New England Common Assessment Program

Released Items Support Materials 2007

Grade 7 Reading

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

1 A synonym for the word postpone is

A. prepare.
B. cancel.
C. delay.
D. continue.

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

The evidence against the suspect was strong enough for the investigation to progress.

2 What does the word progress mean as it is used in the box?

A. to create
B. to fail
C. to prove
D. to continue

Dicey's Dream
Literary Text

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)

3 In paragraph 2, the word splotched means

A. smeared.
B. scraped.
C. scrubbed.
D. split.

6.4.2 **Demonstrate initial understanding of elements of literary texts by** paraphrasing or summarizing key ideas/plot, with major events sequenced, as appropriate to text

4 The **main** purpose of paragraph 4 is to show that Dicey

A. has traveled often.
B. has had too many jobs.
C. is determined to learn about boats.
D. is not making much money.

Dicey's Dream
Literary Text

6.5.2 **Analyze and interpret elements of literary texts, citing evidence where appropriate by** describing characters' traits, motivation, or interactions, citing thoughts, words, or actions that reveal characters' traits, motivations, or their changes over time

5 Which word **best** describes Dicey?

A. sloppy
B. ambitious
C. tricky
D. helpful

6.4.1 **Demonstrate initial understanding of elements of literary texts by** identifying the characteristics of a variety of types/genres of literary text (e.g., **literary texts:** poetry, plays, fairy tales, fantasy, fables, realistic fiction, folktales, historical fiction, mysteries, science fiction, myths, legends)

6 What is the setting for this passage?

A. a shop
B. a dock
C. a sailboat
D. a depot

Dicey's Dream
Literary Text

6.5.1 **Analyze and interpret elements of literary texts, citing evidence where appropriate by** explaining or supporting logical predictions (e.g., providing evidence from text to explain why something is likely to happen next)

7 According to the passage, what will Dicey **most likely** do to make her dream come true? Use details from the passage to support your answer.

Scoring Guide:

Score	Description
4	Response provides a plausible description of what Dicey might do in the future. Response includes relevant details from the passage.
3	Response provides a description of what Dicey might do in the future. Response includes some relevant details from the passage or is not fully developed.
2	Response provides a partial description of what Dicey might do in the future. Response uses limited details from the passage.
1	Response is vague or minimal. **OR** Response only provides a personal opinion with no text support.
0	Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.
Blank	No response

Training Notes:

Predictions must have textual support and must be logical.

Score Point 4

7

Dicey will do many things to fulfill her dreams. She will even work at horrible pay, like at the boatyard in Crisfield, just to learn about what you were contracting for when you offered winter storage and maintenence for boats. First she will learn all the shop work like repair, maintenance, and storage because she knows that noone hires you to build a sailboat right away. She had an idea for adinghy so she will make aname for herself making dinghys powered by oar or motor. Then she will take all the profits and start making and selling sailboats which is her dream. She knows she will have to work hard and do all the dirty work first but she will do anything to fulfill herdream.

Response provides a plausible description of what Dicey might do in the future. Response includes relevant details from the passage.

