New England Common Assessment Program

Student Work Samples
2006

Grade 8

Reading

❼ There were many differences between pounds in early colonial day. Most pounds had a rectangular shape with 25 feet in width, and 40 feet in length. The height of the walls were about "chest-height," so they would probably be about 4 feet high. The stones of the walls were cut to fit, but many other pound walls were made of odd-sized stones crammed into a wall. A town that was more successful usually had bigger, and stonger pounds than other towns that were least successful. Some pounds had low walls that were thrown together haphazardly. Others, like the pound in Richmond, RI, stand at 8 feet tall. The gates of pounds ranged from hinged doors, to a few boards supported by a pole. Usually a pound would be in a shape of a square, or rectangle. But sometimes they were forced to be made into different shapes that were circular or trapezoidal. A few pounds even had a brook running through them for the animals to be properly hydrated while staying within the walls.

❼ The pounds were different because towns that had more money had nicer pounds. Also if the town was richer the pound would be built and constructed a lot better! Some of the differences were the size and materials used to build them. For example a rich town would have cut rock blocks to fit and be large. The a poor town would have just rocks stacked on top of each other and might be small and not very well built. Also later pounds were built in different shapes. Some were round some were square or rectangle and even a couple were trapizoids. So these pounds are different from one another

❼ Town pound differed in many ways from one another. For instense some pounds had streams running through them to give the animals water. They also came in different sizes and shaps. Like the one in Chepachet is tryagle and seperates two streets and the more money the town had the better the pounds were.

7 There differed by the length and size.

❼ Town animal pounds differed from one another because of the different animals. The more one animal could do for you the more pounds it would be.

⓬ The titles "Progress" and "A New Age" clearly inform the reader of the author's message. In "Progress" the poem goes through four generations and states how they listened to music. Each person's form of a music player is smaller and more advanced then the previous person's music player. The poem shows how progress has been made throughout the years in technology, as is stated in the title. In "A New Age" the author shows how music is now digitalized instead of played. The old jazzman tells the boy to buy a multi-media computer instead of an instrument, because it would be of more use to him for a longer time. The titles hints to the reader that "A New Age" is about new forms of technology, and the dissappearance of what used to be. The titles in both poems tell the reader of the author's message before the reader has started reading the poems.

⓬

The title for the poem "Progress" really fits what the poem is about. In the beginning, the author discribes how, a long time ago, how things were big and heavy. Then they get smaller, such as a hi-fi. Now, we have walkman that are so small we can fit it in our pockets.

Also, in the poem "A New Age", the title works out great. The Jazzman talks to a kid about how now that computers are made, you can do anything. There is no need to play an instrument, a computer can be used for that.

⓬

The Poem "Progress" is Showing the Progress of technology. From a 100lbs to a Walkman that fits in Someone's Pocket is a huge advancement in technology.

In the Poem The New Age a person Said "That Music Sound is Digitized". That means everything is Synthasized now, Nothings real.

⓬ the title Progress means evelutionized music ployers

A new age means things are difrent now then they were

⓬

progress is getting Farther. New age is a new 1,000 years.

Mathematics

11 The volume of the ramp is 240 cubic feet.

$$\begin{array}{r} 30 \\ \times\ 8 \\ \hline 240 \end{array}$$

11

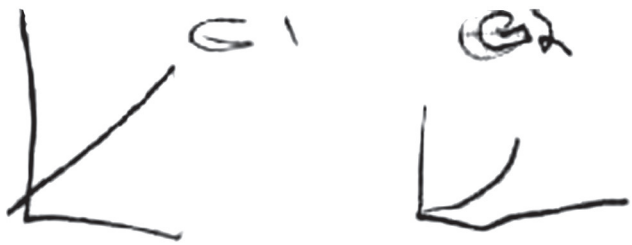
$480\ ft^3$

12 Graph 2 because as the glass gets taller, the width is smaller so the water rises faster.

⓬

Graph 1 best represents the water because, the water flow is at a constant rate which the graph shows it being.

⓬



Graph 2

13

30% = 3/10

40 ÷ 10 = 4

4 · 3 = 12

40 − 12 = 28

$28

⓭

$$\begin{array}{r} \$40 \\ \times\ .7 \\ \hline \$28.0 \end{array}$$

13

$$\begin{array}{r} \$40.00 \\ -12.00 \\ \hline 28.00 \end{array}$$

$28.00

13

It would be 5 to 10 dollers because $\frac{1}{4}$ of it off would be 10 doners So ITS 30% Percent so It is less.

