**NAME__________________________**

**Directions:** This assignment will help to familiarize you with some of the topics in *Touching Spirit Bear*, the first novel we will read. Use the Web sites below to answer the following questions and fill in blanks. You might have to spend some time investigating the sites to find your answers. Use the hints in **bold** to help you.

**SPIRIT BEARS**

1. According to CNN, the Spirit Bear survived the ________________________, but are now close to ______________. Only about ______________ still exist.

**TOTEM POLES**
- [http://www.alaskatrekker.com/totems.htm](http://www.alaskatrekker.com/totems.htm)
- [http://www.nps.gov/sitk/historyculture/totem-poles.htm](http://www.nps.gov/sitk/historyculture/totem-poles.htm)

2. **The Alaska Trekker Web site** tells us totem poles are **usually misunderstood**. Why is the common interpretation of the phrase “low man on the totem pole” wrong?

3. If totem poles can be considered **billboards**, what messages did they express?

4. The other Web site (Sitka National Park) gives us the **four purposes** of totem poles. Name the four types of poles:

**TLINGIT INDIANS**

5. Click on the “**Partners With Nature**” tab. Where do the Tlingit Indians come from?

6. Click on “**Transformations**.” The Tlingit culture includes transformations. What do the traditional Tlingit people believe about the relationship between humans and animals?
7. There are many stories of transformations in the Tlingit culture. Read the legend of Salmon Boy. What was the boy’s punishment that taught him respect for the salmon? What did he learn?

CIRCLE JUSTICE/CIRCLE PEACE MAKING

- [link](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/17/4winter2001/a_circle.html)

8. In restorative justice, after a crime is committed, the court will focus on repairing instead of punishing the criminal. These community-based projects are value-based, which means they are seeking to ___________ done and to ___________ communities

9. During circle sentencing the judge travels to the village to get ___________. The theory behind involving the community is that sentences will be more ___________ if created by consensus within the ___________, that the interests of the community will be better protected, and that victims and offenders will have the best chance for ___________, particularly in situations where anonymity is not an option and relationships must be adjusted.

SPIRIT BEAR YOUTH COALITION

- [link](http://www.spiritbearyouth.org/)

10. According to the home page, the spirit bear youth coalition wants to create a ___________ for the endangered spirit bear, also called the ___________.

11. Hover your mouse over the “ancient times” section of the spirit bear timeline. In ancient times, people believed that Raven turned every ___________ bear white and decided that the spirit bear would live in ___________ and harmony.