



THE MAN WHO WALKED BETWEEN THE TOWERS

Mordical Gerstein

Teacher's Guide Written By Laurie Rozakis, Ph.D.

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Note: The pages are not numbered.

SYNOPSIS

Once there were two Towers. At 1,340 feet, they were the tallest buildings in New York City. A street performer named Philippe saw the Towers. He liked to walk on a rope suspended between two trees. He decided to suspend a rope between the two Towers and walk across it. After all, he had already walked on a wire suspended high in the sky between the steeples of Notre Dame Cathedral. Knowing that the police would never allow someone to walk on a wire between the Towers in New York City and people would think he was crazy, Philippe decided to do it secretly.



Dressed as construction workers, Philippe and his friends brought cable and other equipment into the south Tower. At midnight, they tied the wire on the south Tower and sent it across to the north Tower, 140 feet away.

Philippe tied the cable to the Tower. It looked like they would not be able to secure the cable, but they finally did. It took three hours and they were not finished until past dawn.

On August 7, 1974, Philippe dressed in his black shirt and tights, picked up his 28 foot balancing pole, and stepped out on the wire at dawn. He swayed with the wind, but he was not afraid because he felt happy and free. He was a quarter of a mile up in the sky. People stared at him. Police officers tried to arrest him. He walked on the wire for about an hour.

Then he walked back to the roof. The police arrested him and brought him to court. For his punishment, he had to put on a show for children in the park.

Now the Towers are gone.

TIMELINE

- 1975 Jan. 24**, New York City: Bomb set off in Fraunces Tavern, killing 4, injuring 50. Puerto Rican nationalist group (FALN) claims responsibility.
- 1979 Nov. 4**, Tehran, Iran: Iranian radical students seize the U.S. embassy, taking 66 hostages. Fourteen are later released. The remaining 52 were freed after 444 days.
Lebanon: Hezbollah kidnaps 30 hostages.
- 1983 April 18**, Beirut, Lebanon: U.S. embassy destroyed in suicide car-bomb attack; 63 dead, including 17 Americans. Islamic Jihad claims responsibility.
Oct. 23, Lebanon: Shiite suicide bombers explode a truck near U.S. military barracks at Beirut airport, killing 241 Marines. Second bomb kills 58 French paratroopers in their barracks in West Beirut.
Dec. 12, Kuwait: Shiite truck bombers attack the U.S. embassy and other targets, killing 5 and injuring 80.
- 1984 Sept. 20**, Beirut, Lebanon: Truck bomb explodes outside the U.S. embassy annex, killing 24, including 2 U.S. military.
Dec. 3, Beirut, Lebanon: Kuwait Airways Flight 221 hijacked. Two Americans killed.
- 1985 April 12**, Madrid, Spain: Bombing at a restaurant frequented by U.S. soldiers, killing 18 Spaniards, injuring 82.
Oct. 7, Mediterranean Sea: Gunmen attack Italian cruise ship, Achille Lauro, killing one U.S. tourist. Hijacking linked to Libya.
Dec. 18, Airports in Rome and Vienna bombed, killing 20 people, 5 Americans. Bombing linked to Libya.
- 1986 April 2**, Athens, Greece: Bomb explodes aboard TWA flight 840, killing 4 Americans, injuring 9.
April 5, West Berlin, Germany: Libyans bomb a nightclub, killing 2 U.S. citizens and injuring hundreds of people.
- 1988 Dec. 21**, Lockerbie, Scotland: Boeing 747 explodes in flight from a terrorist bomb and crashes into Scottish village, killing all 259 aboard and 11 on the ground. Passengers include 35 Syracuse University students and many U.S. military personnel. Libya admits responsibility 15 years later.
- 1993 Feb. 26**, New York City: Bomb explodes in World Trade Center garage, killing 6 and injuring at least 1,040. Al-Qaeda suspected.
- 1995 April 19**, Oklahoma City: Car bomb explodes outside federal office building, killing 168. Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols responsible.
- 1998 Aug. 7**, Kenya and Tanzania: Truck bombs explode near two U.S. embassies, killing 224 and injuring 4,500. Al-Qaeda responsible.

- 2000 Oct. 12** Yemen: U.S. Navy destroyer *USS Cole* heavily damaged when a small boat loaded with explosives blows up alongside it; 17 killed. Linked to Osama bin Laden.
- 2001 Sept. 11**, New York City, Arlington, Va., and Shanksville, Pa.: Hijackers crash two commercial jets into Twin Towers of World Trade Center; two more hijacked jets crash into the Pentagon and a field in PA. Total dead and missing 2,992. Al-Qaeda responsible.
- Oct. 7**, U.S. and British forces begin an aerial bombing campaign called Operation Enduring Freedom which aims to destroy Al-Qaeda, operating under the protection of the Taliban rulers in Afghanistan.
- June 14**, Pakistan: Bomb explodes outside American consulate in Karachi, Pakistan, killing 12. Linked to Al-Qaeda
- 2003 May 12**, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia: Suicide bombers kill 34, including 8 Americans, at housing compounds for Westerners. Al-Qaeda suspected.
- 2004 May 29, 31**, Saudi Arabia: Terrorists attack the offices of a Saudi oil company, 22 people dead.
- Dec. 6**, Jiddah, Saudi Arabia: Terrorists storm the U.S. consulate, killing 5 before being subdued by Saudi security.

