

Vocabulary

Use the picture and the sentences to talk with a partner about each word.



decade

The company celebrated a **decade** of business, honoring ten years of work.
What year will it be in a decade?



directing

The police officers are **directing** traffic.
If you were a crossing guard, what would you be directing students to do?



engineering

I think the beautiful Golden Gate Bridge is an amazing feat of **engineering**.
What is another structure that was built using the science of engineering?



gleaming

The shiny bar of gold lay **gleaming** on the red velvet.
What is an antonym for gleaming?



scouted

The boy used binoculars as he **scouted** the best place to find whales.
What is a synonym for scouted?



squirmed

The pig wiggled and **squirmed** in the girl's arms.
If someone squirmed while watching a play, how did that person probably feel?



technology

In the early 1900s, the telephone was considered new **technology**.
What are some examples of new technology today?



tinkering

Mr. Lan likes **tinkering** with and fixing old clocks.
What do you like tinkering with?

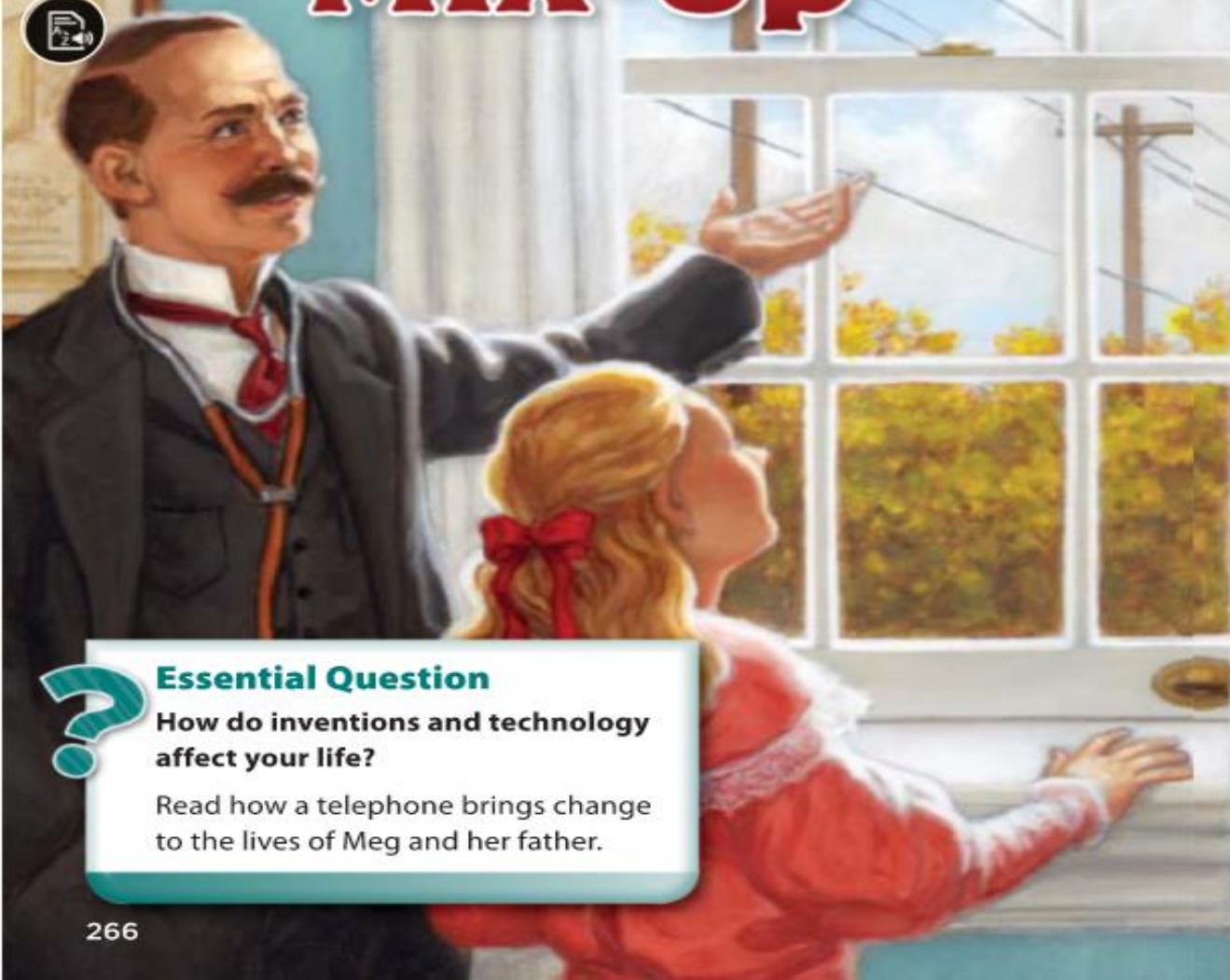
Your Turn

Pick three words. Write three questions for your partner to answer.

