



# Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium: Practice Test Scoring Guide

Grade 6

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## **Cure It with Candy**

by Bart King

Humans of all ages get hiccups. Even animals can suffer from hiccups. Because hiccups are so common, you'd think doctors would know why we get them. But even among medical experts, there is no agreement about what exactly causes hiccups—nor about how to cure them.

A hiccup happens when the diaphragm, a muscle inside your ribcage, contracts. Different events cause the diaphragm muscle to tighten and shorten. For instance, swallowing a fizzy drink bloats the stomach. The pressure from the bloating causes hiccups. Another hiccup trigger is eating spicy foods. Even being surprised or scared can give you the hiccups!

When a hiccup strikes, it also affects the throat and upper body. The hiccuper takes in a quick breath. The back of the hiccuper's tongue moves up, and the throat clamps down. This is what makes the hic sound. Other muscles in the neck and chest shorten and tighten. Finally, the hiccuper's heart slows for a moment. Then, after a few seconds, the whole process starts all over again. Hic! Hic! Hic!

Some people rarely—if ever—get hiccups, and when they do, the hiccups do not last long. For them, hiccups are just a nuisance. Other people can suffer hiccups over and over, for hours or days on end. For them, hiccups are a real problem. (Imagine sitting in a quiet classroom while you have the hiccups.)

What is the best treatment to cure hiccups? There is no sure-fire cure. People try all kinds of remedies, such as eating sugar cubes or honey, and sipping from a glass of water while leaning over (so the head is upside-down).

During a tough attack of the hiccups at the age of 11, a girl named Mallory Kievman tried to cure her hiccups with every method she could think of. She even sipped from a jar of pickle juice. Mallory was surprised that there was no reliable cure. This launched her investigation of home remedies. She discovered about a hundred hiccup cures and began testing them in her family's kitchen.

After tossing out the useless remedies, Mallory determined there were three effective cures: eating sugar, sipping apple cider vinegar, and sucking on a lollipop. She combined these elements into a single product: a hiccup-stopping candy that Mallory called Hiccupops.

Mallory took her lollipop idea to an invention convention for kids. Her Hiccupop impressed the judges so much that Mallory walked away with the top prize. Part of the prize was a patent on the Hiccupop. A patent gives an inventor the full legal rights to his or her creation. Having a patent meant that the Hiccupop was Mallory's legal property. It was hers to keep—or hers to sell.

In order to sell the sucker, Mallory had to fine-tune the recipe. Flavor would be important to shoppers. The Hiccupop mixture would have to be stable. Mallory knew the lollipop needed to last on store shelves. No one would buy the lollipop if it melted or became gummy. To achieve a stable mixture, Mallory had to learn about the science of mixing the ingredients.

Many messy experiments later, Mallory continues perfecting her Hiccupops recipe. She has also learned that the lollipop might be especially helpful to hospital patients. Some patients get hiccups as a side effect of medicine. Now doctors can offer Hiccupops as part of the treatment plan.

Mallory Kievman is already a successful inventor, but she's decided on a different career for her future. She wants to be a doctor. After all, she already has a head start at becoming a hiccup specialist.

**931**

Describe Mallory Kievman's personality using information from the text to support your answer.  
Type your answer in the space provided.

A two-point response includes a correct description of Mallory Kievman's personality and a correct supporting detail. Correct descriptions may include her determination, creativity, intelligence, or helpfulness. Responses are not scored for grammar usage, conventions, spelling, or punctuation.

Sample two-point response:

Mallory Kievman is very determined. She goes through nearly 100 possible hiccup cures before settling on the three that work the best. She does not give up quickly on finding the right cure. She shows determination by finding just the right formula so the Hiccupop will remain stable on store shelves.

A one-point response includes a correct description of Mallory Kievman with an incomplete or missing supporting detail.

Sample one-point response:

Mallory seems like a creative person. She thought of a brand new solution to a problem that a lot of people have.

A response that does not include a correct description of Mallory Kievman's personality receives no credit.

Sample zero-point response:

Mallory Kievman is going to be a doctor when she grows up.

935



Read the sentences from the text. Then, answer the question that follows.

A hiccup happens when the diaphragm, a muscle inside your ribcage, contracts.

The hiccuper takes in a quick breath.

