



**NEW ENGLAND
COMMON ASSESSMENT PROGRAM**

**Released Items
Support Materials
2012**

**Grade 7
Reading**

**NECAP 2012 RELEASED ITEMS
GRADE 7 READING**

6.3.2 Shows breadth of vocabulary knowledge through demonstrating understanding of word meanings and relationships by selecting appropriate words or explaining the use of words in context, including content specific vocabulary, words with multiple meanings, or precise vocabulary

Because the work on the assembly line is so tedious, employees often fall asleep.

- 1 What does the word tedious mean as it is used in the box?
- A. marvelous
 - B. mysterious
 - C. miraculous
 - D. monotonous

6.2.1 Students identify the meaning of unfamiliar vocabulary by using strategies to unlock meaning (e.g., knowledge of word structure, including prefixes/suffixes and base words; or context clues; or other resources, such as dictionaries, glossaries, thesauruses; or prior knowledge)

Use the definitions below to answer the question.

fiery *adj* 1. full of fire, glaring, intensely hot
2. feverish, burning, inflamed 3. enthusiastic
4. hotheaded, easily angered, excitable

- 2 Which is the **best** definition of the word fiery as it is used in this sentence?
- Bruce's fiery retort led to a bitter feud with little hope of settlement.
- A. definition 1
 - B. definition 2
 - C. definition 3
 - D. definition 4

Amphibians and Reptiles as Exotic Pets Informational Text

(The passage for these questions is located in Released Items 2012 – Grade 7 Reading.)

6.7.2 Demonstrate initial understanding of informational texts (expository and practical texts) by using information from the text to answer questions related to main/central ideas or key details

- 3 Which statement is true about all ectothermic animals?
- A. Their body temperatures change with the environment.
 - B. They are born in water but live on land.
 - C. Their babies hatch from hard-shelled eggs.
 - D. They have unusually long lives for wild animals.

6.2.1 Students identify the meaning of unfamiliar vocabulary by using strategies to unlock meaning (e.g., knowledge of word structure, including prefixes/suffixes and base words; or context clues; or other resources, such as dictionaries, glossaries, thesauruses; or prior knowledge)

- 4 In paragraph 4, the word external means
- A. living.
 - B. inactive.
 - C. weakened.
 - D. outside.

Amphibians and Reptiles as Exotic Pets Informational Text

(The passage for these questions is located in Released Items 2012 – Grade 7 Reading.)

6.7.1 Demonstrate initial understanding of informational texts (expository and practical texts) by obtaining information from text features (e.g., table of contents, glossary, index, transition words/phrases, bold or italicized text, headings, subheadings, graphic organizers, charts, graphs, or illustrations)

- 5 In paragraphs 1 through 4, some words are in **bold** print because they
- A. are titles.
 - B. are explained.
 - C. begin new sections.
 - D. come from another language.

6.8.3 Analyze and interpret informational text, citing evidence as appropriate by drawing inferences about text, including author's purpose (e.g., to inform, explain, entertain, persuade) or message; or forming and supporting opinions/judgments and assertions about central ideas that are relevant

- 6 What does **Myth #3** include that the other myths do not include?
- A. a reminder that owners should treat a herp just as they would any other pet
 - B. encouragement to think creatively about how to care for a herp as it ages
 - C. advice against getting a herp because it is a long-term responsibility
 - D. advice against getting a herp because of ongoing health problems

Amphibians and Reptiles as Exotic Pets Informational Text

(The passage for these questions is located in Released Items 2012 – Grade 7 Reading.)

6.7.3 Demonstrate initial understanding of informational texts (expository and practical texts) by organizing information to show understanding (e.g., representing main/central ideas or details within text through charting, mapping, paraphrasing, summarizing, or comparing/contrasting)

- 7 Explain how each **myth** about herps is incorrect. Use information from the passage to support your answer.

Scoring Guide:

Score	Description
4	Response provides a thorough explanation about how each myth about herps is incorrect. Response includes relevant information from the passage.
3	Response provides an explanation about how each myth about herps is incorrect. Response includes some relevant information from the passage.
2	Response provides a partial explanation about how each myth or some myths about herps are incorrect. Response includes limited information from the passage.
1	Response is vague or minimal.
0	Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.
Blank	No response

Training Notes:

Responses should cite each of the myths and explain facts in the passage that discredit them.

