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Student Name _____

School Name _____

District Name/LEA _____

Grade 7
English Language Arts/Literacy
End-of-Year Assessment
Practice Test

B

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F State Student Identifier

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C

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D Gender

Female Male

E Date of Birth

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Directions:

Today, you will be taking the Grade 7 English Language Arts/Literacy End-of-Year Practice Test.

You will be asked to read one or more passages. Read each passage and all questions carefully. Some questions will ask you to choose one correct answer, while others will ask you to choose more than one correct answer. You may look back at the passage or passages when needed.

Mark your answers by filling in the circles in your Test Booklet. Do not make any stray marks in the Test Booklet. If you need to change an answer, be sure to erase your first answer completely.

To answer a question that asks you to pick one answer, fill in the circle as shown in your Test Booklet.

A B C D E F G

To answer a question that asks you to pick more than one answer, fill in the circles as shown in your Test Booklet.

A B C D E F G

If you do not know the answer to a question, you may skip it and go on. If you finish the test early, you may review your answers and any questions you may have skipped.

- 14 The four dragons went happily back. But ten days passed, and not a drop of rain came down. The people suffered more, some eating bark, some grass roots, some forced to eat white clay when they ran out of bark and grass roots. Seeing all this, the four dragons felt very sorry, for they knew the Jade Emperor only cared about pleasure, and never took the people to heart. They could only rely on themselves to relieve the people of their miseries. But how to do it? Seeing the vast sea, the Long Dragon said that he had an idea.
- 15 "What is it? Out with it, quickly!" the other three demanded.
- 16 "Look, is there not plenty of water in the sea where we live? We should scoop it up and spray it towards the sky. The water will be like rain drops and come down to save the people and their crops," said Long Dragon.
- 17 "Good idea!" said the others as they clapped their hands.
- 18 "But," said the Long Dragon after thinking a bit, "we will be blamed if the Jade Emperor learns of this."
- 19 "I will do anything to save the people," the Yellow Dragon said resolutely.
- 20 "Then let's begin. We will never regret it," said Long Dragon.
- 21 The Black Dragon and the Pearl Dragon were not to be outdone. They flew to the sea, scooped up water in their mouths, and then flew back into the sky where they sprayed the water out over the earth. The four dragons flew back and forth, making the sky dark all around. Before long the sea water became rain pouring down from the sky.
- 22 "It's raining! It's raining! The crops will be saved!" the people cried and leaped with joy.
- 23 On the ground the wheat stalks raised their heads and the sorghum stalks straightened up. The god of the sea discovered these events and reported to the Jade Emperor.
- 24 "How dare the four dragons bring rain without my permission!" said the Jade Emperor.
- 25 The Jade Emperor was enraged, and ordered the heavenly generals and their troops to arrest the four dragons. Being far outnumbered, the four dragons could not defend themselves, and they were soon arrested and brought back to the heavenly palace.
- 26 "Go and get four mountains to lay upon them so that they can never escape!" The Jade Emperor ordered the Mountain God.

27 The Mountain God used his magic power to make four mountains fly there, whistling in the wind from afar, and pressed them down upon the four dragons. Imprisoned as they were, they never regretted their actions. Determined to do good for the people forever, they turned themselves into four rivers, which flowed past high mountains and deep valleys, crossing the land from the west to the east and finally emptying into the sea. And so China’s four great rivers were formed—the Heilongjian (Black Dragon) in the far north, the Huanghe (Yellow River) in central China, the Changjiang (Yangtze, or Long River) farther south, and the Zhujiang (Pearl) in the very far south.

The Four Dragons—Public Domain

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SERIAL #



1. Part A

How do the dragons' actions contribute to the development of the theme of the folktale?

- Ⓐ Their playfulness shows that appearances can be misleading when making character judgments.
- Ⓑ Their willingness to disobey the Jade Emperor shows that sacrifice is often needed for the good of others.
- Ⓒ Their reliability shows that respecting one's elders and following instructions are necessary for a successful society.
- Ⓓ Their respect for the Jade Emperor shows that children can learn much from their ancestors about historical events.