The back of the hiccuper's tongue moves up, and the throat clamps down.

Other muscles in the neck and chest shorten and tighten.

Finally, the hiccuper's heart slows for a moment.

Which of these would **most** help readers better understand the process described in the sentences?

- Ⓐ a sound recording of a hiccup
- Ⓑ a diagram of a hiccuper's ribcage
- Ⓒ a video that shows a hiccuper's muscle movements
- Ⓓ a graph that shows how long each part of a hiccup lasts

The correct response, option C, receives a score of 1 point.

994



The reader can conclude that Mallory's curiosity and interest in problem solving added to her discovery, and later patent, of the Hiccupop. Click on the sentence from the text that **best** supports this statement.

- A) People try all kinds of remedies, such as eating sugar cubes or honey, and sipping from a glass of water while leaning over (so the head is upside-down).
- B) She discovered about a hundred hiccup cures and began testing them in her family's kitchen.
- C) After tossing out the useless remedies, Mallory determined there were three effective cures: eating sugar, sipping apple cider vinegar, and sucking on a lollipop.
- D) Flavor would be important to shoppers.
- E) She has also learned that the lollipop might be especially helpful to hospital patients.

The correct response, option C, receives a score of 1 point.

936



Select the **three** sentences that should be included in a summary of key ideas in the text.

- A) Hiccups are a common problem, but there is no sure way to prevent them or cure them.
- B) A hiccup moves the tongue up and causes the throat to clamp down.
- C) Some people rarely get the hiccups, but others suffer from them for days.
- D) Mallory Kievman researched dozens of remedies for the hiccups.
- E) Mallory Kievman created the Hiccupop and won the patent in an invention convention.
- F) Hiccups are a side effect of some medicines, but doctors are still unsure what else causes them.
- G) Mallory Kievman, already an inventor and hiccup specialist, wants to be a doctor.

To receive the full-credit score of 1 point, the student must correctly select all options. The correct responses are options B, D, and E.

## Libby's Graduation

by M. G. Merfeld

It was final exam day—for my dog. And I was nervous.

It all started a few months ago when my mom and dad made a deal with me. After years of hearing me pester them about our need for a dog, they agreed to get one if I promised to care for it, train it, and love it.

"The dog will be your responsibility," Dad warned, "—and not just when it's convenient."

Libby, a four-month-old yellow Labrador retriever, arrived shortly thereafter. She was a 30-pound ball of fur, claws, and teeth with an uncanny ability to jump, dig, and chew.

"I think she is part-kangaroo," I said as she bounced up and down on her hind legs to greet me.

She could also run like a racehorse. Each day after school I exercised Libby by taking her for long walks or by repeatedly throwing a tennis ball for her to chase down. When it was too wet to play outside, I lobbed an assortment of furry, squeaky toys up and down the stairs for her to retrieve. She never seemed to tire.

When Libby was six months old, Dad enrolled her in a puppy training class. I was to accompany them each Saturday for five weeks to learn how to train Libby to behave properly.

On the first day of dog school, Libby was as excited as I had ever seen her. She howled and whined and stood on her hind legs when she saw the other dogs in the class. Her tail wagged at about 100 miles an hour as she ran and greeted each of her canine classmates.

"If we could harness her tail's energy," my dad said, "I think she could generate enough power to light up a small city."

Despite the distraction of having four potential playmates in the room, Libby breezed through her first class because we had already taught her to sit, lie down, and recognize her name. My homework was to reinforce these ideas throughout the week.



Weeks 2 and 3 were more difficult. We were tasked with training Libby to avoid jumping on people when she met them and to walk on a leash without tugging ahead. When she was introduced to these concepts in class, she responded the way she usually did: she leapt on every dog owner in the class and pulled me around the room like she was leading a team of Alaskan sled dogs.

“Dad, she’s not getting it,” I told him a few days later. “She’d rather greet people and lick them to death than stay down and get a treat.”

“You have to work with her more,” he told me. “She’ll come around.”

When I objected, saying I didn’t have enough time because of baseball practice and homework, my dad gave me his serious look. All he said was, “Remember our deal.”

That was enough for me. Our trainer said we were supposed to keep a “smile” in the leash when we walked, meaning there should be some slack between the owner and the dog. My leash was more of a tight-lipped grin. On our training treks down the street to the park, I frequently commanded Libby to “stop and sit” when she forged ahead. Libby would obediently sit and wait; then she would charge ahead. With so many starts and stops, our 15-minute walks stretched to half an hour.