Score Point 3

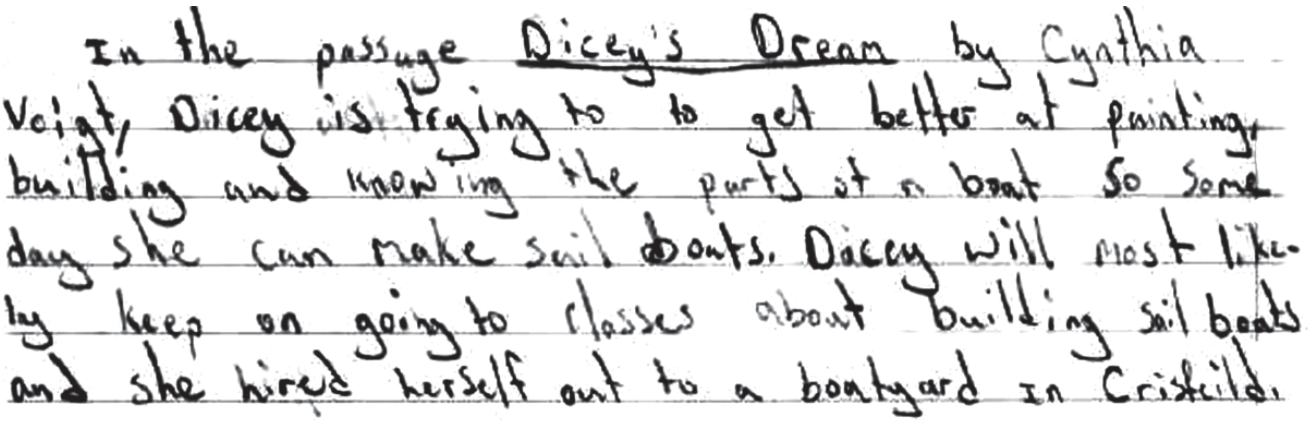
7

I think Dicey will try building a boat. If Dicey Suceeds with building a boat She will build her own Sailboat. If She does not Suceed She will try again because Dicey is willing to Succeed in her dream. She was willing to take a Junky Job and She took time to learn about Sailboats. Dicey even said She knew you dont get what you want Just by wanting it. I think Dicey will forefill her dream and build a Sailboat.

Response provides a description of what Dicey might do in the future. Response includes some relevant details from the passage or is not fully developed.

Score Point 2

7


In the passage Dicey's Dream by Cynthia Voigt, Dicey is trying to to get better at painting, building and knowing the parts of a boat So Some day she can make sail boats. Dicey will most likely keep on going to classes about building sail boats and she hired herself out to a boatyard in Crisfield.

Response provides a partial description of what Dicey might do in the future. Response uses limited details from the passage.

Score Point 1

❼

Dicey will Keep working like she is now so she can become what she wants to be and she wants to be a boat maker.

Response only provides a personal opinion with no text support.

Score Point 0

❼

yes Dicey's dream will come true.

Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.

Home on the Plains
Informational Text

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)

8 In the first paragraph, the word barren means

A. lush.
B. productive.
C. rocky.
D. empty.

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)

9 From whose point of view are the italicized paragraphs told?

A. "soddie" builders
B. Native Americans
C. pioneer girls
D. sod busters

Home on the Plains
Informational Text

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)

10 In paragraph 4, the word desolate means

A. deserted.
B. dusty.
C. cold.
D. fertile.

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

11 What is the **main** idea of this passage?

A. Give me a home on the plains.
B. Life on the plains was tough.
C. Life on the plains was easy.
D. There is no place like home.

Home on the Plains
Informational Text

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)

12 A "soddie" had both positive and negative features. Describe these features by using details from the passage.

Scoring Guide:

Score	Description
4	Response provides a thorough description of the positive and negative features of a "soddie." Response includes relevant details from the passage.
3	Response provides a description of the positive and negative features of a "soddie." Response lacks some relevant details from the passage or is not fully developed.
2	Response provides a partial description of the positive and negative features of a "soddie." Response uses limited details from the passage. **OR** Response gives a description of either the positive or negative features of a "soddie." Response uses relevant details from the passage.
1	Response is vague/minimal. **OR** Response only provides a personal opinion with no text support.
0	Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.
Blank	No response

Training Notes:

Responses may include the following information:

Positive features

- sod readily available for building
- protection against heat and cold
- would not burn
- did offer limited shelter from the elements
- cheap to build

Negative features

- damp, musty
- dripped mud in rain
- mice, bugs, and snakes made their homes there
- frequent sprinklings of dirt from walls and ceilings
- sod heavy to work with
- impossible to keep clean

Score Point 4

12

When people first moved west, they commonly lived in small, mud brick houses called "Soddies." There were both good and bad things about these "houses." According to Home on the Plains, "Sod bricks, cut into strips about one foot wide, two feet long, and four inches thick, were stacked grassy side down to form a one-room house." This ment the house was always dirty, and grew exteremly muddy in rain. Also, the house was a perfect home for snakes and insects to live in. On the bright side, the Soddies didn't let in tremendous heat or cold. Nor did it burn during a prairie fire. Soddies were a place that was smelly, dark and dirty, yet nessisary at the same time.

