



**NEW ENGLAND
COMMON ASSESSMENT PROGRAM**

**Released Items
2013**

**Grade 5
Reading**

Reading

Yesterday we went to the garden patch to pick strawberries.

- ① What does patch mean as it is used in the box?
- A. a quick repair
 - B. a piece of land
 - C. a period of time
 - D. a small cut of cloth

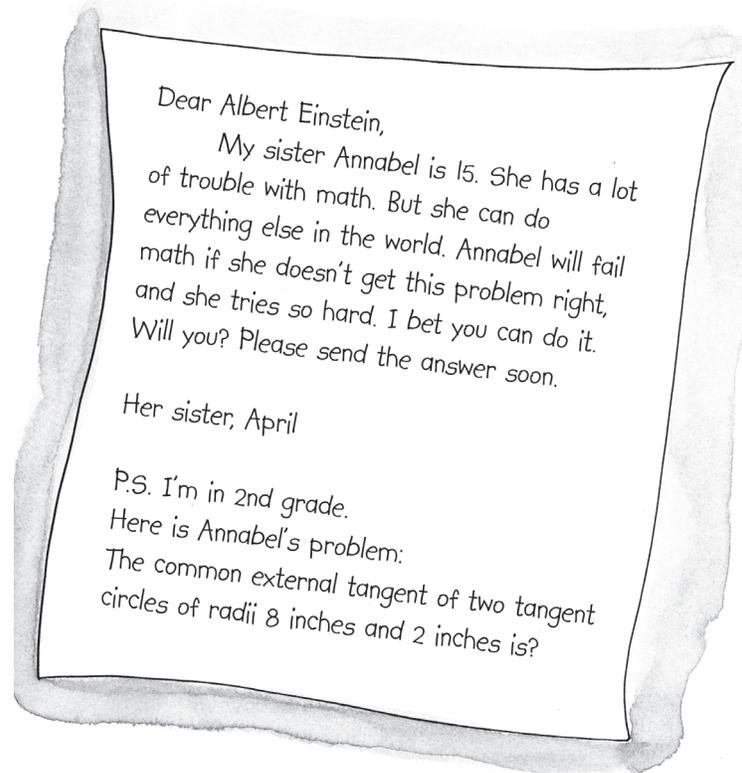
② The prefix *ex-* in the words exchange and exclaim means

- A. out.
- B. into.
- C. over.
- D. above.

Albert Einstein was a famous mathematician. Read this passage about what happens when April writes a letter to Albert Einstein. Then answer the questions that follow.

Ask Albert Einstein

by Lynne Barasch



I put the letter in an envelope and wrote ALBERT EINSTEIN, PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY, on the front. The back of the envelope had our address printed on it. I found a stamp and stuck it on. Then I rode my bike to the corner mailbox. Taking a deep breath, I dropped the letter in. Even though I didn't have the exact address, I thought my letter would get to him since he was so famous.

Then I started to worry. How long does it actually take for a letter to get to Princeton, New Jersey?

According to Albert Einstein, time passes at different speeds. Could it take a day, a month, a year? I closed my eyes and wished for the best.

And when my letter gets there, will Albert Einstein even have time to open it?

He'll be solving his own math problems.

Not Annabel's.



Every day for a week, Annabel came home to work on her math problem. She was getting more upset each day.

I never said a word about the letter to Annabel. What if my letter didn't get to him? By now I was angry. Why should big, famous Albert Einstein bother with a little kid like me? What does he care if Annabel fails math?

Just when I was about to give up hope, there it was! A letter addressed to:

Annabel & her sister
98 Willow Road
Woodmere, New York

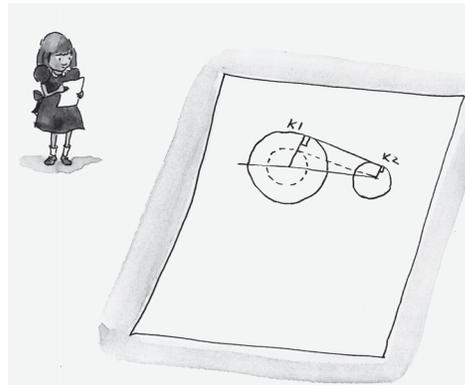
I ran to show Annabel.

