

Summarize the story:

Use three sentences to tell about the movie "Arabia". How much of the story can you get into those three sentences?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Behind the story

In the photograph on Page One, the eagle is about to catch a starling. Look up starlings and find out how they came to the United States. An "invasive species" is a plant or animal that comes to a place where it didn't live before and begins to crowd out other species that do belong there.

Look up these four examples of invasive species and put their information in this chart:

Species	plant or animal?	How it came to the United States
<i>starling</i>	<i>animal</i>	<i>released on purpose</i>
<i>house mouse</i>		
<i>bindweed</i>		
<i>zebra mussel</i>		
<i>Asian longhorn beetle</i>		

Taking a classroom census

The U.S. Census is counting everyone in the country and gathering some information about them. You can do a classroom census and answer these questions:

1. How many people are in your classroom?
2. What percentage of your class are boys, and what percent are girls?
3. What is the most common hair color in your class? What percent of students have that color hair?
4. What month has the most birthdays? What month comes in second?
5. What is the average number of letters in the last names of the people in your class?

BONUS FACT: If you count your teacher, what is the average age of your class?

How do you build good "team chemistry"?

In his sports column, Ian Murrin mentions "team chemistry," which is a term for how well the players on a team get along and how well they work together. It's important to have good team chemistry in sports, but it's also important when you are putting on a play, working on a group project for school or playing in a band. Write a brief essay about what you think are the most important things a person can do to help be a good team member and to help create good team chemistry.

