglasses, he was the industry's most recognizable figure. He lectured widely on popular culture.

Lee continued to do work for Marvel and at one point went to work for DC Comics to reinvent Superman, Batman and other signature characters for Marvel's one time rival.

The dapper, friendly comic book genius continued to work into his 90s on numerous projects, including comics, films and DVDs.

Lee is survived by his daughter, Joanie, and a younger brother who also worked in comics, Larry Lieber.

Text Dependent Question

1. Determine two or more main ideas of a text and explain how they are supported by key details. Be sure to cite textual evidence.

2. How can the Marvel Comics/Universe can teach us valuable life lessons? Give two quotes from the article above to support your reasoning.
Essay Prompt

Using evidence from the articles you've read this summer to explain how the Marvel Comics/Universe can teach us valuable life lessons. Cite textual evidence to support your reasoning.
An Amusement Park

Each year, the Park Director at an amusement park records the number of tickets sold for the five rides at her park.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Ride</th>
<th>Tickets Sold</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wild Mouse</td>
<td>314,890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tilt-a-Whirl</td>
<td>198,572</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Roller Coaster</td>
<td>255,429</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Slide</td>
<td>320,040</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spinning Tea Cups</td>
<td>189,403</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Find the value of the ten thousands place for the Big Roller Coaster. How is the value of the digit in the ten thousands place different from the value of the digit in the thousands place?

2. For which ride does the number of tickets sold have an 8 in the greatest place value? Explain how you know.

3. Compare the number of tickets sold for the Wild Mouse and the Water Slide. Write a number sentence using >, <, or =. Explain your answer.
4. Choose one ride in the chart. Write the number of tickets sold in the box below. Then write the number in expanded form and in word form.

5. The Park Director also records the number of visitors each week. For each number of visitors, round to the place value of the underlined digit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Number of Visitors</th>
<th>Rounded Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>127,862</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>110,351</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>94,678</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. Use the numbers in the chart to solve the problems. Estimate. Show your work.
   a. About how many people visited the amusement park during Week 2 and Week 3?
      Estimate: 
   b. About how many more people visited the amusement park during Week 1 than Week 3?
      Estimate: 