AUTHOR SKETCH

Gerstein is not only a writer, but also a designer, illustrator of children's books, animated film writer, director, and producer, and painter. He was born in 1935, in Los Angeles, CA. His father was a playwright; his mother, a homemaker. His parents immersed him in culture from an early age. His mother loved painting and books. Fascinated by art, Gerstein began drawing illustrations as a child. After high school, he studied painting privately in New Mexico and then attended the Chouinard Art Institute in California (1953-56.)



Next, Gerstein took a job with the animation studio United Productions of America, painting in his spare time. Married for the first time, he moved to New York, continued painting, and started creating his own animated films. Gerstein illustrated his first book in 1973, a children's book written by Elizabeth Levy. This proved a good pairing, and the two are still working together. In addition, he started writing and illustrating his own stories. The first was *Arnold of the Ducks*, which combined memories of his childhood with stories such as *Tarzan* by Edgar Rice Burroughs and Rudyard Kipling's *The Jungle Book*. Many of his subsequent books have Biblical characters and themes. Gerstein has also tackled longer works such as chapter books, with a special emphasis on biographies.

In an interview, Gerstein said: "For me, picture books are little theaters one holds in the hand and operates by turning the pages. I make my books for everyone, not just children. All of us are either children or have been children, so that childhood is an experience we all have in common." The author wants his books to communicate to readers on more than one level of understanding, "so to speak to everyone."

CRITICS CORNER

The Man Who Walked Between the Towers received the 2004 Caldecott prize, arguably the most prestigious award for children's books. Reviewers were enthusiastic in their praise. *Publishers Weekly*, for example, notes that "Gerstein's dramatic paintings include some perspectives bound to take any reader's breath away. Truly affecting is the book's final painting of the imagined imprint of the Towers, now existing 'in memory' linked by Philippe and his high wire."

Wendy Lukehart, writing in *School Library Journal*, praises Gerstein for capturing his subject's "incredible determination, profound skill, and sheer joy." She notes how "the final scene depicts transparent, cloud-filled skyscrapers, a man in their midst. With its graceful majesty and mythic overtones, this unique and uplifting book is at once a portrait of a larger-than-life individual and a memorial to the Towers and the lives associated with them."

Booklist lauds the book's "joyful true story of the World Trade Center from a time of innocence before 9/11."

OTHER WORKS BY THE AUTHOR

- Arnold of the Ducks* (1983)
Follow Me! (1983)
Prince Sparrow, Four Winds (1984)
Roll Over! (1984)
The Room (1984)
William, Where Are You? (1985)
Tales of Pan (1986)
The Seal Mother (1986)
The Mountains of Tibet (1987)
The Sun's Day (1989)
Anytime Mapleson and the Hungry Bears (1990)
The New Creatures (1991)
The Gigantic Baby (1991)
The Story of May (1993)
The Shadow of a Flying Bird: A Legend of the Kurdistan Jews (1994)
Daisy's Garden (1995)
The Giant (1995)
Bedtime, Everybody! (1996)
Behind the Couch (1996)
Jonah and the Two Great Fish (1997)
Stop Those Pants! (1998)
Victor: A Novel Based on the Life of the Savage of Aveyron (1998)
The Wild Boy (1998)
The Absolutely Awful Alphabet (1999)
Noah and the Great Flood (1999)
Queen Esther, The Morning Star: The Story Of Purim (2000)
Fox Eyes (2001)
What Charlie Heard (2002)
Sparrow Jack (2003)

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Gerstein's books have been reviewed in *Booklist*, *Kirkus Reviews*, *Hornbook*, etc. *Contemporary Authors Online*, Thomson Gale, 2004.
Time, December 14, 1987, p. 79.
Voice of Youth Advocates, February, 1999.

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

1. To understand the book's title
2. To analyze why Philippe wanted to walk between the Towers
3. To explore how others reacted to his feat
4. To recognize the importance of setting
5. To assess Philippe's personality
6. To recognize the book's theme and lessons that it teaches
7. To enjoy the pictures
8. To find examples of bravery
9. To appreciate the symbolism of the Twin Towers
10. To describe the author's use of historical details

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1. To appreciate the story's joyful, innocent tone
2. To thrill with Philippe's skill, spirit, and courage
3. To understand how the world has changed since September 11
4. To understand how Gerstein captures the various physical points of view, from the high wire as well as the ground
5. To appreciate the beautiful artwork
6. To analyze how the art and text work together to tell the story
7. To enjoy the cleverly-designed fold-outs
8. To applaud Philippe's amazing feat
9. To appreciate a unique historical moment
10. To understand that the Twin Towers were destroyed

LITERARY TERMS AND APPLICATIONS

For a better understanding of Mordicai Gerstein's style, present the following terms and applications to the novel:

Visuals Since *The Man Who Walked Between the Towers* is a picture book, the visuals are an integral part of the story. Here, the visuals and text blend seamlessly to tell the story of Philippe Petit's amazing feat. The colors are especially effective, especially the soft yellows and blues on the final page.