Part B

Which **two** paragraphs from the folktale support the answer to Part A?

- Ⓐ paragraph 1
- Ⓑ paragraph 8
- Ⓒ paragraph 13
- Ⓓ paragraph 18
- Ⓔ paragraph 23
- Ⓕ paragraph 27

3. Part A

As used in paragraph 19, what is the meaning of the word **resolutely**?

- Ⓐ acting with determination
- Ⓑ hesitating to act
- Ⓒ producing results
- Ⓓ proceeding cautiously

Part B

Which quotation **most** helps the reader understand the meaning of **resolutely**?

- Ⓐ “Look, is there not plenty of water in the sea where we live?” (paragraph 16)
- Ⓑ “We should scoop it up and spray it towards the sky.” (paragraph 16)
- Ⓒ “Good idea!” said the others as they clapped their hands.” (paragraph 17)
- Ⓓ “Then let’s begin. We will never regret it,” said Long Dragon.” (paragraph 20)

5. Part A

Which difference in attitudes between the Jade Emperor and the dragons influences events later in the folktale?

- Ⓐ The Jade Emperor is amused by the needs of the people, and the dragons are annoyed.
- Ⓑ The Jade Emperor is angered by the needs of the people, and the dragons are pleased.
- Ⓒ The Jade Emperor is indifferent about the needs of the people, and the dragons are concerned.
- Ⓓ The Jade Emperor is upset about the needs of the people, and the dragons are worried.

Part B

Which paragraphs provide evidence to support the answer to Part A?

- Ⓐ paragraphs 2–3
- Ⓑ paragraphs 5–6
- Ⓒ paragraphs 11–12
- Ⓓ paragraphs 22–23

forming around us all the time. Sand and gravel on beaches or in river bars look like the sandstone and conglomerate they will become. Compacted and dried mud flats harden into shale. Scuba divers who have seen mud and shells settling on the floors of lagoons find it easy to understand how sedimentary rocks form.

- 4 Sometimes sedimentary and igneous rocks are subjected to pressures so intense or heat so high that they are completely changed. They become *metamorphic rocks*, which form while deeply buried within the Earth’s crust. The process of metamorphism does not melt the rocks, but instead transforms them into denser, more compact rocks. New minerals are created either by rearrangement of mineral components or by reactions with fluids that enter the rocks. Some kinds of metamorphic rocks—granite gneiss and biotite schist are two examples—are strongly banded or foliated. (Foliated means the parallel arrangement of certain mineral grains that gives the rock a striped appearance.) Pressure or temperature can even change previously metamorphosed rocks into new types.

From *Collecting Rocks* by Rachel M. Barker, USGS—Public Domain

7. Part A

How does the author primarily structure “Collecting Rocks”?

- Ⓐ by discussing the effects of pressure on rock formation
- Ⓑ by describing the characteristics of specific types of rocks
- Ⓒ by comparing the sizes and shapes of rocks
- Ⓓ by focusing on order of importance of rock types

Part B

Which detail from the article **best** supports the answer to Part A?

- Ⓐ “. . . *igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic* rocks . . .” (paragraph 1)
- Ⓑ “. . . formed from melted rock that has cooled and solidified.” (paragraph 2)
- Ⓒ “. . . (volcanic glass), granite, basalt . . .” (paragraph 2)
- Ⓓ “Temperatures and pressures are low . . .” (paragraph 3)

would be impossible to understand without xenoliths and xenocrysts. Some of the features studied by geologists are temperature, pressure, construction, and movement within the Earth's surface.

- 8 Xenoliths can be a piece of rock trapped in a piece of sedimentary rock, but this is rare. Xenoliths have also been found in meteorites, or rocks from outer space that have crashed into Earth. The xenoliths in meteorites were formed from collisions with other objects outside the Earth's atmosphere.

"Xenolith" from National Geographic Education, copyright © by National Geographic Society. Used by permission. All rights reserved © Gerald Rhemann. Used by permission.

9. Part A

Which statement includes two central ideas of “Xenolith”?