NECAP 2012 RELEASED ITEMS
GRADE 7 READING

SCORE POINT 4

7

All of the myths in this passage are all wrong because... Myth one- Herps make cheap pets. Herps do not make cheap pets! Sure a baby lizard is around \$10 but you also have to pay for furnishing, Materials to cover up the bottom, lighting equipment, heating equipment, cleaning equipment, pet care, food and electricity, this pet could cost up to \$250 or more. Myth two- Herps are easy to take care for. Herps are more work then other pets, they are highly specialized pets, they need specific enviromental and dietary care, they also need regular check ups there is a lot more two. Myth three- Herps do not live for very long, when taken care of right they can live for a very long time. Frogs, Lizzards, and Snakes can live up two 10-20 years, Tortoises can live up two 100 years! Lastly Myth four- Herps stay small, they will only grow to the size of their enclosur, They can grow up to a 6 foot adult, Sulcuta Tortoises can grow to be 100 pounds! This is why these myths are wrong.

Response provides a thorough explanation about how each **myth** about herps is incorrect. Response includes relevant information from the passage.

NECAP 2012 RELEASED ITEMS
GRADE 7 READING

SCORE POINT 3

7

Myth # 1 is incorrect because buying the pet is the cheapest part but then taking care of it might cost up to \$250!
Myth # 2 is incorrect because they can be more work to take care of, than any other pet. Because when having them in captivity you have to imitate their environment as best as you can. Myth # 3 is incorrect because if you take care of them correctly they can live a very long life (tortise can live to be over 100 yrs.) Myth # 4 is incorrect because even though you might have a small enclosure, a 6-inch iguana could grow up to be a 6 FT iguana. Its inhumane to keep them in a small enclosure.

Response provides an explanation about how each **myth** about herps is incorrect. Response includes some relevant information from the passage.

NECAP 2012 RELEASED ITEMS
GRADE 7 READING

SCORE POINT 2

7

The myths about herps are all incorrect. Herps can cost more than most animals for the enclosure and making the animal feel at home. They often have special diets and such. Mostly, it is a long-term commitment. They can grow to immense sizes, and become very hard to take care of. Nothing is easy about taking care of a herp.

Response provides a partial explanation about how each **myth** or some myths about herps are incorrect. Response includes limited information from the passage.

SCORE POINT 1

7

Each myth about herps is wrong because a herp can live very long. It can get very big. And they are not cheap.

Response is vague or minimal.

NECAP 2012 RELEASED ITEMS
GRADE 7 READING

SCORE POINT 0

7

They are myths because
exotic animals are very easy to take
care of.

Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.

Amphibians and Reptiles as Exotic Pets Informational Text

(The passage for these questions is located in Released Items 2012 – Grade 7 Reading.)

6.7.2 Demonstrate initial understanding of informational texts (expository and practical texts) by using information from the text to answer questions related to main/central ideas or key details

- 8 According to the passage, the cheapest part of owning a herp as a pet is the cost of
- A. the food.
 - B. the equipment.
 - C. the animal itself.
 - D. the veterinary care.

6.2.1 Students identify the meaning of unfamiliar vocabulary by using strategies to unlock meaning (e.g., knowledge of word structure, including prefixes/suffixes and base words; or context clues; or other resources, such as dictionaries, glossaries, thesauruses; or prior knowledge)

- 9 In **Myth #4**, the word inhumane means
- A. brutal.
 - B. confident.
 - C. ordinary.
 - D. ignorant.

Amphibians and Reptiles as Exotic Pets Informational Text

(The passage for these questions is located in Released Items 2012 – Grade 7 Reading.)

6.7.3 Demonstrate initial understanding of informational texts (expository and practical texts) by organizing information to show understanding (e.g., representing main/central ideas or details within text through charting, mapping, paraphrasing, summarizing, or comparing/contrasting)

- 10 According to the passage, why is the size of a herp’s enclosure important?
- A. Small enclosures may help herps feel safe.
 - B. Enclosures that are too small may lead to injuries.
 - C. Large enclosures may prevent herps from fighting.
 - D. Enclosures that are too large may encourage escape.

6.8.4 Analyze and interpret informational text, citing evidence as appropriate by distinguishing fact from opinion, and identifying possible bias/propaganda

- 11 Which sentence from the passage contains an **opinion**?
- A. “Reptiles have scales that cover their dry skin and, contrary to what many people think, they are not slimy!”
 - B. “So, while the animal itself may not cost much, caring for it properly will.”
 - C. “You get the picture . . . herps are anything but easy to care for!”
 - D. “But when properly cared for, reptiles grow . . . and they can grow LARGE.”

