

Braving the Pacific on a Bamboo Raft

TEACHER READ ALOUD
Theme 1, Grade 4

Activate Prior Knowledge

Braving the Pacific on a Bamboo Raft is a nonfiction selection about a modern explorer's attempt to recreate an ancient voyage across the Pacific Ocean on a bamboo raft.



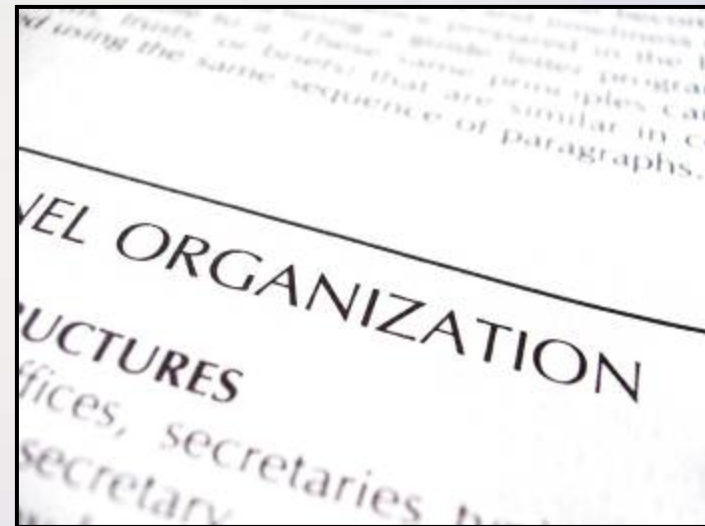
Activate Prior Knowledge

- The journey will be from Vietnam to California.
- What are possible routes for the voyage?
- How might an ancient explorer's journey be different than one today?



Text Organization

- Understanding **text organization** helps you understand the selection.
- Authors use various features such as headings, illustrations, captions and charts to organize their material.
- Writers choose different organization depending on the purpose of their writing.



While You Read

- What does the title *Braving the Pacific on a Bamboo Raft* tell you about the story?
- How does a title help you understand a selection better?



While You Read

Why is the heading
“Preparation”
appropriate for
this section?



While You Read

Based on the heading, *Trouble at Sea*, what do you think may happen in the next section of the story?



While You Read

Why do you think the author chose to end the article this way?



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- What parts of the story did you find most interesting?
- Summarize the selection.



Text Organization

Organize these events in the order they really occurred.

- Severin and his crew sail from Vietnam.
- The Emperor commands Hsu Fu to cross the Pacific.
- Severin's team tries to repair the raft.
- Severin calls for help 1,000 miles from land.
- Craftsmen in Vietnam help Severin build a raft.
- Severin plans to build a boat similar to Hsu Fu's.

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How do you think Grandfather's three week journey by steamship in the late 1800s would have differed from Tim Severin's six month journey by bamboo raft in 1994?