- Ⓐ Xenoliths exist only in igneous rock and can help explain where meteorites come from.
- Ⓑ Xenoliths are usually formed by magma and are encased in other rock types.
- Ⓒ Xenoliths and xenocrysts look like sand and can give useful information about the Earth’s atmosphere.
- Ⓓ Xenoliths and xenocrysts can be found in all types of rock and can help explain how sedimentary rock is formed.

Part B

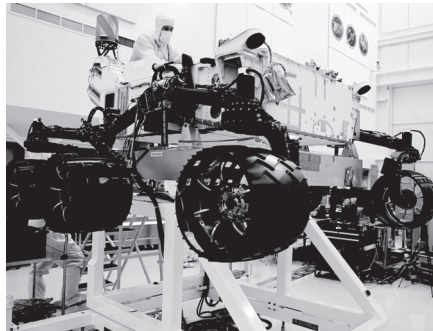
Which **two** details **best** support the answer to Part A?

- Ⓐ “. . . a xenolith is a rock embedded in magma while the magma was cooling.” (paragraph 2)
- Ⓑ “Xenoliths can be as small as a grain of sand or as large as a football” (paragraph 4)
- Ⓒ “Xenoliths and xenocrysts are affected by temperature.” (paragraph 5)
- Ⓓ “Xenoliths and xenocrysts are often identified by the names of the two rock types involved.” (paragraph 6)
- Ⓔ “A peridotite xenolith in a basaltic lava flow, for instance, means a chunk of the rock peridotite is embedded in basalt rock.” (paragraph 6)
- Ⓕ “Scientists study the chemical properties of xenoliths to understand the depth at which they were formed.” (paragraph 7)

Read the article "Five Things About NASA's Mars Curiosity Rover." Then answer questions 12 through 16.

Five Things About NASA's Mars Curiosity Rover

by Courtney O'Connor



NASA / JPL-Caltech—
Public Domain

Engineers working in a clean room at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory installed six new wheels on the Curiosity rover and rotated all six wheels at once on July 9, 2010.

- 1 Mars Science Laboratory, aka Curiosity, is part of NASA's Mars Exploration Program, a long-term program of robotic exploration of the Red Planet. The mission is scheduled to launch from Cape Canaveral, Fla., in late 2011, and arrive at an intriguing region of Mars in August 2012. The goal of Curiosity, a rolling laboratory, is to assess whether Mars ever had an environment capable of supporting microbial life and conditions favorable for preserving clues about life, if it existed. This will help us better understand whether life could have existed on the Red Planet and, if so, where we might look for it in the future.
- 2 **How Big Is It?:** The Mini Cooper-sized rover is much bigger than its rover predecessors, Spirit, Opportunity and Sojourner. Curiosity is twice as long (about 2.8 meters, or 9 feet) and four times as heavy as Spirit and Opportunity, which landed in 2004. Sojourner, about the size of a microwave oven, landed in 1997 as part of the Mars Pathfinder mission.
- 3 **Landing—Where and How:** Curiosity will land near the foot of a mountain taller than Pike's Peak near the middle of Gale Crater, which is the size of

12. Part A

What does the word **innovations** mean as it is used in paragraph 3?

- Ⓐ devices
- Ⓑ missions
- Ⓒ attempts
- Ⓓ advancements

Part B

Which **two** phrases from paragraph 3 help the reader understand the meaning of **innovations**?

- Ⓐ “. . . will land near the foot of a mountain taller than Pike’s Peak . . .”
- Ⓑ “. . . slows the rover’s descent toward Mars . . .”
- Ⓒ “. . . will lower the rover on a tether . . .”
- Ⓓ “. . . during the final moments before landing.”
- Ⓔ “. . . allows landing a very large, heavy rover on Mars . . .”
- Ⓕ “. . . enable a landing within a smaller target area . . .”

14. Part A

What is the author’s purpose for writing this article?

- Ⓐ to inform readers of the possible hazards of the Mars Curiosity rover
- Ⓑ to persuade readers to continue funding the Mars Curiosity rover
- Ⓒ to describe the mission and functions of the Mars Curiosity rover
- Ⓓ to argue that the future of science is dependent on the mission of the Mars Curiosity rover

Part B

Which **two** sentences from the article help readers understand the author’s purpose?

