Paired Texts Vocabulary

“The Rise of Fandoms”

1. **advocacy** *(AD-vuh-kuh-see)* noun; The verb advocate (AD-vuh-kayt) means “to support, recommend, or argue for something or someone.” The student council might advocate for a new dress code by meeting with the principal.

Advocacy is the act of advocating; it is active, public support of a cause or an idea. Someone participating in advocacy for homeless pets might organize a fundraiser for a local animal shelter.

2. **canon** *(KAN-uhn)* noun; Canon can refer to the entire collection of books, artwork, music, or films of a particular author, artist, filmmaker, etc. The Jason Reynolds canon includes all of the books and poems that Reynolds has published. The Star Wars canon includes all of the Star Wars movies, TV shows, books, and graphic novels.

3. **cater** *(KAY-ter)* verb; Cater can mean “to provide food and drinks for an event,” as in “Suzy’s Scoops will cater our class’s end-of-year ice cream party.”

*Cater* can also mean “to do something to suit a particular person’s wants or needs.” (When used in this way, cater is followed by to.) Your family might cater to you on your birthday, letting you choose where to eat dinner and what music to listen to in the car.

4. **discord** *(DIS-kawrd)* noun; Discord is a lack of agreement or harmony. When you’re talking about music, discord is an unpleasant combination of notes. When you’re talking about people, discord is disagreement or conflict.

5. **disgruntled** *(dis-GRUHN-tld)* adjective; If you are disgruntled, you are grumpy and annoyed because you are not satisfied with something. You might feel disgruntled if the pizza you ordered took forever to arrive, was cold, and didn’t have the toppings you ordered.

6. **haggard** *(HAG-erd)* adjective; Someone who is haggard looks completely exhausted and unwell—like they were lost in the woods for a few days or stranded on a desert island—because they are very tired, sick, or worried.

7. **savvy** *(SAV-ee)* adjective; Someone who is savvy is knowledgeable and experienced and has a good understanding of how to do something. Your parents might ask you to help them learn how to use a new app if you are savvy with technology.
“Is Fandom Good for You?”

1. **divisive** (dih-VAHYS-iv) *adjective*; Something that is divisive creates a lot of disagreement between people, causing them to separate into different groups. (You can almost see the word *divide* in *divisive*; a divisive issue divides people.) If two of your friends get into an argument every time they discuss which is better, Marvel or DC Comics, you could say that comics are a divisive topic for them.

2. **moderation** (mod-uh-REY-shuhn) *noun*; If you do something in moderation, you do it in a reasonable way without being too extreme—without doing too much or too little. For example, if you eat cookies in moderation, you eat a few cookies now and then. Eating an entire bag of cookies in one night would *not* be an example of moderation.

3. **primal** (PRAHY-muhl) *adjective*; Something that is primal is very basic, important, and powerful. Our primal needs, urges, or instincts are the most basic ones, like the need to eat and the urge to protect ourselves and our family.

**Directions:** Below or on the back of this page, list any other words from the articles whose definitions you are not sure about. For each word, use context clues to try to figure out the meaning. Then look up the word in a few different dictionaries. Discuss the meaning of the word with your teacher or another adult. Then write a definition for the word and one example sentence.
Paired Texts Vocabulary Practice

**Directions:** Rewrite each sentence using a form of one of the words in the box. There is one word you will not use.

- advocacy
- savvy
- haggard
- canon
- disgruntled
- cater

1. Tia has listened to every album Taylor Swift has made.
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

2. The group is well-known for its passionate support of the environment.
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

3. Tim looked pale and exhausted after having a stomach bug for three days.
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

4. Several grouchy, dissatisfied audience members asked for their money back.
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

5. Dale’s grandpa is a very talented when it comes to business. His grocery store has been open for 35 years.
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

**Directions:** Choose the best answer to each question below.

6. Which person watches TV in moderation?
   A) Kristin, who watches shows on her phone for several hours each night
   B) Jen, who watches less than 2 hours of TV per week

7. Which pair of siblings might experience discord when ordering pizza?
   A) Tim and Todd: Tim loves anchovies, and Todd hates them.
   B) Kris and Kat: Both are obsessed with pepperoni and pineapple pizza.

8. Ken stops by to make an appointment with his school counselor, Mrs. Ruppert. Mrs. Ruppert tells Ken that she can cater to his schedule. What does she mean?
   A) Her schedule is completely booked; she won’t be able to see Ken today.
   B) She will work around Ken’s schedule; whatever time Ken is able to come in, she’ll see him.