Point Of View The position from which a story is told. In *The Man Who Walked Between the Towers*, Gerstein uses the third-person point of view. As a result, readers are standing outside the story and getting a panoramic view of events. This makes the story even more dramatic.

Tone The writer's attitude toward his or her subject matter. For example, the tone can be angry, bitter, sad, or frightening. Although the terrorist attacks of September 11th and destruction of the World Trade Center is one of the most violent acts in modern memory, Gerstein chooses instead a sweet and gentle tone to laud Petit's accomplishment in 1974, a time of far greater innocence. This elegiac tone bathes the entire book in sweetness.

THE IMPORTANCE OF SETTING

The September 11th terrorist attacks and the destruction of the World Trade Center changed the contemporary world. These attacks symbolized a loss of innocence and a new awareness of world strife. The setting is the focus of *The Man Who Walked Between the Towers*, its entire purpose. Gerstein is painting a time before terrorism.

Located in downtown Manhattan, the World Trade Center is on a 16 acre site, stretching from Church Street on the east to West Street on the west, and Vesey and Barclay streets in the north to Liberty Street on the south. Owned and operated by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, the Port Authority developed and constructed the Center to serve as a headquarters for international trade within the port area of New York and New Jersey.

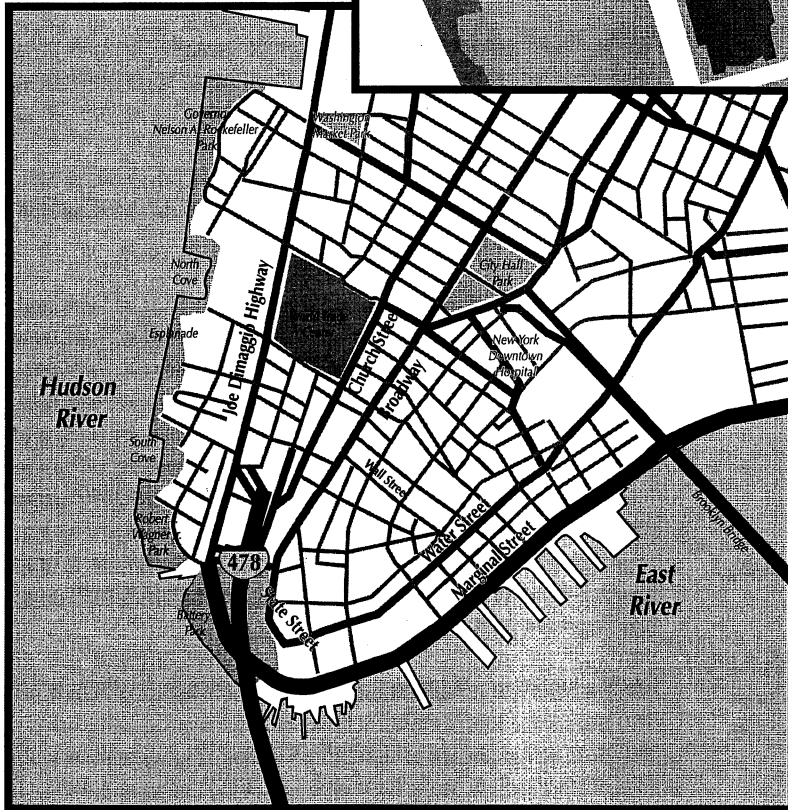
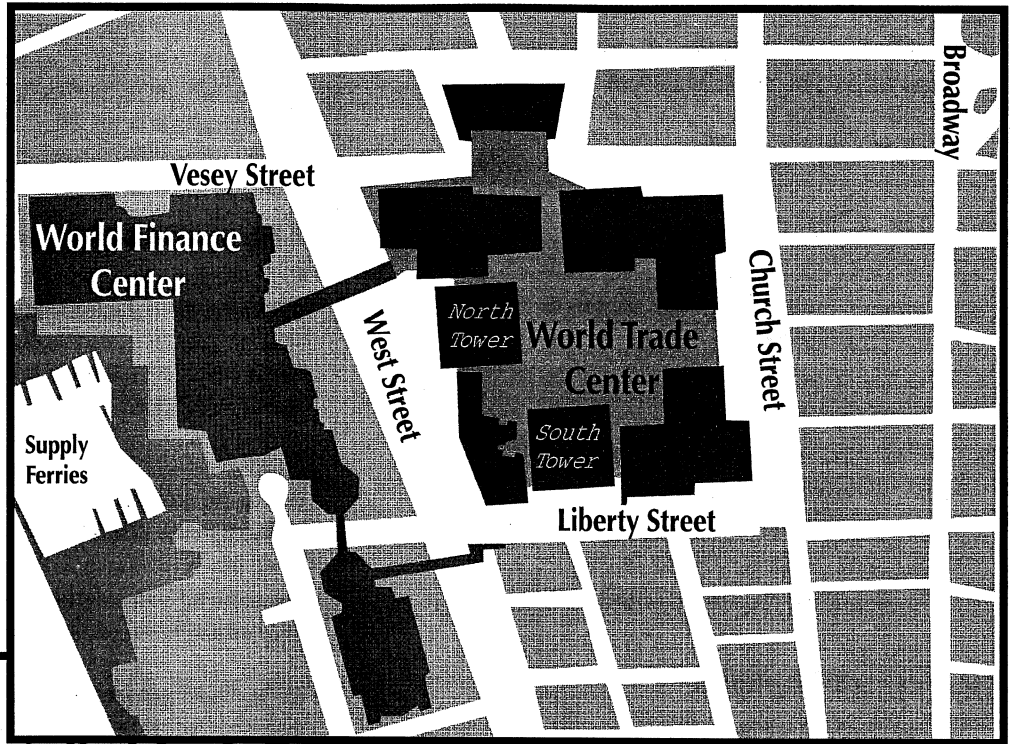
The World Trade Center's North Tower first opened to tenants in December 1970; the South Tower got its first tenant in 1972. By 1992, the Port Authority had invested roughly \$1.2 billion into the World Trade Center.