Response provides a thorough description of the positive and negative features of a "soddie." Response includes relevant details from the passage.

Score Point 3

12

One positive feature of a "soddie" was that the "soddie" offered protection. I know this because in the story it says "The "soddie" offered protection and insulation against the heat and cold. It wouldn't burn during a deadly prairie fire." But a down side was that it was damp. It says "But the house was also damp, musty and impossible to keep clean."

Response provides a description of the positive and negative features of a "soddie." Response lacks some relevant details from the passage or is not fully developed.

Score Point 2

12

A soddie is a part of the house that offed protection and insulation against the heat and cold. It would not burn during a deadly prairie fire ether.

Response provides a partial description of the positive and negative features of a "soddie." Response uses limited details from the passage.

OR

Response gives a description of either the positive or negative features of a "soddie." Response uses relevant details from the passage.

Score Point 2

12

A Negative is I see that snakes would climb up and some would lose these grip and fall on a bed and then on the floor. A Positive is that it would keep the heat and the cold out.

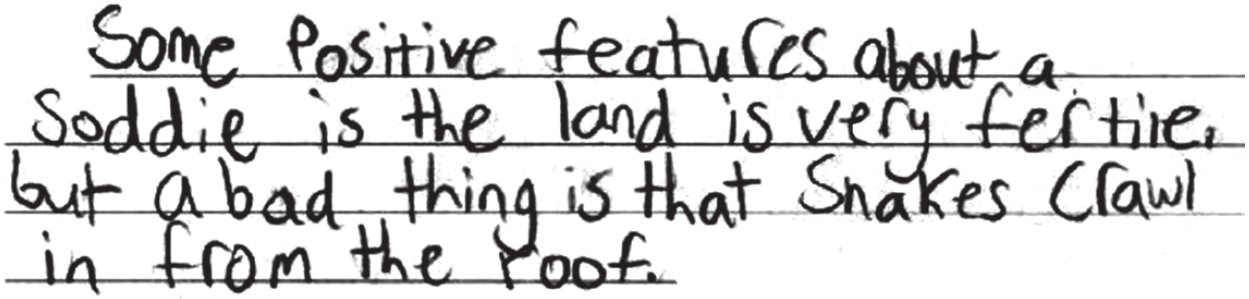
Response provides a partial description of the positive and negative features of a "soddie." Response uses limited details from the passage.

OR

Response gives a description of either the positive or negative features of a "soddie." Response uses relevant details from the passage.

Score Point 1

12



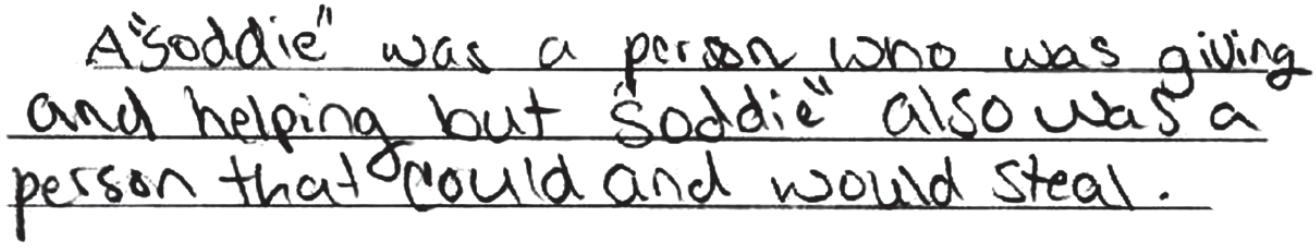
Response is vague/minimal.

OR

Response only provides a personal opinion with no text support.

Score Point 0

12



Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.