I grudgingly missed a trip to the water park with my best friend for week 4, so I was not the happiest owner at the class. But the teacher said it was the most important class of the series because she was going to talk about the commands to “stay” and “come.”

“Teaching your dog to come when she is called can save her life,” she said. “If she takes off chasing something into a dangerous area, she has to respond to your call.”

She was right. I had seen Libby bolt across the street once while chasing a squirrel, and I was glad we lived on a quiet street with little traffic. So I worked extra hard on our homework that week.

Now, it was time for her fifth class—her final exam and, hopefully, her graduation. It seemed strange that I was so nervous for Libby’s final test. I wondered what would happen if she failed. Do dogs flunk?

When Libby's turn came, she nailed the sit, lie down, and stay commands. When I told her to stay and I crossed the room, she waited patiently, ignoring the other dogs, tilting her head to one side, and fixing her eyes on mine until I told her to "come." It was impressive. We made our way through the cones pretty well, too, with only a couple of brief "stops" needed when Libby pulled the leash ahead of me.

At the end, the teacher applauded. "I definitely think Libby gets the most improved award," she announced.

I hugged Libby and gave her a jackpot: five sausage treats. "Way to go, Libs," I said as she licked my cheek. I could smell the sausage all over my face, but I didn't care. "I'm so proud of you."

My dad put his hand on my shoulder and patted Libby on the head. "I'm proud of both of you."

"Libby's Graduation" by M. G. Merfeld. Copyright © 2012 by CTB/McGraw-Hill.

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A flashback is a scene that takes place before the present time in a narrative story. In "Libby's Graduation," the author begins in the present and then continues with a flashback.

Briefly explain how the flashback affects the story. Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Type your answer in the space provided.

A two-point response includes a full explanation of how the flashback affects the story with corresponding evidence from the text. Responses are not scored for grammar usage, conventions, spelling, or punctuation.

Sample two-point response:

The flashback shows how the narrator promised to take responsibility for Libby. It helps the reader understand how energetic the dog was when she first came to the family, which proves how much she improved by the end.

A one-point response gives a correct explanation of how the flashback affects the story with limited or missing evidence from the text.

Sample one-point response:

The flashback shows how hard the narrator worked to help Libby pass her test.

A response that does not explain how the flashback affects the story receives no credit.

Sample zero-point response:

A dog named Libby earned an award.

932



Describe how the narrator shows responsibility when caring for Libby. Use details from the text to support your answer.

Type your answer in the space provided.

A sample two-point response includes a correct description of how the narrator shows responsibility for Libby with supporting details from the text. Responses are not scored for grammar usage, conventions, spelling, or punctuation.

Sample two-point response:

The narrator shows responsibility by taking Libby to Puppy Training Class each week and doing the homework for it. The narrator has to give up some fun things, like a trip to the water park, to keep training Libby. But the hard work pays off when Libby graduates from the training class.

A sample one-point response gives a correct description of how the narrator shows responsibility with limited or missing evidence from the text.

Sample one-point response:

The narrator shows responsibility by giving up activities with friends to train Libby.

A response that does not describe how the narrator shows responsibility and includes no relevant information from the text receives no credit.

Sample zero-point response:

Playing with your pet can be fun.

933



The narrator is unsure about wanting the responsibility that comes with owning a dog. Click to highlight the sentence that **best** supports this statement.

Weeks 2 and 3 were more difficult. We were tasked with training Libby to avoid jumping on people when she met them and to walk on a leash without tugging ahead. When she was introduced to these concepts in class, she responded the way she usually did: she leapt on every dog owner in the class and pulled me around the room like she was leading a team of Alaskan sled dogs.

"Dad, she's not getting it," I told him a few days later. "She'd rather greet people and lick them to death than stay down and get a treat."

"You have to work with her more," he told me. "She'll come around."

When I objected, saying I didn't have enough time because of baseball practice and homework, my dad gave me his serious look. All he said was, "Remember our deal."