The decision to build the World Trade Center was made in 1961, with the unveiling of the building plans in 1964, the start of site excavation in 1966, and the steel construction phase beginning in 1968.

In all, the World Trade Center included seven buildings: One and Two World Trade Center consisted of two 110-story office Towers, Seven World Trade Center was a 47-story office building, Four and Five World Trade Center are 9-story office buildings, Six World Trade Center is an 8-story U.S. Custom House, and Three World Trade Center was a 22-story hotel. All were constructed around a central five-acre landscaped Plaza. All seven buildings have entrances onto the Plaza as well as onto surrounding city streets. The Mall at the World Trade Center, located immediately below the Plaza was the largest enclosed shopping mall in lower Manhattan, as well as the main interior pedestrian level for the complex. Stations for three of New York's subway systems (IRT, IND, BMT) were located below the Tower in the Mall.

The two office Towers, each rising 1,350 feet, were the tallest buildings in New York City and the 5th and 6th tallest in the world. The Center contained approximately 12 million square feet of office space, including the two million square feet of office space in Seven World Trade Center. In the two Tower buildings, each floor was approximately one acre in size, and each Tower contained 4.8 million square feet of floor area.

More than 200,000 tons of steel and 425,000 cubic yards of concrete were used in the World Trade Center's construction. There were 43,600 windows in the two Tower buildings -- over 600,000 square feet of glass. There were 99 elevators, including 23 express elevators in each Tower building. There were five levels below ground including parking for almost 2,000 cars.



Approximately 50,000 people worked in the World Trade Center. Another 150,000 to 200,000 business and leisure visitors came to the center daily.

CROSS-CURRICULAR SOURCES

FICTION

Laura Driscoll, *All Aboard the Circus Train! A Foldout Book with Flaps!*
 Ian Falconer, *Olivia Saves the Circus*
 Bruce Feiler, *Under the Big Top: A Season with the Circus*
 Paul R. Fleishman, *Sidewalk Circus*
 Bill Peet, *Randy Dandy Lions*
 Tennant Redbank, *Jojo's Circus: My Name Is Jojo*
 Tennant Redbank, *Jojo's Circus: Clown School*
 H.A. Rey, *See the Circus*
 Dr. Seuss, *If I Ran the Circus*
 Dr. Seuss, *All Aboard the Circus McGurkus*
 Joseph Slate, *Miss Bindergarten Plans a Circus with Kindergarten*
 Joseph A. Smith, *Circus Train*
 Peter Spier, *Peter Spier's Circus*
 B. Wiseman, *Morris and Boris at the Circus*

NONFICTION

Tony Babinski, *Cirque Du Soleil: 20 Years Under the Sun: An Authorized History*
 James Glanz, *City in the Sky: The Rise and Fall of the World Trade Center*
 Carol Highsmith, *World Trade Center: Tribute and Remembrance*
 Dan Rather, *What We Saw: The Events of September 11, 2001 in Words, Pictures, and Video*
 Peter Skinner, *World Trade Center*

DVDs, VIDEOS

9/11- *The Filmmakers' Commemorative Edition* (2002)
In Memoriam—New York City, 9/11/01 (2002)
Remember September 11, 2001
Why the Towers Fell- An Exclusive Investigation into the Collapse of the World Trade Centers (2002)
World Trade Center- Anatomy of a Collapse (2001)