14 Tri. ABC - $b = 5in$ $h = 4in$

Tri DEF - $b = 5 \cdot 3$ $h = 4 \cdot 3$

$b = 15$ $h = 12$

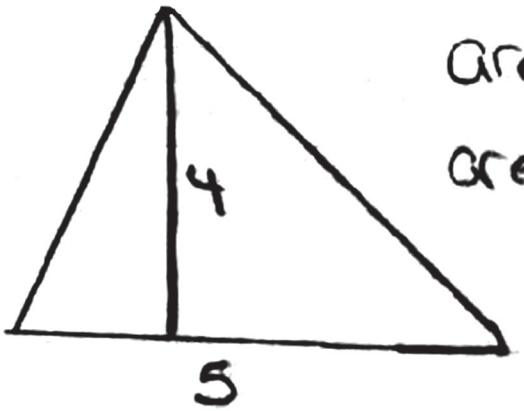
$15 \cdot 12 = 180 in^2$

area of tri DEF $= \frac{180 in^2}{2} = 90 in^2$

area of tri ABC $= \frac{5 \cdot 4 = 20 in^2}{2} = 10 in^2$

triangle DEF is 9 times greater than the area of ABC.

14



Area of ABC = $(5 \div 2) \cdot 4 = 10$

Area of DEF = $(15 \div 2) \cdot 12 = 90$

14

$$\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ \times\ 4 \\ \hline 20 \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{r} 15 \\ \times 12 \\ \hline 180 \end{array}$$

Triangle DEF is 160 times greater than triangle ABC.

15

$\frac{3}{5}$ knights = High Road $\frac{2}{5}$ = Low Road

a. $\frac{5}{5} - \frac{3}{5} = \frac{2}{5}$ knights take the Low Road

probability is $\frac{2}{5}$ or 40%.

b. $\frac{3}{5}$ knights ← 80% succeed.

60% knights ← 80% succeed

$$\begin{array}{r} 12 \text{ knights} \\ 5\overline{)60 \text{ knights}} \end{array}$$

← $\frac{80}{100} = \frac{8}{10} = \frac{4}{5}$

$$\begin{array}{r} 12 \\ \times\ 4 \\ \hline 48 \end{array}$$

$\frac{48 \text{ knights}}{100 \text{ Knights}} = \frac{24}{50} = \frac{12}{25}$ or 48%

15 A $\frac{2}{5}$ chance for the Low Road

$\frac{5}{5} - \frac{3}{5} = \frac{2}{5}$

B $\frac{3}{5}$ of a chance for the High road and 48% chance he will succeed.

15 a. $\frac{3}{5}$ take high Road | $\frac{2}{5}$ take Low Road

$\frac{5}{5} - \frac{3}{5} = \frac{2}{5}$

b. $\frac{3}{5}$ take High Road

80% succeed

$\frac{80}{100} = \frac{4}{5}$ succeed

$\frac{3}{5}$ take High Road
$\frac{4}{5}$ succeed

$= \frac{4}{5} - \frac{3}{5} = \frac{1}{5}$ = probability that he will succeed on High Road

15

A. $\frac{2}{5}$

B. $\frac{2}{5}$

15 I think he would probaly take the high road if he knew how many per

A. More successful on that one than the low road. The probability he would take the high road is 1 out of 2 chance.

B. The probability he would take the higroad is one out of two. Probability he would succseed is 20%. I got this by 80% (hig) Succeeding and 4% (low) failing. 20% left so has 20 out of 80 chance.

Writing

11

The author captures the readers attention in this introduction by putting you in a situation of being at a restaurant and asking for ketchup. Most people can relate to it. Then by saying you stare at the bottle, then open it up — and decide the waiter is either a lunatic or has a really sick sence of humor." It makes the reader wonder why and makes them want to keep reading to find out. By finding out ketchup made in eighteenth-century Europe and America was made of squished cucumbers, walnuts, and mushrooms you would want to read the rest.

11

The author of the article, Ketchup, captures the reader's interest by using details in a humorus way. His description of the Ketchup gives the reader a vivid picture in their mind of this sick substance. It really gets the reader thinking about how people in the eighteenth century could stand to eat their version of Ketchup.

11

The author trys to make the reader feel like is there. He wants the reader to be discusted by the green paste called Ketchup. And by having the reader picture himself there, he therfor captures the readers interest.

11

He Starts it off by saying "your" the reader reading it makes it feel like you are the person at the restraront.

⓫

I do not like ketchup becuse it has tumatos in it. I do not like tumatos. Ketchup is very nastey. I am the ailey one in my famly tha duze not like ketchup. and I do not like the culer red.

