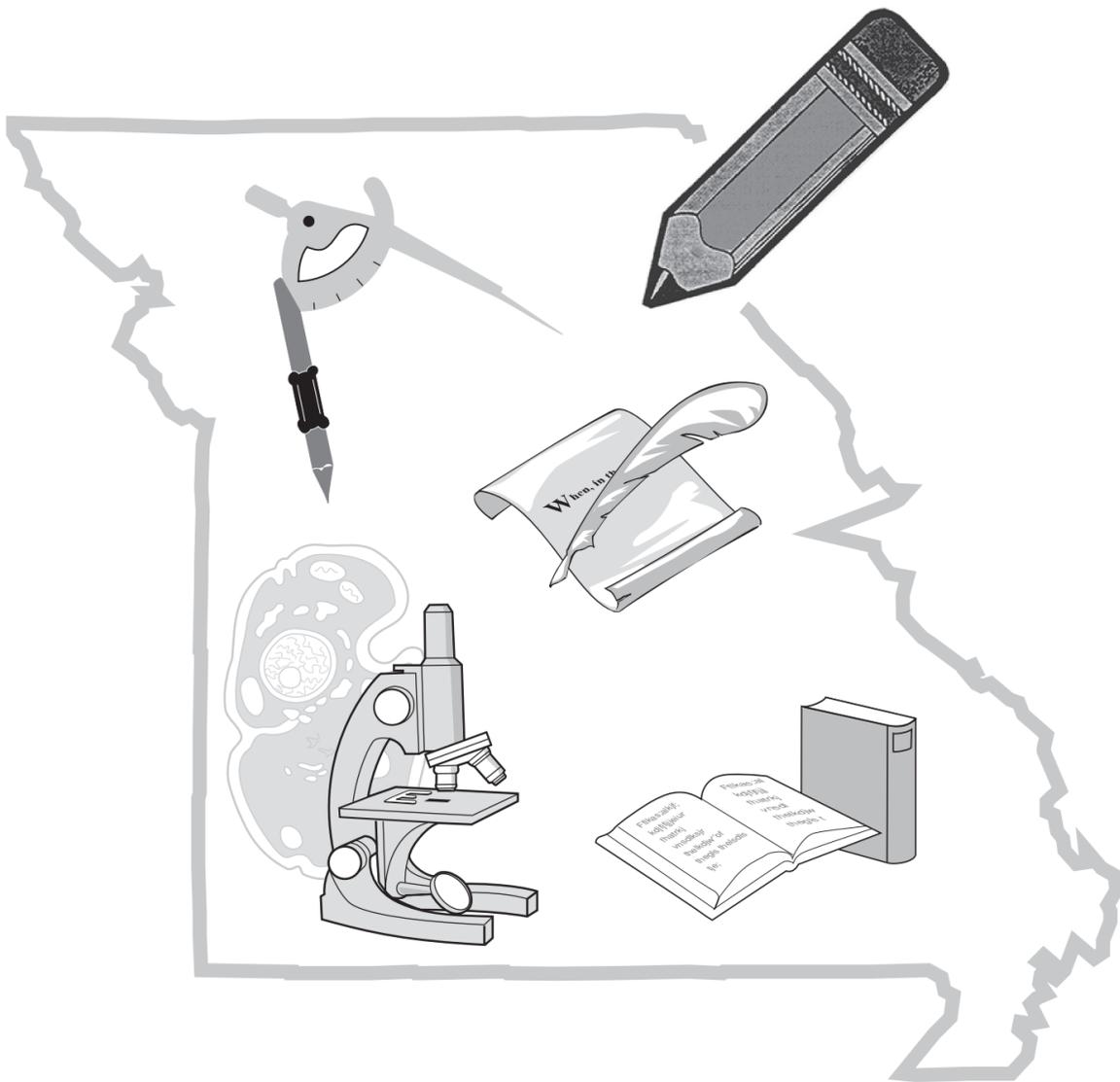


Name: \_\_\_\_\_

District/School: \_\_\_\_\_

# Missouri Assessment Program

## Released Practice Form Grade 4 English Language Arts



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Missouri Department of Elementary  
and Secondary Education

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# **Session 1**

# **English Language Arts**

## **Directions**

Now you will be taking the English Language Arts Practice Form. This test has four sessions that contain different types of questions. Today you will take Session 1. This session includes questions based on passages. Be sure to read each passage. Some questions will have answer choices that begin with letters. Circle the letter of each correct answer. Other questions will ask you to write or circle your answers. One question will require you to respond to a writing prompt. First, read the prompt to understand the task. Then, plan and draft your essay. Finally, write the final draft of your essay. Read each question carefully and follow the directions. Mark all your answers in your test booklet.

**Go On ▶**

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PAGE.**

# Cowboy from Head to Toe

by Kathleen Nyquist

Many people today wear western clothes because they like the style. Cowboys and cowgirls choose clothes for their usefulness.

In the late 1800s, many cowboys lived outdoors. They carried all of their supplies on a horse. They needed useful, durable clothes for life in the wilderness.

A cowboy used his hat, or “Stetson,” for many things. (John B. Stetson invented the felt cowboy hat.) A cowboy’s hat kept rain from his neck and sun from his face. Oats for horses could be put inside. Hats could hold water for drinking or putting out fires. A cowboy could wave his hat as a signal.

People could tell by a cowboy’s hat where he came from. Men from rainy areas wore hats with a deep crease in the crown. The crease let water drain off easily. In windy areas cowboys wore hats with a low crown. They were less likely to get blown off by the wind. Cowboys from sunny places needed hats with wide brims for shade.

