

Unit 6 - Golden Dragon

accomplish
altitude

avalanche
excavate

guardian
monarch

pasture
resemble

route
summit

6A Introduction

Some people believe that we each have a “spirit animal,” a creature whose spirit guides us through life. Someone who is really tough and aggressive but also sleeps a lot might have a lion as a spirit animal. Someone who is quiet and shy might have a mouse as a spirit animal. What do you think your spirit animal might be? The emcee on this song doesn’t only have a spirit animal; he has a real-life dragon to fly him around. Then again, maybe he’s just imagining things.

6B Song Lyrics

Uh. It’s getting hot. It’s getting hot in here. I guess my homie must be around. Yeah, we’re getting ready for liftoff. You ready? Stand clear, because when we take off... you don’t want to be behind.

Okay,
I’ve **accomplished** everything; yes, I’ve done it,
You play the game, I run it.
Breakfast on Mount Everest, on the **summit**,
The tip-top of the mountain—son, yes, I’m on it.
I rap so loud cause an **avalanche**,
Snow falling down to the ground from the sound of it.
I don’t ride on sports cars or your nice bikes,
I ride a golden dragon; yeah, that’s right.
He’s my **guardian**, and he protects me,
Whenever enemies come to try and test me.
He flies me to Mexico just to jet-ski,
He breathes fire and it smells like Pepsi.
He **resembles** a plane and looks like a jet,
He gets me all the things I could not get.
He flies me overseas, over **pastures**,
The fields where the sheep and cows eat their grass or
Hay or whatever they eat; I can’t say,
I’m flying high above and can’t see that way.
When you fly above the clouds, every day is Sunday,
I think he’s going to fly me to the moon someday.



*Don't call it lying; I'm just braggin',
Lying on my golden dragon,
Like Bilbo Baggins,
Ha! Y'all wish y'all had one,
Lying on my golden dragon, dragon.*

Did I mention that my dragon speaks a little French? Well, he does,
With a nice accent; he says it's because
He used to be the king of France in a past life,
The **monarch**, the king; yeah, kid, that's right.
My dragon's mad nice, he's living the fast life,
People try to ask if I have my facts right.
Do I have my facts right? Man, just last night,
Me and the dragon snowboarded a half-pipe.
Flew to China just to get some nice rice.
We fly at the high **altitudes**, the high heights.
We took a path or **route** through some white ice,
My nose froze, but otherwise it was quite nice.
Then we **excavated** the ice, dug some holes,
Just to see if we could find some dinosaur bones.
And we did, we found a whole dinosaur city,
And if you don't believe me, that's a pity, really!

Hook

6C Words Defined

accomplish

(verb) To complete; to succeed in doing something. *Because of the bad weather, we weren't able to **accomplish** much yard work today.*

Other forms: *Getting all A's is a pretty big **accomplishment** (noun).*

altitude

(noun) Height above the Earth's surface (usually above sea level on the Earth's surface).
*Due to the plane's high **altitude**, we could see the entire island all at once.*

avalanche

(noun) A great mass of rocks, dirt, snow, or ice sliding down a mountainside.
*Run! It's an **avalanche**!*

excavate

(verb) To dig out. *Digging into the ground very carefully, Leo and his team excavated three giant ruby-covered shields.*

Other forms: *The scientists worked for months at the excavation (noun) site before finding any bones.*



guardian

(noun) One who protects or guards. *When it came to dealing with older boys, Vinny's oldest brother Tony was his guardian.*

monarch

(noun) A king, queen, or emperor; someone who rules a kingdom. *Lili'uokalani was the last monarch of the kingdom of Hawaii.*

Other forms: *In France, the citizens rose up and overthrew the monarchy (noun).*

pasture

(noun) A field of growing grass where animals can eat; a meadow. *Wandering through the pasture, the sheep felt lonely.*

resemble

(verb) To look like or be similar to. *Have you ever noticed that a staple kind of resembles a trombone?*

Other forms: *Robby and his brother share a strong resemblance (noun).*

route

(noun) The path that must be followed to get to a place. *We took the scenic route to our cousin's house and got to see some cool cliffs.*

summit

(noun) The highest part; the top. *Tenzing Norgay and Edmund Hillary were the first people to reach the summit of Mount Everest.*



6D Synonyms

Circle the word on the right that matches the meaning of the word or phrase on the left.