⓬

"Saving Privat Ryan" is not only a great movie because it is very informative about World War Two, but it also gives insight to the camraderie that is so deep, only war heros seem to have it. In times of war, when a man would risk his life to save yours, a very special bond is created between the two men, and "Saving Private Ryan" depicts this type of bond very well.

It is also a movie with a very good plot, has a lot of great action, and my friend, the last reason I think you should see this movie is because it holds meaning for us today because it helps us appreciate our fallen soldiers.

⓬

To my friend D..., the best movie I've watched would probably be "You Got Served." You should watch this movie because it shows a lot of dancing when you would probably like It also shows how friendship should be No matter how one can get mad at each other, true friends will always stay together. The music and actions this movie shows will make you not want it to end - because of the dancing. It would probably make you want to dance too. There fore you should watch this movie

⓬

The best movie I've ever seen would definitely have to be Troy. It was such an awesome movie! I would recomend it to anyone who like a lot of action a little romance and a great plot. Its one of those movies you pray they'll make a sequel to. That how good it was. It was simply an adventure to watch. Simply spectacular. If you're looking for an amazing movie Troy is for you!

⓬

Hatchet, its the best book and move you will ever see. Go to the libary and read it. Its by Gary paulson. After you read the book then watch the move. Its great and I think you'll love them.

⓬

I really dont redd much but I know movies. I couldnt really tell you my favorite but it depends on what kind of movies youlike.

13

There are a lot of things that cause desertfication. Some of them are natural, like flash floods or droughts. Most of the causes, though, are done by humans. To much human activity, like farming without caring for the soil, can cause an area of land to turn into a desert. Careless irrigation can cause soil to wash away, creating deserts. Also, when to many animals graze, they pack down the soil and eat a good part of the vegitation. Another big cause of desertfication is cutting down forests to clear land for farming, or to use as fire wood. There is nothing left to hold the soil, so it all washes away. Desertfication is happening all over the world, and we are, in part, the ones causesing it.

13

Ways to stop making deserts are easy. If you have an area that looks like a desert, you could plant trees there. You could also be more careful about irrigation. If you already have crops there, rotate them and take better care of the soil. You could also use better grazing techniques if you have animals on the land. You can also take better care of the land by protecting the environment. You can do that by not cutting down the trees you plant and letting the soil wash away.

13

I am going to write about the solutions for desertification. I really do think that more people should take better care of the earth. For example I think more people should go places and plant more flowers or shurbs. I also think that the farmers and homeowners should take better care of their properties. So basicly people should help the earth.

13

The Resin for this Is
Because wen people
cut dawn trees the
Soil gets no good
thats why on farm
Land thars not
many trees.

13

I think the report Is very good except it should be in Story form, I didnt know some of the stuff on that, and it just might expire me to do some research.

14 The focus of response is: Marisa's determination to draw a horse as well as Euphemia Tucker does.

15

Some supporting details from text: "I'd give anything to draw horses the way Euphemia Tucker does." "I tried again, but the hooves still didn't seem right, and rather than doing them over and over, I erased them and went to the head."

16 Marisa's determination, might someday lead her, to perfecting the drawing of a horse.

17 During the short story "Drawing Horses" the main character Marisa, is determined to draw a horse, the way her classmate Euphemia Tucker does. Marisa even stated, "I'd give anything to draw horses the way Euphemia Tucker does." Marisa attempted to draw a horse many times throughout the story, but she was always distracted by her classmate Luke Anderson, making fun of her drawing. For example, "What are you drawing? It looks like a T.rex with a mohawk." Marisa was also angry when her mother confused the horse she was drawing, for a German shepherd dog. It seems that the more Marisa was tormented by her peers and family, the more she wanted to draw a horse perfectly, to prove everyone wrong. The author was trying to show Marisa's constant "pull" to meet her goal by drawing a horse like Euphemia Tucker.

At the end of the passage, after Marisa's mother mistook her picture of a horse for a German shephard, Marisa sat outside, to get a better look at her neighbors horses. This is another example of Marisa's drive to achieve the goal of

drawing a horse. However, when Marisa was looking at these horses, she did not have the same goal anymore. I think Marisa finally realized that she did not need to draw a horse just like Euphemia; Marisa needed to look at the horses herself and draw them as the look through her eyes. During Marisa's attempted drawing sessions, she was so focused on drawing a horse like Euphemia, that it did not occur to her to draw a real horse, as they look through her eyes. When Marisa dragged a lawn chair outside to get a better look at the horses, she could really take in the physical features and grace of these creatures.