Bandannas came in handy, too. Since most shirts were collarless, cowboys used bandannas to help protect their necks from sunburn. They often wore bandannas over their mouths to avoid eating dust kicked up by cattle. If someone broke an arm, the bandanna became a sling until a doctor came. Bandannas were also used as ties when cowboys wanted to dress up.

Cowboys often wore wool shirts. Wool absorbed a cowboy’s sweat on a hot day. It kept him warm on a cold night. Some cowboys wore shirts made from the skins of deer. Like the fancy western clothes of today, buckskin shirts often had fringe on them.

Fringe was first used by Native Americans. Cowboys learned that rainwater slipped off the thin strips. This kept clothes from getting soaked. Cowboys could also cut off the long leather fringe to fix fences or whatever needed tying.

Cowboys often wore vests over their shirts. Vests kept out cold winds, and cowboys could move easily in them. Also, vests had pockets. (Most shirts didn’t.) Cowboys needed vest pockets to carry matches, gold nuggets, and notebooks for recording cattle brands.

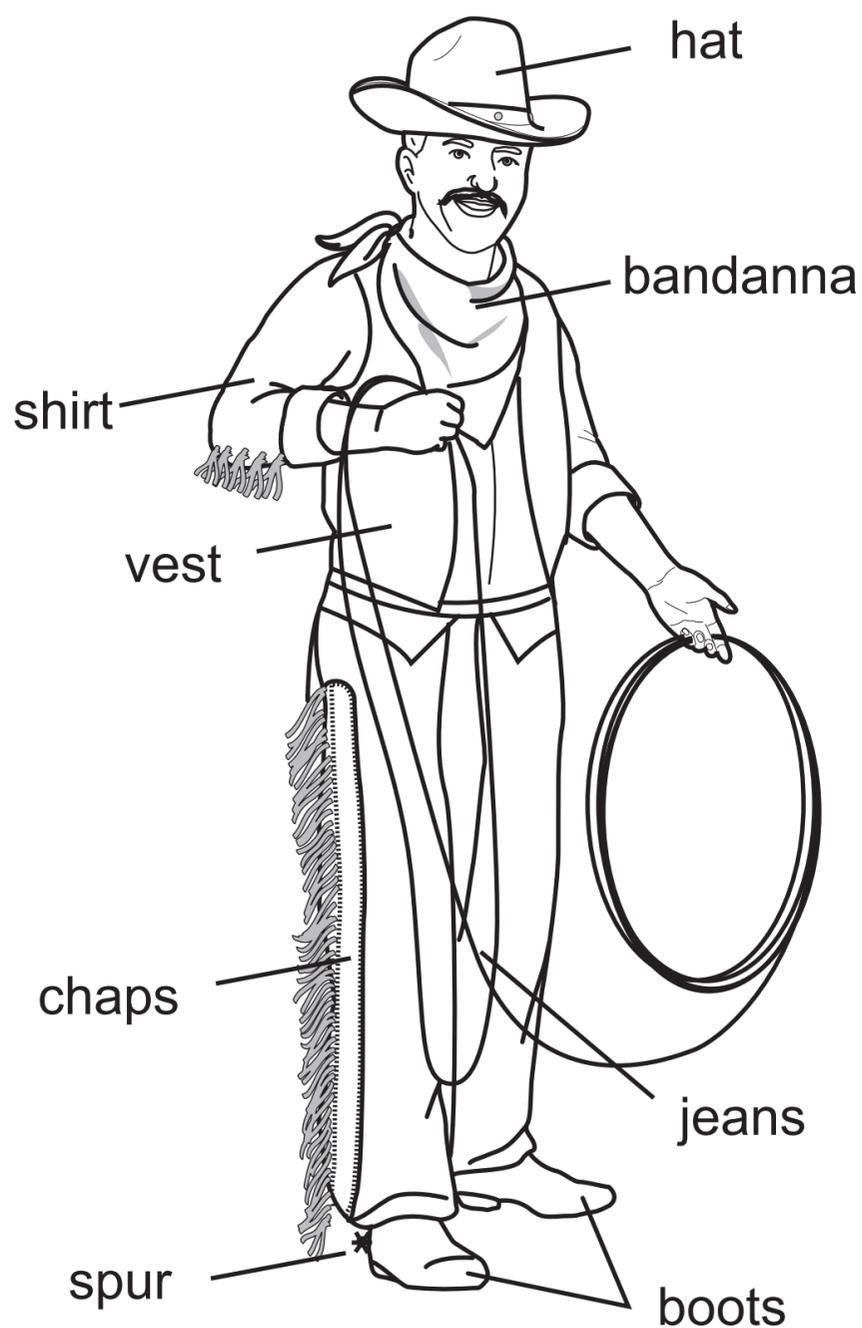
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Shirts were tucked into heavy-duty pants, such as Levi's jeans. (These were invented by Levi Strauss in the mid-1800s.) A cowboy could ride many rough trails before his jeans wore out.

Mexican cowboys, called vaqueros, gave American cowboys the idea of wearing chaps. These large pieces of leather protected legs from thorns, wire fences, and kicking cattle.

Of course, a cowboy wouldn't be complete without boots. These were useful, too. The pointed toes made it easy for a cowboy to slip his feet into stirrups. The raised heels kept his feet from slipping out. When roping cattle on foot, a cowboy dug his big bootheels into the dirt to keep from falling. Spiked wheels, called spurs, were usually filed until blunt, then attached to bootheels. They were used to give signals to the horse.