- | | | | |
|--|-----------|------------|-----------|
| 1. to dig out | excavate | accomplish | resemble |
| 2. a mass of ice sliding down a mountain | monarch | summit | avalanche |
| 3. path | pasture | route | altitude |
| 4. queen | avalanche | monarch | summit |
| 5. height above the Earth's surface | altitude | pasture | guardian |

6E Fill in the Blank

Write the word in the blank so that the sentence makes sense.

1. Farmer John led his cows out to the _____ to graze.

route**pasture****avalanche**

2. The only thing I need to _____ today is to finish my art project.

excavate**resemble****accomplish**

3. It's hilarious how much that dog _____ his owner!

resembles**excavates****accomplishes**

4. Because we are under the age of 18, everyone in the class needs a _____ to sign the permission slip for the field trip.

guardian**altitude****avalanche**

5. If you drive up to the _____ of that hill, you can see an amazing view.

avalanche**pasture****summit****6F Connections**

Each sentence has a strong connection with one of the words from the unit. Write the correct word on the line below.

1. I can always trust that my parents will protect me if anything bad happens.

2. If we don't get off this mountain now, we'll be buried underneath the ice!

3. Which train follows the path we need to take?

4. The horses look so peaceful grazing in the field.

5. I looked through the airplane window and was amazed at how high above the ground we were.

6G Applying Meanings

Circle the letter that makes sense or answers the question.

1. What was one **accomplishment** of George Washington?

- (A) He was born in Westmoreland, Virginia.
- (B) He had wooden teeth.
- (C) His wife's name was Martha.
- (D) He was the first president of the United States.

2. Which of these tools would be the most useful for **excavating** something?

- (A) a phone
- (B) a fire extinguisher
- (C) a hammer
- (D) a shovel

3. The **summit** of a volcano is

- (A) at the top
- (B) in the center
- (C) underneath
- (D) along the bottom

4. Who or what is a **monarch** of England?

- (A) the United States of America
- (B) London Bridge
- (C) Queen Elizabeth II
- (D) fish and chips

5. Most babies **resemble**

- (A) crying
- (B) their parents
- (C) kittens
- (D) a bottle

6H Reading

Read the passage below and then answer the questions that follow.

Climbing Mount Everest



With a height of 29,035 feet above sea level, Mount Everest is the tallest mountain in the world. It is located in Asia between the countries of Tibet and Nepal, in the Himalaya mountains. For years, the only people who climbed on the mountain were people from these countries. Still, no one had ever reached the top.

In 1921, two British men were the first to try to reach Everest's **summit**. Explorers George Leigh Mallory and Andrew Irvine managed to climb to **altitudes** higher than anyone had reached before. They returned to the mountain several times. On one trip, they survived an **avalanche** that killed seven of their climbing guides. In 1924, however, they disappeared. Mallory's body was finally **excavated** in 1999 at 27,000 feet. To this day, no one knows what happened to Irvine.

It wasn't until 1953 that the summit was finally reached. It took Edmund Hillary and his guide Tenzing Norgay two months to **accomplish** the task. The news reached England on the same day that Queen Elizabeth II became the country's **monarch**. When Hillary and Norgay returned, they became famous all over the world. Queen Elizabeth II made Hillary a knight and gave Norgay a medal.

More than 2,200 people have climbed Everest since then. The climb usually takes two and a half months. Climbers must move slowly because air becomes harder to breathe at high altitudes. There are 15 different **routes** that go to the top of the mountain, and all of them are dangerous. For many people, though, the risk is worth it. After all, you really can't beat the view!

1. Where is Mount Everest located?

2. Why did George Leigh Mallory and Andrew Irvine stop trying to climb Mount Everest in 1924?

3. When was the summit of Mount Everest reached for the first time?

4. How was Edmund Hillary honored for reaching the top of Mount Everest?

5. Why must people climb Mount Everest slowly?

6I Thinking Creatively

Answer each question below. Don't be afraid to think creatively.