That was enough for me. Our trainer said we were supposed to keep a "smile" in the leash when we walked, meaning there should be some slack between the owner and the dog. My leash was more of a tight-lipped grin. On our training treks down the street to the park, I frequently commanded Libby to "stop and sit" when she forged ahead. Libby would obediently sit and wait; then she would charge ahead. With so many starts and stops, our 15-minute walks stretched to half an hour.

I grudgingly missed a trip to the water park with my best friend for week 4, so I was not the happiest owner at the class. But the teacher said it was the most important class of the series because she was going to talk about the commands to "stay" and "come."

The correct response, "When I objected, saying I didn't have enough time because of baseball practice and homework, my dad gave me his serious look," receives a score of 1 point.

934



Read these sentences from the text and the directions that follow.

Libby breezed through her first class because we had already taught her to sit, lie down, and recognize her name. My homework was to reinforce these ideas throughout the week.

Click on the **two** paragraphs from the text that **best** express what it means to reinforce a skill.

"Dad, she's not getting it," I told him a few days later. "She'd rather greet people and lick them to death than stay down and get a treat."

"You have to work with her more," he told me. "She'll come around."

When I objected, saying I didn't have enough time because of baseball practice and homework, my dad gave me his serious look. All he said was, "Remember our deal."

That was enough for me. Our trainer said we were supposed to keep a "smile" in the leash when we walked, meaning there should be some slack between the owner and the dog. My leash was more of a tight-lipped grin. On our training treks down the street to the park, I frequently commanded Libby to "stop and sit" when she forged ahead. Libby would obediently sit and wait; then she would charge ahead. With so many starts and stops, our 15-minute walks stretched to half an hour.

I grudgingly missed a trip to the water park with my best friend for week 4, so I was not the happiest owner at the class. But the teacher said it was the most important class of the series because she was going to talk about the commands to "stay" and "come."

To receive the full-credit score of 1 point, the student must correctly select both paragraphs. The correct responses are paragraphs two and four.

937



Which detail from the text **best** supports the idea that the narrator is feeling discouraged?

- Ⓐ The narrator says that Libby is not understanding the training.
- Ⓑ The narrator says that Libby leaps on other dog owners during class.
- Ⓒ The narrator is disappointed about missing a trip to the water park with a friend.
- Ⓓ The narrator hears Libby howl and whine when she sees the other dogs in class.

The correct response, option A, receives a score of 1 point.

938



Read this sentence from the text and the question that follows.

When she was introduced to these concepts in class, she responded the way she usually did: she leapt on every dog owner in the class and pulled me around the room like she was leading a team of Alaskan sled dogs.

What does the underlined phrase **most likely** mean?

- Ⓐ Libby is jumping on the dog owners.
- Ⓑ Libby is pulling with energy and force.
- Ⓒ Libby is ignoring the trainer's commands.
- Ⓓ Libby is walking confidently on her leash.

The correct response, option B, receives a score of 1 point.



939



Click on the section of text that **best** represents the central idea of "Libby's Graduation."

- A) It all started a few months ago when my mom and dad made a deal with me.
- B) "The dog will be your responsibility," Dad warned, "—and not just when it's convenient."
- C) Libby, a four-month-old yellow Labrador retriever, arrived shortly thereafter. She was a 30-pound ball of fur, claws, and teeth with an uncanny ability to jump, dig, and chew.
- D) I grudgingly missed a trip to the water park with my best friend for week 4, so I was not the happiest owner at the class. But the teacher said it was the most important class of the series because she was going to talk about the commands to "stay" and "come."
- E) "Teaching your dog to come when she is called can save her life," she said. "If she takes off chasing something into a dangerous area, she has to respond to your call."
- F) Now, it was time for her fifth class—her final exam and, hopefully, her graduation. It seemed strange that I was so nervous for Libby's final test. I wondered what would happen if she failed. Do dogs flunk?

The correct response, option B, receives a score of 1 point.

940



Read the sentences below that include an exaggeration, which means a statement that something is more extreme than it really is.

Her tail wagged at about 100 miles an hour as she ran and greeted each of her canine classmates.

"If we could harness her tail's energy," my dad said, "I think she could generate enough power to light up a small city."

"She'd rather greet people and lick them to death than stay down and get a treat."

Click on the statement that **best** describes what the exaggeration in the sentences adds to the text.

- A) It moves the plot forward.
- B) It develops the text's theme.
- C) It helps describe the setting.
- D) It reveals the characters' humor.
- E) It shows the narrator's point of view.

