

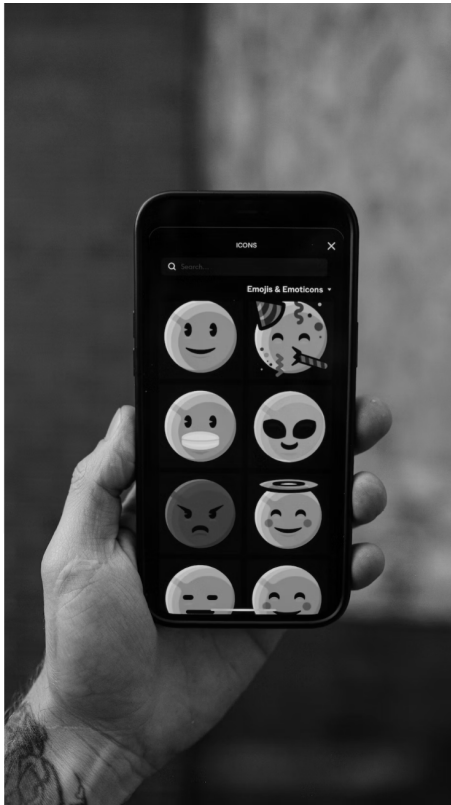
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

## Target Lesson: Analyzing Connections with “Emoji Evolution”

### PART 1: Warm-Up: Writing

**Directions:** Look at the picture and answer the questions.

Emoji are popular symbols to share how we feel or what we are thinking.



[“Untitled”](#) by Typerium App is licensed under CC0.

Today you’re going to learn about how emoji have changed over the years.

- What is your favorite emoji? Why is it your favorite? Explain your answer.

Take **three minutes** to write down your ideas.

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## PART 2: Video Introducing the Target Skill

**Directions:** Watch the video and then answer the question.

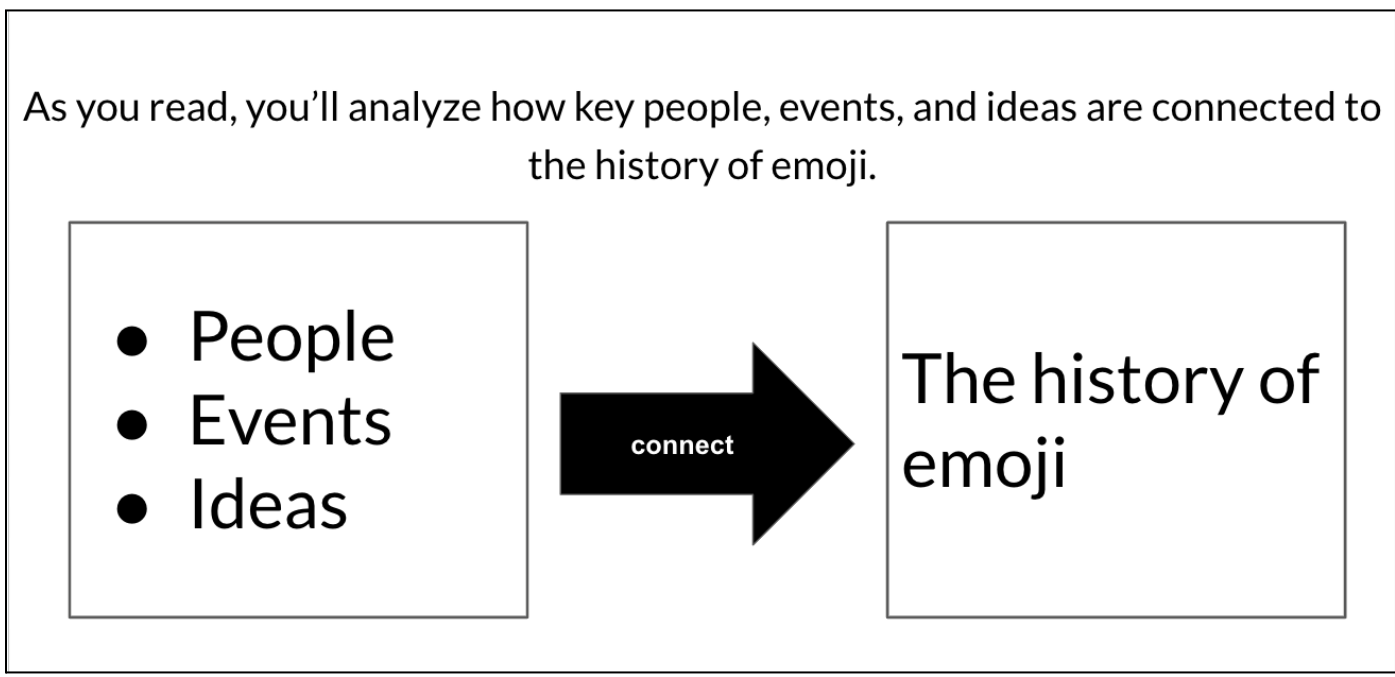
1. What connections do authors usually make in a nonfiction article?

