The story of Fast Moccasin, a 14-year-old Arapaho youth anxiously awaiting the annual Arapaho Pow-wow, is used to portray the kinship relationships of the Arapaho. Following the story is a 30-item quiz concerning relationships or relationship equivalents (blood relations, extended families, adopted families), naming-procedures, and courtesies extended to family members. Additional exercises include: a 20-word dictionary exercise; a 25-word vocabulary exercise; a cross-word puzzle; a family tree form for an Arapaho Kinship System and exercise sheet; a glossary; and a list of kinship terms/definitions. (AH)
FAST MOCCASIN

A Story of Arapaho Kinship

by

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Fast Moccasin

Fast Moccasin was looking forward to the annual Arapaho Pow-wow held every summer and which was now only a few days away. This pow-wow also included a footrace where all those who had placed in previous races would compete against each other. At 14, Fast Moccasin had already won first place in his categories for the past six years. His parents, Runs First and Sings Woman, were very proud of their son for these feats. Runs First had made himself known as a fast runner in his younger days, and this accomplishment earned him the name he now carried - "Runs First". It was traditional to name the first-born son by his father's Arapaho name; and this was how Fast Moccasin received his name.

As Fast Moccasin sat near the door, he thought about the previous years when he had won his first-place blue feathers for being the fastest runner. He remembered stories he had been told by his father about other fast runners in their family. Fast Moccasin's uncle, Blue Moccasin, had also been a fast runner. His son, Runs Behind, was also a fast runner, and he and Fast Moccasin were the same age. Fast Moccasin was a very generous young man, and although he wished the best for all the runners, he hoped that he and his cousin, Runs Behind, would place on top.

Runs Behind was not so named when he was first born. At birth, he had been named "White Wolf" after his deceased grand-father. After he began footrace competition, it was evident that he would usually come in behind Fast Moccasin. This was also manifested in other forms of competition. Runs Behind didn't feel any jealousy toward Fast Moccasin, only a deep-seated admiration, because in the Arapaho custom they were "brothers". They were considered brothers because their fathers were blood brothers. Fast Moccasin and Runs Behind were always very close, not only in age, but also with their feelings. Runs Behind felt a strong brotherly affection for his cousin, Fast Moccasin. When Fast Moccasin won first place in any form of competition or was honored for some feat, Runs Behind always felt pride for him.
Fast Moccasin's thoughts travelled back to when he was about six or seven years old. His father had told him of the days when he had been a champion runner in the districts. He had been feasted and his parents had many give-aways to honor him. When Runs First married Sings Woman he had a secret hope that someday he, too, would be the proud father of a fast runner who would keep up the tradition. When Fast Moccasin was born, he was named so in the hopes that the name would be earned. Fast Moccasin was proud of his name for what it symbolized, and for whom he was named because he felt filial devotion to his parents.

Runs First and Sings Woman were also very generous people, with much love and affection in their hearts. Many people felt that this trait had been inherited by Fast Moccasin. When Fast Moccasin was one year old, a disease spread among the Arapaho tribe and was fatal to many. Among those who were felled by the disease were two very good friends of Fast Moccasin's family. This couple left behind a two-year-old daughter, Red Morning. Red Morning had also contracted the disease and was left partially paralyzed. Because of the kindness in their hearts, Runs First and Sings Woman adopted Red Morning and took her into their lodge, raising her as their own. Being hindered by her paralysis, Red Morning couldn't take part in the usual fun and games of other children. While Fast Moccasin and Red Morning were growing up, Fast Moccasin made sure that Red Morning attended the functions he participated in and the celebrations that were held. Fast Moccasin loved Red Morning as dearly as if she were his own blood sister. Red Morning felt love and contentment with her adoptive family.
Another person who figured in Fast Moccasin's family was Rides At Night. He and Runs First had grown up together and, although they were not blood related, they considered each other's families as their own. These extended families helped each other through hard times and shared many good times. These families were so close that Fast Moccasin never knew that they weren't related to him by blood. Last year, during memorial services for departed relatives, Fast Moccasin discovered who his blood relatives were and who were related to him in other ways. These were considered to be extended family, that is, those who were not directly related by blood but had formed some other form of relationship. The extended family system served as a primary economic unit and shared several lodges. When Fast Moccasin's father killed a deer or some other animal, he shared the kill with Rides At Night's and Blue Moccasin's families. They in turn shared with his family. If one family encountered hard times, the others would come to their aid without fail. In times of "economic wealth," such as a successful hunt, much trading took place among the lodges. Sometimes a small gift-giving ceremony took place; more frequently, just a good get-together when much singing and dancing took place.

