

Ohio's State Tests

ITEM RELEASE

SPRING 2018

**GRADE 8
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS**

Table of Contents

Questions 7 – 22: Content Summary and Answer Key	iii
Stimulus for Questions 7 – 13	1
Question 7: Question and Scoring Guidelines.....	5
Question 7: Sample Response	7
Question 8: Question and Scoring Guidelines	9
Question 8: Sample Response	11
Question 9: Question and Scoring Guidelines.....	13
Question 9: Sample Response	15
Question 10: Question and Scoring Guidelines.....	17
Question 10: Sample Responses.....	21
Question 11: Question and Scoring Guidelines.....	29
Question 11: Sample Response	31
Question 12: Question and Scoring Guidelines.....	33
Question 12: Sample Responses.....	37
Question 13: Question and Scoring Guidelines.....	45
Question 13: Sample Responses.....	49
Stimulus for Questions 14 – 22	53
Question 14: Question and Scoring Guidelines.....	57
Question 14: Sample Response	59
Question 15: Question and Scoring Guidelines	61
Question 15: Sample Response	63
Question 16: Question and Scoring Guidelines.....	65
Question 16: Sample Response	67
Question 17: Question and Scoring Guidelines.....	69
Question 17: Sample Response	71
Question 18: Question and Scoring Guidelines.....	73
Question 18: Sample Responses.....	77

Question 19: Question and Scoring Guidelines.....	85
Question 19: Sample Response	87
Question 20: Question and Scoring Guidelines.....	89
Question 20: Sample Response	91
Question 21: Question and Scoring Guidelines.....	93
Question 21: Sample Responses.....	97
Question 22: Question and Scoring Guidelines.....	105
Question 22: Sample Responses.....	109

Grade 8 ELA
Spring 2018 Item Release
Content Summary and Answer Key

Question No.*	Item Type	Topic	Content Standard	Answer Key	Points
7	Multiple Choice	Informational	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.	C	1 point
8	Multiple Choice	Informational	Analyze in detail the structure of a specific paragraph in a text, including the role of particular sentences in developing and refining a key concept.	A	1 point
9	Multiple Choice	Informational	Analyze in detail the structure of a specific paragraph in a text, including the role of particular sentences in developing and refining a key concept.	B	1 point
10	Evidence-Based Selected Response	Informational	Determine a central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to supporting ideas; provide an objective summary of the text.	D; C, E	2 points
11	Multiple Choice	Informational	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.	B	1 point

* The question number matches the item number in the Item Level Report in the Online Reporting System. The items are numbered sequentially in the practice site.

Grade 8 ELA
Spring 2018 Item Release
Content Summary and Answer Key

Question No.*	Item Type	Topic	Content Standard	Answer Key	Points
12	Evidence-Based Selected Response	Informational	Cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.	---	2 points
13	Multi-Select	Informational	Determine a central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to supporting ideas; provide an objective summary of the text.	B, C, F	1 point
14	Multiple Choice	Literary	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.	B	1 point
15	Multiple Choice	Literary	Analyze how particular lines of dialogue or incidents in a story or drama propel the action, reveal aspects of a character, or provoke a decision.	C	1 point
16	Multiple Choice	Literary	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.	B	1 point
17	Multiple Choice	Literary	Cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.	D	1 point

* The question number matches the item number in the Item Level Report in the Online Reporting System. The items are numbered sequentially in the practice site.

Grade 8 ELA
Spring 2018 Item Release
Content Summary and Answer Key

Question No.*	Item Type	Topic	Content Standard	Answer Key	Points
18	Evidence-Based Selected Response	Literary	Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to the characters, setting, and plot; provide an objective summary of the text.	B; C	2 points
19	Multiple Choice	Literary	Analyze how particular lines of dialogue or incidents in a story or drama propel the action, reveal aspects of a character, or provoke a decision.	B	1 point
20	Multiple Choice	Literary	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.	C	1 point
21	Evidence-Based Selected Response	Literary	Analyze how a modern work of fiction draws on themes, patterns of events, or character types from myths, traditional stories, or religious works such as the Bible, including describing how the material is rendered new.	B; D	2 points
22	Extended Response	Writing	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.	---	10 points

* The question number matches the item number in the Item Level Report in the Online Reporting System. The items are numbered sequentially in the practice site.

Grade 8
English Language Arts
Spring 2018 Item Release

Stimulus for Questions 7 – 13

Stimulus for Questions 7 – 13

Jungle of Secrets

by John Micklos Jr.



- 1 In the midst of Cambodia's steamy jungle looms a majestic medieval temple. Called Angkor Wat, the nearly 900-year-old structure was built in the capital of the Khmer Empire, a powerful civilization in Southeast Asia. Now the site receives more than two million visitors a year. But until recently, few were aware of something tucked in the forest beyond the temple—a hidden city.

Missing Metropolis

- 2 The Khmer Empire thrived between the 9th and 15th centuries. Many people worshipped at the temple of Angkor Wat in the capital city of Angkor, which was about the size of New York City. Scientists believe that in the 14th and 15th centuries, droughts and other extreme natural disasters caused many people to abandon the region and move south. Eventually thick forests grew over much of the area.

- 3 Built in the 12th century . . . Angkor Wat was in continual use even after the capital city was abandoned. When a French explorer came across the temple in the 1800s, he spread word of its beauty, drawing visitors and archaeologists to the area. But while Angkor Wat had been studied extensively, little was known about what lay in parts of the jungle around the temple.

- 4 Scientists suspected that another old city from the Khmer Empire called Mahendraparvata was hidden in the jungle, based on information they found in old texts. According to the writings, the city was established in A.D. 802 on a mountain and served as the Khmer Empire's capital before it moved to Angkor. People had even hiked through the jungle . . . trying to locate the metropolis. They did come across temple ruins, but a city was never found.

Airborne Detectives

- 5 In 2012 a team of scientists wanted to investigate about 140 square miles of the region in search of the remains of Mahendraparvata and other parts of the Khmer Empire. A thick tangle of trees covering the land made exploring such a large area on foot extremely difficult. So instead the team took to the skies.

6 Crisscrossing over forest canopies in a helicopter, archaeologist Damian Evans used an instrument called LiDAR to scan the ground. LiDAR works by rapidly firing off pulses of laser light—up to 200,000 pulses a second. A sensor on the instrument measures how long it takes for each pulse to bounce back from the ground. If a set of laser beams has a shorter return time than the previous pulses sent, it could mean the beams have hit something elevated, such as a building. A longer return time could mean that the beams are bouncing off of a low valley or deep riverbed. Using GPS technology, cartographers then combined all of the measurements to create a digital map of the terrain that revealed mountains, canals, roads, and ruins under the trees.

7 As scientists analyzed the map, they noticed an area with a network of roads, and canals built into a mountain. It appeared to match the description of Mahendraparvata found in the old texts. Evans and his team knew this had to be the hidden city. "It was a 'Eureka!' moment," Evans says. Using their map, the team set off to see the old settlement for themselves.

It's a Jungle Out There

8 The archaeologists started their expedition north of Angkor Wat under the heat of a sizzling sun. They cut away tree leaves blocking their path with machetes, waded knee-deep in bogs, and dodged dangerous land mines that had been left in the jungle after a war.

9 Finally they stumbled upon dozens of crumbled temples and evidence of roads and canals, all organized into city blocks. They had reached their destination, and it was indeed Mahendraparvata. And there's more to find—many of the city's artifacts are buried underground.

10 In the coming years, Evans and his team will continue to investigate the area, and it's likely that more discoveries will be made around Angkor Wat. But just as they did to uncover Mahendraparvata, the scientists will have their work cut out for them. After all, this jungle is very good at keeping secrets.

Excerpt from "Jungle of Secrets" by John Micklos Jr., from
National Geographic Kids. Copyright © 2014 by National
Geographic Society. Reprinted by permission of National
Geographic Society via Copyright Clearance Center.
Photograph of Angkor Wat from clipart.com. Image
100578.

**Grade 8
English Language Arts
Spring 2018 Item Release**

Question 7

Question and Scoring Guidelines

Question 7

Which tone does the author establish through his word choices in paragraph 1?

- Ⓐ celebratory
- Ⓑ cynical
- Ⓒ dramatic
- Ⓓ solemn

Points Possible: 1

Topic: Informational

Content Standard: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.

Scoring Guidelines

Rationale for Option A: This is incorrect. The text is written in a way that is exciting and dramatic, but the word choice conveys drama, not celebration.

Rationale for Option B: This is incorrect. Paragraph 1 includes details about a real place, and implies no cynicism toward the subject.

Rationale for Option C: **Key** – Words like "majestic medieval temple," "tucked in the forest," and "hidden city" are used to evoke drama about a place that was—until recently—undiscovered.

Rationale for Option D: This is incorrect. The passage describes a temple, a place that tends to be formal and dignified, but the focus of this paragraph is not on the use of the temple; rather, it focuses on the setting of the temple and its surroundings.

Sample Response: 1 point

Which tone does the author establish through his word choices in paragraph 1?

- ☐ (A) celebratory
- ☐ (B) cynical
- ☒ (C) dramatic
- ☐ (D) solemn

Grade 8
English Language Arts
Spring 2018 Item Release

Question 8

Question and Scoring Guidelines

Question 8

How does paragraph 5 contribute to the development of key concepts introduced in paragraphs 1–4?

- Ⓐ Paragraph 5 suggests a new approach to locating Mahendraparvata.
- Ⓑ Paragraph 5 indicates that the scientists had doubts about locating Mahendraparvata.
- Ⓒ Paragraph 5 identifies why locating Mahendraparvata was impossible for the scientists.
- Ⓓ Paragraph 5 highlights why the history of Mahendraparvata is so important to the scientists.

Points Possible: 1

Topic: Informational

Content Standard: Analyze in detail the structure of a specific paragraph in a text, including the role of particular sentences in developing and refining a key concept.

Scoring Guidelines

Rationale for Option A: **Key** – Paragraph 4 describes people who discovered temple ruins but not the city itself and paragraph 5 suggests that looking for the city on foot would be nearly impossible so the team adapted.

Rationale for Option B: This is incorrect. Students may choose this option because some historical details about Mahendrapravata are presented, but paragraph 5 does not continue to talk about the history. Rather, it focuses on a new approach.

Rationale for Option C: This is incorrect. Students may choose this option because the city is difficult to find, but paragraph 5 does not depict the finding of the city as impossible.

Rationale for Option D: This is incorrect. Students may choose this option because we know that Mahendraparvata is important to the scientists, and paragraphs 1 – 4 build on this idea, but paragraph 5 focuses on how the scientists are going to find it.

Sample Response: 1 point

How does paragraph 5 contribute to the development of key concepts introduced in paragraphs 1–4?

- ☒ Paragraph 5 suggests a new approach to locating Mahendraparvata.
- ☐ Paragraph 5 indicates that the scientists had doubts about locating Mahendraparvata.
- ☐ Paragraph 5 identifies why locating Mahendraparvata was impossible for the scientists.
- ☐ Paragraph 5 highlights why the history of Mahendraparvata is so important to the scientists.

Grade 8
English Language Arts
Spring 2018 Item Release

Question 9

Question and Scoring Guidelines

Question 9

Read the sentence from paragraph 9.

"Finally they stumbled upon dozens of crumbled temples and evidence of roads and canals, all organized into city blocks."

How does the sentence develop an idea presented earlier in the text?

- Ⓐ It reveals that the city was formed after Angkor.
- Ⓑ It confirms that the scientists' aerial map was accurate.
- Ⓒ It identifies the temple that hikers had previously found.
- Ⓓ It suggests that there might be other nearby hidden cities.

Points Possible: 1

Topic: Informational

Content Standard: Analyze in detail the structure of a specific paragraph in a text, including the role of particular sentences in developing and refining a key concept.

Scoring Guidelines

Rationale for Option A: This is incorrect. While this sentence does confirm the scientists' map was accurate, it does not suggest that it was formed after Angkor instead of before it, as suggested by the writings mentioned in paragraph 4.

Rationale for Option B: **Key** – In paragraph 7, the scientists describe the aerial map looking as they had hoped based on old texts. Actually seeing the canals and roads confirms the map, which confirms the old text.

Rationale for Option C: This is incorrect. Students may choose this option because there is mention of temple ruins in paragraph 4, but there is no evidence that the reference in paragraph 4 is the same temple in paragraph 9.

Rationale for Option D: This is incorrect. Students may choose this option because the text mentions the likelihood of new discoveries, but the scientists indicate that they are thinking along the lines of artifacts, not necessarily another entire city.

Sample Response: 1 point

Read the sentence from paragraph 9.

"Finally they stumbled upon dozens of crumbled temples and evidence of roads and canals, all organized into city blocks."

How does the sentence develop an idea presented earlier in the text?

