



**NEW ENGLAND
COMMON ASSESSMENT PROGRAM**

**Released Items
2006**

**Grade 3
Reading**

Reading

The loud noise scared me.

1 Which word means the **same** as noise?

- A. sound
- B. choice
- C. light
- D. quiet

2 Which word has the same **ending** sound as enough?

- A. fourth
- B. evening
- C. stuff
- D. glove

Helen Keller was a real person who could not see or hear. Anne Sullivan was a teacher at a school called the Perkins Institution. Read the following passage and then answer the questions that follow.

Helen Keller **Courage in the Dark**

by Johanna Hurwitz

Mr. and Mrs. Keller wrote a letter to the Perkins Institution. A teacher wrote back. Her name was Anne Sullivan. Friends called her Annie.

Annie agreed to come and live with the Kellers and to teach Helen. Helen was now almost seven years old.

At first Helen was not a good student. She did not obey Annie. Helen was used to having her own way. Her parents had allowed her to act out. They never punished her. They thought she could not control her behavior.

Annie had to teach Helen everything. She was very strict with her young student. Helen was strong and stubborn—but so was Annie. Sometimes Helen pinched or hit Annie. When Helen hit her, Annie hit her back. Bit by bit, Helen learned to pay attention to her new teacher.

Annie taught Helen many new things. She taught her to sit at the dinner table. She taught her to eat with a knife and fork and spoon. She taught her to dress herself and brush her hair.

Annie wanted to teach her student something that was even more important. She wanted to teach young Helen how to understand words.

At the Perkins Institution, Annie had learned a special finger alphabet. Different hand positions stood for different letters. She could speak to deaf people by spelling out words with her hands.

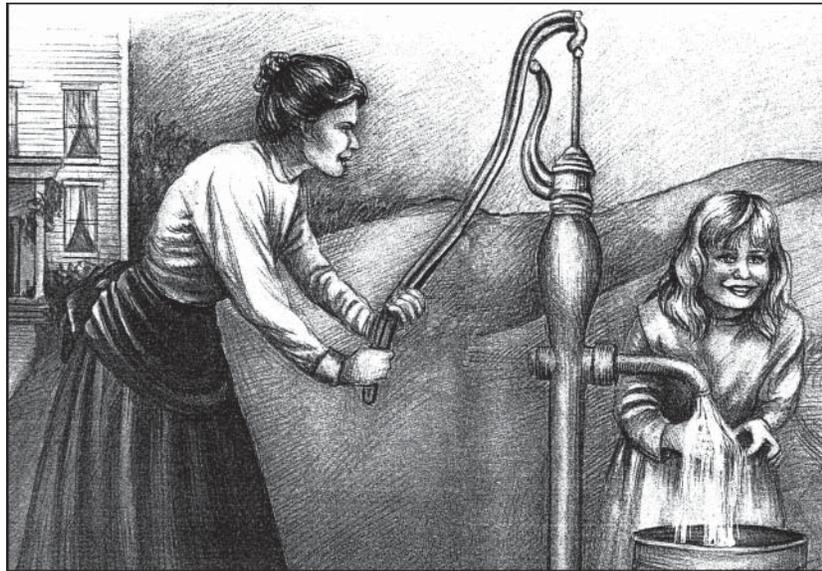


Helen had lost her sense of sight and her sense of hearing. But she still had her sense of touch. Annie tried to teach Helen the special alphabet.

She spelled out one word after another inside Helen's hand. Helen copied Annie and repeated the finger movements. She learned how to spell *doll*, *cake*, *milk*, and *mug*. But she did not understand what the words meant. Annie tried over and over, but Helen still did not understand.

One spring day, Annie and Helen went for a walk outside. Annie took Helen to a well. The teacher pumped some water and let it run over Helen's fingers. Slowly she spelled out the word *water* into Helen's palm. Then she did it again and again.

Suddenly, the little girl understood. The wet liquid and the word being spelled in her palm were the same thing! WATER.



- 3 Why did Annie Sullivan come to live with the Kellers?
- A. She wanted to bring Helen to the Perkins Institution.
 - B. She was friends with the Kellers.
 - C. She wanted to be Helen's teacher.
 - D. She was taking care of the Kellers.

- 4 At first, Helen was not a good student because she
- A. did not like school.
 - B. did not like Annie.
 - C. was afraid of being punished.
 - D. was used to having her own way.

- 5 Annie knew the **most** important thing Helen could learn was how to
- A. sit at the dinner table.
 - B. understand words.
 - C. use a knife, fork, and spoon.
 - D. dress herself.

- 6 At the Perkins Institution, how did Annie speak to someone who could not hear?
- A. She moved the person's fingers.
 - B. She repeated words over and over.
 - C. She asked the person to spell words.
 - D. She spelled words with her hands.

7 The word stubborn means to want things only one way.

Is This Person Being Stubborn?	Yes or No
1. A person eats just carrots.	<hr/>
2. A person listens to a teacher give directions.	<hr/>
3. A person stops reading to go outside.	<hr/>
4. A person does not go anywhere without a favorite hat.	<hr/>

- 8 Why did Annie think that Helen could learn the special finger alphabet?
- A. Helen still had her sense of touch.
 - B. Annie knew Helen was a good speller.
 - C. Helen liked to do things with her hands.
 - D. Annie thought Helen was her smartest student.
- 9 What problem did Helen have when she tried to learn the special alphabet?
- A. She did not like learning new things.
 - B. She could not learn how to spell words.
 - C. She did not understand what words meant.
 - D. She could not repeat the finger movements.

- 10 Which word rhymes with meant?
- A. teach
 - B. milk
 - C. went
 - D. want
- 11 Which word has a suffix (ending) that means more than one?
- A. teacher
 - B. fingers
 - C. spelled
 - D. having

12 Fill in the chart. Use details from the passage.

Why Annie may have liked teaching Helen:
1.
2.

Why Annie may NOT have liked teaching Helen:
1.
2.

Acknowledgments

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Grade 3 Reading Released Item Information

Released Item Number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Content Strand¹	WV	WV	IA	IA	II	II	WV	II	II	WV	WV	IA
GLE Code	2-3	2-1	2-8	2-8	2-7	2-7	2-2	2-7	2-7	2-1	2-2	2-8
Depth of Knowledge Code	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	3
Item Type²	MC	MC	MC	MC	MC	MC	CR	MC	MC	MC	MC	CR
Answer Key	A	C	C	D	B	D		A	C	C	B	
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