Today, preparations were being made by Fast Moccasin's family to move camp to Arapahoe where the pow-wow was to be held. They planned to set up their camp near Sings Woman's sister, Wind Woman. Fast Moccasin was anxiously awaiting the word from his father to begin the half-day trip to Arapahoe. He had already prepared the wagon that he and Red Morning were to use. He had put an extra bundle of willows on the buckboard where Red Morning would ride. He had also selected two very tame and gentle horses that would pull the wagon. His father had traded for a herd of horses over the year's from one of the few non-Indian families which had settled on the reservation. Red Morning had carefully braided her waist-length thick, black hair and attached her prettiest beaded braid holders that were trimmed expertly with cut beads. For the trip, she chose an older buckskin dress that was in dire need of repair, but consoled herself with the thought of the new dress her mother had recently completed for her. Sings Woman had designed the buckskin dress so that it artfully concealed Red Morning's disfigured and discolored left side. The sleeves added camouflage by the design of adding long, sequined fringes. Red Morning could barely contain her excitement. Her fair skin was naturally blushed from her anticipation and excitement. She was eager to see relatives that she had not seen since last year's pow-wow. Fast Moccasin was eager to arrive at their destination because he was anxious
for the footrace warm-ups. He felt a certain amount of anticipation also, because tomorrow they would have the elimination rounds of the races. Although he was always elated before any form of competition, he usually geared himself for possible defeat. Runs Behind had admitted to him that one day he hoped to defeat him and Fast Moccasin knew that the potential was there. Fast Moccasin didn't feel any anger at Runs Behind's admission because he knew it was not out of contempt but brotherly rivalry, which was sometimes evident among the closest of siblings. Fast Moccasin checked to see if his parents needed any further help but they were managing fine and told him to go ahead with Red Morning.

Fast Moccasin helped Red Morning into the wagon carefully but quickly and they were on their way in a matter of minutes. Fast Moccasin knew better than to go too fast and instead urged the team along at an even pace. Red Morning kept up a steady stream of conversation, sometimes talking about the past, the future, and finally slipping back to the present. Fast Moccasin kept up his end of the monologue by nods and grunts at the appropriate times. He couldn't help but be amused by Red Morning's enthusiasm. Suddenly, she realized that Fast Moccasin would be taking part in a race tomorrow and reprimanded herself secretly for monopolizing the conversation. She encouraged Fast Moccasin to express his feelings about the upcoming race.

"Do you think you'll win the race tomorrow?" she asked him. He was completely at ease with his sister and his words flowed easily.

He replied, "I'm not certain that I will. It will depend on how many new, good runners will enter. Runs Behind is always a top competitor and this might be the race where he defeats me. Also, it doesn't matter if I win or not; I mostly like the sport."

Red Morning asked, "If Runs Behind does win, will his name be changed again?"

Fast Moccasin was uncertain of this but answered, "Well, it was changed once before and it probably could be changed again, although I'm not sure what it would be changed to."

Red Morning made a mental note to ask her parents about this. Fast Moccasin checked to see how far down the sun had gone, and could tell by its position that they were still quite some distance from their destination. Fast Moccasin seized the opportunity to express more of his feelings that had been surfacing recently.
He told Red Morning, "I think that if I do win this race, I would like to go to Montana next summer. I've been wanting to go there, mainly to seek out our cousins that live there, but also to take part in their footrace competitions. You know that I will be initiated into the Kit Fox Society this fall and I've been thinking about what I could do to achieve the highest honor in the society. If we do go to another state for a powwow, maybe I can find out what other tribes consider high honors. After that, I could decide what I really want to do."

Red Morning said, "I've wanted to go to another powwow somewhere, just to see what other tribes do for their activities and to see the country."

She had heard stories from a few other people who had attended these powwows and gave colorful accounts of them and their activities. Fast Moccasin had his sights set on competing in one of the footrace competitions, although winning was not his goal; running in one of them would be satisfaction enough for him.

Red Morning realized how much that would mean to Fast Moccasin and she told him, "I will talk to our parents, too, to let them know that I would like to go to Montana for a powwow next summer. Maybe they will consider it more if they know that we would both like to go."