- Ⓐ “The goal of Curiosity, a rolling laboratory, is to assess whether Mars ever had an environment capable of supporting microbial life and conditions favorable for preserving clues about life, if it existed.” (paragraph 1)
- Ⓑ “The Mini Cooper-sized rover is much bigger than its rover predecessors, Spirit, Opportunity and Sojourner.” (paragraph 2)
- Ⓒ “Curiosity will land near the foot of a mountain taller than Pike’s Peak near the middle of Gale Crater, which is the size of Connecticut and Rhode Island combined.” (paragraph 3)
- Ⓓ “The landing system is similar to a sky crane heavy-lift helicopter.” (paragraph 3)
- Ⓔ “After a parachute slows the rover’s descent toward Mars, a rocket-powered backpack will lower the rover on a tether during the final moments before landing.” (paragraph 3)
- Ⓕ “Curiosity will use 10 science instruments to examine rocks, soil and the atmosphere.” (paragraph 4)

16. Part A

How will NASA’s creation of the Mars Curiosity rover help with the study of possible life on Mars?

- Ⓐ The rover will conduct experiments using advanced features.
- Ⓑ The rover will provide information about how the Gale Crater was formed.
- Ⓒ The rover will determine what type of equipment will be needed for future explorations.
- Ⓓ The rover will examine why earlier robotic explorations were not as successful.

Part B

Which sentence from the article supports the answer to Part A?

- Ⓐ “This method allows landing a very large, heavy rover on Mars (instead of the airbag landing systems of previous Mars rovers).” (paragraph 3)
- Ⓑ “A laser will vaporize patches of rock from a distance, and another instrument will search for organic compounds.” (paragraph 4)
- Ⓒ “Each of Curiosity’s six wheels has an independent drive motor.” (paragraph 5)
- Ⓓ “The two front and two rear wheels also have individual steering motors.” (paragraph 5)

How did you keep the whales and people safe?

3 It did help that the whales were located a good way from Barrow and the only route there was by snow machine or on one of the helicopters dedicated to the rescue effort. A rotating group of TV reporters and cameramen were flown out to the whales daily. Access was limited for safety reasons and to minimize disturbance to the whales and those involved directly with the rescue effort. Most of the people who live in Barrow know the conditions out on the ice better than anyone. We followed their advice and they helped us make decisions along the way. If they said it was time to stop because it was too dangerous, we listened. The Inupiat people who lived in and around Barrow did most of the hole-cutting, and their knowledge and guidance helped the operation stay safe and on track.

Did things get complicated with so many people wanting to help with the rescue?

4 There were so many groups—Inupiat hunters, biologists, oil companies, United States and Soviet Union government agencies, the military, non-profit organizations, and the press—on the scene and everyone wanted to play a part. There was a balancing act to include all of those who wanted to help with those that could really provide useful assistance. Aside from freeing the whales, it was the involvement of so many groups that actually became the operation’s biggest success story. Groups that were usually on opposite sides of major issues all came together to free the whales from the ice. This was during the height of the Cold War. Cooperation between the United States and Soviet Union on any issue was basically unheard of, especially on something so publicized.

How did you rescue the whales?

5 We had a lot of support. One company sent chain saws to help cut holes in the ice. Another sent portable generators to provide light and power. We cut a series of holes in the ice, hoping that the whales would swim from one hole to the next but it was so cold that they kept freezing over. The owners of a Minnesota company that specialized in underwater pumps saw the TV news reports and sent us special pumps made to circulate water and prevent freezing. All along, we had planned to use whale mating sounds to lure the whales from hole to hole. Quite by accident we discovered that the noise generated by the pumps attracted the whales. The pumps allowed us to coax

the whales to a new breathing hole ahead. It really helped us move them along. While we were carefully moving the whales, a Soviet ice-breaker arrived. It broke through a 15-foot area at the head of the bay area and cleared a channel for a few miles. We didn't want the ice-breaker getting too close to the whales, so [we] continued cutting holes to meet the channel so the whales could swim freely.

