

Name: _____ Date: _____

Find the Text Evidence

Directions: Read “Yes, Aliens (Probably) Exist” and “Disaster at the Speed of Sound,” then read the questions below carefully. Some will ask you to select or find pieces of text evidence—that is, details in the articles—that support a statement we provide. Others will ask you to support your own statement with text evidence.

1. Choose THREE pieces of text evidence from “Yes, Aliens (Probably) Exist” that best support the statement below.

Scientists may be getting close to discovering life on other planets.

- Ⓐ “The idea of aliens has always captivated us.”
 - Ⓑ “To support life as we know it, a planet must meet certain criteria.”
 - Ⓒ “Just this past April, astronomers discovered the first Earth-sized planet in a habitable zone . . .”
 - Ⓓ “‘I think in the next 20 years, we will find out we are not alone in the universe,’ says Kevin Hand, the deputy chief scientist for solar system exploration at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory.”
 - Ⓔ “Hubble circles Earth every 97 minutes as its powerful camera takes pictures . . .”
 - Ⓕ “So far, *Kepler* has helped astronomers discover 4,200 potential planets, nearly 1,000 of which have been confirmed.”
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2. Choose one piece of evidence that BEST supports the statement below. Then complete the sentence to explain why you made that choice.

The search for extraterrestrial life requires complex equipment.

- Ⓐ “In their search for Goldilocks planets, astronomers have so far studied only a tiny number of stars. But groundbreaking discoveries have already been made.”
- Ⓑ “Hubble circles Earth every 97 minutes as its powerful camera takes pictures, which end up at the Space Telescope Science Institute in Baltimore, Maryland.”
- Ⓒ “In any case, finding life elsewhere in the universe would be one of the most important and mind-boggling scientific discoveries of all time.”

I chose ____ because _____

3. Below is a conclusion drawn from "Disaster at the Speed of Sound" along with two pieces of supporting evidence. Find one more piece of evidence and write it on the lines below.

Space travel is incredibly difficult and dangerous.

- Ⓐ "... 18 astronauts have died in space flight since the 1960s."
- Ⓑ "A spacecraft like *SpaceShipTwo* must be light and nimble but strong enough to withstand the explosive forces of launch and speeds that can top 800 mph."
- Ⓒ _____

4. Read the lines from both articles below. Write a statement that they support.

- Ⓐ "Or perhaps, when Americans looked at the sky, they were simply ready to believe that there is life out there."
- Ⓑ "If all had gone smoothly, Virgin Galactic would now be closer to its dream of taking paying passengers—'space tourists'— on a 2.5-hour journey to the edge of outer space."
- Ⓒ "Unlocking the mysteries of outer space, many say, could help us solve problems on Earth."

5. Now it's your turn. Write a statement based on one of the articles or on both. Then list three pieces of text evidence that support that statement.

- Ⓐ _____
- _____
- Ⓑ _____
- _____
- Ⓒ _____
- _____