After more conversational chatter, they both began looking for signs of their destination and knew from previous trips that they were almost there. Fast Moccasin re-assured Red Morning that she looked fine and would surely capture some young brave's heart.

"Your hair looks very pretty with those fancy braid holders, and it's good that you take good care of your skin; you look very healthy. You will look beautiful when you wear that new buckskin dress that mother made for you. A beautiful dress for a beautiful girl."

Fast Moccasin was not unaware of Red Morning's blossoming beauty. At 15, she was attracting more and more attention from the young men around the camp.

Red Morning remarked, "I wish Runs Behind would pay more attention to me. I think he's so neat."

Fast Moccasin paid little attention to this remark. Red Morning had not missed the fact that Runs Behind was becoming a handsome young man and looked older than 14.
At last, the campsite came into view, and since Fast Moccasin and Red Morning knew where their aunt, Wind Woman, usually camped, Fast Moccasin steered the team in a southerly direction. The ground here was not rocky, but soft and sandy, so it was easy to break a new trail. The brush and trees on this side of the Wind River were sparse at the site where many people had already set up their camps. Wind Woman saw her niece and nephew approaching and waved to them in greeting. They parked their wagon and went to rest and wait in Wind Woman's shade. Wind Woman served them some cooled, sweet, peppermint tea and biscuits while they visited. Wind Woman had many questions but didn't have time to ask very many before Sings Woman and Runs First arrived. They all pitched in to help unload the wagon to help set up camp. Wind Woman had very adeptly cleared away a large area of weeds and undergrowth where Sings Woman and Runs First set up their tipi and shade. Within a couple of hours, their camp was completely set up.

Wind Woman had never been married and had no children. She was a very independent person. Over the years she had accumulated much property and wanted for nothing. Unlike other women who were either single or widowed, she rarely depended on a man to aid her. She had already set up her own camp the previous day by enlisting the aid of some young men in erecting her tipi. All she had had to do was set up the cooking and eating facilities and beds for any guests who might show up. Sings Woman knew that Wind Woman would want her to share the facilities she had set up.

The camp crier had announced that the racetrack was clear so the runners could warm up whenever they wanted. This announcement came while Fast Moccasin was helping his father put the finishing touches on their shade and the announcement gave him the incentive to get done faster. Runs First could sense his son's impatience and gave him permission to leave the moment they were done.

"You've helped me with the biggest part of the job. You can go ahead and do whatever you want now. Check back with us later in case we need you for something but I don't think we will," said Runs First to Fast Moccasin.

Fast Moccasin had been taught to respect his elders, especially parents. This was the reason he didn't ask for permission to leave before the work was completed.
Fast Moccasin deliberately walked to the track, although he felt like running there as fast as he could. By the time he got there, quite a few hopefuls had already assembled and were happy to see Fast Moccasin. After some catching up on their lives, they decided to do some warm-up runs. After the first couple of heats, it was evident that Fast Moccasin had some pretty stiff competition, even with Runs Behind not being there. Fast Moccasin's feelings of imminent defeat and anxiety became more acute, even though he was able to defeat all the runners at this point. He feared that he had not disciplined himself as much as he should have. He had maintained a strict schedule of exercise and had forced himself to run early every morning and again at night. At the moment, he felt that may not have been enough. One runner from the Arapahoe district, Little Shield, made Fast Moccasin mildly nervous because he came in second in both heats, but it seemed to Fast Moccasin that he was deliberately lagging behind. He felt that with a sudden burst of energy, Little Shield could easily overtake him - and Runs Behind, as well. He sprinted around the track a few more times with these thoughts in mind, then went back to camp for supper. He found it odd that Runs Behind hadn't shown up for the warm-ups.

Over the meal, he confided to his family that he thought he and Runs Behind might indeed be defeated this year. He said, "There's one runner from this district that runs pretty well; he's fast. I thought for sure he would beat me today, but it seemed to me that he stayed behind purposely to make me nervous. If that is true, than he could very well beat Runs Behind, too." He remarked lightly to his father, "I won't feel bad if I do get beaten, but I'd rather be beaten by Runs Behind. He's mentioned a few times that he thinks he can beat me this year, but he hasn't met Little Shield, yet."

Runs First advised Fast Moccasin, "Son, no matter who defeats you in this race, you will have to accept it with no hard feelings. You have demonstrated that you are capable of this, and I'm sure that you will be able to handle it. It is natural for people to feel disappointed when losing in anything, but you must not let these feelings interfere with your good judgement."

