

Name _____



Paul Revere Retold

Directions: Read the passage carefully. Identify details that are **historically accurate facts** versus those that are **imaginative or fictionalized elements**.

Use your knowledge of history, along with context clues, to decide which category each detail belongs to. Then, answer the questions in complete sentences, explaining your reasoning.

The Midnight Ride Retold

On the night of April 18, 1775, Paul Revere rode through the Massachusetts countryside to warn that British troops were on the move. He called out to patriots in the villages, alerting them to prepare. Lanterns hung in the Old North Church served as secret signals: one if by land, two if by sea. As he galloped, the moonlight glistened off his silver armor, which he claimed would protect him from musket fire. Townsfolk cheered as he sped by, promising him eternal fame for his bravery. In reality, Revere was eventually stopped by British soldiers, though his warning had already spread far enough to rally colonial militias.

1. Which details from the passage are historically accurate facts?
2. Which details appear to be fictionalized or exaggerated?
3. Why might authors or storytellers add fictional elements to real historical events?
4. How does separating fact from fiction help us better understand the true historical context?