INTERNET

Mordcai Gerstein's home page
www.mordicaigerstein.com
 Mordcai Gerstein information
www.authorsillustrators.com/gerstein/bio.htm
 Mordcai Gerstein interviews
www.bookpage.com/0505bpmeet_mordcai_gerstein.html

THEMES AND MOTIFS

A study of the central issues and situations in Mordcai Gerstein's *The Man Who Walked Between the Towers* should include these aspects:

THEMES

- cleverness
- colors
- courage
- disguises
- heights
- illustrations
- innocence
- terrorism
- tight-rope walking
- the World Trade Center

MOTIFS

- taking huge risks
- appreciating beautiful artwork
- telling a story in pictures and words
- learning unusual skills
- entertaining others
- appreciating what you have
- following your dreams
- breaking the law
- accepting your punishment
- walking between the Twin Towers

MEANING STUDY

Below are words, phrases, sentences, or thought units that have particular meaning in the story. Explain the meaning of each.

1. Once there were two Towers side by side.
(The book opens with its focus firmly on the Twin Towers. The picture on this page shows the Towers in all their glory, bathed in beautiful blue clouds. This opening suggests to readers that the book will focus on the Towers—and by association, the world before the terrorist attacks of 9/11, a time of relative innocence.)
2. A young man saw them rise in the sky.
(The young man, as yet unnamed, is captivated by the Towers, as were many others around the world. The Towers were a major tourist attraction as well as a busy financial center. This text and its accompanying picture shows the grip the Towers had on the public imagination and consciousness.)
3. Once the idea came to him, he knew he had to do it!
(The performer imagines stretching a wire between the Twin Towers and walking across it. Once he gets this idea in his head, Philippe cannot shake it. This suggests his determination and strength of will.)

4. Hadn't he danced on a wire between the steeples of Notre Dame Cathedral above his amazed home city, Paris?
(We learn here that Philippe is a skilled and accomplished tight-rope artist. His successful feat in Paris foreshadows his success in walking on the high wire between the Twin Towers. Readers appreciate his wild but heroic act and the defiance it represents.)
5. You must be crazy! they would say. You'll fall for sure!
(Philippe realizes that no one would ever give him permission for his wild plan. Further, he is sure to get arrested for it. Nonetheless, he is determined to walk between the Towers. To do so, he carries out his plan in secret, in disguise as a construction worker.)
6. All his life he had worked to be here; to do this.
(The beautiful picture on this page shows the dizzying perspective and thus the danger that Philippe faces. Regardless, he is determined to succeed.)
7. For almost an hour, back and forth, he walked, danced, ran, and knelt in a salute upon the wire.
(Philippe salutes the magnificent city that built the Towers and the people who watch him, amazed, from a quarter mile below. Symbolically, he is also saluting himself and the indomitable human spirit.)
8. They brought him to court. The judge sentenced him to perform in the park for the children of the city.
(The punishment is a mere slap on the wrist, which shows that the judge appreciates Philippe's courageous feat. The punishment is also clever because it ensures that other people will get to enjoy Philippe's talent.)
9. Now the Towers are gone.
(This page is completely blank except for the text to symbolize the Towers' destruction. The facing page has a small skyline and sky filled with clouds that recall the smoke of September 11th.)
10. But in memory, as if imprinted on the sky, the Towers are still there.
(The story book ends as it began: with a focus on the Twin Towers and the freedom-loving human spirit that refuses to be destroyed.)

COMPREHENSION STUDY

Answer the following questions in your own words. There is not always a right answer. Your judgment is important and you should be ready to defend your answers by referring to passages in the book.

QUESTIONS 1-5 (LITERAL LEVEL)

1. When does the story take place?
(The story is set in 1974.)
2. Where does the story take place?
(The story is set in New York City.)

3. What does Philippe want to do?
(He wants to run a wire high in the air between the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center and walk back and forth on it.)
4. Why is Philippe arrested?
(He is arrested for breaking the law by stringing a high wire between the Twin Towers and walking back and forth across it.)
5. What punishment does the judge give Philippe?
(The judge sentences him to perform in the park for the children.)

QUESTIONS 6-8 (INTERPRETATIVE LEVEL)

6. Why does Philippe walk on a high wire between the Twin Towers?
(He cannot resist the fun of doing something so outrageous.)
7. What do you see on the fold-out pages?
(Readers see the tightrope walking first from Philippe's vantage point in the sky and then from the vantage point of the people a quarter-mile down below.)
8. Why do the Twin Towers look like ghosts on the last page?
(They were destroyed in the terrorist attacks of September 11th, 2001. The author is showing that they are gone but not forgotten.)