Fast Moccasin also wanted someone else to have the honor of winning, and considered not running at all. "Maybe I should give someone else a chance at winning and not run at all tomorrow," Fast Moccasin said to his parents.

'They knew that these feelings were prevailing because of his feelings of kindness. Fast Moccasin turned in to bed early but sleep was a long time coming; the big race tomorrow filled his mind with anticipation.
Fast Moccasin awoke with bursting energy and ran out of the tipi to see how the morning had turned out. It was still very cool and the air fresh, not yet tinged with the smell of campfires. Fast Moccasin paused to say his usual morning prayer. He prayed for the well-being of his parents, his sisters and brothers, and all his relatives. In the Arapaho tradition, his cousins, that is, Runs First's brothers' children and Sings Woman's sisters' children, were all considered to be "brothers and sisters." As people flitted through his mind while he prayed, he subconsciously recalled that he had not yet seen Runs Behind.

After his prayer, he went to the smoothest wagon trail for his morning run and noticed en route that Blue Moccasin's family hadn't arrived yet. Fast Moccasin was vaguely uneasy because of this, although it was not unusual for some families not to arrive until the morning when festivities were to begin. Sings Woman had a breakfast of fried deer meat with gravy over fresh biscuits prepared when Fast Moccasin came back from his run. Red Morning was already bubbling over with conversation with her mother and father while she combed her hair.

"My porcupine tail is coming apart; the quills are all falling off. I will soon need a new one to groom my hair," she said, more to Fast Moccasin than to her parents.

Runs First asked Fast Moccasin if Blue Moccasin had arrived yet.

Fast Moccasin said, "No, their campsite is still vacant. I wonder why they haven't arrived yet."

While they were still speculating their fate, Rides At Night ambled over from his camp and said, "Snake Woman became ill from the heat yesterday so they set up a temporary camp for the night. They should be arriving shortly. Blue Moccasin said they would start out early this morning while the day was still cool."

Fast Moccasin felt a rush of relief knowing that Runs Behind would make it to the race.
There were chores to be completed this morning, and Fast Moccasin decided to get started after he finished his breakfast. He thanked his mother for the delicious breakfast and said, "I'm going after more firewood now, and I'll go after more water later."

Red Morning said, "Wait, I'll walk with you to the river so I can pick some berries for Mother while you're getting the wood."

Fast Moccasin welcomed her company and her never-ending enthusiasm, even though she did walk slowly because of her physical impairment. Along the way, they met their cousin, Sky Bird Woman, who was also going to pick berries. Although they were second cousins, they didn't maintain a very close relationship because of the distance that separated their homes. Sky Bird Woman was two years older than Fast Moccasin and unashamedly flirted with him, and he felt very ill-at-ease in her presence. He recalled his father telling him that women were to be respected, especially sisters, but Fast Moccasin wondered how Sky Bird Woman could deserve respect with her undaunted manners. He was inwardly relieved when he parted from her.

"Red Morning effectively stopped Sky Bird Woman's crush on Fast Moccasin by reminding her of their close blood relationship, and that their mothers would probably be happy to see each other since they were first cousins by blood. Red Morning told herself that even if Sky Bird Woman weren't their cousin, she still wouldn't want Fast Moccasin to be interested in her because of her flighty actions."

When he arrived at the trees, Fast Moccasin selected two dead trees to knock down and split for firewood. It seemed to him that the canvas-fitted travois filled quickly as he secured the load with ghost ropes he had found near the trees. He had fashioned the travois with two long tree limbs and ghost ropes before he started to split the wood. He did this so he wouldn't have to make so many trips for wood. He wrapped two ends of the ghost ropes around his waist so he could pull the load with the least amount of effort.
He went to find Red Morning and Sky Bird Woman and found them waiting for him with their full parfleches of currants and bullberries. Fast Moccasin wasn't surprised that Sky Bird Woman didn't flirt with him anymore. He knew that Red Morning had a flair for nipping trouble in the bud. They were all quiet on their way back, lost in their own thoughts.

Suddenly, Red Morning shouted, "There's Runs Behind! They are just turning in toward the pow-wow grounds."

Fast Moccasin knew they would all get to their campsites about the same time, so they continued on at the same pace:

Sky Bird Woman turned down a different trail to her own camp, saying, "We'll probably see each other again soon."

