



**NEW ENGLAND  
COMMON ASSESSMENT PROGRAM**

**Released Items  
Support Materials  
2006**

**Grade 5  
Reading**

NECAP 2006 RELEASED ITEMS  
GRADE 5 READING

4.3.1 Shows breadth of vocabulary knowledge through demonstrating understanding of word meanings or relationships by identifying synonyms, antonyms, homonyms/ homophones, or shades of meaning

1 A synonym (same meaning) for the word annual is

- A. yearly.
- B. brief.
- C. frequent.
- D. endless.

4.2.1 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; or prior knowledge)

Use the definitions below to answer the question.

**passage** *n.* **1.** a journey or voyage: *The passage by ship took more than two weeks.* **2.** a way through: *Not many people know about the passage in the woods that leads to my house.* **3.** a section or piece of writing: *We were asked to read the passage and answer the questions.* **4.** the passing of a law by a legislature: *The passage of the bill into law was met with cheers.*

2 The hikers had been trying to find a passage through the mountains.

Which is the **best** definition of the word passage as it is used in this sentence?

- A. definition 1
- B. definition 2
- C. definition 3
- D. definition 4

## The *Eagle* Has Landed Informational Text

**4.3.2 Shows breadth of vocabulary knowledge through demonstrating understanding of word meanings or relationships** by selecting appropriate words to use in context, including content specific vocabulary, words with multiple meanings, or precise vocabulary

- 3 In paragraph 10, the phrase “You are go for separation” means that Mission Control is
- A. warning the crew of dangerous rocks.
  - B. informing the crew of the best way to land.
  - C. giving the crew permission to launch the lander.
  - D. telling the crew they can no longer be heard on Earth.

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

- 4 What did Neil Armstrong mean when he said, “The *Eagle* has wings”?
- A. The wings on the lander were failing.
  - B. The lander was safe on the moon’s surface.
  - C. The lander was free from the mother ship.
  - D. The wings on the lander opened properly.

## The *Eagle* Has Landed Informational Text

**4.2.1** 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; or prior knowledge)

- 5 In paragraph 13, the word descent means the
- A. climb upward.
  - B. trip downward.
  - C. flight toward Earth.
  - D. circling around the moon.

**4.3.2** Shows breadth of vocabulary knowledge through demonstrating understanding of word meanings or relationships by selecting appropriate words to use in context, including content specific vocabulary, words with multiple meanings, or precise vocabulary

- 6 In paragraph 20, the word hovered means
- A. rose steadily.
  - B. raced sideways.
  - C. bobbed up and down.
  - D. hung in the air.

## The *Eagle* Has Landed Informational Text

4.7.3 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, or summarizing)

- 7 During their trip to the moon, the astronauts of Apollo 11 faced a serious problem. Describe this problem and explain how it was solved. Use information from the article to support your answer.

### Scoring Guide:

Score	Description
4	Response thoroughly describes a serious problem the astronauts of Apollo 11 faced and explains how they solved this problem. Response includes relevant information from the article.
3	Response describes a serious problem the astronauts of Apollo 11 faced and explains how they solved this problem. Response includes some relevant information from the article.
2	Response partially describes a serious problem the astronauts of Apollo 11 faced <b>and/or</b> explains how they solved this problem. Response uses limited information from the article.
1	Response is vague or minimal.
0	Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.
Blank	No response

### Training Notes:

Problem the astronauts of Apollo 11 face and how they solve this problem:

Problem: The *Eagle* had overshot its target landing spot. It was headed toward craters and rocks. Landing fuel was low. There was no place to land.

Solution: Armstrong took manual control and landed the *Eagle* safely. He picked a spot and landed.

SCORE POINT 4

During the trip to the moon the Astronauts encountered some serious Problems.

Once the eagle had separated from the Apollo the eagle began its descent to the surface of the moon.

On the way down the astronauts discovered that they were not where they were supposed to be. They were supposed to be at a flat surface but they were at a rocky field the computer had overshoot their landing sight.

In an attempt to land Niel armstrong grabbed the manual controls and tried to steer himself. The seconds ticked by and with hardly any landing fuel left the eagle touched ground and dust flew up.

Everyone on earth waited until they heard Niel Armstrong say "Houston, Tranquility Base here. The Eagle has landed."

These are the problems the astronauts of Apollo 11 faced on their trip to the moon.

Response thoroughly describes a serious problem the astronauts of Apollo 11 faced and explains how they solved this problem. Response includes relevant information from the article.

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SCORE POINT 3

They were about to crash  
and there were crates and  
rocks and they didn't have that  
much fuel and if it ran  
out of fuel then they would  
crash and the computer didn't  
target the landing place. Then  
Armstrong put his hands on  
the controls and he let  
out some rockets and  
they safely landed on the moon  
(the date is July, 1969 AD).

Response describes a serious problem the astronauts of Apollo 11 faced and explains how they solved this problem. Response includes some relevant information from the article.

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SCORE POINT 2

The problem was that they had trouble landing. The eagle was going to land in a bunch of rocks that would kill them. They solve it by looking and steering it to somewhere else.

