Cochise was a great Apache chief. He had strong broad shoulders and long black hair. He also had a high forehead and a large nose.

The exact date of his birth isn't known. Sources list dates anywhere from 1810 to 1815. Cochise and his family were Chiricahua Apache. They lived in what is now southeast Arizona.

In the early 1800’s the Chiricahua Apache and the country of Mexico had an uneasy truce. Mexico had encroached on land the Apache considered their own. At first, Mexico supplied the Apache with food rations. However then, Mexico ended this practice. What followed were years of battle between Mexico and Cochise's people. It is believed that Cochise's father was killed in one of the battles.

By the latter 1840’s Cochise had become the leader of the Chiricahua Apache. He led a raid into Mexico and was captured. He was held prisoner for six weeks. Finally, his people traded some Mexican prisoners for his release.

The 1850’s brought white American settlers into the Apache homeland. At first Cochise and his people were at peace with the settlers. Cochise knew the westward movement of people couldn't be stopped. He reached an agreement with the area stage line. He promised that his people would only raid in Mexico. But the American government wanted to settle the Apache lands. They also wanted to place the Apache on reservations. Cochise and leaders of other Apache bands didn't like this idea.
In 1861, Cochise and several of his people were accused of raiding a ranch. In the raid a white child was kidnapped. But Cochise and his friends were innocent. They didn't know anything about the incident. The real raiders, in fact, were not Chiricahua Apache. They were Western Apache, a group living further north.

A young Army officer named George Bascom tried holding Cochise prisoner. Cochise cut through the tent where the army was holding him. Then he escaped. But several of his Apache friends were killed. Some were his relatives.

After this, there were no more peace talks between Cochise and the American army. Conflicts increased. In 1862 the conflict became open warfare. Cochise joined with his father-in-law, Mangas Coloradas (a name meaning "Red Sleeves" for the color of his shirt) led one of the bands. Together, the two chiefs fought the American army and the settlers.

In 1863 Mangas was tricked into a peace conference with the army. Then, he was held prisoner and killed. This was the ultimate wrong to Cochise, a man who valued honesty.

As 1870 drew near Cochise knew he must make peace with the American government. Otherwise his people might not survive. However, there were few white people Cochise still trusted. One he did trust was frontiersman Tom Jeffords. For a time Jeffords had also headed the area’s stagecoach and mail service.

The government wanted to send Cochise to a reservation. But it was hundreds of miles away. Cochise didn’t want to leave his homeland. Finally, with Jeffords help, a new treaty was made. In 1872 Cochise surrendered. A new Chiricahua reservation was
Cochise died two years later. Members of his tribe buried him in a secret location. Shortly after, the new reservation was closed. Some of the Chiricahua Apache were moved north to another reservation. Others escaped to Mexico and New Mexico. Later, most ended up on reservations. Among these was the new Chiricahua leader, Geronimo.

But Cochise was never forgotten. His friendship with Tom Jeffords was made into a 1950 movie called "Broken Arrow." The southeastern corner of Arizona that Cochise called home was named Cochise County in his honor.
Cochise, Great Apache Chief

1) Which option doesn't make a good inference from the text?
   a. That Cochise was a born hero meant to lead, inspire, and set an example.
   b. That Cochise wanted to deal with the 1850s American settlers in a gentlemanly manner.
   c. That despite his disagreement with white settlers, he was in regular touch with a few of them whom he trusted and communicated matters of importance.
   d. That Cochise was not as dauntless a hero as his father.

2) There are times mentioned in the text when Cochise restrains himself from open conflicts. Why do you think this is the case?

3) Provide three examples to illustrate heroism in Cochise.
Cochise, Great Apache Chief

4) “Cochise was never forgotten”. In which ways was he remembered?

5) Match the following words in the left column with their meanings on the right:
   a. truce - serious disagreement or argument
   b. encroach - agreement between enemies to stop fighting
   c. accuse - charge someone with an offense or crime
   d. conflict - advance on something beyond acceptable limits
   e. reservation - An area of land set aside for a particular group of people

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2) There are times mentioned in the text when Cochise restrains himself from open conflicts. Why do you think this is the case?
   This is to show the reader how an exemplary hero should be. History has it that only when it was so desperately needed, did the real heroes engage in wars with their enemies. Self-control and prudence are two qualities that leaders should possess in abundance.

3) Provide three examples to illustrate heroism in Cochise.
   In the introduction, it says that Cochise had broad strong shoulders and long black hair, which are typical to a hero. Paragraph four states that soon after Cochise became the leader of the tribe, he led a raid into Mexico and was captured, which is yet another great example of heroism. As per paragraph five, when he knew that the westward movement of people couldn't be stopped, he decided to settle the matter amicably rather than venture into unnecessary fights with white American settlers.
4) “Cochise was never forgotten”. In which ways was he remembered?

Cochise’s friendship with Tom Jeffords was perpetuated in a movie called Broken Arrow. And the southeastern corner of Arizona that Cochise called home was named Cochise County in his honor.

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