Fast Moccasin said in return, "We'll tell our mother that we saw you today. Tell your mother 'hello' for us."

Red Morning and Fast Moccasin reached their camping area at the same time Blue Moccasin was bringing his team to a halt. They all greeted each other with Fast Moccasin saying, "I am really happy to see that you made it."

Sings Woman said to Fast Moccasin and Runs Behind, "The crier already announced that the runners should assemble right after lunch at the racetrack for the elimination run. Go ahead and eat now; lunch is ready."

Fast Moccasin and Runs Behind served themselves from the pot of boiled meat and wild onions that Sings Woman had prepared. After serving themselves, they sat apart from the rest of the family.

Fast Moccasin said to Runs Behind, "I think we both have some good competition. Especially the one runner from Arapaho named Little Shield. He's the one we have to watch out for, unless you still think you can beat me and him, too," he laughed.

Fast Moccasin's feeling of sibling rivalry had long subsided, and he was now realistic about Runs Behind's potential ability to outrun him. Runs Behind's sibling-rivalry, however, had not waned and he told Fast Moccasin that maybe this was the time he would be defeated. Fast Moccasin reminded him of Little Shield, but Runs Behind showed no signs of being worried. Runs Behind informed Fast Moccasin that he had increased his exercise routine and had adhered to a very rigid schedule of running. Fast Moccasin thought that the fact that Runs Behind hadn't been in the warm-ups was the reason he was unconcerned about Little Shield.
They didn't go for seconds at the urging of their mothers; instead, they said their thank-yous and decided to wander over to the racetrack. There weren't very many there yet, so they just visited with the others until all the runners had arrived. The judges had set a deadline and started the first round of the elimination sessions. Only sixteen runners would be selected in four elimination runs. There were four runs because of the large number of runners participating. Of the first 16, only the top ten would run in the final-big race, scheduled for after supper. The judges usually scheduled it for after supper when it was cool. Tension was running high among the runners, yet a sense of camaraderie prevailed:

Finally, after some last-minute instructions, the announcer called for ten runners to line up for the first round. Of these ten, the top four would be eligible to run in the final elimination race. The elimination rounds were completed with the outcome being 16 runners. Runs Behind and Fast Moccasin had easily won in the separate heats they had run, while Little Shield won easily in his heat, also.

Now that the 16 runners were selected, they were given a break before the final elimination round was run, the fore-runner of the main event where the ten finalists would be selected. Fast Moccasin and Runs Behind broke away from the crowd of runners who were congratulating each other for being eligible to run in the final elimination round.

Runs Behind and Fast Moccasin returned to their camps to rest and wait for supper. Runs Behind told Fast Moccasin that they would meet back at the racetrack after supper. Fast Moccasin went to his camp and checked to see if his mother or Red Morning wanted anything before he went to rest. Red Morning was visiting with their cousin, Little Fawn, who was the daughter of Runs First's sister.

Red Morning told Fast Moccasin, "Let me know when you're ready to go back to the racetrack. I'll walk with you."

Fast Moccasin asked Little Fawn, "How is Broken Arrow?"

Little Fawn answered, "He's doing fine. He said he planned to attend the race to watch you and Runs Behind. You'll probably see him there."

Fast Moccasin could not call Broken Arrow or Little Fawn "brother" or "sister" because their mother was Fast Moccasin's paternal aunt.

Fast Moccasin excused himself and went to lie down. The late afternoon was still hot and, although he had planned to take a nap, he couldn't sleep. His thoughts were of what he would be doing in the future, and he still hoped that they could go to another reservation for a pow-wow. He had heard
that the pow-wow on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation was good, and he thought he might like to go there. If not there, then maybe the Crow Fair on the Crow Reservation. His parents had told him that they had distant relatives living on both of those reservations. The story was that his father's aunt, (Fast Moccasin's great-aunt), had been captured in one of the last raids by the Crows, and that an uncle on his mother's side had been banished from the tribe and then had gone to live with the Cheyennes. Fast Moccasin was intrigued by the thought of meeting his distant relatives. He lay there a few minutes more before his mother called him to supper.

She asked him the results of the elimination runs and he told her that both he and Runs Behind had placed first in their heats. She knew this meant that they would both be running in the Big Race. She wished him good luck, and he jokingly said he would need it since Runs Behind was determined to beat him. Sings Woman told her son that she planned to go watch the race with his father. He was glad that they would be there, although they were always in attendance when he raced. Fast Moccasin finished a very light supper of deer roast and flat bread and went to call Red Morning; then they were on their way to the Big Race after she picked up her prettiest shawl to carry over her arm.