Go Digital! Use the online visual glossary



A Telephone Mix-Up



Essential Question

How do inventions and technology affect your life?

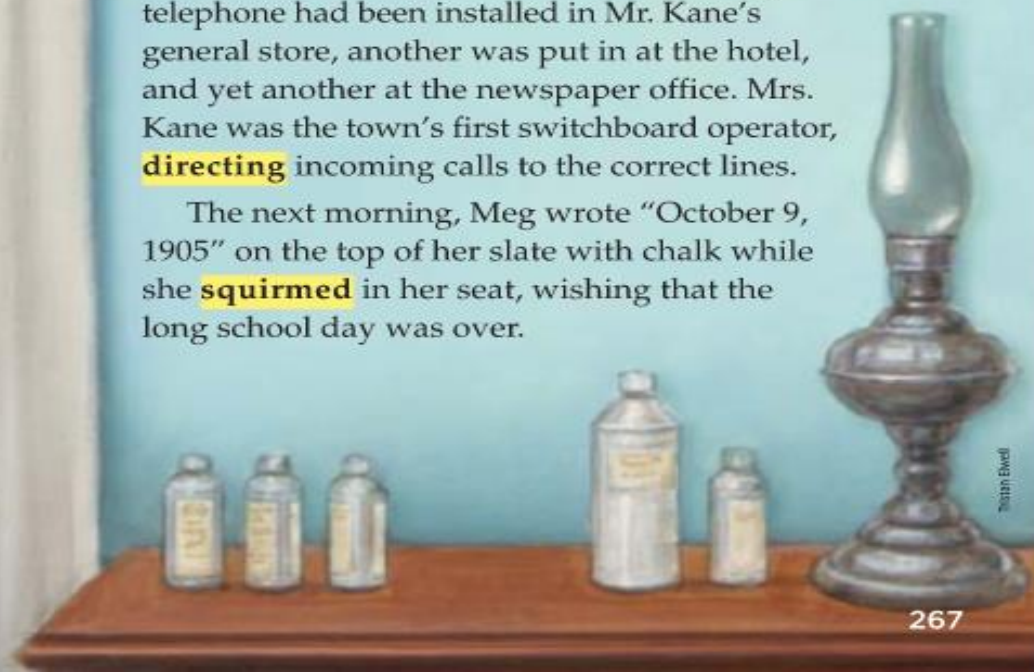
Read how a telephone brings change to the lives of Meg and her father.

"By tomorrow afternoon there will be eight telephones right here in Centerburg, Ohio, and one of them will be ours!" Dr. Ericksen said to his daughter, Meg. "I predict that before this **decade** is over, in just another five years, there could be a hundred! That's how fast I foresee this **technology** will spread! When people need help, they'll call me on the telephone. Envision how many lives it will save! Picture all the amazing benefits!"

Meg realized that not everyone thought the telephone was an **engineering** marvel. She had heard people say that telephones were a useless invention. A few others felt the newfangled machine would open up a Pandora's box of troubles, causing people to stop visiting each other and writing letters.

Despite the concerns of some people, progress marched on. Just weeks earlier, Centerburg's first telephone had been installed in Mr. Kane's general store, another was put in at the hotel, and yet another at the newspaper office. Mrs. Kane was the town's first switchboard operator, **directing** incoming calls to the correct lines.

The next morning, Meg wrote "October 9, 1905" on the top of her slate with chalk while she **squirmed** in her seat, wishing that the long school day was over.



Walking home that afternoon, Meg **scouted** the street, looking for the tall wooden poles that were going up weekly. Thick wire linked one pole to another, and Meg imagined how each wire would carry the words of friends and neighbors, their conversations zipping over the lines bringing news, birthday wishes, and party invitations.