QUESTIONS 9 AND 10 (CRITICAL LEVEL)

9. What did you like the most about the pictures?
(Possible answers: The soft and pretty colors.)
10. Do you admire Philippe for what he did? Why or why not?
(Readers are likely to admire Philippe for his courage and good humor.)

QUESTIONS 11-12 (CREATIVE LEVEL)

11. Draw another picture for this book.
12. Write a new title for the book.

ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

SPEECH

1. Pretend you are Philippe's mother or father. Convince him not to walk between the Towers.
2. Dress in black. Pretend you are Philippe. Walk across the classroom like you are walking across the high wire.
3. The judge said that Philippe had to put on a show for children. Put on a show for some children in your school.
4. Work with a friend. Pretend the friend is Philippe. Ask him why he walked between the Towers. Ask him what other things he would like to do. Then switch places and do it again.

5. Work with some friends. Pretend you are the court. Perform the scene where the judge hears what Philippe did. Listen to evidence. Talk about it. Then have one person be the judge. Give Philippe his punishment.

ART

1. Draw a poster for Philippe's show for the kids. Write the time and place. Tell what Philippe will do for his act.
2. Make a fold-out page like the two in this book. Draw a picture showing Philippe mounting the wire for his act.
3. Paint a new cover for this book.
4. Make an ad for this book. Draw a picture about the book. Write a sentence that tells about the book.
5. Draw some birds that Philippe might see while he is on the wire.

LANGUAGE ARTS

1. Pretend you are the police. Write the arrest report for Philippe.
2. Write a newspaper story about Philippe's walk.
3. Philippe wanted to walk between the Towers. Write about something wild that you want to do.
4. Pick any page. Write new sentences for the page.
5. Write a letter or email to Mordicai Gerstein. Tell him how much you liked *The Man Who Walked Between the Towers*.

HISTORY/SOCIAL STUDIES

1. Philippe walked between the World Trade Towers. List two more places he could walk. Pick places that are high off the ground!
2. Philippe walked between the steeples of Notre Dame Cathedral. Find out more about this church. Draw a picture of it. Write a sentence about it.

3. Philippe comes from Paris, France. Read about France. Tell a friend what you learned.
4. Draw a map of France.
5. Imagine you could join the circus. Tell what you would like to do there. Would you walk on a tightrope? Would you juggle balls?

SCIENCE/MATH

1. Seagulls fly around Philippe. Report on these birds.
2. Philippe feels the wind when he walks on the rope. Find out what causes the wind.
3. While walking on the high wire, Philippe is one-quarter of a mile up from the street. A mile is 5,280 feet. Figure out how many feet are in one-quarter of a mile.
4. Philippe walked for an hour. Figure out how many minutes and seconds he walked.
5. Philippe walked across the Towers on August 7, 1974. Figure out how many years ago that was.

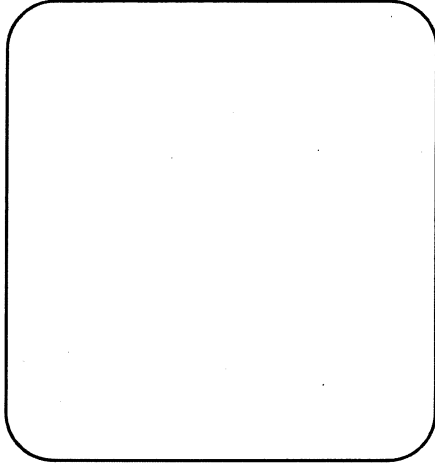
ALTERNATE ASSESSMENT

1. Tell how the writer shows that it is nighttime in some of the pictures.
2. Pick your favorite picture in the book. Write some sentences to tell why you like it so much.
3. Pretend you could write and draw a book. Pick a subject. Write three sentences to tell what your book will be about.
4. Tell why you admire Philippe.

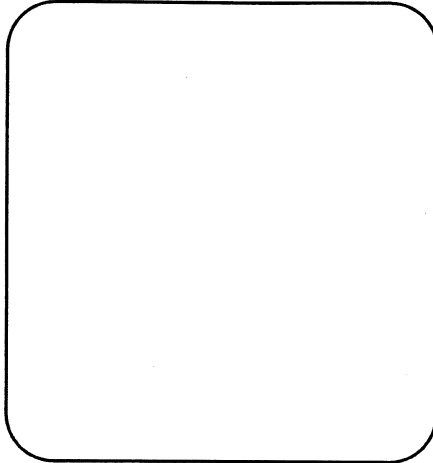
VOCABULARY

Draw a picture that shows what each word means.