Marisa's determination might lead her to perfecting a drawing of a horse; not perfecting a drawing of a horse illustrated by Euphemia Tucker.

14 The focus/Controlling idea of my response is that the author developed the character trait of being jealous

15 Supporting details/refrences to text in my respone is that Mirisa is very jdous of Euphemia Tucker who is excellent at drawing horses. Also every time Marisa tries to anyone that sees it says it looks like the complete opposite, without knowing.

16 The conclusion of my response is that the auther devolopes the trait in many ways and one was expanding.

17

Jealousy, one of the key traits of Marissa in the passage "Drawing Horses", was developed by the author very well. For example the first sentence from the text was, "I'd give anything to draw horses the way Euphemia Tucker does. (pg 6)" Thu first sentence develops Marissa's trait of jealousy very well because it develops a focus and tells you exactly what the story is going to be about. Another way that the author developed Mirissa jealousy trait was by expanding on the idea and having conflict between her and he drawings of horses. One of these conflicts is between her and a boy in her class which always makes fun of her drawing of horses and says they either look like T. Rex, a German shepard, or a table. This makes Marissa feel down and not as confident with her drawings of the horses. Another conflict is between her and her mother. The conflict is when drawing horses at her kitchen table her mother walked by and said "Nice dogs, Missy, is that one a German Shepard? (Pg 9)". Her mother says this without knowing what Marissa is really trying to draw. This comment put Marissa over the top and she got very made and walked out. Adding conflict into this story made the author develop Mirissa trait of Jealousy. Wanting to draw like Euphemia

Tucker must be tough because the way it described the horses moving free and wildly across the field would make jealousy creep into Marissa even more. This was a good way of expanding by the author. These are the ways the author developes Marissa's trait of jealousy in great detail and by expanding

14 The controlling idea for my response is going to be her determination.

15

Supporting details for my response are: that even though Luke makes fun of her name and her horses she tries again, also when she goes home she tries, but fails again, after dinner she tries but still can't do it, so she studies the neigbors horses.

16

My conclusion is that everyone needs determination to succeed.

17

The author takes Marisa's trait of determination and really builds it up. When she tries to draw her horses at school Luke Anderson makes fun of her and calls her Messy. But even though she can't draw them yet her determination pushes her to try. and so she does when she gets home. Even though Marisa practices and practices she still can't draw her wild and free horses. After dinner her determination to draw beautiful horses kicks in again. She tries to get life into her pictures but still they come out looking like dogs. When her mother comments about them she storms out. But even though she stopped drawing her mind is set on horses so she goes and studies the neighbors for hints of how to draw.

In conclusion, I think everyone needs determination to sucseed at something. People need as much determination as Marisa instead of just giving up.

14 My controlling idea for my response is when everyone kept saying Marisa's drawing looked like dogs or other animals.

15

-Luke said they looked like T-rex, dog, table
-Mom said looked like dog
-she was trying her hardest

16

I think Marissa felt hurt.

17

I think one of Marissa's character traits is that she is hurt. I think she is hurt because she is trying really hard to draw horses but people think she is trying to draw a dog. It doesn't help either that Luke Anderson keeps telling her that, he even went as far to say that it looks like a table or even a t-rex.

Marisa also has to face Euphemia Tucker a girl who can draw perfect horses running through a field. In the story she compairs herself to Euphemia. When she thinks about how much better her horses are it just makes her feel sad or hurt. Also Luke Anderson makes fun of Marsia but doesn't make fun of Euphemia because she can draw horses. I think throughout the whole story Marsia feels hurt.

14 The focus of my response is Jealousy

15

Euphemia can draw, to one messes
with her name, Perfect horses

16

Maybe someday after Marisa looks at them later she will draw them

17

One trait Marisa has is jealousy. The author develops this trait clearly. By making people have better things than Marisa, makes her want what she doesn't have. By doing this Marisa is jelouse. Euphemia can draw beautiful horses, Marisa wishes she could draw such Louley things. Everyone calls her Missy instead of her real name. Marisa is convinced that if she could draw like Euphemia that no one would call her missy anymore because she would sign her real name.

14 She is impatient.

15

Stuffed a ball into her desk.
Scribbled on it
Slammed pencil hard

⓰

17

Marisa is impatient. When she was mad she slammed her pencil on the desk and scribbled on the paper and stuffed in her desk.

She got mad when some one called her horses a T-Rex with a mohawk.

⓮

⓯

16

⓱