- ☐ Ⓐ It reveals that the city was formed after Angkor.
- ☒ Ⓑ It confirms that the scientists' aerial map was accurate.
- ☐ Ⓒ It identifies the temple that hikers had previously found.
- ☐ Ⓓ It suggests that there might be other nearby hidden cities.

**Grade 8
English Language Arts
Spring 2018 Item Release**

Question 10

Question and Scoring Guidelines

Question 10

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

Which sentence identifies a central idea from the text?

- Ⓐ "Built in the 12th century . . . Angkor Wat was in continual use even after the capital city was abandoned." (paragraph 3)
- Ⓑ "As scientists analyzed the map, they noticed an area with a network of roads, and canals built into a mountain." (paragraph 7)
- Ⓒ "The archaeologists started their expedition north of Angkor Wat under the heat of a sizzling sun." (paragraph 8)
- Ⓓ "After all, this jungle is very good at keeping secrets." (paragraph 10)

Part B

Select **two** ways the author develops the central idea identified in Part A.

- ☐ by describing the natural disasters common to the area
- ☐ by describing the exploration of the area in the early 1800s
- ☐ by describing the technology used to locate Mahendraparvata
- ☐ by describing the beauty surrounding the ancient temple Angkor Wat
- ☐ by describing the geography and landscape of the area near and around Angkor Wat

Points Possible: 2

Topic: Informational

Content Standard: Determine a central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to supporting ideas; provide an objective summary of the text.

Scoring Guidelines

Part A

Rationale for Option A: This is incorrect. Students may choose this option because it mentions an abandoned temple, Angkor Wat, but the bulk of the passage is about locating a hidden city near Angkor Wat.

Rationale for Option B: This is incorrect. Students may choose this option because it describes how the scientists were ultimately able to map out where the hidden city was, but it does not convey how difficult it was to locate the city.

Rationale for Option C: This is incorrect. Students may choose this option because it describes the second leg of the scientists' journey and identifies a difficulty when trying to find the hidden city, but Mahendraparvata was difficult to find for much more than just the heat.

Rationale for Option D: **Key** – Students should choose this option because it identifies the jungle as able to hide Mahendraparvata, and it wasn't until scientists enlisted technology that they were able to locate the hidden city.

Part B

Rationale for First Option: This is incorrect. Natural disasters are mentioned in the text, but they are mentioned as a detail, not as a contribution to the development of the central idea.

Rationale for Second Option: This is incorrect. The passage mentions a French explorer who came across Angkor Wat in the 1800s. While some exploration of the area set out to discover the jungle's secrets, this explorer only explored the temple.

Rationale for Third Option: **Key** – The scientists used the incredibly advanced technology to locate the hidden city, and they had to do it from above. The scientists had to think of a way to find out the jungle's secrets by coming up with an innovative way to explore the land.

Rationale for Fourth Option: This is incorrect. The landscape is important to finding the hidden metropolis, but this option does not contribute to the development of the central idea.

Rationale for Fifth Option: **Key** – The terrain is suggested as one likely reason the city is hidden.

**Grade 8
English Language Arts
Spring 2018 Item Release**

Question 10

Sample Responses

Sample Response: 2 points

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

Which sentence identifies a central idea from the text?

- ☐ Ⓐ "Built in the 12th century . . . Angkor Wat was in continual use even after the capital city was abandoned." (paragraph 3)
- ☐ Ⓑ "As scientists analyzed the map, they noticed an area with a network of roads, and canals built into a mountain." (paragraph 7)
- ☐ Ⓒ "The archaeologists started their expedition north of Angkor Wat under the heat of a sizzling sun." (paragraph 8)
- ☒ Ⓓ "After all, this jungle is very good at keeping secrets." (paragraph 10)

Part B

Select **two** ways the author develops the central idea identified in Part A.

- ☐ by describing the natural disasters common to the area
- ☐ by describing the exploration of the area in the early 1800s
- ☒ by describing the technology used to locate Mahendraparvata
- ☐ by describing the beauty surrounding the ancient temple Angkor Wat
- ☒ by describing the geography and landscape of the area near and around Angkor Wat

Notes on Scoring

This response earns full credit (2 points) because it correctly identifies the correct response in Part A as well as in Part B.

Sample Response: 1 point

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

Which sentence identifies a central idea from the text?

- ☐ Ⓐ "Built in the 12th century . . . Angkor Wat was in continual use even after the capital city was abandoned." (paragraph 3)
- ☐ Ⓑ "As scientists analyzed the map, they noticed an area with a network of roads, and canals built into a mountain." (paragraph 7)
- ☐ Ⓒ "The archaeologists started their expedition north of Angkor Wat under the heat of a sizzling sun." (paragraph 8)
- ☒ Ⓓ "After all, this jungle is very good at keeping secrets." (paragraph 10)

Part B

Select **two** ways the author develops the central idea identified in Part A.

- ☐ by describing the natural disasters common to the area
- ☒ by describing the exploration of the area in the early 1800s
- ☐ by describing the technology used to locate Mahendraparvata
- ☐ by describing the beauty surrounding the ancient temple Angkor Wat
- ☒ by describing the geography and landscape of the area near and around Angkor Wat

Notes on Scoring

This response earns partial credit (1 point). Part A has the correct answer; however, the responses selected for Part B are partially incorrect and do not earn a point. In order to earn full credit for this item, both Part A and Part B must be correct in their entirety.

Sample Response: 1 point

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

Which sentence identifies a central idea from the text?

- ☐ Ⓐ "Built in the 12th century . . . Angkor Wat was in continual use even after the capital city was abandoned." (paragraph 3)
- ☐ Ⓑ "As scientists analyzed the map, they noticed an area with a network of roads, and canals built into a mountain." (paragraph 7)
- ☐ Ⓒ "The archaeologists started their expedition north of Angkor Wat under the heat of a sizzling sun." (paragraph 8)
- ☒ Ⓓ "After all, this jungle is very good at keeping secrets." (paragraph 10)

Part B

Select **two** ways the author develops the central idea identified in Part A.

- ☒ by describing the natural disasters common to the area
- ☐ by describing the exploration of the area in the early 1800s
- ☐ by describing the technology used to locate Mahendraparvata
- ☐ by describing the beauty surrounding the ancient temple Angkor Wat
- ☒ by describing the geography and landscape of the area near and around Angkor Wat

Notes on Scoring

This response earns partial credit (1 point). Part A has the correct answer; however, the responses selected for Part B are partially incorrect and do not earn a point. In order to earn full credit for this item, both Part A and Part B must be correct in their entirety.

Sample Response: 1 point

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

Which sentence identifies a central idea from the text?

- ☐ Ⓐ "Built in the 12th century . . . Angkor Wat was in continual use even after the capital city was abandoned." (paragraph 3)
- ☐ Ⓑ "As scientists analyzed the map, they noticed an area with a network of roads, and canals built into a mountain." (paragraph 7)
- ☐ Ⓒ "The archaeologists started their expedition north of Angkor Wat under the heat of a sizzling sun." (paragraph 8)
- ☒ Ⓓ "After all, this jungle is very good at keeping secrets." (paragraph 10)

Part B

Select **two** ways the author develops the central idea identified in Part A.

- ☐ by describing the natural disasters common to the area
- ☒ by describing the exploration of the area in the early 1800s
- ☐ by describing the technology used to locate Mahendraparvata
- ☒ by describing the beauty surrounding the ancient temple Angkor Wat
- ☐ by describing the geography and landscape of the area near and around Angkor Wat

Notes on Scoring

This response earns partial credit (1 point). Part A has the correct answer; however, the responses selected for Part B are incorrect and do not earn a point. In order to earn full credit for this item, both Part A and Part B must be correct in their entirety.

Sample Response: 0 points

Part A

Which sentence identifies a central idea from the text?

- ☐ Ⓐ "Built in the 12th century . . . Angkor Wat was in continual use even after the capital city was abandoned." (paragraph 3)
- ☐ Ⓑ "As scientists analyzed the map, they noticed an area with a network of roads, and canals built into a mountain." (paragraph 7)
- ☐ Ⓒ "The archaeologists started their expedition north of Angkor Wat under the heat of a sizzling sun." (paragraph 8)
- ☐ Ⓓ "After all, this jungle is very good at keeping secrets." (paragraph 10)

Part B

Select **two** ways the author develops the central idea identified in Part A.

- ☐ by describing the natural disasters common to the area
- ☒ by describing the exploration of the area in the early 1800s
- ☐ by describing the technology used to locate Mahendraparvata
- ☒ by describing the beauty surrounding the ancient temple Angkor Wat
- ☐ by describing the geography and landscape of the area near and around Angkor Wat

Notes on Scoring

This response earns no credit (0 points) because the answers selected for Part A and Part B are incorrect.

Sample Response: 0 points

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

Which sentence identifies a central idea from the text?

- ☐ Ⓐ "Built in the 12th century . . . Angkor Wat was in continual use even after the capital city was abandoned." (paragraph 3)
- ☐ Ⓑ "As scientists analyzed the map, they noticed an area with a network of roads, and canals built into a mountain." (paragraph 7)
- ☒ Ⓒ "The archaeologists started their expedition north of Angkor Wat under the heat of a sizzling sun." (paragraph 8)
- ☐ Ⓓ "After all, this jungle is very good at keeping secrets." (paragraph 10)

Part B

Select **two** ways the author develops the central idea identified in Part A.

- ☐ by describing the natural disasters common to the area
- ☐ by describing the exploration of the area in the early 1800s
- ☒ by describing the technology used to locate Mahendraparvata
- ☐ by describing the beauty surrounding the ancient temple Angkor Wat
- ☒ by describing the geography and landscape of the area near and around Angkor Wat

Notes on Scoring

This response earns no credit (0 points). Part B offers the correct answers; however, the answer selected in Part A is incorrect. In order to earn full credit for this item, both Part A and Part B must be correct. In order to earn partial credit for this item, Part A must be correct.

Grade 8
English Language Arts
Spring 2018 Item Release

Question 11

Question and Scoring Guidelines

Question 11

What does the phrase stumbled upon in paragraph 9 emphasize?

- Ⓐ how unprepared the scientists were
- Ⓑ how hidden from view the ruins were
- Ⓒ how poorly the ruins had been maintained
- Ⓓ how the ruins were found in an unexpected location

Points Possible: 1

Topic: Informational

Content Standard: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.

Scoring Guidelines

Rationale for Option A: This is incorrect. While the phrase "stumbled upon" could be used to indicate unpreparedness, the context in the passage shows that the scientists were very prepared for their search.

Rationale for Option B: **Key** – The phrase "stumbled upon" is meant to emphasize how hidden the ruins of the city were from view and how difficult they were to find in the jungle.

Rationale for Option C: This is incorrect. While the sentence in which "stumbled upon" is used does discuss the crumbling conditions of the ruins, the phrase is meant to emphasize how hidden the ruins were, not how poorly they had been maintained.

Rationale for Option D: This is incorrect. While "stumbled upon" could imply that something was unexpected, the context of the passage shows how carefully the scientists researched and plotted out the location of the city and found it where they expected to.

Sample Response: 1 point

What does the phrase stumbled upon in paragraph 9 emphasize?

- ☐ Ⓐ how unprepared the scientists were
- ☒ Ⓑ how hidden from view the ruins were
- ☐ Ⓒ how poorly the ruins had been maintained
- ☐ Ⓓ how the ruins were found in an unexpected location

Grade 8
English Language Arts
Spring 2018 Item Release

Question 12

Question and Scoring Guidelines

Question 12

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

Based on the information in the **It's a Jungle Out There** section, what can be inferred about the scientists?

- A) The scientists will discover more relics in the jungle.
- B) The scientists will share their technology with other researchers.
- C) The scientists will learn new information about the temple in the jungle.
- D) The scientists will use mapping technology to discover structures in other countries.

Part B

Which **two** sentences support the answer in Part A?

- 9 Finally they stumbled upon dozens of crumbled temples and evidence of roads and canals, all organized into city blocks. They had reached their destination, and it was indeed Mahendraparvata. And there's more to find—many of the city's artifacts are buried underground.
- 10 In the coming years, Evans and his team will continue to investigate the area, and it's likely that more discoveries will be made around Angkor Wat. But just as they did to uncover Mahendraparvata, the scientists will have their work cut out for them. After all, this jungle is very good at keeping secrets.

Points Possible: 2

Topic: Informational

Content Standard: Cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

Scoring Guidelines

Part A

Rationale for Option A: **Key** – The passage provides enough information to imply both that there may be more hidden artifacts in the jungle and that the scientists possess an effective tool for locating those artifacts.

Rationale for Option B: This is incorrect. The passage demonstrates the effectiveness of the mapping technology and relates it to the ability to find hidden structures; however, the passage does not provide support that the scientists intend to share the technology with other researchers.

