

Name _____

Draw Conclusions

- When you **draw conclusions** you use what you have read and what you already know to make reasonable decisions about characters or events.

Directions Read the following passage. Then answer the questions below.

During the pioneer era of the 1800s, settlers moved west to the prairie lands. There were no forests of tall trees to cut down for lumber. So these settlers found a way to use the ground itself to make their first homes. All around them was the grass of the prairie. The grass had

deep roots which held the dirt below it. Settlers used plows to cut through the grass-covered ground, or sod. With a plow they were able to dig the grass up in long strips. Then they cut the strips of sod into sections. The pieces of sod were stacked like bricks to build the walls of the shelter.

- Which of the following statements is a reasonable conclusion about settlers living in prairie lands?
 - Settlers loved their sod houses.
 - Building sod houses is easy.
 - Settlers had to adapt to their new environment in order to survive.
- Which of the following statements is NOT a reasonable conclusion about settlers living in prairie lands?
 - Settlers had to work very hard to build their sod homes.
 - Sod houses could be dirty and filled with insects.
 - Sod houses offered a comfortable, luxurious home.
- How do you think settlers felt about living in sod houses? Why do you think so?

Possible response: Sod houses were not very comfortable, but the settlers worked well with the materials they had.

- How might settlers have built their homes differently if there were trees? Why?

Possible response: The trees could be used for lumber, which would have made stronger, wooden houses.