



**NEW ENGLAND  
COMMON ASSESSMENT PROGRAM**

**Released Items  
Support Materials  
2008**

**Grade 6  
Reading**

NECAP 2008 RELEASED ITEMS  
GRADE 6 READING

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

1 An **antonym** for the word shield is

- A. flee.
- B. join.
- C. uncover.
- D. revolve.

**5.2.1 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.*

**apply** *v* 1. to bring into action 2. to have a connection 3. to make a request 4. to put on, spread over, smear

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

When Scott's mother noticed his cut, she told him to apply a bandage to the wound.

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

## The Sea's Treasures Literary Text

**5.4.1 Demonstrate initial understanding of elements of literary texts** by identifying or describing character(s), setting, problem/solution, major events, or plot, as appropriate to text; or identifying any significant changes in character(s) over time

- 3 Why does the little sister travel to the other side of the reef?
- A. to find her own mussels
  - B. to imagine her life at sea
  - C. to watch her brothers from a distance
  - D. to separate herself from her brothers

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

- 4 A synonym for the word squabbling is
- A. forcing.
  - B. pleading.
  - C. arguing.
  - D. terrifying.

## The Sea's Treasures Literary Text

**5.6.1** Analyze and interpret author's craft, citing evidence where appropriate by demonstrating knowledge of use of literary devices (i.e., imagery, exaggeration) to analyze literary works

- 5 In paragraph 7, the phrase “the ocean deepened into a dark, almost midnight-blue color” describes
- A. the color of mussels.
  - B. how the time changes.
  - C. how the water changes.
  - D. the path to the little sister's home.

**5.5.5** Analyze and interpret elements of literary texts, citing evidence where appropriate by identifying author's message or theme (implied or stated, as in a fable)

- 6 What is the **main** message of this fable?
- A. Young people have much to learn.
  - B. Take time to explore surroundings.
  - C. People should be satisfied with what they have.
  - D. It is important to use good manners every day.

## The Sea's Treasures Literary Text

**5.5.2 Analyze and interpret elements of literary texts, citing evidence where appropriate by Describing characters' physical characteristics, personality traits, or interactions; or providing examples of thoughts, words, or actions that reveal characters' personality traits or their changes over time**

Read the sentence below and then answer the question that follows.

"You have to treasure whatever the sea offers."

- 7** Explain how the little sister demonstrates this statement is true. Use details from the fable to support your answer.

### Scoring Guide:

Score	Description
4	Response provides a thorough explanation of how the little sister demonstrates this statement is true. Response includes relevant details from the fable.
3	Response provides an explanation of how the little sister demonstrates this statement is true. Response includes details from the fable.
2	Response provides a partial explanation of how the little sister demonstrates this statement is true. Response includes limited details from the fable.
1	Response is vague or minimal.
0	Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.
Blank	No response

### Training Notes:

Response will likely explain that the little sister demonstrates behavior that shows she treasures what the sea offers.

- admiration for the colors in the bay, the waves, and the sea's protective nature
- admiration for all animal life
- interest in unknown parts of the ocean
- gratitude for food

Details from the fable should support these ideas.

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SCORE POINT 4

7 The little sister is more forgiving and appreciates what she has already. Her brothers are fighting on who has more mussels. While their little sister is enjoying on what she has already. When she quietly moves away from her fighting brothers she sees a beautiful bay with shades of aquamarine, turquoise, and sapphire. She also saw bright blue waves from the ocean with pearly foam rolled gently to the shore. The little sister admired everything that the ocean offered. She loved watching golden plovers dancing. Then the little sister was wondering why wouldn't my brothers appreciate on what they already have. So she admires what the ocean offers and what it gives.

Response provides a thorough explanation of how the little sister demonstrates this statement is true. Response includes relevant details from the fable.

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SCORE POINT 3

7 The sea star sister demonstrates that statement in many special ways. For example, the sea provides the many mussels that the sea star eat. The sister sea star only takes what she needs, though, and is grateful for every bite she takes. She thanks the sea for the things it provides. The sea also provides the beautiful coral reef and the creatures that live in it. The sister sea star is grateful for all the things the sea gives to her!

Response provides an explanation of how the little sister demonstrates this statement is true. Response includes details from the fable.