Rationale for Option C: This is incorrect. The end of the passage suggests scientists will be doing more research in order to discover more about the hidden city; however, it is not at Angkor Wat where this research is being done.

Rationale for Option D: This is incorrect. The passage implies that more hidden cities could be in the jungle; however, the passage does not provide support that the scientists would look in a different country.

Part B

- "And there's more to find—many of the city's artifacts are buried underground." selected;
- AND
- "In the coming years, Evans and his team will continue to investigate the area, and it's likely that more discoveries will be made around Angkor Wat." selected.

**Grade 8
English Language Arts
Spring 2018 Item Release**

Question 12

Sample Responses

Sample Response: 2 points

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

Based on the information in the **It's a Jungle Out There** section, what can be inferred about the scientists?

- A) The scientists will discover more relics in the jungle.
- B) The scientists will share their technology with other researchers.
- C) The scientists will learn new information about the temple in the jungle.
- D) The scientists will use mapping technology to discover structures in other countries.

Part B

Which **two** sentences support the answer in Part A?

- 9 Finally they stumbled upon dozens of crumbled temples and evidence of roads and canals, all organized into city blocks. They had reached their destination, and it was indeed Mahendraparvata. And there's more to find—many of the city's artifacts are buried underground.
- 10 In the coming years, Evans and his team will continue to investigate the area, and it's likely that more discoveries will be made around Angkor Wat. But just as they did to uncover Mahendraparvata, the scientists will have their work cut out for them. After all, this jungle is very good at keeping secrets.

Notes on Scoring

This response earns full credit (2 points) because it correctly identifies the correct response in Part A as well as in Part B.

Sample Response: 1 point

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

Based on the information in the **It's a Jungle Out There** section, what can be inferred about the scientists?

- A) The scientists will discover more relics in the jungle.
- B) The scientists will share their technology with other researchers.
- C) The scientists will learn new information about the temple in the jungle.
- D) The scientists will use mapping technology to discover structures in other countries.

Part B

Which **two** sentences support the answer in Part A?

- 9 Finally they stumbled upon dozens of crumbled temples and evidence of roads and canals, all organized into city blocks. They had reached their destination, and it was indeed Mahendraparvata. And there's more to find—many of the city's artifacts are buried underground.
- 10 In the coming years, Evans and his team will continue to investigate the area, and it's likely that more discoveries will be made around Angkor Wat. But just as they did to uncover Mahendraparvata, the scientists will have their work cut out for them. After all, this jungle is very good at keeping secrets.

Notes on Scoring

This response earns partial credit (1 point). Part A has the correct answer; however, the response for Part B is incorrect and does not earn a point. In order to earn full credit for this item, both Part A and Part B must be correct.

Sample Response: 1 point

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

Based on the information in the **It's a Jungle Out There** section, what can be inferred about the scientists?

- A) The scientists will discover more relics in the jungle.
- B) The scientists will share their technology with other researchers.
- C) The scientists will learn new information about the temple in the jungle.
- D) The scientists will use mapping technology to discover structures in other countries.

Part B

Which **two** sentences support the answer in Part A?

- 9 Finally they stumbled upon dozens of crumbled temples and evidence of roads and canals, all organized into city blocks. They had reached their destination, and it was indeed Mahendraparvata. And there's more to find—many of the city's artifacts are buried underground.
- 10 In the coming years, Evans and his team will continue to investigate the area, and it's likely that more discoveries will be made around Angkor Wat. But just as they did to uncover Mahendraparvata, the scientists will have their work cut out for them. After all, this jungle is very good at keeping secrets.

Notes on Scoring

This response earns partial credit (1 point). Part A has the correct answer; however, the responses selected for Part B are partially incorrect and do not earn a point. In order to earn full credit for this item, both Part A and Part B must be correct in their entirety.

Sample Response: 1 point

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

Based on the information in the **It's a Jungle Out There** section, what can be inferred about the scientists?

- A) The scientists will discover more relics in the jungle.
- B) The scientists will share their technology with other researchers.
- C) The scientists will learn new information about the temple in the jungle.
- D) The scientists will use mapping technology to discover structures in other countries.

Part B

Which **two** sentences support the answer in Part A?

- 9 Finally they stumbled upon dozens of crumbled temples and evidence of roads and canals, all organized into city blocks. They had reached their destination, and it was indeed Mahendraparvata. And there's more to find—many of the city's artifacts are buried underground.
- 10 In the coming years, Evans and his team will continue to investigate the area, and it's likely that more discoveries will be made around Angkor Wat. But just as they did to uncover Mahendraparvata, the scientists will have their work cut out for them. After all, this jungle is very good at keeping secrets.

Notes on Scoring

This response earns partial credit (1 point). Part A has the correct answer; however, the responses selected for Part B are partially incorrect and do not earn a point. In order to earn full credit for this item, both Part A and Part B must be correct in their entirety.

Sample Response: 0 points

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

Based on the information in the **It's a Jungle Out There** section, what can be inferred about the scientists?

- A) The scientists will discover more relics in the jungle.
- B) The scientists will share their technology with other researchers.
- C) The scientists will learn new information about the temple in the jungle.
- D) The scientists will use mapping technology to discover structures in other countries.

Part B

Which **two** sentences support the answer in Part A?

- 9 Finally they stumbled upon dozens of crumbled temples and evidence of roads and canals, all organized into city blocks. They had reached their destination, and it was indeed Mahendraparvata. And there's more to find—many of the city's artifacts are buried underground.
- 10 In the coming years, Evans and his team will continue to investigate the area, and it's likely that more discoveries will be made around Angkor Wat. But just as they did to uncover Mahendraparvata, the scientists will have their work cut out for them. After all, this jungle is very good at keeping secrets.

Notes on Scoring

This response earns no credit (0 points). Part B offers the correct answer; however, the answer selected in Part A is incorrect. In order to earn full credit for this item, both Part A and Part B must be correct. In order to receive partial credit for this item, Part A must be correct.

Sample Response: 0 points

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

Based on the information in the **It's a Jungle Out There** section, what can be inferred about the scientists?

- A) The scientists will discover more relics in the jungle.
- B) The scientists will share their technology with other researchers.
- C) The scientists will learn new information about the temple in the jungle.
- D) The scientists will use mapping technology to discover structures in other countries.

Part B

Which **two** sentences support the answer in Part A?

- 9 Finally they stumbled upon dozens of crumbled temples and evidence of roads and canals, all organized into city blocks. They had reached their destination, and it was indeed Mahendraparvata. And there's more to find—many of the city's artifacts are buried underground.
- 10 In the coming years, Evans and his team will continue to investigate the area, and it's likely that more discoveries will be made around Angkor Wat. But just as they did to uncover Mahendraparvata, the scientists will have their work cut out for them. After all, this jungle is very good at keeping secrets.

Notes on Scoring

This response earns no credit (0 points) because the answers selected for Part A and Part B are incorrect.

Grade 8
English Language Arts
Spring 2018 Item Release

Question 13

Question and Scoring Guidelines

Question 13

Select **three** key ideas that should be included in a summary of the passage.

- ☐ The Khmer Empire was successful for several centuries.
- ☐ Old texts indicate that a city was established near Angkor Wat.
- ☐ Scientists used instruments to map the terrain near Angkor Wat.
- ☐ Scientists faced many dangers searching for artifacts near Angkor Wat.
- ☐ The Angkor Wat temple receives more than two million visitors per year.
- ☐ Scientists struggled to find the exact location of the city in the jungle's undergrowth.

Points Possible: 1

Topic: Informational

Content Standard: Determine a central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to supporting ideas; provide an objective summary of the text.

Scoring Guidelines

Rationale for First Option: This is incorrect. The Khmer Empire had its heyday between the 800s and 1400s CE, but this detail is not important for a summary of the passage.

Rationale for Second Option: **Key** – This statement is very straightforward and introduces the fact that a city may exist in the unexplored jungle area near Angkor Wat.

Rationale for Third Option: **Key** – This detail is very important because it explains how the scientists knew where to look for structures that would indicate the existence of a city.

Rationale for Fourth Option: This is incorrect. This detail provides information about the difficulty of reaching the actual location; however, the passage's main idea relates more to discovering the hidden city than to how difficult searching the area is.

Rationale for Fifth Option: This is incorrect. This is a statistical fact about Angkor Wat; however, the passage's main idea relates more to the hidden city than it does to Angkor Wat.

Rationale for Sixth Option: **Key** – This informs the reader that Angkor Wat eluded explorers and scientists for a long time and was only discovered after sustained and organized effort.

**Grade 8
English Language Arts
Spring 2018 Item Release**

Question 13

Sample Responses

Sample Response: 1 point

Select **three** key ideas that should be included in a summary of the passage.

- ☐ The Khmer Empire was successful for several centuries.
- ☒ Old texts indicate that a city was established near Angkor Wat.
- ☒ Scientists used instruments to map the terrain near Angkor Wat.
- ☐ Scientists faced many dangers searching for artifacts near Angkor Wat.
- ☐ The Angkor Wat temple receives more than two million visitors per year.
- ☒ Scientists struggled to find the exact location of the city in the jungle's undergrowth.

Notes on Scoring

This response earns full credit (1 point) because the three correct choices are selected.

Sample Response: 0 points

Select **three** key ideas that should be included in a summary of the passage.

- ☐ The Khmer Empire was successful for several centuries.
- ☒ Old texts indicate that a city was established near Angkor Wat.
- ☒ Scientists used instruments to map the terrain near Angkor Wat.
- ☒ Scientists faced many dangers searching for artifacts near Angkor Wat.
- ☐ The Angkor Wat temple receives more than two million visitors per year.
- ☐ Scientists struggled to find the exact location of the city in the jungle's undergrowth.

Notes on Scoring

This response earns no credit (0 points) because one of the selected choices is incorrect. In order to receive full credit for this item, all selections must be correct.

Sample Response: 0 points

Select **three** key ideas that should be included in a summary of the passage.

- ☒ The Khmer Empire was successful for several centuries.
- ☒ Old texts indicate that a city was established near Angkor Wat.
- ☐ Scientists used instruments to map the terrain near Angkor Wat.
- ☒ Scientists faced many dangers searching for artifacts near Angkor Wat.
- ☐ The Angkor Wat temple receives more than two million visitors per year.
- ☐ Scientists struggled to find the exact location of the city in the jungle's undergrowth.

Notes on Scoring

This response earns no credit (0 points) because two of the selected choices are incorrect. In order to receive full credit for this item, all selections must be correct.

Grade 8
English Language Arts
Spring 2018 Item Release

Stimulus for Questions 14 – 22

Stimulus for Questions 14 – 22

Passage 1: The Three Golden Apples

by Nathaniel Hawthorne

In Greek mythology, Atlas was condemned by Zeus to hold the sky on his shoulders for eternity. In this excerpt, Hercules has agreed to trade places so that Atlas can go retrieve three golden apples from the garden of the Hesperides for Hercules.

1 "I am glad to see you again," shouted Hercules, when the giant was within hearing. "So you have got the golden apples?"

2 "Certainly, certainly," answered Atlas; "and very fair apples they are. I took the finest that grew on the tree, I assure you. Ah! it is a beautiful spot, that garden of the Hesperides. Yes; and the dragon with a hundred heads is a sight worth any man's seeing. After all, you had better have gone for the apples yourself."

3 "No matter," replied Hercules. "You have had a pleasant ramble, and have done the business as well as I could. I heartily thank you for your trouble. And now, as I have a long way to go, and am rather in haste,—and as the king, my cousin, is anxious to receive the golden apples,—will you be kind enough to take the sky off my shoulders again?"

4 "Why, as to that," said the giant, chucking the golden apples into the air twenty miles high, or thereabouts, and catching them as they came down,—“as to that, my good friend, I consider you a little unreasonable. Cannot I carry the golden apples to the king, your cousin, much quicker than you could? As his majesty is in such a hurry to get them, I promise you to take my longest strides. And, besides, I have no fancy for burdening myself with the sky, just now."

. . .

5 "What!" shouted Hercules, very wrathfully, "do you intend to make me bear this burden forever?"

6 "We will see about that, one of these days," answered the giant. "At all events, you ought not to complain, if you have to bear it the next hundred years, or perhaps the next thousand. I bore it a good while longer, in spite of the back-ache. Well, then, after a thousand years, if I happen to feel in the mood, we may possibly shift about again. You are certainly a very strong man, and can never have a better opportunity to prove it. Posterity will talk of you, I warrant it!"

7 "Pish! a fig for its talk!" cried Hercules, with another hitch of his shoulders. "Just take the sky upon your head one instant, will you? I want to make a cushion of my lion's skin, for the weight to rest upon. It really chafes me, and will cause unnecessary inconvenience in so many centuries as I am to stand here."