Cowboys and cowgirls today wear many of the same types of clothes as cowboys of the late 1800s. Fashions change, but useful work clothes never go out of style.



## Warm Your Toes with a Hat

by Joyce Michel

Do your parents or teachers ever remind you to wear a hat? Have courage. You're not alone. For generations, grown-ups have urged kids to put on a hat before going outdoors in cold weather.

But why cover your head when you feel toasty warm inside a coat?

A coat does trap some of the heat that your body creates. But a lot of that heat goes to your head in the large amounts of blood your brain requires to do its work. Wearing a hat traps that heat.

**Go On ▶**

It makes sense to wear a hat outdoors during cold weather. But what about wearing a hat to bed? At one time that was a good idea, too. Long before gas or electric heaters were invented, people heated their homes with fireplaces. Because fires could not be left burning unattended, homes were not heated at night. Rooms grew so cold that people could see their own breath.

In such bone-chilling rooms, cold feet made sleeping difficult. Some families wrapped a heated brick in soft cloth and placed it between the covers near the foot of each bed. Other families moved a long-handled warming pan between the covers. This flat, round, lidded pan contained hot coals that warmed the bed. Still, a person's head stuck out above the covers. And that could get chilly!

Wearing a nightcap kept body heat from escaping and helped warm not only the bed but also the people in it, including their ten cold toes.

Ways to stay warm inside a home have changed greatly through the years. However, staying warm outdoors in the cold remains much the same: Put on your coat and wear a hat—to warm your toes.

---

**1** Read the sentence from "Cowboy from Head to Toe."

Wool absorbed a cowboy's sweat on a hot day.

What is the meaning of absorbed?

- A. soaked up
- B. turned away
- C. created more
- D. protected from

2

In “**Cowboy from Head to Toe**,” the author explains why cowboys wore certain clothing. Read the features in the chart and the details in the Answer Bank. Write the correct detail about the purpose of the clothing in the box next to the feature it **best** describes. Write **one** detail in each box. Some details will **not** be used.

Feature	Purpose
hat	
fringe	
vest	
spurs	

**Answer Bank**

- protected the legs of the cowboy
- helped to keep the cowboy warm
- provided protection from the sun
- to give directions to a horse
- prevented clothes from getting soaked
- became a sling if the cowboy was hurt

**Go On ▶**

**3**

Based on the information in “**Warm Your Toes with a Hat,**” why do you lose a large amount of heat through your head?

- A.** because of the air you are breathing out
- B.** because of the methods used to heat the house
- C.** because of heat getting trapped under your coat
- D.** because of the amount of blood that travels to your brain

**4**

How are the ideas in “**Cowboy from Head to Toe**” and “**Warm Your Toes with a Hat**” related? **Choose two answers.**

- A.** They explain why people wear certain types of clothing.
- B.** They give opinions about which style of clothing is best.
- C.** They introduce the history of different types of clothing.
- D.** They encourage the reader to wear clothing that is in style.
- E.** They describe clothing that is worn when doing a specific job.

**5**

**Informative/Explanatory Writing Prompt**

Clothing plays an important role in people’s daily lives at work, at school, in the outdoors, and at other places. Consider how certain articles of clothing are best for certain places and situations.

Write an informative/explanatory essay for your teacher that explains how different types of clothing can help people’s daily lives. Be sure to use details and examples from **both** passages to support your ideas.

**Writer’s Checklist**

- My essay has an effective beginning, middle, and end.
- My essay flows smoothly from one idea to another.
- My essay contains a strong controlling idea that stays on topic.
- My essay includes specific and relevant details, reasons, and/or examples.
- My essay uses precise and vivid language.
- My essay contains sentences that are clear and varied in structure.
- My essay includes correct grammar, usage, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.
- My essay uses material from the source(s).

**Go On ▶**



**Go On ▶**



**Go On ▶**



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## **Session 2**

# **English Language Arts**

### **Directions**

Now you will be taking Session 2 of the English Language Arts Practice Form. This session includes different types of questions based on passages. Be sure to read each passage. Some questions will have answer choices that begin with letters. Circle the letter of each correct answer. Other questions will ask you to write or circle your answers. Read each question carefully and follow the directions. Mark all your answers in your test booklet.

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# Annie and the Wizard of Oz

I came home from school one afternoon, full of excitement and a touch of nervousness. Our teacher, Mrs. Hughes, had announced that our fourth-grade class's upcoming play would be **The Wizard of Oz**. I've read the book and watched the movie several times. It's one of my favorite stories. In the past, I've been too shy to try out for school plays. However, the idea of portraying the Cowardly Lion made me think I would like to be a part of the cast. I love the lion more than any other character.

When I arrived at school the next day, I signed up for tryouts and brought home a short script to memorize. The script called for my character to jump out of hiding and roar at Dorothy. My older brother, Michael, overheard me practicing and laughed.

"Annie, you sound more like a timid little kitten than a fierce lion," he said. He let out a big roar that made me laugh too. We practiced being lions until Mom called us to dinner.

More than anything, I wanted to do a good job and get the part. I thought about how much fun it would be to wear the lion costume. It had a big mane made from yarn and a long, tufted tail. For the next few days, I came home and practiced my lines until I no longer needed the script.

On the day of my audition, I felt confident until I watched my classmates' auditions. Then, when I stood up in front of the class, my shyness came back and I stumbled on my lines. I was dissatisfied with my performance. Unfortunately, the part I wanted went to another student, and I was asked to take the role of Auntie Em.

I was so disappointed that I came home in tears. Instead of getting to wear the lion costume, I was given a plain dress and a gray wig.

Mom found me crying in my room and asked what was wrong.