9. A character in a novel is known for making divisive comments. What sort of comments does the character make?
   A) comments that make people angry with one another
   B) comments that inspire people to work together

10. Which type of cat behavior is primal?
    A) hunting for prey
    B) wearing a collar
Close-Reading Questions
“The Rise of Fandoms”

1. How does author Kristin Lewis draw you into her article? (author’s craft)

2. In the section “Fans Unite,” the author includes a list of fandoms that exist today. Why might the author have included this list? (author’s craft, text structure)

3. Why does the author include the section “Old Tactics” in the article? What purpose does that section serve? (text structure)

4. Lewis writes that superfans will defend the thing they love “with the ferocity of a mama bear protecting her cubs” (18). What does this comparison help you understand about superfans? (author’s craft)

5. The author includes details about Charles Dickens’s fans in her article as well as details about fandoms throughout time in a sidebar. How do these details contribute to the article? (central ideas and details)
Close-Reading Question

"Is Fandom Good For You?"

1. On page 19, Lewis writes, “fandoms can be a bright spot in a world that can sometimes seem divisive.” What does she mean? (interpreting text)
Critical-Thinking Questions
“The Rise of Fandoms” and “Is Fandom Good For You?”

1. On page 18, Lewis writes, “Thanks to the internet and social media, [finding other superfans] is no longer a problem.” What are some other ways social media has changed fandom?

2. Lewis writes that “fandom gives you a sense of community.” Do you agree? Have you had an experience where being a fan made you feel accepted? Explain.

3. Lewis explains that Star Wars fans signed a petition to remove Star Wars: The Last Jedi from the Star Wars canon. Do you think this is acceptable fan behavior?

4. Consider the anecdote about Sonic the Hedgehog on page 18. How much should movie studios and artists take their fans’ opinions into consideration when making work?

5. Do you think fandoms contribute to society in a positive way?
## Preparing to Write

### Exploring Fandom

**Directions:** Explain how fan culture can be both positive and negative. Use details from “The Rise of Fandoms” and “Is Fandom Good for You?” to fill in the blank boxes below. We filled in some information for you.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How can fan culture be positive?</th>
<th>“The Rise of Fandoms”</th>
<th>“Is Fandom Good for You?”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• These groups are highly creative, making memes, videos, podcasts, artwork, and works of fan fiction related to the things and people they love. (pp. 16-17)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| How can fan culture be negative? | | |
|----------------------------------| | |
Paired Texts Quiz

Directions: Read “The Rise of Fandoms” and “Is Fandom Good for You?” Then answer the questions below.

1. What purpose does the anecdote in the introduction serve?
   A. It describes Charles Dickens’s success as an author.
   B. It illustrates the similarities between fans of the past and fans of the present.
   C. It provides background information about the 19th century.
   D. It helps readers imagine what New York City is like.

2. According to author Kristin Lewis, what sets fandom of today apart from fandom of the past?
   A. Fans can now connect with one another more easily thanks to the internet and social media.
   B. Today, fans are more obsessed with the people and things they love.
   C. Fans today write fan fiction, unlike fans of the past.
   D. Today’s fans follow celebrities everywhere they go.

3. On page 18, Lewis writes “Superfans often feel a sense of ownership over the thing they love and will defend it with the ferocity of a mama bear protecting her cubs.” Lewis uses this comparison to
   A. show that fans are always angry.
   B. emphasize how strong the sense of ownership fans feel over what they love can be.
   C. suggest that fans are as playful as bear cubs.
   D. explain how protective bears can be over their young.

4. Which infographic would BEST support information in “The Rise of Fandoms”?
   A. one about early humans
   B. one about the most expensive movies ever made
   C. one about the most highly attended fan festivals
   D. one about Hogwarts, the wizarding school in the Harry Potter series

5. Which statement BEST expresses the central idea of the article “Is Fandom Good for You?”
   A. Sometimes the world can feel cruel and isolating.
   B. Early humans worked together to hunt.
   C. Fandoms can be good for people’s social and emotional well-being.
   D. Belonging to a fandom is fun.

6. On page 19, Lewis writes that “fandom helps us find out who we are and build our self-esteem.” Which sentence from “The Rise of Fandoms” supports a similar idea?
   A. “‘But fandoms made me feel like even if I didn’t fit in at school, I fit in with someone—that there was a whole group of people I could talk to, where I could just be myself and not worry what others think.’” (p. 17)
   B. “Superfans have always gone to great lengths to feed their obsessions.” (p. 16)
   C. “These groups are highly creative and increasingly powerful.” (p. 16)
   D. “Chances are you are a fan of someone or something.” (p. 16)

Constructed-Response Questions

Directions: Write your answers to the questions below in a well-organized response.

7. The subtitle of “The Rise of Fandoms” states that “superfans today have more power than ever.” According to the article, what powers do superfans have?

