

Book Clues

Use book features to gather background before reading.

6.8.D.ii "features such as introduction, foreword, preface, references, or acknowledgements to gain background information; and"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each book feature named in the passage. Circle the details that show what background information it gives or how it helps a reader.

Before the Falcon Story

- ① Before chapter 1 of *Wings Over the City*, readers see an introduction called "Why Falcons Need Tall Places." It explains that peregrine falcons once declined in many places after DDT, a pesticide, harmed their eggshells. The introduction also tells readers that nesting pairs now live on bridges and skyscrapers. This background helps a reader understand why the book follows a pair of falcons on a downtown office tower. It gives the big picture before the close-up story begins.
- ② A foreword comes next. It is written by Dr. Elena Kim, an ornithologist who studies birds. Dr. Kim describes watching young falcons learn to fly from a library roof. She says the author carefully recorded dates, weather, and nesting behavior. In the preface, the author explains her purpose: to show how city residents can protect nesting sites. She also notes that she observed the pair during two spring seasons and used maps from a local bird group.
- ③ At the end, references list books, articles, and websites used for research. A reader can use these citations to find the original information and check where claims came from. The acknowledgements thank the building manager, volunteers, and photographers who helped create the book. These names do not provide research facts, but they show which people supported the project. Looking at each feature helps readers gather background before deciding how to use the main chapters with care.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 Which feature should you read to find the original sources for the book's claims? Explain how it helps.

2 What background information does the introduction give about peregrine falcons?

3 What does Dr. Kim's foreword tell readers about the author and her work?

4 How are the acknowledgements different from the references as a source of background information?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Choose a nonfiction book topic. Write exactly two sentences for an introduction, foreword, or preface that gives a reader useful background before Chapter 1, and name the feature you chose.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each book feature named in the passage. Circle the details that show what background information it gives or how it helps a reader. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which feature should you read to find the original sources for the book's claims? Explain how it helps.	The references. Their citations help readers find the original information and check where claims came from.
2	What background information does the introduction give about peregrine falcons?	It explains that DDT harmed peregrine eggshells and that nesting pairs now live on bridges and skyscrapers.
3	What does Dr. Kim's foreword tell readers about the author and her work?	It says the author carefully recorded dates, weather, and nesting behavior.
4	How are the acknowledgements different from the references as a source of background information?	Acknowledgements name people who supported the project, while references list research sources and help readers check claims.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Preface: This book explains how volcanoes form when melted rock rises through Earth's crust. I wrote it after visiting a science museum so readers can understand why scientists watch active volcanoes.

Accept answers that correctly connect each feature to the type of background it provides. For the open task, accept either an introduction, foreword, or preface if it is named and gives relevant background in exactly two sentences.