"I wanted to be the Cowardly Lion, and now I have to wear this old dress," I told her. "I want to quit the play."

"Honey, sometimes we have to do things we don't think we will like," Mom said. "Even though you didn't get the part you wanted, go out there and be the best Auntie Em you can possibly be."

I decided to take Mom's advice. I asked Michael if he would help me rehearse again.

**Go On ►**

“I’ll feed the dog every day for a week if you’ll go over my lines with me,” I told him.  
“That sounds like a fair trade,” my brother said.

We rehearsed my part every day after school until the night of the play. When I entered the auditorium, I was still nervous, but I remembered what my mother told me about doing my best. It was fun being backstage and watching the other kids perform. By my final scene, I wasn’t scared anymore. This time I remembered my lines. My voice rang clear and strong. I could be heard throughout the packed auditorium. When all of us in the cast came out to take a bow, people cheered.

Afterward, Mom and Michael came backstage to congratulate me. Mrs. Hughes walked over and said, “Annie, you were a great Auntie Em. I know it wasn’t the part you wanted, but you really made the best of it.”

Even better than what my teacher said was the big hug I got from my mom.

“I’m so proud of you!” she told me.

Michael smiled at me, pulled at my silly wig, and said, “Good job, Sis.”

I can’t wait to try out for next year’s play!

---

**1** Which detail from the passage **best** supports the idea that **The Wizard of Oz** is one of Annie’s favorite stories?

- A.** I’ve read the book and watched the movie several times.
- B.** However, the idea of portraying the Cowardly Lion made me think I would like to be a part of the cast.
- C.** I love the lion more than any other character.
- D.** I thought about how much fun it would be to wear the lion costume.

2

Which sentences from the passage explain what may have caused Annie to get a role different from the one she had wanted? **Choose two answers.**

- A. In the past, I've been too shy to try out for school plays.
- B. I love the lion more than any other character.
- C. "Annie, you sound more like a timid little kitten than a fierce lion," he said.
- D. More than anything, I wanted to do a good job and get the part.
- E. Then, when I stood up in front of the class, my shyness came back and I stumbled on my lines.

**Go On ▶**

3

Complete the chart using the details from the passage in the Answer Bank. Write each detail under the description of Annie that the detail supports. One box in the chart will be blank.

Annie is easily upset.	Annie is committed.

**Answer Bank**

wants to quit

practiced lines

crying in my room

came home in tears

rehearsed every day

voice clear and strong

no longer needed script

4

Which sentences show how Annie is helped to feel differently about her role in the school play? **Circle two sentences.**

Mom found me crying in my room and asked what was wrong.

"I wanted to be the Cowardly Lion, and now I have to wear this old dress," I told her. "I want to quit the play."

"Honey, sometimes we have to do things we don't think we will like," Mom said. "Even though you didn't get the part you wanted, go out there and be the best Auntie Em you can possibly be."

I decided to take Mom's advice. I asked Michael if he would help me rehearse again.

**Go On ▶**

# The History of Donuts

Ask someone what his or her favorite treat is. The answer might be donuts! These yummy fried cakes are enjoyed all over the world. Where did donuts come from? How did they get that hole in the middle? The answers may surprise you.

People have been eating fried dough for thousands of years. Scientists have found fossils of fried cakes with holes in ancient sites. No one knows what they tasted like, but it is likely that ancient people enjoyed them. We still enjoy donuts today.

In the 1840s, many Dutch people moved to the United States. They brought a favorite snack. Its name was “olykoeks.” That Dutch word meant “oily cakes.” This treat got its name because the dough was fried in oil. Olykoeks were a lot like donuts. However, they were missing one important thing. These cakes had no holes.

Later in the 1800s, a woman named Elizabeth Gregory made an interesting type of fried dough cake. She filled the middle with spices and bits of fruit. Sometimes she used nuts. Mrs. Gregory called her treats “dough nuts” because they had nuts in the middle.

Elizabeth Gregory’s son, Hanson Gregory, was a ship captain. He always took plenty of his mother’s treats on long sea trips. One day, Captain Gregory punched the filling out of the middle of the dough nut. No one knows for sure why he did this. Maybe he did not like nuts. Or maybe a storm led to the creation of the donut hole.

An old story says that Captain Gregory was trying to steer his ship through a bad storm. He had to keep both hands on the wheel. However, the captain was hungry, and he wanted his favorite snack, his mother’s dough nut cake. However, he could not hold food and steer at the same time. The captain had a great idea. He jammed one of his mother’s cakes onto the spoke of the wheel. The wooden spoke poked out the hole. Captain Gregory liked the cake better without the filling in the middle. The donut as we know it was born.

No one knows whether the story about Captain Gregory is true. However, it is true that donuts became a popular snack about 100 years ago.

During World War I, American soldiers were sent to France. Some American women volunteered to help the soldiers overseas. One way they did this was to make them a treat from home—donuts. The soldiers loved these tasty snacks. When the soldiers came back to the United States, they wanted even more of those yummy donuts. It did not take long before donuts became popular across the United States.

People loved donuts, but making donuts by hand took time. In 1920, baker Adolph Levitt knew he needed a way to make donuts faster to meet his customers' demands. He invented the first donut machine. His customers were happy. Finally, they could get their donuts without waiting in a long line!

Donuts were a popular treat at the 1933 World's Fair in Chicago. People lined up to watch machines create them. Donuts were called "the hit food of the Century of Progress." That is a pretty fancy name for a fried treat!

Donuts even have their own day. National Donut Day is celebrated on the first Friday in June every year. This day began in Chicago in 1938 to honor the women who had served donuts to American soldiers.