When they arrived at the track, they found that only five of the runners had arrived so far. The judges announced that they would wait a while longer for the other runners to show up. Fast Moccasin became agitated and began pacing behind the other runners. This pacing surprised Red Morning because she had never seen Fast Moccasin so agitated before. Soon, all the runners arrived and the judges called the runners to line up.

Fast Moccasin and Runs Behind fell in beside each other. Little Shield, being haughty as usual, fell in beside Fast Moccasin. The judge gave the final call to the runners and they all fell into position. After a moment, which felt like an eternity to Fast Moccasin, the judge called "Go!" in Arapaho.

The runners shot forward; the crowd roared, and Runs Behind left Fast Moccasin and Little Shield a short distance behind in the first lap. The runners had three more laps to go, so it was too early to tell who would win. In the next two laps, Runs Behind still remained ahead. At last, the runners were on the last lap. In a sudden burst of speed, Fast Moccasin overtook Runs Behind. The cheers became louder and the crowd seemed to be in a frenzy. At the finish line, Fast Moccasin came in first with Runs Behind in close second. Little Shield came in third. Fast Moccasin was caught in a bear hug by Runs Behind who laughingly told him, "Next time!"
1. "Relationship equivalents" show how people are related to each other. Example: Girl/paternal uncle's son, like Red Morning and Runs Behind, are considered "brother" and "sister".

Give an example of: boy/paternal aunt's daughter.

2. Give an example of boy/paternal aunt's son.

3. Give an example of a sister/brother equivalent from the story:

4. From page 9, give an example of boy/maternal aunt's daughter:

5. Give an example of sister/brother (adoptive) equivalent from the story:

6. Is the answer to the above question a form of the extended family system? Why or why not?

7. Give an example of the extended family from page 3.

8. What was one function served by the extended family, (page 3)?

9. Is Wind Woman an aunt to Red Morning by blood? Why or why not?

10. How did Fast Moccasin obtain his name?
11. How did Runs Behind earn his name?

12. What was Runs Behind's name originally and whom was he named for?

13. What relationship was Blue Moccasin to Fast Moccasin?

14. What was Wind Woman's relationship to Fast Moccasin?

15. What kind of relatives was Red Morning anxious to see at the powwow? (Blood relatives or extended family relatives?)

16. Is an adoptive family also considered extended family?

17. Were Red Morning and Runs Behind related by blood?

18. What are siblings?

19. What does sibling rivalry mean?

20. Cite an example of sibling rivalry from the story.

21. From page 6, who was Fast Moccasin taught to respect?

22. What does the word "acute" mean in the story? (page 7)
23. What courtesy did Fast Moccasin extend his mother after meals?

24. What was the relationship between Sky Bird Woman and Red Morning?

25. What was the relationship between Runs Behind and Runs First?

26. Was Little Fawn a first cousin to Red Morning by blood?

27. What relationship were Little Fawn and Broken Arrow to Fast Moccasin?

28. Why couldn't Fast Moccasin call Little Fawn and Broken Arrow his "brother" and "sister"?

29. What would the relationship be between Fast Moccasin and his relatives on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation?

30. What do you think the relationship would be to his distant relatives on the Crow Reservation?
D I C T I O N A R Y  E X E R C I S E

Find the definitions of the following words in the dictionary. Use each in a sentence. Use the definition that was used in the story.

1. traditional:

2. trait:

3. tragedy:

4. fatal:

5. enlisted:

6. rivalry:

7. monologue:

8. reprimand:

9. dwell:

10. confide:
12. initiation:

13. virtue:

14. speculate:

15. fate: 1.

16. travaois:

17. parflèche:

18. agitated:

19. paralyzed:

20. accumulate:
VOCABULARY EXERCISE

INFERENCES: From the context of the story, find the meaning of the following terms:

1. annual: __________
2. competition: __________
3. respective: __________
4. symbolized: __________
5. inherited: __________
6. erect: __________
7. anticipation: __________
8. related: __________
9. potential: __________
10. contempt: __________
11. monopolize: __________
VOCABULARY EXERCISE (continued):

12. proportion:

13. dramatic:

14. incentive:

15. deliberately:

16. assembled:

17. anxiety:

18. disciplined:

19. prevail:

20. manifested:

21. adhered:

22. rigid:

23. intrigued:

24. eternity:

25. imminent:

GRANDFATHER  
(father's parent)

GRANDMOTHER  
(father's parent)

GRANDFATHER  
(mother's parent)

GRANDMOTHER  
(mother's parent)

FATHER'S SISTER  
(AUNT)

FATHER

MOTHER

MOTHER'S BROTHER  
(UNCLE)

*YOURSELF*

*  

*  

*  

*  

*  

*  

*  

*  

*Indicate by inserting either your brothers or sisters; (example: *sister—Mary Jo).