8 "That's no more than fair, and I'll do it!" quoth the giant; for he had no unkind feeling towards Hercules, and was merely acting with a too selfish consideration of his own ease. "For just five minutes, then, I'll take back the sky. Only for five minutes, recollect! I have no idea of spending another thousand years as I spent the last. Variety is the spice of life, say I."

9 Ah, the thick-witted old rogue of a giant! He threw down the golden apples, and received back the sky, from the head and shoulders of Hercules, upon his own, where it rightly belonged. And Hercules picked up the three golden apples, that were as big or bigger than pumpkins, and straightway set out on his journey homeward, without paying the slightest heed to the thundering tones of the giant, who bellowed after him to come back.

Excerpt from "The Three Golden Apples" by Nathaniel Hawthorne, from *A Wonder Book for Girls and Boys*. In the public domain.

Passage 2: from *Weight*
by Jeanette Winterson

In this excerpt, Heracles¹ awaits the return of Atlas from the garden of the Hesperides.

10 He woke in a sweat. He couldn't even wipe his brow. He stared unfocussed into the serene starriness of the universe and wondered if he shouted loud enough would he get a reply?

. . .

11 'ATLAS' he yelled 'ATLAS' and on earth there was thunder in the mountains.

12 'There's no need to shout,' said Atlas. 'I can hear you.'

13 There he was, tall, smiling, standing in front of Heracles, blissfully free of any burden. Heracles felt his skin burning with jealousy.

14 'Did you get the apples?' he said, trying to sound cool.

15 Atlas reached into his pouch pocket and brought them out, still shining with their strange light. Then he said,

16 'Heracles, I'll take these to Eurystheus for you.'

17 'Wouldn't hear of it mate,' said Heracles. 'You've done enough already.'

. . .

18 'You aren't getting tired are you?' said Atlas.

19 'Tired? No mate, I love it here, makes a change, no problem.'

20 'Well then,' said Atlas, 'do you want anything before I go?'

21 Heracles was nervous. If he made a fuss, Atlas could just walk away. Heracles couldn't put the world down without help. Atlas could trap him here forever.

22 'Since you ask, I'd like a pad for my head—take the weight off.'

. . .

23 Atlas was kind hearted and he did not want to see Heracles suffer, so he searched through his bag of belongings and found a thick fleece that he could fold into a cushion. He bent over Heracles and tried to fit it behind his neck.

. . .

24 ' . . . Look, just take the world for a second, and I'll fit the pad on my shoulders, and then we'll be straight. Oh and don't squash the apples will you?'

25 Unsuspecting Atlas nodded and bent down to put the apples on the floor of the universe. Then with a light flick he spun the Kosmos off Heracles and held it over his head.

26 Heracles quickly picked up the apples.

27 'Better make yourself comfortable mate. I'm not coming back.'

. . .

28 What could Atlas do? He wanted to hurl the universe at Heracles, crush him, annihilate time and make the story start again.

29 'Come on Atlas,' said Heracles, 'you've had your fun.'

30 Slowly, so as not to spill one drop of milk, Atlas lowered the Kosmos back onto his shoulders, and bent himself under the burden. He did it with such grace and ease, with such gentleness, love almost, that Heracles was ashamed for a moment. He would gladly have dashed the world to pieces if that would have freed him. He saw now that Atlas could do just that, but did not, and he respected him but would not help him.

31 'Goodbye Atlas,' said Heracles, 'and thanks . . .'

¹Heracles: the Greek name for Hercules

Excerpts from WEIGHT, copyright © 2005 by
Jeanette Winterson. Used by permission of
Grove/Atlantic, Inc. Any third party use of this
material, outside of this publication, is prohibited

Grade 8
English Language Arts
Spring 2018 Item Release

Question 14

Question and Scoring Guidelines

Question 14

Read the sentence from Passage 1.

“And, besides, I have no fancy for burdening myself with the sky, just now.” (paragraph 4)

What is the meaning of the word fancy as it is used in this paragraph?

- Ⓐ ability
- Ⓑ desire
- Ⓒ experience
- Ⓓ fear

Points Possible: 1

Topic: Literary

Content Standard: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.

Scoring Guidelines

Rationale for Option A: This is incorrect. Atlas is not unable to shoulder the burden; rather, he is unwilling.

Rationale for Option B: **Key** – To have a fancy for something is to desire to do it.

Rationale for Option C: This is incorrect. Atlas is indeed experienced with this burden, but that is not what he is referring to here.

Rationale for Option D: This is incorrect. Atlas is not saying that he is unafraid.

Sample Response: 1 point

Read the sentence from Passage 1.

“And, besides, I have no fancy for burdening myself with the sky, just now.” (paragraph 4)

What is the meaning of the word fancy as it is used in this paragraph?

- ☐ Ⓐ ability
- ☒ Ⓑ desire
- ☐ Ⓒ experience
- ☐ Ⓓ fear

Grade 8
English Language Arts
Spring 2018 Item Release

Question 15

Question and Scoring Guidelines

Question 15

Read the excerpt from Passage 1.

“‘We will see about that, one of these days,’ answered the giant. ‘At all events, you ought not to complain, if you have to bear it the next hundred years, or perhaps the next thousand. I bore it a good while longer, in spite of the back-ache.’” (paragraph 6)

What does this excerpt reveal about Atlas?

- Ⓐ He is encouraged by Hercules’s struggle.
- Ⓑ He dismisses Hercules’s attempts at trickery.
- Ⓒ He resents the fact that he has held the sky for so long.
- Ⓓ He thinks that Hercules is more deserving of punishment.

Points Possible: 1

Topic: Literary

Content Standard: Analyze how particular lines of dialogue or incidents in a story or drama propel the action, reveal aspects of a character, or provoke a decision.

Scoring Guidelines

Rationale for Option A: This is incorrect. Atlas sympathizes with Hercules's struggle; he does not find encouragement in his struggle.

Rationale for Option B: This is incorrect. Atlas possibly dismisses Hercules's attempts at trickery because he believes he has won in the end; however, the dialogue suggests that Atlas resents the burden he has had to carry.

Rationale for Option C: **Key** – This excerpt reveals that Atlas resents the burden that has been assigned to him and that he has had to endure for so long.

Rationale for Option D: This is incorrect. Although Atlas wishes to have Hercules carry the weight of the universe, he does not believe Hercules is deserving of the punishment.

Sample Response: 1 point

Read the excerpt from Passage 1.

“‘We will see about that, one of these days,’ answered the giant. ‘At all events, you ought not to complain, if you have to bear it the next hundred years, or perhaps the next thousand. I bore it a good while longer, in spite of the back-ache.’” (paragraph 6)

What does this excerpt reveal about Atlas?

- ☐ Ⓐ He is encouraged by Hercules's struggle.
- ☐ Ⓑ He dismisses Hercules's attempts at trickery.
- ☒ Ⓒ He resents the fact that he has held the sky for so long.
- ☐ Ⓓ He thinks that Hercules is more deserving of punishment.

Grade 8
English Language Arts
Spring 2018 Item Release

Question 16

Question and Scoring Guidelines

Question 16

Read the sentence from Passage 1.

"Ah, the thick-witted old rogue of a giant!" (paragraph 9)

What is the meaning of the phrase thick-witted as it is used in this sentence?

- Ⓐ difficult to deceive
- Ⓑ slow to understand
- Ⓒ admirable and kind
- Ⓓ young and inexperienced

Points Possible: 1

Topic: Literary

Content Standard: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.

Scoring Guidelines

Rationale for Option A: This is incorrect. While this phrase makes sense within the sentence structure, the context of the phrase suggests that it was easy for Hercules to deceive Atlas.

Rationale for Option B: **Key** – "Thick-witted" refers to the fact that Atlas is slow to understand the fact that Hercules is tricking him into holding the sky again.

Rationale for Option C: This is incorrect. While Atlas does a kind and admirable thing by helping Hercules so that he can get comfortable, the context of this sentence indicates that he is slow to understand what is happening, not that he is kind.

Rationale for Option D: This is incorrect. While a young and inexperienced person may be easily tricked, there is nothing in the context of the passage to indicate that Atlas is young and inexperienced. In fact, Atlas has been holding the world for so long that he is likely very, very old.

Sample Response: 1 point

Read the sentence from Passage 1.

"Ah, the thick-witted old rogue of a giant!" (paragraph 9)

What is the meaning of the phrase thick-witted as it is used in this sentence?

- ☐ Ⓐ difficult to deceive
- ☒ Ⓑ slow to understand
- ☐ Ⓒ admirable and kind
- ☐ Ⓓ young and inexperienced

Grade 8
English Language Arts
Spring 2018 Item Release

Question 17

Question and Scoring Guidelines

Question 17

Which sentence from Passage 1 shows why Atlas offers to take the apples to the king?

- Ⓐ "I took the finest that grew on the tree, I assure you." (paragraph 2)
- Ⓑ "You are certainly a very strong man, and can never have a better opportunity to prove it." (paragraph 6)
- Ⓒ "That's no more than fair, and I'll do it!" (paragraph 8)
- Ⓓ "I have no idea of spending another thousand years as I spent the last." (paragraph 8)

Points Possible: 1

Topic: Literary

Content Standard: Cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

Scoring Guidelines

Rationale for Option A: This is incorrect. Although this statement makes it seem as if the things Atlas offers are to help Hercules, he only offers to take the apples to the king because he does not want to hold up the sky any longer.

Rationale for Option B: This is incorrect. While Atlas comments that he believes this is a good opportunity for Hercules to prove his strength, Atlas later reveals he has no desire to continue holding up the sky.

Rationale for Option C: This is incorrect. This statement shows that Atlas agrees to take the weight of the universe upon his shoulders for five minutes; it does not reveal why he offers to take the apples to the king.

Rationale for Option D: **Key** – Atlas’s statement that he has no intention of spending another thousand years holding up the sky reveals that he offers to take the apples to the king to avoid switching places with Hercules.

Sample Response: 1 point

Which sentence from Passage 1 shows why Atlas offers to take the apples to the king?

- ☐ Ⓐ “I took the finest that grew on the tree, I assure you.” (paragraph 2)
- ☐ Ⓑ “You are certainly a very strong man, and can never have a better opportunity to prove it.” (paragraph 6)
- ☐ Ⓒ “That’s no more than fair, and I’ll do it!” (paragraph 8)
- ☒ Ⓓ “I have no idea of spending another thousand years as I spent the last.” (paragraph 8)

Grade 8
English Language Arts
Spring 2018 Item Release

Question 18

Question and Scoring Guidelines

Question 18

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

What is a theme in Passage 1?

- Ⓐ Opportunities can be missed if one avoids a challenge.
- Ⓑ Pursuing selfish interests can cause others hardship.
- Ⓒ Teamwork makes it easier to overcome difficulties.
- Ⓓ Being helpful to others can be its own reward.

Part B

Which sentence from the passage supports the theme in Part A?

- Ⓐ ““Yes; and the dragon with a hundred heads is a sight worth any man’s seeing.”” (paragraph 2)
- Ⓑ ““And now, as I have a long way to go, and am rather in haste,—and as the king, my cousin, is anxious to receive the golden apples,—will you be kind enough to take the sky off my shoulders again?”” (paragraph 3)
- Ⓒ ““Well, then, after a thousand years, if I happen to feel in the mood, we may possibly shift about again.”” (paragraph 6)
- Ⓓ “He threw down the golden apples, and received back the sky, from the head and shoulders of Hercules, upon his own, where it rightly belonged.” (paragraph 9)

Points Possible: 2

Topic: Literary

Content Standard: Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to the characters, setting, and plot; provide an objective summary of the text.

Scoring Guidelines

Part A

Rationale for Option A: This is incorrect. While he avoids the challenge of getting the apples, Hercules does not indicate regret at not having seen the garden of the Hesperides.

Rationale for Option B: **Key** – By serving his own interests, Atlas burdens Hercules with carrying the sky on his shoulders.

Rationale for Option C: This is incorrect. Atlas and Hercules each prefer the other to suffer the consequences individually. They do not work together to overcome difficulties.

Rationale for Option D: This is incorrect. While Atlas does something helpful for Hercules by taking the sky to allow him to make a cushion, it is in fact a trick and is not a reward for Atlas, as he is stuck bearing the burden of the sky on his shoulders again.

Part B

Rationale for Option A: This is incorrect. This sentence could support the theme that opportunities can be missed if one avoids a challenge, but it does not support the correct theme.

Rationale for Option B: This is incorrect. This sentence could support the theme that being helpful to others is its own reward, but it does not support the correct theme.

Rationale for Option C: **Key** – This sentence demonstrates the burden that has been placed on Hercules: the proposal to carry the sky for a thousand years. It also reveals Atlas's selfishness, as he recognizes and is dismissive of the burden he has placed on Hercules ("if I happen to be in the mood, we may possibly shift about again.")