8. How can belonging to a fandom be harmful or negative? How can fans protect themselves? Draw on both articles and your own ideas to support your answer.
Paired Texts Quiz

Directions: Read “The Rise of Fandoms” and “Is Fandom Good for You?” Then answer the questions below.

1. The main purpose of the story about Charles Dickens in the introduction is to help readers understand
   A who Charles Dickens was.
   B that superfans are nothing new.
   C what people read in the 19th century.
   D what New York City is like.

2. On page 18, author Kristin Lewis writes that thanks to technology, today's fandoms are “tight-knit tribes.” She means that fandoms are
   A connected and united.
   B fun.
   C obsessive.
   D inclusive.

3. Which is an example of toxic fandom?
   A participating in the Harry Potter Alliance’s “What Would Dumbledore Do?” campaign
   B writing hurtful comments about an actor on social media
   C creating artwork and writing fan fiction
   D attending fan festivals and conventions

4. Which infographic would BEST support information in “The Rise of Fandoms”?
   A one about early humans
   B one about the most expensive movies ever made
   C one about the most highly attended fan festivals
   D one about Hogwarts, the wizarding school in the Harry Potter series

5. Which statement expresses the central idea of the article “Is Fandom Good for You?”
   A Sometimes the world can feel cruel and isolating.
   B Early humans worked together to hunt.
   C Fandoms can be good for people’s social and emotional well-being.
   D Belonging to a fandom is fun.

6. Both articles support the idea that fandoms
   A bring people together.
   B are not a new trend.
   C can cause online bullying.
   D influence pop culture.

Constructed-Response Questions

Directions: Write your answers to the questions below in a well-organized response.

7. The subtitle of “The Rise of Fandoms” states that “superfans today have more power than ever.” According to the article, what powers do superfans have?

8. What is one way that belonging to a fandom can be harmful or negative? How can fans protect themselves? Draw on either of the articles and your own ideas to support your answer.
Finding and Using Text Evidence

Directions: Read “The Rise of Fandoms” and “Is Fandom Good for You?” Then complete the activity below.

1. Imagine that you are writing a paragraph explaining the kind of influence that fandoms can have on pop culture today.

A. Which of the following would be the BEST topic sentence for your paragraph?

- Fandoms are powerful.
- Fandoms can influence the decisions of movie studios.
- Fandoms can have a powerful influence on pop culture today.

B. Which information from the article BEST supports the sentence you chose in part A?

- “You might dress up and act out stories, go to fan festivals, or make artwork portraying your favorite characters as you imagine them.” (p. 17)
- “There are fandoms for everything from Pixar to the Marvel Universe to the Hunger Games.” (p. 17)
- “A loyal, active fan base can persuade a movie studio to make a sequel, like Camp Rock 2, or help a new artist sell out a world tour, which just happened to 18-year-old singer Billie Eilish.” (p. 18)

C. Which of the following BEST explains why the text evidence you chose in part B is relevant?

- It shows what people do when they are part of a fandom.
- It provides examples of ways fandoms have affected modern pop culture.
- It shows that there are many different kinds of fandoms.
2. Choose the ONE piece of text evidence from the article that best supports the statement below. Then complete the sentence to explain your choice.

**Superfans have been around for a long time.**

A “You might dress up and act out stories, go to fan festivals, or make artwork portraying your favorite characters as you imagine them.” (p. 17)

B “Not so long ago, you couldn’t just pull out your phone to see what your favorite star had for breakfast—much less instantly connect with other fans.” (p. 17)

C “When Dickens visited America in 1842, hordes of admirers trailed him everywhere he went. They even tried to snip off pieces of his coat as souvenirs . . .” (p. 16)

I chose ___ because ____________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________________________

3. A. Choose the TWO pieces of text evidence from the article that BEST support the statement below.

**Fandom can have a dark side.**

A “For all of recorded history, there have been fans and the things they admire.” (p. 16)

B “These groups are highly creative and increasingly powerful.” (p. 16)

C “Some fans went after Kelly Marie Tran, who plays Rose Tico, posting racist comments on her Instagram, prompting her to delete all her posts.” (p. 18)

D “Sometimes the bullying happens between fan groups or even individual members of the same group.” (p. 18)

E “Regardless of the answer, savvy stars understand how important their fan bases are and work hard to celebrate them.” (p. 18)

B. Select one piece of INCORRECT evidence from above and explain why it does NOT support the statement.

Evidence ___ does not support the statement because ____________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________________________
4. Choose the paragraph that correctly uses text evidence from the article “Is Fandom Good for You?” in the form of a quotation.