As Meg hurried into the house, she let the screen door slam shut behind her. There on the wall was the **gleaming** wooden telephone box with its heavy black receiver on a hook. Her father was smiling broadly while **tinkering** with the shiny brass bells on top. "Isn't it a beauty?" he asked. "Have you ever seen such magnificence?"

Suddenly the telephone jangled loudly, causing both Ericksens to jump.

Meg laughed as her father picked up the receiver and shouted, "Yes, hello, this is the doctor!"

"Again please, Mrs. Kane! There's too much static" Dr. Ericksen shouted. "I didn't get the first part. Bad cough? Turner farm?"

"Can I go, Father?" Meg asked as Dr. Ericksen returned the receiver to the hook.

"Absolutely," he said, grabbing his medical kit and heading outside where his horse and buggy waited.

When they got to the farm, they found Mr. Turner walking toward the barn.



"Jake, I got here as quick as I could," Dr. Ericksen said. "Is it Mrs. Turner? Little Emma?"

"You?" Jake Turner looked confused, but he gestured them toward the barn.

There they found a baby goat curled near its mother. The baby snorted, coughed, and looked miserable.

"Jake, I'm no vet!" said Dr. Ericksen. "You need Dr. Kerrigan."

"I was wondering why you showed up instead. I reckon there was a mix-up."

"Apparently so," Dr. Ericksen laughed. "When I get back I'll send Dr. Kerrigan."

As years passed the telephone proved to be very useful to the town of Centerburg, but there was always the occasional mix-up. It became common among the Ericksens to refer to a missed communication as "another sick goat."

Make Connections



How did the invention of the telephone affect the town of Centerburg? **ESSENTIAL QUESTION**

Think of an invention and tell how it has affected your life. **TEXT TO SELF**



Make Predictions

When you read, use text clues from the story to help you make predictions about what will happen next. As you continue to read, you can confirm or revise your predictions.



Find Text Evidence

How did you predict the people of Centerburg would react to the telephone? What helped you to confirm your prediction? Reread page 267 of "A Telephone Mix-Up."



I had predicted that people in Centerburg would get used to the telephone even though some people would not like the idea of it. Evidence in the paragraph confirmed my prediction.

Your Turn

What text clues did you find that helped you predict that the phone static would cause a mix-up? As you read remember to use the strategy, Make Predictions.



Point of View

The narrator's point of view tells how the narrator thinks or feels about characters or events in the story. A story can have a first-person narrator or a third-person narrator.



Find Text Evidence

When I read page 267 of "A Telephone Mix Up," I see that the narrator uses the pronouns *he* and *she* when the narrator tells what Meg and her father are thinking. This story has a third-person narrator. I can find details in the story about the narrator's point of view.

Details
The narrator tells us what Meg's father says about the telephone. "Picture all the amazing benefits!"
The narrator states: "Despite the concerns of some people, progress marched on."
Point of View
The narrator thinks the telephone will be a useful invention.



Your Turn



Reread "A Telephone Mix-Up." Find other details from the story that tell you the narrator's point of view. Use the graphic organizer to list the details.

Go Digital!

Use the interactive graphic organizer



Historical Fiction

"A Telephone Mix-Up" is historical fiction.

Historical fiction:

- Has realistic characters, events, and settings.
- Is set in the past and based on real events.
- Contains dialogue.



Find Text Evidence

"A Telephone Mix-Up" is historical fiction. A family is getting a telephone at a time in history when telephone service was first made available to many communities. The story has realistic characters, events, and settings, and it includes dialogue.

page 267



Dialogue Dialogue is the conversation that takes place between the characters. Quotation marks enclose dialogue.

Your Turn

Find three examples in the text that show "A Telephone Mix-Up" is historical fiction.

COLLABORATE



Synonyms

As you read "A Telephone Mix-Up," you may come across a word you don't know. Sometimes the author will use another word or phrase that has the same or a similar meaning to the unfamiliar word. Words that have the same or similar meanings are **synonyms**.



Find Text Evidence

As I read the first paragraph of "The Telephone Mix-Up" on page 267, I wasn't sure what the word envision meant. Then the word picture in the next sentence helped me figure out the meaning.



Envision how many lives it will save! **Picture** all the amazing benefits!

Your Turn

Use synonyms and other context clues to find the meanings of the following words in "A Telephone Mix-Up." Write a synonym and example sentence for each word.

foresee, page 267

installed, page 267

magnificence, page 268

COLLABORATE