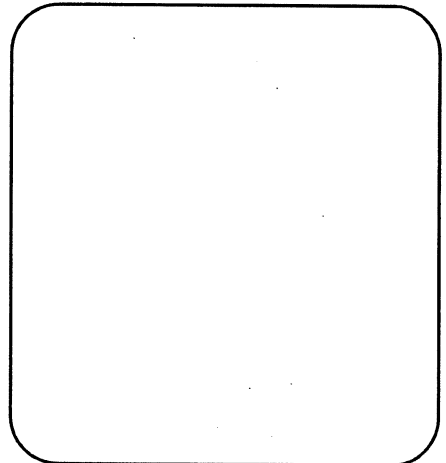
1. Twin Towers



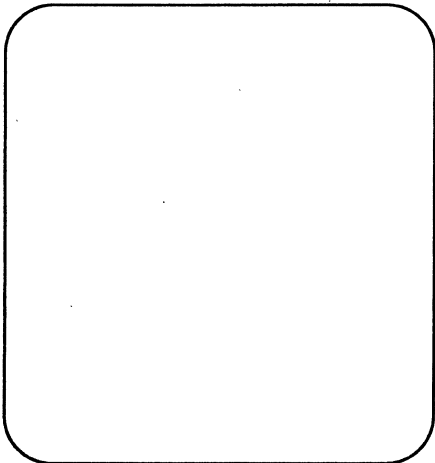
2. quarter



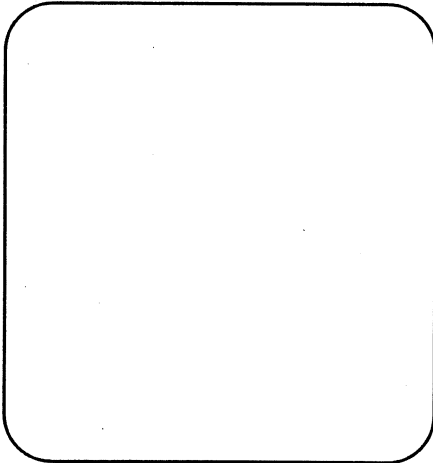
3. unicycle



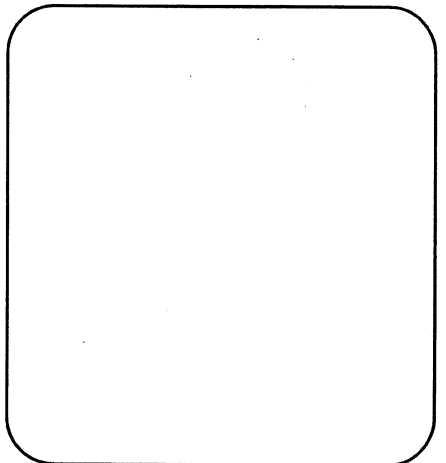
4. torches



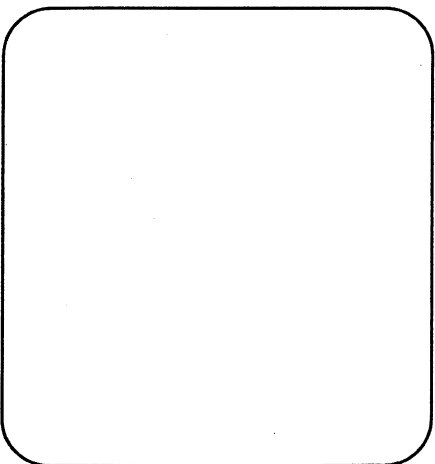
5. juggle



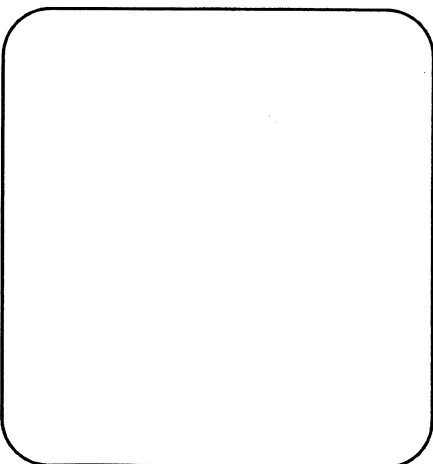
6. construction worker



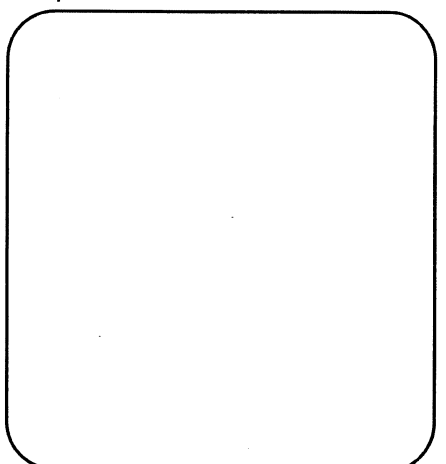
7. cable



8. plummeted



9. pole



COMPREHENSION TEST A

PART I: ORDER (20 POINTS)

Put the events in order. Write the numbers on the lines.

- _____ Years later, the Towers are destroyed.
- _____ Philippe walks on a high wire between the Twin Towers.
- _____ Philippe puts on a show for kids.
- _____ Philippe walks between the spires of Notre Dame Cathedral.
- _____ Philippe is arrested.