Amphibians and Reptiles as Exotic Pets Informational Text

(The passage for these questions is located in Released Items 2012 – Grade 7 Reading.)

6.8.2 Analyze and interpret informational text, citing evidence as appropriate by synthesizing information within or across text(s) (e.g., constructing appropriate titles; or formulating assertions or controlling ideas)

- 12 Explain why the author suggests that having a herp is “a huge commitment.” Use information from the passage to support your answer.

Scoring Guide:

Score	Description
4	Response provides a thorough explanation of why the author suggests that having a herp is “a huge commitment.” Response includes relevant information from the passage.
3	Response provides an explanation of why the author suggests that having a herp is “a huge commitment.” Response includes some relevant information from the passage.
2	Response provides a partial explanation of why the author suggests that having a herp is “a huge commitment.” Response includes limited information from the passage.
1	Response is vague or minimal.
0	Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.
Blank	No response

Training Notes:

Responses may address the time, money, and space involved.

SCORE POINT 4

12

There are many reasons why the author considers a herp a big commitment. In the text it says, "on top of the cost of the animal itself is the initial cost of the enclosure, furnishings, material to cover the bottom, lighting equipment, and other supplies." There is also the ongoing cost of food, electricity for heating and lights, and veterinary care. Herps also end up being more work than other pets. Herps are highly specialized animals, and have very specific environmental and dietary needs. It also takes a lot of time, money, and energy to create a suitable sized enclosure. To keep the herp healthy you will have to have the right temperature, light and humidity, you also have to have a variety of food, water sources, simulation, and shelter. You will also have a daily routine of preparing food, cleaning and disinfecting the enclosure, checking the water, checking the temperature, watching the animal's health, and handling it.

Response provides a thorough explanation of why the author suggests that having a herp is "a huge commitment." Response includes relevant information from the passage.

NECAP 2012 RELEASED ITEMS
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SCORE POINT 3

12

Why is having a herp a huge commitment?
It is a huge commitment for many reasons. First, Once you get it, you have to buy all the equipment and food it needs. I think that would be really hard to do and pretty much cost all the money I get. Also, you are stuck with them most of your life when you get one because they live so long. I don't think I would be able to do that. Lastly, they can grow really big, they might start out small, but they can grow very big, so you keep having to get bigger tanks for them. I think that's a big nuisance because tanks cost a lot of money. As you can see having a herp is a huge commitment.

Response provides an explanation of why the author suggests that having a herp is "a huge commitment." Response includes some relevant information from the passage.

NECAP 2012 RELEASED ITEMS
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SCORE POINT 2

12

The author of this passage makes it clear that owning a herp is a very big commitment. You have to have lots of time, and money to take care of a herp properly! Also when you do take care of your herp properly it can grow to be very large, and live anywhere from 10-100 years depending on the animal! Taking care of an animal for that long is a huge commitment.

Response provides a partial explanation of why the author suggests that having a herp is "a huge commitment." Response includes limited information from the passage.

SCORE POINT 1

12

The author think that it is a huge responsible job. Taking care of a pet is hard, usually a reptile can be dangerous. It is hard to buy food and equipment. So it is a huge commitment.

Response is vague or minimal.

NECAP 2012 RELEASED ITEMS
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SCORE POINT 0

12

The author did that because he
wanted to make a good myth and
passage way for people and other kids
Thats why.

Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.

Grade 7 Reading Released Item Information – 2012

Released Item Number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Content Strand ¹	WV	WV	II	WV	II	IA	II	II	WV	II	IA	IA
GLE Code	6-3	6-2	6-7	6-2	6-7	6-8	6-7	6-7	6-2	6-7	6-8	6-8
Depth of Knowledge Code	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	1	2	1	2	2
Item Type ²	MC	MC	MC	MC	MC	MC	CR	MC	MC	MC	MC	CR
Answer Key	D	D	A	D	B	C		C	A	B	C	
Total Possible Points	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4

¹Content Strand: WV = Word ID/Vocabulary, LI = Literary/Initial Understanding, LA = Literary/Analysis & Interpretation,
 II = Informational/Initial Understanding, IA = Informational/Analysis & Interpretation

²Item Type: MC = Multiple Choice, CR = Constructed Response