The donut has had a long and interesting history. The story started with fried cakes and a hungry ship captain. Today this snack is one of the most popular treats in the world.

### **Fun Facts about Donuts**

- More than 10 billion donuts are made in the United States every year.
- Glazed donuts are the most popular flavor.
- A glazed donut has about 200 calories.
- Canada has the most donut shops in the world.
- Canadians eat more donuts than people in any other country.

---

**5** Which idea does the text box "**Fun Facts about Donuts**" support?

- A.** Donuts come in hundreds of varieties.
- B.** Donuts are usually eaten for breakfast.
- C.** Other places besides the United States enjoy donuts.
- D.** People still use the recipes from long ago to make donuts.

**Go On ►**

**6** Read the sentences from the passage.

In 1920, baker Adolph Levitt knew he needed a way to make donuts faster to meet his customers' demands. He invented the first donut machine. His customers were happy. Finally, they could get their donuts without waiting in a long line!

Which words mean the same as customers? Choose two answers.

- A. builders
- B. buyers
- C. helpers
- D. servers
- E. shoppers

**7** Circle the sentence from the passage that best tells how the Dutch donuts differed from today's donuts.

In the 1840s, many Dutch people moved to the United States. They brought a favorite snack. Its name was "olykoeks." That Dutch word meant "oily cakes." This treat got its name because the dough was fried in oil. Olykoeks were a lot like donuts. However, they were missing one important thing. These cakes had no holes.

**8** This question has two parts. First, answer part A. Then, answer part B.

**Part A**

After reading the passage, which conclusion is **best** supported?

- A. Donuts were very difficult to make.
- B. Donuts have been around for a long time.
- C. Donuts were served mainly in fancy places.
- D. Donuts have been given to children as a treat.

**Part B**

Which sentence from the passage **best** supports the answer to part A?

- A. People have been eating fried dough for thousands of years.
- B. Mrs. Gregory called her treats “dough nuts” because they had nuts in the middle.
- C. People loved donuts, but making donuts by hand took time.
- D. Donuts were a popular treat at the 1933 World’s Fair in Chicago.

**STOP** 

**STOP** 

**STOP** 

# The Lion, the Bear, and the Fox

One lazy sunny afternoon, Fox was napping under a shady bush until she was startled by the sound of booming voices drifting through the forest. With a curious yawn, Fox wandered in the direction the voices were coming from.

Fox discovered Lion and Bear standing under an ancient tree. A broken beehive with gleaming honey seeping from its cracks lay between them.

"What is happening?" Fox asked Lion and Bear as she licked her lips.

"Lion wants **my** honey," Bear bellowed. "I shook the tree and knocked the beehive from its branches. The honey belongs to me!"

"But I chased the angry bees away with my speed," shouted Lion. "The honey belongs to me!"

Fox felt her stomach rumble as she eyed the delicious prize, but clearly, Lion and Bear would not share. The two powerful animals ruled the forest and were never challenged by other creatures.

Carefully, Fox listened as Lion and Bear continued to argue. Suddenly, a lively glimmer sparked in her eyes.

"You should have a contest to settle your disagreement," Fox declared. "The animal that climbs the highest in the tree will win the honey."

"That's easier said than done," Bear grumbled as he peered upward at the trees.

"I'm sure Lion is strong enough to climb to the top," Fox mentioned slyly.

"Lion cannot defeat me," Bear retorted. "I'm as mighty as a mountain." Puffing out his chest, he marched over to the tree to get ready.

Lion also hesitated. He had noticed Fox gazing at the honey and felt a glimmer of worry.

"I don't like contests," Lion declared.

"Are you afraid that Bear will race by you?" Fox asked.

"Bear will never pass me," Lion declared, lashing out at the suggestion. "I'm a bolt of lightning!" Then he dashed toward Bear.

In a flurry of legs and claws, Lion and Bear gripped the tree's trunk. As swiftly as the wind, they ascended. Branches trembled and shook, and bright green leaves fluttered down behind them like butterflies.

As Bear and Lion climbed, Fox briefly glanced at the honey. Her mouth began to water, but she patiently watched the contest. Bear was lagging behind, so Fox proclaimed, "Lion's strength is carrying him to victory."

Instantly, Fox's words prodded Bear like a stout stick. With a fresh burst of energy, Bear strengthened his efforts.

"Amazing!" Fox praised Bear as she sniffed the honey just once. The inviting scent tempted her, but she turned her attention to the contest again. Lion was slowing his pace, so Fox called out, "Bear's speed is superior."

Roaring, Lion grabbed the branches above Bear and regained the lead.

Finally, Lion and Bear reached the treetop. Exhausted, they peered down at Fox, who was devouring every last drop of honey. Lion and Bear wondered how they could have been so foolish to trust Fox.

After the honey was gone, Fox sang a song to Lion and Bear:

Strength is a mighty gift.  
You can shake a towering tree.  
And when you are quite swift,  
the buzzing bees are left behind.

But if talent leads to pride  
and endless boasts of skill,  
then wisdom soon gets pushed aside  
and careful judgment disappears.

Because you could not share  
your glory or your prize,  
I have earned my tasty fare,  
a banquet feast for humble Fox.

**9** Read the sentences from the passage.

Instantly, Fox’s words prodded Bear like a stout stick. With a fresh burst of energy, Bear strengthened his efforts.

What is the meaning of the phrase “prodded Bear like a stout stick”?