Response partially describes a serious problem the astronauts of Apollo 11 faced **and/or** explains how they solved this problem. Response uses limited information from the article.

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SCORE POINT 1

The astronauts were running out of fuel and they could not land. They landed on the moon.

Response is minimal.

SCORE POINT 0

the problem was the ship was falling  
apart so they got out of  
the ship and fixed it.

Response is totally incorrect.

## The *Eagle* Has Landed Informational Text

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

- 8 How did Neil Armstrong let Mission Control know that the astronauts had landed safely on the moon?
- A. by placing a plaque on the moon's surface
  - B. by stepping out of the *Eagle* and waving
  - C. by planting a flag on the moon's surface
  - D. by sending the message "The *Eagle* has landed"

**4.3.2 Shows breadth of vocabulary knowledge through demonstrating understanding of word meanings or relationships by selecting appropriate words to use in context, including content specific vocabulary, words with multiple meanings, or precise vocabulary**

- 9 In paragraph 30, the word lunar refers to
- A. the moon.
  - B. Earth.
  - C. sand.
  - D. the rock.

## The *Eagle* Has Landed Informational Text

**4.7.3 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, or summarizing)**

- 10 In the article, which event happened **first**?
- A. Armstrong looked for a landing zone.
  - B. Apollo 11 rode a column of fire into the sky.
  - C. Flames shot down as the *Eagle* dropped.
  - D. The landing craft swooped across boulder fields.

**4.8.4 Analyze and interpret informational text, citing evidence as appropriate by distinguishing fact from opinion**

- 11 Which statement is an **opinion**?
- A. "It can't be done."
  - B. "We have liftoff!"
  - C. "The spacecraft continued downward."
  - D. "The *Eagle* has landed."

## The *Eagle* Has Landed Informational Text

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

- 12 Why was Neil Armstrong a good person to take part in the Apollo 11 mission? Use information from the article to support your answer.

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**Scoring Guide:**

<b>Score</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>4</b>	Response provides a thorough explanation of why Neil Armstrong was a good person to take part in the Apollo 11 mission. Response includes relevant information from the article.
<b>3</b>	Response provides an explanation of why Neil Armstrong was a good person to take part in the Apollo 11 mission. Response includes some relevant information from the article.
<b>2</b>	Response provides a partial explanation of why Neil Armstrong was a good person to take part in the Apollo 11 mission. Response uses limited information from the article.
<b>1</b>	Response is vague or minimal.
<b>0</b>	Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.
<b>Blank</b>	No response

**Training Notes:**

**NOTE:** Words identifying qualities are not necessary but can be implied.

Why Neil Armstrong was a good person to take part in the Apollo 11 mission:

Brave: He led a mission to the moon. The mission was dangerous as is any trip into space (other similar words: risk-taker, bold, courageous, etc.).

Heroic: This word embodies many of the characteristics students might identify separately (fearless, daring, adventurous, noble, gallant, etc.) all based on the risk he took in going to the moon, on his saving of the mission by landing the *Eagle* in a safe spot, on the humility he expressed in his words on his descent from the lander, and his patriotism in planting the American flag on the moon.

Skilled: He saved the mission by taking control from the computer and landing the lander safely. He recognized the danger and overcame it.

Patriotic: He served his country as an astronaut.

Humble (or similar word): He gave credit to humankind in his words: "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind."

Student responses may vary and are acceptable as long as there is support from the article.

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SCORE POINT 4

Neil Armstrong was a good person to take part in the Apollo 11 mission because when the ship was going down to land on the moon it was heading straight for deadly rocks. Neil Armstrong didn't panic, he grabbed the hand controller and brought the Eagle under control. He only had sixty seconds to land so he was searching for a smooth place. He let the Eagle land and it landed softly on the moon. He called back to earth and told them everything is fine and he landed on the moon. Neil Armstrong is important because he knew what he was doing and did it.

Response provides a thorough explanation of why Neil Armstrong was a good person to take part in the Apollo 11 mission. Response includes relevant information from the article.

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SCORE POINT 3

He was a good person to have along because he knew if something went wrong like the Eagle did not land right he knew exactly what to do. He had a lot of knowledge because if he didn't the Eagle probably would have crashed on the rocks. He thought very fast because there was only 60 seconds left of landing fuel and he had to fly around to find a smooth place to land.

Response provides an explanation of why Neil Armstrong was a good person to take part in the Apollo 11 mission. Response includes some relevant information from the article.

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SCORE POINT 2

Neil Armstrong was a good person to take part on the Apollo 11 mission because he knew what to do in situations like when the Eagle was going to land on a bumpy surface he knew he had to find a smooth surface.

Response provides a partial explanation of why Neil Armstrong was a good person to take part in the Apollo 11 mission. Response uses limited information from the article.

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SCORE POINT 1

neil armstrong is a good  
person to take part on the  
apollo 11 mission because if something  
goes wrong he knows what to do.

Response is minimal.

SCORE POINT 0

He was a good government.

Response is totally incorrect.