

Name _____

Which Word Works?

Practice choosing the correct verb for the sentence.

Read the paragraphs below and select the correct words.

Alexander Graham Bell **(is/was)** born in Scotland. His mother **(is/was)** deaf and his father **(teach/taught)** the deaf how to speak, so Bell always **(had/have)** an interest in the mechanics of speech and in **(worked/working)** with the deaf himself. As a teen, he **(creates/created)** a machine that cried "mama," using the voice box of a dead sheep. When Bell was a young man, his father **(moved/moving)** the family to Canada. A couple of years later, Bell moved to Boston, where he eventually **(become/became)** a professor at Boston University. He **(marry/married)** Mabel Hubbard, who had been one of his students and was deaf. After accidentally **(hearing/heard)** the sound of a plucked reed over the telegraph wire, Bell **(work/worked)** with his associate, Thomas Watson, on creating the first telephone. On February 14, 1876, he **(applied/apply)** for a patent on his telephone. Bell had other inventions, too, such as a breathing lung made of iron and a device for **(locating/locate)** icebergs at sea. He also helped create the National Geographic Society and was its president for many years.

The Cabinet **(is/was)** a group of people that the president of the United States **(appointing/appoints)** as trusted advisors when he or she **(taking/takes)** office. Cabinet appointees must be **(approved/approving)** by a majority vote of the U.S. Senate. The Cabinet **(include/includes)** the vice president, fifteen heads of executive branches, and various other governmental officials. Some important Cabinet members **(is/are)** the secretary of state, who **(work/works)** with foreign countries; the secretary of the treasury, who is in charge of the collection of taxes; the secretary of defense, who **(oversees/overseeing)** the armed forces; and the attorney general, who **(enforces/enforced)** the laws of the U.S. government. The Cabinet **(serve/serves)** for as long as the president is in office.