- A. urged Bear to try harder
- B. slowed the pace of Bear
- C. hurt the feelings of Bear
- D. caused Bear to lose balance

**10** Circle the sentence from the passage that explains why Fox suggests Lion and Bear should have a contest.

Fox felt her stomach rumble as she eyed the delicious prize, but clearly, Lion and Bear would not share. The two powerful animals ruled the forest and were never challenged by other creatures.

Carefully, Fox listened as Lion and Bear continued to argue. Suddenly, a lively glimmer sparked in her eyes.

11

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

**Part A**

Which conclusion is supported by details in the passage?

- A. Bear is excited to race Lion.
- B. Lion is suspicious of Fox's plan.
- C. Lion is nervous that Bear may win.
- D. Bear is inspired by Fox's suggestion.

**Part B**

Which evidence from the passage supports the answer to part A?

- A. "Lion cannot defeat me," Bear retorted. "I'm as mighty as a mountain."
- B. Puffing out his chest, he marched over to the tree to get ready.
- C. He had noticed Fox gazing at the honey and felt a glimmer of worry.
- D. "Are you afraid that Bear will race by you?" Fox asked.

**Go On ►**

**12**

Lion and Bear have similar character traits. Choose the character trait each pair of details supports. Write the trait in the box beside its supporting details. Only two words in the Answer Bank will be used.

Character Trait	Supporting Details
	"I'm as mighty as a mountain." "I'm a bolt of lightning!"
	"Lion wants <b>my</b> honey." "The honey belongs to me!"

**Answer Bank**

brave

lazy

proud

selfish

sly

**13**

What is a theme of the passage?

- A.** Help those who are willing to listen.
- B.** Praise encourages others to victory.
- C.** Show respect to those who have power.
- D.** Greed can lead to making foolish decisions.

**STOP** 

**STOP** 

**STOP** 

# **ATTENTION!**

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told to do so.**



**Please use ONLY a Number 2 pencil for this session.**

## **Session 3**

# **English Language Arts**

### **Directions**

Now you will be taking Session 3 of the English Language Arts Practice Form. This session includes different types of questions. Some questions will have answer choices that begin with letters. Circle the letter of each correct answer. Other questions will ask you to write or circle your answers. Read each question carefully and follow the directions. Mark all your answers in your test booklet.

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1

A student made a plan for a research report. Read the plan and the directions that follow.

**Research Report Plan**

Topic: Grand Canyon

Audience: fourth-grade students

Purpose: to inform

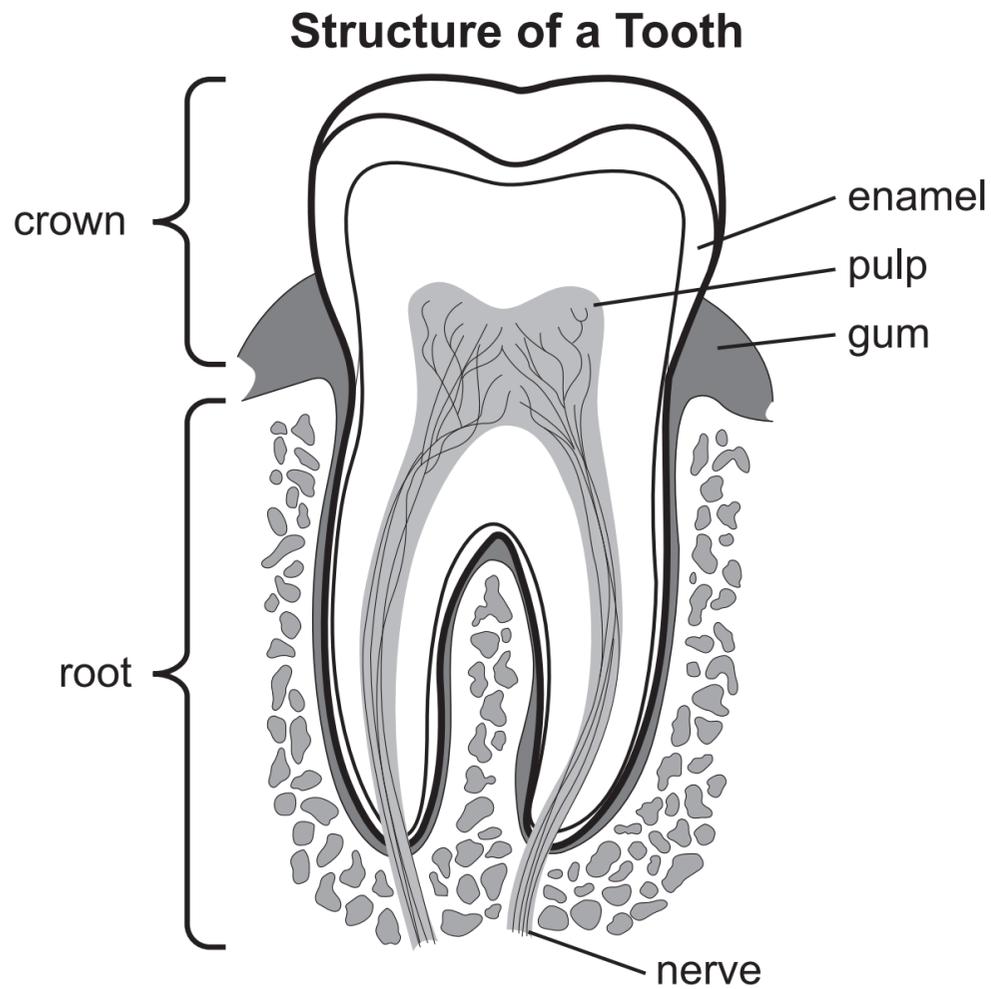
Research Question: How did the Grand Canyon form?