Rationale for Option D: This is incorrect. This sentence could support the theme that teamwork makes it easier to overcome difficulties, but it does not support the correct theme.

**Grade 8
English Language Arts
Spring 2018 Item Release**

Question 18

Sample Responses

Sample Response: 2 points

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

What is a theme in Passage 1?

- ☐ Ⓐ Opportunities can be missed if one avoids a challenge.
- ☒ Ⓑ Pursuing selfish interests can cause others hardship.
- ☐ Ⓒ Teamwork makes it easier to overcome difficulties.
- ☐ Ⓓ Being helpful to others can be its own reward.

Part B

Which sentence from the passage supports the theme in Part A?

- ☐ Ⓐ "Yes; and the dragon with a hundred heads is a sight worth any man's seeing." (paragraph 2)
- ☐ Ⓑ "And now, as I have a long way to go, and am rather in haste,—and as the king, my cousin, is anxious to receive the golden apples,—will you be kind enough to take the sky off my shoulders again?" (paragraph 3)
- ☒ Ⓒ "Well, then, after a thousand years, if I happen to feel in the mood, we may possibly shift about again." (paragraph 6)
- ☐ Ⓓ "He threw down the golden apples, and received back the sky, from the head and shoulders of Hercules, upon his own, where it rightly belonged." (paragraph 9)

Notes on Scoring

This response earns full credit (2 points) because it correctly identifies the correct response in Part A as well as in Part B.

Sample Response: 1 point

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

What is a theme in Passage 1?

- ☐ Ⓐ Opportunities can be missed if one avoids a challenge.
- ☒ Ⓑ Pursuing selfish interests can cause others hardship.
- ☐ Ⓒ Teamwork makes it easier to overcome difficulties.
- ☐ Ⓓ Being helpful to others can be its own reward.

Part B

Which sentence from the passage supports the theme in Part A?

- ☐ Ⓐ "“Yes; and the dragon with a hundred heads is a sight worth any man’s seeing.”” (paragraph 2)
- ☒ Ⓑ "“And now, as I have a long way to go, and am rather in haste,—and as the king, my cousin, is anxious to receive the golden apples,—will you be kind enough to take the sky off my shoulders again?”” (paragraph 3)
- ☐ Ⓒ "“Well, then, after a thousand years, if I happen to feel in the mood, we may possibly shift about again.”” (paragraph 6)
- ☐ Ⓓ "He threw down the golden apples, and received back the sky, from the head and shoulders of Hercules, upon his own, where it rightly belonged.”” (paragraph 9)

Notes on Scoring

This response earns partial credit (1 point). Part A has the correct answer; however, the response selected for Part B is incorrect and does not earn a point. In order to earn full credit for this item, both Part A and Part B must be correct.

Sample Response: 1 point

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

What is a theme in Passage 1?

- ☐ Ⓐ Opportunities can be missed if one avoids a challenge.
- ☒ Ⓑ Pursuing selfish interests can cause others hardship.
- ☐ Ⓒ Teamwork makes it easier to overcome difficulties.
- ☐ Ⓓ Being helpful to others can be its own reward.

Part B

Which sentence from the passage supports the theme in Part A?

- ☒ Ⓐ "Yes; and the dragon with a hundred heads is a sight worth any man's seeing." (paragraph 2)
- ☐ Ⓑ "And now, as I have a long way to go, and am rather in haste,—and as the king, my cousin, is anxious to receive the golden apples,—will you be kind enough to take the sky off my shoulders again?" (paragraph 3)
- ☐ Ⓒ "Well, then, after a thousand years, if I happen to feel in the mood, we may possibly shift about again." (paragraph 6)
- ☐ Ⓓ "He threw down the golden apples, and received back the sky, from the head and shoulders of Hercules, upon his own, where it rightly belonged." (paragraph 9)

Notes on Scoring

This response earns partial credit (1 point). Part A has the correct answer; however, the response selected for Part B is incorrect and does not earn a point. In order to earn full credit for this item, both Part A and Part B must be correct.

Sample Response: 1 point

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

What is a theme in Passage 1?

- ☐ Ⓐ Opportunities can be missed if one avoids a challenge.
- ☒ Ⓑ Pursuing selfish interests can cause others hardship.
- ☐ Ⓒ Teamwork makes it easier to overcome difficulties.
- ☐ Ⓓ Being helpful to others can be its own reward.

Part B

Which sentence from the passage supports the theme in Part A?

- ☐ Ⓐ "Yes; and the dragon with a hundred heads is a sight worth any man's seeing." (paragraph 2)
- ☐ Ⓑ "And now, as I have a long way to go, and am rather in haste,—and as the king, my cousin, is anxious to receive the golden apples,—will you be kind enough to take the sky off my shoulders again?" (paragraph 3)
- ☐ Ⓒ "Well, then, after a thousand years, if I happen to feel in the mood, we may possibly shift about again." (paragraph 6)
- ☒ Ⓓ "He threw down the golden apples, and received back the sky, from the head and shoulders of Hercules, upon his own, where it rightly belonged." (paragraph 9)

Notes on Scoring

This response earns partial credit (1 point). Part A has the correct answer; however, the response selected for Part B is incorrect and does not earn a point. In order to earn full credit for this item, both Part A and Part B must be correct.

Sample Response: 0 points

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

What is a theme in Passage 1?

- ☒ Opportunities can be missed if one avoids a challenge.
- ☐ Pursuing selfish interests can cause others hardship.
- ☐ Teamwork makes it easier to overcome difficulties.
- ☐ Being helpful to others can be its own reward.

Part B

Which sentence from the passage supports the theme in Part A?

- ☐ "Yes; and the dragon with a hundred heads is a sight worth any man's seeing." (paragraph 2)
- ☐ "And now, as I have a long way to go, and am rather in haste,—and as the king, my cousin, is anxious to receive the golden apples,—will you be kind enough to take the sky off my shoulders again?" (paragraph 3)
- ☒ "Well, then, after a thousand years, if I happen to feel in the mood, we may possibly shift about again." (paragraph 6)
- ☐ "He threw down the golden apples, and received back the sky, from the head and shoulders of Hercules, upon his own, where it rightly belonged." (paragraph 9)

Notes on Scoring

This response earns no credit (0 points). Part B offers the correct answer; however, the answer selected in Part A is incorrect. In order to earn full credit for this item, both Part A and Part B must be correct. In order to earn partial credit for this item, Part A must be correct.

Sample Response: 0 points

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

What is a theme in Passage 1?

- ☐ Ⓐ Opportunities can be missed if one avoids a challenge.
- ☐ Ⓑ Pursuing selfish interests can cause others hardship.
- ☐ Ⓒ Teamwork makes it easier to overcome difficulties.
- ☒ Ⓓ Being helpful to others can be its own reward.

Part B

Which sentence from the passage supports the theme in Part A?

- ☐ Ⓐ "“Yes; and the dragon with a hundred heads is a sight worth any man’s seeing.”” (paragraph 2)
- ☐ Ⓑ "“And now, as I have a long way to go, and am rather in haste,—and as the king, my cousin, is anxious to receive the golden apples,—will you be kind enough to take the sky off my shoulders again?”” (paragraph 3)
- ☒ Ⓒ "“Well, then, after a thousand years, if I happen to feel in the mood, we may possibly shift about again.”” (paragraph 6)
- ☐ Ⓓ "He threw down the golden apples, and received back the sky, from the head and shoulders of Hercules, upon his own, where it rightly belonged.” (paragraph 9)

Notes on Scoring

This response earns no credit (0 points). Part B offers the correct answer; however, the answer selected in Part A is incorrect. In order to earn full credit for this item, both Part A and Part B must be correct. In order to earn partial credit for this item, Part A must be correct.

Grade 8
English Language Arts
Spring 2018 Item Release

Question 19

Question and Scoring Guidelines

Question 19

Read the sentence from Passage 2.

22 'Since you ask, I'd like a pad for my head—take the weight off.'

How does this dialogue lead to Atlas's decision to take the universe from Heracles?

- Ⓐ Atlas feels ashamed of tricking Heracles and agrees to take back the weight.
- Ⓑ Atlas relates with Heracles's hardship and wants to help him relieve his suffering.
- Ⓒ Atlas finds Heracles is willing to hold up the sky and decides to exchange duties.
- Ⓓ Atlas realizes he is responsible for Heracles's suffering and yields to his punishment.

Points Possible: 1

Topic: Literary

Content Standard: Analyze how particular lines of dialogue or incidents in a story or drama propel the action, reveal aspects of a character, or provoke a decision.

Scoring Guidelines

Rationale for Option A: This is incorrect. While Atlas may regret tricking Heracles when he sees him suffering, Atlas does not agree to take the weight back permanently.

Rationale for Option B: **Key** – When Heracles requests a pad for comfort, Atlas relates to Heracles’s hardship and wants to help relieve his suffering.

Rationale for Option C: This is incorrect. Atlas does take the weight from Heracles, but Atlas does not do this because he sees that Heracles is willing to hold up the sky.

Rationale for Option D: This is incorrect. Although Atlas does understand that he is responsible for Heracles’s suffering, Atlas does not want his punishment to be returned to him.

Sample Response: 1 point

Read the sentence from Passage 2.

22 ‘Since you ask, I’d like a pad for my head—take the weight off.’

How does this dialogue lead to Atlas’s decision to take the universe from Heracles?

- ☐ Ⓐ Atlas feels ashamed of tricking Heracles and agrees to take back the weight.
- ☒ Ⓑ Atlas relates with Heracles’s hardship and wants to help him relieve his suffering.
- ☐ Ⓒ Atlas finds Heracles is willing to hold up the sky and decides to exchange duties.
- ☐ Ⓓ Atlas realizes he is responsible for Heracles’s suffering and yields to his punishment.

Grade 8
English Language Arts
Spring 2018 Item Release

Question 20

Question and Scoring Guidelines

Question 20

Read the sentence from Passage 2.

"Slowly, so as not to spill one drop of milk, Atlas lowered the Kosmos back onto his shoulders, and bent himself under the burden." (paragraph 30)

How does the author's use of the phrase "so as not to spill one drop of milk" affect the story?

- Ⓐ It reveals Atlas's defiance.
- Ⓑ It exaggerates Atlas's timid nature.
- Ⓒ It illustrates Atlas's devotion to the universe.
- Ⓓ It shows Atlas's misunderstanding of the situation.

Points Possible: 1

Topic: Literary

Content Standard: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.

Scoring Guidelines

Rationale for Option A: This is incorrect. Although Atlas is seeking a way to escape his punishment, he is not shown to be defiant.

Rationale for Option B: This is incorrect. The phrase is not chosen in order to exaggerate any timidity on Atlas's part.

Rationale for Option C: **Key** – Atlas takes great care not to endanger the universe through hasty or careless actions.

Rationale for Option D: This is incorrect. While Atlas does misunderstand Heracles's intentions at one point in the story, he is fully aware that he is taking his responsibility back at this point.

Sample Response: 1 point

Read the sentence from Passage 2.

"Slowly, so as not to spill one drop of milk, Atlas lowered the Kosmos back onto his shoulders, and bent himself under the burden." (paragraph 30)

How does the author's use of the phrase "so as not to spill one drop of milk" affect the story?

- ☐ Ⓐ It reveals Atlas's defiance.
- ☐ Ⓑ It exaggerates Atlas's timid nature.
- ☒ Ⓒ It illustrates Atlas's devotion to the universe.
- ☐ Ⓓ It shows Atlas's misunderstanding of the situation.

Grade 8
English Language Arts
Spring 2018 Item Release

Question 21

Question and Scoring Guidelines

Question 21

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

How has Atlas's character in Passage 2 been transformed from the way it is portrayed in Passage 1?

- Ⓐ In Passage 2, Atlas has lost whatever respect he had for Heracles in Passage 1.
- Ⓑ In Passage 2, Atlas has a stronger sense of duty and responsibility than in Passage 1.
- Ⓒ In Passage 2, Atlas is stronger and more physically impressive than he is in Passage 1.
- Ⓓ In Passage 2, Atlas has been supporting the universe for a longer time than in Passage 1.

Part B

Select the detail from Passage 2 that supports the answer in Part A.

- Ⓐ "'You aren't getting tired are you?' said Atlas." (paragraph 18)
- Ⓑ "If he made a fuss, Atlas could just walk away." (paragraph 21)
- Ⓒ "Unsuspecting Atlas nodded and bent down to put the apples on the floor of the universe. Then with a light flick he spun the Kosmos off Heracles and held it over his head." (paragraph 25)
- Ⓓ "He would gladly have dashed the world to pieces if that would have freed him. He saw now that Atlas could do just that, but did not, and he respected him but would not help him." (paragraph 30)

Points Possible: 2

Topic: Literary

Content Standard: Analyze how a modern work of fiction draws on themes, patterns of events, or character types from myths, traditional stories, or religious works such as the Bible, including describing how the material is rendered new.

