

7th Grade New Testament (Gospels)
Introduction to Matthew

Authorship:**Here is what we can determine about the author from the context:**

1. The author was a _____ with extensive knowledge of the _____. (He quotes from the O.T. 45 times!)
2. The author is familiar with the _____ traditions. He emphasizes Jesus' condemnation of the _____.
3. The author is capable of writing in very sophisticated _____ even though his cultural background seems to be _____.

Here is what we know about Matthew, the disciple of Jesus (and the likelihood that he wrote the gospel that bears his name):

1. He had to be fluent in _____, since he was a _____
2. He had to be a very literate and skilled _____
3. He would likely have written in a very organized and structured way. (The gospel of Matthew is very organized and structured.)
4. He most likely would have included in his gospel the detail about Jesus _____

5. Matthew is the only gospel to use a _____ term for sin (_____). This would have likely been characteristic of a tax collector like Matthew.
6. Mark and Luke call him _____. Matthew called himself _____, which is a Jewish name meaning "gift of the Lord."

Characteristics and Themes:

1. Written from a _____ perspective
 - a. This may be why it was placed as the first book of the NT

- b. It concerns itself with the _____
 - c. It traces the descent of _____ from _____ rather than _____
 - d. The book fails to provide an explanation of the _____
 - e. It uses _____ terms
 - f. It emphasizes Jesus as the _____
2. Provides a _____ outlook
 - a. The _____ from the East worship Jesus
 - b. The _____
 3. Places an emphasis on the _____
 - a. Matthew is the only gospel to use the word “_____”
 4. Gives a strong _____ emphasis (focus on the End Times)

Provenance and Audience:

There are two possibilities for provenance and audience:

1. Written for _____ in and around _____ in confrontation with traditional Judaism
2. Written for _____ speaking folks in _____ with a significant number of Jews among them.

Purpose:

1. To prove that Jesus is the _____ (the one they had been waiting for)
2. To demonstrate that the life and ministry of Jesus fulfilled the _____ and _____