Which sources would **most likely** have information for the report? **Choose two answers.**

- A. a travel video showing views of the Grand Canyon
- B. a book called **Cut by River: The Making of the Grand Canyon**
- C. a link titled "**Wildlife in the Grand Canyon**" on a national park website
- D. a personal essay called "**My Adventure Trip to the Grand Canyon**"
- E. a magazine article titled "**Rocks and Rivers in the Creation of the Grand Canyon**"

2

A student is taking notes for a research report about teeth. The student found a diagram of a tooth and took notes.



Which note is supported by the diagram?

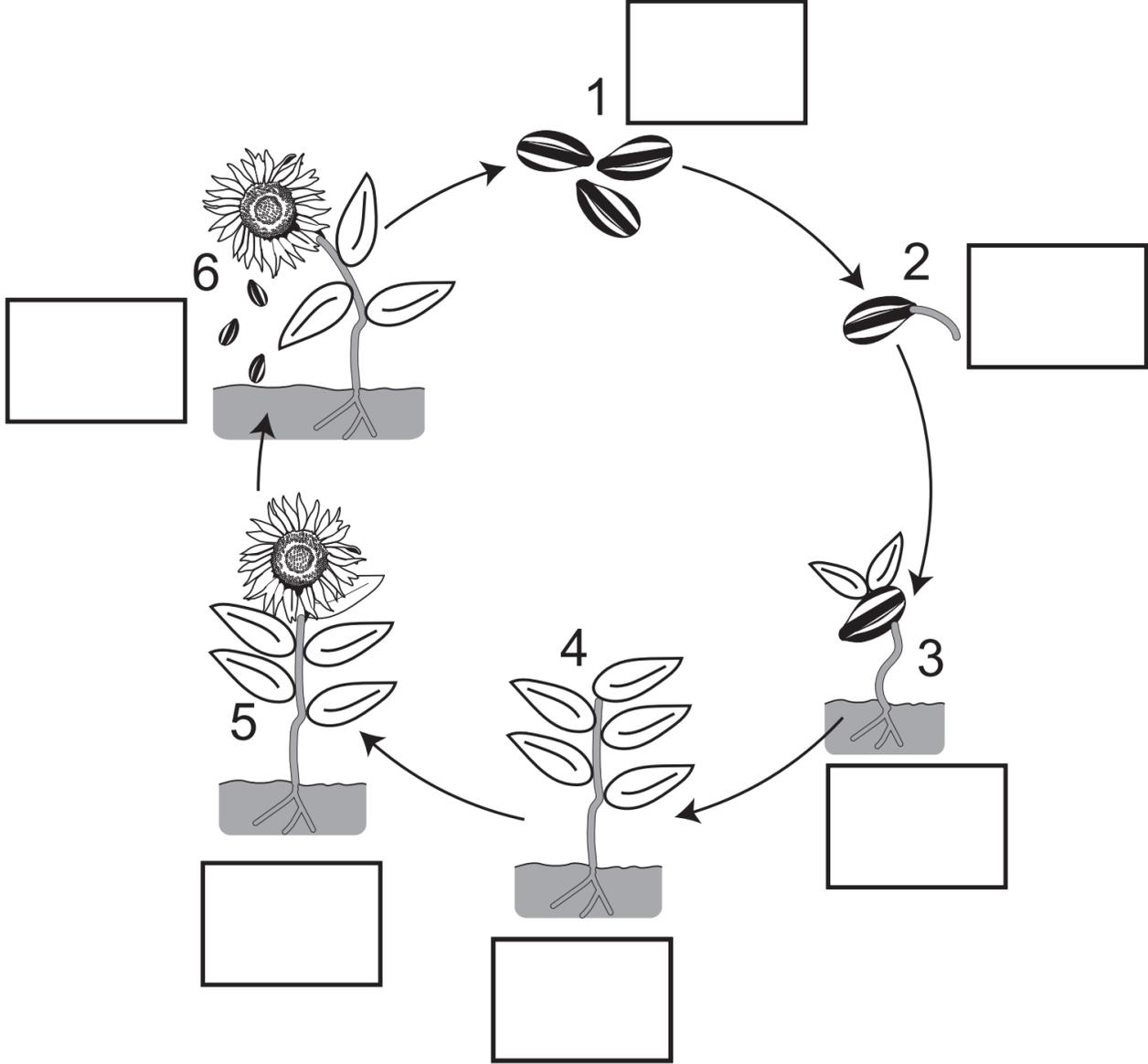
- A. Tooth decay is a common problem.
- B. Tooth enamel gets thinner with age.
- C. The root of a tooth is below the gum.
- D. The nerves of a tooth provide protection.

**Go On ▶**

3

A student is taking notes for a research report about sunflowers. The student has found a diagram that illustrates the life cycle of a sunflower.

### Life Cycle of a Flower



Read the descriptions. Write the letters A–F in the boxes to match each description with the correct picture.

- A. The plant grows many leaves.
- B. Plants begin as seeds.
- C. Seeds from the flower fall to ground.
- D. The seed begins to grow.
- E. The seed pushes its way through soil.
- F. The fully grown plant produces a flower.

**4** A student is writing a research report about ways some organizations are helping cheetahs to survive. Which research question would provide the **most** useful information?

- A.** How many cheetahs are left in the world?
- B.** What is being done by others to protect cheetahs?
- C.** How do cheetahs protect themselves from danger?
- D.** What has caused the population of cheetahs to go down?