Scoring Guidelines

Part A

Rationale for Option A: This is incorrect. It is not suggested in either passage that Atlas respects Heracles/Hercules at the outset of the tale.

Rationale for Option B: **Key** – Paragraph 30 demonstrates Atlas's sense of duty and responsibility to the world by showing that he does not dash it to pieces to relieve himself of the burden, but gently takes the burden of carrying the world back on his shoulders.

Rationale for Option C: This is incorrect. It is not indicated in either tale that either of the characters lacks the requisite strength to hold up the world.

Rationale for Option D: This is incorrect. No transformation is described here; Passage 2 does not indicate that Atlas's background has been modified or that he has been supporting the universe for longer in Passage 2 than in Passage 1.

Part B

Rationale for Option A: This is incorrect. Atlas has a great deal of experience upholding the world, but this does not support the correct answer in Part A.

Rationale for Option B: This is incorrect. This sentence indicates that Heracles is worried about Atlas leaving him there, but not that he respects him.

Rationale for Option C: This is incorrect. This sentence has to do with Atlas's strength, but it does not support the correct answer in Part A.

Rationale for Option D: **Key** – These sentences indicate that Atlas has greater forbearance than Heracles and a sense of responsibility and duty to protect the world.

**Grade 8
English Language Arts
Spring 2018 Item Release**

Question 21

Sample Responses

Sample Response: 2 points

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

How has Atlas's character in Passage 2 been transformed from the way it is portrayed in Passage 1?

- ☐ Ⓐ In Passage 2, Atlas has lost whatever respect he had for Heracles in Passage 1.
- ☒ Ⓑ In Passage 2, Atlas has a stronger sense of duty and responsibility than in Passage 1.
- ☐ Ⓒ In Passage 2, Atlas is stronger and more physically impressive than he is in Passage 1.
- ☐ Ⓓ In Passage 2, Atlas has been supporting the universe for a longer time than in Passage 1.

Part B

Select the detail from Passage 2 that supports the answer in Part A.

- ☐ Ⓐ "'You aren't getting tired are you?' said Atlas." (paragraph 18)
- ☐ Ⓑ "If he made a fuss, Atlas could just walk away." (paragraph 21)
- ☐ Ⓒ "Unsuspecting Atlas nodded and bent down to put the apples on the floor of the universe. Then with a light flick he spun the Kosmos off Heracles and held it over his head." (paragraph 25)
- ☒ Ⓓ "He would gladly have dashed the world to pieces if that would have freed him. He saw now that Atlas could do just that, but did not, and he respected him but would not help him." (paragraph 30)

Notes on Scoring

This response earns full credit (2 points) because it correctly identifies the correct response in Part A as well as in Part B.

Sample Response: 1 point

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

How has Atlas's character in Passage 2 been transformed from the way it is portrayed in Passage 1?

- ☐ Ⓐ In Passage 2, Atlas has lost whatever respect he had for Heracles in Passage 1.
- ☒ Ⓑ In Passage 2, Atlas has a stronger sense of duty and responsibility than in Passage 1.
- ☐ Ⓒ In Passage 2, Atlas is stronger and more physically impressive than he is in Passage 1.
- ☐ Ⓓ In Passage 2, Atlas has been supporting the universe for a longer time than in Passage 1.

Part B

Select the detail from Passage 2 that supports the answer in Part A.

- ☐ Ⓐ "'You aren't getting tired are you?' said Atlas." (paragraph 18)
- ☒ Ⓑ "If he made a fuss, Atlas could just walk away." (paragraph 21)
- ☐ Ⓒ "Unsuspecting Atlas nodded and bent down to put the apples on the floor of the universe. Then with a light flick he spun the Kosmos off Heracles and held it over his head." (paragraph 25)
- ☐ Ⓓ "He would gladly have dashed the world to pieces if that would have freed him. He saw now that Atlas could do just that, but did not, and he respected him but would not help him." (paragraph 30)

Notes on Scoring

This response earns partial credit (1 point). Part A has the correct answer; however, the response selected for Part B is incorrect and does not earn a point. In order to earn full credit for this item, both Part A and Part B must be correct.

Sample Response: 1 point

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

How has Atlas's character in Passage 2 been transformed from the way it is portrayed in Passage 1?

- ☐ Ⓐ In Passage 2, Atlas has lost whatever respect he had for Heracles in Passage 1.
- ☒ Ⓑ In Passage 2, Atlas has a stronger sense of duty and responsibility than in Passage 1.
- ☐ Ⓒ In Passage 2, Atlas is stronger and more physically impressive than he is in Passage 1.
- ☐ Ⓓ In Passage 2, Atlas has been supporting the universe for a longer time than in Passage 1.

Part B

Select the detail from Passage 2 that supports the answer in Part A.

- ☒ Ⓐ "“You aren't getting tired are you?” said Atlas.” (paragraph 18)
- ☐ Ⓑ "If he made a fuss, Atlas could just walk away.” (paragraph 21)
- ☐ Ⓒ "Unsuspecting Atlas nodded and bent down to put the apples on the floor of the universe. Then with a light flick he spun the Kosmos off Heracles and held it over his head.” (paragraph 25)
- ☐ Ⓓ "He would gladly have dashed the world to pieces if that would have freed him. He saw now that Atlas could do just that, but did not, and he respected him but would not help him.” (paragraph 30)

Notes on Scoring

This response earns partial credit (1 point). Part A has the correct answer; however, the response selected for Part B is incorrect and does not earn a point. In order to earn full credit for this item, both Part A and Part B must be correct.

Sample Response: 1 point

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

How has Atlas's character in Passage 2 been transformed from the way it is portrayed in Passage 1?

- ☐ Ⓐ In Passage 2, Atlas has lost whatever respect he had for Heracles in Passage 1.
- ☒ Ⓑ In Passage 2, Atlas has a stronger sense of duty and responsibility than in Passage 1.
- ☐ Ⓒ In Passage 2, Atlas is stronger and more physically impressive than he is in Passage 1.
- ☐ Ⓓ In Passage 2, Atlas has been supporting the universe for a longer time than in Passage 1.

Part B

Select the detail from Passage 2 that supports the answer in Part A.

- ☐ Ⓐ "“You aren't getting tired are you?” said Atlas.” (paragraph 18)
- ☐ Ⓑ "“If he made a fuss, Atlas could just walk away.” (paragraph 21)
- ☒ Ⓒ "“Unsuspecting Atlas nodded and bent down to put the apples on the floor of the universe. Then with a light flick he spun the Kosmos off Heracles and held it over his head.” (paragraph 25)
- ☐ Ⓓ "“He would gladly have dashed the world to pieces if that would have freed him. He saw now that Atlas could do just that, but did not, and he respected him but would not help him.” (paragraph 30)

Notes on Scoring

This response earns partial credit (1 point). Part A has the correct answer; however, the response selected for Part B is incorrect and does not earn a point. In order to earn full credit for this item, both Part A and Part B must be correct.

Sample Response: 0 points

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

How has Atlas's character in Passage 2 been transformed from the way it is portrayed in Passage 1?

- ☐ Ⓐ In Passage 2, Atlas has lost whatever respect he had for Heracles in Passage 1.
- ☐ Ⓑ In Passage 2, Atlas has a stronger sense of duty and responsibility than in Passage 1.
- ☒ Ⓒ In Passage 2, Atlas is stronger and more physically impressive than he is in Passage 1.
- ☐ Ⓓ In Passage 2, Atlas has been supporting the universe for a longer time than in Passage 1.

Part B

Select the detail from Passage 2 that supports the answer in Part A.

- ☐ Ⓐ "'You aren't getting tired are you?' said Atlas." (paragraph 18)
- ☐ Ⓑ "If he made a fuss, Atlas could just walk away." (paragraph 21)
- ☐ Ⓒ "Unsuspecting Atlas nodded and bent down to put the apples on the floor of the universe. Then with a light flick he spun the Kosmos off Heracles and held it over his head." (paragraph 25)
- ☒ Ⓓ "He would gladly have dashed the world to pieces if that would have freed him. He saw now that Atlas could do just that, but did not, and he respected him but would not help him." (paragraph 30)

Notes on Scoring

This response earns no credit (0 points). Part B offers the correct answer; however, the answer selected in Part A is incorrect. In order to earn full credit for this item, both Part A and Part B must be correct. In order to earn partial credit for this item, Part A must be correct.

Sample Response: 0 points

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

How has Atlas's character in Passage 2 been transformed from the way it is portrayed in Passage 1?

- ☐ Ⓐ In Passage 2, Atlas has lost whatever respect he had for Heracles in Passage 1.
- ☐ Ⓑ In Passage 2, Atlas has a stronger sense of duty and responsibility than in Passage 1.
- ☐ Ⓒ In Passage 2, Atlas is stronger and more physically impressive than he is in Passage 1.
- ☒ Ⓓ In Passage 2, Atlas has been supporting the universe for a longer time than in Passage 1.

Part B

Select the detail from Passage 2 that supports the answer in Part A.

- ☐ Ⓐ "'You aren't getting tired are you?' said Atlas." (paragraph 18)
- ☐ Ⓑ "If he made a fuss, Atlas could just walk away." (paragraph 21)
- ☐ Ⓒ "Unsuspecting Atlas nodded and bent down to put the apples on the floor of the universe. Then with a light flick he spun the Kosmos off Heracles and held it over his head." (paragraph 25)
- ☒ Ⓓ "He would gladly have dashed the world to pieces if that would have freed him. He saw now that Atlas could do just that, but did not, and he respected him but would not help him." (paragraph 30)

Notes on Scoring

This response earns no credit (0 points). Part B offers the correct answer; however, the answer selected in Part A is incorrect. In order to earn full credit for this item, both Part A and Part B must be correct. In order to earn partial credit for this item, Part A must be correct.

Grade 8
English Language Arts
Spring 2018 Item Release

Question 22

Question and Scoring Guidelines

Question 22

Construct a multi-paragraph written response in which you analyze the development of similar themes in both passages. In your analysis, consider how the theme is developed through characters, setting, and/or plot. Your response must be based on ideas and information that can be found in the stories.

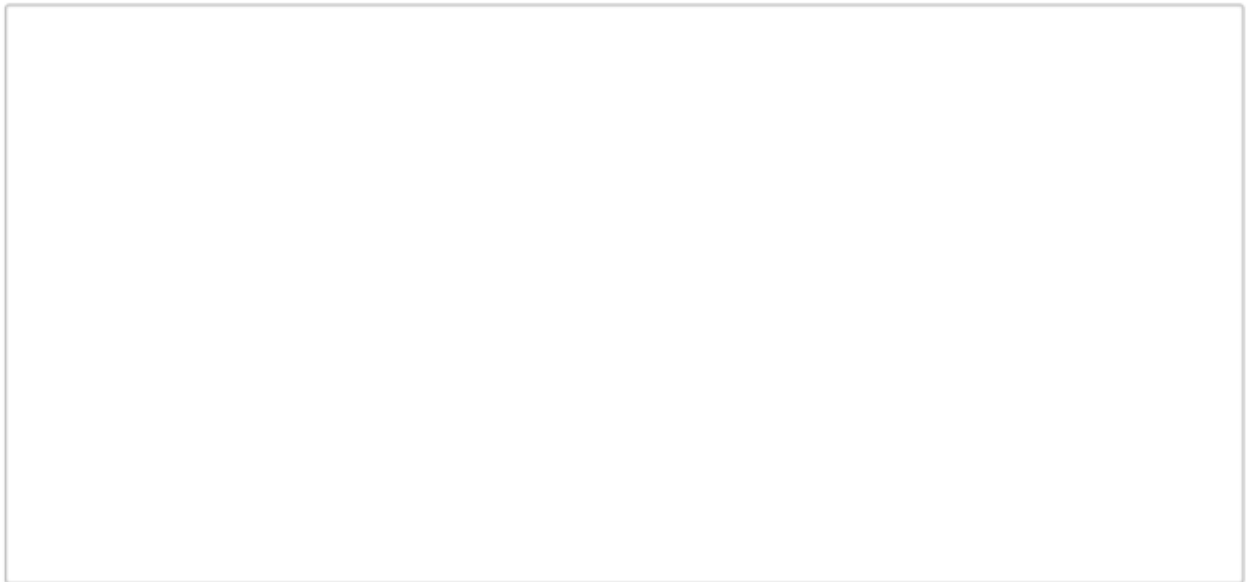
Manage your time carefully so that you can:

- review the passages;
- plan your response;
- write your response; and
- revise and edit your response.

Be sure to:

- include an introduction;
- use evidence from the passages to support your explanation;
- avoid overly relying on one passage; and
- include a conclusion.