Annabel opened the envelope. "This is from Albert Einstein!" she burst out. "It's a miracle! Why is he writing to us?" "Simple," I laughed. "I wrote to him and asked him to solve your math problem." She hugged me so hard, I thought I'd explode.

12 Annabel began to read the letter. "There's no answer here!" She was very disappointed. "I give up." She cried and, throwing the letter down, stormed out of the room. "Wait, Annabel! You can't just quit!" I called. But she had gone.

I picked up the letter and began to read.

"Do not worry about your problems with mathematics, I assure you mine are far greater. Albert Einstein." Is he kidding? I thought. Then I turned the letter over and saw this drawing. Could the drawing be a clue? Maybe it would help Annabel after she calmed down. She didn't come down to dinner, so I went to find her.



She was taking a bath. "Annabel, what if you had a clue to help you find the answer? Would you try to solve your problem?" "I guess," she said. I held up Albert Einstein's drawing. "Look at this," I said. Annabel looked a long time. "Wow," she said. "Maybe I could figure it out." She worked till very late that night. And when I was almost asleep, I heard her say, "I got it!"

The next day, Annabel took the answer to school. The teacher was amazed.

17 "Congratulations, Annabel. How did you do it?" she asked. "Well," confessed Annabel, "I must tell you, I did have a little help from Albert Einstein."

3 What does the letter **mostly** show about April?

- A. She already knows Einstein.
- B. She cares a lot about Annabel.
- C. She wishes she could be like Einstein.
- D. She wants to do what Annabel has not done.

4 One of April's biggest fears after she mails her letter is that Einstein will

- A. want to talk to Annabel himself.
- B. not be able to solve the problem.
- C. not know where to send a response.
- D. be too busy to help anyone else.

5 In paragraph 12, how does Annabel feel after reading Einstein's letter?

- A. thankful that he understands her troubles
- B. nervous that he may not have the correct answer
- C. upset that he does not solve her problem
- D. surprised that he wants her to write back so soon

6 In paragraph 17, the word confessed means

- A. admitted.
- B. argued.
- C. imagined.
- D. warned.

7 Explain why Annabel is lucky to have a sister like April. Use details from the **entire** passage to support your answer.

How hard would it be to walk across the United States? Read this article about a man who actually did. Then answer the questions that follow.

The Man Who Couldn't Stop Walking

When he was born in 1839, Edward Payson Weston wasn't expected to survive. But 15 years later, his sickly life changed when he took up walking. By the time he was 21, he had accepted a dare to walk 478 miles from Boston to Washington, D.C., for Abraham Lincoln's inauguration as president. It took him 11 days, and he missed the ceremony by a few hours.

2 At age 28, Weston accepted his first official racing challenge: to walk 1,326 miles from Portland, Maine, to Chicago in under 30 days. He did it, with 1 hour and 20 minutes to spare, and received a \$10,000 prize.

3 Weston became a sports hero and was nicknamed the "Yankee Clipper" because he walked so quickly and easily. He traveled throughout the United States, participating in more than 1,000 walking races. In 12 of these events, he set records.

4 The most frightening walk Weston ever went on was a 3,895-mile tramp across the United States. He faced tornadoes in the Midwest and blizzards in the Rocky Mountains. At one point, he was so weary and the winds were so strong that he crawled on his hands and knees, following a railroad track for 4 miles so he wouldn't go off course. When he finished, 104 days and 7 hours after he began, he didn't even look tired.



- 8 How did walking **first** affect Edward Weston's life?
- A. It improved his health.
 - B. It allowed him to travel.
 - C. It increased his knowledge of the outdoors.
 - D. It gave him a chance to earn money.

- 9 In paragraph 2, the word challenge means
- A. reward.
 - B. program.
 - C. contest.
 - D. message.

- 10 What does paragraph 3 explain?
- A. why it was hard for Weston to win more events
 - B. why Weston was well-known in the United States
 - C. how Weston felt about being a sports hero
 - D. what Weston thought about the United States

- 11 In paragraph 4, Weston's walking trip was difficult **mainly** because of
- A. the uneven ground.
 - B. the poor weather conditions.
 - C. the length of the journey.
 - D. the time to complete the task.

- 12 Describe the kind of person Weston was **and** explain how this affected his walking career. Use information from the article to support your answer.

Acknowledgments

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