- Being part of a fandom can be good for you. In her article “Is Fandom Good for You?,” author Kristin Lewis writes, “According to psychotherapist and fandom expert Dr. Laurel Steinberg, fandom helps us find out who we are and build our self-esteem” (19). In other words, fandom can be beneficial for our mental and emotional health.

- Being part of a fandom can be good for you. In her article “Is Fandom Good for You?,” the author writes, “According to psychotherapist and fandom expert Dr. Laurel Steinberg, fandom helps us find out who we are and build our self-esteem” (19).

- Being part of a fandom can be good for you. “According to psychotherapist and fandom expert Dr. Laurel Steinberg, fandom helps us find out who we are and build our self-esteem.” In other words, fandom can be beneficial for our mental and emotional health.

Explain why the two answers you did NOT choose are incorrect: ____________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________________

5. Choose the paragraph that correctly uses text evidence from the article “The Rise of Fandoms” in the form of a paraphrase.

- The idea of a fandom is not entirely new. When author Charles Dickens visited America in 1842, groups of fans obsessively followed him and even snipped off pieces of his coat (16).

- The idea of fandom is not entirely new. In her article “The Rise of Fandoms,” author Kristin Lewis explains that author Charles Dickens had a group of very dedicated admirers. In 1842, when Dickens visited America, large groups of fans obsessively followed the author around and even snipped off pieces of his coat (16). This shows that fandom has been around since the 1800s.

- The idea of fandom is not entirely new. In her article “The Rise of Fandoms,” author Kristin Lewis writes, “When Dickens visited America in 1842, hordes of admirers trailed him everywhere he went” (16). This shows that fandom has been around since the 1800s.

Explain why the two answers you did NOT choose are incorrect: ____________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________________
6. Now it’s your turn. Write a paragraph explaining how fandoms can bring people together. Your paragraph should include:

• a topic sentence

• at least one piece of text evidence in the form of a paraphrase or a direct quotation

• a sentence that states how that evidence supports your central idea

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Finding Text Evidence

Directions: Read “The Rise of Fandoms.” Then complete the activity below.

1. Choose the TWO pieces of text evidence from the article that best support the statement below.

STATEMENT: Fandoms can influence pop culture.

A “Fans of the games criticized the way Sonic was portrayed in the movie’s trailer—they thought he had strange-looking teeth. What did the movie studio do? It redesigned the character.” (p. 18)

B “Taylor Swift, for example, is known to invite Swifties to pizza parties, reblog their Tumblrs, and comment on their videos.” (p. 18)

C “A loyal, active fan base can persuade a movie studio to make a sequel, like Camp Rock 2, or help a new artist sell out a world tour, which just happened to 18-year-old singer Billie Eilish.” (p. 18)

D “If none of your friends loved what you loved, you were often on your own.” (p. 18)

2. Choose the ONE piece of text evidence from the article that best supports the statement below. Then complete the sentence to explain your choice.

STATEMENT: Modern technology has changed fandom.

A “You might dress up and act out stories, go to fan festivals, or make artwork portraying your favorite characters as you imagine them.” (p. 17)

B “For all of recorded history, there have been fans and the things they admire.” (p. 16)

C “Not so long ago, you couldn’t just pull out your phone to see what your favorite star had for breakfast—much less instantly connect with other fans.” (p. 17)

I chose ___ because

_______________________________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________________________
3. Read the lines below from the article. Then write a statement that they all support.

A “Some fans went after Kelly Marie Tran, who plays Rose Tico, posting racist comments on her Instagram, prompting her to delete all her posts.” (p. 18)

B “Sometimes the bullying happens between fan groups or even individual members of the same group.” (p. 18)

C “Before the release of Captain Marvel last year, some disgruntled fans flooded the internet with fake bad reviews to discourage people from going to see it.” (p. 18)

STATEMENT:
Superfans Contest

Discuss how fan culture can be both positive and negative. Support your answer with text evidence from both articles. Five winners will each get *The Perfect Star* by Rob Buyea.

Entries will be judged on:

- a clearly stated central idea
- clarity and good organization
- use of information from both texts
- grammar, spelling, and punctuation

My name: ____________________________________________________________

My home phone number: __________________ My grade: __________________

My teacher’s name: ______________________ My teacher’s e-mail: _________

School name: _______________________________________________________

School address: _____________________________________________________

City: __________________ State: _________ ZIP: ________________

School phone number: __________________

My parent or legal guardian consents to my participation in this contest.
Parent’s or legal guardian’s signature: __________________________________

Include this form with your entry and send both to: scopemag@scholastic.com or mail them to: Superfans Contest, c/o Scope, P.O. Box 712, New York, NY 10013-0712

ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY March 20, 2020!