Write your multi-paragraph response in the space provided.



Points Possible: 10

Topic: Writing

Content Standard: Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.

Scoring Guidelines

Ohio's State Test Informative/Explanatory Writing Rubric, Grades 6-12 (Score points within each domain include most of the characteristics below.)			
Score	Purpose, Focus, and Organization (4-points)	Evidence and Elaboration (4-points)	Conventions of Standard English (Begins at score point 2)
4	<p>The response is fully sustained and consistently focused within the purpose, audience, and task; and it has a clear controlling idea and effective organizational structure creating coherence and completeness. The response includes most of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A strongly maintained controlling idea with little or no loosely related material Skillful use of a variety of transitional strategies to clarify the relationships between and among ideas Logical progression of ideas from beginning to end with a satisfying introduction and conclusion Appropriate style and objective tone established and maintained 	<p>The response provides thorough and convincing support, citing evidence for the controlling idea or main idea that includes the effective use of sources, facts, and details. The response includes most of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smoothly integrated, thorough, and relevant evidence, including precise references to sources Effective use of a variety of elaborative techniques (including but not limited to definitions, quotations, and examples), demonstrating an understanding of the topic and text Clear and effective expression of ideas, using precise language Academic and domain-specific vocabulary clearly appropriate for the audience and purpose Varied sentence structure, demonstrating language facility 	
3	<p>The response is adequately sustained and generally focused within the purpose, audience, and task; and it has a clear controlling idea and evident organizational structure with a sense of completeness. The response includes most of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A maintained controlling idea, though some loosely related material may be present Adequate use of a variety of transitional strategies to clarify the relationships between and among ideas Adequate progression of ideas from beginning to end with a sufficient introduction and conclusion 	<p>The response provides adequate support, citing evidence for the controlling idea or main idea that includes the use of sources, facts, and details. The response includes most of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generally integrated and relevant evidence from sources, though references may be general or imprecise Adequate use of some elaborative techniques Adequate expression of ideas, employing a mix of precise and general language Domain-specific vocabulary generally appropriate for the audience and purpose Some variation in sentence structure 	

Score	Purpose, Focus, and Organization (4-points)	Evidence and Elaboration (4-points)	Conventions of Standard English (2-points)
2	<p>The response is somewhat sustained within the purpose, audience, and task but may include loosely related or extraneous material; and it may have a controlling idea with an inconsistent organizational structure. The response may include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A focused controlling idea but insufficiently sustained or unclear Inconsistent use of transitional strategies with little variety Uneven progression of ideas from beginning to end with an inadequate introduction or conclusion 	<p>The response provides uneven, cursory support/evidence for the controlling idea or main idea that includes partial use of sources, facts, and details. The response may include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weakly integrated evidence from sources; erratic or irrelevant references or citations Repetitive or ineffective use of elaborative techniques Imprecise or simplistic expression of ideas Some use of inappropriate domain-specific vocabulary Most sentences limited to simple constructions 	<p>The response demonstrates an adequate command of basic conventions. The response may include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some minor errors in usage but no patterns of errors Adequate use of punctuation, capitalization, sentence formation, and spelling
1	<p>The response is related to the topic but may demonstrate little awareness of the purpose, audience, and task; and it may have a limited controlling idea or discernible organizational structure. The response may include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confusing or ambiguous ideas Few transitional strategies Frequent extraneous ideas that impede understanding Too brief to demonstrate knowledge of focus or organization 	<p>The response provides minimal support/evidence for the controlling idea or main idea, including little use of sources, facts, and details. The response may include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimal, erroneous, or irrelevant evidence or citations from the source material Expression of ideas that is vague, unclear, or confusing Limited and often inappropriate language or domain-specific vocabulary Sentences limited to simple constructions 	<p>The response demonstrates a partial command of basic conventions. The response may include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Various errors in usage Inconsistent use of correct punctuation, capitalization, sentence formation, and spelling
0	<p>The response is unrelated to the topic and displays little awareness of the purpose, audience and/or task. There is no controlling idea and it has no focus or discernible organizational structure. The response may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be blank or show a written refusal to answer Be presented in a language other than English Include only a restatement of the stem Consist of random keystroke characters Include only bulleted points Include no transitional strategies 	<p>The response provides no support/evidence related to a main idea and includes no use of sources, facts or details. The response may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only direct copy of part of the reading selection No citations from the source material No relevant domain-specific vocabulary No evidence from the support material(s) 	<p>The response demonstrates a lack of command of conventions, with frequent and severe errors often obscuring meaning.</p>

Grade 8
English Language Arts
Spring 2018 Item Release

Question 22

Sample Responses

Sample Response: 10 points

The two Greek myths *The Three Golden Apples* and *Weight* are different in structure, but have the same general topic. In both stories, Atlas, the Greek God who held the weight of the Kosmos on his shoulders, tricks the hero Hercules into doing his job for him. Atlas gathers the golden apples and decides that he will take them to the king himself, as he plans on making Hercules do his job for him. Both of these stories also share similar themes, although they are developed by different characterizations.

In both stories, a similar theme of treat others as you would want to be treated is developed. In the story *Weight*, this theme is more clearly revealed through the characters. The author states, "Atlas was kind hearted and he did not want to see Heracles suffer..." (Winterson paragraph 23). This shows through characterization that Atlas is a kind man and feels guilty of tricking Heracles. He knows deep down that he would not want to be treated like this. This makes him feel, since he is kind-hearted, that he has wronged Heracles and decides to take the burden off of Heracles's shoulders. This same theme is shown in *The Three Golden Apples*, but not as directly. The author never comes out and says that Atlas is kind, but he shows through dialogue that he feels he has wronged Heracles. He states, "For just five minutes, then, I'll take back the sky. Only for five minutes, recollect!" (Hawthorne paragraph 8). This shows that Atlas knows he has wronged Heracles and feels awful about his trickery.

Another theme shown in these two stories is jealousy doesn't get you anywhere. In both stories, Atlas is clearly jealous of the life that Heracles as compared to his. In *The Three Golden Apples*, the author states, "I bore it a good while, in site of the back-ache. Well then, after a thousand years, if I happen to feel in the mood, we may possibly shift out again"(Hawthorne paragraph 6). This statement shows that Atlas feels he has been wronged by Zeus. This shows that he is jealous of those that are able to roam freely, such as Heracles. Atlas is jealous of these people and wants to be like them. In *Weight*, Heracles is the one that becomes jealous of Atlas as Heracles is holding up the Kosmos. The story states, "Heracles felt his skin burning with jealousy"(Winterson paragraph 13). This shows that Heracles becomes just as jealous as Atlas was of him just by holding the Kosmos. Heracles, just as Atlas was, is jealous of the people that roam freely on planet Earth. However, both examples of hatred and jealousy get both characters no where.

As you can see, these two stories are similar in ways of theme, although different in structure. In some ways, the theme is told directly while in other ways it is told indirectly. However, both of these stories somehow get to the same theme, even though the story is told in a different way. Heracles and Atlas don't really get along in both stories, but still find a way to resolve their differences. Both of the themes, treat others as you would want to be treated and jealousy doesn't get you anywhere, both help these two main characters resolve their differences in both stories.

Purpose, Focus, and Organization (4-point Rubric)	Evidence and Elaboration (4-point Rubric)	Conventions of Standard English (2-point Rubric begins at score point 2)
4	4	2

Notes on Scoring

Purpose, Focus, and Organization – This response is fully sustained and consistently focused within the purpose, audience, and task with effective organizational structure, earning the maximum four points in the assigned category. The response presents two clear controlling ideas. There is also a skillful use of transitions which contributes to the clear progression of ideas.

Evidence and Elaboration – This response also earns the maximum four points for providing thorough, convincing, and credible support while citing evidence for the controlling idea.

Conventions – This response earns the maximum two points for demonstrating an adequate command of basic conventions.

Sample Response: 8 points

In the passages from "The Three Golden Apples" and "Weight" a theme is trickery can get in the way of achieving your goals. In both passages, Atlas wants Hercules to hold the world up for him till Atlas comes back and feels like holding it again. Atlas tries to trick Hercules to hold up the world by leaving him there and never coming back. But, before Atlas leaves Hercules asks him to hold up the world so he can adjust and make himself comfortable. When Atlas takes the world Hercules leaves him there and takes the apples with him. The theme of trickery can get in the way of achieving your goals is shown when Atlas's goal was to leave Hercules holding the world, so he could be free and have new experiences in life. Then, Hercules tricked him and made Atlas hold up the world so Hercules could leave him there and walk away. Atlas wasn't able to achieve his goal of being free from holding the world and live a better life because Hercules tricked him into holding the world again.

The theme trickery can get in the way of achieving your goals is developed in "The Three Golden Apples" through characters, setting, and plot. In the passage Atlas has respect for Hercules and believes he can do his job for him because Hercules is strong and capable of taking the responsibility. For example, in paragraph 6 Atlas says, "You are certainly a very strong man, and can never have a better opportunity to prove it. Poserity will talk of you." Because Atlas has respect for Hercules he is willing to hold the world up for him for five minutes so Hercules can get comfortable. But, Hercules tricks him and gives him the world and leaves him there. Since Atlas was not very smart Hercules was able to trick him easily and stop Atlas from achieving his goal of not holding the world anymore. The development of Atlas's character and his respect for Hercules and his dumbness allowed trickery to get in the way of achieving his goals.

The theme trickery can get in the way of achieving your goals is developed in the passage from "Weight" through the personalities of the characters and the plot of the story. In the passage Atlas and Hercules are both still kind hearted, but Atlas is much more vengeful towards Hercules. For example, the passage says, "Atlas was kind hearted and he did not want to see Hercules suffer, so he searched through his bag of belongings and found a thick fleece that he could fold into a cushion. He bent over Hercules and tried to fit it behind his neck." This quote shows Atlas is willing to help Hercules become comfortable before he make Hercules hold the world. Then, Hercules tricks Atlas into holding the world and leaves him there. As Hercules is leaving he almost feels bad for Atlas that he tricked him into not achieving his goal of being free. Atlas was very angry after Hercules tricked him. The passage says, "What could Atlas do? He wanted to hurl the universe at Hercules, crush him, annihilate time and make the story start again." The theme trickery can get in the way of achieving goals is developed from Atlas and Hercules's kind hearts, but Hercules's selfish actions stop Atlas from achieving his goals.

Purpose, Focus, and Organization (4-point Rubric)	Evidence and Elaboration (4-point Rubric)	Conventions of Standard English (2-point Rubric begins at score point 2)
3	3	2

Notes on Scoring

Purpose, Focus, and Organization – This response is adequately sustained and generally focused within the purpose, audience, and task with evident organizational structure, earning three out of four points in the assigned category.

Evidence and Elaboration – This response also earns three out of four possible points in the category of evidence and elaboration for providing adequate support when incorporating and citing evidence for the controlling idea.

Conventions – This response earns the two maximum points allowed for demonstrating an adequate command of basic conventions.

Sample Response: 7 points

In the passages, "The Three Golden Apples" by Nathaniel Hawthorne and, "Weight" by Jenette Winterson, the authors had similar themes. A common theme that both passages might share is selfishness can lead to people being hurt. This hurt can be either physically and mentally, to where Hercules and Atlas are both sharing pain.

In the passage "The Three Golden Apples," the characters affected the theme by the way they acted. Hercules, a helpful person, and Atlas, an envious person, switched places, so Hercules can hold up the sky, and Atlas can look for golden apples. Atlas wanted Hercules to stay there, but they switched again. The setting affected the theme by having Atlas tell Hercules the many things he saw when he was looking for the golden apples. And the plot affected the theme by Hercules offering Atlas to switch places to look golden apples.

In the passage "Weight" the characters affected the theme by making Atlas a kind-hearted giant, and Hercules a trickster. The setting affected the theme by describing what the circumstances are in the passage. "ATLAS; he yelled 'ATLAS' and on earth there was thunder in the mountains ("Weight" paragraph 11) This shows how loud Hercules was shouting for Atlas. And the plot affected the theme by Atlas and Hercules talking. When Hercules thought Atlas was going to have him carry his burden forever, he found a chance to switch places, and he took the chance. Giving Atlas the sky back, and balancing it on his head and shoulders. "Hercules was nervous. If he made a fuss, Atlas could just way away... Atlas could trap him forever." ("Weight: paragraph 21) This shows that if Hercules complained to Atlas, Atlas can just walk away, and never bother with Hercules.

In the passages, "The Three Golden Apples" and "Weight" had similar themes. And how the characters, setting, and plot helped support the theme, selfishness can lead to people to get hurt.

