

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Before and After Time Travel Answer Key

These are **sample answers** to help guide expectations. Students should be encouraged to add creativity, emotion, and sensory language.

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### Artifact 1: A Knight's Iron Helmet

**Then:** The helmet gleamed under torchlight, its smooth iron surface reflecting firelight like a mirror. The visor opened and closed with a precise clink, and tiny engravings along the brow told of the knight's family crest. Inside, the leather lining was soft and warm, smelling faintly of oil and smoke from the forge.

**Now:** The helmet is mottled with rust and pitted from old dents. The once-clear crest is barely visible, and the visor hangs crooked, no longer functional. It feels cold and heavy to the touch, its lining brittle and darkened. A metallic scent, tinged with damp earth, clings to it.

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### Artifact 2: A Child's Wooden Toy Horse

**Then:** Freshly carved and polished, the toy horse was smooth as river stone. Its wheels rolled easily over wooden floors, and it was painted with cheerful colors—white body, red saddle, and blue eyes. The mane was etched in clean, soft grooves, and the toy smelled of fresh pine and paint.

**Now:** The horse sits unevenly, one wheel missing and the paint chipped away by years of play. The body is scratched and faded, its blue eyes barely visible. A spider web stretches from ear to saddle, and dust covers its back like a forgotten blanket.

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### Artifact 3: A Journal Lost in the Forest

**Then:** The journal had a deep green leather cover embossed with gold leaf vines, and its creamy pages were crisp and unmarked. It opened easily, and the spine creaked softly like a whisper. The pages had a dry, papery scent, and the whole book felt like it was waiting to be filled with stories.

**Now:** The journal is warped and swollen, its pages stuck together from damp and time. The cover is scratched, mossy at the edges, and the gold is barely visible. It smells musty and earthy, like wet leaves and soil. Insects have chewed holes in some of the pages.

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### Artifact 4: A Silver Mirror from an Old Castle

**Then:** The mirror stood tall in a silver frame shaped like curling vines and leaves. Its surface was flawless, so clear it looked like a window into another world. The silver smelled faintly metallic, and the frame shimmered in candlelight like starlight trapped in metal.

**Now:** The mirror is clouded and speckled with black, its reflective surface barely showing an image. The silver frame is tarnished and dull, and parts have broken away. It feels cold and eerie, and its reflection warps the face looking into it. It smells of mildew and metal.

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### Artifact 5: A Pair of Explorer's Leather Boots

**Then:** The boots were sturdy, high-ankled, and newly oiled, with thick soles ready to tread across wild lands. The leather was warm brown and smelled of earth and wax. They creaked slightly when moved and felt heavy with purpose.

**Now:** The boots are cracked and sagging, the leather faded to a grayish brown. The soles are worn thin, with one heel nearly detached. They are stiff, misshapen, and carry the scent of dust, mold, and old journeys. Laces are frayed and tangled like vines.