The correct response, option D, receives a score of 1 point.

995



Read the sentences from the text on the left. Then match the underlined word in each sentence to its closest definition on the right.

"I think she could generate enough power to light up a small city."

She was a 30-pound ball of fur, claws, and teeth with an uncanny ability to jump, dig, and chew.

Despite the distraction of having four potential playmates in the room, Libby breezed through her first class because we had already taught her to sit, lie down, and recognize her name.

brilliant

produce

keen

possible

original

fabulous

To receive the full-credit score of 1 point, the student must correctly match all three options. The correct responses are generate matched with "produce," uncanny matched with "keen," and potential matched with "possible."

946



Tammy wrote a narrative for a creative writing contest. Her teacher suggested she add a transition sentence to connect the paragraphs below. Read the paragraphs from the narrative and the directions that follow.

On the first day of middle school, Grace marched onto the school bus and slid into an empty seat. She wondered how many more times she would have to ride the bus without her best friend Alex. The noisy bus filled with laughter and the chirping sounds of chatter. The bus driver started the old, tired engine and, with a grumpy tone, told all the students to find a seat. Grace opened her book bag in search of her library book. Unable to locate the book, she sat back in her seat and tried to relax.

Her kindergarten teacher had a bright smile and sang songs to the class every morning. He made school exciting and Grace remembered enjoying every minute of her time in the bright, colorful classroom. She thought about meeting Alex the first day of kindergarten during lunch. They had the same lunch box and, after a brief introduction, they decided to swap sandwiches.

Select the sentence that **best** adds a transition between the two paragraphs.

- Ⓐ Grace began to daydream about her other teachers, friends, and favorite subjects.
- Ⓑ Grace felt a sense of relief as she thought about all the books she had read.
- Ⓒ Grace's mind began to focus on her lunch as her stomach grumbled loudly.
- Ⓓ Grace's thoughts slowly led her back to another, happier first day of school.

The correct response, option D, receives a score of 1 point.

947



The paragraph below is from a writer's informational essay for social studies class. Read the paragraph and the directions that follow.

The constitution of the United States of America provides a framework for the national government. Every citizen in the United States has rights that are protected under the constitution. The section of the constitution that explains the rights of all citizens is called the Bill of Rights. In 1971, the 26th Amendment gave 18-year-olds the right to vote. The Bill of Rights includes the first amendments of the constitution. Not only do we have a national constitution, but each state has its own constitution. Each state is allowed to make its own laws, and those laws differ across the country. Both national and state constitutions can be changed by adding amendments.

Select the sentence that is unnecessary and should be removed from the paragraph.

- Ⓐ The section of the constitution that explains the rights of all citizens is called the Bill of Rights.
- Ⓑ The Bill of Rights includes the first amendments of the constitution.
- Ⓒ In 1971, the 26th Amendment gave 18-year-olds the right to vote.
- Ⓓ Each state is allowed to make its own laws, and those laws differ across the country.

The correct response, option D, receives a score of 1 point.

944



A student is writing an explanatory essay for a world language class. Read a paragraph from the essay and the directions that follow.

What is the best way to learn another language? Some people say that only living in a country where the language is spoken really works. However, for them that do not have the time or money to move to a different country there are many other options. Listening to music and watching movies in a different language with subtitles can really help, for example.

One sentence in the paragraph above contains a grammar usage and a punctuation error. Type the incorrect sentence below, correcting the **two** errors.

Type your answer in the space provided.

A two-point response identifies the incorrect sentence and corrects both the grammar usage error and the punctuation error.

Sample two-point response:

However, for those who do not have the time or money to move to a different country, there are many other options.

A one-point response identifies the incorrect sentence and corrects either the grammar usage error or the punctuation error.

Sample one-point response:

However, for them who do not have the time or money to move to a different country, there are many other options.

A response that does not include either correction receives no credit.

Sample zero-point response:

However, for them that do not have the time or money to move to a different country there are many other options.

996



A student is writing an argumentative letter to the editor of his local paper about adopting puppies from shelters. He needs to include more evidence and address counterarguments. Read the paragraph, the student's notes, and the directions that follow.

