

Unit 4

Name: _____

Reading Comprehension

The Secret of Vesuvius

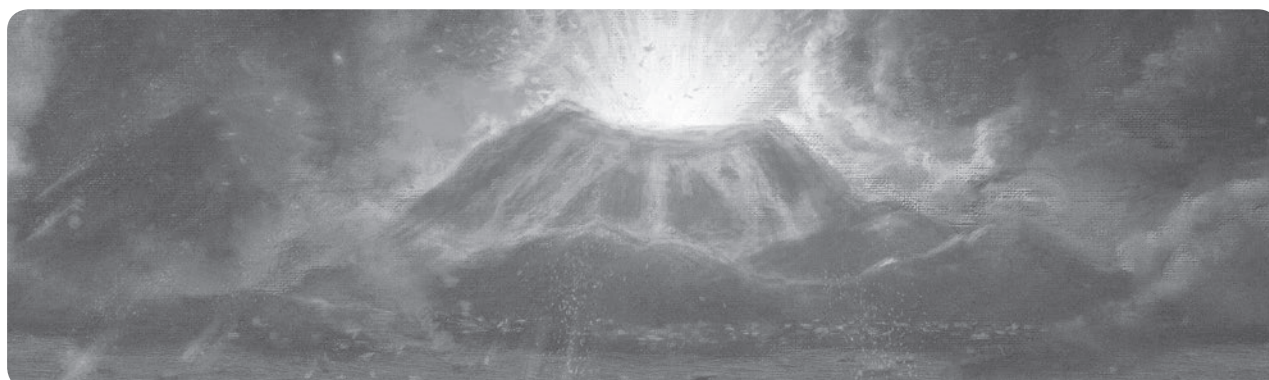
A Read the predictions. Check (✓) the predictions that are correct.

- 1 The lava from Vesuvius will spread to all of Europe.
- 2 Pliny's sailors will save Lupus' and Vulcan's lives.
- 3 Pliny will think the volcano eruption is fascinating.
- 4 The eruption will stop and everyone will have a party.
- 5 The hot ash and rocks will fall on Pliny's warship and the people aboard.
- 6 The ship will not go forward to Rectina's villa.

☐
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B Complete the story chart.

Setting		
Main Characters		Minor Characters
Plot		



C Complete the sentences.

The Secret of Vesuvius is a _____ story.

It tells a story set in the _____.

How is historical fiction different from science fiction?

D Circle the correct words.

- 1 Pliny's sailors lifted Vulcan out of the rowing boat into the **cabin** / **warship** / **villa**.
- 2 Lupus thought he could see the roof of the villa, but the **parasol** / **salt water** / **ash** made it hard to see.
- 3 Lupus saw a **pennant** / **jetty** / **rail** fluttering at the top of the mainmast.
- 4 The impact of the boulder hitting the water splattered them with **gravel** / **hot water** / **pumice**.

E Read and match.

- 1 "Fortune favors the ... ☐
 - 2 "The wind is behind us, ... ☐
 - 3 "I see no way ... ☐
 - 4 "I cannot afford ... ☐
 - 5 "If we remain here, ... ☐
 - 6 "He rowed all this way ... ☐
-
- a ... to lose the entire imperial fleet."
 - b ... to get to Rectina."
 - c ... from Rectina's villa? Impossible!"
 - d ... the fleet will be destroyed."
 - e ... brave," he quoted.
 - f ... we'll make excellent time."



Extra Read the words. Write the definitions.

1 scribe

2 shifted

3 retreat