Purpose, Focus, and Organization (4-point Rubric)	Evidence and Elaboration (4-point Rubric)	Conventions of Standard English (2-point Rubric begins at score point 2)
3	2	2

Notes on Scoring

Purpose, Formatting, and Organization – This response is adequately sustained and generally focused within the purpose, audience, and task with evident organizational structure, an adequate use of transitional strategies and progression of ideas, earning three out of four points in the assigned category.

Evidence and Elaboration – This response also earns two out of four possible points for evidence and elaboration, as the response provides weak, cursory support for the controlling idea.

Conventions – This response earns the maximum two points allowed for demonstrating an adequate command of basic conventions.

Sample Response: 7 points

In both stories, then the author develops a similar theme of betrayal and trickery. Both stories express a similar plot and characters; however, the author does it a little differently in each story.

In the first story then the author, Nathan Hawthorne, develops the theme with more background in the beginning of the story. This lets the reader know more about the relationship between the two characters and their business with each other. In paragraphs one and two of the first story then the author writes, "I am glad to see you again," shouted Hercules... 'So have you got the golden apples?'" This is Hercules talking to Atlas. What Hercules says lets the reader know why Hercules is holding up the sky, and who the burden is normally placed upon. The author also develops the characters in passage one by having the characters speak dialogue that expresses their emotions. When Hercules learns that he has been tricked by Atlas then the author has Hercules say, "What!" Shouted Hercules, very wrathfully, "do you intend to make me bear this burden forever?" Later then the author has Hercules say, "Pig! a fig for its talk!" cried Hercules." When the author says this, then the reader learns easily how Hercules feels when he is tricked and how this makes him feel about Atlas.

In the second paragraph then the author develops the characters with descriptive detail and the plot with dialogue. In paragraph ten of the second passage, then the author, Jeanette Winterson, writes, "He woke in a sweat. He couldn't even wipe his brow. He stared unfocused into the serene starriness of the universe and wondered if he shouted loud enough would he get a reply?" This quote describes the situation that Hercules is stuck in and how lonely he is. Later then the author writes, "Hercules was nervous. If he made a fuss, Atlas could just walk away." This small excerpt describes how Hercules feels as he puts the pieces together and realizes that he has been tricked. To develop the plot in the second passage then the author uses a lot of dialogue, and here is an example of that. Hercules says, "... Look, just take the world for a second, and I'll fit a pad on my shoulders, and then we'll be straight..." Better make yourself comfortable mate. I'm not coming back.'" Here then Hercules tricks Atlas into taking the weight of the universe back onto his shoulders. This can make the story easier to understand for the reader since the reader can see the plot develop as it happens.

In conclusion, then there is no right or wrong way to write a story. Both of the selections given were well developed and meaningful stories. There are simply different ways to write.

Purpose, Focus, and Organization (4-point Rubric)	Evidence and Elaboration (4-point Rubric)	Conventions of Standard English (2-point Rubric begins at score point 2)
2	3	2

Notes on Scoring

Purpose, Formatting, and Organization – This response is somewhat sustained within the purpose, audience, and task, but includes some extraneous material. Likewise, its organization presents an inconsistent progression of ideas and an inadequate introduction and conclusion, earning two out of the four possible points for this category.

Evidence and Elaboration – This response earns three out of four possible points in the category of evidence and elaboration for providing adequate support when citing evidence for the controlling idea and showcasing some variety in the sentence structure.

Conventions – This response earns the maximum two points allowed for demonstrating an adequate command of basic conventions.

Sample Response: 6 points

Throughout "The Three Golden Apples" and "Weight" there is a theme. This theme is not working hard doesn't get you anywhere. This theme is developed through the characters, setting and plot in both passages.

In "The Three Golden Apples" and "Weight" the theme is shown through the characters, Hercules and Atlas. I know this because in paragraph nine of "The Three Golden Apples", it says, "without paying the slightest heed to the thundering tones of the giant, who bellowed after him to come back". This shows that even though Atlas promised to hold the sky for Hercules for at least five minutes, he didn't keep his promise and complained to Hercules and didn't work hard so he wasn't benefited. Another example to support the theme is, "At all events, you ought not to complain, if you bear it the next hundred years, or perhaps the next thousand." This shows both characters not to complain or they'll get nothing out of it.

Also in both passages the theme develops through the setting. The setting is most likely ancient Greece. I think this because of the names of the characters and their dialogue. The setting isn't described a lot throughout either passages, except when it says, "into the serene starriness of the universe" (Passage 2). This shows the characters working hard even into the night just because especially Hercules knows that not working hard doesn't get you anywhere.

The plot is also developed throughout the two passages. In the beginning, Atlas didn't want to do anything, "for just five minutes" but at the end, "Goodbye Atlas and thanks" this shows that he developed and finally learned to work hard in order to get something. In this case it was respect.

In conclusion the theme, not working hard doesn't get you anything is developed throughout the characters, setting and plot.

Purpose, Focus, and Organization (4-point Rubric)	Evidence and Elaboration (4-point Rubric)	Conventions of Standard English (2-point Rubric begins at score point 2)
2	2	2

Notes on Scoring

Purpose, Focus, and Elaboration – This response is somewhat sustained within the purpose, audience, and task, yet it presents an uneven progression of ideas and an inadequate introduction and conclusion. Likewise, its organization is inconsistent and confusing by using the plot, characters, and the setting within the response, thus, earning two out of the four possible points for this category.

Evidence and Elaboration – This response also earns two out of four possible points for evidence and elaboration, as the response provides erroneous evidence and uneven support for the controlling idea.

Conventions – This response earns the maximum two points allowed for demonstrating an adequate command of basic conventions.

Sample Response: 6 points

In passage 1, The Three Golden Apples, and in Passage 2 from Weight, there are similar themes. In each of these passages, there is the same story. There are two main characters, Atlas and Hercules. Atlas has these golden apples that he is giving the king, and Hercules has a very important job and that is to basically hold up the universe.

A theme in both of these passages is teamwork. Atlas and Hercules might not truly get along that well, however when something needs to be accomplished they work together. This theme is especially noticed in the second passage vs. the first. An example of this was when Atlas asked Hercules if he needed anything before he left, and Hercules asked for a pad for his head, to take the weight off. Atlas then found a thick fleece and tried to fit it around his neck. However, this didn't work so they tried it a different way. Atlas took the world for a second, so Hercules could put the pad around his shoulders.

This theme is developed through the characters, and the setting. When they get stuck in a situation, you can see how each of the characters react. Atlas is more helpful than Hercules, but Hercules is still helpful. They are just helpful in different ways. In this particular passage you can see that they use teamwork to overcome the obstacles they face.

Overall teamwork is a major influence in these passages. Both Atlas and Hercules help each other in some way. Now, I'm not saying they always get along, but when the situation arises they are there.

Purpose, Focus, and Organization (4-point Rubric)	Evidence and Elaboration (4-point Rubric)	Conventions of Standard English (2-point Rubric begins at score point 2)
2	2	2

Notes on Scoring

Purpose, Focus, and Elaboration – While this response has a focused controlling idea, it is insufficiently sustained within the purpose, audience, and task. Likewise, its organization is inconsistent, as there is an uneven progression of ideas with an inadequate introduction and conclusion, thus, earning two out of the four possible points for this category.

Evidence and Elaboration – This response also earns two out of four possible points for evidence and elaboration, as the response provides weakly integrated evidence from sources with an ineffective use of elaborative techniques. The expression of ideas is simplistic with little variety in sentence structure.

Conventions – This response earns the maximum two points allowed for demonstrating an adequate command of basic conventions.

Sample Response: 4 points

When you are working with someone do you work together or make things harder? The stories "The Three Golden Apples" and "from Weight" they have similar themes that teamwork makes things easier and that when you work against each other that it makes things much harder. Atlas and heracles made things harder, got hurt, and didn't appreciate being together.

First, Atlas and heracles made things harder by not working together but against each other. "That's no more than fair and i'll do it"(hawthorne8). In this line it shows how they are not working together. If they worked together it would make a job really easy. " Ah, the thick-witted old rogue of a giant! He threw down the golden apples and recieved back to the sky."(Hawthorne9). The giant was being rude to hercules.

In addition, They made things harder by not helping each other. " you aren't getting tired are you? said Atlas..." they should have just waited but he kept going when he should have waited on him. They should have been nice to each other.

Finally, They helped each other. " Goodbye Atlas said heracles and thanks"(Wintetrson 31). This shows that they finally realized that they were nice.

In conclusion, The themes are that if you work together it makes things easier on each other. Atlas and Heracles realized that it is easier to work together.

Purpose, Focus, and Organization (4-point Rubric)	Evidence and Elaboration (4-point Rubric)	Conventions of Standard English (2-point Rubric begins at score point 2)
2	1	1

Notes on Scoring

Purpose, Focus, and Organization – While this response has a controlling idea, it is insufficiently sustained within the purpose, audience, and task. Likewise, its organization is inconsistent and presents an uneven progression of ideas, earning two out of the four possible points for this category.

Evidence and Elaboration – This response earns one out of four possible points for evidence and elaboration, as it provides cursory support for the controlling idea.

Conventions – This response earns one out of two possible points for demonstrating a partial command of basic conventions.

Sample Response: 3 points

There are some similarities in both of the passage that tie into one another. In passage one the theme is don't trust everyone. In passage two the theme is not trust the man that you tricked because he may want to get revenge back.

The setting are similar because they are meeting up to give apples to people and they end up tricking or taking to apples and leaving.

The characters help the theme because they are the same characters in both passages that trick each other and how they both deal with the tricky is completely different.

Purpose, Focus, and Organization (4-point Rubric)	Evidence and Elaboration (4-point Rubric)	Conventions of Standard English (2-point Rubric begins at score point 2)
1	1	1

Notes on Scoring

Purpose, Focus, and Organization – This response has one controlling idea and is related to the topic but demonstrates little awareness of the purpose, audience, and task, and is too brief to demonstrate knowledge of an organizational structure, earning one out of four possible points for this category.

Evidence and Elaboration – This response also earns one out of four possible points for evidence and elaboration, as it provides cursory support for the controlling idea and the expression of ideas is vague and unclear.

Conventions – This response earns one out of two possible points for demonstrating a partial command of basic conventions.

Sample Response: 0 points

the theme is developed throught the charactors by making them apart of it

Purpose, Focus, and Organization (4-point Rubric)	Evidence and Elaboration (4-point Rubric)	Conventions of Standard English (2-point Rubric begins at score point 2)
0	0	0

Notes on Scoring

Purpose, Focus, and Organization – This response is minimally related to the topic and demonstrates no awareness of the purpose, audience, and task, and has no discernible organizational structure, earning zero out of four possible points for this category.

Evidence and Elaboration – This response earns zero out of four possible points for evidence and elaboration, as it provides no support for the controlling idea.

Conventions – This response earns zero out of two possible points because the response demonstrates a lack of command of basic conventions.

Sample Response: 0 points

There are to passages in this story number one is about The Three Golden Apples and the second one is about from Weight. In the first one i says I am glad to see you again, shouted Hercules, when the giant was within hearing. "So you have the golden apples?" "Certainly, ceraintly answered Atlas.

The second one says. He woke in a sweat. He couldn't even wipe his brow. He started unfocussed into the serene starryness of the universe and wondered if he shouted loud enough would he get reply?

...

ATLAS he yelled ATLAS and on the earth there was thunder in the mountains.

There's no need to shout,' said Atlas I can hear you.'

Purpose, Focus, and Organization (4-point Rubric)	Evidence and Elaboration (4-point Rubric)	Conventions of Standard English (2-point Rubric begins at score point 2)
0	0	0

Notes on Scoring

This response earns no credit (0 points) because there was not enough original student work in comparison to text directly copied from the prompt/passages.

Sample Response: 0 points

At all events you ought not to complain, if you have to bear it the next hundred years or perhaps the next thousand. I beore it agood while longer, in spite of the back-ache. Well, then after thousands years, if i happen to feel in the mood we may possibly shift about again.

Purpose, Focus, and Organization (4-point Rubric)	Evidence and Elaboration (4-point Rubric)	Conventions of Standard English (2-point Rubric begins at score point 2)
0	0	0

Notes on Scoring

This response earns no credit (0 points) because there was not enough original student work in comparison to text directly copied from the prompt/passages.

Sample Response: 0 points

In Greek mythology Atlas was condemned by Zeus to hold the sky on his shoudlers enerntily in thus excerpt
Herucles agreed to trade places so that Atlas can go retrive the three golden apples from the garden of the hesprides for Herucles

Purpose, Focus, and Organization (4-point Rubric)	Evidence and Elaboration (4-point Rubric)	Conventions of Standard English (2-point Rubric begins at score point 2)
0	0	0

Notes on Scoring

This response earns no credit (0 points) because there was not enough original student work in comparison to text directly copied from the prompt/passages.

The Ohio Department of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or disability in employment or the provision of services.

Copyright © 2018 by the Ohio Department of Education. All rights reserved.