If you and your family are thinking of adopting a puppy, you should go to a shelter. While there are other ways to get a puppy, such as purchasing a puppy from a breeder, adopting from a shelter is a choice you can be proud of. People may be concerned that the dogs are not healthy, but many shelters will give all dogs their shots before they are adopted. Most importantly, shelters have the best dogs. We got our dog from a shelter, and she is the greatest dog in the world.

**Student's Notes:**

- Shelters have many different types of dogs.
- When you adopt a puppy from a shelter, you give it a second chance.
- You can buy a puppy from a responsible dog breeder.
- Responsible breeders keep their puppies in clean homes.
- More than 25% of shelter dogs are purebred.
- The average cost to own a dog for one year is between \$600 and \$900.
- About 62% of all households in the United States have a pet.
- A recent poll done by a shelter in Ohio showed 70% of people want dogs under one year old.
- Shelters have older, mature dogs and also have puppies.
- Breeders usually sell only puppies.
- In the US there are 164 million pets and 1 in every 20 will end up in a shelter by the end of the year.

Using information from the notes, rewrite the paragraph, adding relevant evidence and responding to counterarguments.

Type your response in the space provided.

A two-point response provides appropriate and specific details and uses appropriate word choice and organization for the intended audience and purpose. The response shows appropriate transitions and variety in sentence structure.

Sample two-point response:

If you or your family are considering adopting a puppy, try your local shelter. The perfect dog might be waiting there for you. There are 164 million pets in the US, and 1 in every 20 will end up in a shelter by the end of the year. While there are other ways to get a puppy, such as purchasing a puppy from a breeder, adopting from a shelter is a choice you can be proud of. People may be concerned that the dogs are not healthy, but many shelters will give all dogs their shots before they

are adopted. Another concern might be that shelters have only mature, mixed-breed dogs. But shelters have both mature dogs and puppies, and more than 25% of shelter dogs are purebred. You can find many different types of dogs at a shelter. Most importantly, shelters have the best dogs. They know you cared enough to give them a second chance. We got our dog from a shelter, and she is the greatest dog in the world.

A one-point response includes mostly related details, but may have some extraneous information or unclear organization.

Sample one-point response:

You should always adopt dogs from a shelter. They need you to give them a second chance. A lot of people in Ohio want puppies, or at least younger dogs. People might think they can only find puppies at a breeder, but really, you can find them in an animal shelter. Shelters have dogs of all different ages.

A response that uses very few relevant details and may be vague, repetitive, or inaccurate receives no credit.

Sample zero-point response:

Finding the right dog is a great way to come together as a family.



948



A student is writing an informational report about New York City. The student needs to use words that are clear and specific in his report. Read the paragraph and the question that follows.

New York City is often described as a “melting pot.” What does this expression mean? The term “melting pot” refers to a group of people of different cultures living in the same place. In a melting pot, different customs and traditions “melt” together and become more and more similar to each other. However, some people believe that the idea of a melting pot is not really right. In fact, people of different cultures often live side-by-side while keeping their own customs and traditions.

Which set of words **best** replaces the underlined words with more clear and specific language?

- Ⓐ organization, correct
- Ⓑ association, truthful
- Ⓒ community, accurate
- Ⓓ crowd, honest

The correct response, option C, receives a score of 1 point.

945



Read the paragraph and the directions that follow.

Marcus knew he could not bring his dog, Trixie, with him to camp. He pleaded with his parents for days to let him bring Trixie, but the camp supervisor would not allow it because residents might be allergic. He hesitated before he entered his brother room and asked, "Stefan will you make sure that Trixie has a good time while I'm away?" Stefan smiled as he put his book down and answered, "I promise you, Trixie won't be bored!"

One sentence in the paragraph contains a grammar usage and a punctuation error. Type the sentence to correct the **two** errors.

Type your answer in the space provided.

A two-point response identifies the incorrect sentence and corrects the two errors in it.

Sample two-point response:

He hesitated before he entered his brother's room and asked, "Stefan, will you make sure that Trixie has a good time while I'm away?"

A one-point response includes only one correct revision in the incorrect sentence.

Sample one-point response:

He hesitated before he entered his brother's room and asked, "Stefan will you make sure that Trixie has a good time while I'm away?"

A response that may identify the incorrect sentence, but does not include any correct revisions receives no credit.