PART II: MATCHING (20 POINTS)

Match a person or place with its description.

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| _____ 1. Paris | A. the man who walked between the Towers |
| _____ 2. Mordicai Gerstein | B. the city where the Towers were |
| _____ 3. Philippe Petit | C. the city where Philippe was born |
| _____ 4. The judge | D. man who made this book |
| _____ 5. New York City | E. the man who punished Philippe |

PART III: TRUE/FALSE (20 POINTS)

Mark these sentences T for true or F for false.

- _____ 1. The Twin Towers were the tallest buildings in New York City.
- _____ 2. Philippe is sure the police will let him walk on a high wire between the two Towers.
- _____ 3. Philippe and his friends dress like circus people to bring the wire into the building.
- _____ 4. In 1974, Philippe walked on a high wire between the two Towers.
- _____ 5. Now the Towers are gone.

PART IV: ESSAY (40 POINTS)

Choose two. Answer in complete sentences.

- 1. Tell why you liked this book. Write three sentences or more.
- 2. Explain what Philippe did. Write three sentences or more.
- 3. Pick a picture you liked. Tell about it. Write three sentences or more.
- 4. Tell why Philippe is arrested. Write three sentences or more.

COMPREHENSION TEST B

PART I: STORY EVENTS (20 POINTS)

Circle the two events that are not part of the story.

1. Philippe wants to walk on high wire between the Twin Towers.
2. Philippe dresses like a construction worker.
3. Philippe falls off the high wire.
4. Philippe does walk on a high wire between the Twin Towers.
5. Philippe is arrested.
6. Philippe becomes a teacher.
7. Years later, the Towers are destroyed.

PART II: FILL IN THE BLANK (20 POINTS)

Circle the word to complete each sentence.

1. The Twin Towers were the tallest buildings in (**New York City, France**).
2. Philippe comes from (**Paris, America**).
3. Dressed as (**construction workers, office cleaners**) Philippe and his friends bring wire into the South Tower.
4. During the (**day, night**), they tied the wire on the South Tower and sent it across to the North Tower.
5. The judge ordered Philippe to (**go to jail, put on a show for kids**) as his punishment.

PART III: TRUE/FALSE (20 POINTS)

Mark the following statements T if they are true or F if they are false.

- _____ 1. Philippe liked to walk on a rope tied between two trees.
- _____ 2. Philippe tells everybody that he is going to walk on a high wire between the Twin Towers. He wants a lot of people to see him.
- _____ 3. In 2005, Philippe walked on a wire between the Twin Towers.
- _____ 4. He walked for two days.
- _____ 5. Now the Twin Towers are gone.

PART IV: ESSAY (40 POINTS)

Choose two. Answer in complete sentences.

1. Tell why Philippe was brave. Write three sentences or more.
2. Tell why the police did not want Philippe to walk on a high wire between the buildings. Write three sentences or more.
3. Describe how the judge punished Philippe. Write three sentences or more.
4. Tell what happened after Philippe walked on the high wire. Write three sentences or more.

ANSWER KEY

VOCABULARY

1. The picture should show tall buildings.
2. The picture should show one-fourth of something.
3. The picture should show a one-wheeled cycle.
4. The picture should show flaming columns, like candles.
5. The picture should show objects in the air, such as three balls.
6. The picture should show a builder.
7. The picture should show thick wire
8. The picture should show something falling
9. The picture should show a long, thin, straight stick

COMPREHENSION TEST A

PART I: ORDER (20 POINTS)

- 5 Years later, the Towers are destroyed.
- 2 Philippe walks on a high wire between the Twin Towers.
- 4 Philippe puts on a show for kids.
- 1 Philippe walks between the spires of Notre Dame Cathedral.
- 3 Philippe is arrested.

PART II: MATCHING (20 POINTS)

1. C
2. D
3. A
4. E
5. B

PART III: TRUE/FALSE (20 POINTS)

1. T
2. F
3. F
4. T
5. T

PART IV: ESSAY (40 POINTS)

Answers will vary.

COMPREHENSION TEST B

PART I: STORY EVENTS (20 POINTS)

3. Philippe falls off the wire.
6. Philippe becomes a teacher.

PART II: FILL IN THE BLANK (20 POINTS)

Circle the word to complete each sentence.

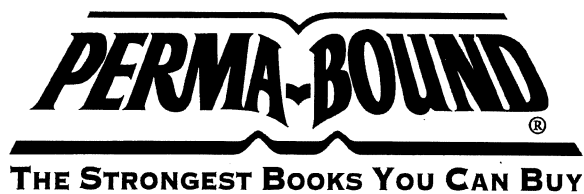
1. New York City
2. Paris
3. construction workers
4. night
5. put on a show for kids

PART III: TRUE/FALSE (20 POINTS)

1. T
2. F
3. F
4. F
5. T

PART IV: ESSAY (40 POINTS)

Answers will vary.



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