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GRADE 6 READING

SCORE POINT 2

- 7 Little sister demonstrated the statement is true by explaining every thing she saw in a clear view. Some of the things she saw are waves curtsey, golden plovers dancing, small fish flash their silver color and sometimes a turtle would poke his head out of the water, but then would dive back in. Those were some of the things she saw.

Response provides a partial explanation of how the little sister demonstrates this statement is true. Response includes limited details from the fable.

SCORE POINT 1

- 7 She demonstrates by thinking that everything she has is a gift. And what the sea offers you treasure what ever it is.

Response is vague or minimal.

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SCORE POINT 0

7

Sometimes a large green sea turtle  
would gently poke its head above the water  
and then with a flap of its flipper dive  
below the surface.

Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.

## Funny Papers: Behind the Scenes of the Comics Informational Text

**5.7.2 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 first paragraph, what does the penciler do?
- A. writes down ideas for the comic book
  - B. constructs the cover of the comic book
  - C. tells the story through pictures
  - D. chooses the best words for the story

**5.7.2 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**

- 9 What happens **before** the balloons in a comic book are filled with words?
- A. The editor, artist, and writer agree on the storyboard.
  - B. The publisher asks the public's opinion of the story.
  - C. The editor, artist, and writer create another story.
  - D. The publisher examines the quality of the storyboard.

## Funny Papers: Behind the Scenes of the Comics Informational Text

**5.7.2 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**

- 10 What is the job of an ink artist?
- A. to create additional drawings
  - B. to trace the artist's drawings
  - C. to check for errors in the artist's drawings
  - D. to think of ideas for the drawings

**5.3.2 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**

- 11 In paragraph 3, the word permanent means that the ink is
- A. dry.
  - B. clear.
  - C. lasting.
  - D. reflecting.

## Funny Papers: Behind the Scenes of the Comics Informational Text

**5.7.1 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)**

- 12 Explain how **Figure 1 and Figure 4** are different. Use information from the article to support your answer.

### Scoring Guide:

Score	Description
4	Response provides a thorough explanation of how Figure 1 <b>and</b> Figure 4 are different. Response includes relevant information from the article.
3	Response provides an explanation of how Figure 1 <b>and</b> Figure 4 are different. Response includes information from the article.
2	Response provides a partial explanation of how Figure 1 <b>and</b> Figure 4 are different. Response includes limited information from the article.
1	Response is vague or minimal.
0	Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.
<b>Blank</b>	No response

### Training Notes:

Response will likely explain that Figure 1 represents how the comic book appears in its initial stages and Figure 4 represents the final version of the comic book.

Response will likely include differences among text features, such as

- words,
- drawings,
- layout, and
- organization.

Information from the article should support these ideas.

SCORE POINT 4

12

The difference in figure 1 and figure 4 are a few things. In figure 1 first of all is the first step the writer and artist do after discussing story ideas. The writer produces an outline of the story and sends it to the artist. The artist draws a rough draft of each page of the comic book, based on the writer's outline. The rough draft is called a storyboard. But the balloons for the dialogues stay empty.

For the figure 4, it is the last step of the whole process. Now, after everything is done such as the sketch, the storyboard, the inking, and the separate artist, ~~the~~ paints the cover. Don't forget putting the dialogues in the ballon. The comic is ready to go to a production facility to be printed.

Response provides a thorough explanation of how Figure 1 and Figure 4 are different.  
Response includes relevant information from the article.

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SCORE POINT 3

12

How figure 1 and figure 4 are different because figure 1 is just the beginning and it is the first step as being a rough draft. Figure 1 is outlined in pencil and figure 4 is outlined in permanent black ink. In figure 4 the balloons are filled in with words and in figure 1 the balloons are blank.

Response provides an explanation of how Figure 1 and Figure 4 are different.  
Response includes information from the article.

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SCORE POINT 2

12

Figure 1 is just a rough draft with nothing colored and no word bubbles filled in. In figure 4 it is the final draft. All the word bubbles are filled in, every thing is filled in, and it is ready to go out to the public.

Response provides a partial explanation of how Figure 1 and Figure 4 are different. Response includes limited information from the article.

SCORE POINT 1

12

The reason figure one and four is different is because figure one is a sketch and figure four is the final copy.

Response is vague or minimal.

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SCORE POINT 0

12

In figure 1 they start with  
Spider man in figure 4 they end  
with American eagle.

Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.