Sample zero-point response:

He hesitated before he entered his brothers room and asked, "Stefan will you make sure that Trixie has a good time while I'm away?"

## **A Garden for a Roof**

**Listen to the presentation. Then, answer the questions.**



"A Garden for a Roof" by Mary Houlgate from **Spider** Magazine's May/June 2011 issue, copyright © 2011 by Carus Publishing Company. Reprinted by permission.

Audio presentation available online.

929



Using information from the presentation, provide **two** features that make earth-sheltered homes comfortable.

Type your answer in the space provided.

A two-point response provides two details about features that make earth-sheltered homes comfortable. Responses are not scored for grammar usage, conventions, spelling, or punctuation.

Sample two-point response:

Earth-sheltered houses have large windows and fans that let in fresh air. The concrete soaks up heat to keep the houses warm in the winter.

A one-point response includes only one feature that makes earth-sheltered homes comfortable.

Sample one-point response:

Geotects make earth-sheltered homes comfortable. They build the homes with fans to blow fresh air.

A response that does not identify any features that make earth-sheltered homes comfortable receives no credit.

Sample zero-point response:

Earth-sheltered homes are a lot more comfortable than people think.

930



The narrator claims that geotects do not have an easy job. Support this claim using **two** details from the presentation.

Type your answer in the space provided.

A two-point response uses two details to support the narrator's claim that geotects do not have an easy job. Responses are not scored for grammar usage, conventions, spelling, or punctuation.

Sample two-point response:

Geotects have to follow specific guidelines to ensure the home is safe. Earth-sheltered homes must have strong walls to support the weight of the earth. Drains and pipes have to be in place around the house to handle rain water. It is also important for windows to be installed properly.

A one-point response includes only one correct piece of supporting evidence to support the narrator's claim.

Sample one point response:

Geotects have to make sure the walls of the homes are strong. If the homes are not strong then something bad could happen.

A response that does not include any correct details to support the narrator's claim that geotects do not have an easy job receives no credit.

Sample zero-point response:

Geotects work hard. It isn't easy to build homes.

**1005**

The speaker explains that the idea of earth-sheltered homes is centuries old. Using evidence from the presentation, give **two** examples of how the homes have changed over time.

Type your answer in the space provided.

A two-point response identifies two examples of how earth-sheltered homes have changed over time. Responses are not scored for grammar usage, conventions, spelling, or punctuation.

Sample two-point response:

Earth-sheltered homes may have a long history, but today's homes look quite different. Modern geotects design comfortable homes with large windows or domes. Some even have swimming pools. They also design with an eye to energy conservation.

A one-point response includes only one example of how earth-sheltered homes have changed over time.

Sample one-point response:

Geotects can even add glass domes to their homes. They didn't do that in the early days.

A response that fails to identify any examples of how the homes have changed over time receives no credit.

Sample zero-point response:

Geotects live in homes under the ground.

941



Select the sentence that **best** describes the main idea of the presentation "A Garden for a Roof."

- Ⓐ Geotects build and live in earth-sheltered houses that maintain comfortable temperatures and keep the air clean.
- Ⓑ Geotects prepare environmentally friendly earth-sheltered homes covered by grass or gardens.
- Ⓒ Geotects create a welcoming environment in earth-sheltered homes by including windows and fans.
- Ⓓ Geotects visit and study earth-sheltered homes built by historical cultures around the world.

The correct response, option B, receives a score of 1 point.

## Canyon Smile

**Listen to the presentation. Then, answer the questions.**



Audio presentation available online.



942



Describe the mood created by the narrator's description of the canyon as she enters it. Use details from the presentation to support your response.

Type your answer in the space provided.

A two-point response describes the mood created by the narrator's description using supporting details from the presentation. Responses are not scored for grammar usage, conventions, spelling, or punctuation.

Sample two-point response:

The narrator's description of the canyon creates a happy and excited mood. The narrator shows that she is happy to be there by describing the canyon air as a perfect mixture of ferns and sand. She has never seen colors so bright and brilliant.

A one-point response includes a correct mood with incorrect or missing support.

Sample one-point response:

From the narrator's description you can tell that the mood is happy. She is so excited to be at the canyon.

A response that does not identify the mood and does not include support from the presentation receives no credit.

Sample zero-point response:

She's probably a little scared. Canyons are very deep.