From NOAA's Big Miracle Worker; NOAA—Public Domain

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SERIAL #

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17. Part A

In paragraph 2 of “NOAA’s Big Miracle Worker,” what tone does the phrase **it was a total zoo** convey?

- Ⓐ urgent
- Ⓑ chaotic
- Ⓒ annoyed
- Ⓓ pleading

Part B

Which detail from the interview indicates a tone similar to the one identified in Part A?

- Ⓐ “All of the other gray whales had started migrating much earlier, but these three whales stayed in the feeding grounds too long.” (paragraph 2)
- Ⓑ “They seemed to understand that we were there to help them along.” (paragraph 2)
- Ⓒ “Access was limited for safety reasons and to minimize disturbance to the whales and those involved directly with the rescue effort.” (paragraph 3)
- Ⓓ “There were so many groups—Inupiat hunters, biologists, oil companies, United States and Soviet Union government agencies, the military, non-profit organizations, and the press—on the scene and everyone wanted to play a part.” (paragraph 4)

19. Part A

Which sentence from “NOAA’s Big Miracle Worker” includes two central ideas from the interview?

- Ⓐ “Once we started moving the whales toward freedom, however, I couldn’t help but think that they knew something was happening.” (paragraph 2)
- Ⓑ “It did help that the whales were located a good way from Barrow and the only route there was by snow machine or on one of the helicopters dedicated to the rescue effort.” (paragraph 3)
- Ⓒ “If they said it was time to stop because it was too dangerous, we listened.” (paragraph 3)
- Ⓓ “Aside from freeing the whales, it was the involvement of so many groups that actually became the operation’s biggest success story.” (paragraph 4)

Part B

Which additional sentence offers the **best** support for the central ideas in Part A?

- Ⓐ “The whales were relatively young and confused.” (paragraph 2)
- Ⓑ “We followed their advice and they helped us make decisions along the way.” (paragraph 3)
- Ⓒ “All along, we had planned to use whale mating sounds to lure the whales from hole to hole.” (paragraph 5)
- Ⓓ “While we were carefully moving the whales, a Soviet ice-breaker arrived.” (paragraph 5)

21. Part A

What effect did the owners of a Minnesota company have on the rescue?

- Ⓐ The equipment they sent allowed breathing holes to be cut in the ice.
- Ⓑ The equipment they sent helped to provide light for the workers.
- Ⓒ The equipment they sent helped the whales move forward from one hole to the next.
- Ⓓ The equipment they sent broke through the ice to create a path through the bay.

Part B

Which **two** details from paragraph 5 of the interview **best** support the answer to Part A?

- Ⓐ “. . . chain saws to help cut holes in the ice.”
- Ⓑ “. . . circulate water and prevent freezing.”
- Ⓒ “. . . whale mating sounds to lure the whales . . .”
- Ⓓ “. . . noise generated by the pumps attracted the whales.”
- Ⓔ “. . . broke through a 15-foot area at the head of the bay . . .”
- Ⓕ “. . . cutting holes to meet the channel . . .”

22. Part A

What made Dave Withrow uniquely qualified to join Operation Breakthrough?

- Ⓐ his experience participating in marine mammal rescues
- Ⓑ his knowledge about the behavior of marine mammals
- Ⓒ his understanding of conditions the rescuers faced
- Ⓓ his relationship with members of the news media

Part B

Which piece of evidence from the interview **best** supports the answer to Part A?

- Ⓐ “. . . anything whale-related, especially on the West Coast, comes through our office.” (paragraph 1)
- Ⓑ “. . . not at all like the average whale stranding at the beach.” (paragraph 2)
- Ⓒ “. . . we didn’t know why this had captured the whole world’s attention, but all eyes were on us.” (paragraph 2)
- Ⓓ “. . . their knowledge and guidance helped the operation stay safe and on track.” (paragraph 3)





You have come to the end of the test.

- **Review your answers.**
- **Then, close your test booklet and raise your hand to turn in your test materials.**





Grade 7
English Language Arts/Literacy
Test Booklet

End-of-Year Assessment
Practice Test