**5** A student is writing a report about the parts of mountain bikes. Read the paragraph headings from a source.

Which paragraphs **most likely** have information for the report? **Choose two answers.**

- A.** Building a Mountain Bike
- B.** Features of a Mountain Bike
- C.** Being Safe on a Mountain Bike
- D.** Top Two Mountain Bikes of the Year
- E.** Choosing the Best Mountain Bike Trails

**6** Read the sentences. Circle the word that correctly completes the last sentence.

Barry was disappointed. He wanted to play baseball, but all his friends were busy. Because he did not want to waste the beautiful summer day, ( I / he / they ) decided to go swimming instead.

**Go On ►**

**7**

**A student is writing a science report for her teacher. Read the paragraph from the student's report.**

Where is the hottest place on Earth? The answer is not so simple. The hottest places can change from year to year. The temperature at Death Valley, California, was a roasting 134 degrees Fahrenheit on July 10, 1913. That's too hot for me! Scientists can use satellites to measure temperatures in hard-to-reach places. In 2005, a satellite over the Lut Desert in Iran recorded the unbelievable temperature of 159.3 degrees! Some of the other hottest places are in Australia and China.

Which sentence is the **least** appropriate for the audience and purpose of the paragraph?

- A.** The answer is not so simple.
- B.** The temperature at Death Valley, California, was a roasting 134 degrees Fahrenheit on July 10, 1913.
- C.** That's too hot for me!
- D.** In 2005, a satellite over the Lut Desert in Iran recorded the unbelievable temperature of 159.3 degrees!

**8**

**Read the sentence.**

Monday is Labor Day so students will not be in school.

Where should a comma be placed to correct the sentence?

- A.** after Monday
- B.** after Day
- C.** after so
- D.** after students

9

**Read a student's paragraph about orangutans.**

\_\_\_\_\_ These giant apes live in trees most of the time, and they can move from branch to branch easily. They swing through the trees using their long arms, long fingers, and toes. Some male orangutans have an arm span of about 7.5 feet. Their hands and feet are like human hands and feet because they have an opposable thumb and a big toe for grasping objects.

What is the **best** topic sentence for the paragraph?

- A.** Orangutans have special features to help them survive.
- B.** Orangutans prefer the forests on the island of Borneo.
- C.** Orangutans are similar to humans in many ways.
- D.** Orangutans live in Southeast Asia.

**STOP** 

**STOP** 

**STOP** 

# **ATTENTION!**

**Do NOT go on  
until you are  
told to do so.**



**Please use ONLY a Number 2 pencil for this session.**

## **Session 4**

# **English Language Arts**

### **Directions**

Now you will be taking Session 4 of the English Language Arts Practice Form. This session includes different types of questions based on presentations. Some questions will have answer choices that begin with letters. Circle the letter of each correct answer. Other questions will ask you to write or circle your answers. Read each question carefully and follow the directions. Mark all your answers in your test booklet.

**Go On ▶**

**DO NOT  
MARK  
ON THIS  
PAGE.**

Listen to the presentation. Then answer the questions.

# The Sea's Prize

**1** Which reason **most likely** explains why the merchant, the farmer, and the artist are excited when they see what they believe is a ship?

- A.** They are tired of their ordinary lives.
- B.** A ship is a rare sight for them to see.
- C.** They are ready for a break after working hard.
- D.** They believe the ship might contain valuable items.

**2** When the artist shouts "Is something wrong?" to the men as they pass her by, they answer her without words.

Which question would **best** help listeners understand the men's answer to the artist?

- A.** How did the men communicate silently?
- B.** Where were the men going in such a hurry?
- C.** Why were the men gasping to catch their breath?
- D.** How did the men know the artist was feeling nervous?

**Go On ►**

**3** How are the characters similar? **Choose two answers.**

- A.** They are all excited about seeing the ship.
- B.** They are all expecting to get the same outcome.
- C.** They all want to share their treasures with others.
- D.** They are all happy to see that they were right all along.
- E.** They all react without thinking about what they are seeing.

**4** Which question would **best** start a discussion about the speaker's purpose for the presentation?

- A.** Why does the speaker make the ship difficult for the characters to see clearly?
- B.** Why does the speaker end the story with the characters learning a lesson?
- C.** Why does the speaker include three characters who are working?
- D.** Why does the speaker begin the story in a pleasant setting?

Listen to the presentation. Then answer the questions.

# How You Learn

- 5** What is the value of practice in the learning process?
- A.** It reduces the size of brain cells.
  - B.** It creates new ideas in brain cells.
  - C.** It produces a higher number of brain cells.
  - D.** It strengthens the connections between brain cells.
- 6** Why do scientists compare the brain to a muscle? **Choose two answers.**
- A.** The brain can be trained.
  - B.** The brain can boost our mood.
  - C.** The brain can grow when resting.
  - D.** The brain can help us solve problems.
  - E.** The brain can become stronger with use.

**Go On ►**

- 7** Which sentence describes what the presentation is **mostly** about?
- A.** People get smarter when they eat right.
  - B.** The brain grows when given puzzling tasks to do.
  - C.** People must practice to learn to play the piano well.
  - D.** The brain makes pathways so people can learn new ideas and skills.

**8** Complete the table based on actions mentioned in the presentation. Each action has an effect. Read the effects in the Answer Bank. Write each effect beside the action that produces it.

Action	Effect
getting daily exercise	
eating healthy foods	
getting plenty of sleep	

**Answer Bank**

- provides building blocks for work
- strengthens memories
- increases blood flow to multiply brain cells

**DO NOT  
MARK  
ON THIS  
PAGE.**

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