943



Identify the role of the narrator's brothers in the presentation, using details from the presentation to support your response.

Type your answer in the space provided.

A two-point response includes a correct identification of the role of the narrator's brothers and a correct supporting detail. Responses are not scored for grammar usage, conventions, spelling, or punctuation.

Sample two-point response:

The narrator's brothers serve as an inspiration to her throughout the story. At the beginning she says that seeing the pictures of her brothers on their first canyoneering trips makes her want to go so she can have an opportunity to smile and be as happy as they were. She thinks about her brothers again during her first trip into the canyon.

A one-point response includes a correct identification of the role of the narrator's brothers or a correct supporting detail.

Sample one-point response:

The narrator looks up to her brothers.

A response that does not include a correct identification of the role of the narrator's brothers or a correct supporting detail receives no credit.

Sample zero-point response:

The narrator is younger than her brothers.

949



Which statement **best** describes how the title “Canyon Smile” contributes to the presentation?

- Ⓐ It shows her feelings about the desert leading to the canyon.
- Ⓑ It connects her feelings to her brothers’ feelings about the canyon.
- Ⓒ It describes her emotions when she finally comes out of the canyon.
- Ⓓ It predicts her success in completing her trip in and out of the canyon.

The correct response, option B, receives a score of 1 point.

950



Read the sentences from the presentation and the question that follows.

My friend Chrissy doesn't understand why. She keeps asking, "Can't you just do the whole ice cream and cake thing like everyone else?"

Which contrast is shown between the narrator and her friend Chrissy?

- Ⓐ The narrator is more daring than Chrissy.
- Ⓑ Chrissy is more creative than the narrator.
- Ⓒ Chrissy is more talented than the narrator.
- Ⓓ The narrator is more cowardly than Chrissy.

The correct response, option A, receives a score of 1 point.

951



A student is writing a paper about cave artists. Read a paragraph from the paper. Then, answer the question that follows.

Cave artists often used tools made of flint to dig into the surface of the rock. In soft clay areas, they even used their fingertips. Their colors were limited to either black or shades of red. Charcoal was the main source of black color. Other colors were created from rocks containing certain chemicals that gave them a range of colors from yellow to dark red. The artists crushed these rocks into a powder, often using a liquid such as water or saliva to make them into a kind of paste. They applied the color to the surface using animal hides, brushes, or their fingertips.

Which source would provide the **most** accurate information about methods used by cave artists?

- Ⓐ a virtual tour of cave paintings on the Internet
- Ⓑ a magazine article, "Creating Your Own Cave Art"
- Ⓒ a nonfiction book, *Carvings and Drawings of Early Humans*
- Ⓓ a TV documentary about the creativity of ancient people

The correct response, option C, receives a score of 1 point.



A student is writing a research report about making paper. She has gathered some information from two articles. Read a paragraph from each article and the directions that follow.

Article 1

About 4,000 years ago, the Egyptians developed a way of making paper from the papyrus reed that grew along the Nile River. They wove the reed into a mat and then pounded it into a thin sheet. Two thousand years later, the Chinese invented a different way of making paper. They soaked old silk or cotton cloth and tree bark in water until it broke down into a mush. They used this mixture to form a thin sheet that was then left to dry. This ancient method of papermaking is similar to the current process of making paper. Unlike the ancient method of making paper, today's paper is made using mainly wood chips.

Article 2

You can use scrap paper that you find around your house to create your own recycled paper. Different types of paper will create different types of recycled paper. You can try many types to see which ones you like best. Old cards will make heavy recycled paper, and tissue paper will make thinner recycled paper. After choosing your scrap paper, you must tear it into tiny bits and place them in a blender. Add enough warm water to cover the small scraps of paper. Blend until the mixture is a mush with no whole paper bits. Now it is time to get messy!

Select **two** points the student could include in her report based on evidence in the articles.

- A) When you make paper from scrap paper, the new paper you make will be somewhat like the paper scraps you used.
- B) You can weave strips of scrap paper and then pound it to make new paper.
- C) Papermaking has always been an extremely messy process.
- D) Throughout time, most paper has been made using mainly natural materials.
- E) All paper starts with a mush made from some material and water.

To receive the full-credit score of 1 point, the student must correctly select both options. The correct responses are options D and E.