The chart above shows where you and your relatives would be on a family tree. Write your own name in the box labeled "yourself", then write in the names of your relatives in the other boxes.
ACTIVITY: Trace your roots! Make a family tree for your mother and father, grandparents, or your great-grandparents. Find out the year they were born and use the Arapaho census for reference to find out who are all included in your family tree. (The Title IV Office has a census from 1895-1927).

PURPOSE: To find who your "real" ancestors are

PERSONALIZATION: Write about individuals who are related to you through the extended family system.

EVALUATION: Do you think your family tree correctly analyzes your ancestry? Why or why not?

MORE "ROOTS" ACTIVITIES:

Do your own investigation and read more works done by anthropologists on the Arapaho Kinship system. Use the "Resource" page of this booklet for authors and titles.

You may want to pick another tribe and analyze their kinship system, then compare it to your tribe. Write a short essay on similarities or differences.

For more reading, check your school or town library. To make this subject more personal, ask your parents or grandparents about the kinship system and write a report on it.
GLOSSARY
1. acute: Increasing in intensity.
2. adept(ly): Skillful; skillfully
3. annual: Happening once a year.
4. anxiety: The state of being anxious.
5. camaraderie: Having a feeling of friendship.
6. camouflage(d): A disguise or concealment.
7. dire: Extreme and urgent.
8. dwell: To linger over in thought. To think about at length.
9. feat: A remarkable action or achievement.
10. filial: Of or due from children.
11. frenzy: Wild outburst of feeling or action.
12. genetic: Of the same blood, same mother and father.
13. haughty: Proud of oneself and looking down on other people.
14. imminent: About to happen.
15. impairment: To be in a damaged state.
16. kinship: Relationship.
17. manifest(ed): To show signs of; evident.
18. maternal: On the mother's side.
19. objective: Something one is trying to reach or achieve.
20. paternal: On the father's side.
21. respect: Feeling of high regard, honor.
22. rigid: Not flexible; set; strict.
23. sibling: Brother or sister.
24. symbolize: To represent something special.
25. trait: Distinguishing quality or character.
26. undaunted: Not discouraged.
27. virtue: Right action and thinking; a moral quality regarded as having merit.
28. wane(d): To become less intense.
KINSHIP TERMS:

ADOPTIVE FAMILY: Person may resemble a departed relative or may have been a friend of a departed child; then they were adopted by the deceased's family. If a child was orphaned, it was adopted by some family to be raised by them. If the parents of a child could not raise it for some reason, such as poor health, some caring family would adopt this child to raise as their own.

EXTENDED FAMILY: Significant others who may be of the same family but not "immediate family"; includes those who are taken into the family by means of adoption, or some other relationships, such as life long friendships.

IMMEDIATE FAMILY: Includes the mother, father, sister, brother and their children.

INCEST REGULATION: A girl could not have children by her brother; therefore, their children must be considered "cousins", not brothers and sisters. On the other hand, a sister could claim her sisters' children as "her own" and the children could consider themselves "brothers" and "sisters". But, a brother could not claim his sister's children as "his own" because of this regulation and respect. His children could not claim his sister's children as brothers and sisters, only as cousins. A brother could claim his brother's offspring as "his own", also.

RELATIONSHIP EQUIVALENTS: Show how people are related to each other.

sister/brother (by blood): Have the same mother and same father.
girl/maternal aunt's daughter: Considered as "sisters".
girl/maternal aunt's son: Considered as "brother and sister".
girl/paternal uncle's daughter: Considered as sisters.
girl/paternal uncle's son: Considered as brother and sister.
girl/maternal uncle's daughter: Considered as cousins.
girl/maternal uncle's son: Considered as cousins.
girl/paternal aunt's daughter: Considered as cousins.
girl/paternal aunt's son: Considered as cousins.
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