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## PART 3: Review the Target Skill - Analyzing Connections



## PART 4: Reading and Answering Questions

**Directions:** Read the text and answer the questions.

# Emoji Evolution

by Kio Herrera

[1] Do you speak emoji? If you use a smartphone, the answer is probably yes.

[2] Emoji is a visual<sup>1</sup> language. It can express ideas and feelings. Are you hungry? Let friends know by sending images of food, like tacos or pizza.

[3] Emoji exist<sup>2</sup> for almost every need. And people use them — a lot. One of the most popular emoji is the “face with tears of joy.” It has been used more than 1.8 billion times (and counting) on Twitter.

[4] Emoji are modern.<sup>3</sup> But the idea is part of a much older tradition.<sup>4</sup> History shows that we’ve used symbols as language for 5,000 years.

### Step Back In Time

[5] One of the oldest examples of visual language is Egyptian hieroglyphics.<sup>5</sup> Ancient Egyptians began using language symbols around 3250 B.C., according to John Darnell. He is a professor of Egyptology at Yale University.

[6] “They thought about future<sup>6</sup> people who would wonder why they did what they did,” Darnell told TFK. The oldest hieroglyphs show hunters and animals. Later, the images came to represent<sup>7</sup> ideas and

### Paragraph 4

1. Why have emoji become popular?
  - A. They are used on Twitter.
  - B. They are helpful for ordering food.
  - C. They can show how you are feeling.
  - D. They can help you use a smartphone.

### Paragraph 6

2. Why did Egyptian people use hieroglyphics?

**Complete the sentence starter in the space below:**

Egyptian people used hieroglyphics because...

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<sup>1</sup> can be seen

<sup>2</sup> to be

<sup>3</sup> something of the present time

<sup>4</sup> ideas or practices that are passed down from one group of people to another

<sup>5</sup> pictures or signs that were used for writing long ago

<sup>6</sup> **Future** (*adjective*): coming after the present time

<sup>7</sup> **Represent** (*verb*): to stand for or be a sign of

words. “They thought about a remote future when their culture<sup>8</sup> might not be living anymore,” Darnell says.

[7] In 1999, the Japanese company NTT Docomo removed a heart icon from its mobile system.<sup>9</sup> It lost customers.<sup>10</sup> So Shigetaka Kurita, a designer, found a fix. He put the heart back. And he made 175 more pictures. He called them emoji, the Japanese word for picture characters.

[8] Americans first saw the icons when Apple released the iPhone, in 2007. “Once [emoji] became associated<sup>11</sup> with mobile communication,<sup>12</sup> it exploded,”<sup>13</sup> says Paul Galloway. He works at the Museum of Modern Art, in New York City.

[9] Some people still do not see emoji as a language. But Galloway thinks art can close gaps<sup>14</sup> in communication. “In a way, we are returning to the norm<sup>15</sup> in how we are using visual components,”<sup>16</sup> he says.

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<sup>8</sup> ideas and practices of a group of people

<sup>9</sup> the way a cell phone works

<sup>10</sup> **Customer** (*noun*): a person who buys things from businesses

<sup>11</sup> joined with

<sup>12</sup> the sharing of messages or ideas

<sup>13</sup> **Explode** (*verb*): to become large very quickly

<sup>14</sup> **Gap** (*noun*): a space or hole between two things

<sup>15</sup> the way something is usually done

<sup>16</sup> a part of something

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**Paragraph 7**

3. What caused NTT Docomo to lose customers?

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**Paragraph 8**

4. How have mobile phones changed emoji?

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## PART 5: Assessment

**Directions:** Answer the questions.

1. What is the connection between hieroglyphics and emoji?

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- A. Today's emoji are based on ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics.
- B. Today's emoji are colorful like ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics.
- C. Hieroglyphics and emoji are both ways to communicate with symbols.
- D. Hieroglyphics and emoji were both created to communicate with people in the future.

2. In your opinion, why do you think emoji have become such a popular way to communicate? Explain your answer using at least one example from the text.

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