1. What is an **accomplishment** that you are proud of?

2. Which celebrity do you most **resemble**?

3. What's the first thing you would do if you were a **monarch**?

4. In general, do you like taking the quick and easy **route** or the scenic **route**?

5. What might happen in a book called *The **Avalanche** Master*?

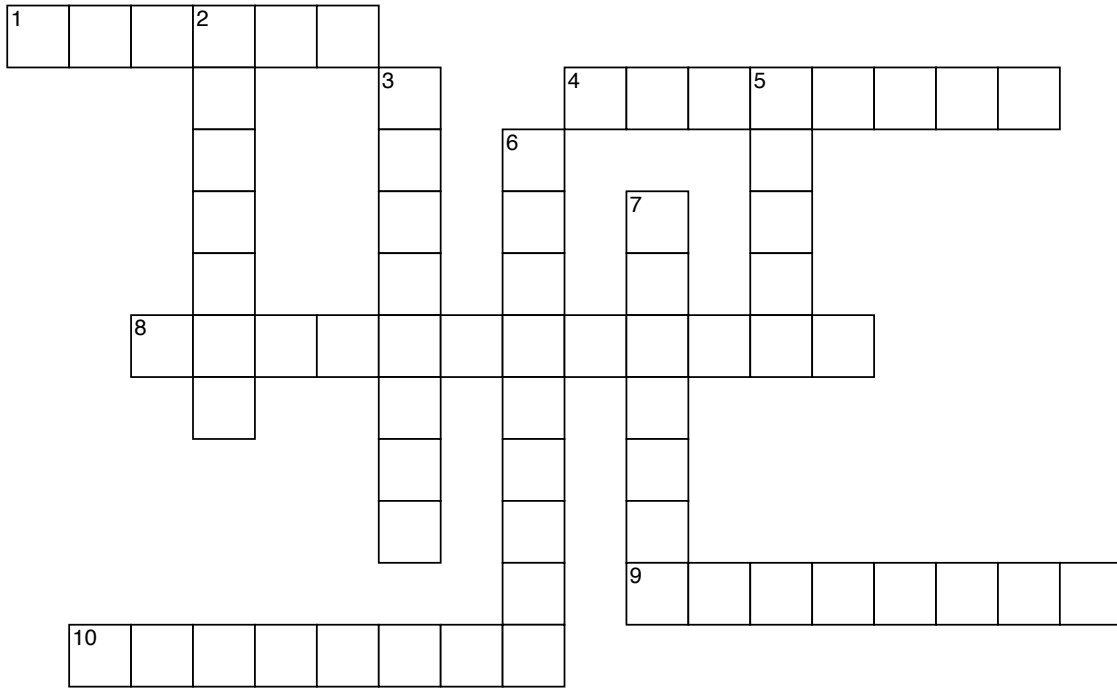
Word Breakdown

The word *monarch* has two parts, both of which are from the Greek language. *Mon* (or *mono*) means "one," as in *monopoly* (in which one company controls an industry) or *monotheism* (meaning "belief in one god"). *Arch* means "ruler." For example, a *matriarch* is the female ruler of a tribe. So a *monarch* is a single ruler.

One of the most well-known kinds of butterfly is called the monarch butterfly. The monarch butterfly is common in North America. It has orange and black wings. The amazing thing about monarch butterflies is how far they travel. Every fall, these butterflies fly from Canada and other parts of North America to Mexico; then they fly back again in the spring. Each part of the trip can be up to 3,000 miles long!

Bonus: Crossword Puzzle

Solve this crossword puzzle. Note: Some answers may be different forms of the vocab words from this unit.



ACROSS

- 1 The highest part.
- 4 The troll was the _____ of the bridge; no one could pass without his permission.
- 8 I _____ so much before breakfast; I already finished all my chores and packed my lunch.
- 9 To dig out.
- 10 Height above the Earth's surface.

DOWN

- 2 The _____ sat on his throne and looked at his jester in boredom.
- 3 To look like.
- 5 We always take the same _____ when we drive to my grandma's house.
- 6 The unfortunate skier was buried completely in the sudden _____.
- 7 I lay on my backpack in the grassy _____ and stared at the sky.